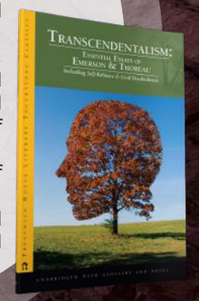
# Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year.

–Ralph Waldo Emerson

## Ralph Waldo Emerson

was born on May 25, 1803, in Boston, Massachusetts. The son of a Unitarian clergyman, Emerson studied at the Harvard School of Divinity and was ordained in 1829. However, after the death of his wife, Ellen, in 1831, Emerson had doubts about his faith and left the church. He would later found transcendentalism, a philosophical movement that valued individuality, spirituality, and the natural world. In 1841, Emerson published one of his most famous essays, *Self-Reliance*. This piece stressed the importance of nonconformity and personal intuition. After a long career as a writer and lecturer, Emerson died on April 27, 1882.

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