

My Slope Field Movie Script

D.F. McCleary

Scene 1

Room 222

Ms. McCleary's body is on the floor. Her giant slide rule is next to her body and she appears to be dead and is clutching a TI calculator in her cold, dead hand.

Detective Inspector Elvis and his assistant, PC Elliot enter the room

DI: Oh my! It appears that someone has killed Ms. McCleary. PC Elliot, check for a pulse.

PC: I'm not touching her, you check.

DI: I'm not touching her!

Female student enters the room and screams.

FS: Oh my! Did someone kill Ms. McCleary?

DI: That's what I said!

Female student checks for pulse

FS: Yes, she's dead. Look, she is holding her beloved calculator.

DI: Well, it looks like we will have to pry her calculator from her cold, dead hands. PC Elliot, get the calculator.

PC: I'm not touching her!

DI: Well, I'm not touching her either.

FS: I'll get it. [Gives both guys a look of contempt, then retrieves the TI]

DI: Let me see that calculator. [Looks at calculator] It appears that the victim has left a clue. The calculator screen says " $dy/dx=x+y$ ". [Shows calculator to camera]

PC: Oh! I think I know who might be responsible.

DI: You think you know or you know?

PC: Well, ...

FS: I think the person who killed the victim was a member of the notorious SF305 gang. You know, that gang who has slope fields "tats".

DI: Hmm! I think the SF305 gang is behind this heinous crime.

FS: I just said that.

DI: PC Elliot, go round up the gang members. I think I know how to figure out who committed the murder.

PC: Sure thing, DI Elvis!

Scene 2

Members of the SF305 gang are lined up in front of DI Elvis and PC Elliot.

DI: I have brought here because I know that one of you is responsible for the death of that crazy Calculus teacher, Ms. McCleary. I just need to see your tattoos.

SF gang starts protesting and complaining.

DI: Enough whining! Roll up your sleeves!

SF gang rolls up sleeves and form a line.

DI: PC Elliot, help me out here. I was absent that month that we covered slope fields in Calc class.

PC: No problem. I got an A on that chapter test.

PC Elliot and DC Elvis go up to the first gang member and look at his tattoo. [Close up on the tattoo]

DI: Ah ha! You are the killer!

PC: Not so fast, DI Elvis. This is the slope field for $dy/dx=x/y$. See the vertical and horizontal segments? [Points to the horizontal segments]

DI: I knew that. I was just testing you. Let's check the next suspect.

PC Elliot and DI Elvis go to the next suspect. [Close up on the tattoo]

DI: Ah ha! You are the killer!

PC: No! This is the slope field for $dy/dx = x$. See how the columns are all the same?

DI: Of course, I knew that. Let's check the next suspect.

PC Elliot and DI Elvis go the next suspect. [Close up on the tattoo]

DI: Ah ha! You are the killer!

PC: Close but not close enough. This is the slope field for $dy/dx=x-y$. We're looking for $dy/dx=x+y$.

DI: Well, we only have one more suspect. Kind of feels like one of those multiple-choice AP questions.

PC: It's possible it could be one of those "None of these" answers.

DI: I always hated those questions.

PC: Me too. We need to check the last suspect.

PC Elliot and DI Elvis go to the last suspect. [Close up on the tattoo]

DI: Well...

PC: [Stares at the tattoo for a moment] DI Elvis, we have found our killer. His tattoo is the slope field for $dy/dx=x+y$

DI: I knew that! [Turns to suspect] You are under arrest for the fatal attack on the AP Calculus teacher. We are going to put you away for a long time.

PC: Hey! I finally got an opportunity to use my vast knowledge of Calculus to solve a crime.

DI: I think that the record will show that I solved the crime!

PC: Whatever...

[End of movie, roll credits]