

## **External and Internal Conflicts: Examples**

I've chosen to illustrate this with movies – hopefully we've all seen them, otherwise, I apologise for spoilers.

### **Pretty Woman**

- External – Class distinction
- Internal – She wants the fairytale and he doesn't know if he can provide it

### **Notting Hill**

- External – Her "celebrity status"
- Internal – Both afraid of being hurt in love

### **Titanic**

Discard the 'unsinkable ship' conflict

- External – Class distinction
- Internal – Rose fights with herself to get the courage to change her destiny

### **You've Got Mail**

- External – He's the owner of a rival and larger business which she is trying to fight off
- Internal – "Who" is the perfect partner? Do they exist? Can they find true love?

### **Speechless**

- External – Protagonists are working as speech writers for opposing political parties
  - Heroine has a fiancé
- Internal – They're both looking for honesty in a relationship

### **Sleepless In Seattle**

- External – Distance
- Internal – He doesn't want to forget his wife and is scared of dating again
- Internal – She's looking for the "magic" in a relationship

### **Entrapment**

- External – Being professional about their occupations (high class thieves)
- Internal – He's attracted to her but knows he has to hand over to the authorities
- Internal – Trusting each other

### **The Matrix**

- External – The human race are slaves to Artificial Intelligence
- Internal – Is he "the one"? Can he do it?