

little brother ^{EASY} two

I **went** first, and **my choice was** the two youngest boys, aged nine and seven. **I am sure** that child psychiatrists would be **horrified, explaining** that this was **a mean thing to do**. They would **blame** all the boys' future criminal behavior **on** the moment when their father **voted to kick them out** of the house. But I **gave up worrying about what psychiatrists think a long time ago**.

It is not that I don't like my two youngest sons. I like them **as much as** a father should. **It is just that, at the moment**, they **cause** me more trouble than anybody **else** in the household, with their **constant** shouting and fighting and **demands for** attention. **Life would be a lot more peaceful** without them **around**.

My wife went next, **nominating** me and the nine-year-old. I **would like to think** that she chose me because **not much** would change if I was **gone, since** I am at home less than anybody else. Or perhaps she was **punishing** me **for suggesting** the game. **You never know with wives. It's something I'll have to worry about**.

The reason she **picked** the nine-year-old was because he is **going through a bad phase** at the moment: **noisy, rude, and stubbornly refusing to do** his homework.

George **went next**, nominating the nine-year-old again (**for the same reasons as the others**) and his 13-year-old brother. I knew that he **would pick** him, because the 13-year-old is the nicest, most **helpful** of the boys. **George has always hated** that and **this was how** he chose to **get back at** his brother **for making him look** bad.

Then it was the 13-year-old's **turn**. He **chose to** nominate George, **which** was not **unexpected as** his older brother **constantly beats him up**. He also **thought** we **should** kick out the nine-year-old, **like** everybody else **so far**.