

Film Journal
“Crimes and Misdemeanors”

While deliberating on whether or not to have Dolores killed, Judah has an imaginary conversation with Ben (the rabbi). In this conversation, Ben suggests that he should consider justice as a factor in determining his actions. Judah replies by asking, “Is what she’s doing to me just? Is it what I deserve?” Is Delores’ behavior appropriate, given Judah’s refusal to meet her demands?

In the same conversation, Ben suggests that “Without the law, all is darkness?” What do you think he means by this? Do you think he’s *correct*?

After the murder, Jack tells his brother not to worry about it because he is “home free”. Given the final conversation in the film, do you think that Judah truly is “home free”? Does he have any good reasons to worry about his behavior by the end of the film?

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