

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910789610003321
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Titolo	Building their own Waldos [[electronic resource]] : Emerson's first biographers and the politics of life-writing in the Gilded Age / / by Robert D. Habich
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Iowa City, : University of Iowa Press, 2011
ISBN	1-58729-963-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (217 p.)
Disciplina	814/.3 B
Soggetti	Authors, American - Biography - History and criticism American prose literature - History and criticism Biography as a literary form
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction: building their own Waldos -- A genre in transition: biography in the 1880s -- An act of wholesome and pure-hearted admiration: Emerson's first biographer, George Willis Cooke -- Biographers and the pornographer: Conway, Ireland, and "Emerson and his friends" -- Diagnosing the gentle iconoclast: Dr. Holmes on Emerson -- Authorizing Emerson's biography: Cabot and/or Edward Emerson -- Shelf life: the legacy of Emerson's first biographies.
Sommario/riassunto	By the end of the nineteenth century, Ralph Waldo Emerson was well on his way to becoming the "Wisest American" and the "Sage of Concord," a literary celebrity and a national icon. With that fame came what Robert Habich describes as a blandly sanctified version of Emerson held widely by the reading public. Building Their Own Waldos sets out to understand the dilemma faced by Emerson's early biographers: how to represent a figure whose subversive individualism had been eclipsed by his celebrity, making him less a representative of his age than a caricature of it.