



31 OCTOBER 2016

01 NOVEMBER 2016



"Standing on the bare ground, - my head
bathed by the bleak air, & uplifted into
infinite space, - all mean egotism
vanishes. I become a transparent
Eyeball!"

Nature, p. 13.

The "transparent eyeball," caricature by Christopher Cranch.

image from <http://www.assumption.edu/users/ady/HHRomanticism/HHEmerson/Emersontrans.GIF>

Greetings, AmLit Scholars—

Today's images match up surprisingly well!

Here's today's plan:

1. WEDGE—Old Ralph Waldo, no matter what you may think of him, is flat-out one of the most provocative American writers of all time. Consider the following aphorisms, some of which will soon sound very familiar:

- Trust thyself: every heart vibrates to that iron string.
- Society everywhere is in conspiracy against the manhood of every one of its members.
- Whoso would be a man must be a nonconformist.
- What I must do is all that concerns me, not what the people think.
- A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds, adored by little statesmen and philosophers and divines. With consistency a great soul has simply nothing to do.
- It is easy to see that a greater self-reliance must work a revolution in all the offices and relations of men; in their religion; in their education; in their pursuits; their modes of living; their association; in their property; in their speculative views.
- Travelling is a fool's paradise.
- Insist on yourself; never imitate.
- Society never advances. It recedes as fast on one side as it gains on the other.
- The civilized man has built a coach, but has lost the use of his feet.
- Society is a wave. The wave moves onward, but the water of which it is composed does not.
- And so the reliance on Property, including the reliance on governments which protect it, is the want of self-reliance.
- Nothing can bring you peace but yourself. Nothing can bring you peace but the triumph of principles.

Choose any one-- or choose more-- of the aphorisms above and relying solely upon yourself, WEDGE for roughly ten minutes.

2. Test Preparation—We will dedicate the remainder of the class period to collaborative preparation for our first large-scale review exercise.

Tappa! Tappa! Tappa!—
Mr Leo

Homework:

Find a couple of pens containing blue, black, or blue-black ink and bring them to class. You know why.