When I found I had crossed that line [into Canada] I looked at my hands to see if I was the same person. There was such a glory over everything; the sun came like gold through the trees, and over the field, and I felt like I was in Heaven.

Harriet Tubman, on reaching Canada

The story of the Underground Railroad is one of suffering and of bravery, and is not only one of escape from slavery but of beginnings: of people who carved out a new life for themselves in perilous, difficult circumstances.

In I Came as a Stranger, Bryan Prince, the descendant of slaves, tells the stories of the people who escaped slavery and the life that awaited them in Canada. Was freedom all they had dreamed it would be?

- features first-hand accounts, archival photographs, timeline, suggested reading, and index
- important addition to North American history
- linked to African heritage sites and museums

Bryan Prince has been awarded the Queen’s Golden Jubilee Medal for contributions to history. He lives with his wife and four children in Buxton, Ontario - a former fugitive slave settlement - and is the sixth generation of his family to do so. Bryan is also a full time farmer.

Rapid Ray: The Story of Ray Lewis
by John Cooper

Many say that Ray Lewis was the fastest man of his generation. He was the first Canadian-born black man named to a Canadian Olympic track-and field team, winning medals at the 1932 Olympics and the 1934 British Empire Games. Remarkable achievements for any man, but all the more remarkable because Lewis faced poverty and prejudice. The grandson of slaves, he worked as a porter on the railway and trained by running along the tracks. Rapid Ray is an inspirational biography about one man’s battle for equality.

Amazing Grace: The Story of the Hymn
by Linda Granfield, illustrated by Janet Wilson

Acclaimed author Linda Granfield tells the true story of John Newton, a sea merchant who crossed the Atlantic time and again with human cargo, transporting people from Africa to bondage in the New World. But when a storm at sea almost destroyed his ship, he prayed that if only he was delivered, he would change his life. John Newton was spared. He became a minister and worked the rest of his life for the abolition of slavery. He wrote many fine hymns, but his greatest legacy, “Amazing Grace,” continues to comfort and uplift people around the world.

Play Mas’!
by Dirk McLean, illustrated by Ras Stone

Join the jump up! Share in the sights, tastes, and sounds of Carnival, and celebrate a Caribbean tradition! Whether you are in Barbados or Brooklyn, Trinidad or Toronto, Carnival is a joyful chance to sing, dance, and celebrate life. Play Mas’! is a delightful introduction to the rich language and traditions of Carnival and the Caribbean.