



LIFE IS A DREAM

PEDRO CALDERON DE LA BARCA

Global Grey ebooks

LIFE IS A DREAM

BY
PEDRO CALDERÓN DE LA BARCA

**NOW FIRST TRANSLATED FULLY FROM THE SPANISH IN THE METRE OF
THE ORIGINAL.**

BY
DENIS FLORENCE MAC-CARTHY

Life is a Dream by Pedro Calderón de la Barca.

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SIGISMUND: To Clotaldo, who so truly
Served my father, I can give him
But these open arms wherein
He will find what'er he wishes.

A SOLDIER: If thou honorest those who serve thee,
Thus, to me the first beginner
Of the tumult through the land,
Who from out the tower, thy prison,
Drew thee forth, what wilt thou give?

SIGISMUND: Just that tower: and that you issue
Never from it until death,
I will have you guarded strictly;
For the traitor is not needed
Once the treason is committed.

BASILIUUS: So much wisdom makes one wonder.

ASTOLFO: What a change in his condition!

ROSAURA: How discreet! how calm! how prudent!

SIGISMUND: Why this wonder, these surprises,
If my teacher was a dream,
And amid my new aspirings
I am fearful I may wake,
And once more a prisoner find me
In my cell? But should I not,
Even to dream it is sufficient:
For I thus have come to know
That at last all human blisses
Pass and vanish as a dream,
And the time that may be given me
I henceforth would turn to gain:
Asking for our faults forgiveness,
Since to generous, noble hearts
It is natural to forgive them.