

THE SELECTION

by Leeanna Lunn

CHARACTERS:

- **MOM:** A loving, intentional mother with a quick wit and a penchant for good coffee.
- **ERIK (11):** Thoughtful, mature, and observant.
- **CAEDMON (10):** High-energy, dramatic, and enthusiastic.

SETTING:

A standard household living room.

MOM is sitting down, reading a book. ERIK and CAEDMON burst through the door, returning from their Uncle Sammy's thirteenth birthday party.

CAEDMON

Hey, Mom! At Uncle Sammy's party, we got to bowling and stuff, Lots and lots of pizza. And then we went back to his house to watch "Sonic the Hedgehog"

MOM

Did you enjoy it?

BOTH BOYS

(In unison, shouting)

YES!

CAEDMON

Can we watch the 2nd and 3rd movies?!

Simultaneously, both boys drop to their knees, fold their hands, and plead dramatically.

MOM

Well... that depends. Why do you think you are or are not allowed to watch certain movies?

ERIK

Well, it's your job to keep us safe from things we're not ready for yet. And there's stuff out there that acts like poison for your heart—for anyone, even grown-ups. And there's stuff that rots your brain out. Like poop jokes.

Both boys snort with laughter.

MOM

That is true. But on the other hand, there are things that build up the soul and help us grow closer to God. Jesus Himself told stories to help people understand difficult concepts. Movies can do that for us, too. Well, what kind of movie was the *first* Sonic movie?

CAEDMON

Well, it must not have been poison, because you wouldn't have let us watch it.

MOM

True. But my job as your mom isn't about making up rules. My job is to help you grow more like Christ and learn right from wrong so you can discern it for yourself. It won't be long before you're going to have to make good choices on your own. So, let's start by talking about what the movie said is good.

ERIK

Sonic was lonely all by himself and didn't have any good ways to use his powers. The movie was about him learning to use his powers to love others.

MOM

Does that line up with what God says, or not?

ERIK

Well, the Bible says we should love our neighbors. And Sonic learned that.

CAEDMON

But Robotnik wants to use superpowers just to get power for himself. To get rich and famous. That doesn't match the Bible at all. God gets the glory and gives and takes away depending on what will work best for the good of those who love Him.

MOM

Right. What else did you notice that doesn't line up with God's Word?

CAEDMON

They use God's name in vain... a lot.

MOM

I was hoping you would notice that. You are starting to see these things for yourself. Nice work.

Caedmon hits a celebratory griddy across the stage.

MOM

But, on a more serious note, what does the fact they took God's name in vain tell you about the people who made the movie?

ERIK

They don't respect God. They care more about being cool. There are plenty of ways to show you're surprised or upset without taking God's name in vain. You could say, "What in the world?" Or, "Are you kidding me?" Or... "Hot Dog!"

MOM

What else did you notice about the movie, Erik?

ERIK

At the beginning, one of the heroes sacrifices herself to save Sonic. She was a lot like Jesus when she did that. Unlike the super selfish Robotnik. He just wanted everything for himself.

MOM

So... what's the verdict? Should we put it on our T-N-R-P-L-A E-P list?

CAEDMON

Remind me what that stands for again?

MOM

Each letter stands for a different word in Philippians 4:8: "Whatever is True, Noble, Right, Pure, Lovely, Admirable, if anything is Excellent or Praiseworthy, think upon such things."

CAEDMON

That's hard, because it has so much in it that *is* definitely noble and admirable. We should praise Longclaw for her self-sacrifice, and Sonic for learning to use his powers for good. But then there are things that are definitely *not* pure or lovely... like a lot of butt jokes and breaking the Ten Commandments. Taking God's name in vain is a really big deal. And it's not like this is the only movie that teaches those good lessons.

MOM

Do you have some better suggestions to teach self-sacrifice and using our powers to love our neighbor?

CAEDMON

Toy Story 4! Woody loves being Bonnie's favorite toy, but he helps Forky because he loves Bonnie more than he loves his own status.

MOM

Good! What about using our powers to love our neighbor?

CAEDMON

The Incredibles! The whole family has to work together to use their powers to save the world.

MOM

Good job, boys. So... final verdict?

ERIK

I think you were right to say we were allowed to watch it, because we're actually old enough to see the problems. But there are better choices that are more edifying.

MOM

And the following Sonic movies?

CAEDMON

They could be good... but we should probably be careful if we watch them, because the filmmakers have already shown they care more about being cool than doing what is right.

MOM

I think that's a very fair assessment. This was fun. I love you guys!

CAEDMON

Thanks, Mom. Now... quick question.

MOM

Yes, Caedmon?

CAEDMON

Can we have pizza for dinner?

*This script has been prepared for teaching purposes. © 2026 Ambassador Publications.
Permission is granted for teachers and students to copy and use this material for educational nonprofit purposes.*