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Living Dreams: A Comparative Analysis of "La Vida Es Sueno" and "Waking Life"

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Poster Presentation P21

LIVING DREAMS: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF "LAVIDA ES SUENO" AND "WAKING LIFE"

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The movie "Waking Life," written and produced by Richard Linklater, can easily be compared to Calderon de la Barca's play "Life is a Dream." Calderon de la Barca helped revolutionize philosophy during the seventeenth century by comparing our dreams and reality. In the play, Prince Segismundo is struggling to find himself and his place in society while always questioning whether his life is real or if it is simply a dream. Similarly, Linklater's movie focuses on our dreams and using them to understand life. By comparing the presence of fate vs. free will, dreams, philosophies on life, and many other ideas present in both the play and the movie, it is evident that "Waking Life" is a great modem day example of the play "Life is a Dream."