

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910954594703321
Autore	Gougeon Len
Titolo	Emerson & Eros : the making of a cultural hero / / Len Gougeon
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Albany, : State University of New York Press, c2007
ISBN	9780791480182 0791480186 9781429498210 1429498218
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (280 p.)
Disciplina	814/.3
Soggetti	Literature and myth Authors, American - 19th century Transcendentalists (New England) Social reformers - United States United States Intellectual life 19th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 241-253) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front Matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Prologue -- Psychomythic Humanism -- The Spirit and the Flesh -- "God's Child" -- "The Devil's Child" -- The Call to Serve -- Epilogue -- Notes -- Works Cited -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	This critical biography traces the spiritual, psychological, and intellectual growth of one of America's foremost oracles and prophets, Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803–1882). Beginning with his undergraduate career at Harvard and spanning the range of his adult life, the book examines the complex, often painful emotional journey inward that would eventually transform Emerson from an average Unitarian minister into one of the century's most formidable intellectual figures. By connecting Emerson's inner life with his outer life, Len Gougeon illustrates a virtually seamless relationship between Emerson's Transcendental philosophy and his later career as a social reformer, a rebel who sought to "unsettle all things" in an effort to redeem his society. In tracing the path of Emerson's evolution, Gougeon makes use

of insights by Joseph Campbell, Erich Neumann, Mircea Eliade, and N. O. Brown. Like Emerson, all of these thinkers directly experienced the fragmentation and dehumanization of the Western world, and all were influenced both directly and indirectly by Emerson and his philosophy. Ultimately, this study demonstrates how Emerson's philosophy would become a major force of liberal reformation in American society, a force whose impact is still felt today.
