

Re: OT: Hurricane Bertha

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- *From:* Belba Grubb <trungsisterfan@xxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sat, 12 Jul 2008 19:39:54 -0700 (PDT)
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jonathan wrote:

My first hurricane had an eye that was a solid 'ring' if there ever was one. Try sitting helplessly at home for half the night watching the radar loop of this thing coming straight at ya.

http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/hrd/Storm_pages/andrew1992/radar.html

The suspense is just incredible. As the thing steadily approaches the sense of forboding grows by the minute, your imagination starts to fly off the handle. About three hours before it arrives all the tv and radio stations start dropping off one by one until there's nothing but the wind to listen to. And for those last couple of hours there's no way to know if it turning towards you, or getting stronger or what. You assume the worst and just have to ...sit there and wait for it.

There is much to be said for preparation and knowledge ("Hurricane Strike" at <https://www.meted.ucar.edu/loginForm.php?urlPath=hurricane> is an excellent example of this), and it's good to have the online radar and satellite and buoy information and all the rest available today, but I watched Katrina form and cross the Gulf, knowing it was going to hit New Orleans because the NHC had predicted that pretty soon after it had cleared the Florida coast. That actually made that storm traumatic for me, I think (though it was only a full strength tropical storm/barely Category 1 hurricane by the time it got far enough inland to affect us): to this day, I can't bear to see any radar or satellite images of that storm. A similar thing with Felix crossing the Miskito Coast of Nicaragua last year, knowing the tens of thousands of Indians who were in its path on the cays and low coastal areas (a number that has never been acknowledged, AFAIK).

" I Think that the root of the Wind is Water,
It would not sound so deep

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Airs no Oceans keep—
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