

Key: E Notes:

[Intro]

E – B – A

[Verse 1]

I'm a dreamer

Yeah, thinking things will be better with you

I tried to ask her

But she never responded with any clues

G – A – B

[Verse 2]

I don't blame her

Yeah, because the things that I do I knew

I know I'm beneath her

Mostly because my looks and I.Q.

[Chorus]

Dreaming the dream that dreamers do
Drifting and wondering as minds will do
Oh I'm a dreamer,
dreaming dreams of me and you

[Verse 3]

If I said to you that it could be different.

Will you believe me if you tried?

If I said the change is gonna come.

Would you trust me or just sigh?

That there is a better way

Schopenhauer

It's as though our lives were the dream of the single dreamer in which all the dream characters are dreaming to until everything links to every else moved out of the will in nature

...dream, too; so that everything links to everything else, moved by the one will to life which is the universal will in nature.

This famous philosophical passage comes from Arthur Schopenhauer's 1851 essay, Transcendental Speculation on the Apparent Intention in the Fate of the Individual. It was famously popularized in modern culture by mythologist Joseph Campbell in his book and interview series, The Power of Myth.

The Core Philosophy Breakdown

Schopenhauer uses this striking "dream" metaphor to explain his core metaphysical worldview:

The Single Dreamer: For Schopenhauer, the universe is fundamentally made of one underlying force, which he calls the Will. This Will is blind, unconscious, and unified.

The Dream Characters: You, the people you meet, and the animals around you are all individual expressions of this same underlying Will. We think we are separate beings, but we are actually different actors generated by the same cosmic mind.

The Interlocking Plot: Because one hidden force is dreaming the entire reality, our lives interconnect like a perfectly composed symphony. People who enter your life by "mere chance" end up perfectly shaping your destiny, and you unknowingly do the same for them.

Pop Culture Legacy

This exact passage serves as a massive inspiration for surrealist media. Filmmaker David Lynch explicitly echoed this Schopenhauerian concept in Twin Peaks: The Return with the iconic mystery line: "We are like the dreamer who dreams, and then lives inside the dream. But who is the dreamer?"

If you are looking at this for a specific project, I can help you analyze the full essay, connect it to Eastern philosophies like the Hindu concept of Maya, or explore how it influenced David Lynch's work. What aspect of the quote are you exploring today?