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Life and Death

The pilot of a blazing bomber 'survives' certain death. only to find himself 'suspended' between heaven (where he is summoned for trial) and earth (where he has fallen in love with an American girl). The doctor who befriends him diagnoses a "highly organised nallucination" and much the same could be said of the film, with its bewildering alternations of microcosm and macrocosm, poetry and pathos, monochrome and colour. A stunning, subversive masterpiece. G.B. 1946/Dir Powell, Pressburger. With David Niven, Kim Hunter, Roger Livesey. 104 mins.