FOR JOCELYN REITER

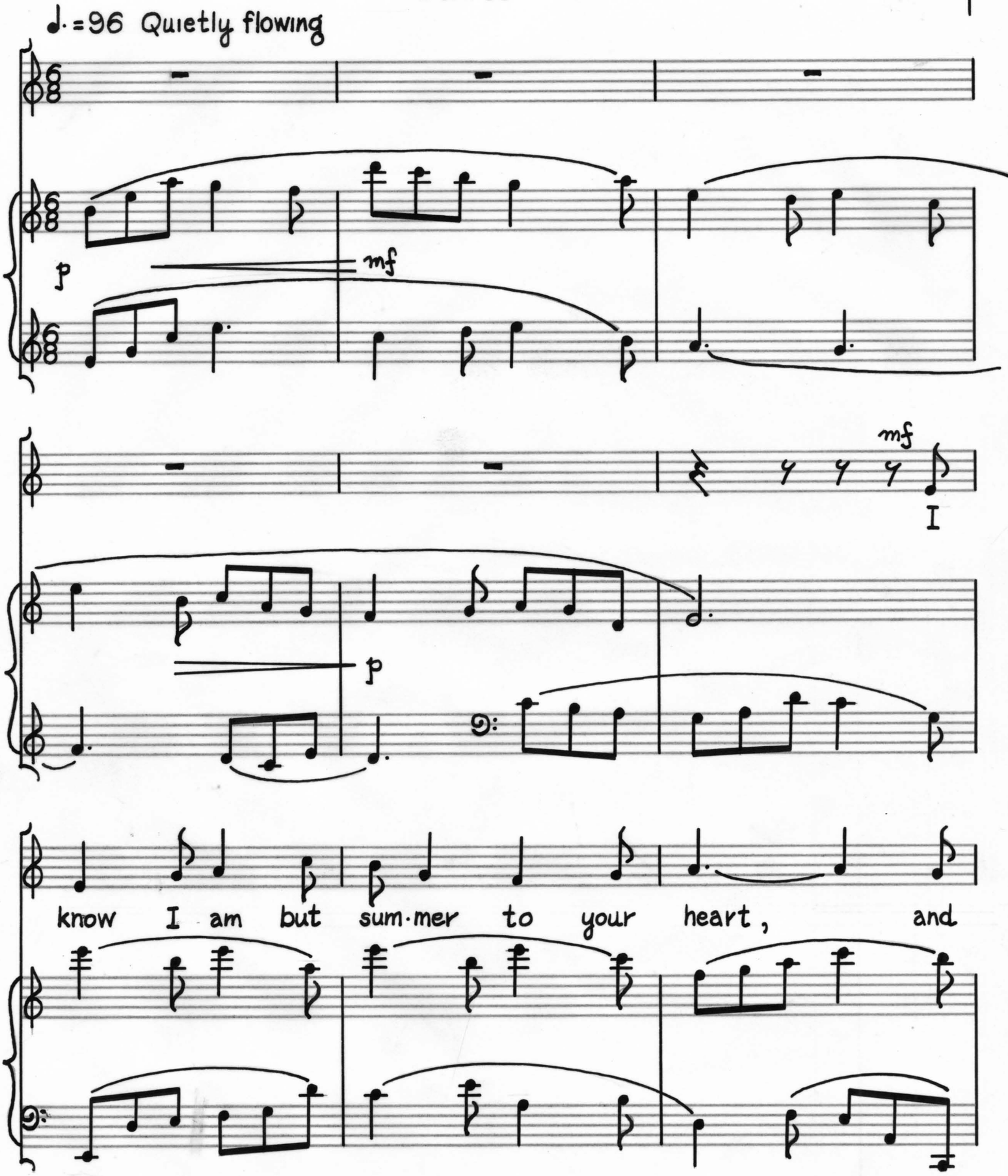
FOUR MODAL SONGS

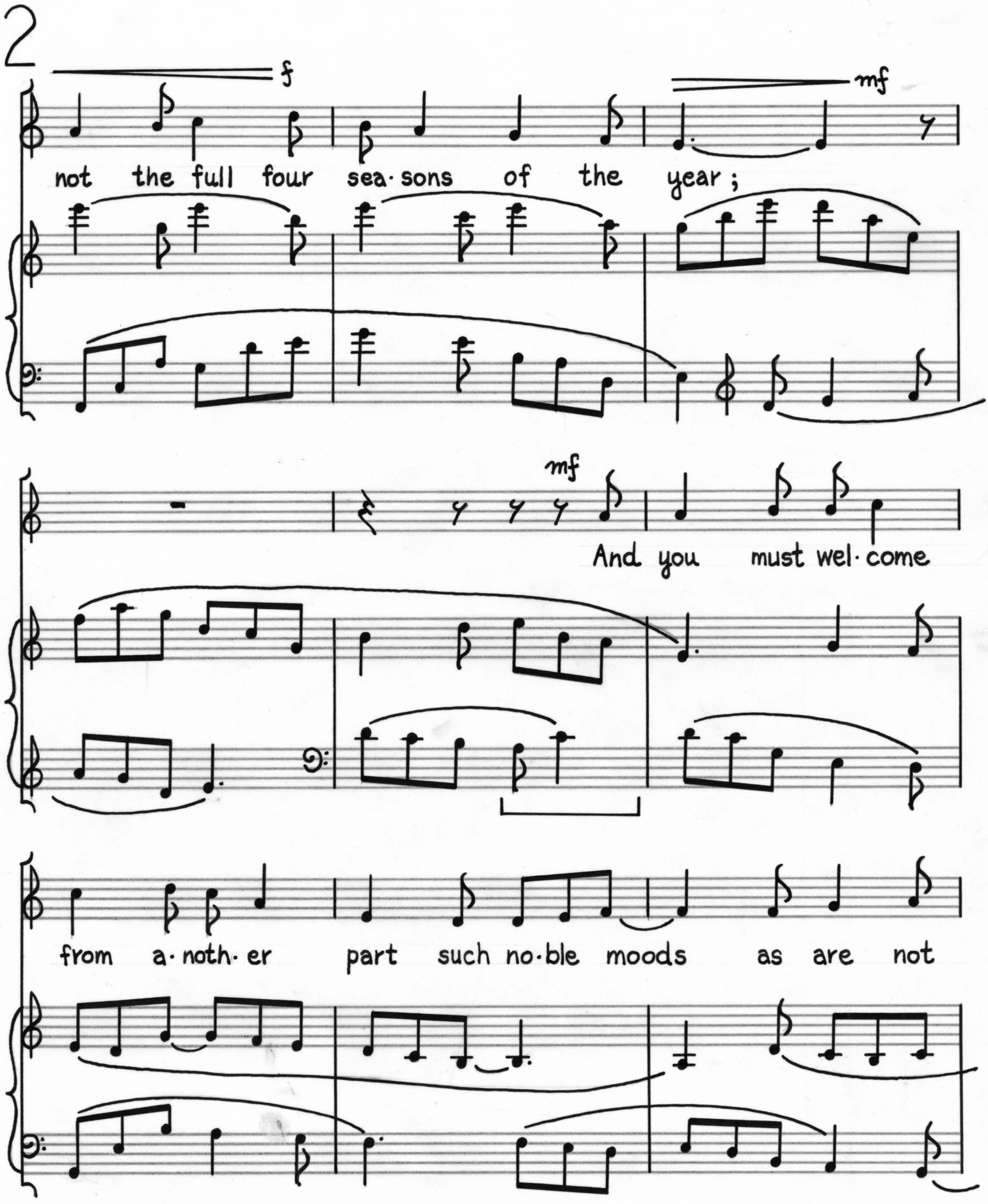
ON SONNETS OF EDNA ST. VINCENT MILLAY

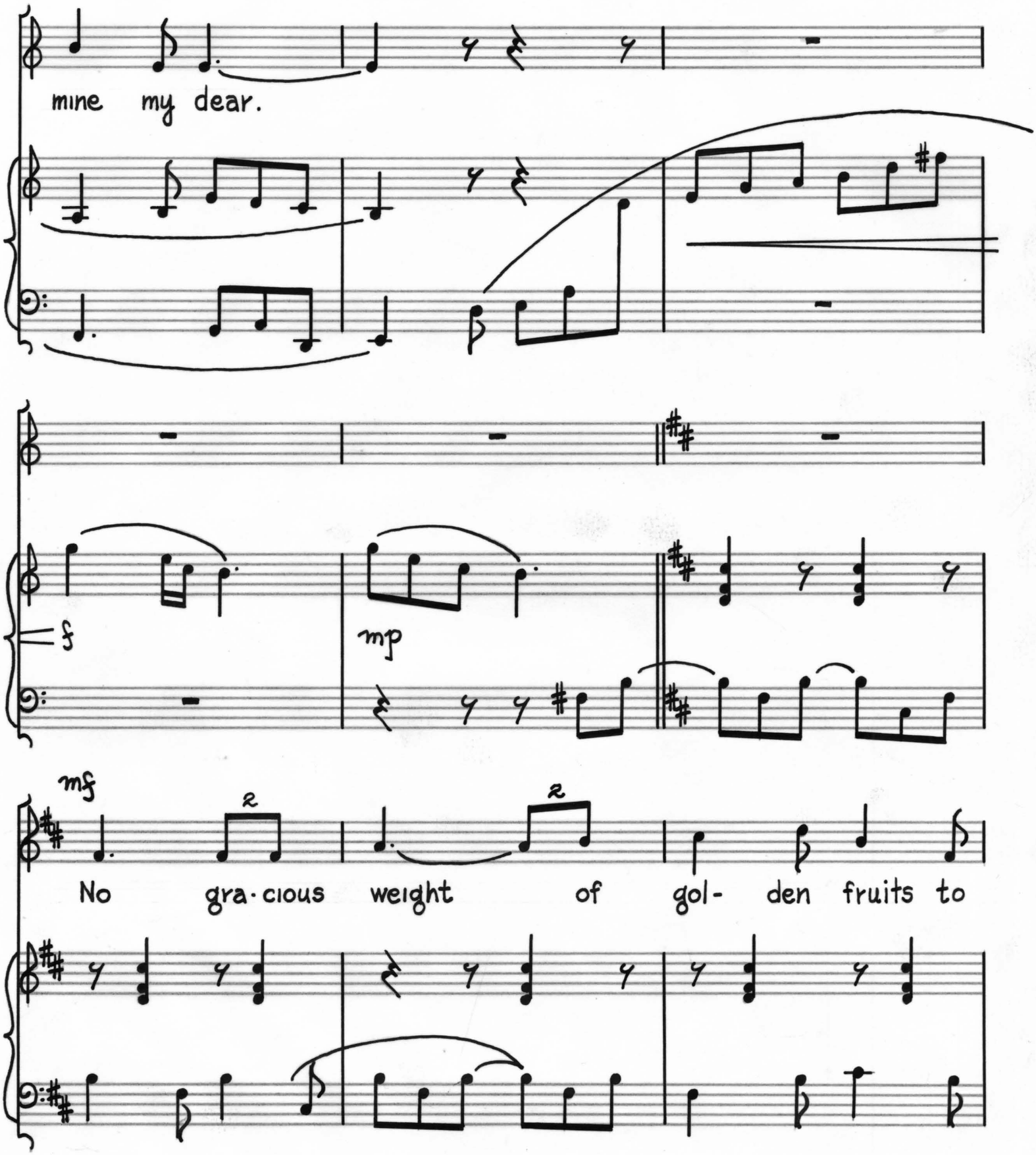
WALTER ROSS

1979

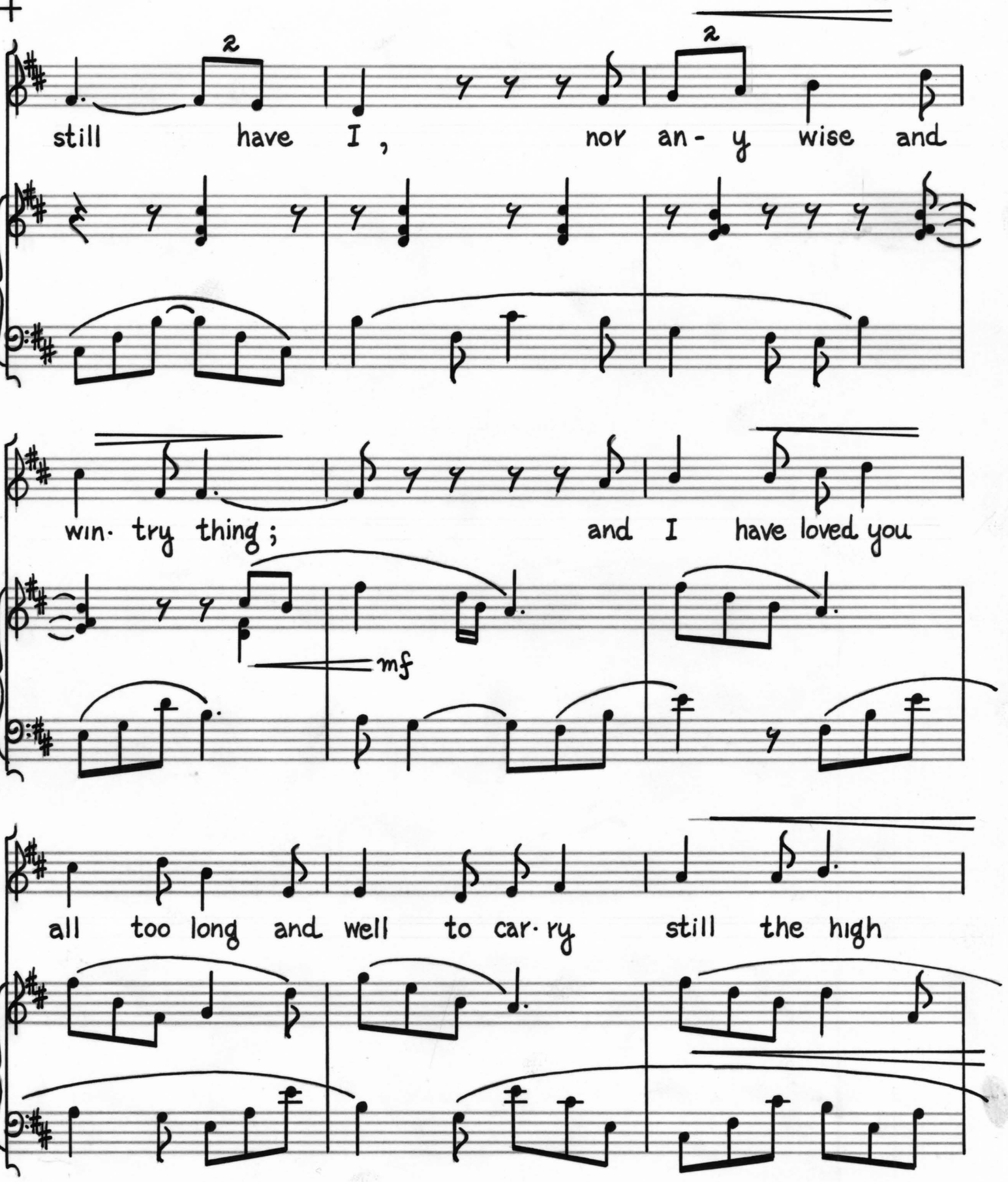
FROM COLLECTED POEMS, HARPER & ROW. COPYRIGHT 1917, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1928, 1931, 1945, 1948, 1950, 1951, 1955, 1958 BY EDNA ST VINCENT MILLAY AND NORMA MILLAY ELLIS.

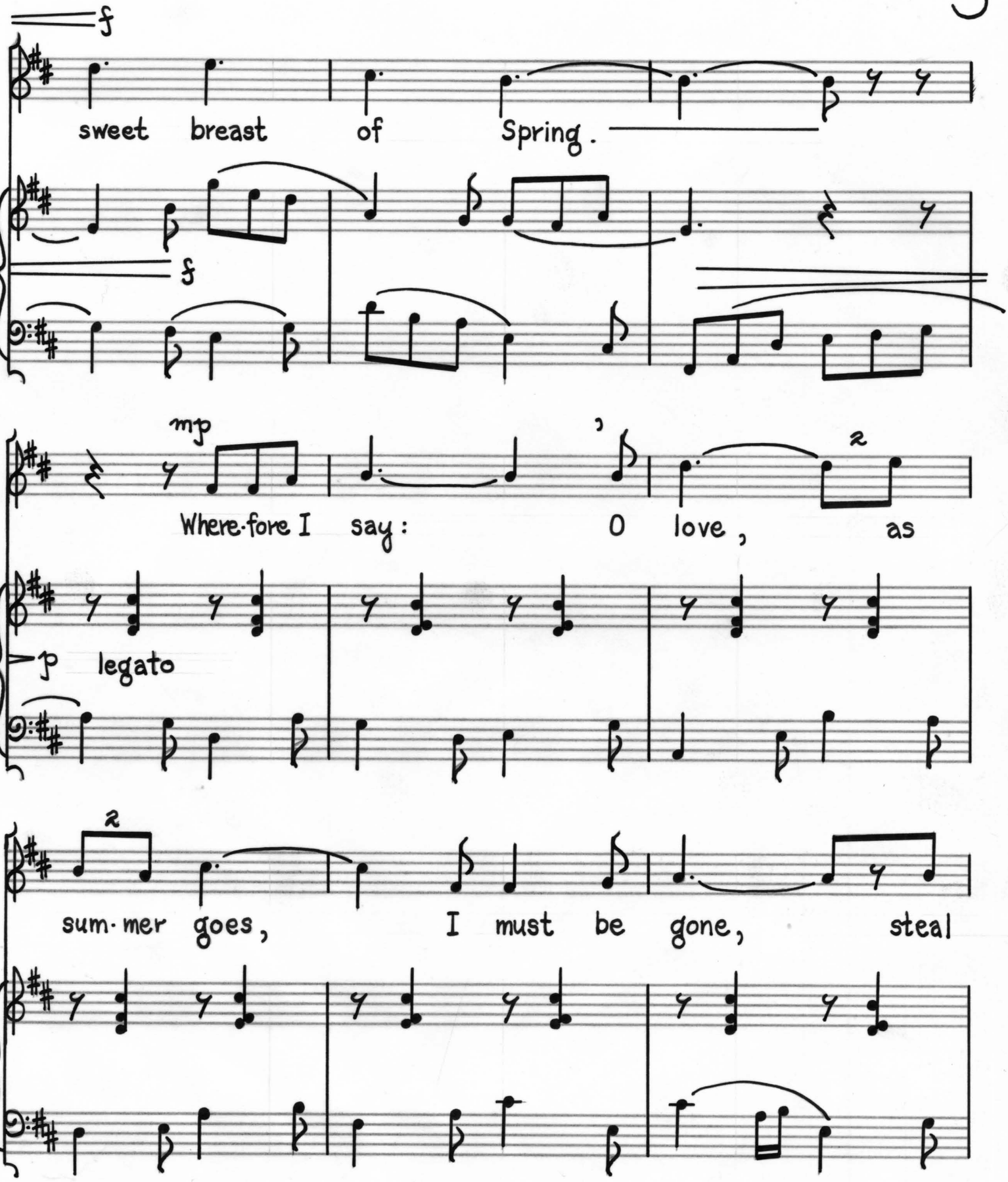

♩.=96 Quietly flowing
p
mf
mf
I
p
know I am but sum·mer to your heart, and

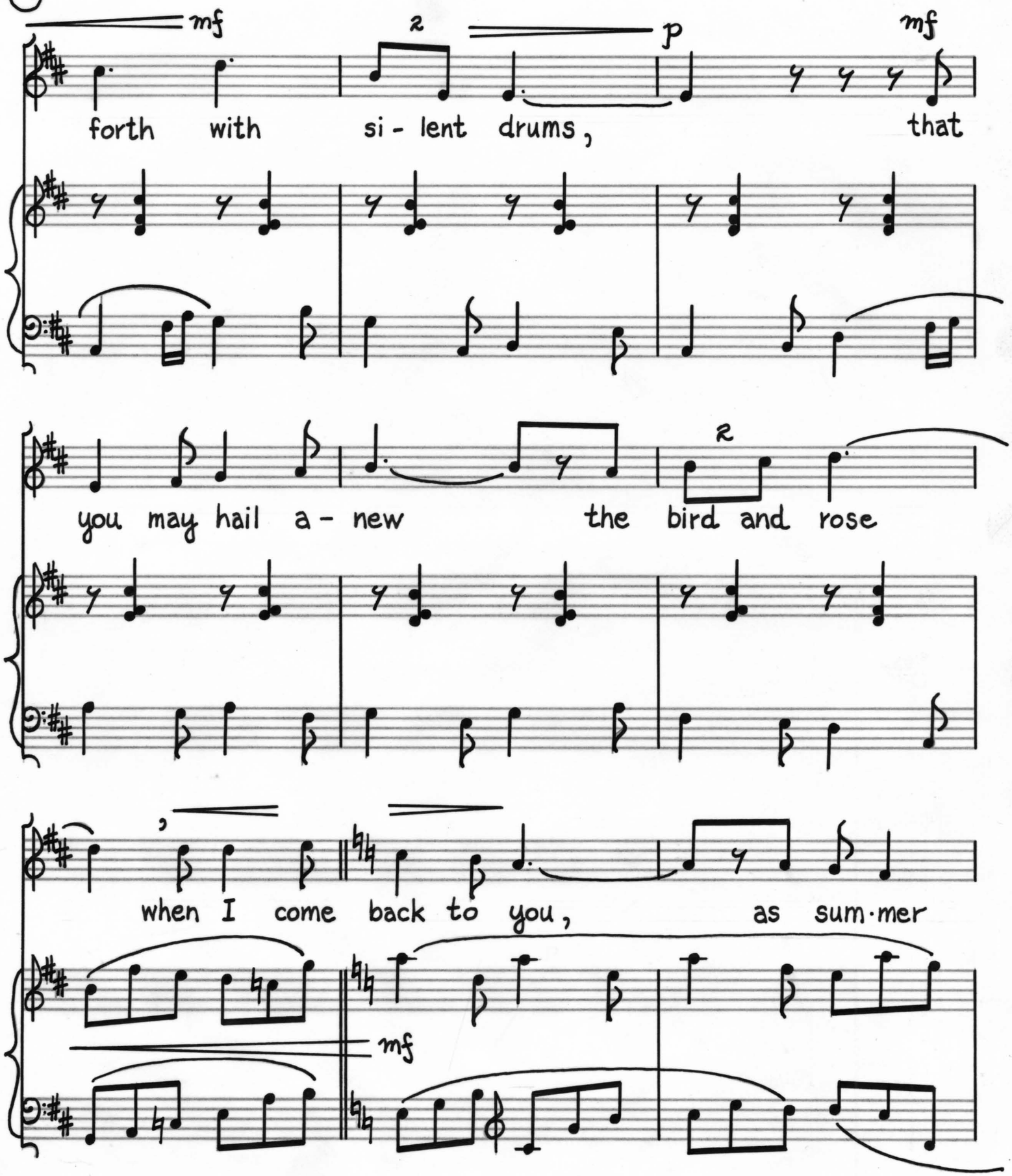

2
f
mf
not the full four sea·sons of the year;
mf
And you must wel·come
from a·noth·er part such no·ble moods as are not



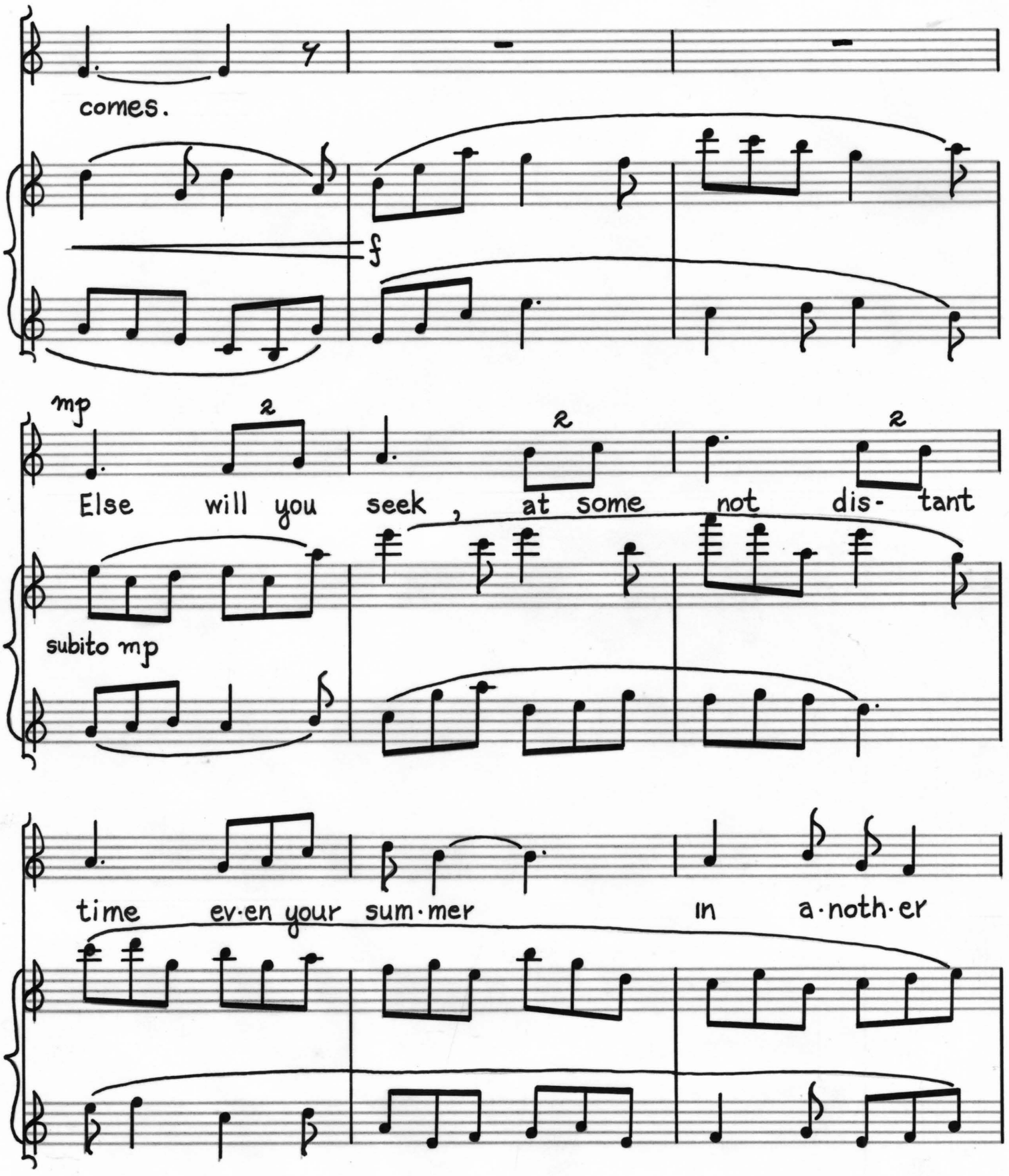
KING BRAND
1595 B'WAY, N. Y.

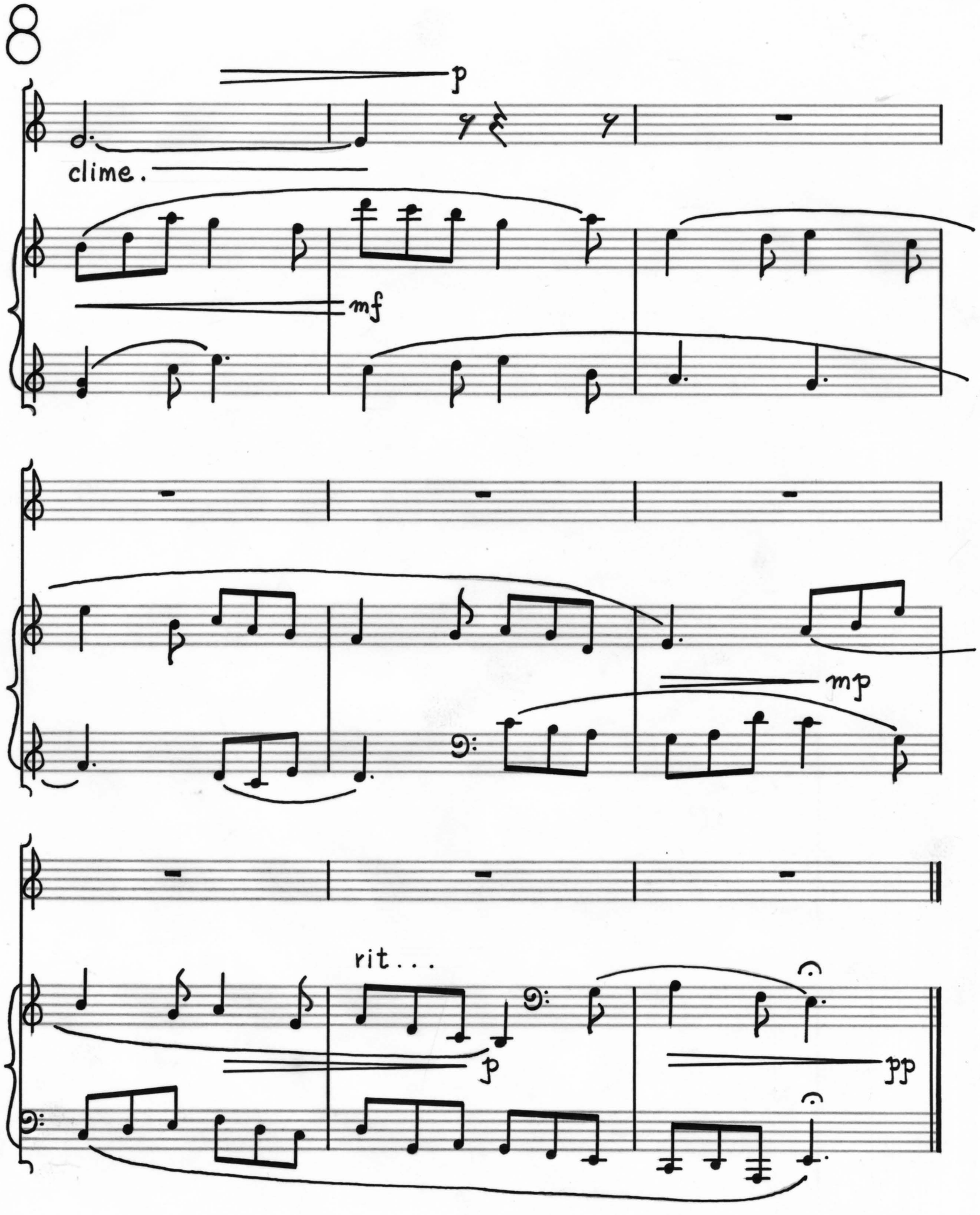

still have I, nor an- y wise and
win· try thing; and I have loved you
mf
all too long and well to car· ry still the high


f
sweet breast of Spring.
f
mp
Where-fore I say: O love, as
p legato
2
sum-mer goes, I must be gone, steal



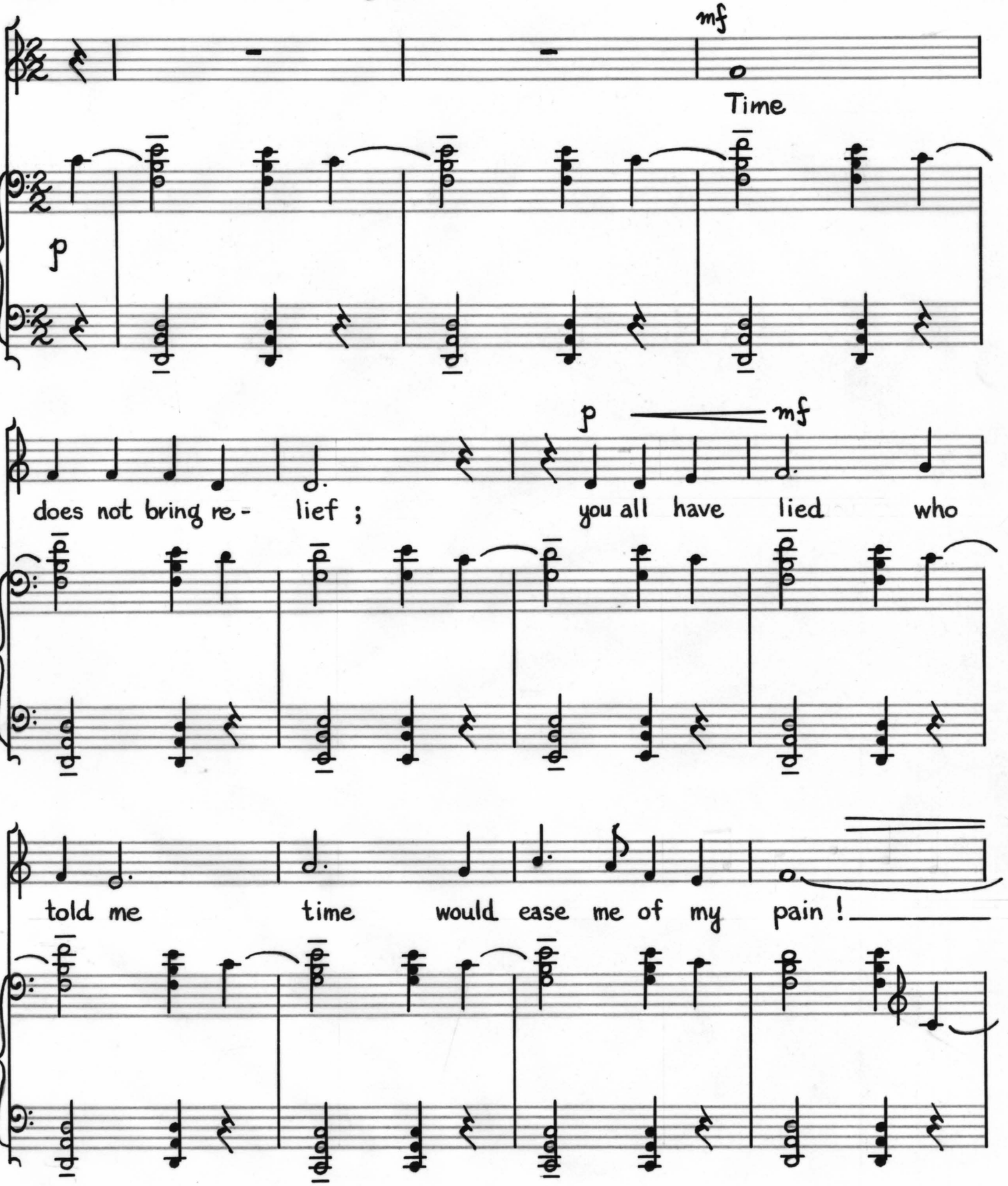
KING BRAND
1595 B'WAY, N. Y.


comes.
f
mp
2
2
2
Else will you seek, at some not dis- tant
subito mp
time ev·en your sum·mer in a·noth·er


8
p
clime.
mf
mp
rit...
p
pp

ii

CONTEMPLATIVE AND MOROSE ♩=60



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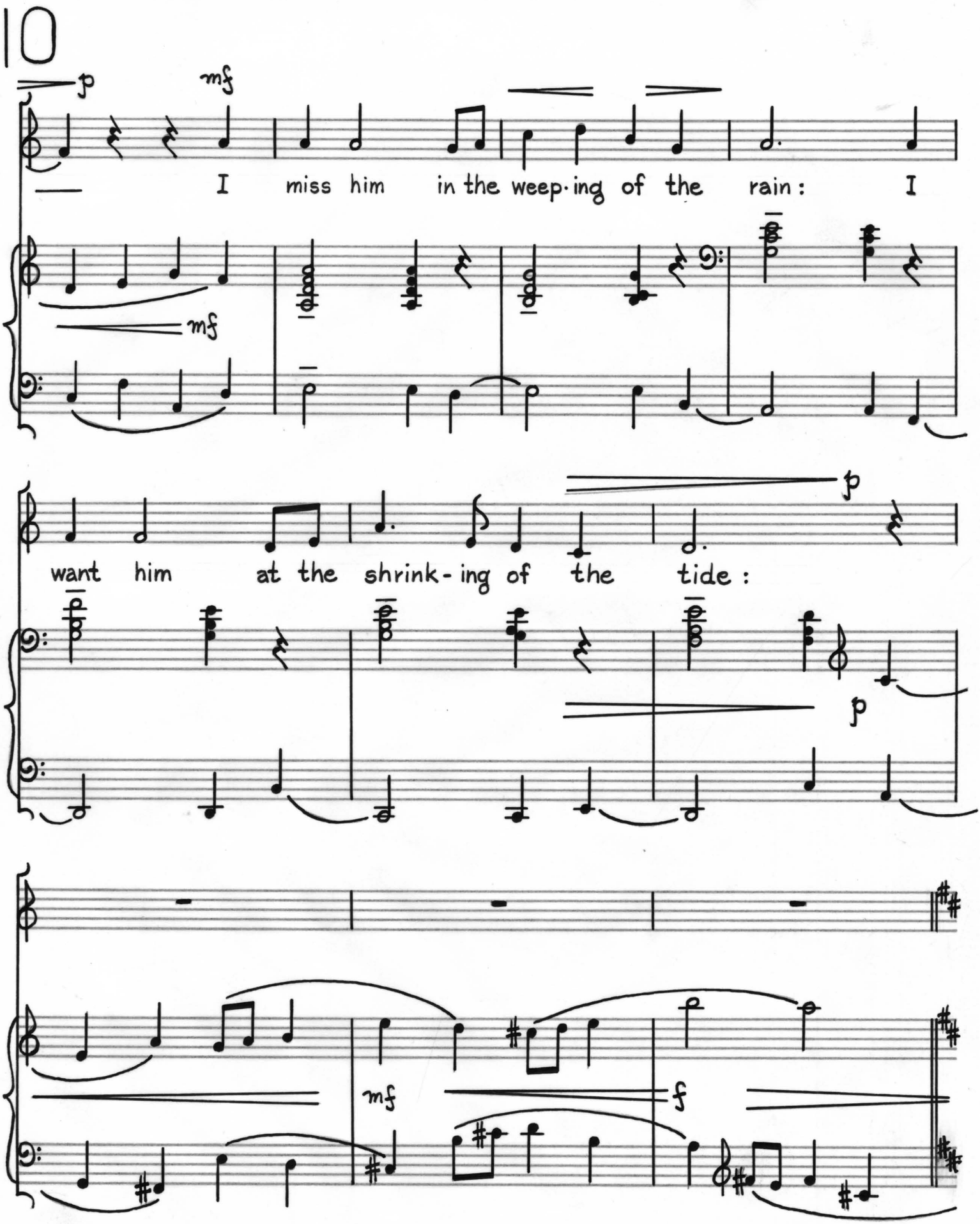

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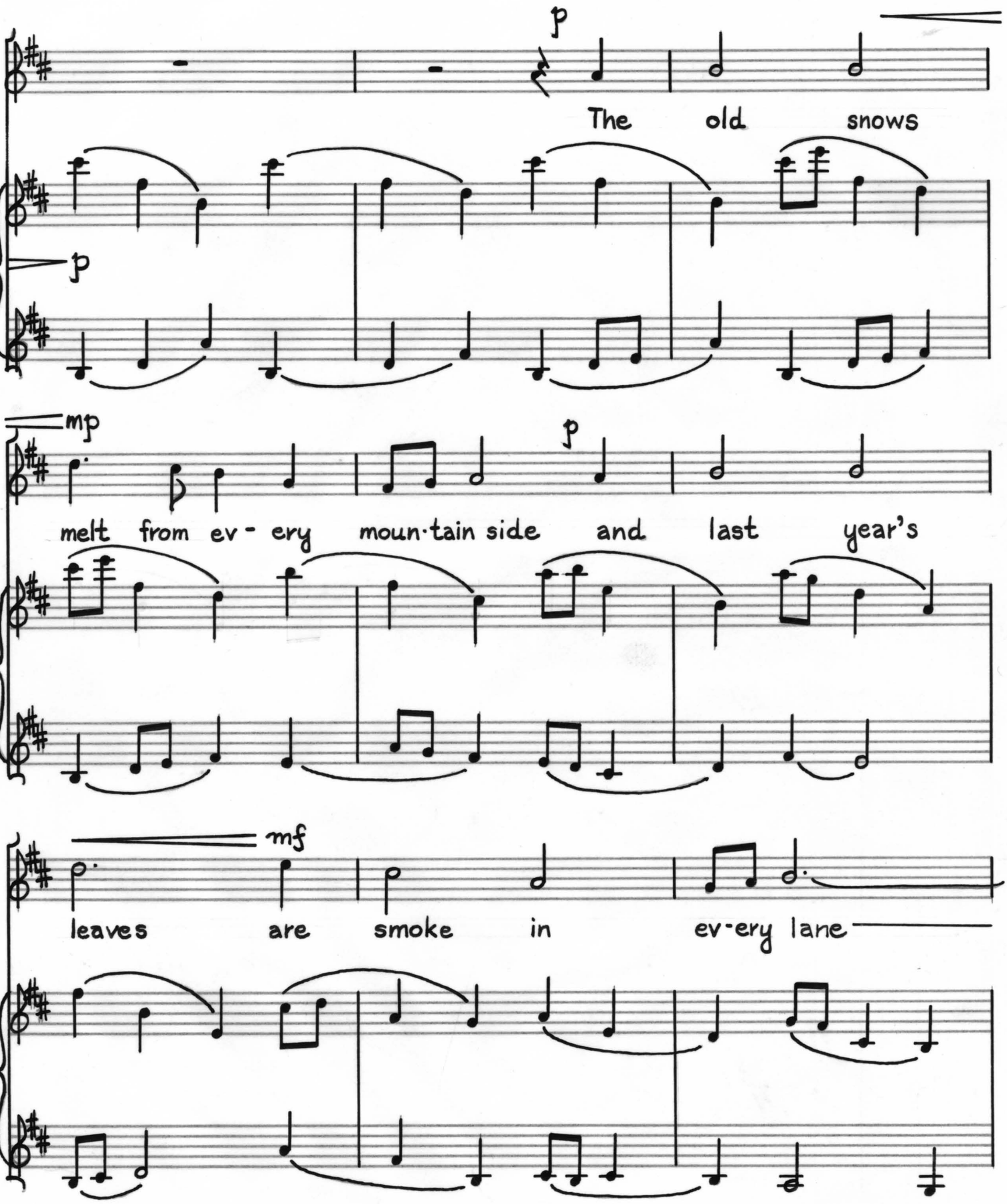

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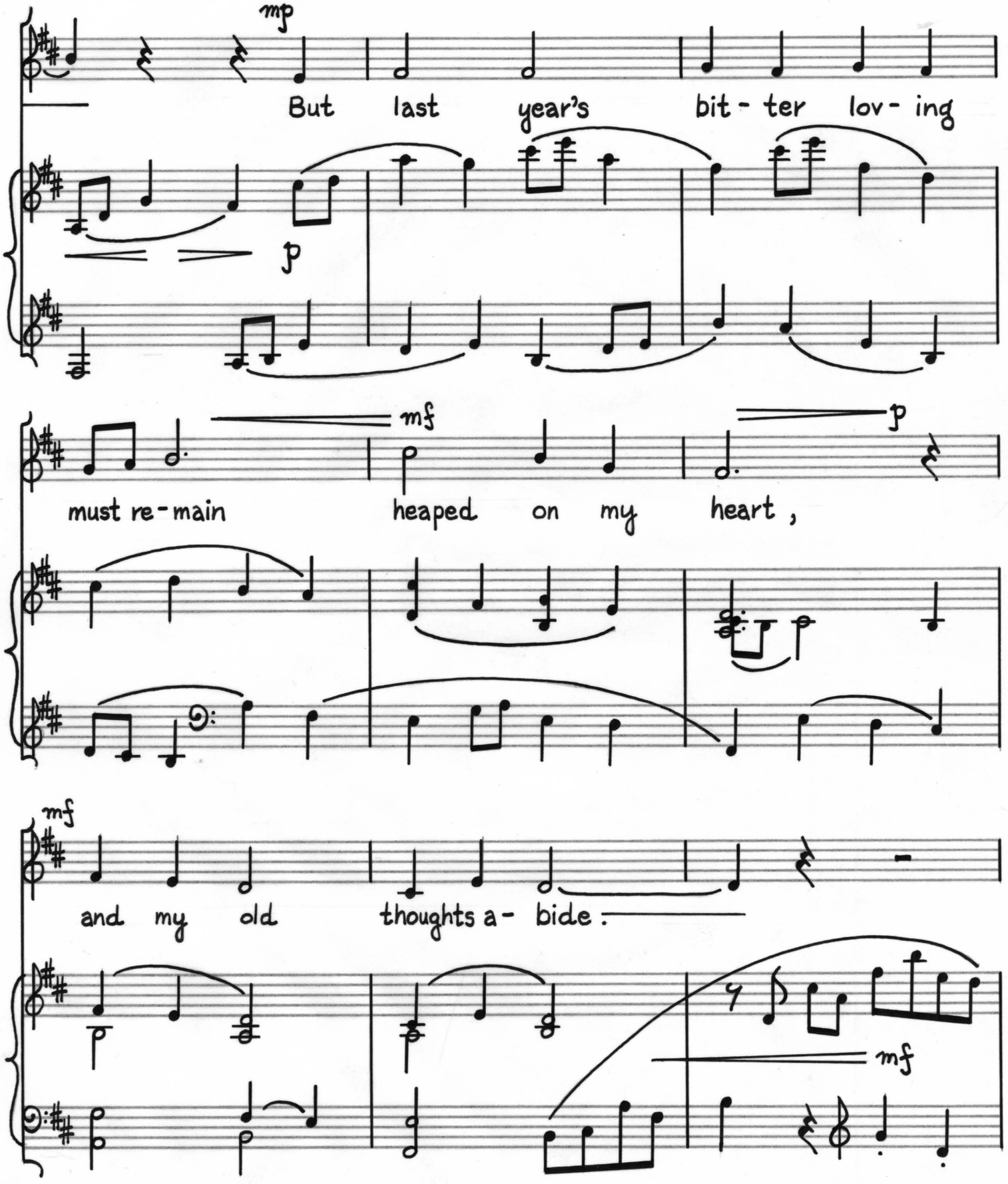
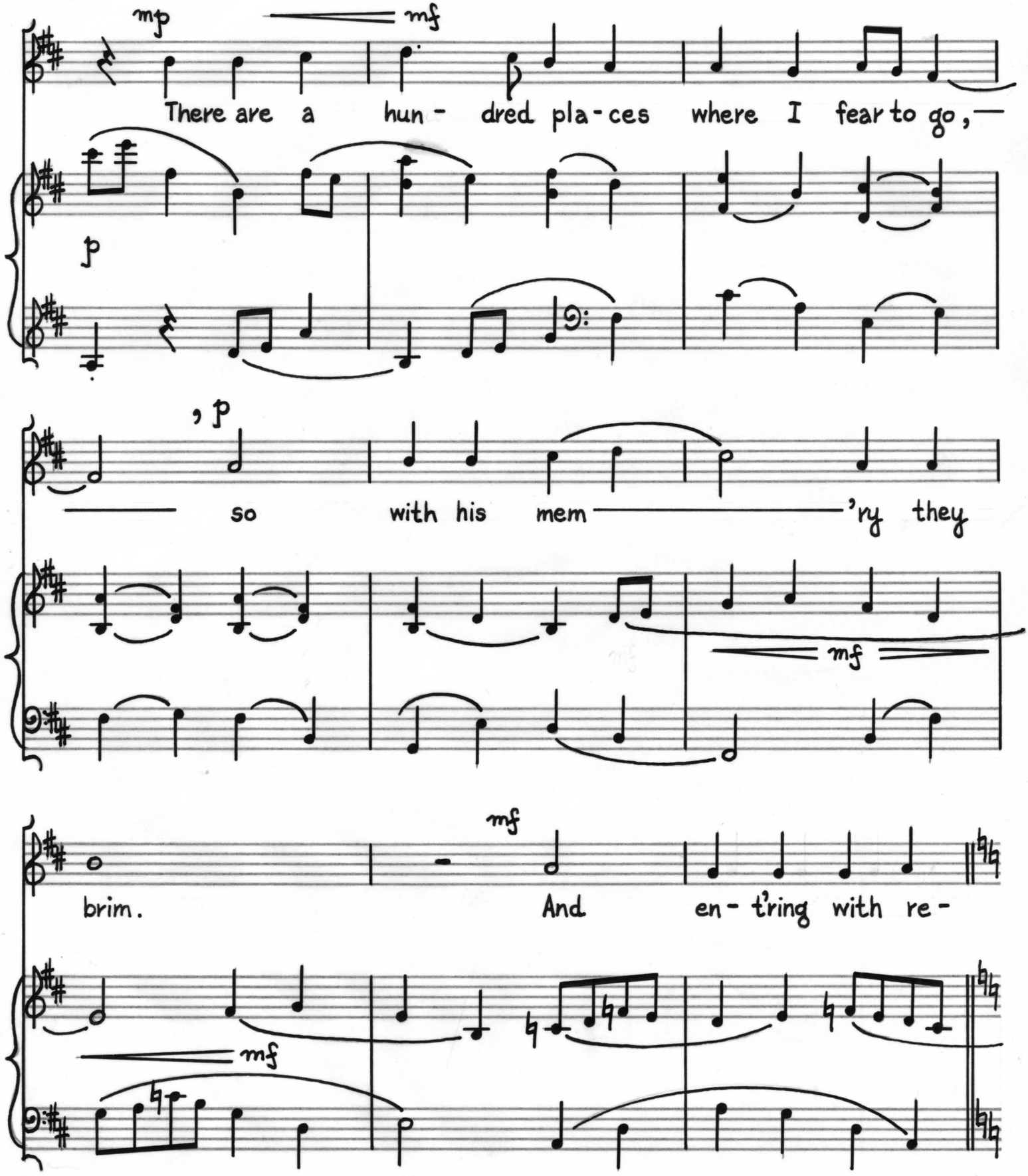
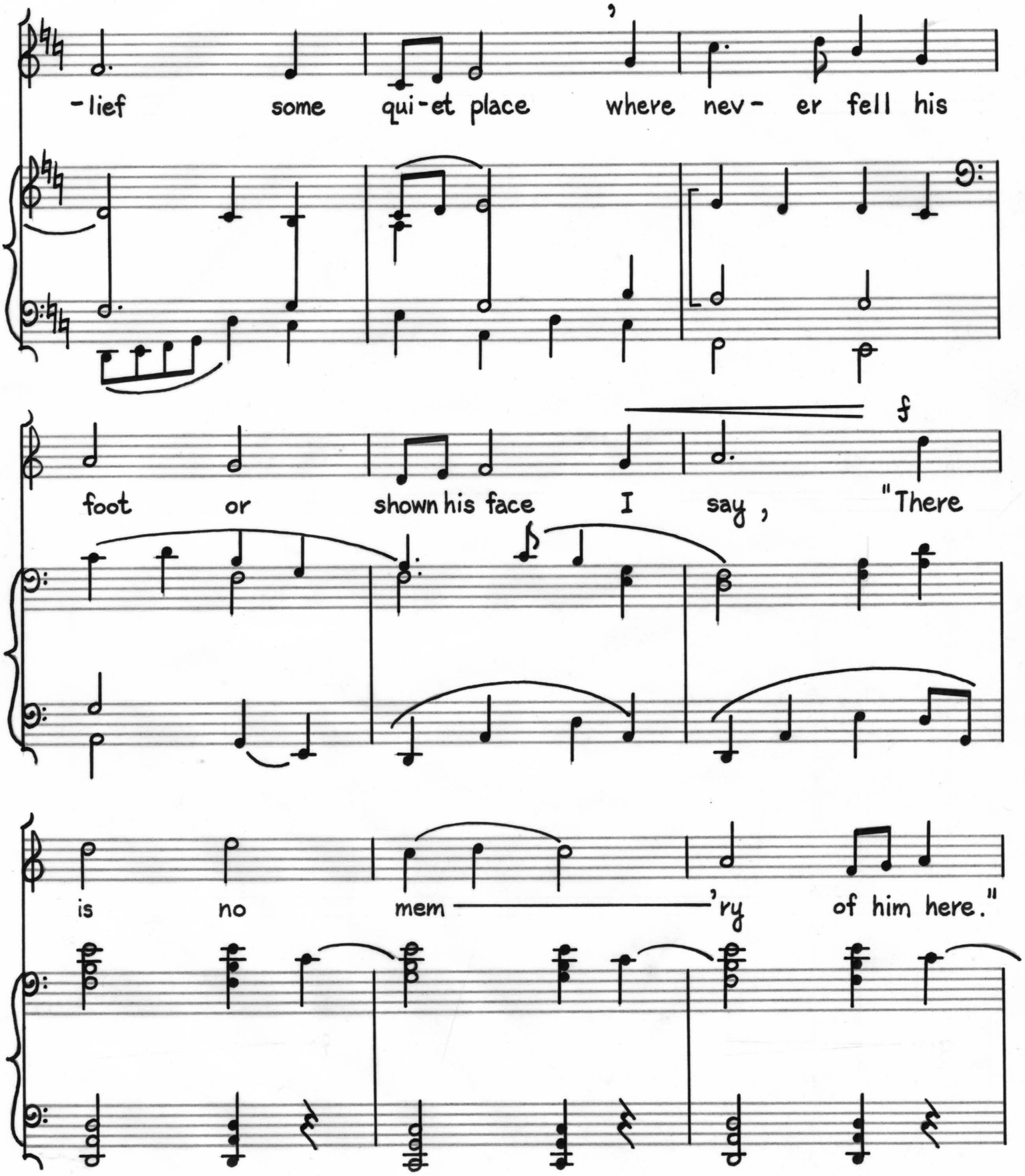
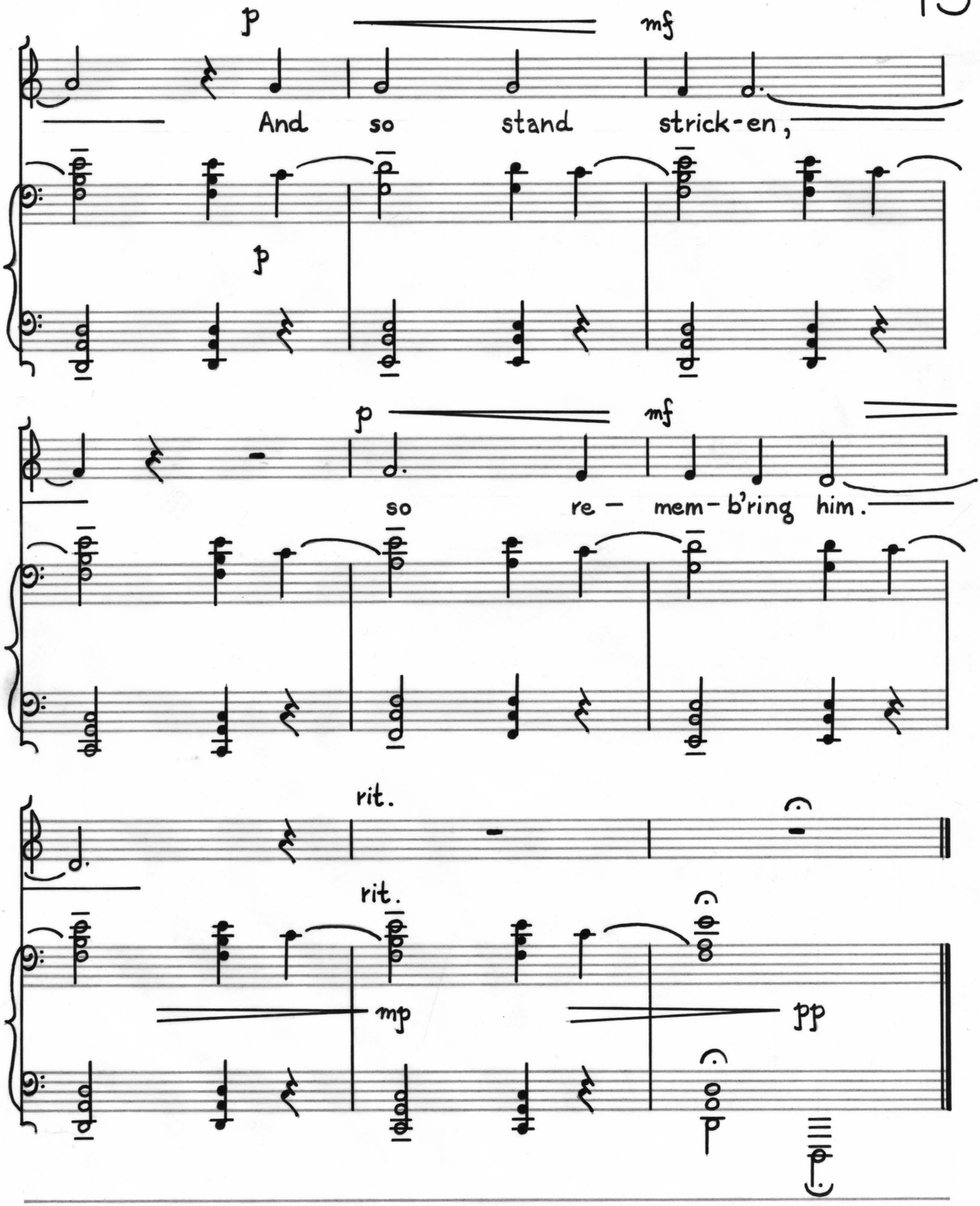
1595 B'WAY, N. Y.

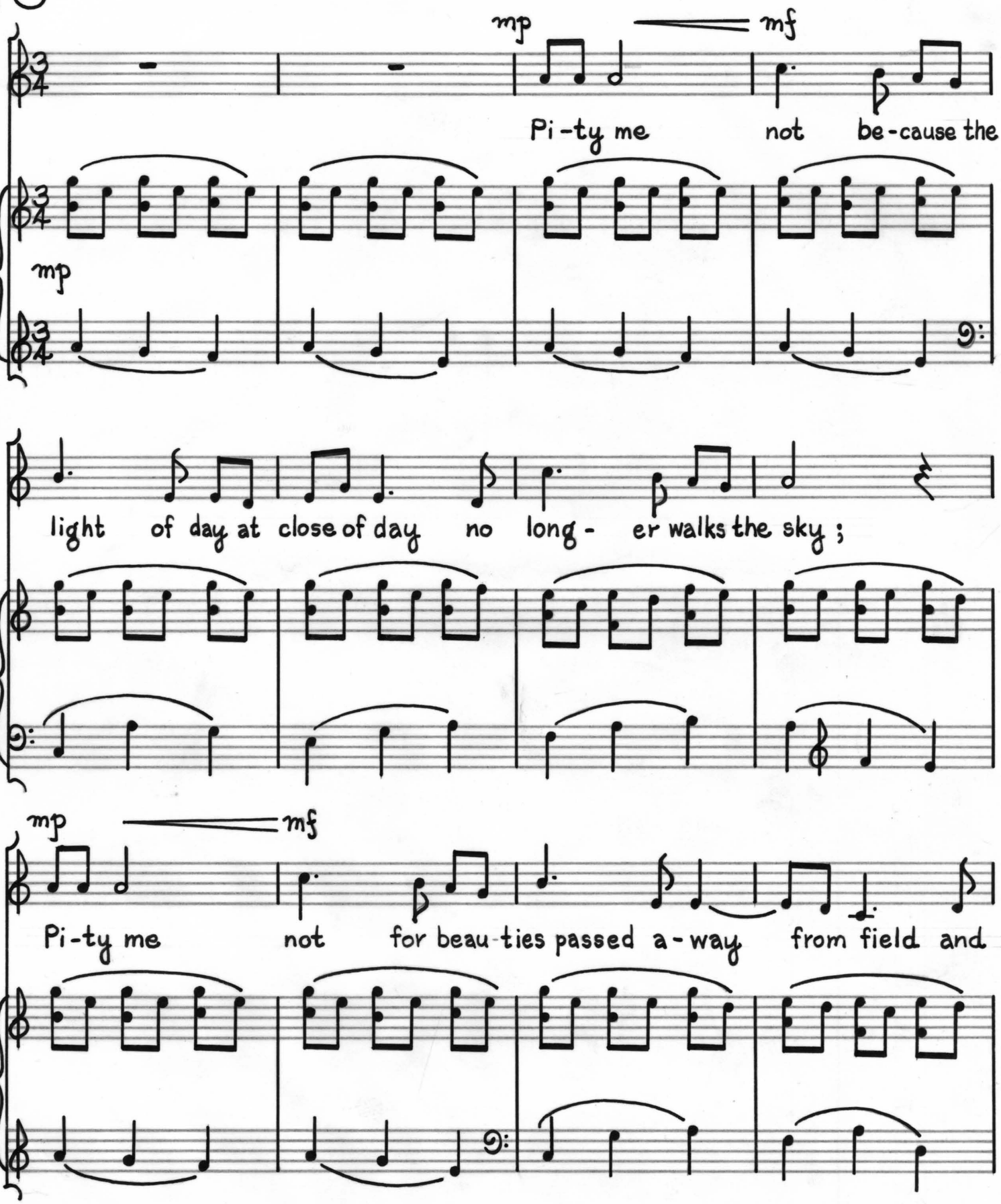

mp
But last year's bit - ter lov - ing
p
mf
must re - main heaped on my heart ,
p
mf
and my old thoughts a - bide .
mf

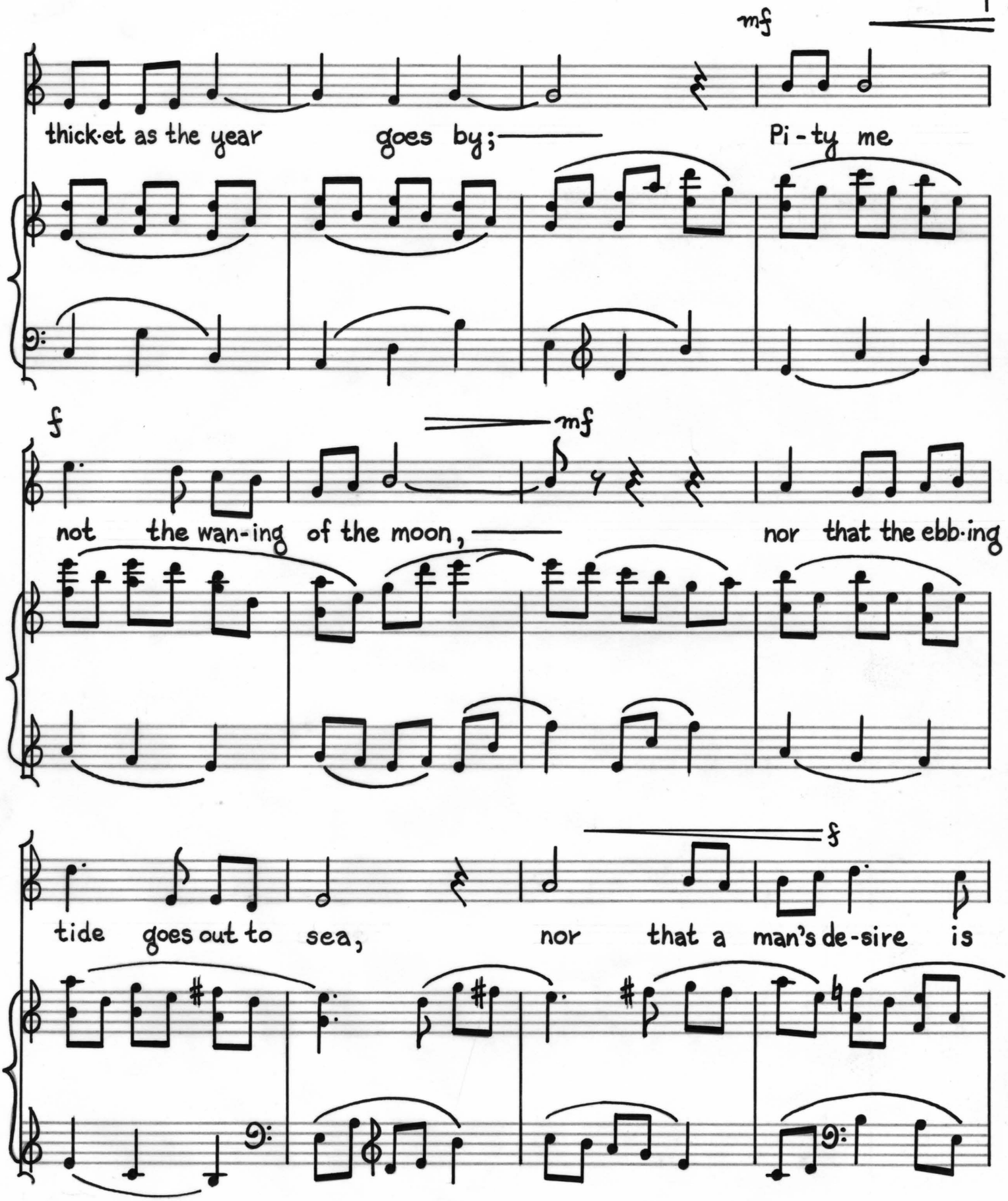

mp
mf
There are a hun - dred pla - ces where I fear to go, —
p
, p
— so with his mem — 'ry they
mf
mf
brim.
And en - t'ring with re -
mf

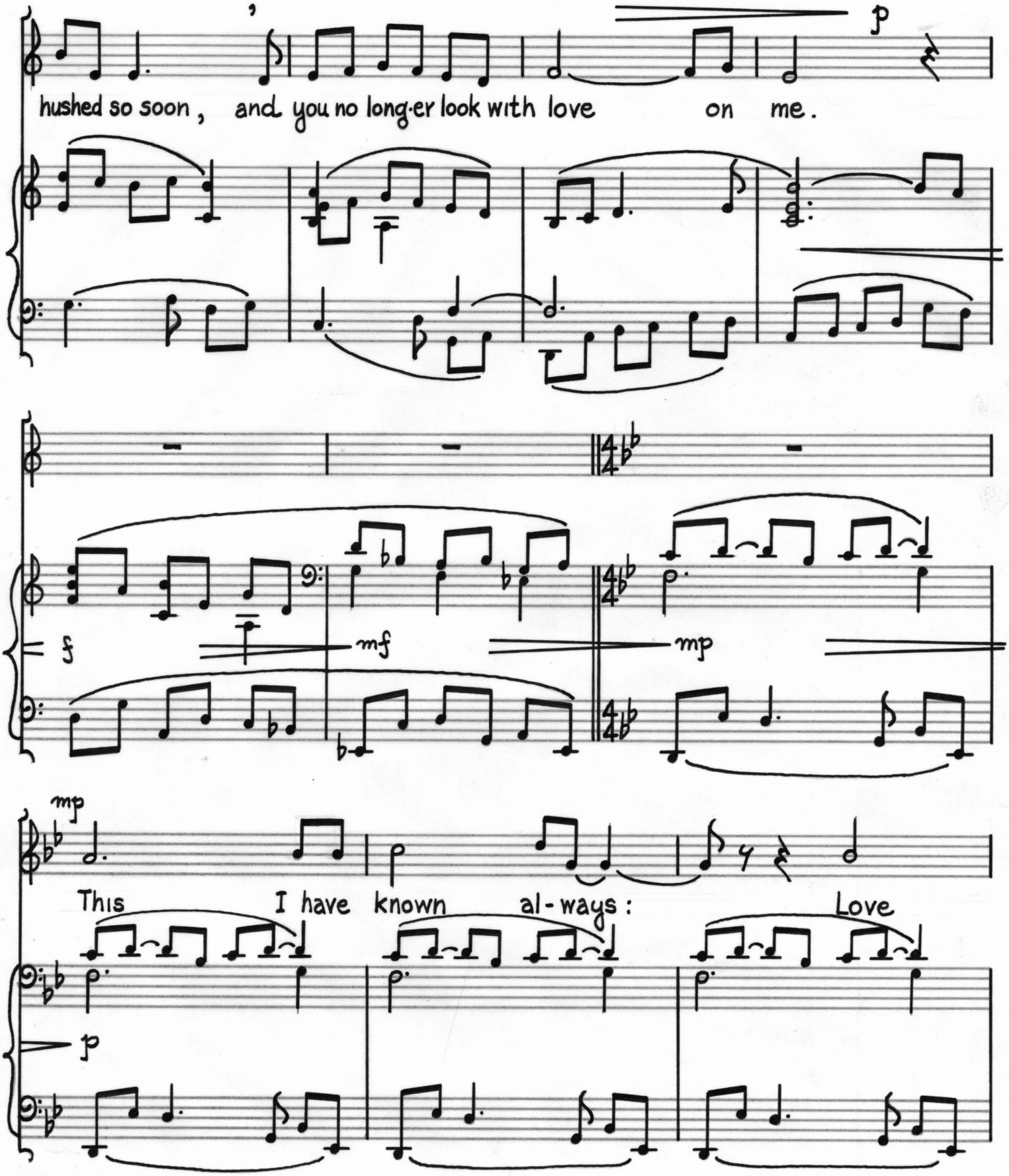

-lief some qui-et place where nev- er fell his
foot or shown his face I say, "There
f
is no mem 'ry of him here."

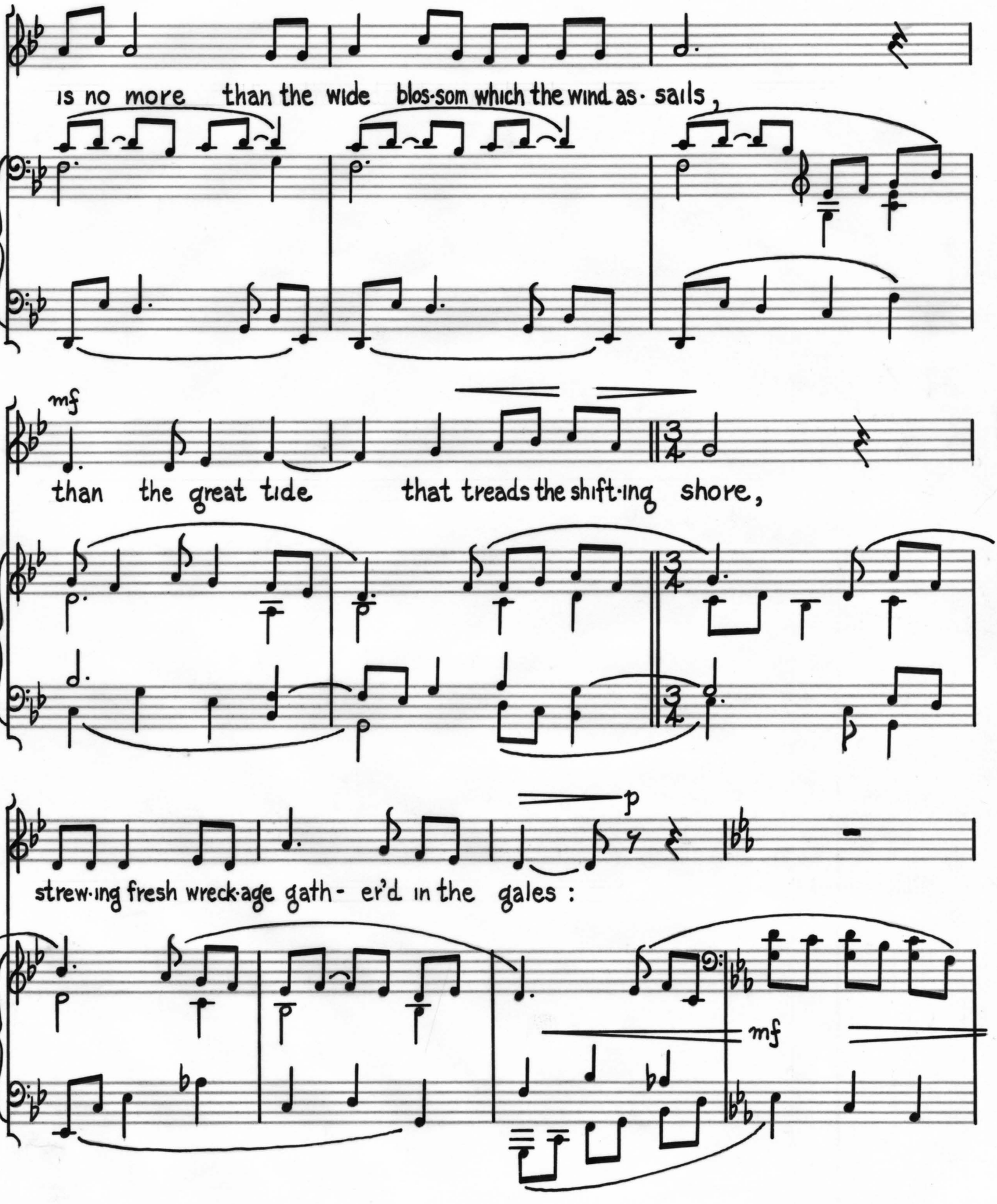

p
mf
And so stand strick-en,
p
p
mf
so re - mem - b'ring him.
rit.
rit.
mp
pp
p

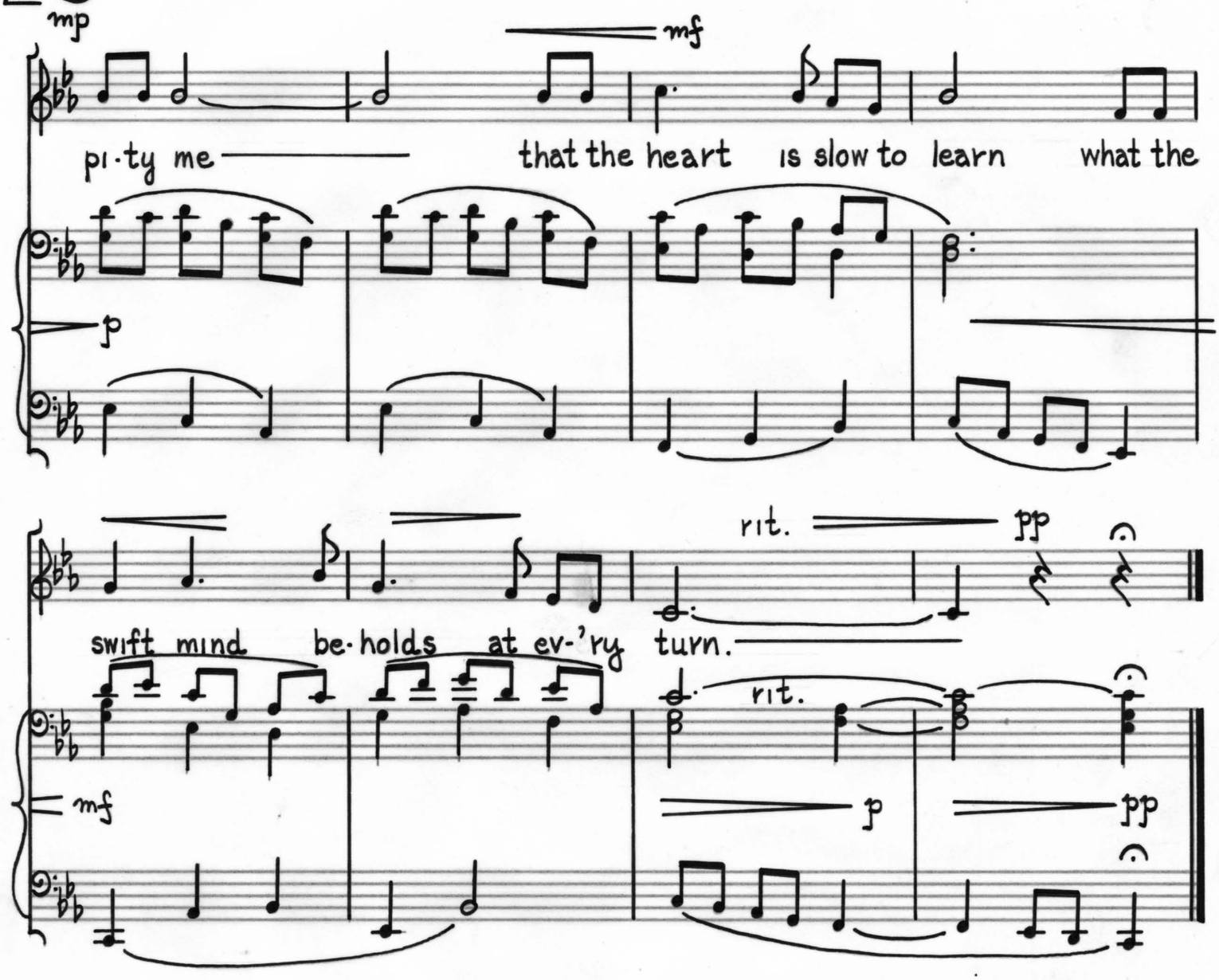
xxix


mp
mf
Pi-ty me not be-cause the
mp
light of day at close of day no long- er walks the sky ;
mp
mf
Pi-ty me not for beau-ties passed a-way from field and


mf
thick-et as the year goes by; Pi-ty me
f
mf
not the wan-ing of the moon, nor that the ebb-ing
f
tide goes out to sea, nor that a man's de-sire is

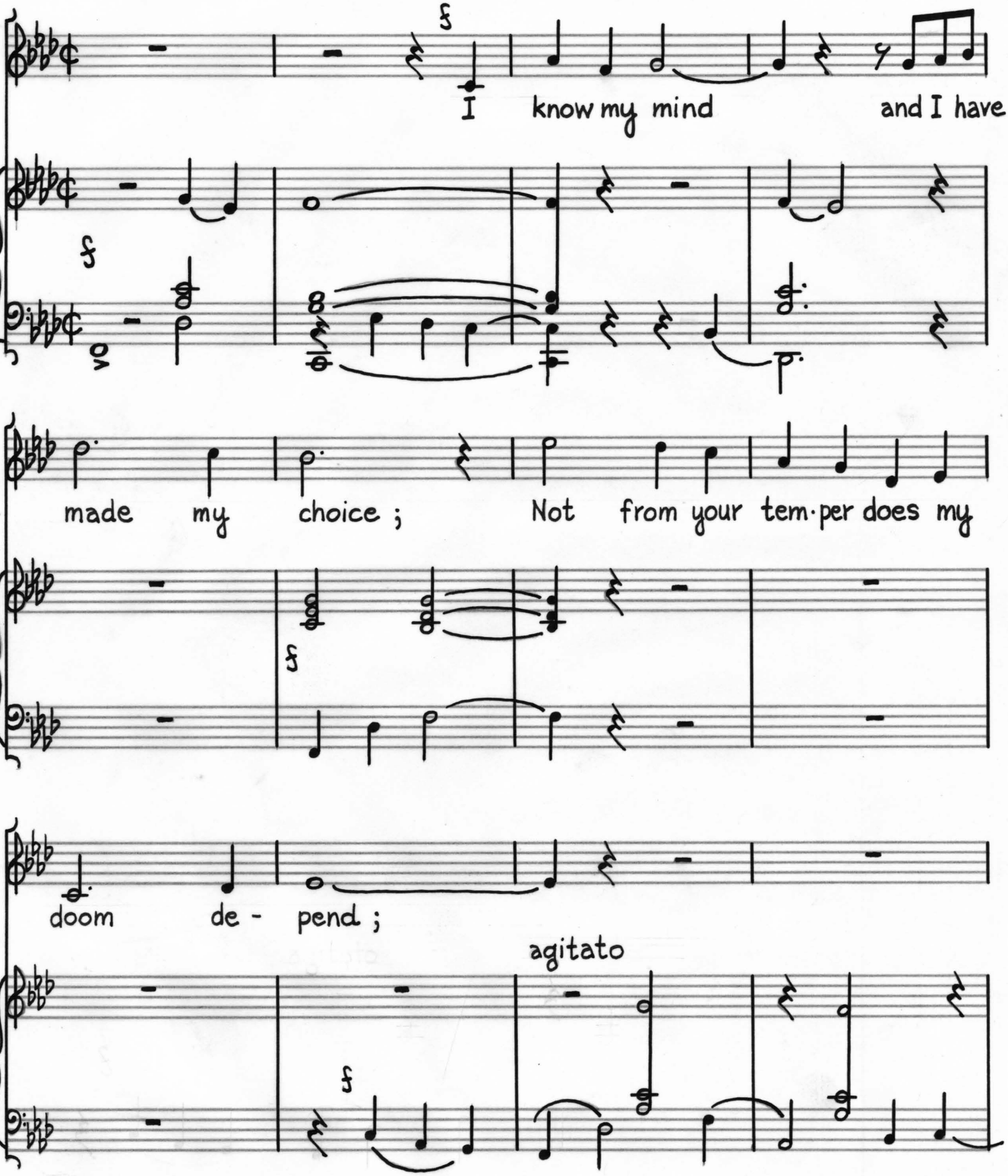

hushed so soon, and you no long·er look with love on me.
p
f
mf
mp
mp
This I have known al-ways: Love
p

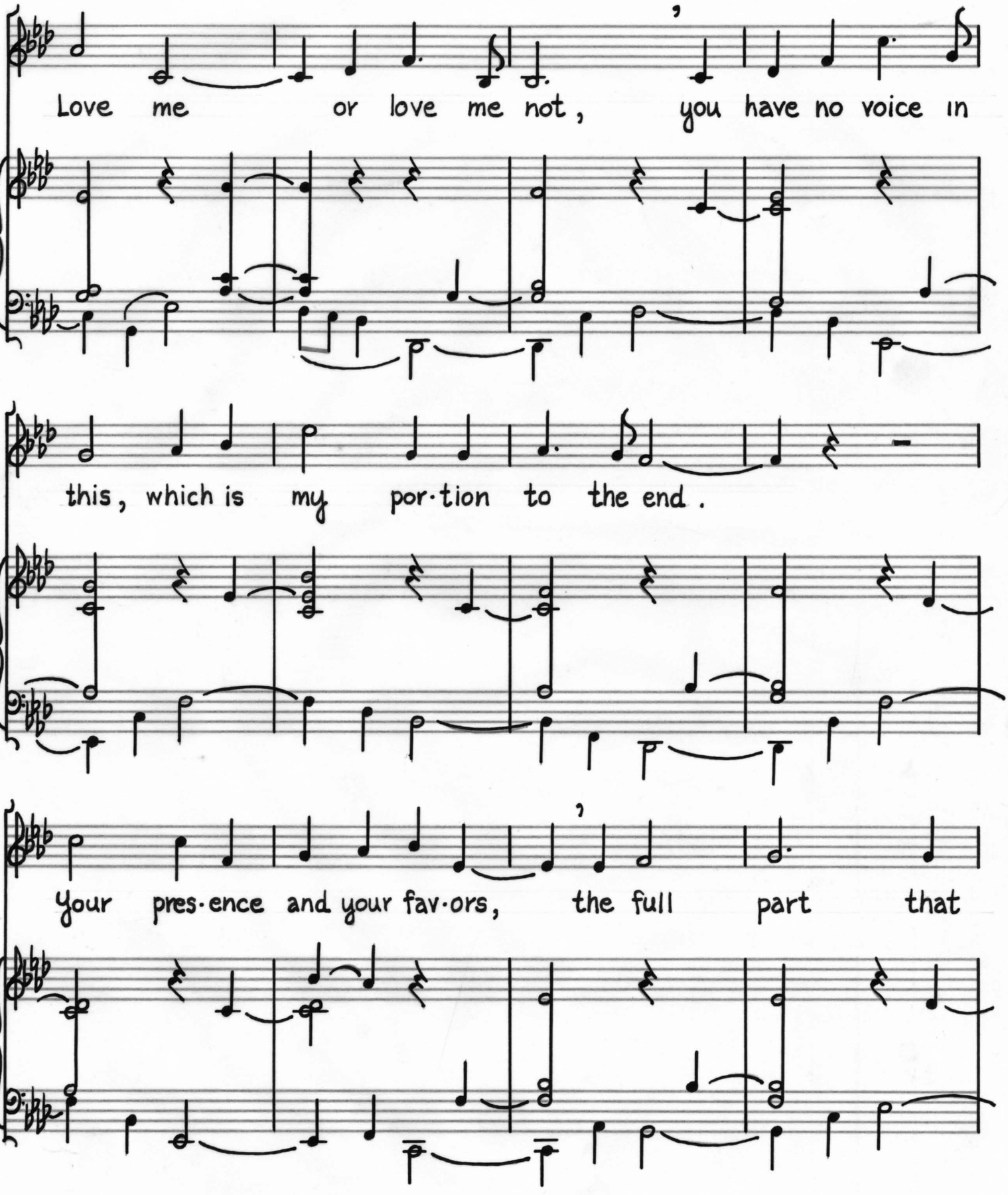

is no more than the wide blos-som which the wind as- sails,
mf
than the great tide that treads the shift-ing shore,
p
strew-ing fresh wreck-age gath- er'd in the gales:
mf

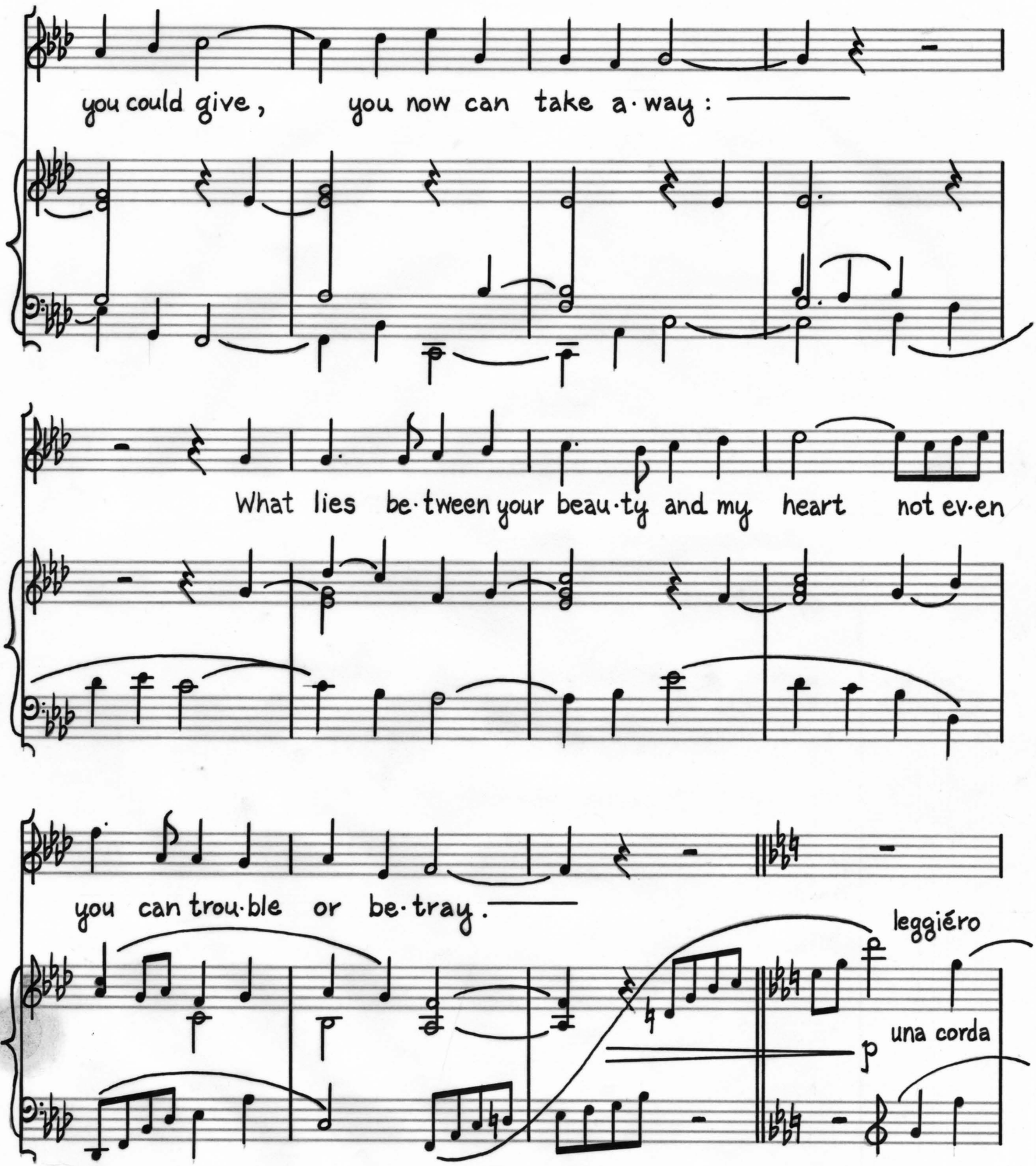

mp
mf
pi-ty me
that the heart is slow to learn what the
p
rit.
pp
swift mind be-holds at ev-'ry turn.
rit.
mf
p
pp

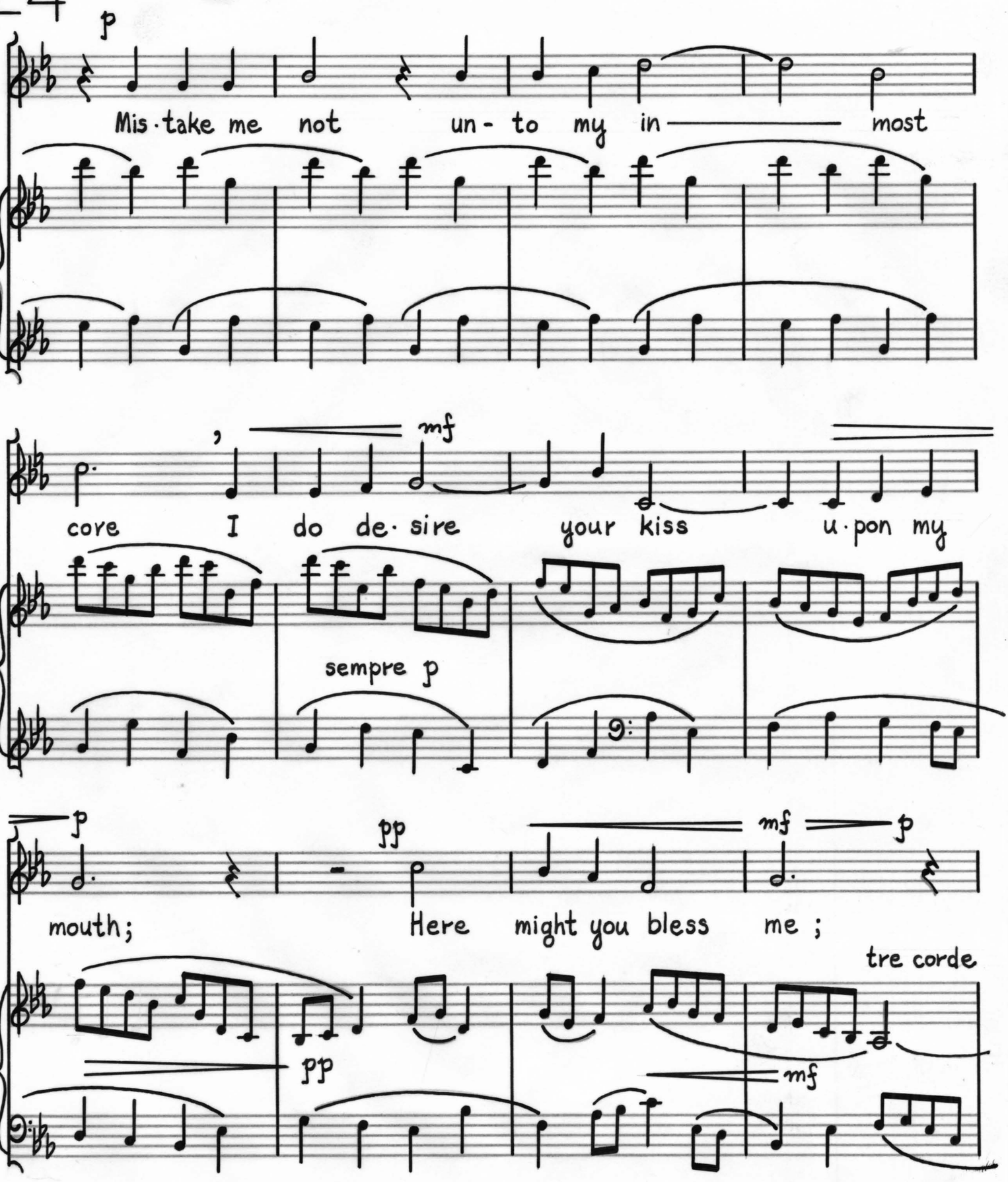
Deliberate ♩=72

cxiv




Love me or love me not, you have no voice in
this, which is my por·tion to the end.
Your pres·ence and your fav·ors, the full part that


you could give, you now can take a·way: ——
What lies be·tween your beau·ty and my heart not ev·en
you can trou·ble or be·tray. ——
leggiéro
una corda
p



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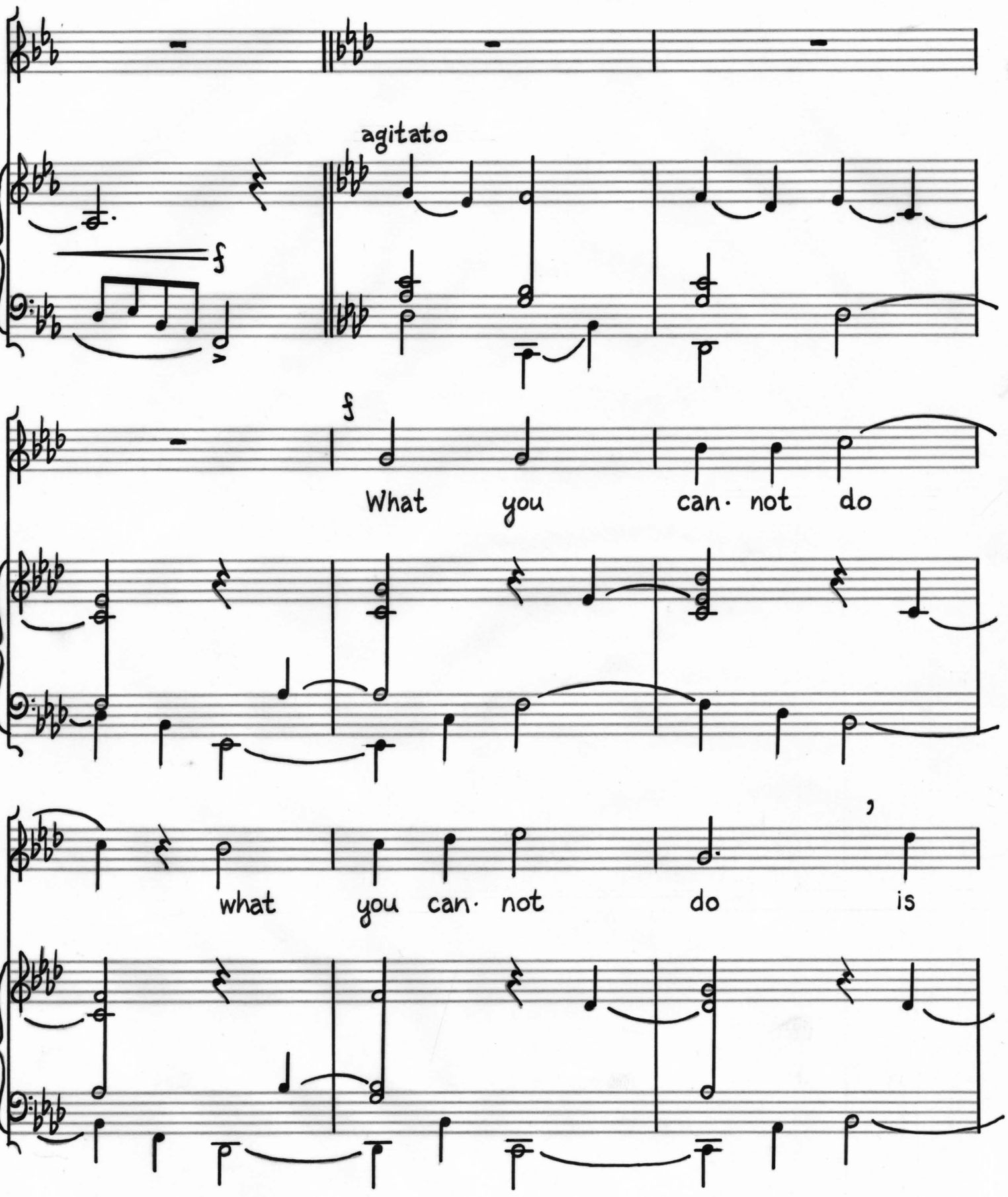
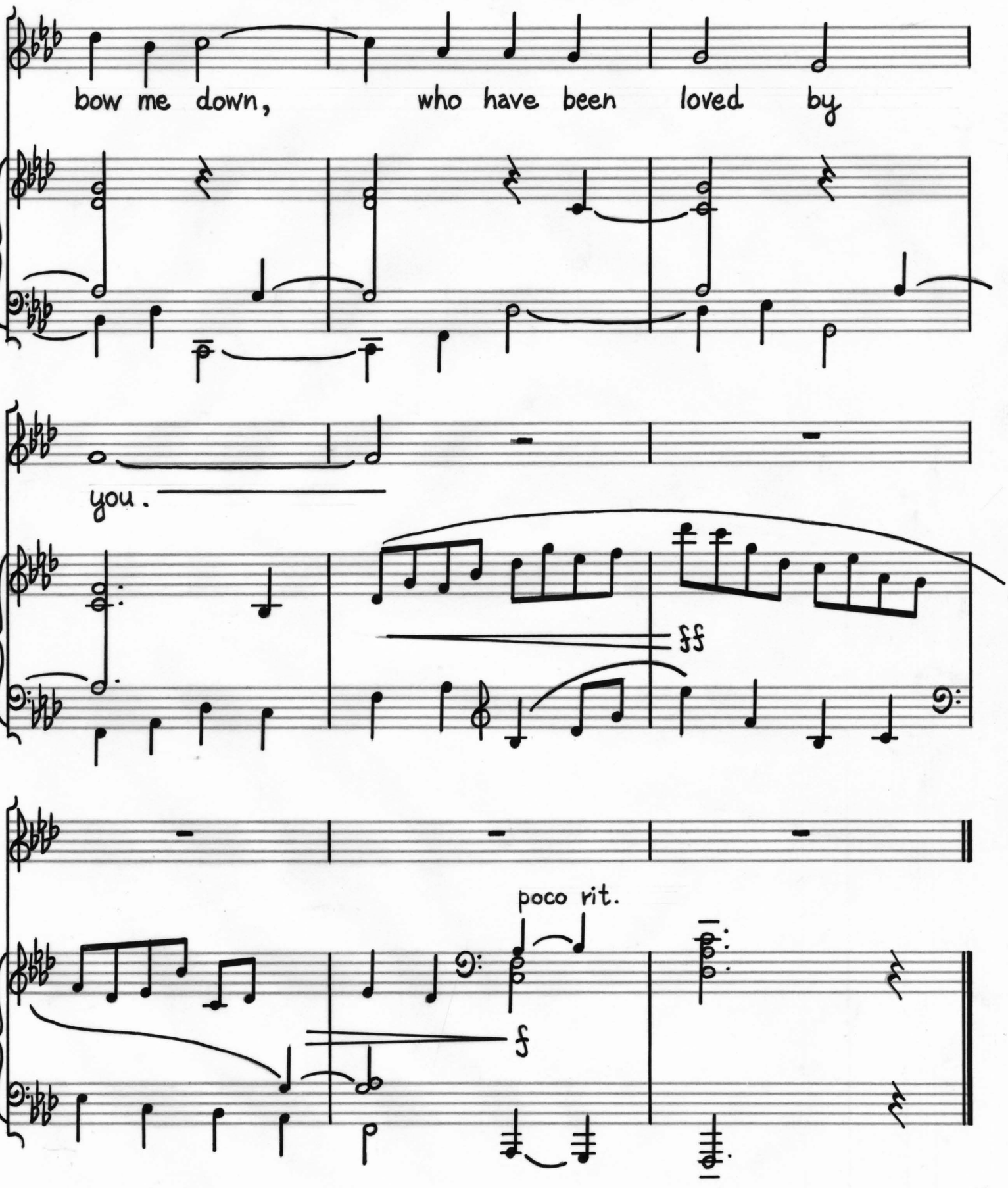

agitato
f
f
What you can· not do
what you can· not do is


bow me down, who have been loved by
you.
ff
poco rit.
f