

Glossed texts

See p. 282-283 in:

Kouwenberg, Silvia. 2013. Berbice Dutch. In: Michaelis, Susanne Maria & Maurer, Philippe & Haspelmath, Martin & Huber, Magnus (eds.) *The Survey of Pidgin and Creole Languages, Vol. I: English-based and Dutch-based languages*, 275-284. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Text 1

The following is an excerpt from the Berbice Dutch version of Jack and the beanstalk, as it was relayed to me by Ernest King. This passage tells of Jack's return from the market, where he has sold his mother's cow for a handful of beans.

an o draite fi mama sondo kop
an o drai-te fi mama sondro o kopu
and 3SG turn-PFV 3POSS mother without 3SG buy

And he returned to his mother without buying

jefi, di mama bi "aw dzak, da was ju
jefi di mama bi aw dzak, da wa-so ju
food DEF mother say aw Jack COP what-FOC 2SG
food. The mother says "Aw Jack, what have you

mjate? an fi mama dja dekte di an o
mja-te an fi mama djas deki-te di an o
do-PFV and 3POSS mother just take-PFV this and 3SG
done?" and his mother just took this and she

goite di fensrã, tafn titi, fruku
gui-te di fensre anga, tafn titi, fruku
throw-PFV DEF window LOC afternoon time morning
threw it to the window, in the afternoon.

tit o hopte di ben¹ gruite nanwa, an
titi o hopu-te di ben grui-te nangwa, an
 time 3SG get.up-PFV DEF bean grow-PFV long and
 In the morning when he got up, the beans had grown long

dzak bi, "mama ek ma tandi di ben dida an ek ma
dzak bi mama eke ma tandi di ben dida an eke ma
 Jack say mother 1SG IRR climb DEF bean DEM and 1SG IRR
 and Jack says, "Mother, I will climb that bean and I will

la wan ek papa riki jenda",
la wanga eke papa riki jen-da",
 reach where 1SG father riches COP-there
 get to where my father's riches are".

Text 2

The following text constitutes the opening of an Anancy story, told to me by Hennie Hartman.

nanfi wa bi² arum man, keke eke, ha boki ka,
nanfi wa bi arum man, keke eke, ha(bu) boki ka,
 Anancy PST be poor man like 1SG have money NEG,
 Anancy was a poor man, like me, (he) had no money,

habu bita ka, we eniwe, o ha fi kali, ifi
habu bita ka, wel eniwe, o ha(bu) fi kali, ifi
 have clothes NEG well anyway 3SG have 3POSS small 1PL
 no clothes, well anyway, he had his little, we

¹ It appears that the speaker could not recollect the Berbice Dutch word *bono* 'pea, bean'; he adapted the Creolese form *biin* instead.

² Note the use of the Creolese copula *bi* here. Other Creolese forms in this text include *eniwe* 'anyway', *daf* 'Dutch'.

rupo banabu,³ da datf ju ninte, o wa
rupu o banabu, da datf ju nimi-te, o wa
 call 3SG benab COP Dutch 2SG know- PFV 3SG PST
 call it 'benab', that is Dutch you know, he

ba fi kali banabu waja das mu mo kori? wati
ba(bu) fi kali banabu wanga das mu mu kori wati
 have 3POSS small benab where HAB go go work what
 had his little 'benab'. Where does he go to work? What

kori o wa mja, wel did eke nim bik ek
kori o wa mja wel dida eke nimi (ka) bika eke
 work 3SG PST do well that 1SG know (NEG) because 1SG
 kind of work he was doing, well that I don't know, because I

wa forda meto o das mu mu kori,
wa furi-da mete o o das mu mu kori,
 PST be.absent-there with 3SG 3SG HAB go go work
 wasn't there with him. He goes to work,

tafn titi o kum, o fendε fi kali jefi
tafn titi o kum, o fendε fi kali jefi
 afternoon time 3SG come 3SG find 3POSS small food
 in the evening when he comes home, he finds his bit of food

jenda, jefi, kokit alma gutu met, o,
jen-da, jefi, koki-te alma gutu met, o,
 be.there-there food cook-PFV all thing with oh
 there, food, cooked with everything, oh,

³ Berbice Dutch *banabu* 'benab' refers to a thatched-roof shelter.

wisa kokit? o wa habu en kɛnɛ ka, o
wi-sa koki-tɛ? o wa habu en kɛnɛ ka, o
who-FOC cook- PFV 3SG PST have one person NEG 3SG
who cooked for him? He had nobody,

wa habu toko ka, bat o lurlur di gutu so
wa habu toko ka, bat o luru-luru di gutu so
TNS have child NEG but 3SG look-look DEF thing so
he had no children, but he keeps watching the thing like this

tutu en daka o bi, o ma fɛndɛ.
tutu en daka o bi, o ma fɛndɛ.
until one day 3SG say 3SG IRR find
until one day he says, he will find out.