7 Near Gale

Sea heaps up and white foam from breaking waves begins to be blown in streaks along the direction of the wind. (Spindrift begins to be seen.)

8 Gale

Moderately high waves of greater length; edges of crests break into spindrift. The foam is blown in well marked streaks along the direction of the wind.

9 Strong Gale

High waves. Dense streaks of foam along the direction of the wind. Crests of waves begin to topple, tumble and roll over. Spray may affect visibility.

10 Storm

Very high waves with long overhanging crests. The resulting foam in great patches is blown in dense white streaks along the direction of the wind. Or the whole surface of the sea takes a white appearance. The tumbling of the sea becomes heavy and shocklike. Visibility is affected.

11 Violent Storm

Exceptionally high waves. (Small and medium sized ships might be for a time lost to view behind the waves.) The sea is completely covered with long white patches of foam lying along the direction of the wind. Everywhere the edges of the wave crests are blown into froth. Visibility affected.

12 Hurricane

The air is filled with foam and spray; sea completely white with driving spray. Visibility very seriously affected.

FORCE OF WIND TABLE: LAND CRITERION

- Cf. Bird Observatory, Fair Isle, Shetland, Scotland

0 Calm

Calm, smoke rises vertically.

1 Light Air

Direction of wind shown by smoke drift, but not by wind vanes.

2 Light Breeze

Wind felt on face, leaves rustle; ordinary vane moved by wind.

12	HURRICANE	BLOODY HELL ! *
11	Violent Storm	Very rarely experienced; accompanied by widespread damage.
10	Storm	Seldom experienced inland; trees uprooted; considerable structural damage occurs.
9	Strong Gale	Slight structural damage occurs. (Pots and slates removed.)
8	Gale	Breaks twigs off trees; generally impedes progress.
7	Near Gale	Whole trees in motion; inconvenience felt when walking against wind.
6	Strong Breeze	Large branches in motion; whistling heard in telegraph wires; umbrellas used with difficulty.
5	Fresh Breeze	Small trees in leaf begin to sway; crested wavelets form on inland waters.
4	Moderate Breeze	Raises dust and loose paper; small branches are moved.
3	Gentle Breeze	Leaves and small twigs in constant motion; wind extends light flag.

* Pencilled in at the Bird Observatory.

- Jean Balderston

New York NY

hanging from a maple branch the swing stays twisted throughout winter

sleepless,
 i reach out to turn the glowing face of the clock away
but can't reach it