

This is a story based on the interviews and conversations that Alex Litwin and myself have had with specific residents of the Weston trailer park which is located just outside of Montpelier VT. Although the stories told here are fictional, they are based on real accounts of the events that took place on August 28, 2011 when Tropical Storm Irene swept through the state of Vermont and devastated the Weston trailer park. From the content gathered in those interviews, we created a short story that consists of three different points of view of an escape and rescue situation taking place in a trailer park that is being overtaken by a flood.

In the state of Vermont, tropical storm Irene destroyed 140 mobile homes. Out of those 140 homes, 70 of those devastated mobile homes were located in the Weston trailer park. I wrote this collection as a tribute to the residents of the Weston community. We visited Weston in the first weeks of September to offer relief in any form possible. After helping out, and speaking with residents who lost everything, we decided that the basis of our final CDAE 295 research project would have to somehow revolve around the Weston Trailer Park.

The connection that we felt with Weston never wavered, and it remained the fuel for our project. I was able to see the complete evolution of multiple resident's experiences with Irene. From helping them rip out the floorboard of their flooded home a week after the storm, to moving furniture back into their renovated home after months of work. The way I was welcomed into their home on such an important day meant so much to me, and I am proud to have worked with such strong people.