Simon Speare

Echo Songs

for mixed choir and brass ensemble

Preview File Only

full score

Heaven by George Herbert

O who will show me those delights on high?
Echo. *I.*
Thou Echo, thou art mortal, all men know
Echo. *No.*
Wert thou not born among the trees and leaves?
Echo. *Leaves.*
And are there any leaves, that still abide?
Echo. *Bide.*
What leaves are they? Impart the matter wholly.
Echo. *Holy.*
Are holy leaves the Echo then of bliss?
Echo. *Yes.*
Then tell me, what is that supreme delight?
Echo. *Light.*
Light to the mind: what shall the will enjoy?
Echo. *Joy.*
But are there cares and business with the pleasure?
Echo. *Leisure.*
Light, joy and leisure; but shall they persever?
Echo. Ever.

'The splendour falls on castle walls' by Alfred, Lord Tennyson
(from *The Princess)*

The splendour falls on castle walls
And snowy summits old in story:
The long light shakes across the lakes,
And the wild cataract leaps in glory.
Blow, bugle, blow, set the wild echoes flying,
Blow, bugle; answer, echoes, dying, dying, dying.

O hark, O hear! How thin and clear,
And thinner, clearer, farther going!
O sweet and far from cliff and scar
The horns of Elfland faintly blowing!
Blow, let us hear the purple glens replying:
Blow, bugle; answer, echoes, dying, dying, dying.

O love, they die in yon rich sky,
They faint on hill or field or river:
Our echoes roll from soul to soul,
And grow for ever and for ever.
Blow, Bugle, Blow, set the wild echoes flying,
And answer, echoes, answer, dying, dying, dying.

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This piece was commissioned by London Concert Choir and first performed at Southwark Cathedral on 11 November 1999 by London Concert Choir with Quintessential conducted by Mark Forkgen.

Instrumentation

2 Trumpets in C
2 Tenor trombones
1 Bass trombone

Semi-Chorus (SATB)

Chorus (SATB)

Performance notes

The Semi-Chorus should be about a third of the size of the Chorus with at least six of each voice-type.

The Semi-Chorus should be positioned offstage to the right of the Chorus (preferably on a balcony).

The Brass Ensemble should be positioned offstage to the left of the Chorus (preferably on a balcony).

Trumpet 1 should play the second song some distance away from the rest of the Brass Ensemble.

Duration: circa 10 minutes

The score is written in C

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To Helen Houghton

Echo Songs

I (ascending)

Simon Speare

♩ = 60 **Smoothly, with ease**

Brass ensemble (offstage)

(3 + 2)

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3 (Bass)

con sord. (mica mute)

p *poco cresc.* *mf* *mp*

Semi-Chorus (offstage)

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Chorus

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

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Chorus

Smoothly, with ease

12

(3 + 2)

(3 + 2)

S. 1. div. Show me those de - lights, those de - - lights high?

S. 2. Show me those de-lights de - lights on high?

A. 1. div. Show me those de - lights, those de - - lights on high?

A. 2. Show me those de-lights de - lights on high, on high?

T. 1. div. O who will show O who will show show me those de - lights

T. 2. O who will show me, show me those de - lights

B. 1. div. O who will show O who will show show me those de - lights

B. 2. O who will show me, show me those de - lights

23

(3 + 2)

(con sord.)

Tpt 1

Semi-chorus

S. I

A. I Echo, o, o,

Chorus

1. S. those de - - lights on high?

2. those de - - lights

1. A. show me those de - lights

2. show me those de - - lights

1. T. Oh who will show me those

2. who will show me those

1. B. Oh who will show me

2. who will show me

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34

(3 + 2) (3 + 2)

Tpt 1
Tpt 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3

fpp *mp*

Semi-chorus

1.2. T. 3.4.

Div. in 4

pp E -cho

1.2. B. 3.4.

Div. in 4

pp E -cho

Chorus

1.2. T. 3.

mf< *(f)* echoes *mf* *ff* echoes *ff* *mf*

thou, thou, E -cho Thou art mor - tal, all men know, all men know.

div. in 3

1.2. B. 3.

mf< *(f)* echoes *mf* *ff* echoes *ff* *mf*

thou, thou, E -cho Thou art mor - tal, all men know, all men know.

div. in 3

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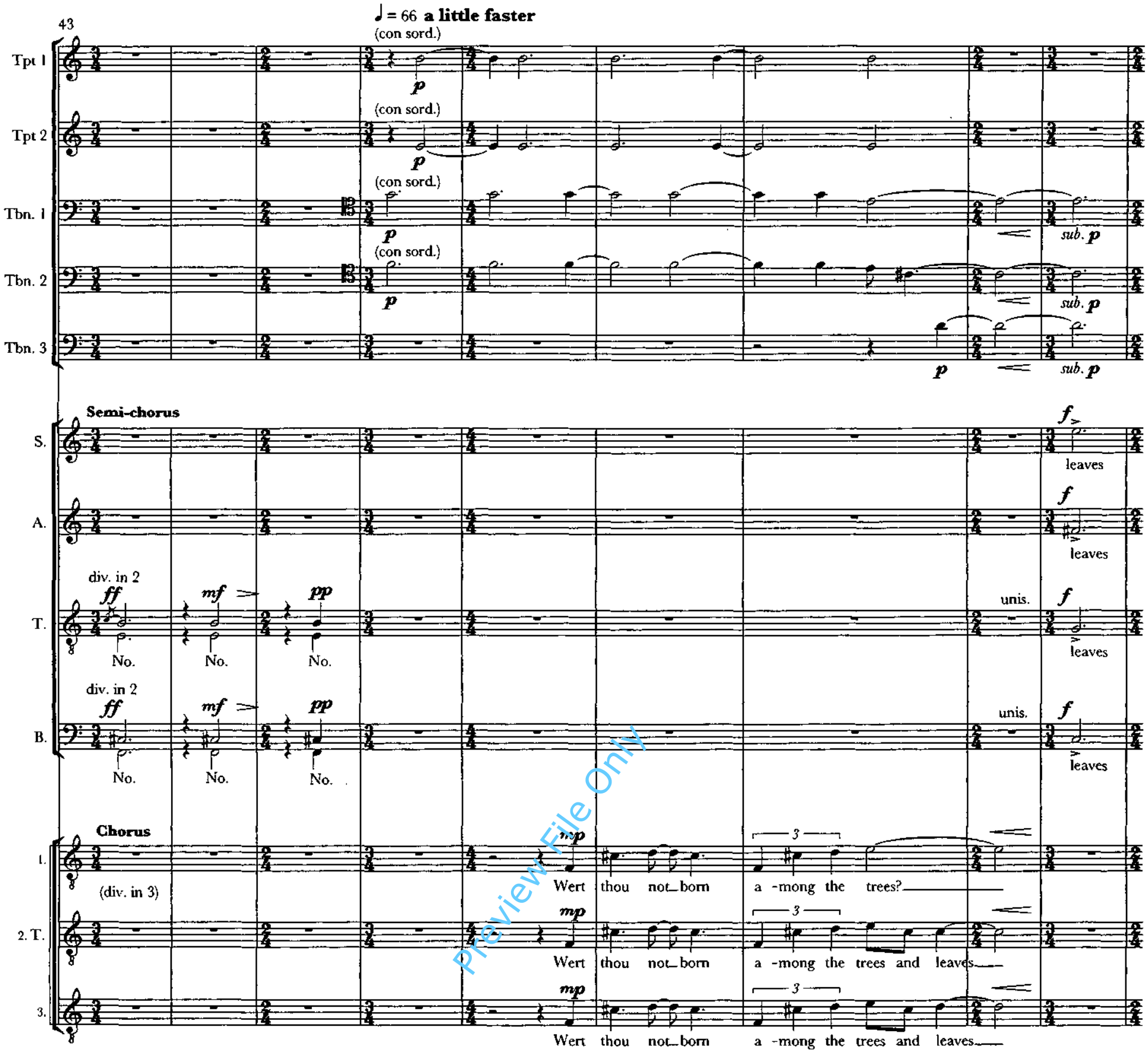

Preview File Only

52

poco rit.

a tempo (♩ = 66)

Tpt 1 (con sord.) *p*

Tpt 2 (con sord.) *p*

Tbn. 1 (con sord.) *p*

Semi-chorus

S. *p* Bide

A. *p* Bide

B. *p* Bide

Chorus

S. unis. *f* And are there a-ny leaves, *f* *mp* that still a- bide? *f* *ff* *sub. p*

A. 1. *f* And are there a-ny leaves, *f* *mp* that a- bide? *f* *ff* *sub. p*

A. 2. *f* And are there a-ny leaves, *f* *mp* that a- bide? *f* *ff* *sub. p*

T. unis. *f* And are there a-ny leaves *f* *mp* a *f* What leaves are they? *mp*

B. 1. *f* And are *f* a - - - bide? *sub. p*

B. div. in 2 *f* And are *f* a - - - bide? *sub. p*

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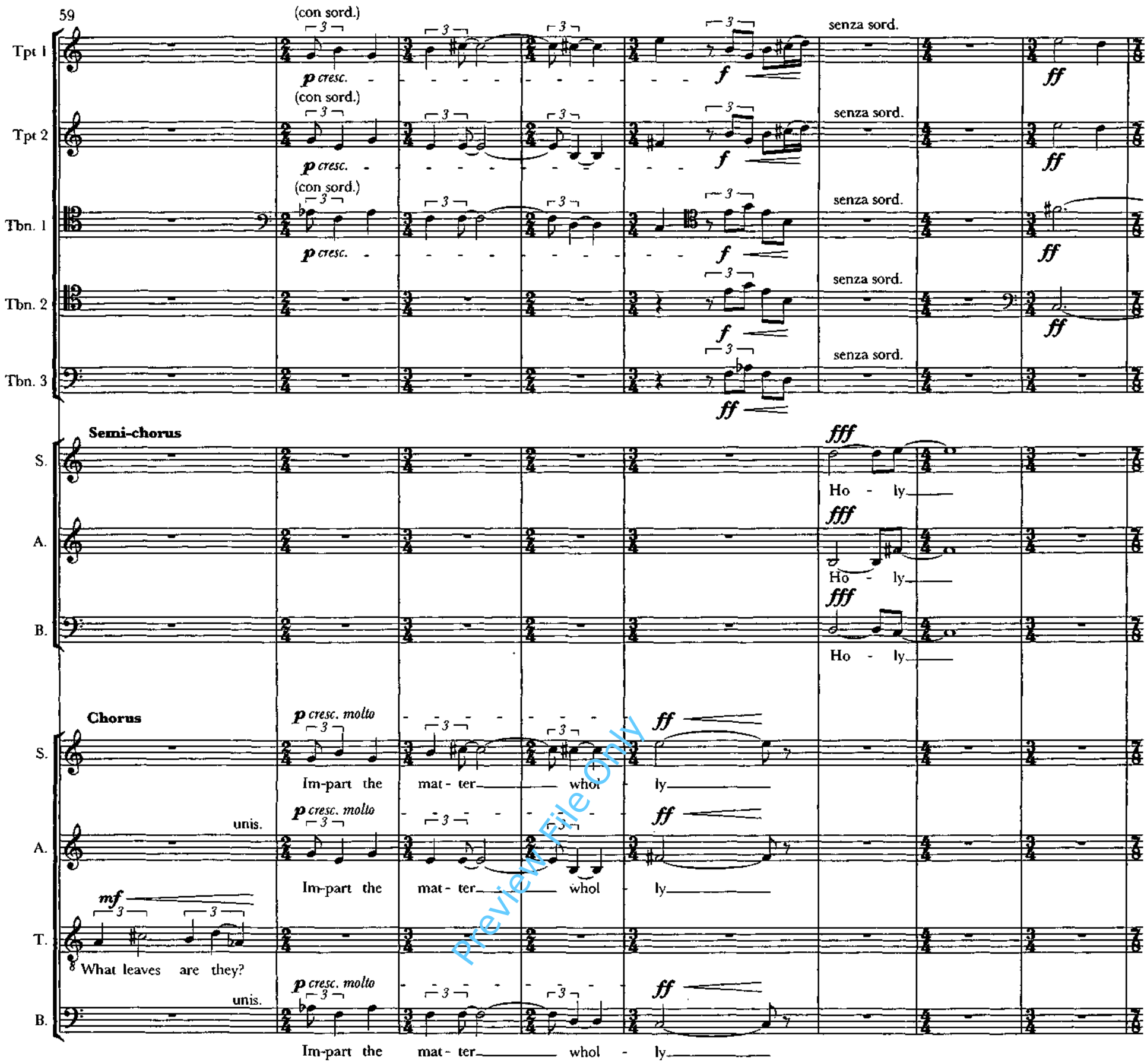

Preview File Only

67 (2 + 2 + 3) (3 + 2)

Tpt 1
Tpt 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3

dim. molto *dim. molto* *dim. molto*

Chorus

1. S. div.
2.
1. A. div.
2.
1. T. div.
2.
1. B. div.
2.

E - cho_ then E - cho_ then

Are ho - ly leaves the E - cho_ then

Are ho - ly_ leaves the_ E -

Are ho - ly leaves the Are_ ho - ly_

Are ho - ly leaves the_ E -

Preview File Only

75

(3 + 2)

Tpt 1 — *f cresc.* — *ff* — *pp* — *ff* — echoes

Tpt 2 — *p* — *mp cresc.* — *mf cresc.* — *ff* — *pp* — *ff* — echoes

Tbn. 1 — *cresc.* — *ff* — *pp* — *ff* — echoes

Tbn. 2 — *cresc.* — *ff* — *pp* — *ff* — echoes

Tbn. 3 — *cresc.* — *ff* — *pp* — *ff* — echoes

Semi-chorus

S. — *fff poss.* — Yes.

A. — *fff poss.* — Yes.

T. — *fff poss.* — Yes.

1. B. — *fff poss.* — Yes.

2. B. — div. — *fff poss.* — Yes.

Chorus

1. S. — *f cresc.* — of bliss? -cho of bliss? bliss? — *fff*

2. S. — *cresc.* — cho then of bliss? — *f cresc.* — E - cho then of bliss? — *fff*

1. A. — *cresc.* — of bliss? E - cho of bliss? of bliss?

2. A. — *cresc.* — cho then of bliss? — *ff cresc.* — the E - cho then of bliss? — *fff*

1. T. — *cresc.* — leaves the E - cho of E - cho

2. T. — *f cresc.* — cho, Are ho - ly leaves the E - cho

1. B. — *cresc.* — *mf* — leaves Are ho - ly leaves the E - cho

2. B. — *cresc.* — *mf* — cho, Are ho - ly leaves the leaves the E - cho

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85

Tpt 1 — *tenuto* — *sffz*

Tpt 2 — *tenuto* — *sffz*

Tbn. 1 — *tenuto* — *sffz*

Tbn. 2 — *tenuto* — *sffz*

Tbn. 3 — *tenuto* — *sffz*

Semi-chorus

1. — div. in 3 — *mp* — ah, ah, ah, ah, — 1. div. in 2 — Light, Light,

2. S. — *mp* — ah, ah, ah, ah, — 2. — Light, Light, Light,

3. — *mp* — ah, ah, ah, ah, ah,

Chorus

1. S. — *mf* — Then tell me, what is that su - preme de - light? — *f* —

2. — *mf* — Then tell me, what is that su - preme de - light? — *f* —

A. — unis. — *f* — is light?

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Tbn. 1 — *mp*

Tbn. 2 — 3 — *mp*

Semi-chorus

1. S. — Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light,

2. — Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light,

A. — *mp* — Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy,

Chorus

S. — unis. — *mp* — Light to the mind: What shall the will en-joy?

97 (2 + 2 + 3) (2 + 3)

Tbn. 1 *mp* *mf*

Tbn. 2 *mp* *mf*

Semi-chorus

1. S. *mf* *cresc.* *f*

Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light,

2. S. *mf* *cresc.* *f*

Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Lei - sure, Lei - - sure,

A. *mf* *f*

Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy,

Chorus

S. *mf* *(f)* div.

But are there cares and busi - ness with the plea - sure?

103

Tpt 1 *ff*

Tpt 2 *ff*

Tbn. 1 *ff*

Tbn. 2 *f*

Tbn. 3 *f*

Semi-chorus

1. S. *ff* *fff poss.* *

Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light,

2. S. *ff* *fff poss.*

Lei - - sure, Lei - sure, Lei - - sure, Lei - sure, Lei - sure, Lei - - sure, Light,

A. *ff* *fff poss.*

Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy,

Chorus

1. S. *ff* *fff poss.* *

Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light, Light,

div.

2. S. *ff* *fff poss.*

Lei - sure, Lei - - sure, Lei - sure, Lei - sure, Lei - - sure, Light,

A. *ff* *fff poss.*

Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy,

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* any tenors and basses of the Chorus and Semi-chorus who can sing a soprano or alto part 'falsetto' can join in ad lib. (until bar 111)

110

G. P.
let echoes ring
(circa 3")

(3 + 2)

a little slower

poco rit.

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Tbn. 1

pp

Tbn. 2

ff

pp

Tbn. 3

ff

Semi-chorus

S.

p

Light, and—

Ah—

E - ver.

— Joy, Lei -sure,

Ah—

ossia E - ver.

A.

div. *p*

unis.

— Joy,

Ah—

E - ver.

Chorus

1.

mp

Light, Joy, and Lei -sure,

div. in 4

but shall they per- sever?

2.

S.

— Joy, Lei -sure,

but shall they per- se -

3.

but shall they per -

4.

but shall they—

1.

mp

Light, Joy, and Lei -sure;

but shall—

A.

div.

2.

mp

Light, Joy, and Lei -sure;

but—

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II (descending)

115 ♩ = 80 solo

Tpt I

f *poco* *mf* *ppp*

122 *'dragged'* 5 **poco rit.** ♪ = 138 **Warmly** (3 + 2 + 2) (2 + 2 + 3) (2 + 3)

Tpt 1 Tpt 2 Tbn. 1 Tbn. 2

f *p*

Chorus

1. S. div. — *mf* The

2. — *mf* The splen - - -

1. A. div. — *mf* The splen - dour on

2. — *mf* The splen - dour falls on cas -

1. T. div. — *mf* on cas - tle walls And (*mf*) sto - ry:

2. — *mf* And snow (*mf*) old in sto - ry:

1. B. div. — *mf* And snow - y sum - mits old in

2. — *mf* And snow - y sum -

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129 (3 + 2)

Slower
(3 + 2)

Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3

Chorus

S. — unis. — a-cross the lakes, — And the wild — ca-ta-ract — leaps in glo-ry. — Blow, bu-gle, — blow,

A. 1. — (mf) The long light — shakes — a - cross — lakes, — Blow, bu-gle, — blow,

A. 2. — (mf) The long light — shakes — a - - - lakes, — Blow, bu-gle, — blow,

T. 1. — The long light — shakes — a-cross — the lakes, — Blow, bu-gle, — blow,

T. 2. — The long light — shakes — a-cross — the lakes, — Blow, bu-gle, — blow,

B. — unis. — a-cross the lakes, — Blow, bu-gle, — blow,

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137 ♩ = 80 (Tempo 1) — ♩ = 69 (♪ = 138) — (3 + 2) — ♩ = 80 *marcato* — *poco dim.*

Tpt 1
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3

Chorus

S. — set the wild e-choes fly - ing, — Blow, bu-gle, blow

A. — unis. — set the wild e-choes fly - ing, — Blow, bu-gle, blow

T. 1. — blow

T. 2. — blow

B. 1. — blow

B. — div.

B. 2. — blow

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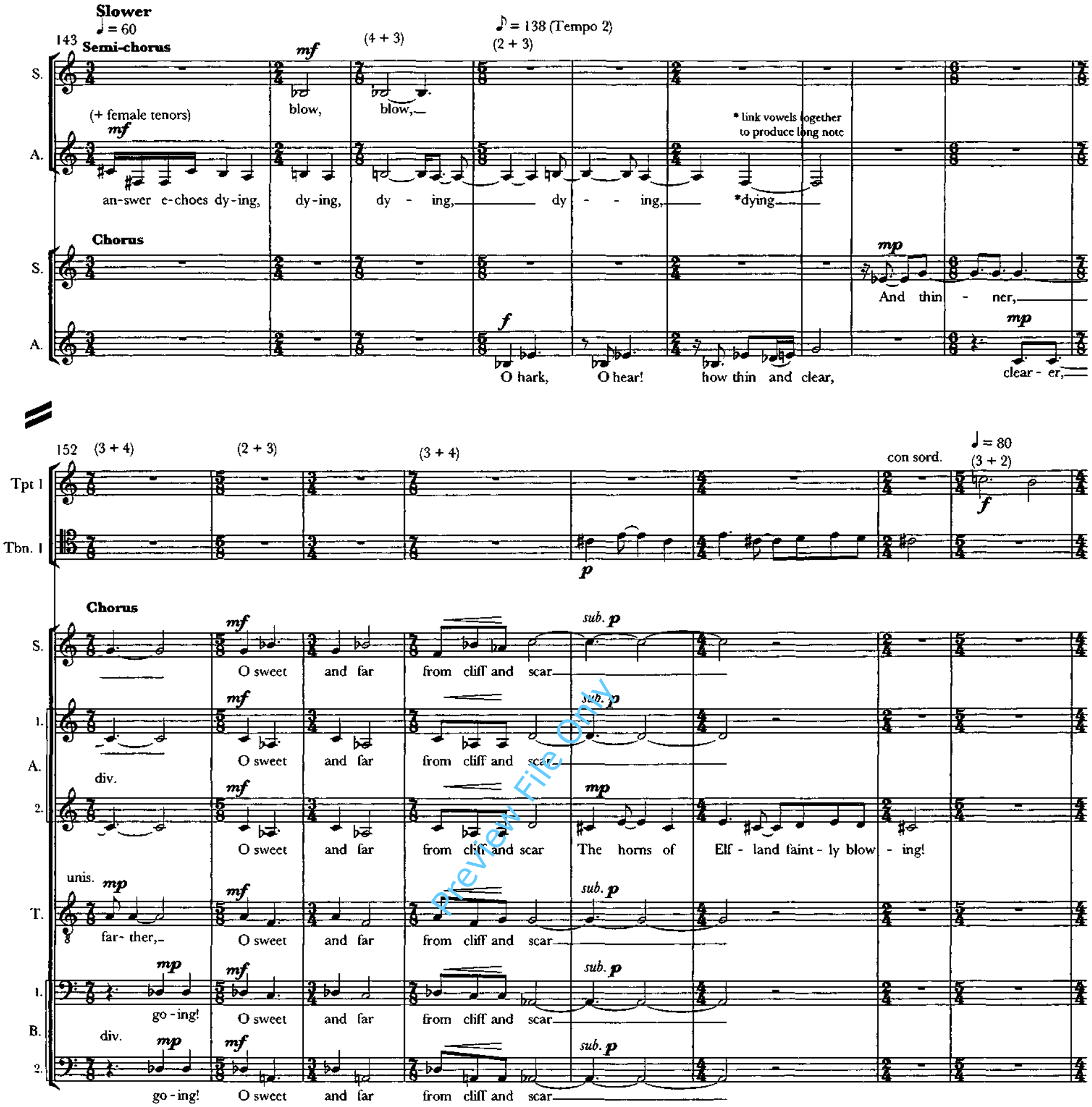

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160

senza sord.

(3 + 2)

♪ = 138

(3 + 2)

(2 + 2 + 2 + 3)

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Chorus

S. Blow! let us hear the pur - ple glens re-ply- ing

unis.

A. Blow! let us hear the pur - ple glens

T. Blow! let us hear

unis.

B. Blow! let us hear the pur - ple glens

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166 ♩ = 80

Tpt 1

Semi-chorus

1. S. Blow, bu - gle;

div.

2. Blow, bu - gle; an - swer, e - choes

1. A. Blow, bu - gle; an - - E

div.

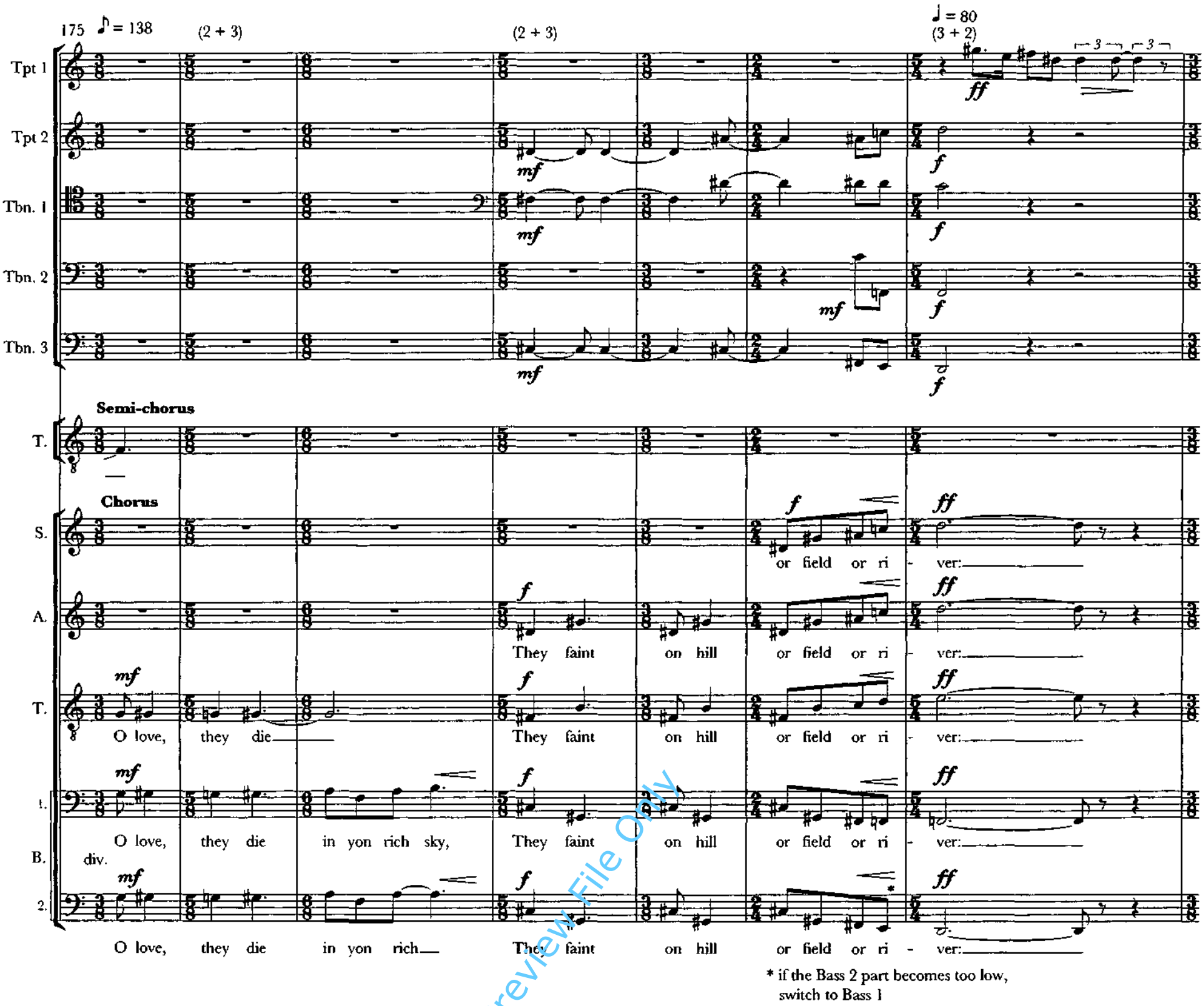
2. Blow, bu - gle; -swer, -choes,

T. dy - ing, dy - ing, dy - - - ing,

B. blow, blow,

Chorus

S.



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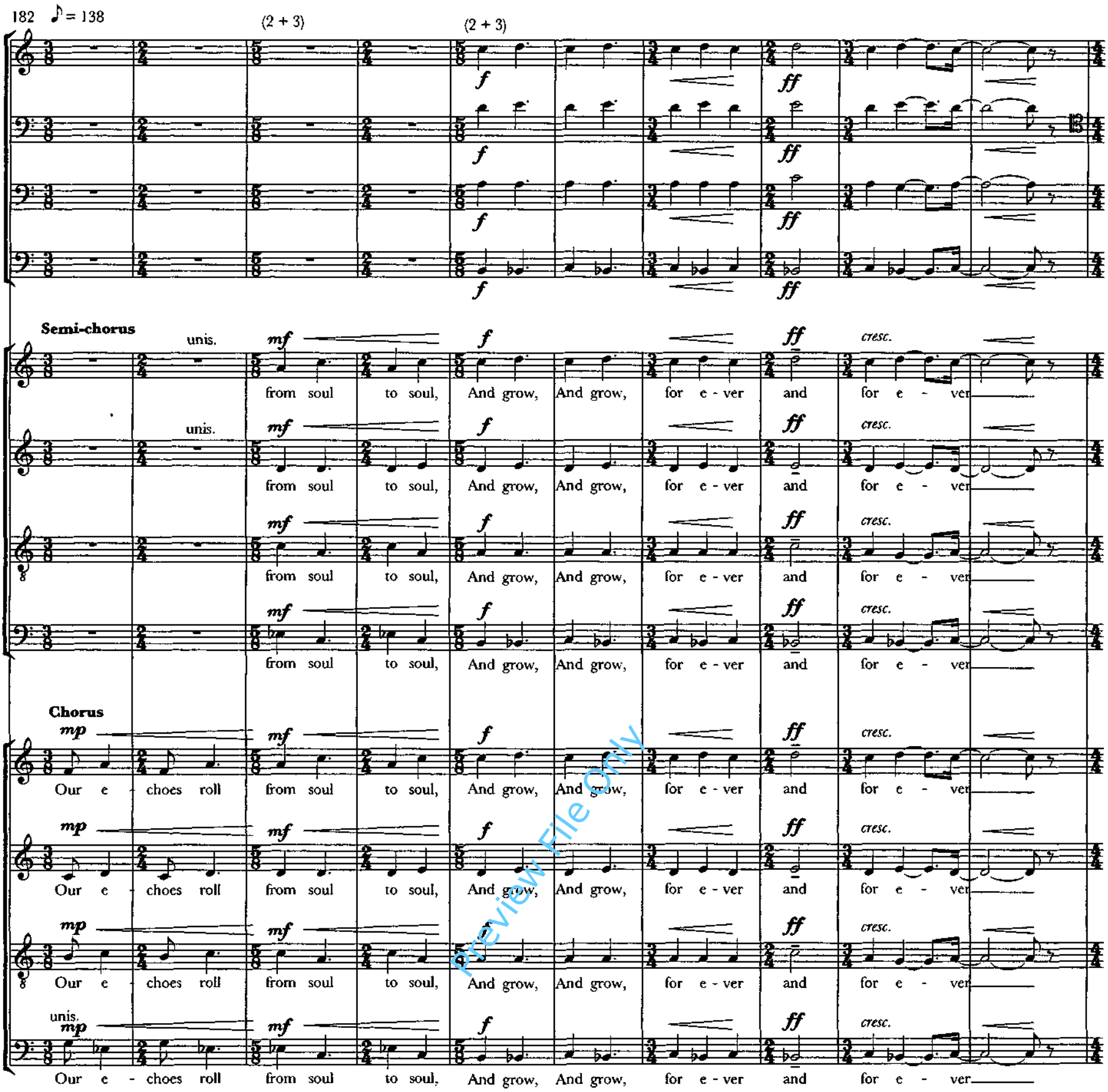

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192

Slower

♩ = 52

♩ = 80

(3 + 2)

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Semi-chorus

S. 1.

S. 2.

A.

T.

B.

Chorus

S. 1.

S. 2.

A.

T.

B.

fffz *fffz* *f* *fff* *ff > mf* *ff* *(sempre ff)* *f*

Blow, blow, bu - gle, blow, Set the wild e - choes fly - ing, fly - ing, fly - ing,

Blow, blow, bu - gle, blow, Set the wild e - choes fly - ing, -ing, -ing,

Blow, blow, bu - gle, blow, Set the wild e - choes fly, fly, fly,

div.

Preview File Only

199

(3 + 2)

Tbn. 3

Semi-chorus

pp

1. S.

f fly - - ing, -ing,

mp And

2.

f fly - - ing, -ing,

mp And an-

1. A.

f fly, fly,

mp And an - swer, an -

div.

2.

f fly, fly,

mp And an -swer e- an - swer,

1. T.

mp e -choes an -

div.

dy-

2.

mp an - swer, dy - ing,

p dy-

1. B.

p dy - ing,

div.

2.

pp dy - ing,

Chorus

T.

Preview File Only

208

(2 + 3)

poco rit.

Tpt 1

f dim. poco a poco

mf (dim.)

pp

Tpt 2

f dim. poco a poco

mf (dim.)

pp

Tbn. 1

mp (sempre)

p

pp

Tbn. 2

mp (sempre)

p

Tbn. 3

f dim. poco a poco

mf (dim.)

mp

p

pp