

INTERNAL CONFLICTS

Person vs Self:

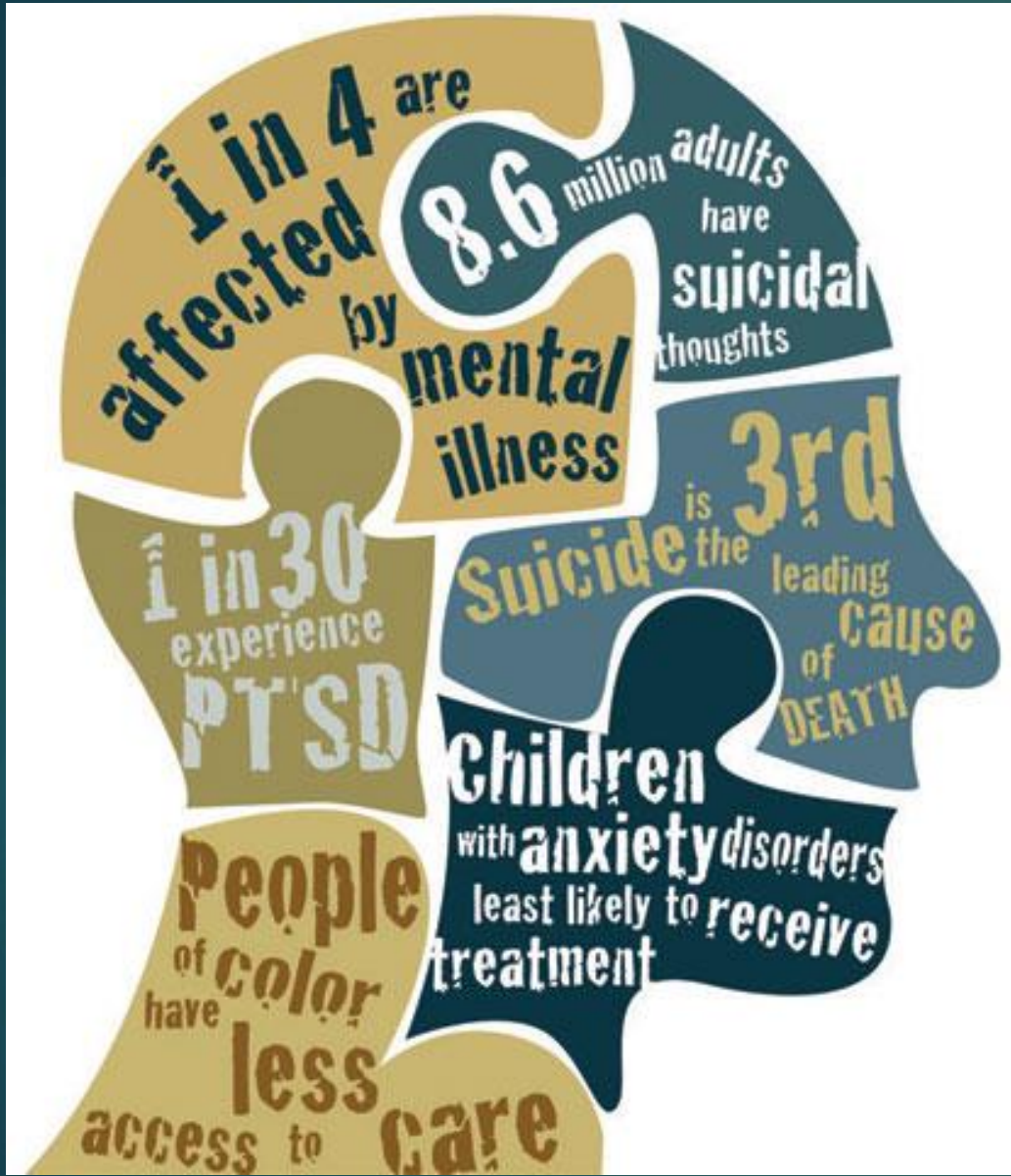
- **Indecision** A character has pros and cons and both sides of a decision, making the decision difficult.
- **Moral dilemmas**, emotional challenges or desires that go against better judgment or a moral norm
- **The soul or conscience is at stake** in the outcome of a decision.



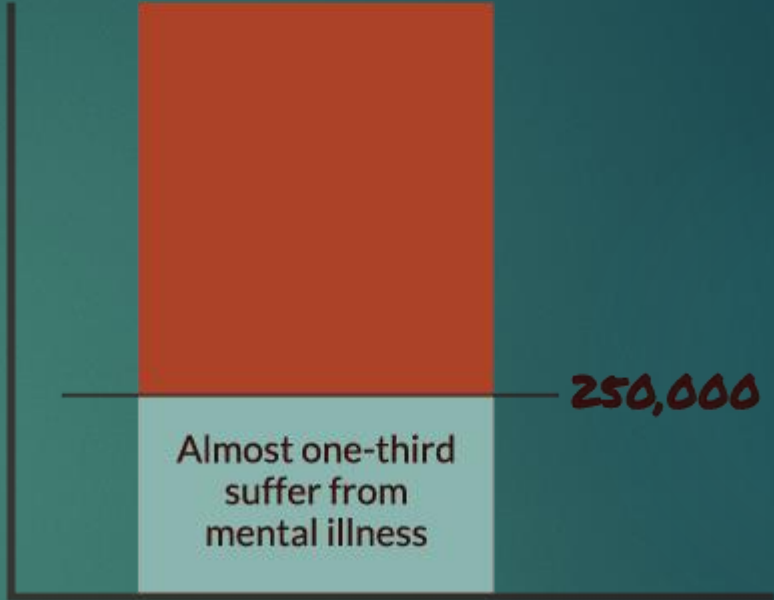
Person vs Own Mind

- Character with larger internal problems that are not ethical, but **mental**
- A character struggling with schizophrenia, bipolar, or some other **mental illness**
- These scenarios bring up different questions:
 - How does the protagonist deal with own limitations?
 - Is it harder or easier to overcome something that is a **part of** the character or something **outside the** character?





744,000 HOMELESS PERSONS IN AMERICA.



Look at these statistics regarding mental health.



WHAT IS PARADOX IN LITERATURE?

- The term Paradox is from the Greek word “*paradoxon*” that means *contrary to expectations, existing belief or perceived opinion*.
- It is a statement that appears to be *self-contradictory or silly* but includes a latent *truth*.
- It is *used to illustrate an opinion or statement contrary to accepted traditional ideas*.
- It is *used to make a reader think over an idea in an innovative way*.

EXAMPLES:

1. In George Orwell’s *Animal Farm*, one part of the cardinal rule is the statement, “*All animals are equal, but some are more equal than others*”.
2. In Shakespeare’s HAMLET, he says “*I must be cruel to be kind.*”
3. In his short lyric “My Heart Leaps Up When I Behold”, William Wordsworth remembers the joys of his past and says: “*Child is father of the man.*”



WHAT IS THE ROLE OF PARADOX IN LITERATURE?

Ask of your story so far:

- **What is contrary to expectations, but holds truth in it?**
- **Does a character speak a paradoxical statement?**
- **What opinion or idea is the author upholding that may go against the traditional value?**
- **What opinion or ideas is the author making me consider further?**



Analyze the Complexity of Conflict

...

1. Identify the *type of conflict*.
2. Discuss the motives/goals of the **PROTAGONIST**.
3. Discuss the motives/goals of the **ANTAGONIST**.

When you discuss both sides of a conflict AND all the details that play into the conflict, you are discussing the COMPLEXITIES OF THE CONFLICT.

As a side note, in life, this is a good way to look for the "in-roads" for resolving conflict.