Death of an English Major
Caroline Dillard

For our next problem we’re going to start by taking the second derivative of the function.

Of course we are. The function is negative forty-three times the square root of the natural logarithm of x to the power of negative one-third divided by x plus five raised to the four-fifths.

If I am to die today please let it be now.

So what’s the first thing we do?

I’m in a class of crickets.

Find f prime.

Obviously...

And we’ll find the answer with the chain rule.

Definitely knew that.

Well actually we’ll use both the chain rule and the quotient rule.

The more the merrier.

Now that we’ve done that we can use the First Derivative Test to find critical numbers and intervals.

Right.

And then f double prime...

Sorry, what?

...will show the function’s concavity.

Gesundheit.

Are you with me?

Nope.

I’ve gotten you started so you should be able to finish the rest on your own.

...And don’t forget the test is on Wednesday.