

## Ralph Waldo Emerson: Essential Spiritual Writings (Modern Spiritual Masters Series)

By Ralph Waldo Emerson



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Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1883), "the Concord Sage," was a lecturer and essayist, who became the preeminent exponent of Transcendentalism. After studies at Harvard Divinity School he became a Congregational minister, but eventually resigned, judging, "This mode of commemorating Christ is not suitable to me." Strongly influenced by Indian philosophy and religion, he believed that we can receive divine truth through nature. Though he is considered one of the most significant intellectual figures in American history, this volume offers a fresh perspective by highlighting his extensive writings on spiritual themes. Like his friend Henry David Thoreau, Emerson is one of those who might have described himself as "spiritual, not religious," thus speaking directly to a generation of contemporary seekers.

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#### **Editorial Review**

#### Review

*Ralph Waldo Emerson: Essential Spiritual Writings* illuminates the range and power of Emerson's vision of a sacred natural world which, as Jon Sweeney reminds us in his insightful introduction, is still felt today and may be more relevant in our time of planetary crisis than when he first articulated it more than 150 years ago. --Tim Flinders - Editor, *Henry David Thoreau: Spiritual and Prophetic Writings* 

#### About the Author

Jon M. Sweeney, editorial director of Franciscan Media, is a scholar, author, and culture critic with a wide range of interests. His many books include *The Pope Who Quit: A True Medieval Tale of Mystery, Death, and Salvation,* and *Francis of Assisi in His Own Words: the Essential Writings.* For the Modern Spiritual Masters Series he has edited *Phyllis Tickle: Essential Spiritual Writings.* 

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