

**Twa Tanbou**  
Creole – English Translation

<p><b>Twa Tanbou</b> <b>Kap fè yon diskisyon</b> <b>Yon gwo dimanch maten</b> <b>Lè yo sot nan Ginen</b></p>	<p><i>Three drums</i> <i>Are having an argument</i> <i>A great Sunday morning</i> <i>On their way back from Guinea</i></p>
<p><b>Yon Ti Kata</b> <b>Yon Tanbouren</b> <b>Yon Gwo Boula</b></p>	<p><i>A little Kata...</i> <i>A little Tanbouren...</i> <i>A big Boula...</i></p>
<p><b>Boula rete li di</b> <b>Li di li ka frape pi fò</b> <b>Boula rete li di</b> <b>Se li ki ka frape pi fò</b></p>	<p><i>Boula declared</i> <i>That he can hit the loudest</i> <i>Boula declared</i> <i>“I can hit the loudest!”</i></p>
<p><b>Tanbouren di li gen pi bèl son</b> <b>Li di “lè map site, se rete tande”</b></p>	<p><i>Tanbouren said “I have the most beautiful sound”</i> <i>He said “when I perform, keep quiet and listen!”</i></p>
<p><b>Kata ki tap koute, li rete li move</b> <b>Li pa te ka konprann kouman de kamarad,</b> <b>Ki abiye ak menm rad</b> <b>Ki pitit menm manman</b> <b>Chita ap fè deblozay</b></p>	<p><i>Kata who was hearing all this became angry</i> <i>He could not comprehend how two soldiers</i> <i>Who are dressed with the same outfit</i> <i>And are children of the same mother</i> <i>Are sitting around making a scandal</i></p>
<p><b>Yon bon jou Madigra, Kata tonbe zouke</b> <b>Dènye moun ki te la yo tout tonbe danse...</b></p>	<p><i>One fine Mardi-Gras day, Kata started to “zouk”</i> <i>Every single person there began to dance...</i></p>
<p><b>Tanbouren ak Boula kite la ap tande</b> <b>Pou fè fèt la pi bèl: yo tou fon ribanbèl</b></p>	<p><i>Tanbouren and Boula who were there listening</i> <i>To make the party more exciting, they started a great throng</i></p>
<p><b>Jou sa-a</b> <b>Yo chante yon chante ke’m pap janm bliye:</b></p>	<p><i>That day,</i> <i>They all sang a song that I’ll never forget:</i></p>
<p><b>Tout tanbou ki dispèse</b> <b>An nou kole zepòl</b> <b>Poun fè la vi pi bèl</b></p>	<p><i>All drums that are dispersed</i> <i>Let’s put our shoulders together</i> <i>To make life more beautiful</i></p>

*-Louis Marie Celestin*

**li pi bon** - *He’s the best*  
**se vre** - *It’s true*