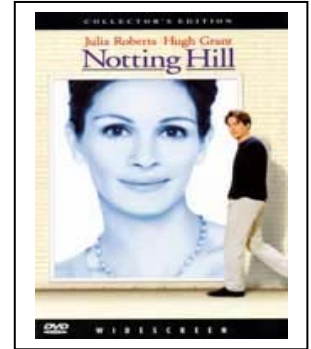


## ▣ ABOUT THE MOVIE ▣

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>TITLE</b>            | Notting Hill   |
| <b>DIRECTOR</b>         | Roger Michell  |
| <b>YEAR AND COUNTRY</b> | 1999<br>U.S.A.   |
| <b>GENRE</b>            | Romantic comedy  |
| <b>ACTORS</b>           | Julia Roberts (Anna Scott), Hugh Grant (William Thacker), Rhys Ifans (Spike), Tim McInnerny (Max), Emma Chambers (Honey), Gina McKee (Bella), Hugh Bonneville (Bernie) |



## PLOT

William is a reserved, low key and very proper personality, who has a travel bookshop in Notting Hill (London), a horrifying flat mate, no love life since his divorce, but a group of friends who try to take care of him. Anna is the most famous American actress. They meet when she comes into his shop, looking for a book on Turkey. They then literally bump into each other again, rounding a corner, when he spills orange juice over her. She eventually accepts his offer to clean up at his house and, on a sudden impulse, kisses him. Later, she calls but, when he sees her again, he is taken for a reporter. However, she agrees to accompany him to his sister's birthday party. The evening is a success. The budding romance ends when the actress's boyfriend flies over, and William's friends try to distract him by presenting other women to him. Then, unexpectedly, William finds Anna outside his door one day because she is trying to hide from the press; unfortunately Spike gives her away. The next time she gets in touch, William turns her down, only to decide – with the aid of his friends - that he has made the biggest mistake of his life. Luckily, he manages to put things right at the last minute, and they live happily ever after...

## LANGUAGE

There is very little slang in this film, and few really complex expressions. William's delivery and pronunciation are very "educated British", and a little clipped because of his reserved personality. Anna has a clear delivery and – obviously – an American accent. The other characters are British, but without a strong accent.

## VOCABULARY

|  |   |
|--|---|
| bugger (noun and verb – vulgar): used as an exclamation, it indicates annoyance – as a verb, it means "finished", "destroyed".<br>literally: homosexual (activity) | scrape by (verb): to just manage to survive   |
| spick and span: clean and tidy   | gripping: thrilling, exciting (often used ironically)   |
| root around (verb): look through (e.g. contents of drawer etc)   | to be gagging for it: to really want sex  |
| git (noun – vulgar): expression indicating extreme annoyance with the person referred to   | squidgy (adj - colloquial): something a bit squashed, that has lost its shape or definition                 |
| flog one's guts out (verb): to work extremely hard, usually for little profit  | have a shot at sth: to try  |
| the spitting image (of): exactly like  | don't know what came over me: phrasal expression "I don't know what happened to my feelings/good sense etc" |