

## LAKAY

### Creole to English Poetic Translation

<p>Ou mèt tande sesi sela, Gen de pawòl, se chapo ba. An verite twa fwa: “Pa gen pi bon pase lakay” Mwen sonje lakay’o. Mwen sonje lakay’o.</p> <p>Mwen pale, mwen chante, Mwen di tout sa mwen vle; Ke’m fache, ke’m kontan, Lakay toujou ladann. Mwen pale, mwen chante, Mwen dòmi, mwen reve; Kèlkeswa sa ma’p fè, Lakay nan lespri mwen’o. Lakay nan lespri mwen’o.</p> <p>Lakay se manman mwen, Se papa mwen, fanmi mwen. Lakay, se mizik mwen, Se listwa’m, se fon nanm mwen. Lakay se pasyon mwen, Lakay se tout vi mwen, Mwen sonje lakay’o... Mwen sonje peyi mwen, Mwen sonje lakou mwen’o.</p> <p>“Jamais, au grand jamais” Mwen pap janm bliye lakay. Mwen sonje lakay’o...</p> <p>Tout pie bwa gen rasin, Rasin pa’m se lakay’o. Tout lariviè soti nan sous, Bon sous pa’m se lakay’o.</p> <p>O! Lakay se peyi pa’m. Se li sèl ki kinan’m. Se li sèl ki kinan’m tout bon vre! Ke se chato, ke se kay pay, Nan pren pi bon, ni pi dous pase lakay. Nan pren pi bon, ni pi banda, ni pi dous pase lakay.</p> <p>Mwen sonje lakay.</p>	<p><i>Whatever you hear, These words are truth, Yes, indeed: “There’s no place like home” I miss my homeland. I miss my home.</i></p> <p><i>I speak, I sing, In everything I say, Weather I am angry or happy, Home is in my heart. I speak, I sing, I sleep, I dream, No matter what I do, My home is in my heart. My home is in my soul.</i></p> <p><i>My homeland is my mother, My father, my family. My homeland is my music, My history, my deeper soul. My homeland is my passion, my whole life. I miss my home, I miss my country, I miss my land.</i></p> <p><i>As long as I live I will never forget my homeland. I miss my home.</i></p> <p><i>Every tree has its roots, My roots are home. There’s a source to every river, My good source is my home.</i></p> <p><i>Home is my country. It is the only thing that’s mine. May it be a mansion or a shack, There’s no place sweeter than home. There’s no place like home.</i></p> <p><i>I miss my home.</i></p>
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*-Gabriel T. Guillaume, poet*