

Film Journal
“Million Dollar Baby”

After Maggie asks Frankie for a “favor” toward the end of the film, he responds, “I can’t.” Why can’t Frankie grant Maggie’s request? Do you find his reasons *emotionally* compelling? Do you find them *morally* compelling?

When Frankie consults with his priest, he claims that it’s a “sin” to keep Maggie alive. The priest responds that if Frankie grants her request, he will be “lost”. Why do you think the priest believes that Frankie should not grant the request? If we were to press the priest to defend his position with an argument, how do you think it would go?

In most states, doctors cannot legally grant a request like Maggie's. In your view, *should* they be allowed to do so? Why?

In the film's final scenes Danger tells Eddie that "anyone can lose one fight", and Eddie replies, "That's the truth." Is there any relevant similarity between the stories of Maggie and Danger? Why do you think the film pauses to emphasize this point?

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