Laurence Armstrong Hughes

Angel and Trumpet Publications, Oxford 2018

Late Lyrics

Eight poems of Thomas Hardy set for Baritone and Piano.

Note: The settings may be sung in any order, but keeping the first and last songs in their respective positions.

Seeing the Moon Rise

Yuletide in a Younger World

Thoughts at Midnight

Going and Staying

"More than on cuckoo?"

'Any lIttle old song'

'If it's ever Spring again'

Saying Good-bye

To the memory of Gerald Finzi

Late Lyrics

for baritone and piano

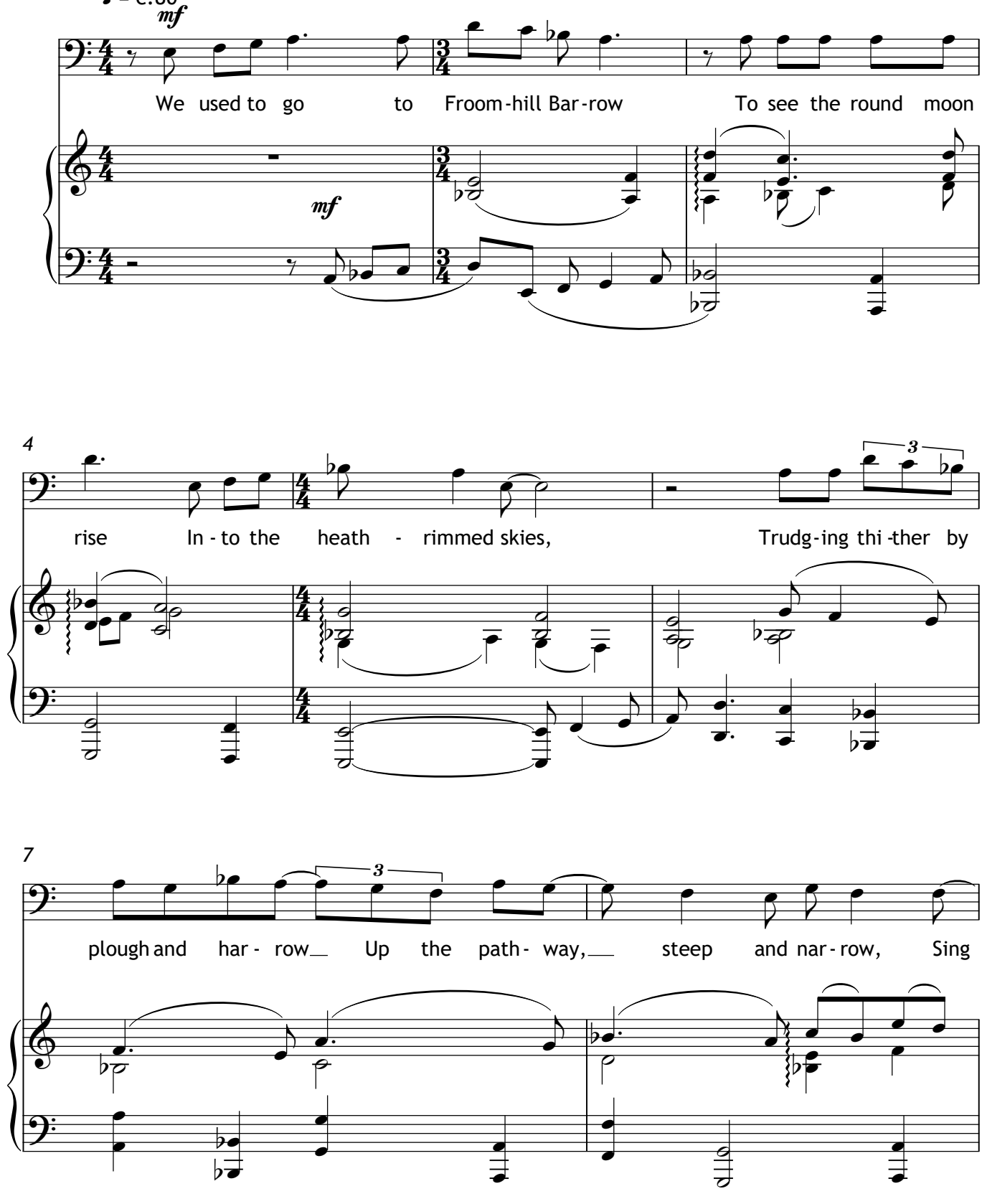
Thomas Hardy

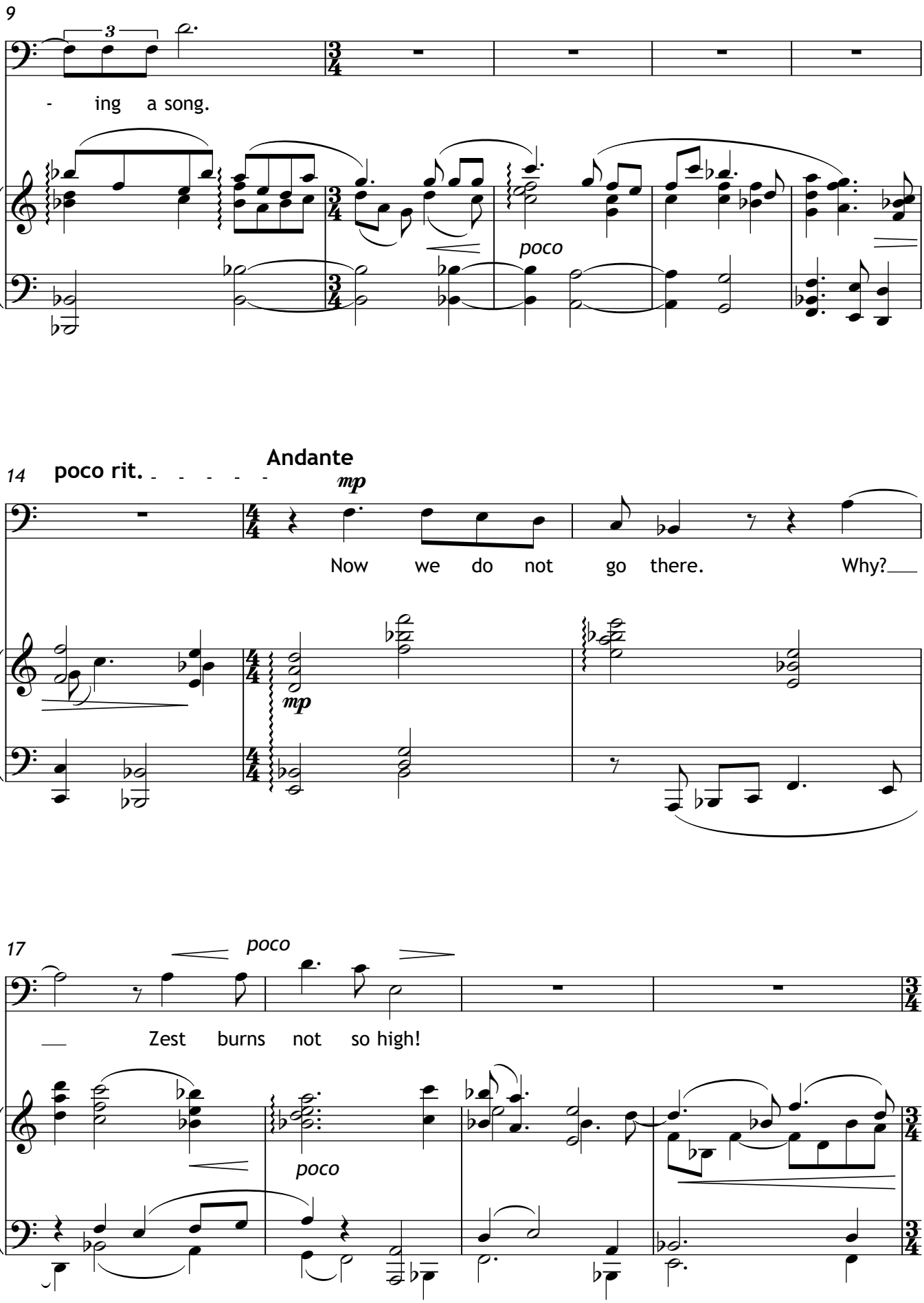
Seeing the Moon Rise

Laurence
Armstrong
Hughes
2012

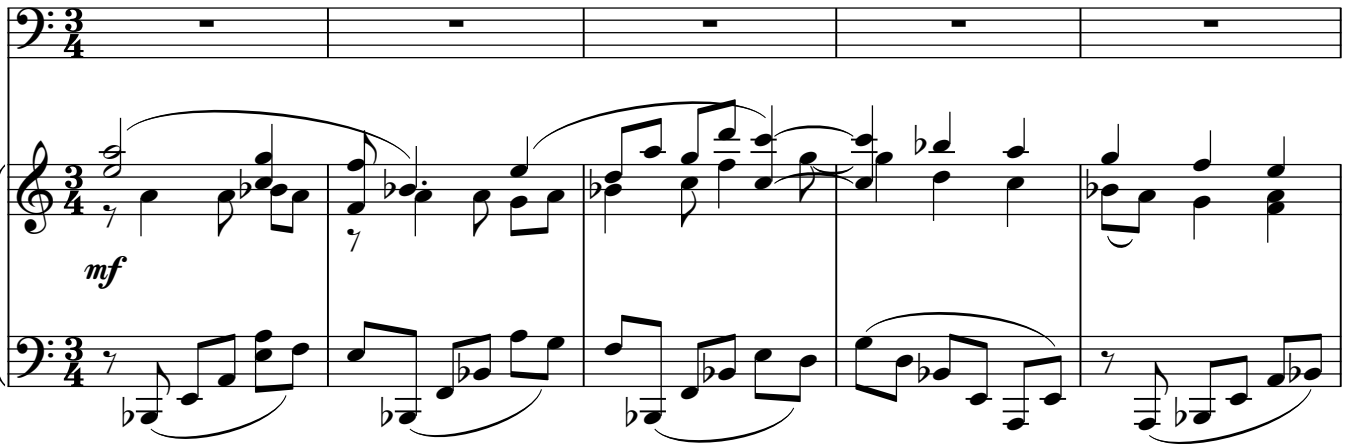
Andante

♩ = c.80



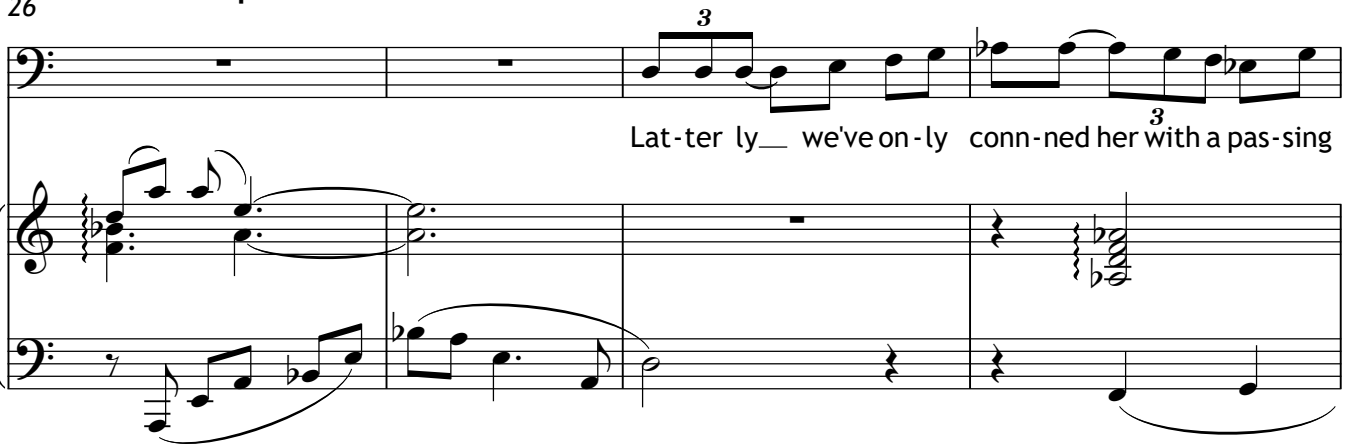

9
3
- ing a song.
poco
14
poco rit.
Andante
mp
Now we do not go there. Why?
mp
17
poco
Zest burns not so high!
poco

21

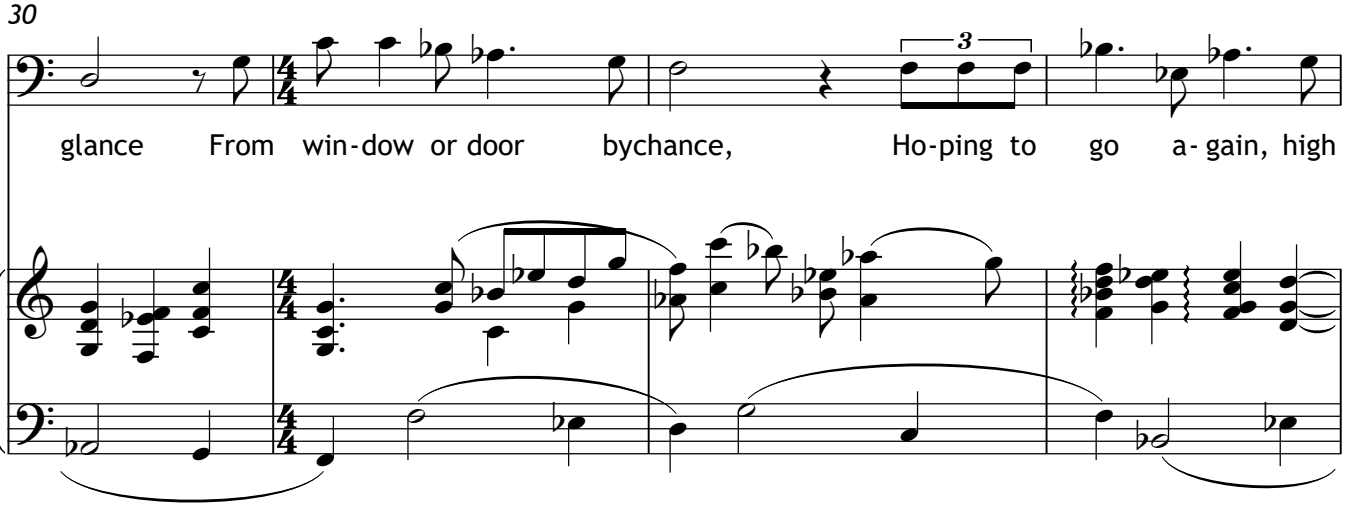


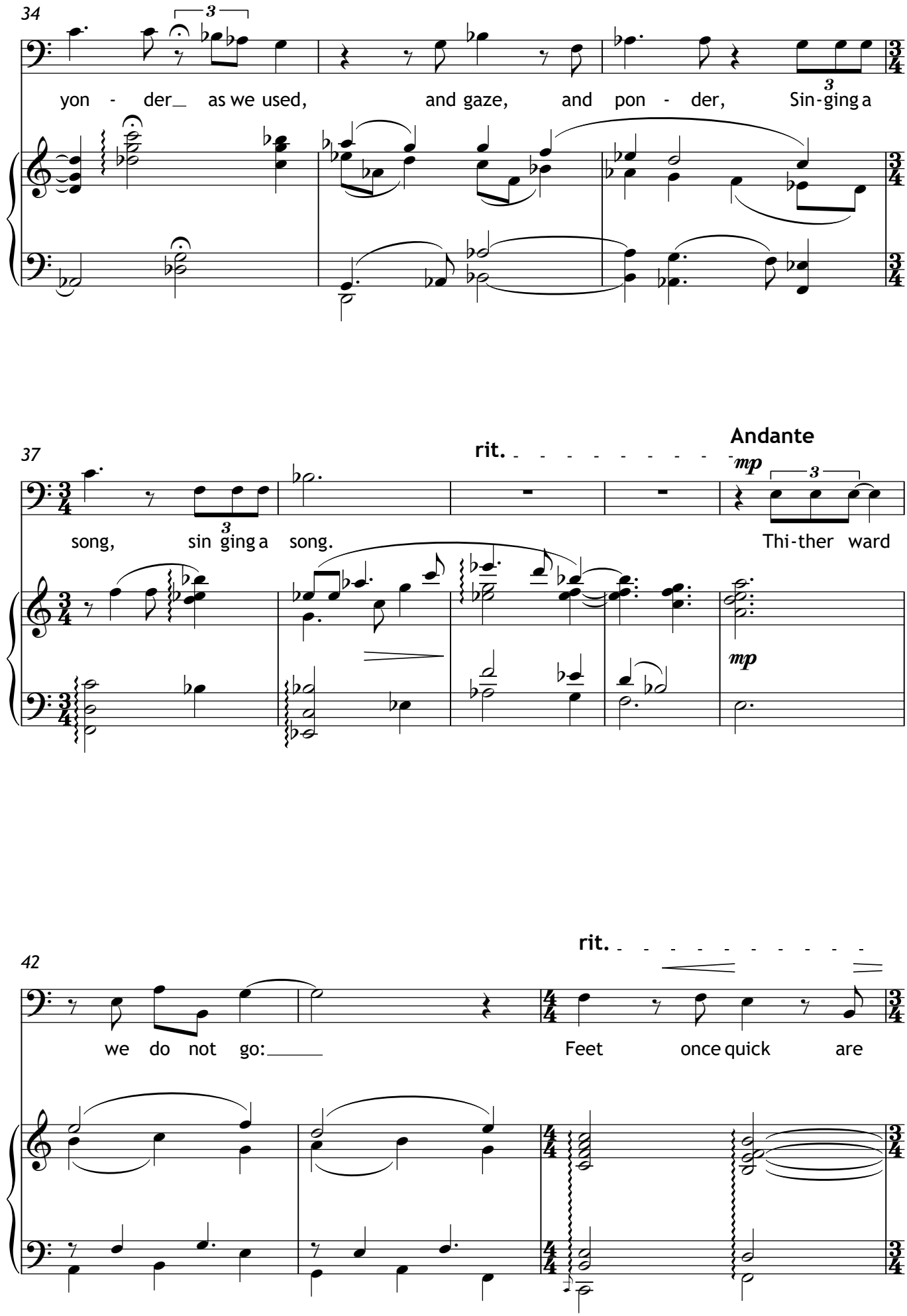
26

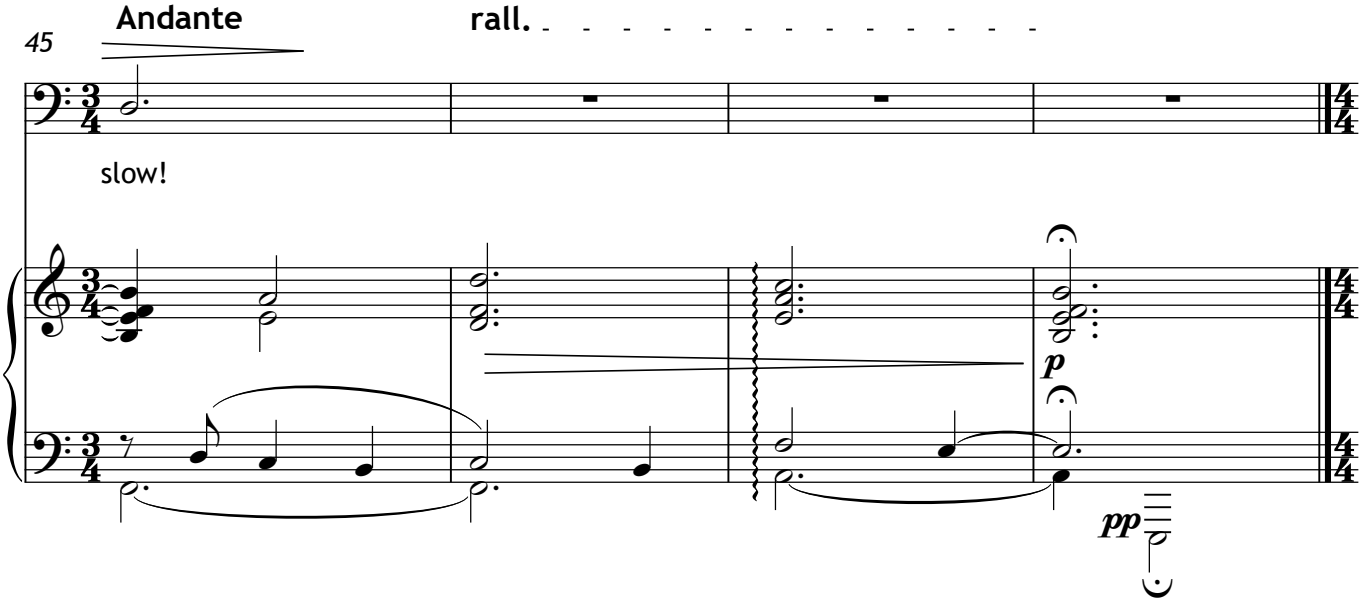
poco rit. - - - - - - - Andante



30




34
yon - der as we used, and gaze, and pon - der, Sin-ging a
37
rit.
Andante
mp
song, sin ging a song. Thi-ther ward
mp
42
rit.
we do not go: Feet once quick are


45
Andante
rall.
slow!
p
pp

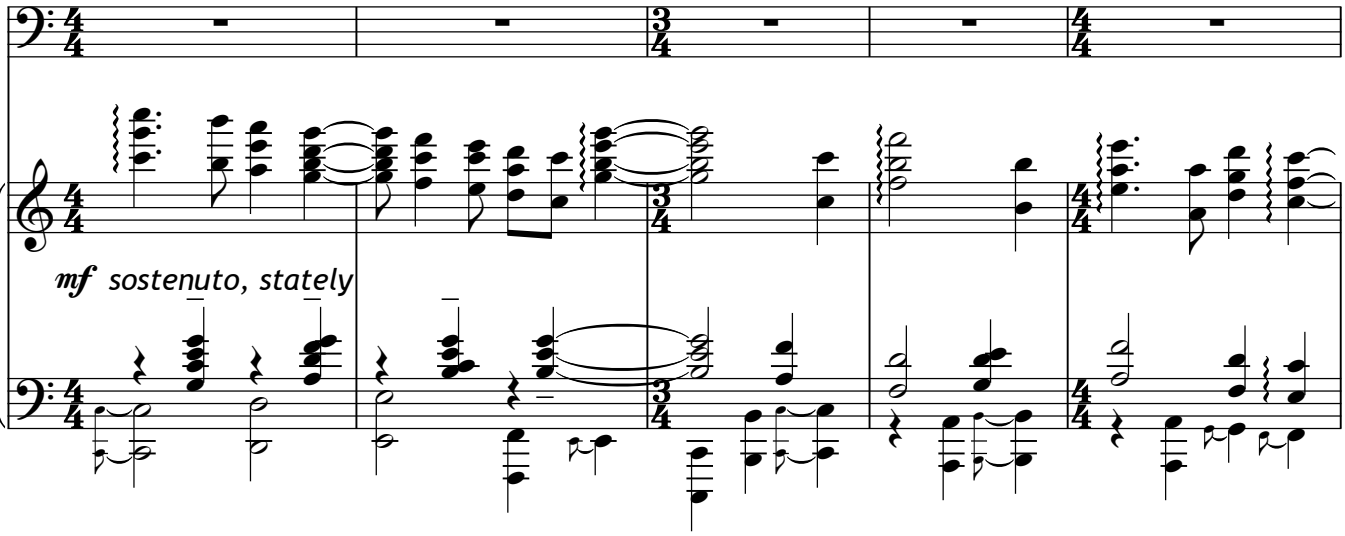
Yuletide in a Younger World

Thomas Hardy

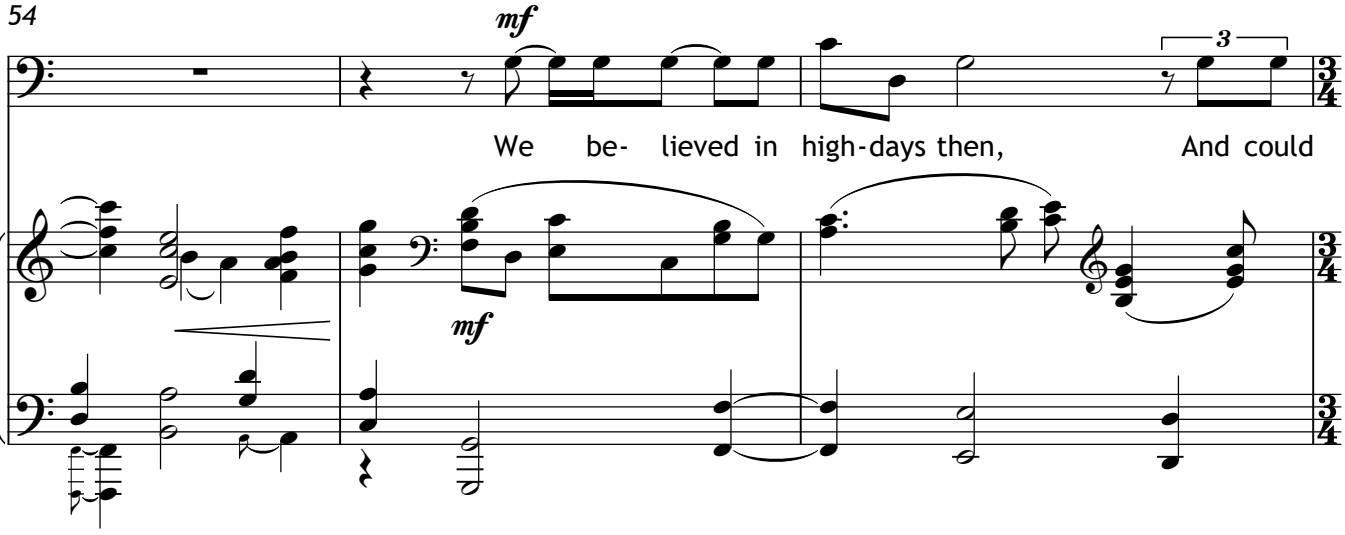
Laurence
Armstrong
Hughes
2012

Largo

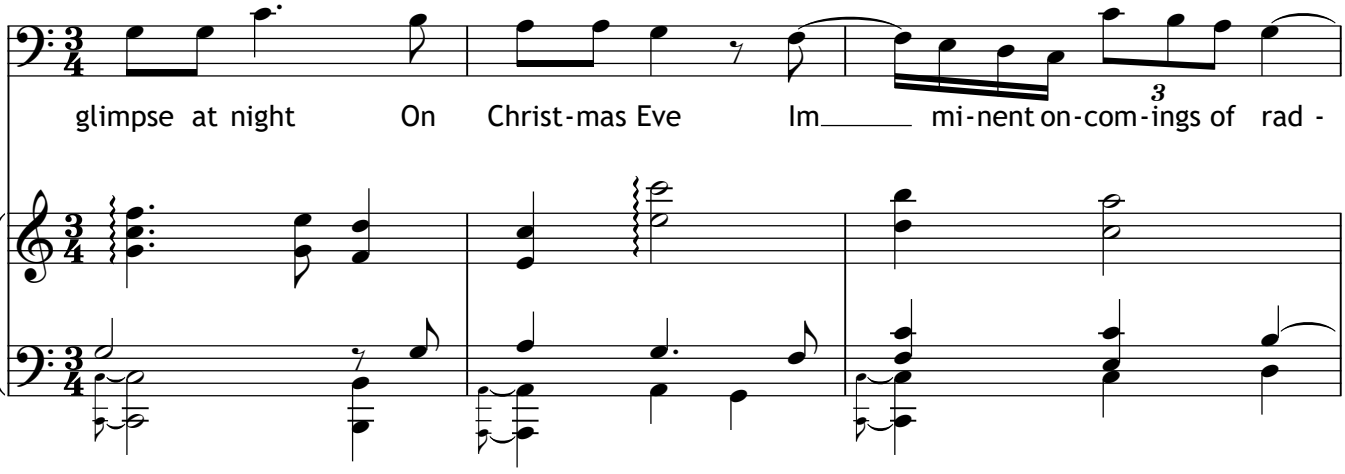
49 ♩ = c.54

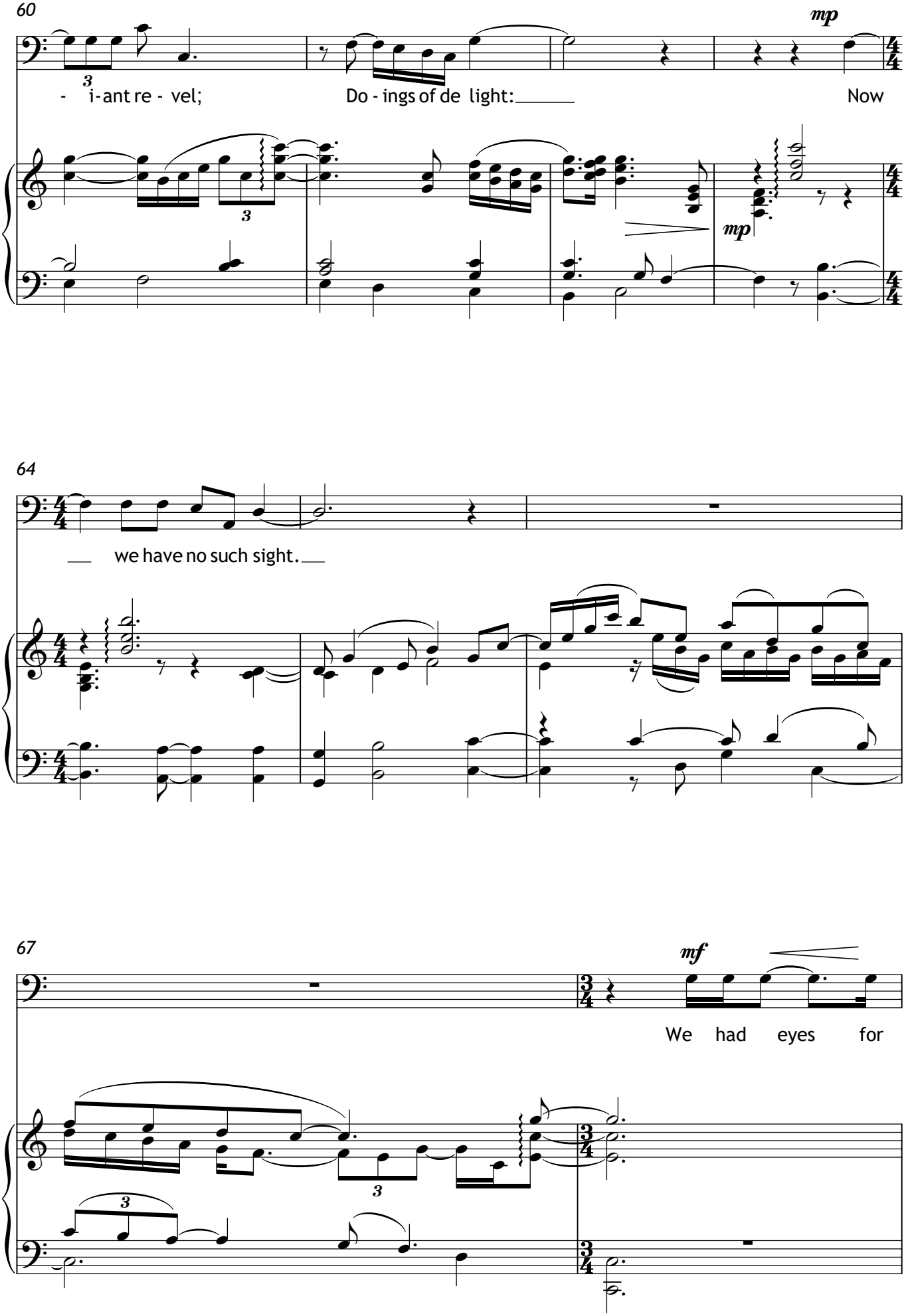


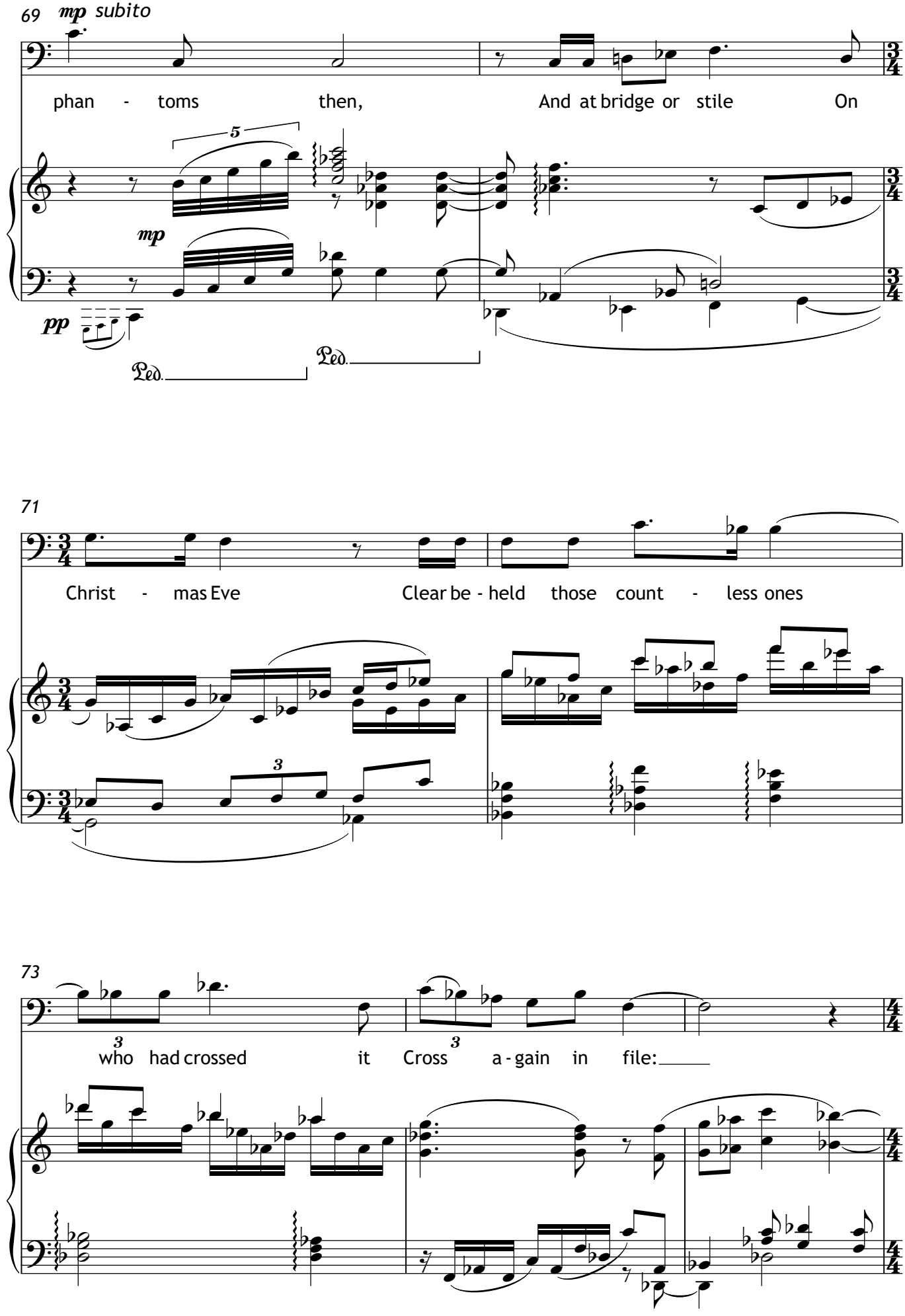
54

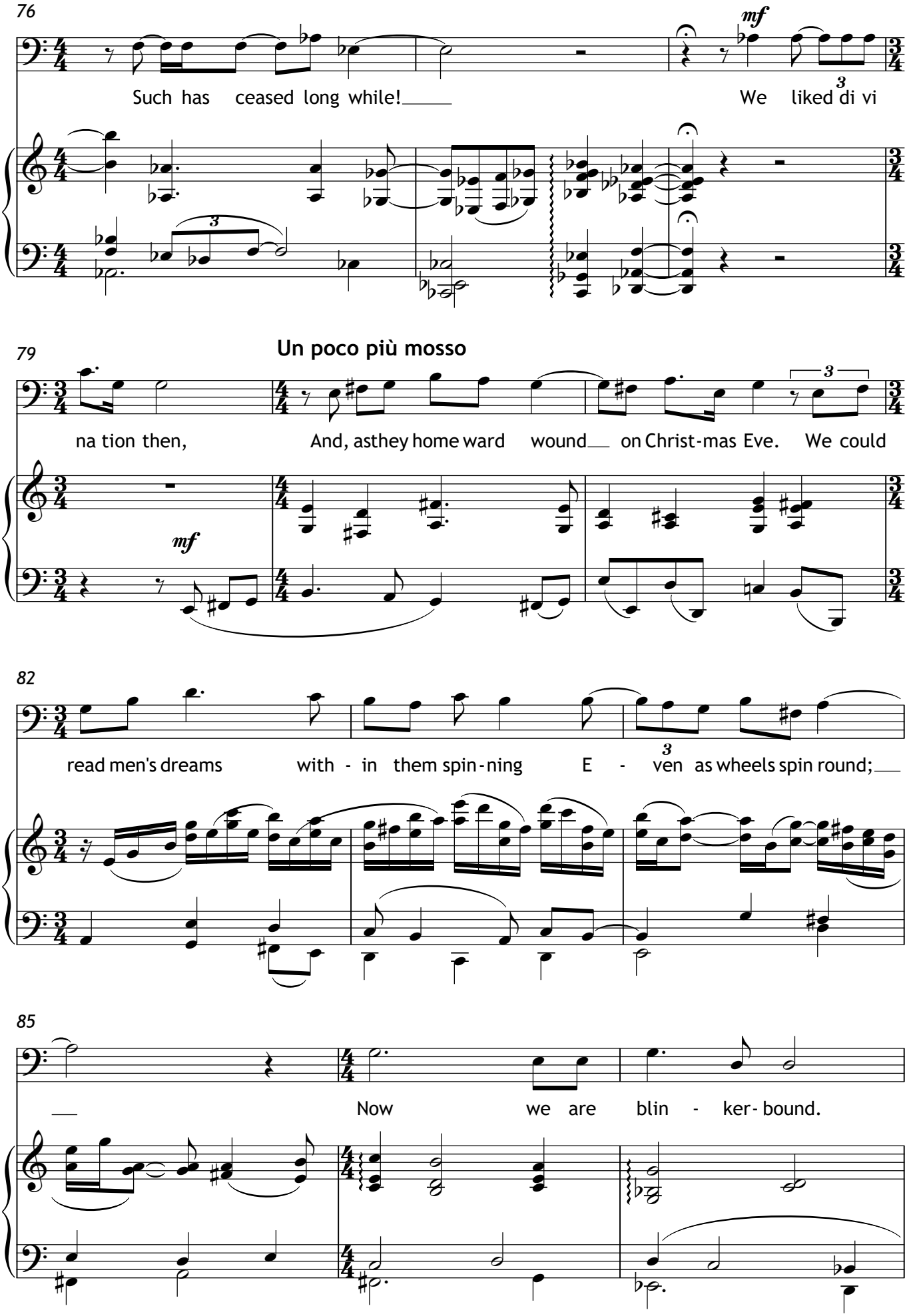


57




60
mp
- i-ant re - vel;
Do - ings of de light:
Now
mp
64
we have no such sight.
67
mf
We had eyes for


69
mp subito
phan - toms then, And at bridge or stile On
5
mp
pp
Ped.
Ped.
71
Christ - mas Eve Clear be - held those count - less ones
3
3
73
3
3
who had crossed it Cross a - gain in file:


76
mf
Such has ceased long while!
We liked di vi
79
Un poco più mosso
na tion then,
And, asthey home ward wound on Christ-mas Eve. We could
mf
82
read men's dreams with - in them spin - ning E - ven as wheels spin round;
85
Now we are blin - ker - bound.

88

mp

91

poco rit.

A tempo

mp ♩ = c.54

We heard still

poco rit.

A tempo

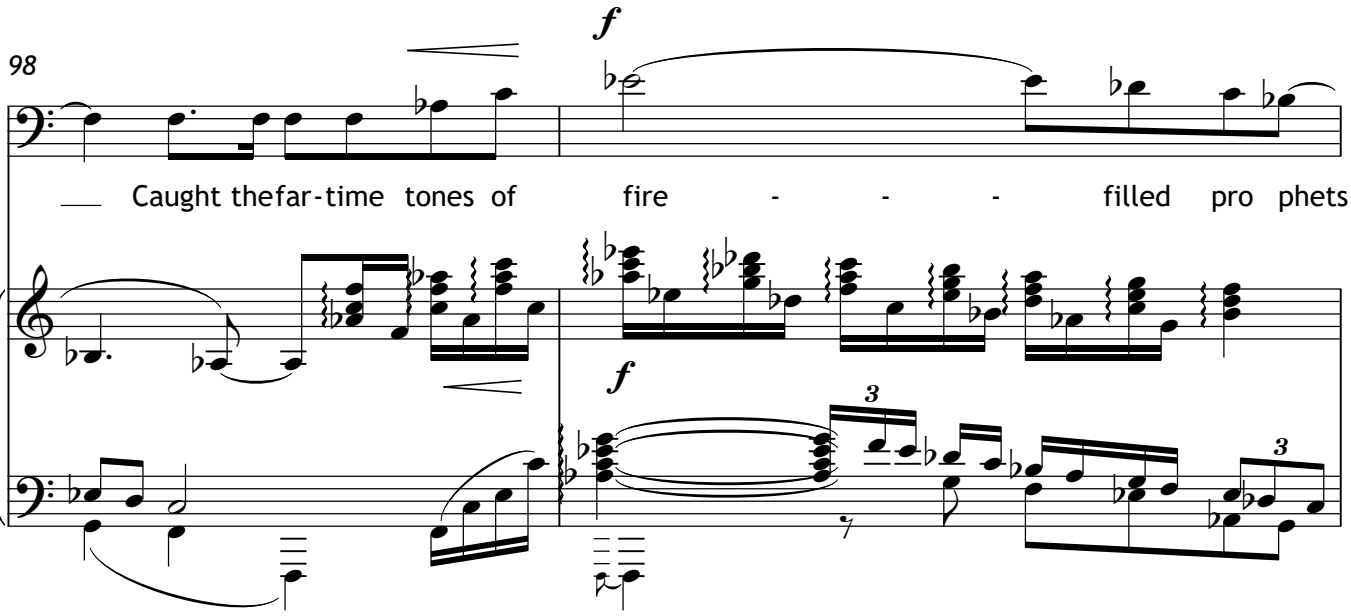
mp

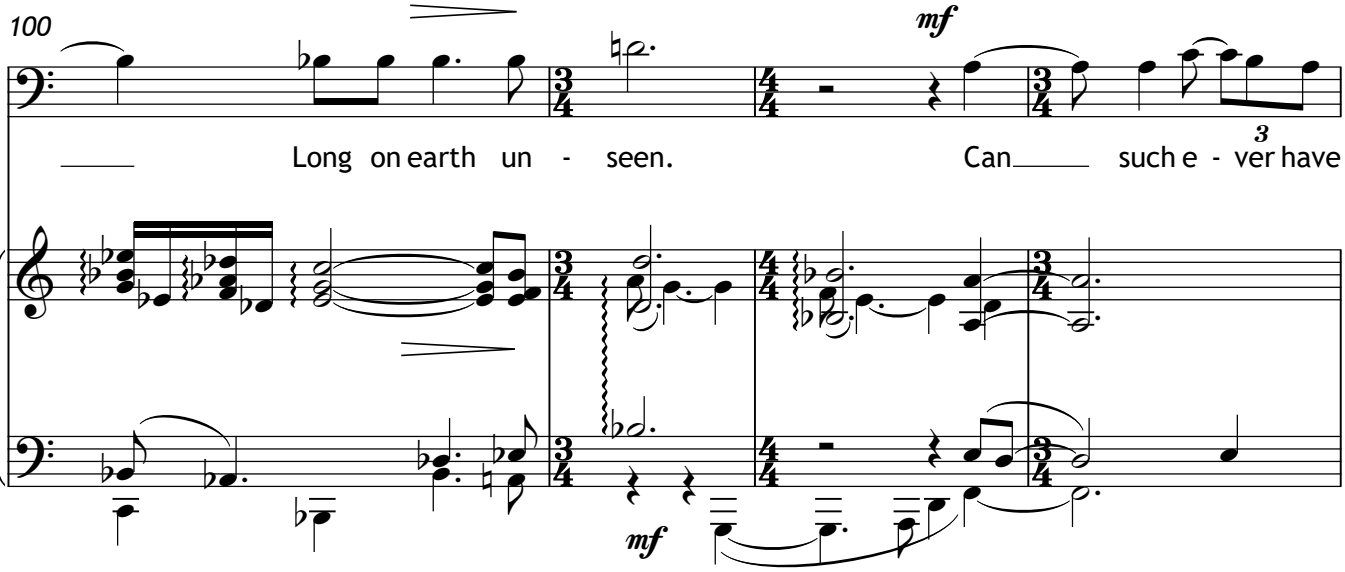
mp

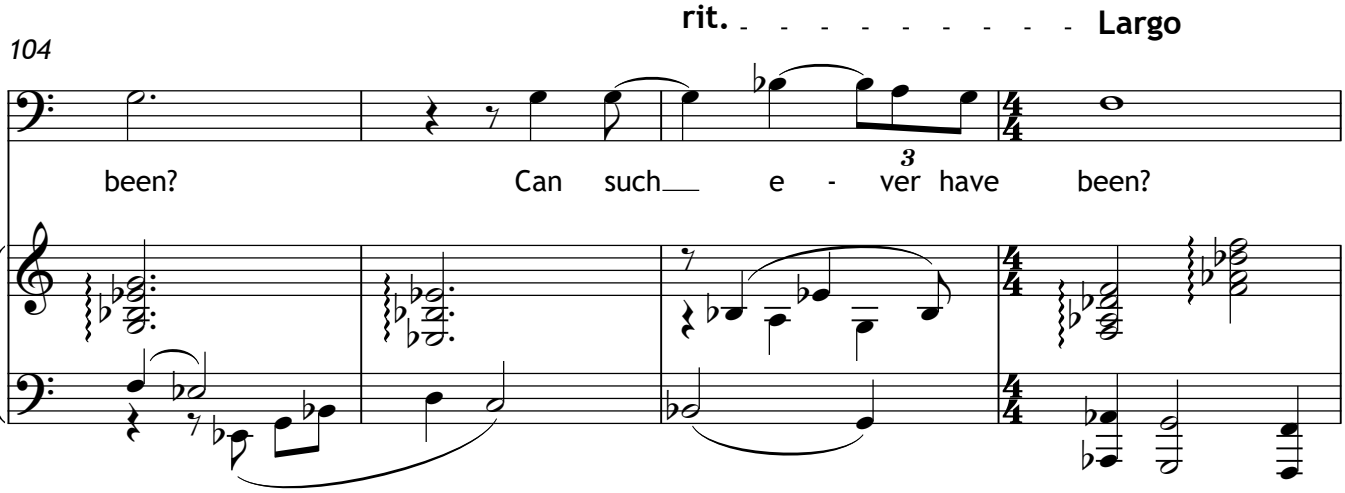
94

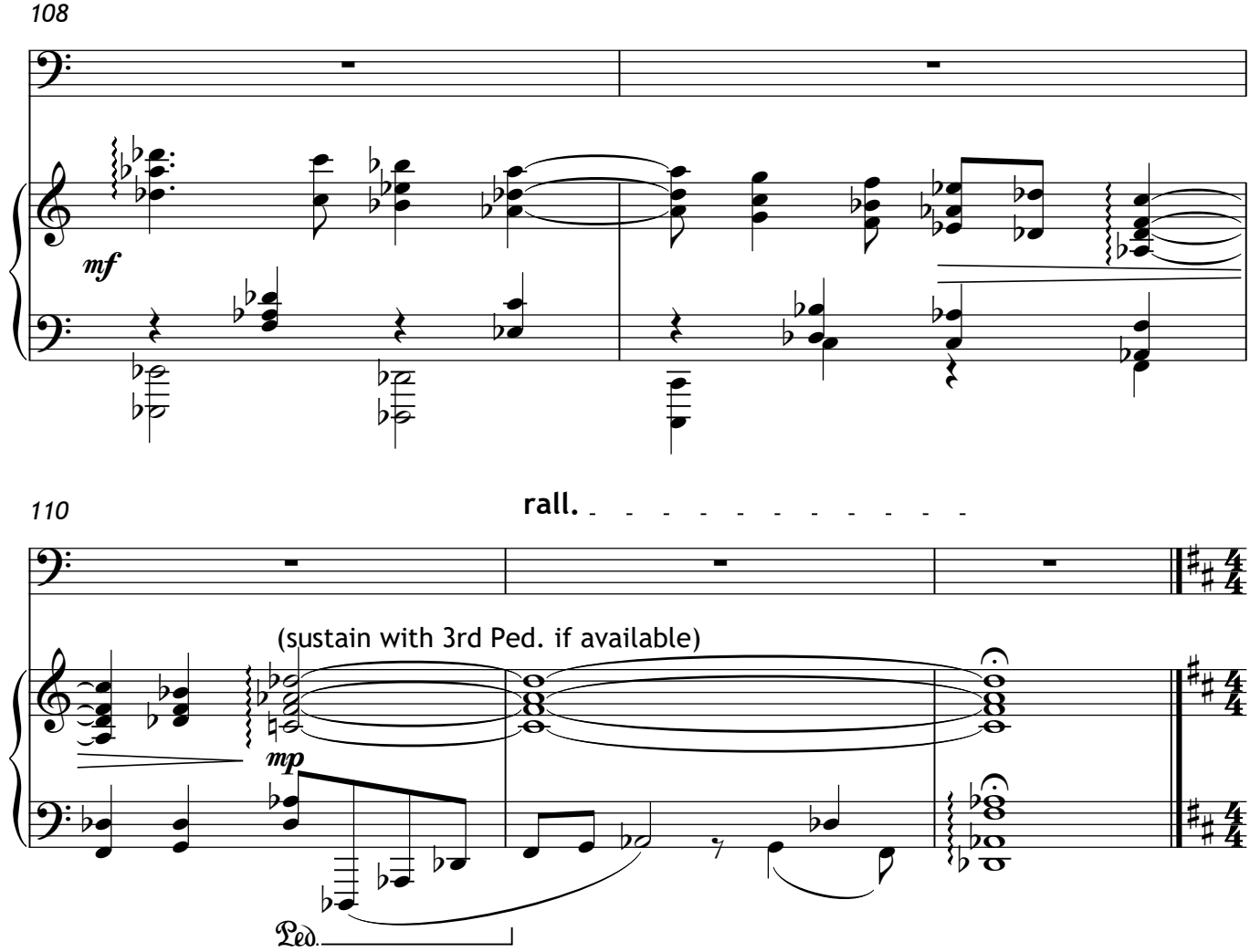
small voic - es then, And, in the dim se - rene Of Christ-mas Eve,

mp


98
f
Caught the far-time tones of fire - - - filled pro phets
f
3
3


100
mf
Long on earth un - seen. Can such e - ver have
3
mf


104
rit. - - - - - - - - - Largo
been? Can such e - ver have been?
3


108
mf
110
rall.
(sustain with 3rd Ped. if available)
mp
Ped.

Thoughts at Midnight

Thomas Hardy

Laurence Armstrong Hughes 2013

Moderato
♩ = c.67
poco recitativo

Vivace
♩ = c.120

113

f *f* *mf*

Man- kind, you dis - may me When sha-dows way-lay me! Not by your

f *mf*

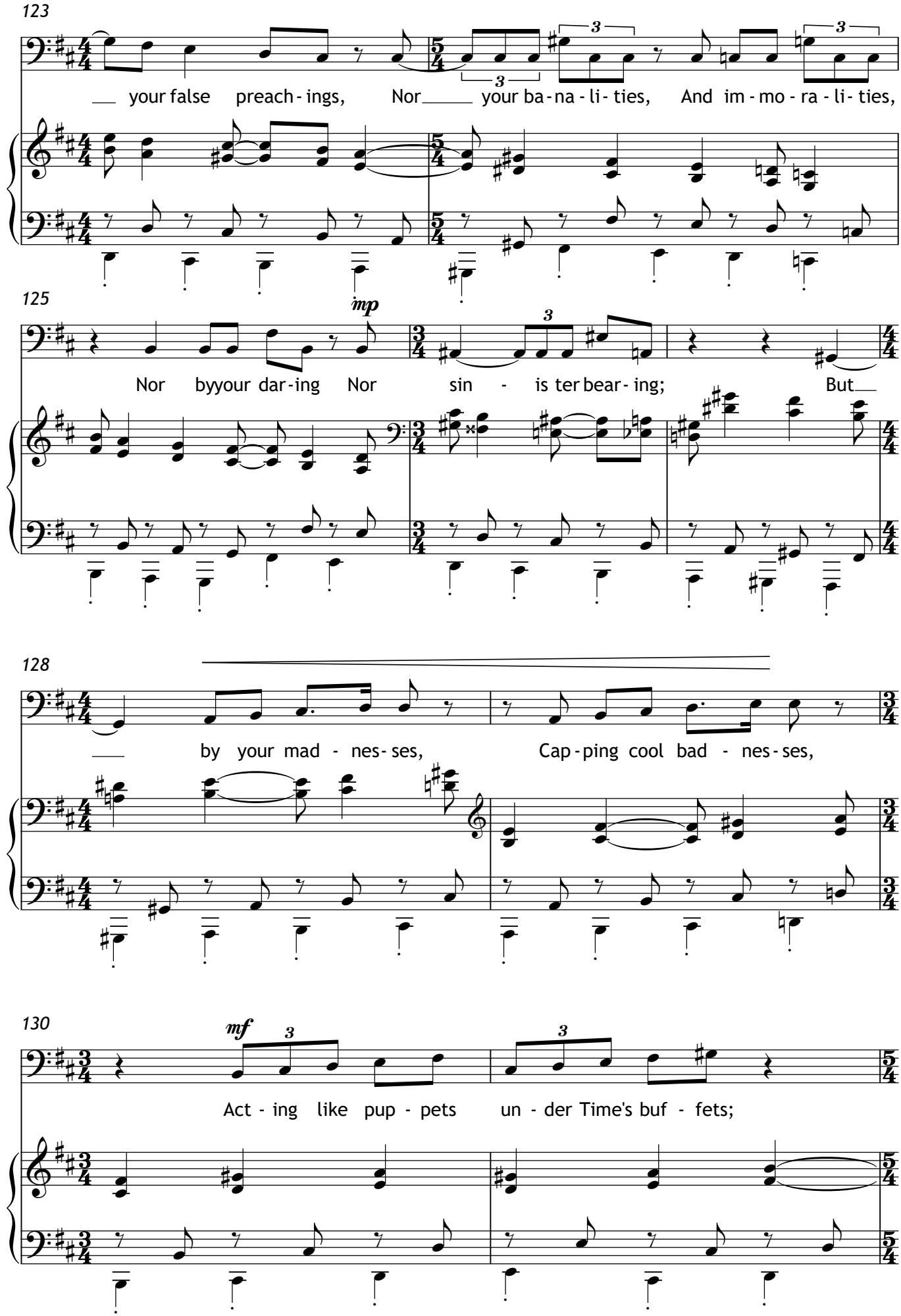
117

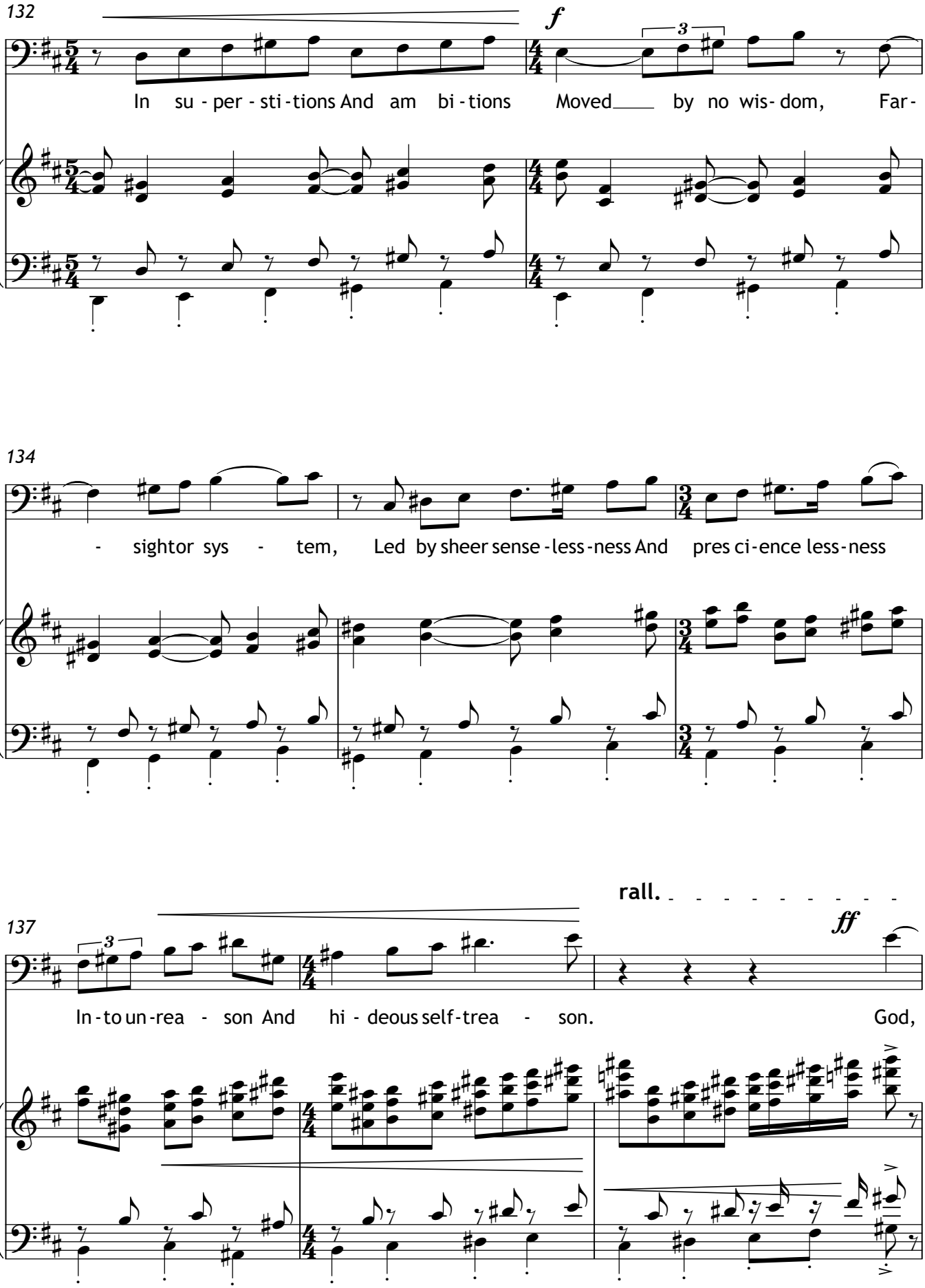
splen-dours Do you af - fray me, Not as pre-ten-ders To de-mo-nic

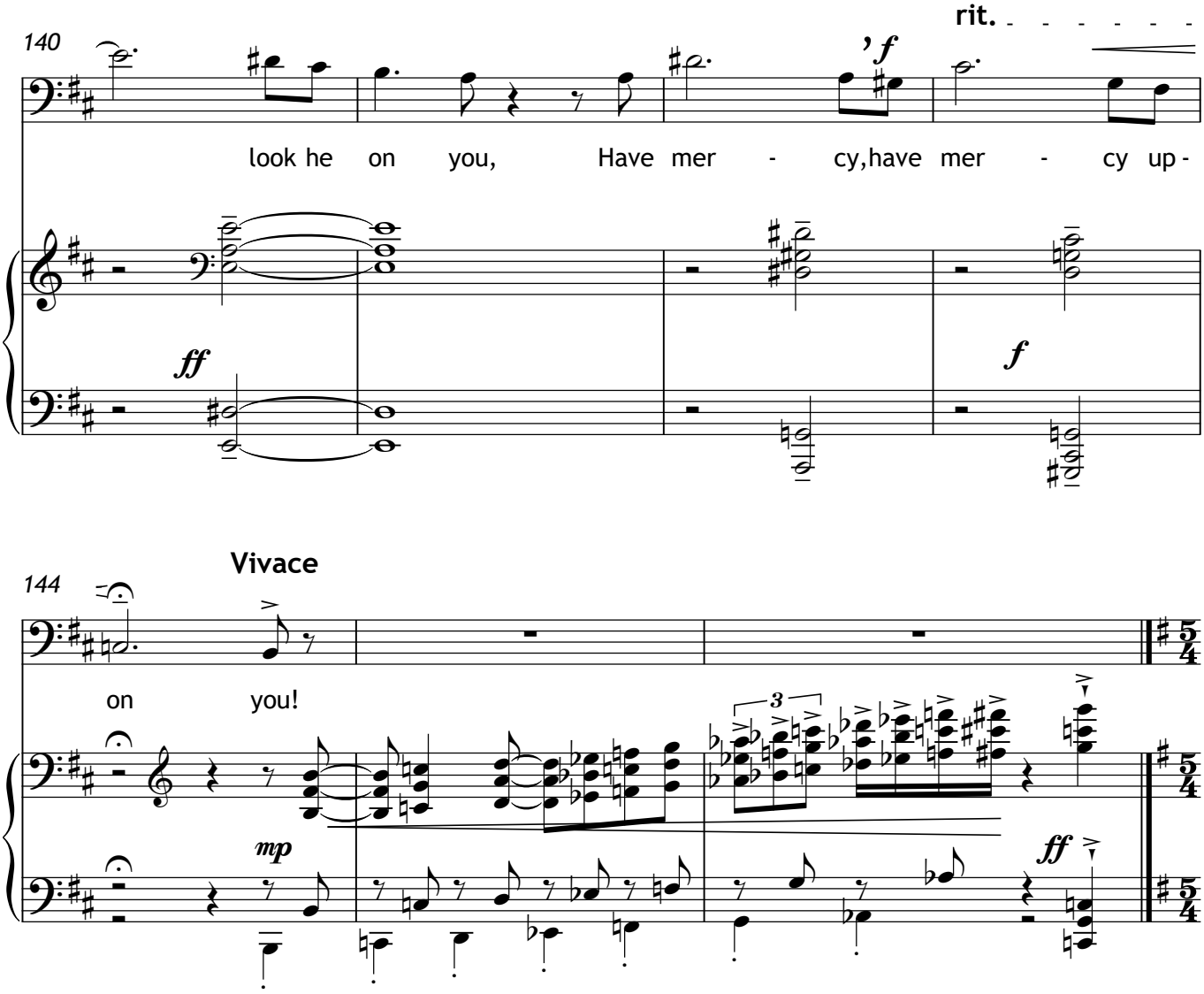
120

mf

keen - ness, Not by your mean - ness, Nor your ill -teach - ings, Nor


123
your false preach - ings, Nor your ba - na - li - ties, And im - mo - ra - li - ties,
125
mp
Nor byyour dar - ing Nor sin - is ter bear - ing; But
128
by your mad - nes - ses, Cap - ping cool bad - nes - ses,
130
mf
Act - ing like pup - pets un - der Time's buf - fets;


132
f
3
In su - per - sti - tions And am bi - tions Moved by no wis - dom, Far -
134
- sightor sys - tem, Led by sheer sense - less - ness And pres ci - ence less - ness
137
rall.
ff
3
In - to un - rea - son And hi - deous self - trea - son. God,


140
rit.
look he on you, Have mer - cy,have mer - cy up -
ff
f
144
Vivace
on you!
mp
ff

Going and Staying

Thomas Hardy

Laurence Armstrong Hughes
2013

Allegretto

♩ = c.100

147

mf

The mov-ing sun-shapes on the spray, The spar-kles where the

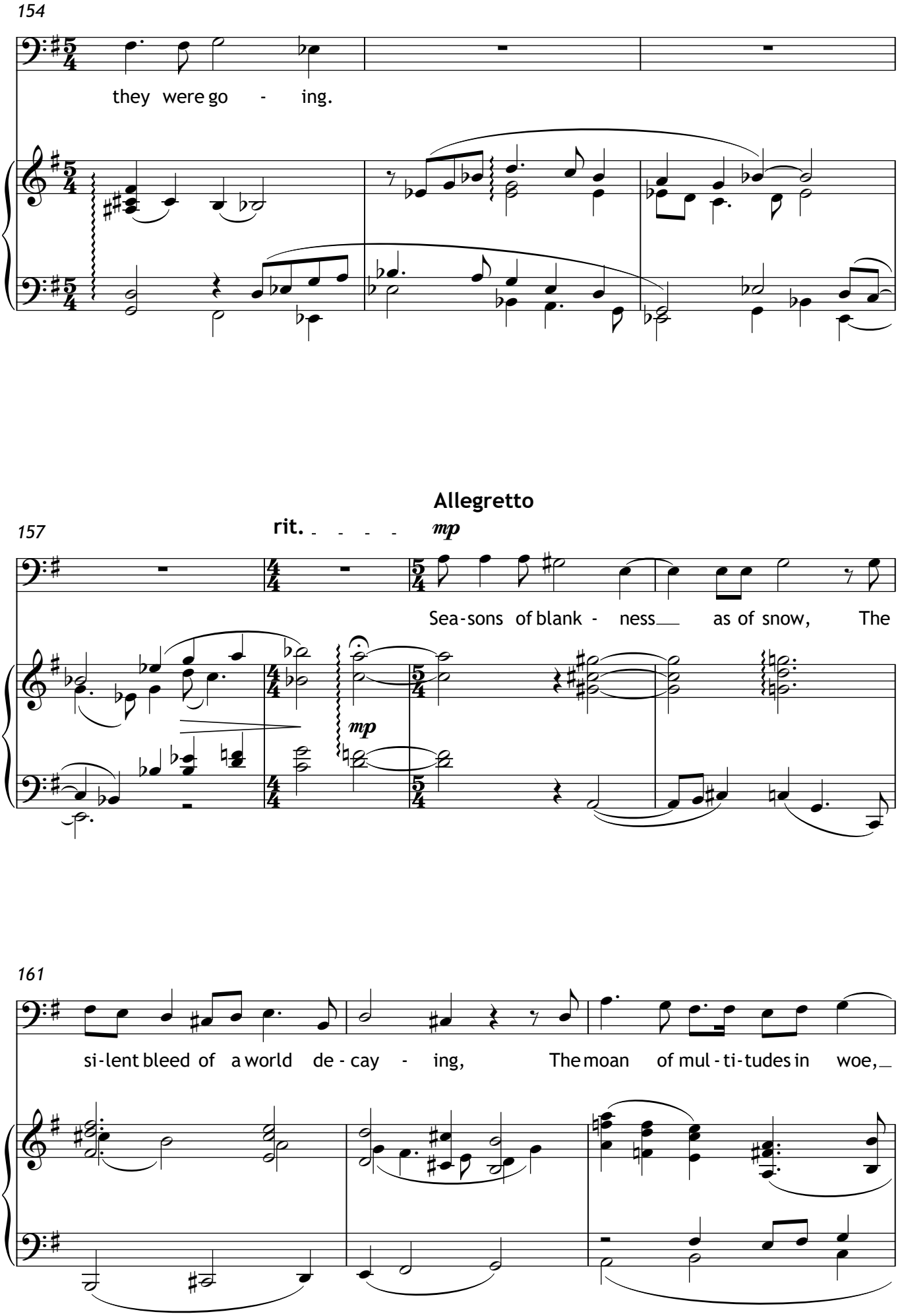
mf

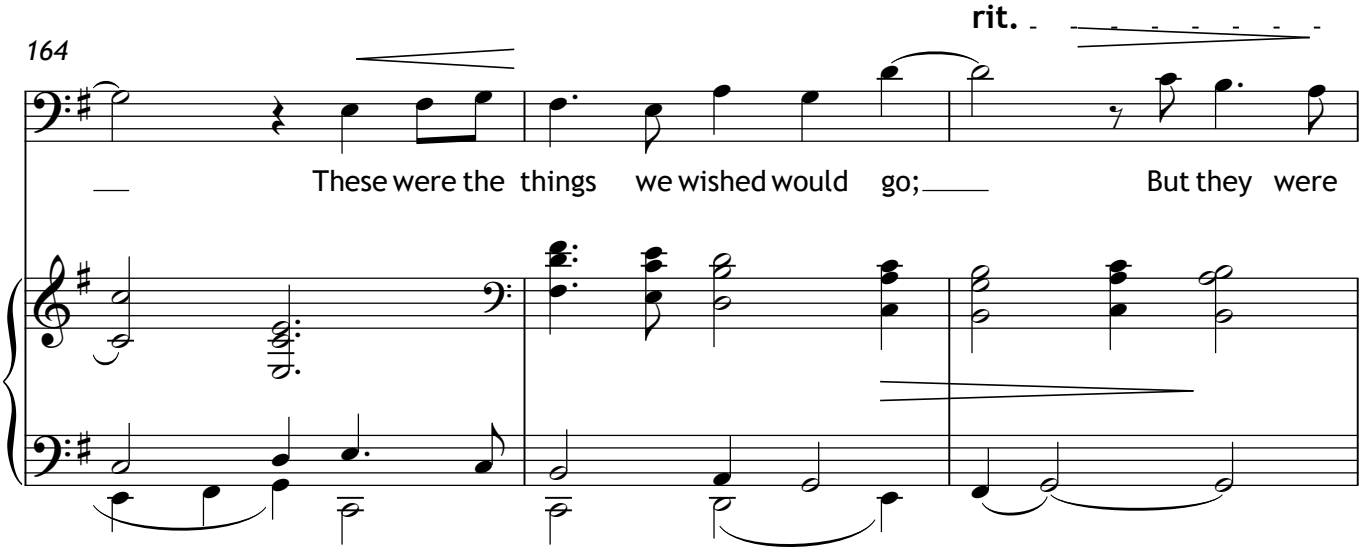
149

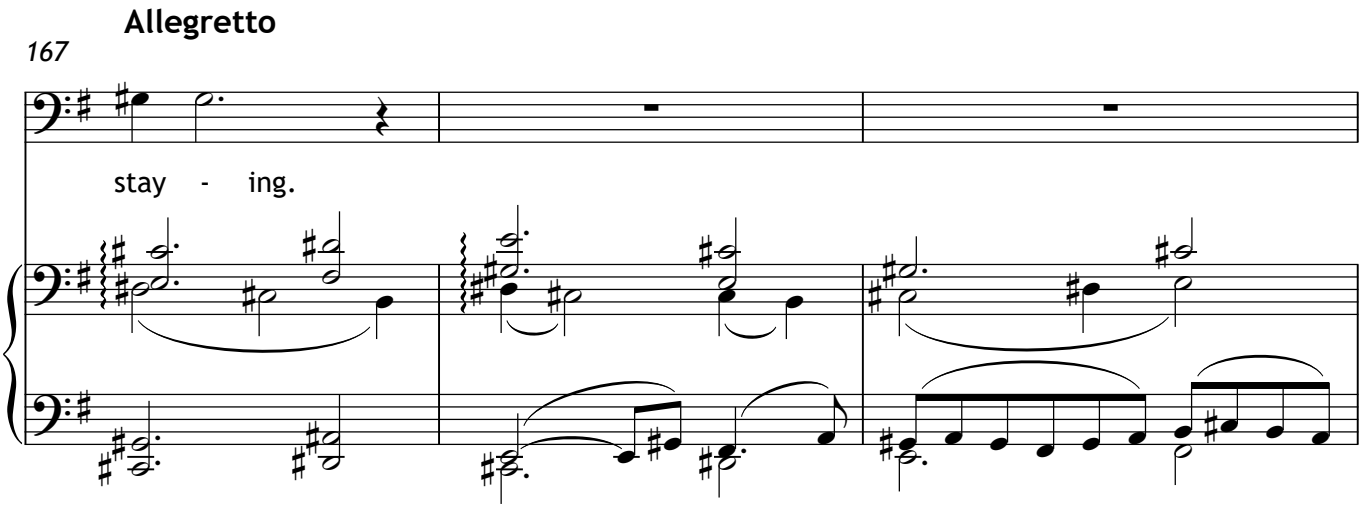
brook was flow-ing, Pink fa-ces, pligh - tings, moon - lit

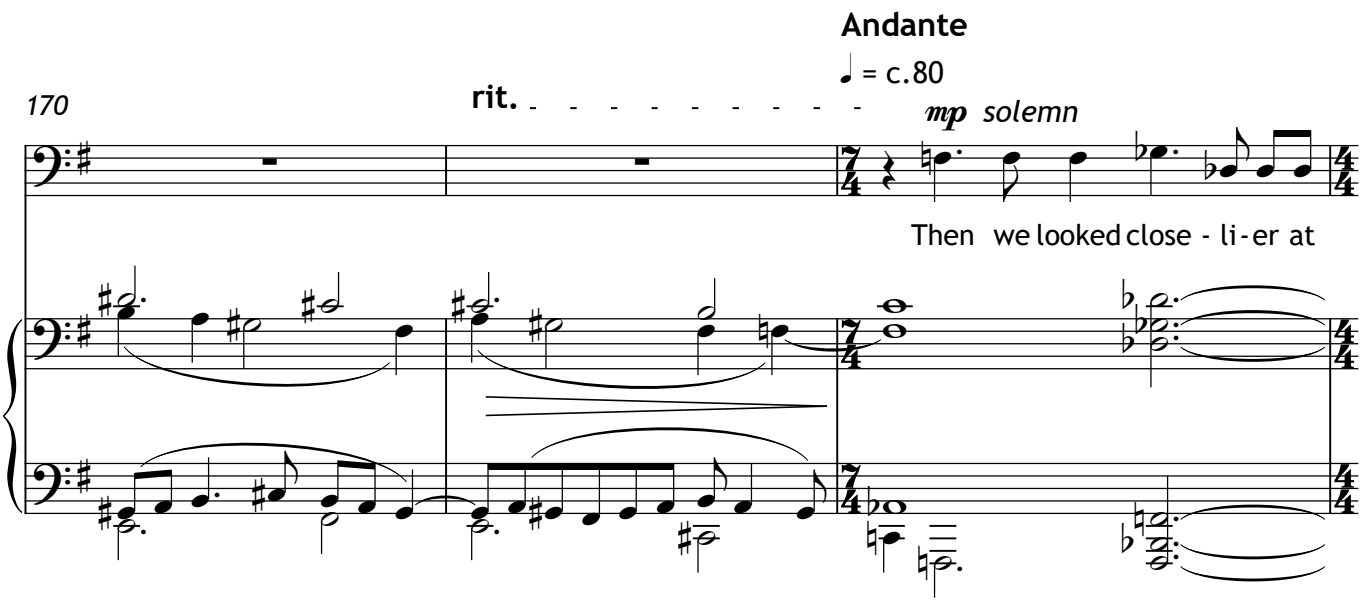
151

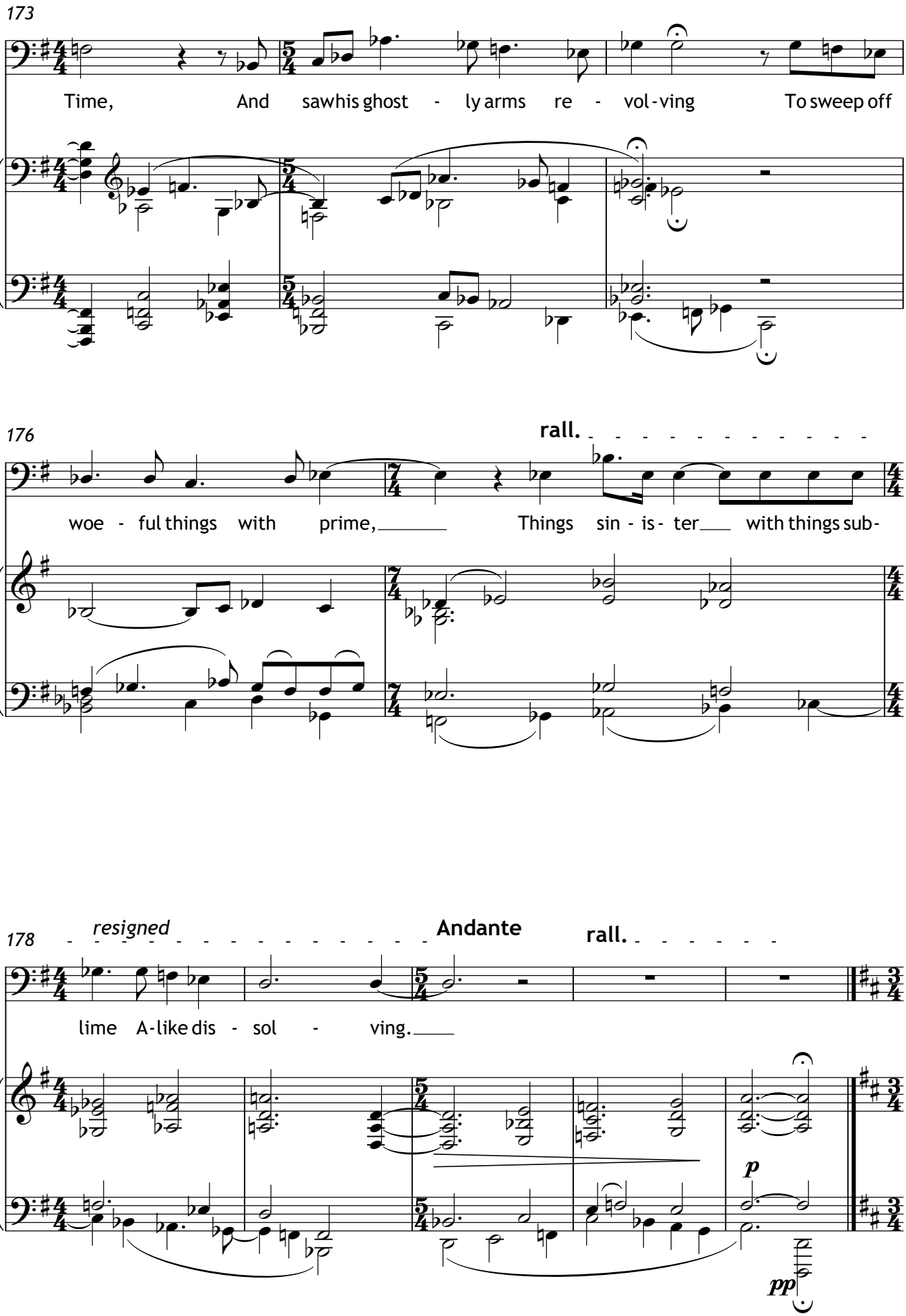
May, These were the things we wished would stay; But


154
they were go - ing.
Allegretto
157
rit.
mp
Sea-sons of blank - ness as of snow, The
mp
161
si-lent bleed of a world de - cay - ing, The moan of mul - ti-tudes in woe,


rit.
164
These were the things we wished would go;
But they were


Allegretto
167
stay - ing.


Andante
♩ = c.80
rit.
170
mp solemn
Then we looked close - li - er at


173
Time, And sawhis ghost - ly arms re - vol - ving To sweep off
176
rall.
woe - ful things with prime, Things sin - is - ter with things sub-
178
resigned
Andante
rall.
lime A - like dis - sol - ving.
p
pp

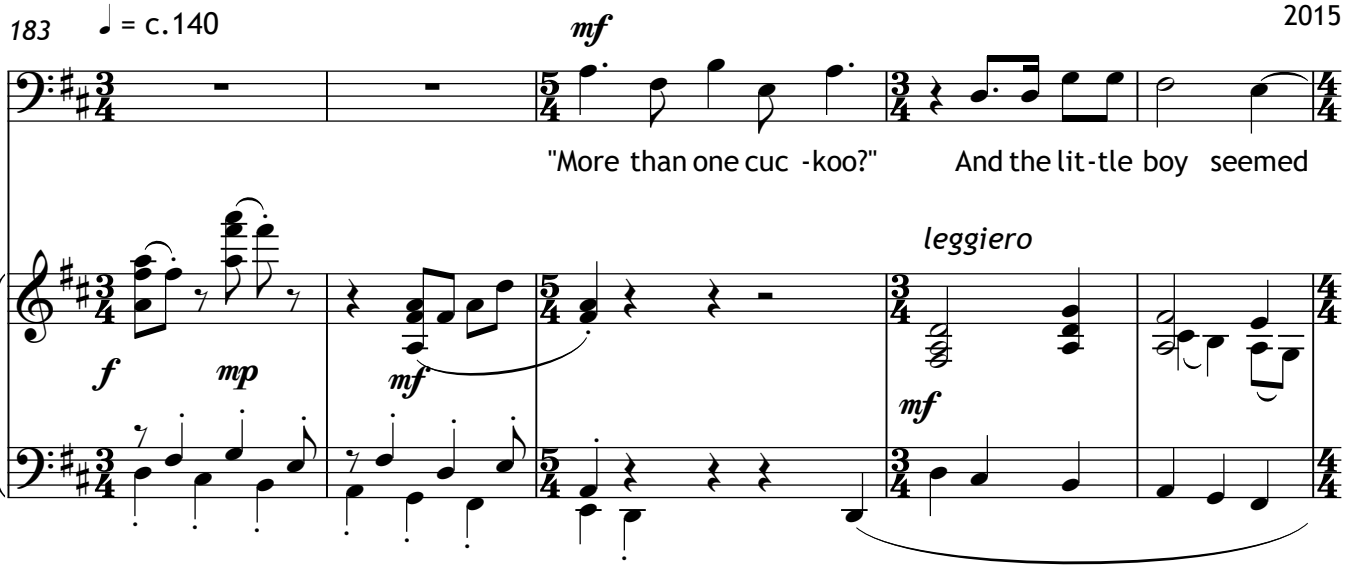
Thomas Hardy

"More than one Cuckoo?"

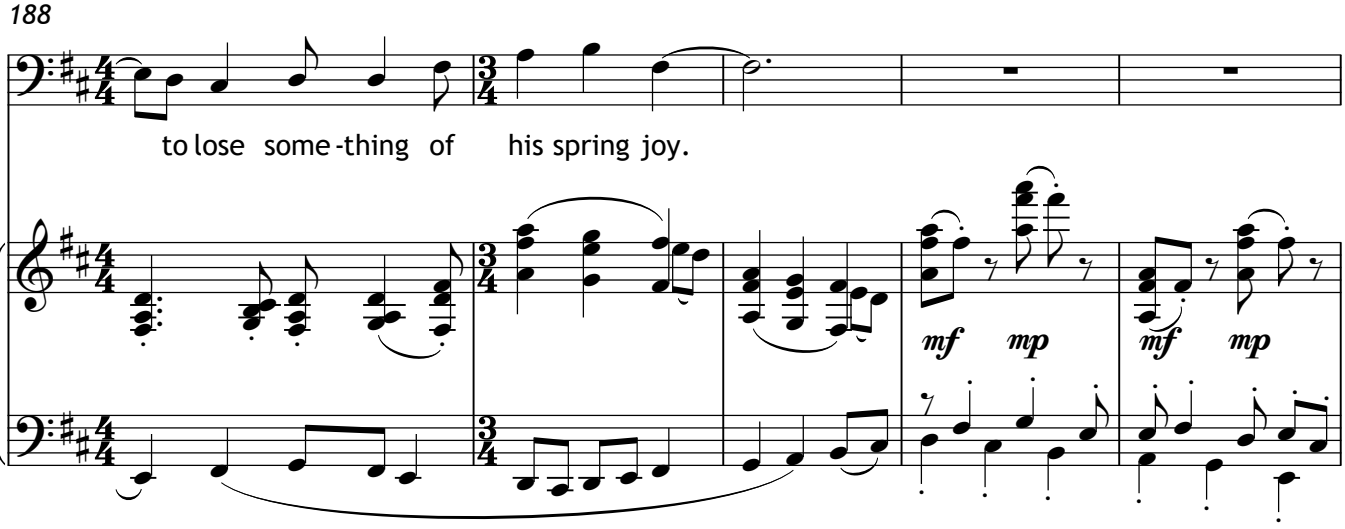
Laurence
Armstrong
Hughes
2015

Presto

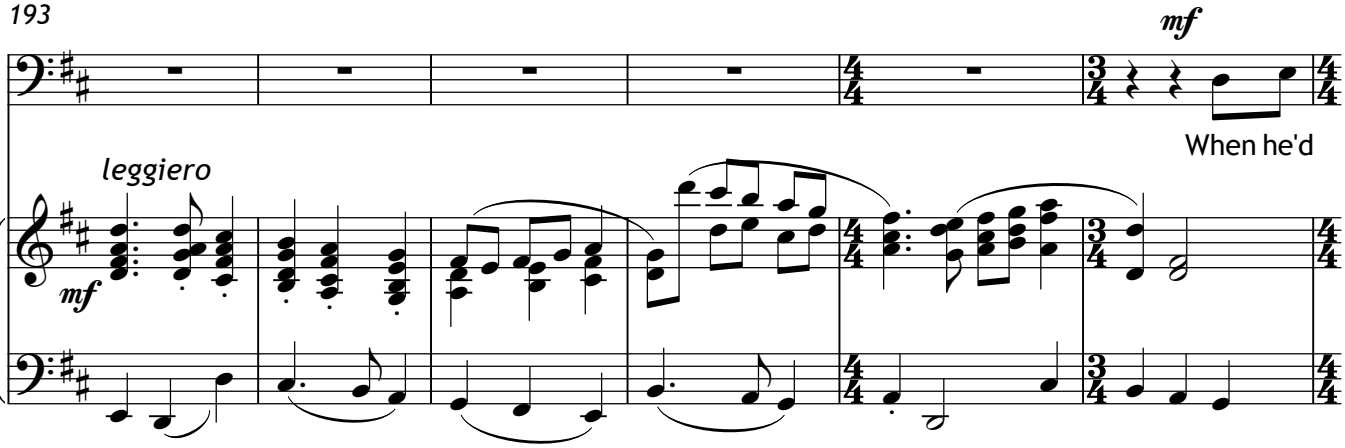
183 ♩ = c.140



188



193



199

grown up He told his son He'd used to think there was on-ly one, Who

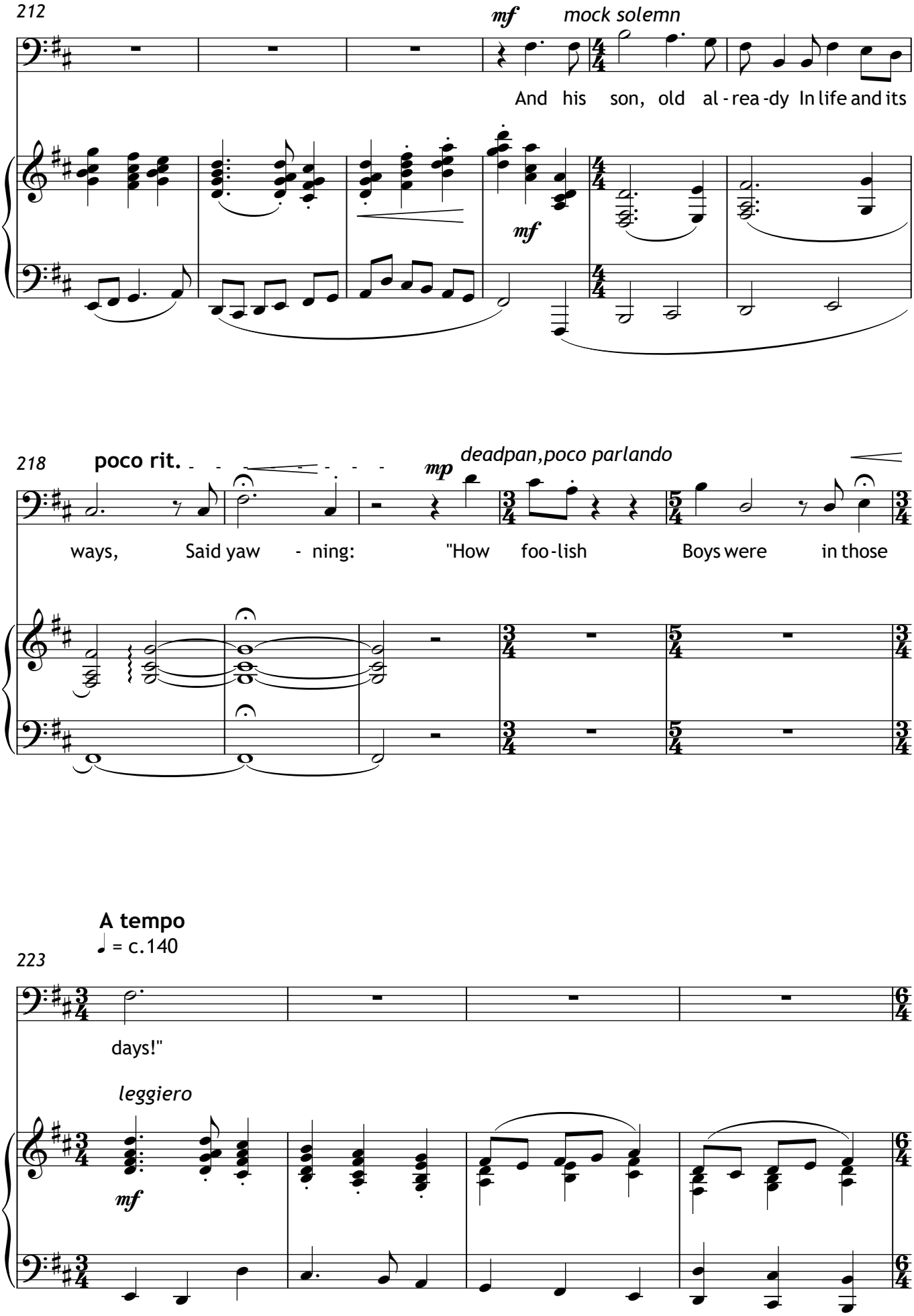
203

came each year With the trees' new trim On pur-pose to please Eng

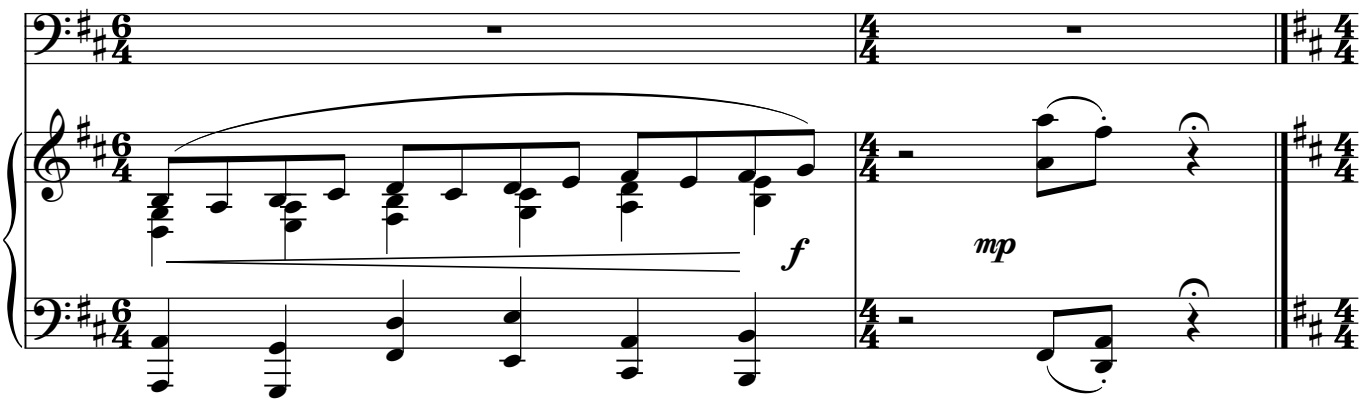
206

land and him:

mf


212
mf
mock solemn
And his son, old al - rea -dy In life and its
mf
218
poco rit.
mp
deadpan,poco parlando
ways, Said yaw - ning: "How foo - lish Boys were in those
A tempo
♩ = c.140
223
days!"
leggiero
mf

227



"Any Little Old Song"

Thomas Hardy

Laurence Armstrong Hughes
2013

Andante

♩ = c.80

229

mf

An-y lit-tle old song Will do for me, Tell it of joys long gone, Or joys to be,

233

Or friend-ly fa-ces best Loved to see.

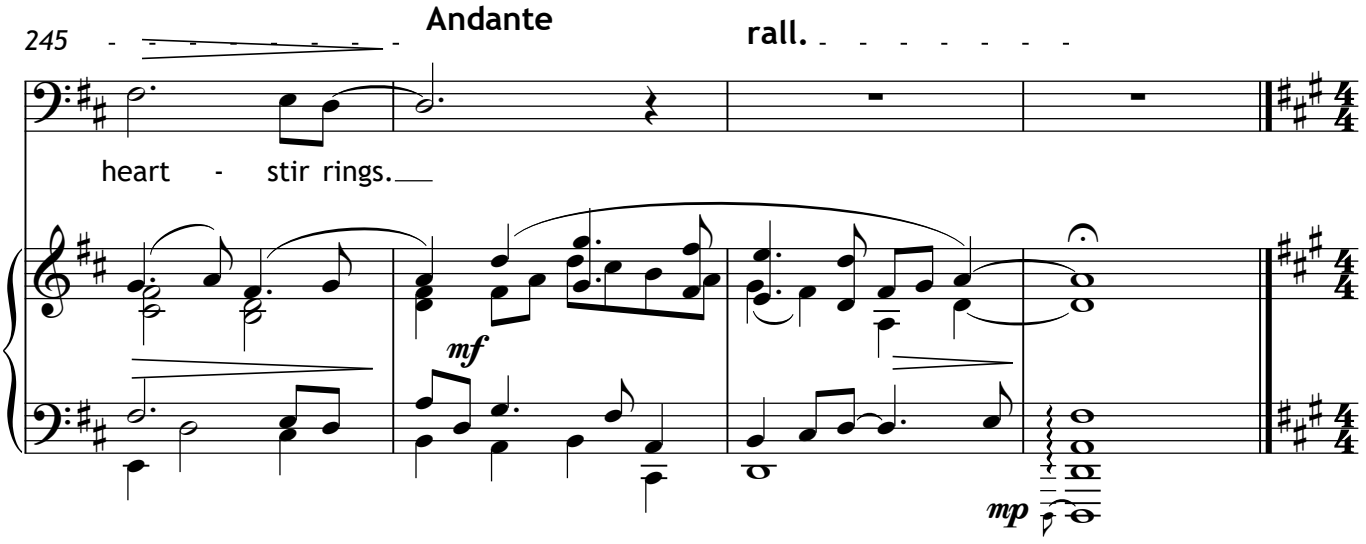
237

New-est themes I want not On sub-tle strings, And for

241

rit.

thril-lings pant not That new song brings: I on-ly need the home li-est of


245
Andante
rall.
heart - stir rings.
mf
mp

If it's ever spring again.

Thomas Hardy

Laurence Armstrong Hughes 2013

Animato (non troppo)

249 ♩ = c.120 *mf*

If it's e-ver spring a- gain, Spring a- gain, I shall

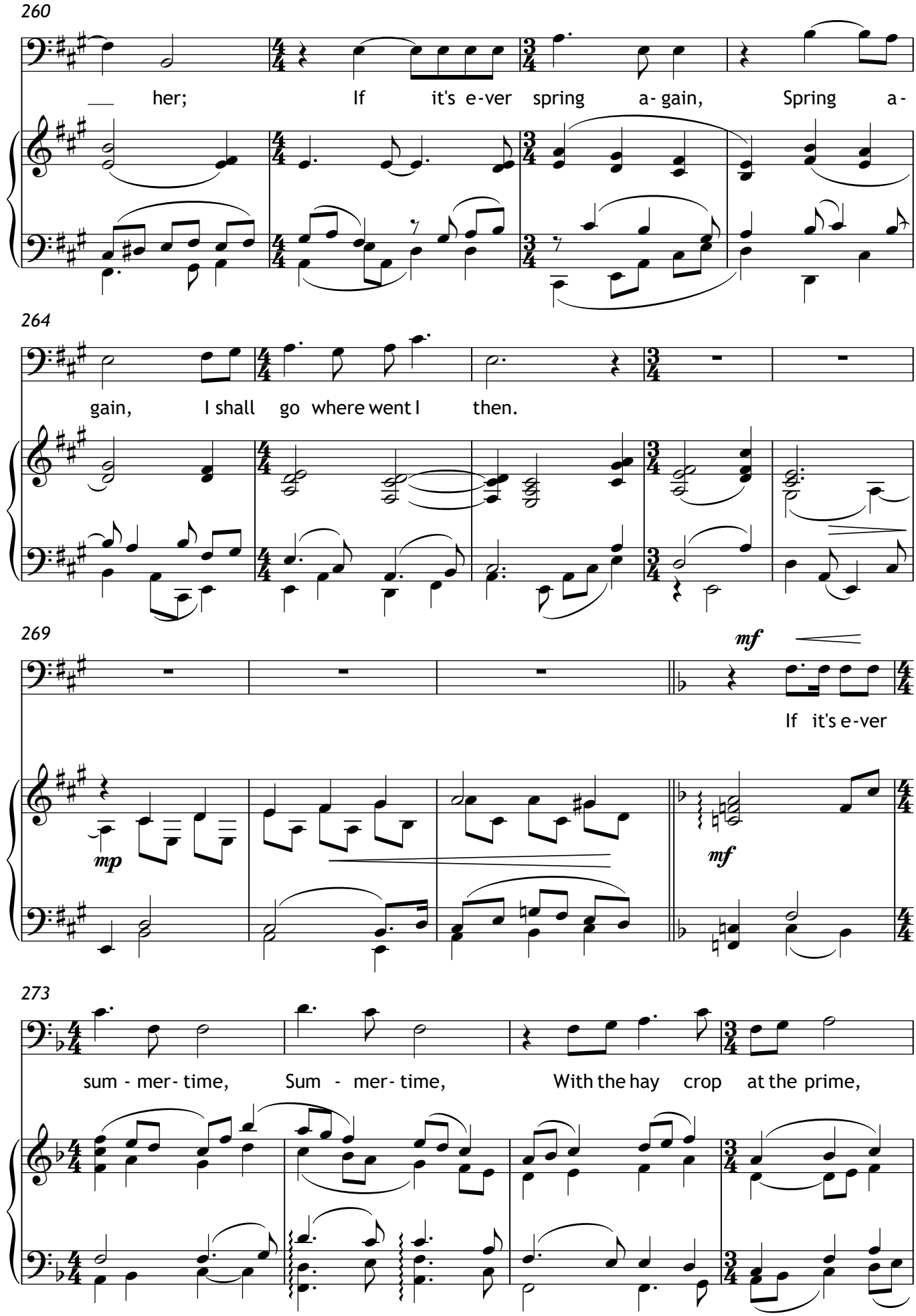
mf

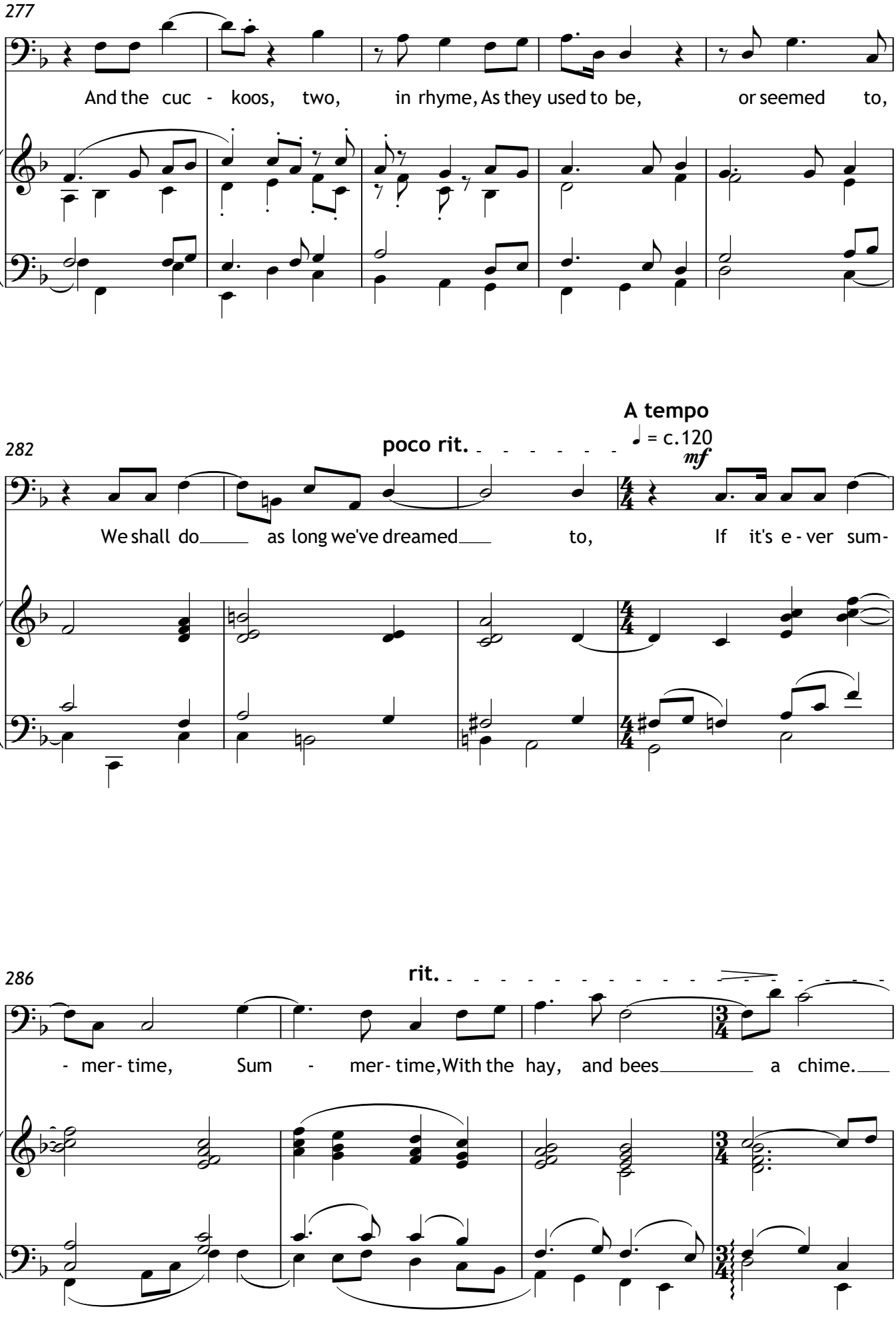
253

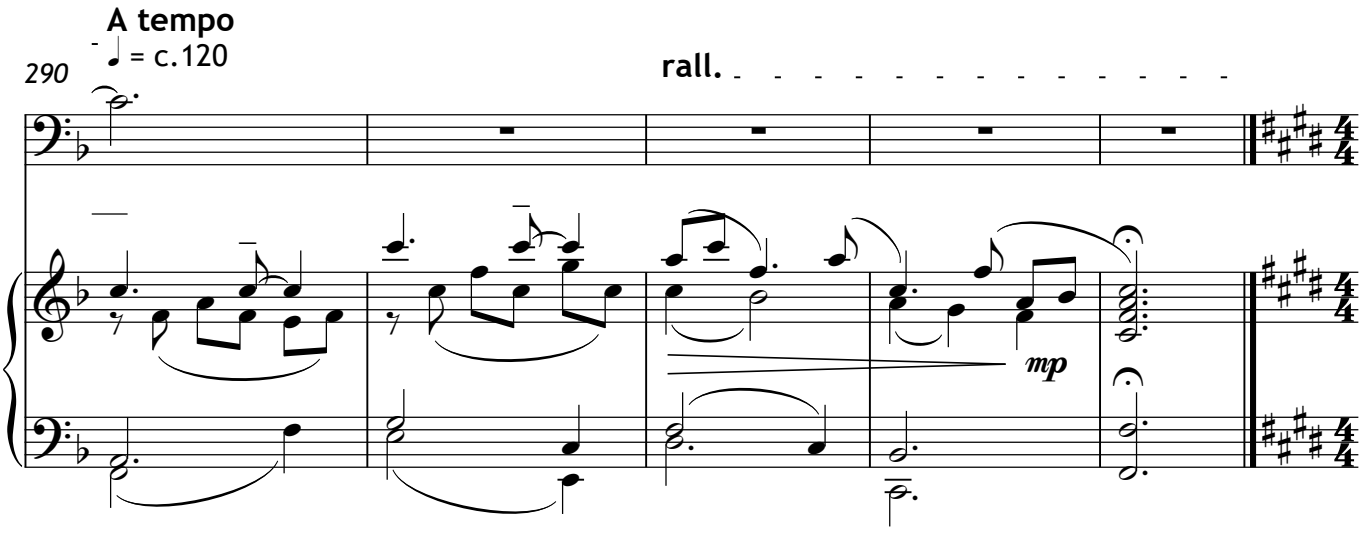
go where went I when Down the moor-cock splashed, and hen,

256

See-ing me not a-mid their floun - der, Stan - ding with my arm a round


260
her; If it's e-ver spring a-gain, Spring a-
264
gain, I shall go where went I then.
269
mf
If it's e-ver
mp
mf
273
sum - mer- time, Sum - mer- time, With the hay crop at the prime,


277
And the cuc - koos, two, in rhyme, As they used to be, or seemed to,
282
poco rit.
A tempo
♩ = c.120
mf
We shall do as long we've dreamed to, If it's e - ver sum-
286
rit.
- mer- time, Sum - mer- time, With the hay, and bees a chime.


A tempo
♩ = c.120
290
rall.
mp

Saying Good-bye

Thomas Hardy

Laurence Armstrong Hughes
2013

Moderato

♩ = c. 72

295

mf

We are al-ways say-ing "Good - bye, good bye!" In

mf

299

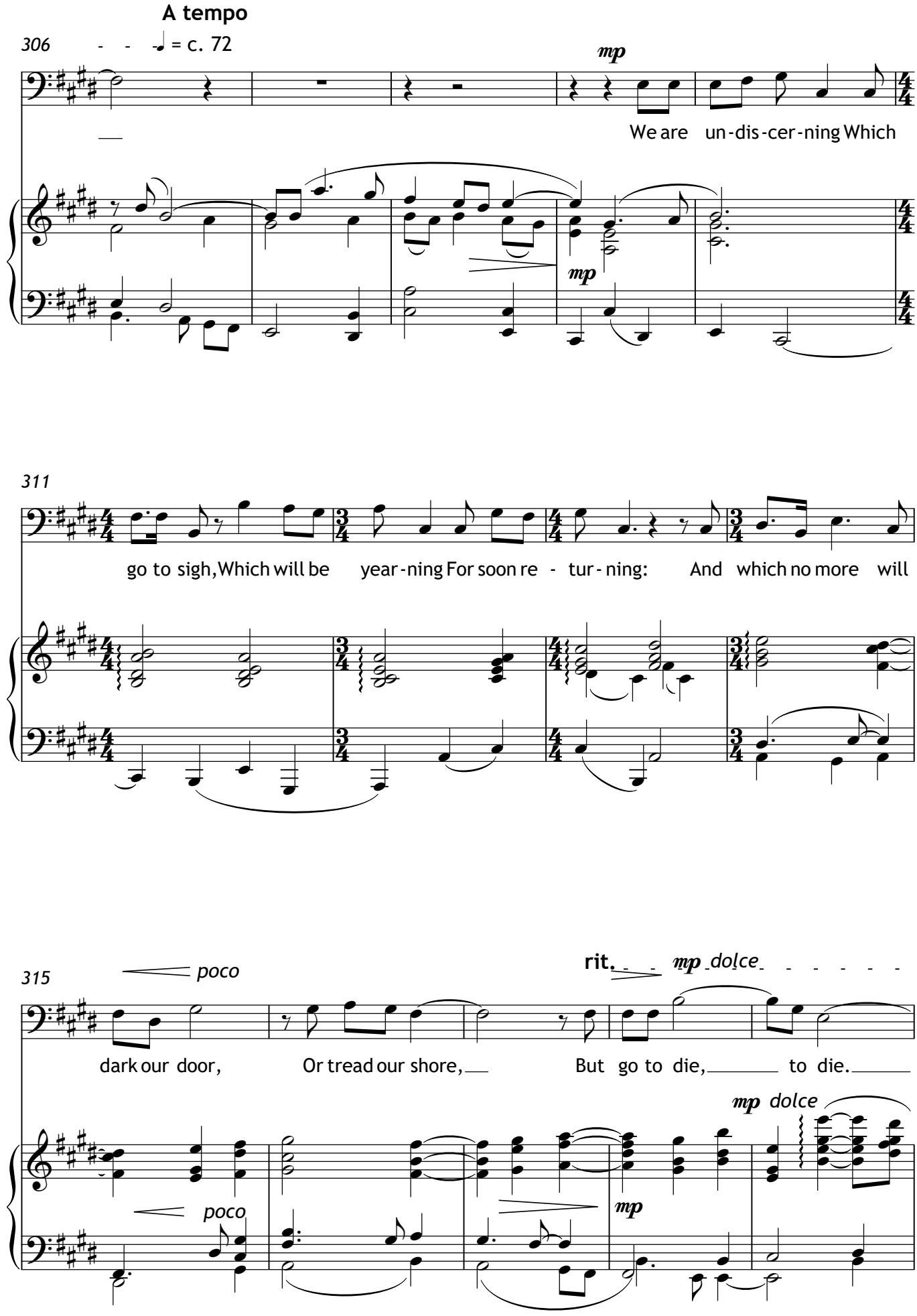
work, in play- ing, In gloom, in gay - ing: At

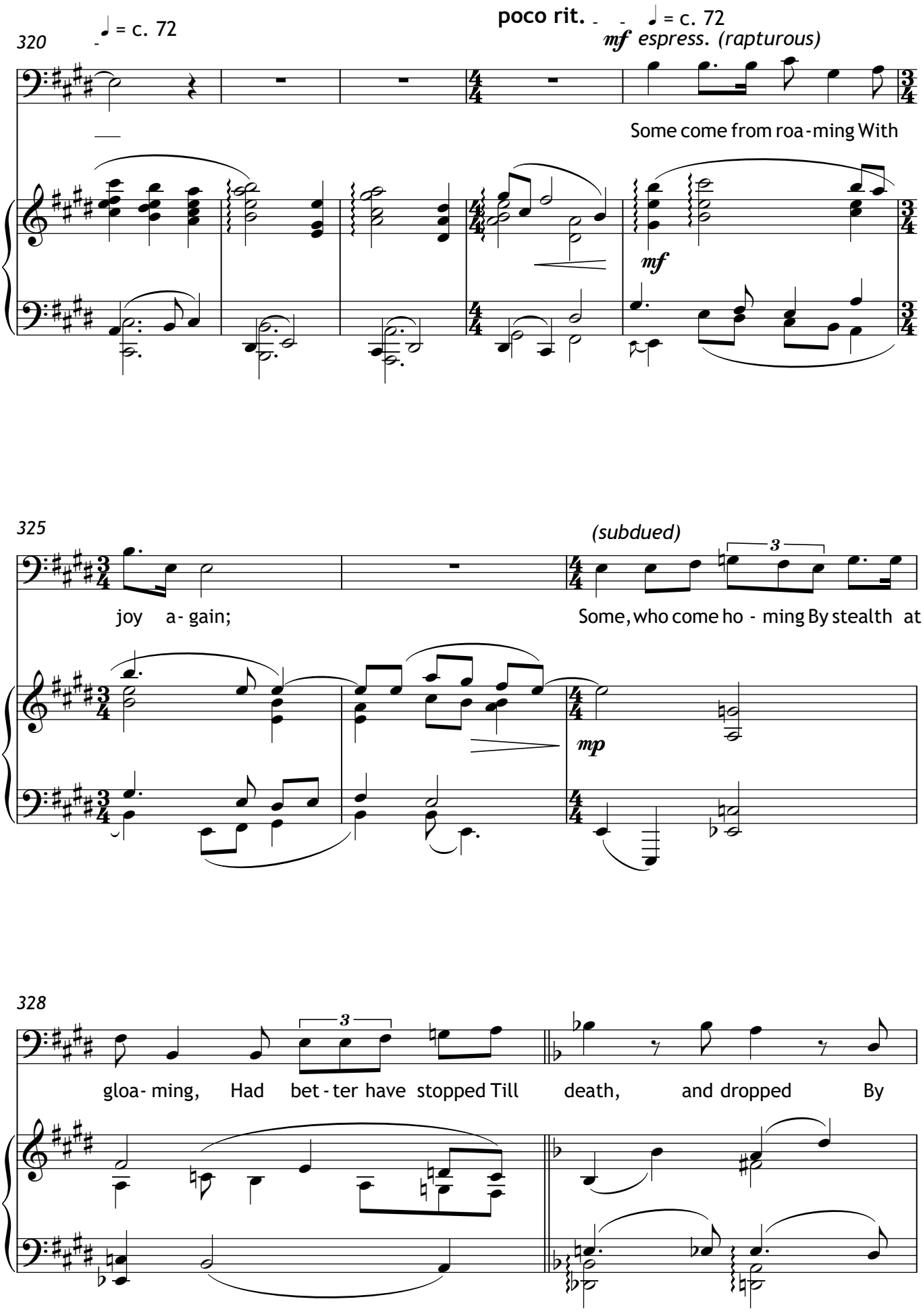
302

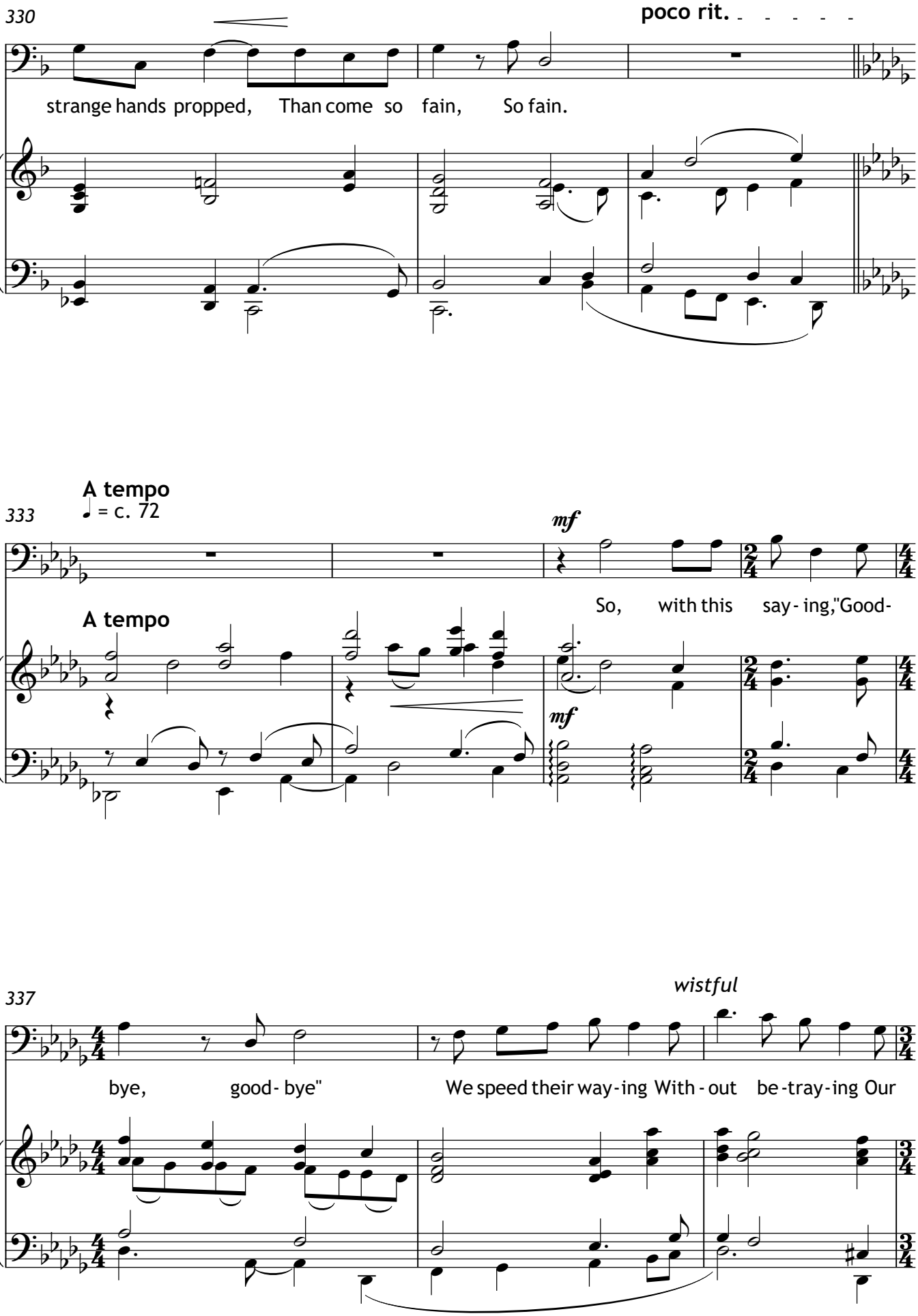
poco rit.

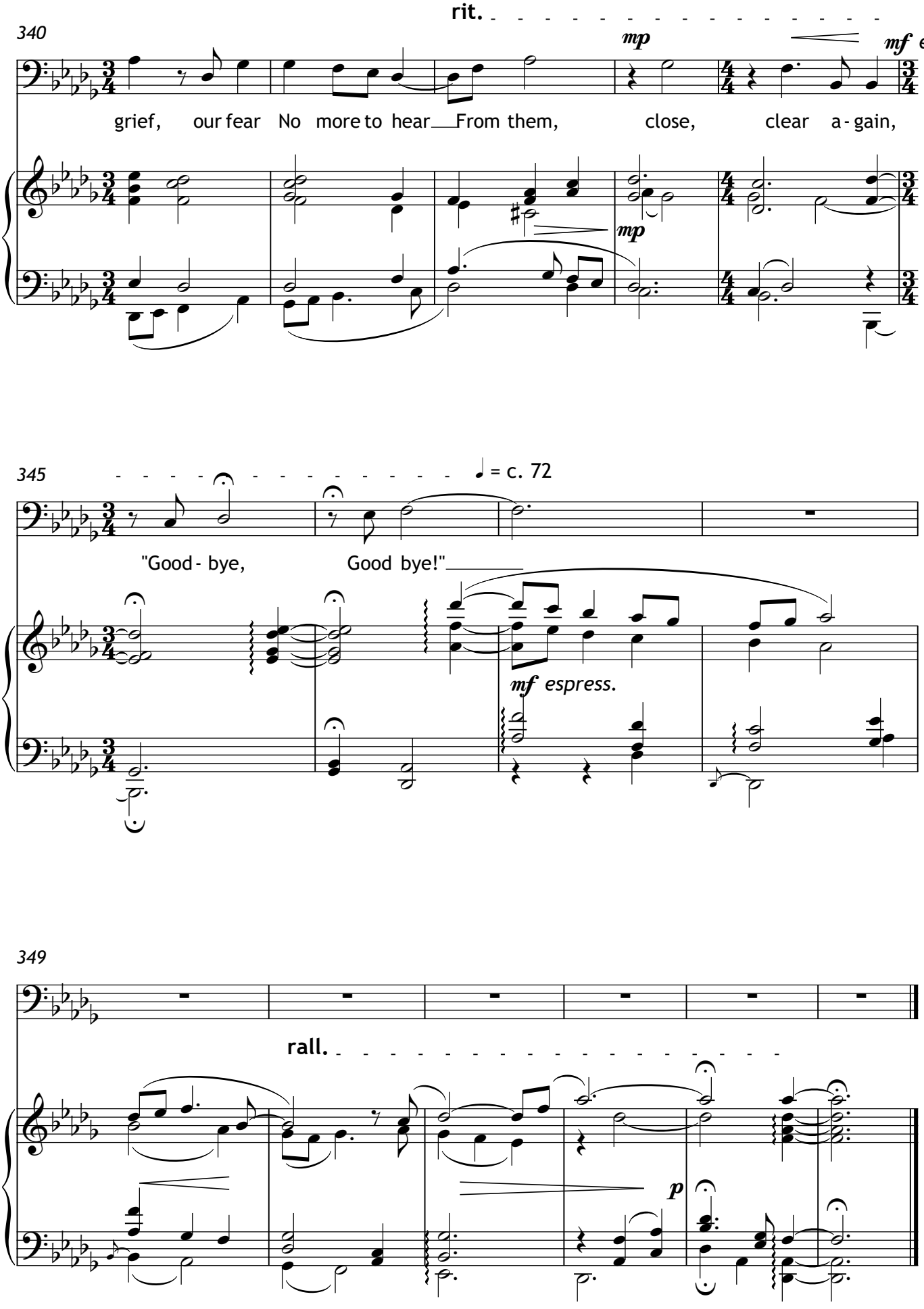
3

ma ny a stage Of pil - gri mage, From youth to age we say, "Good - bye, Good bye!"


A tempo
306
♩ = c. 72
mp
We are un-dis-cer-ning Which
mp
311
go to sigh, Which will be year-ning For soon re - tur-ning: And which no more will
315
poco
rit.
mp dolce
dark our door, Or tread our shore, But go to die, to die.
mp dolce
poco
mp


320
♩ = c. 72
poco rit.
♩ = c. 72
mf espress. (rapturous)
Some come from roa - ming With
mf
325
(subdued)
joy a - gain;
Some, who come ho - ming By stealth at
mp
328
gloa - ming, Had bet - ter have stopped Till death, and dropped By


330
poco rit.
strange hands propped, Than come so fain, So fain.
A tempo
333
♩ = c. 72
mf
So, with this say - ing,"Good-
A tempo
mf
337
wistful
bye, good - bye" We speed their way - ing With - out be - tray - ing Our


rit.
340
mp
mf espress.
grief, our fear No more to hear From them, close, clear a - gain,
mp
345
♩ = c. 72
"Good - bye, Good bye!"
mf espress.
349
rall.
p