Hamlet Close Reading

Act 3 Scene 1 Line 64-98

Jhonas Dunakin

Water
To be, or not to be? That is the question—
Whether ’tis nobler in the mind to suffer The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, Or to take arms against a sea of troubles And, by opposing, end them?

The thought of committing suicide

Looking at the glass half empty and comparing it to a glass half full
To die, to sleep—No more—and by a sleep to say we end The heartache and the thousand natural shocks that flesh is heir to—’tis a consummation Devoutly to be wished! To die, to sleep.

The realization that suicide is a good easy way out of all the troubles the world has to offer.
To sleep, perchance to dream—ay, there’s the rub. For in that sleep of death what dreams may come. When we have shuffled off this mortal coil, Must give us pause. There’s the respect That makes calamity of so long life.

One of the first references to death as sleep. Interesting concept on dreaming while dead.

This seems to prove the last point.
Bibliography (USE MLA)

http://nfs.sparknotes.com/hamlet/page_138.html

http://www.shakespeare-monologues.org/plays/31?g=3