

# A History of Our Culture By: Margie "Mia x" Johnson<sup>1</sup>

Written for the *Inspire! Newark's Underground Railroad* Exhibition  
Harriet Tubman Monument<sup>2</sup>

Courage  
Carved into clarity  
Commitment  
Chiseled in every choice  
Persistence protected  
Hearts  
Minds  
Accepted  
Freedom seekers  
Seeking salvation  
And sustenance  
Between each other

A light  
Glowing  
With the courage  
It took to  
Carve  
Chisel  
Create and  
Pay for  
Between  
Each other  
A right

A relationship  
With resistance  
Rest for the fight  
Something home made  
For the flight  
Freedom  
An opportunity to be  
All right

A community  
Service  
Sewn into  
A beam of  
Light  
A turning point  
Where power  
is a safe harbor  
Of what  
Hope and humanity  
Look like ...

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<sup>1</sup> Watch video: <https://blackpower19thcentury.com/underground-railroad-1>