FOR JOCELYN REITER

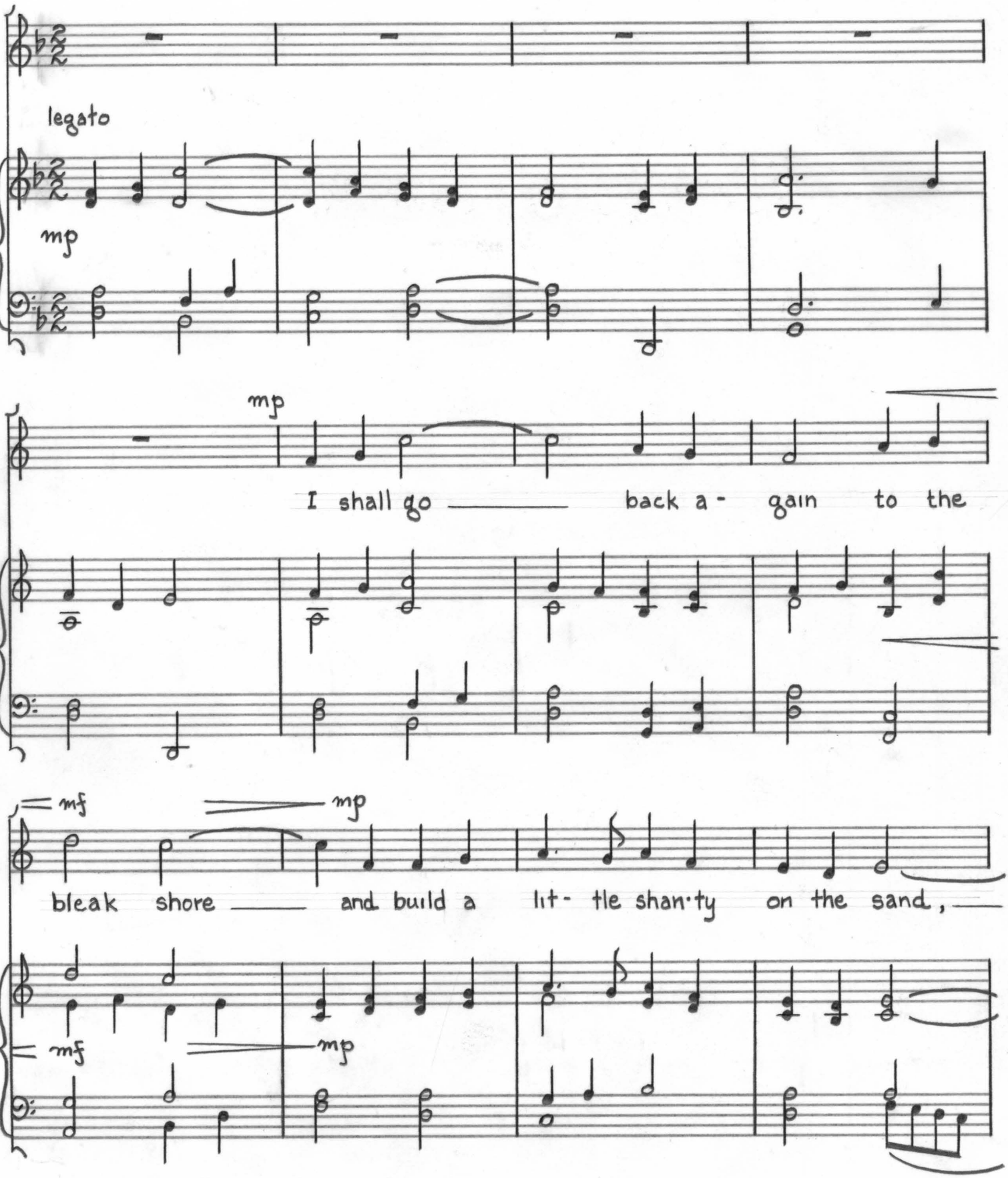
FIVE MODAL SONGS

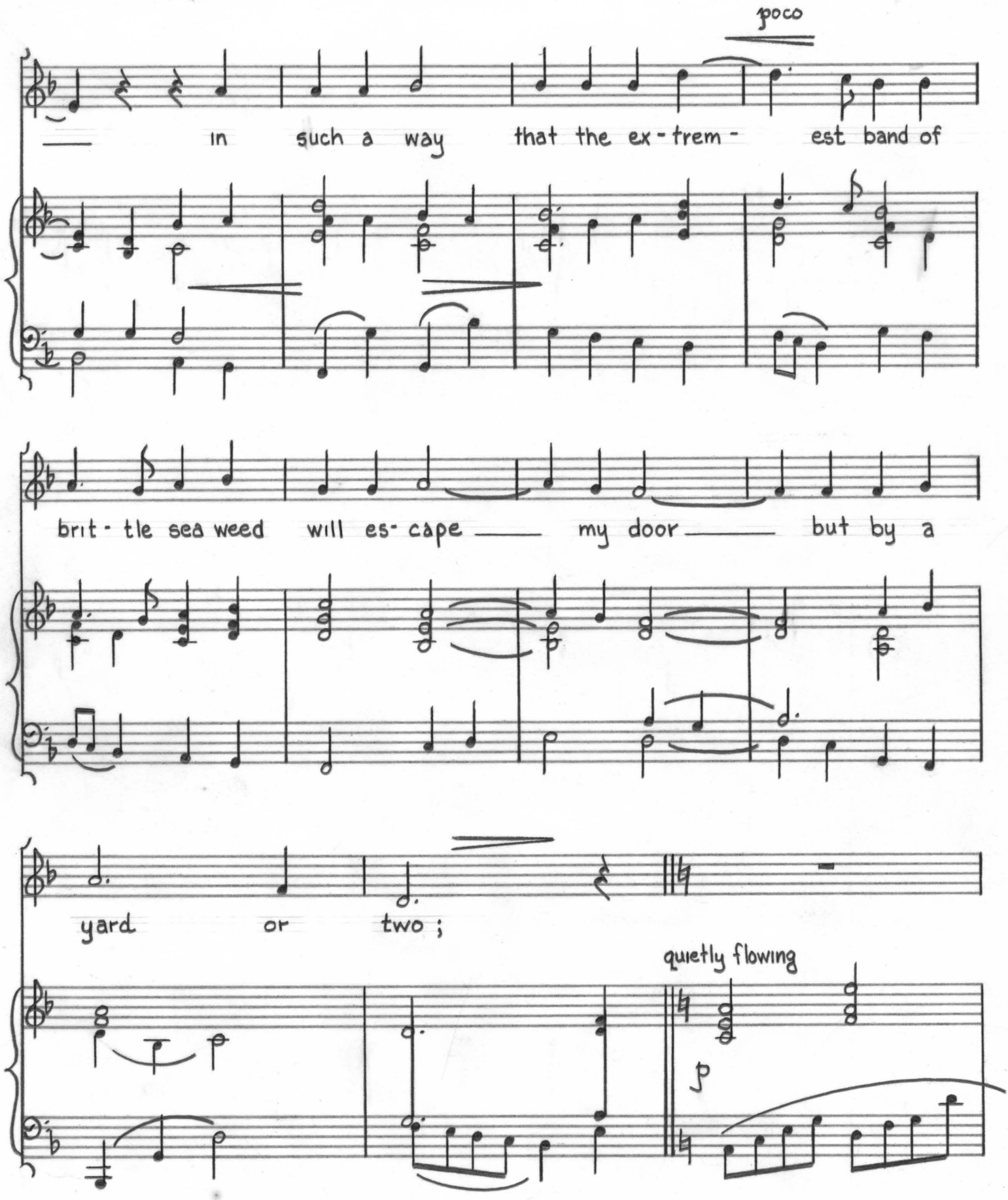
ON SONNETS OF EDNA ST. VINCENT MILLAY

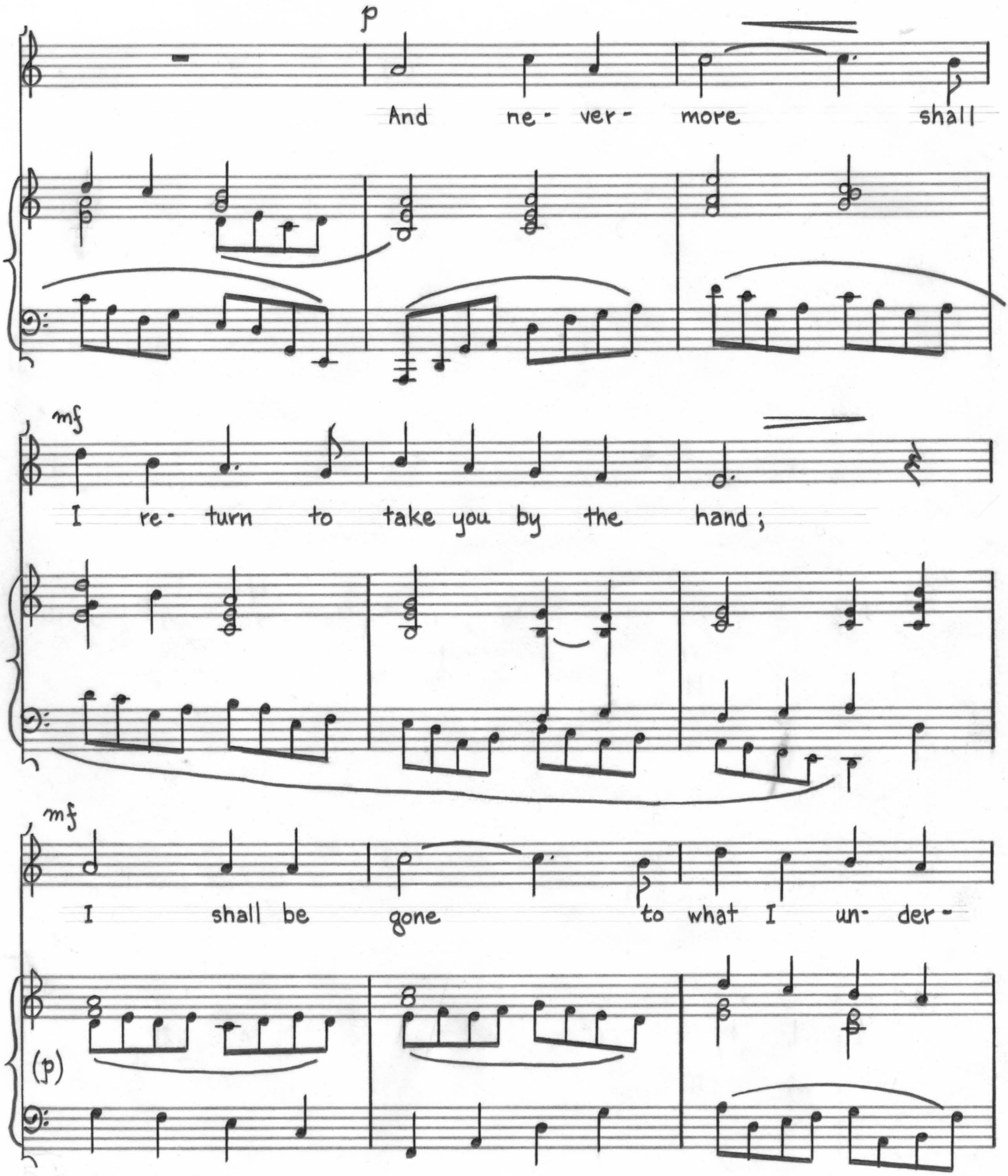
WALTER ROSS

with serenity ♩=66

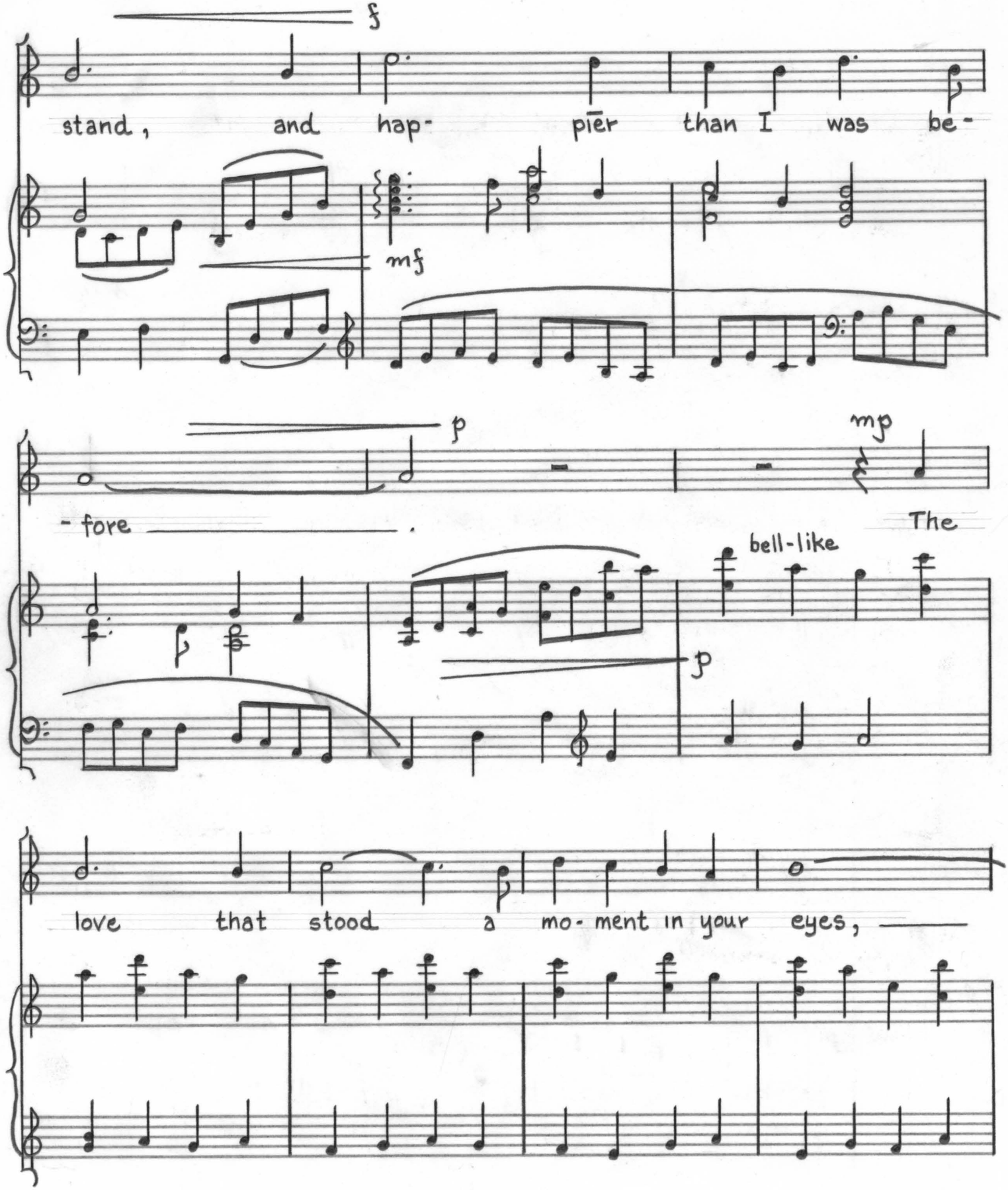
xxxiii

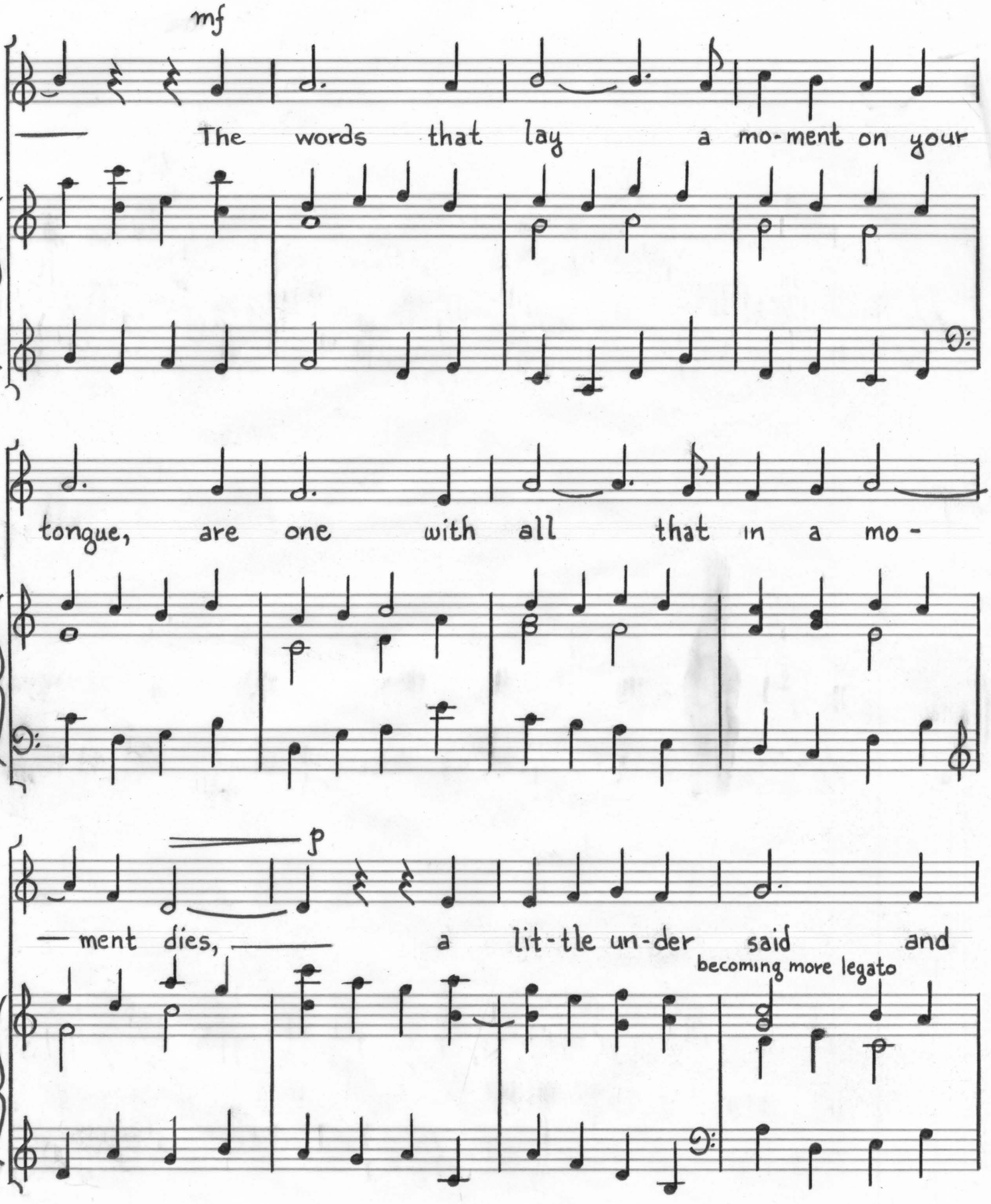


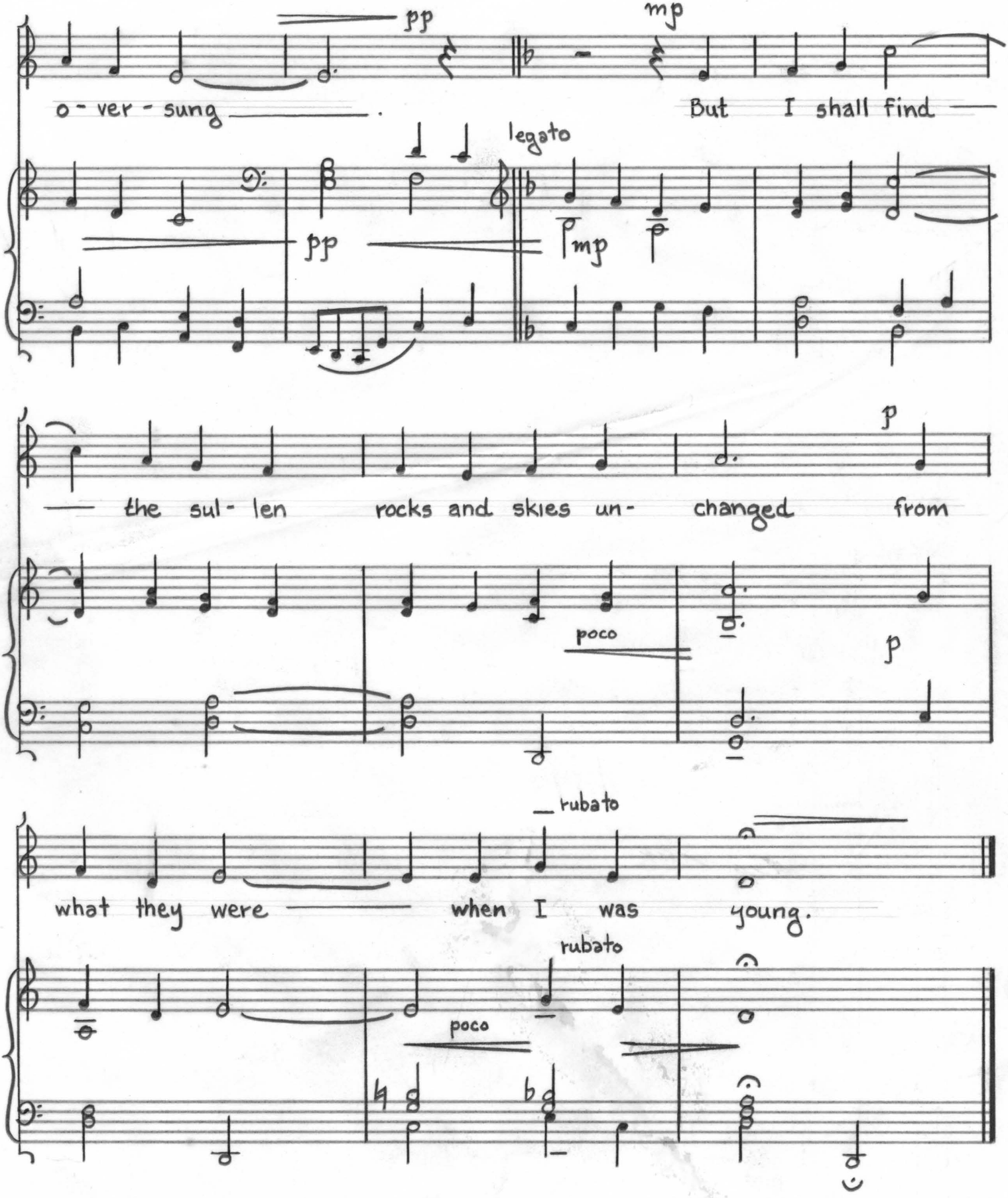

poco
in such a way that the ex-trem- est band of
brit-tle sea weed will es-cape my door but by a
yard or two ;
quietly flowing
p


p
And ne- ver- more shall
mf
I re- turn to take you by the hand;
mf
I shall be gone to what I un- der-
(p)

4.


stand, and hap- pier than I was be-
mf
p
mp
- fore
The
bell-like
p
love that stood a mo- ment in your eyes,

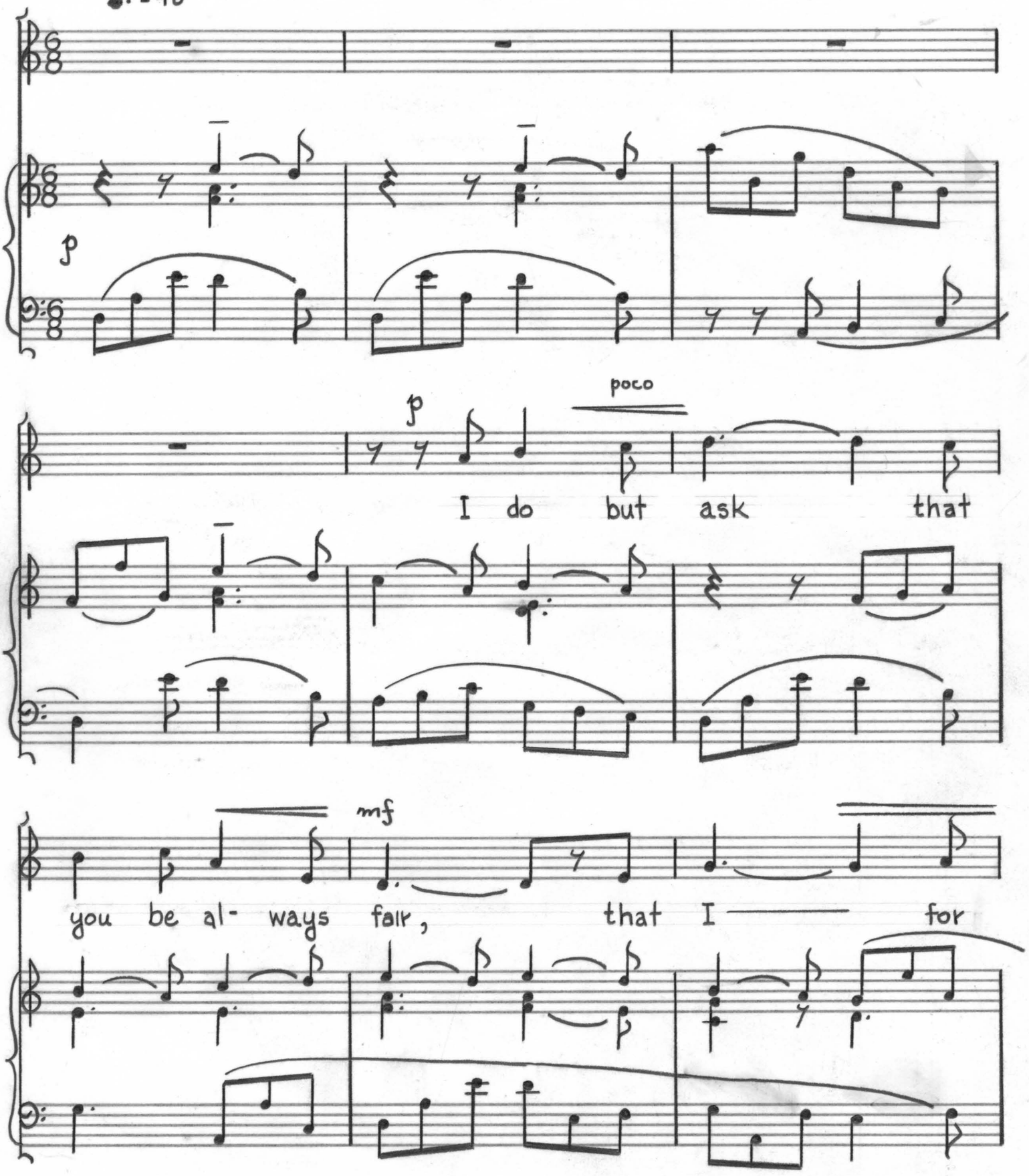

mf
The words that lay a mo-ment on your
tongue, are one with all that in a mo-
p
— ment dies, a lit-tle un-der said and
becoming more legato

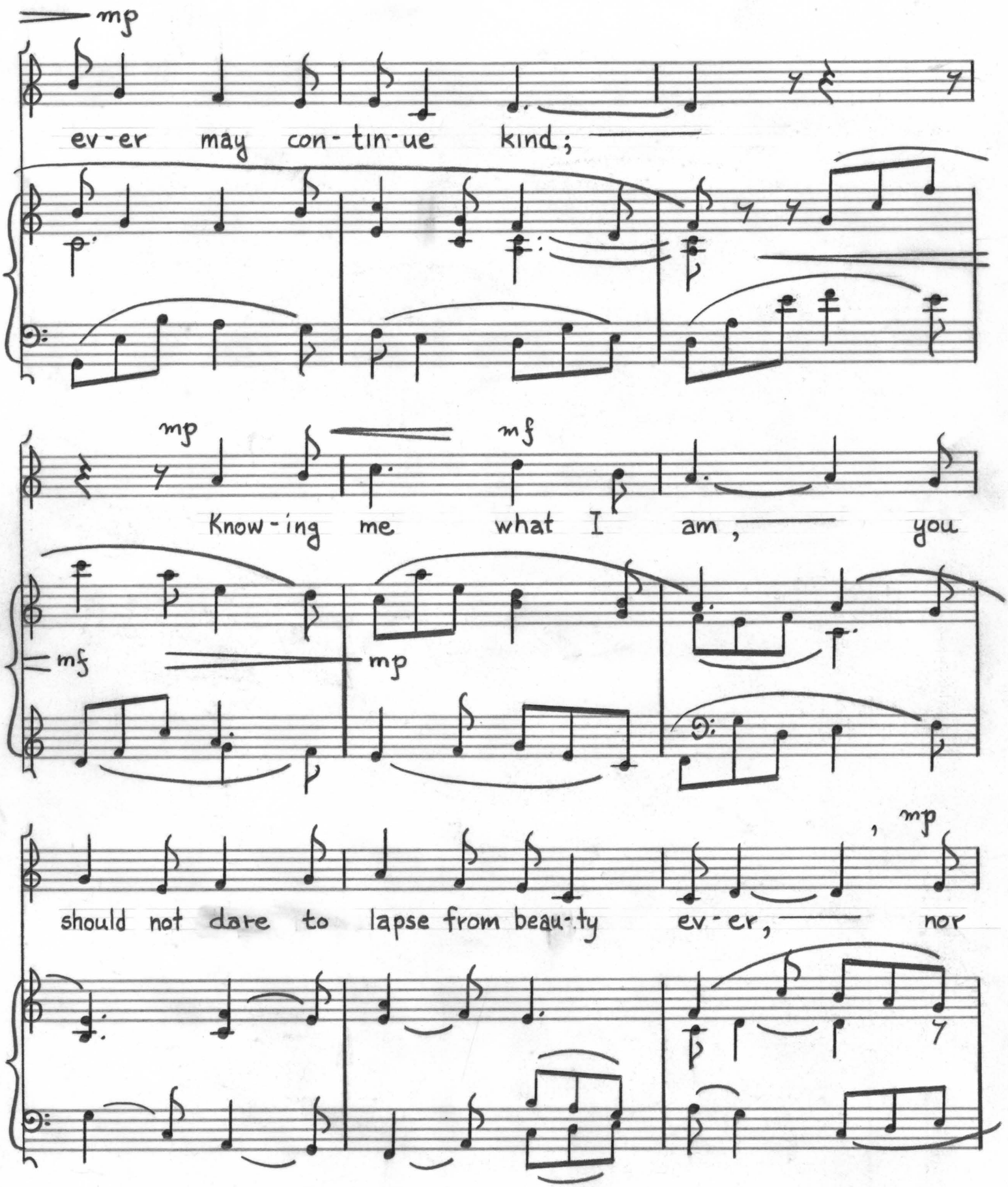

pp
mp
o - ver - sung
But I shall find
legato
pp
mp
the sul - len rocks and skies un - changed from
p
poco
p
rubato
what they were when I was young.
rubato
poco

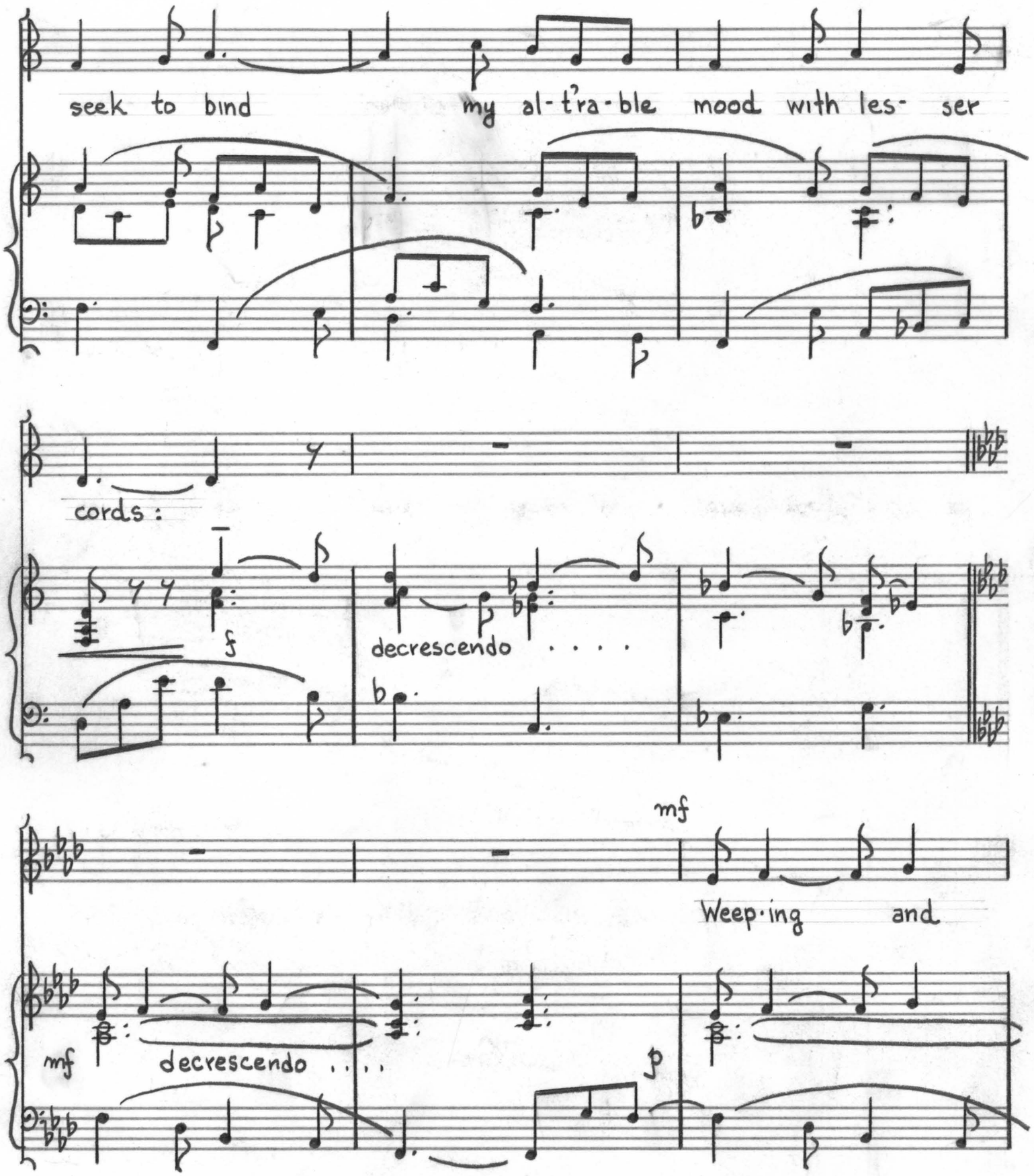
Suavely and with quiet dignity

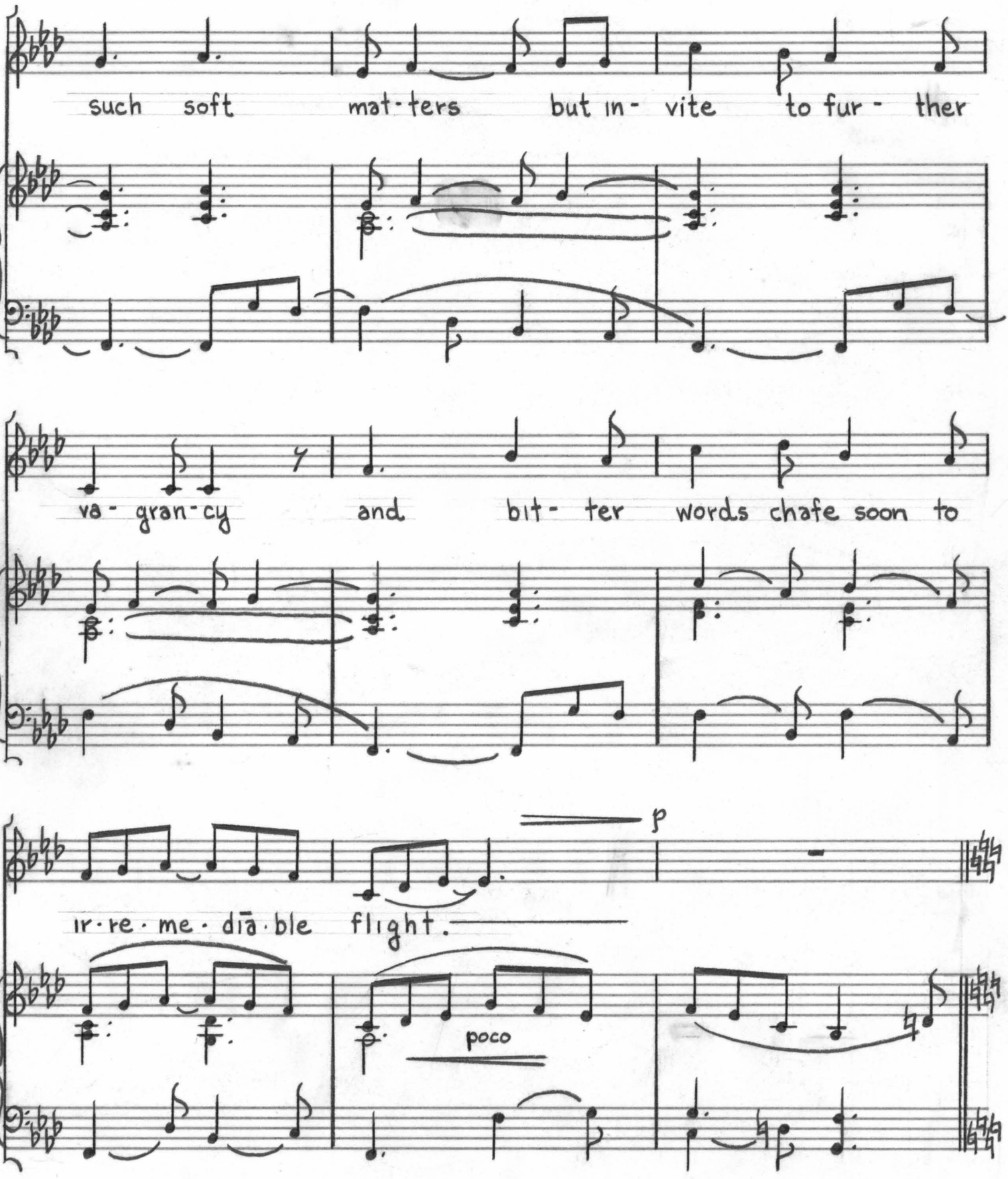
♩. = 48

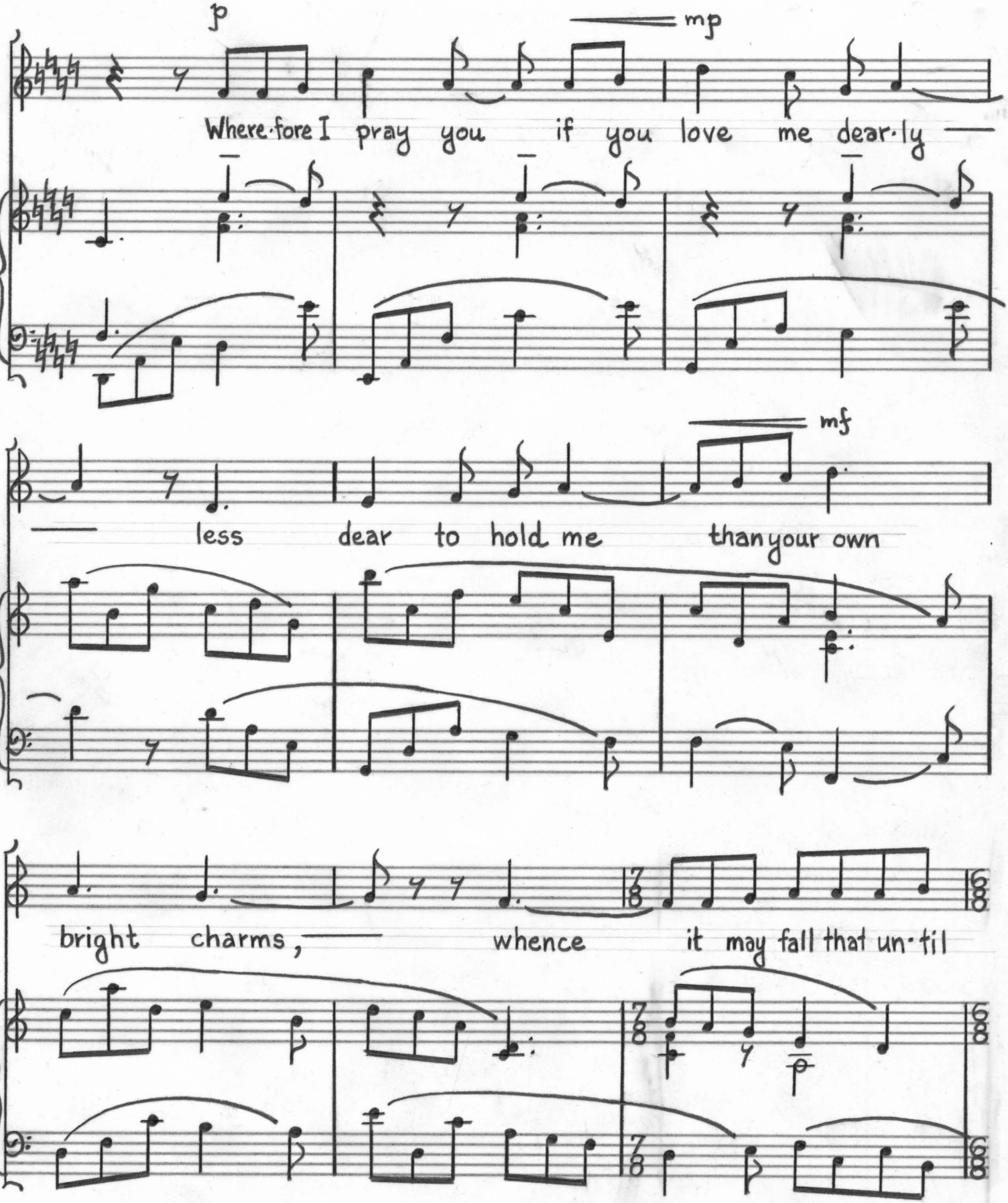
vii



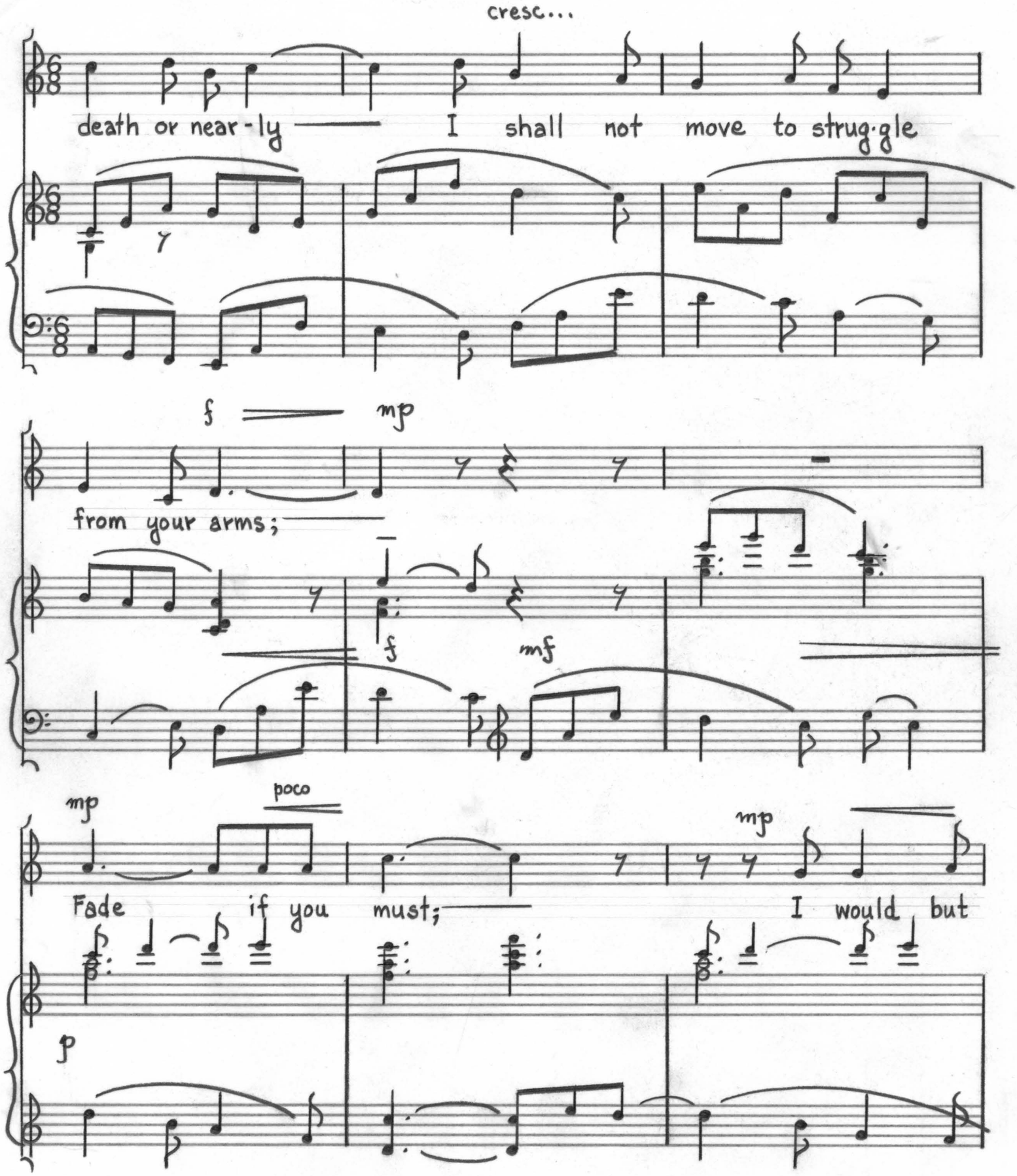

mp
ev-er may con-tin-ue kind;
mp
mf
Know-ing me what I am, you
mf
mp
should not dare to lapse from beau-ty ev-er, nor
mp

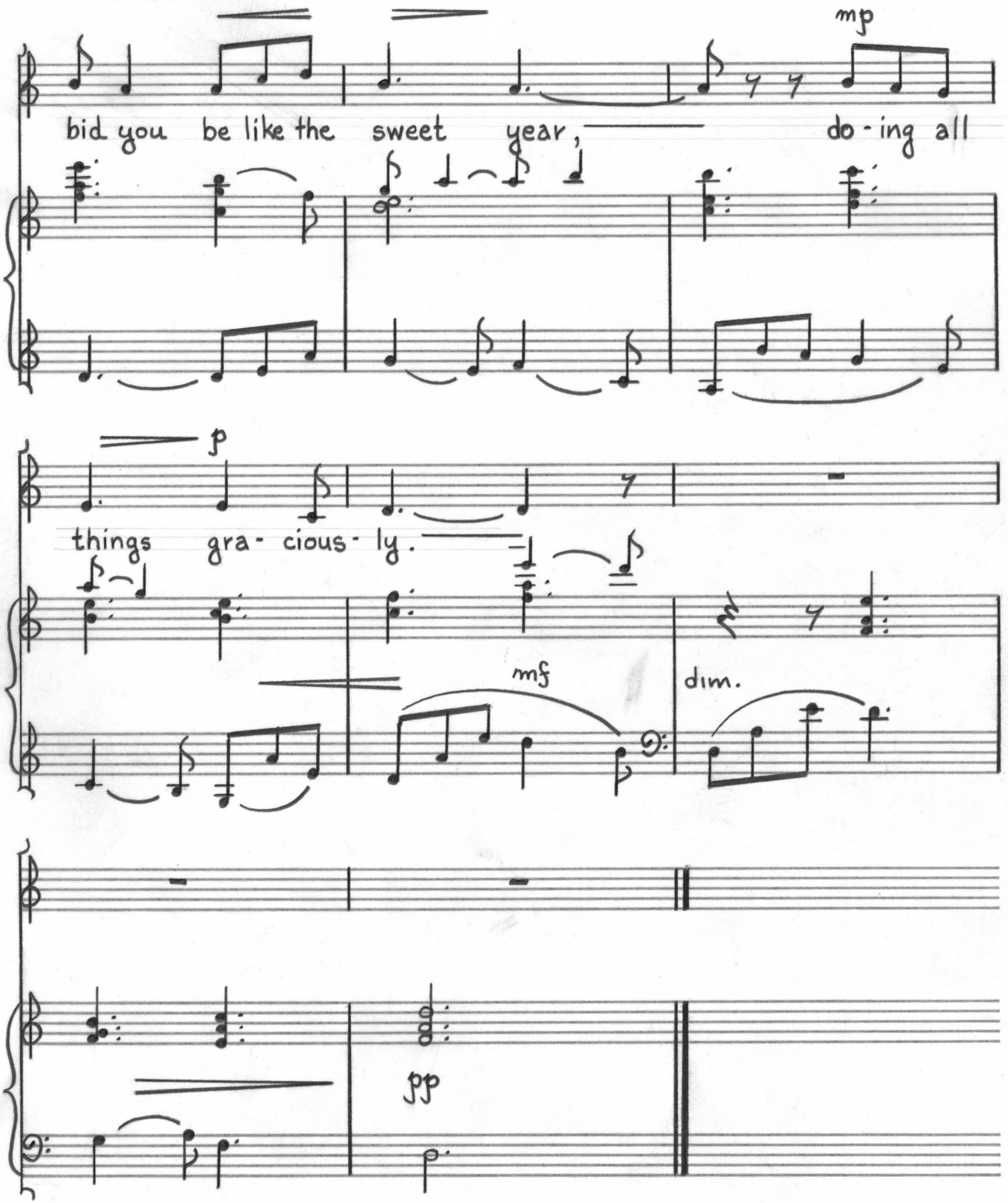

seek to bind
my al-t'ra-ble mood with les- ser
cords:
f
decrescendo . . . .
mf
Weep-ing and
mf
decrescendo . . . .
p


such soft mat-ters but in- vite to fur- ther
va- gran-cy and bit- ter words chafe soon to
p
ir·re·me·dī·ble flight.
poco



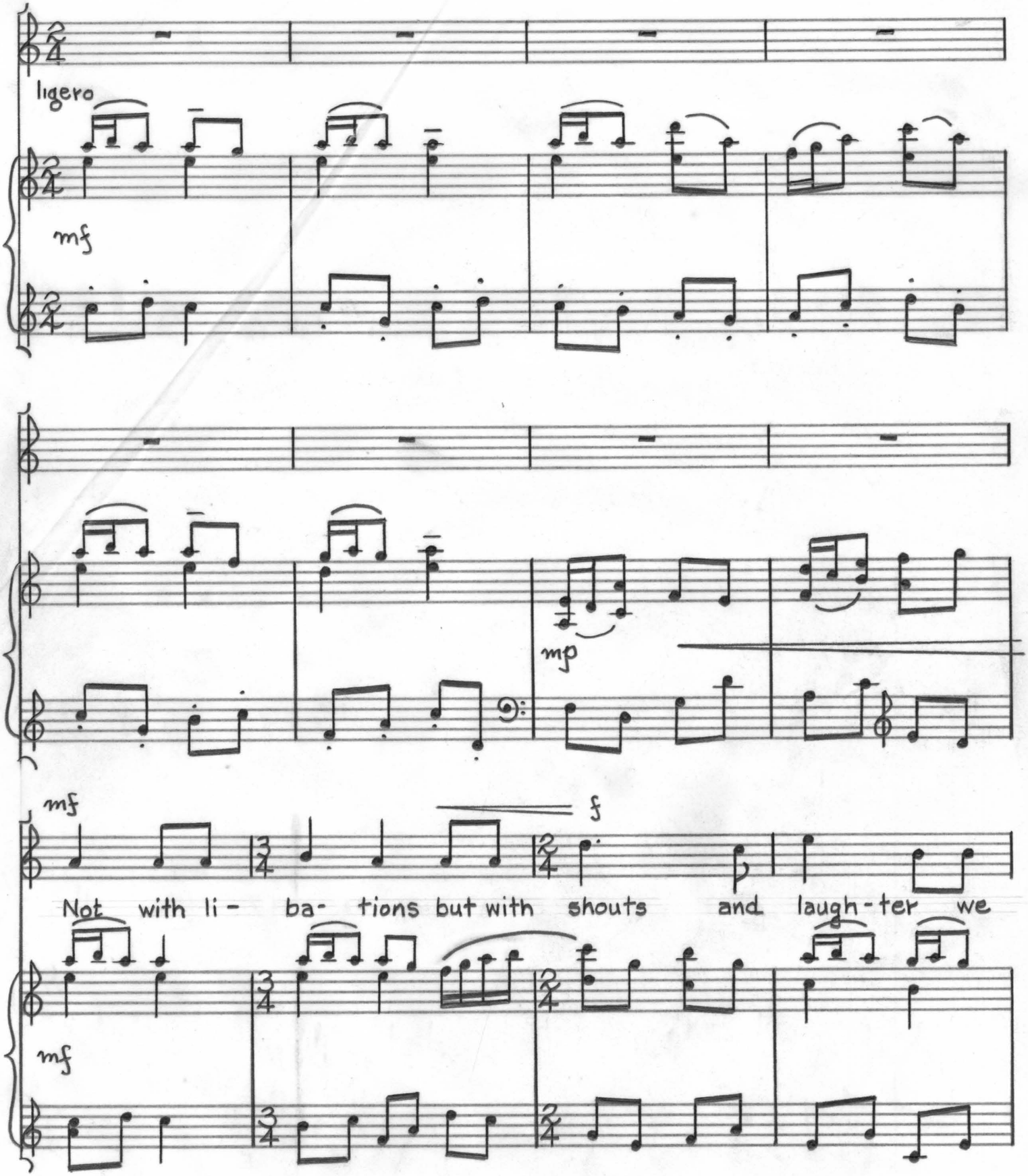
KING BRAND
1595 B'WAY, N. Y.

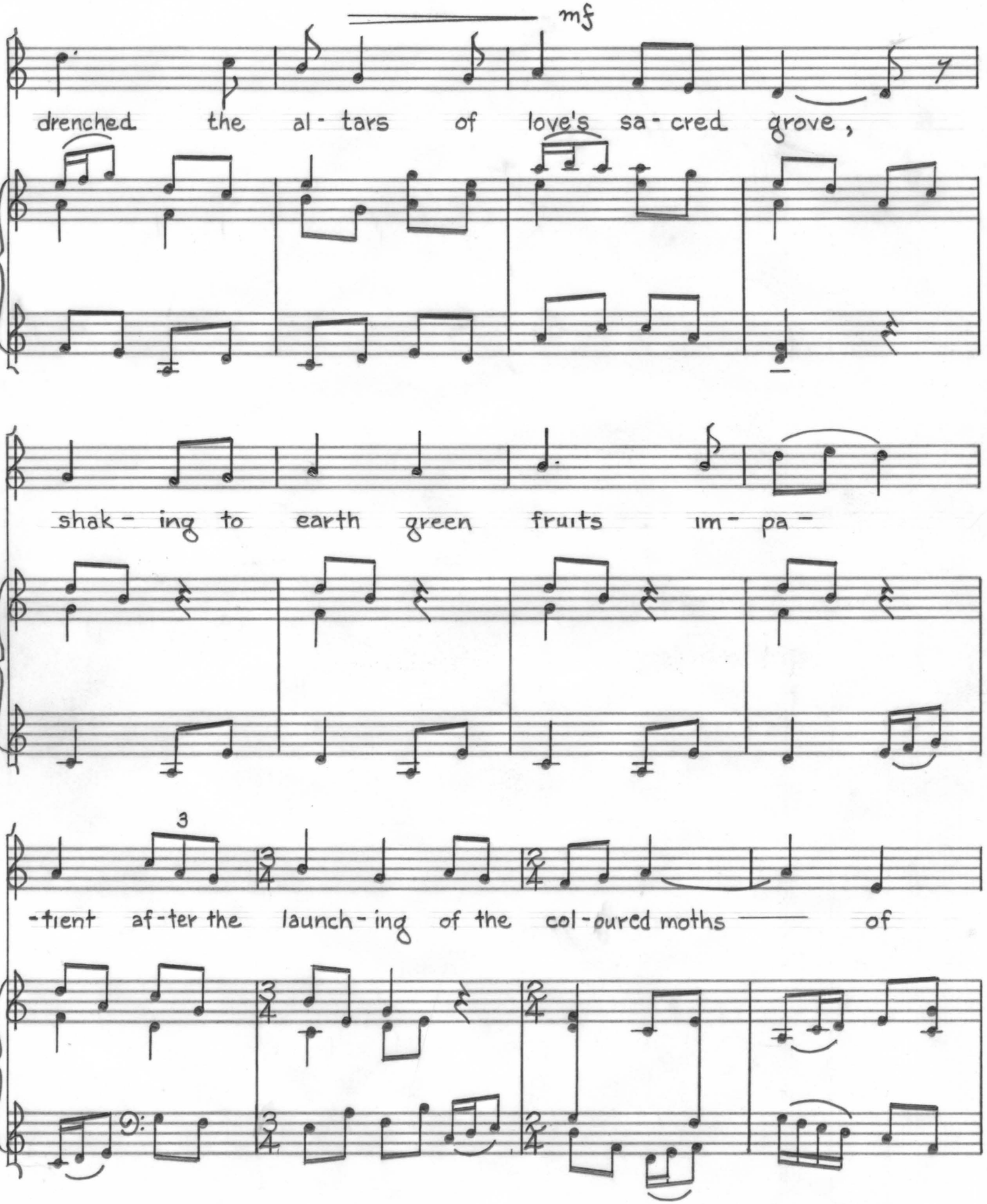

cresc...
death or near-ly — I shall not move to strug-gle
f mp
from your arms; —
f mf
mp poco
Fade if you must; —
mp
I would but
p

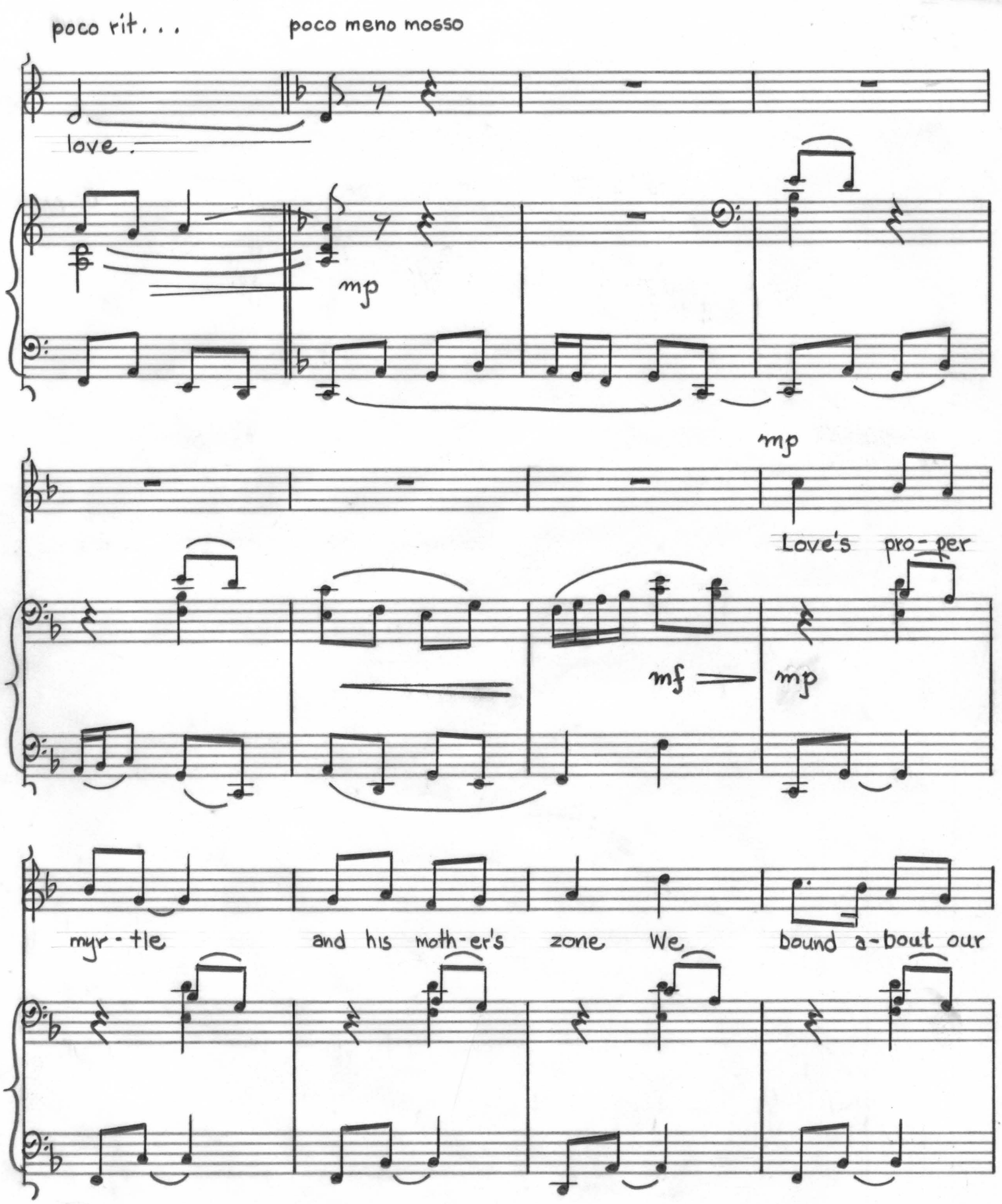

mp
bid you be like the sweet year, do-ing all
p
things gra-cious-ly.
mf
dim.
pp

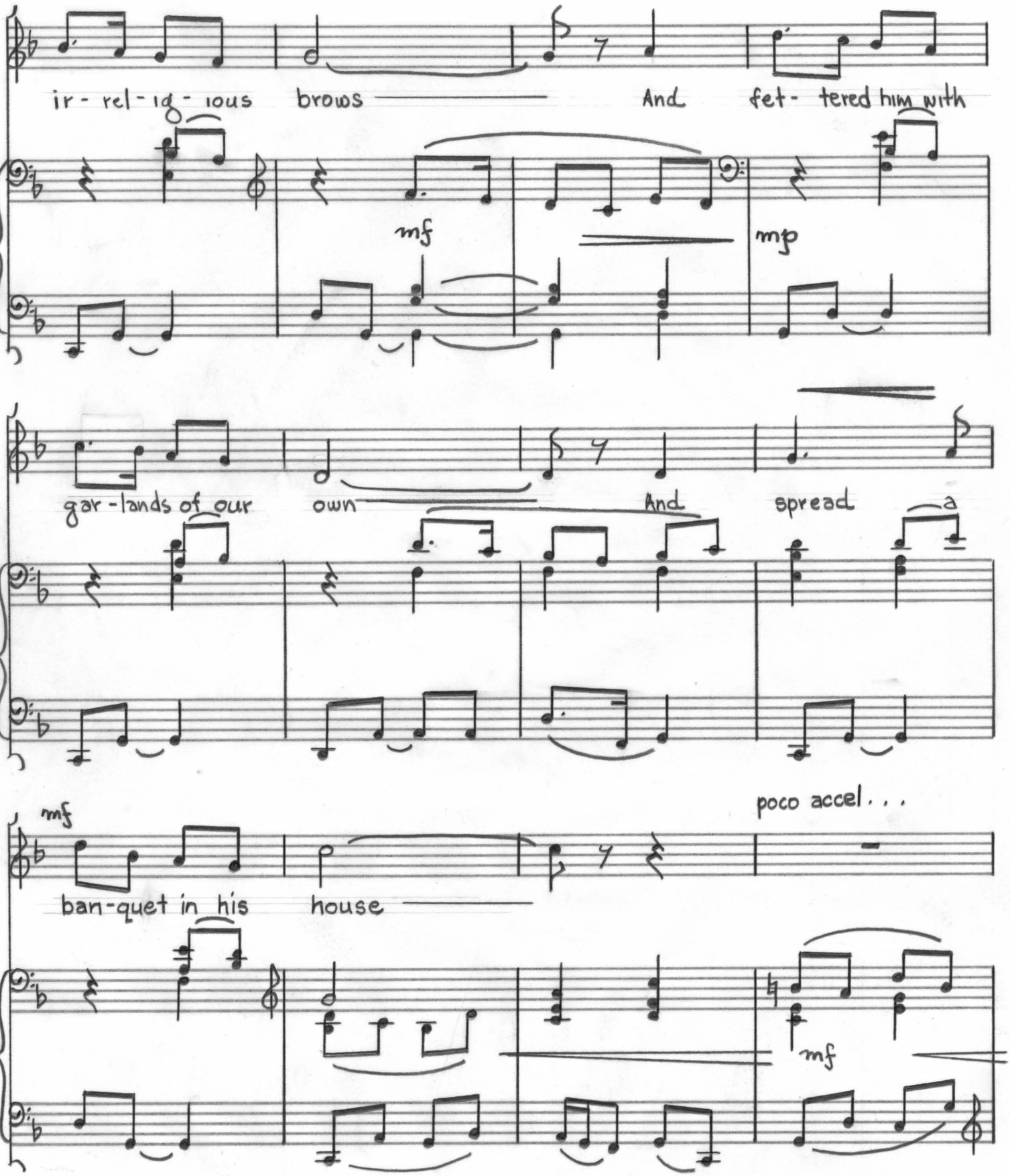
with abandon ♩= 108

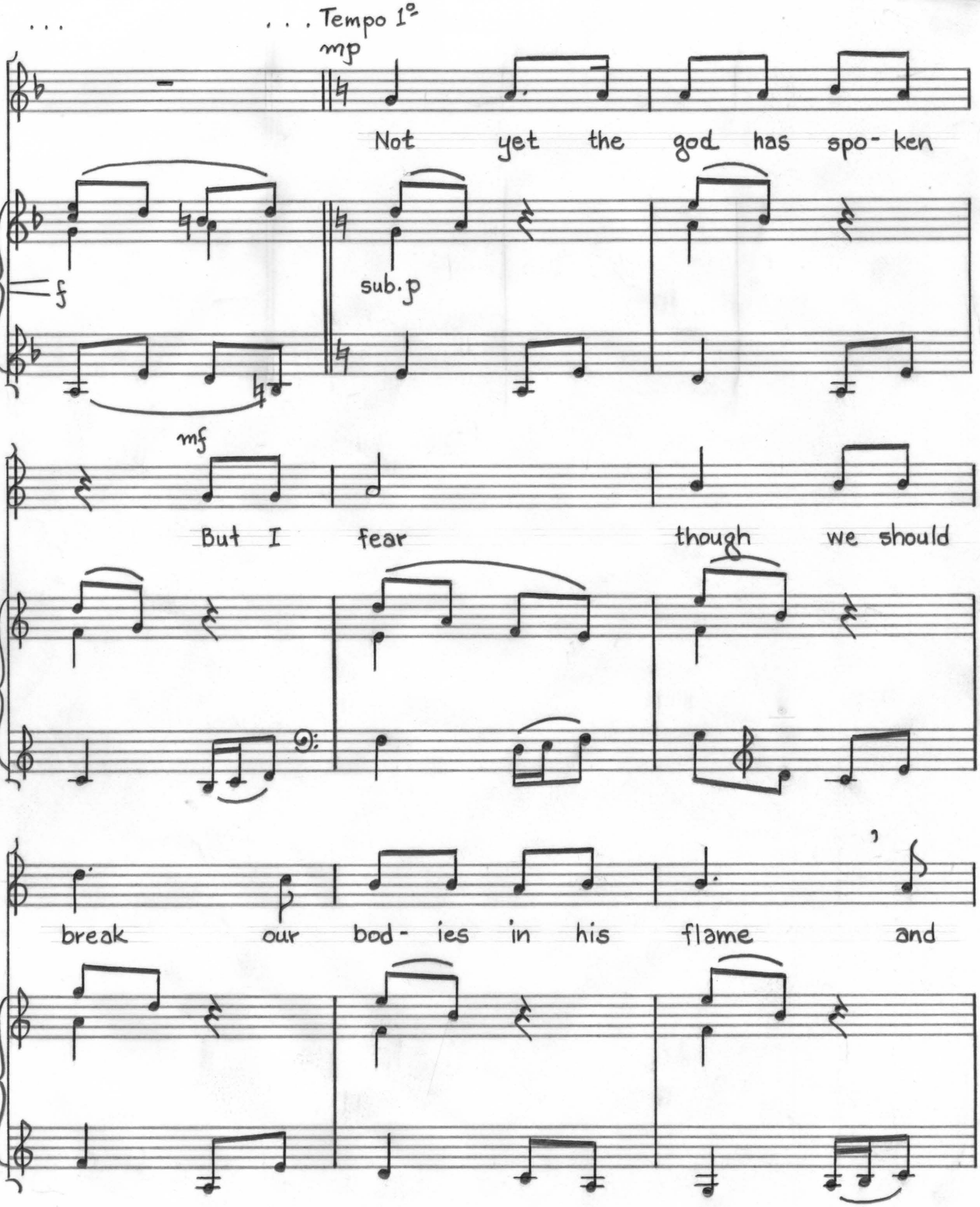
xiv

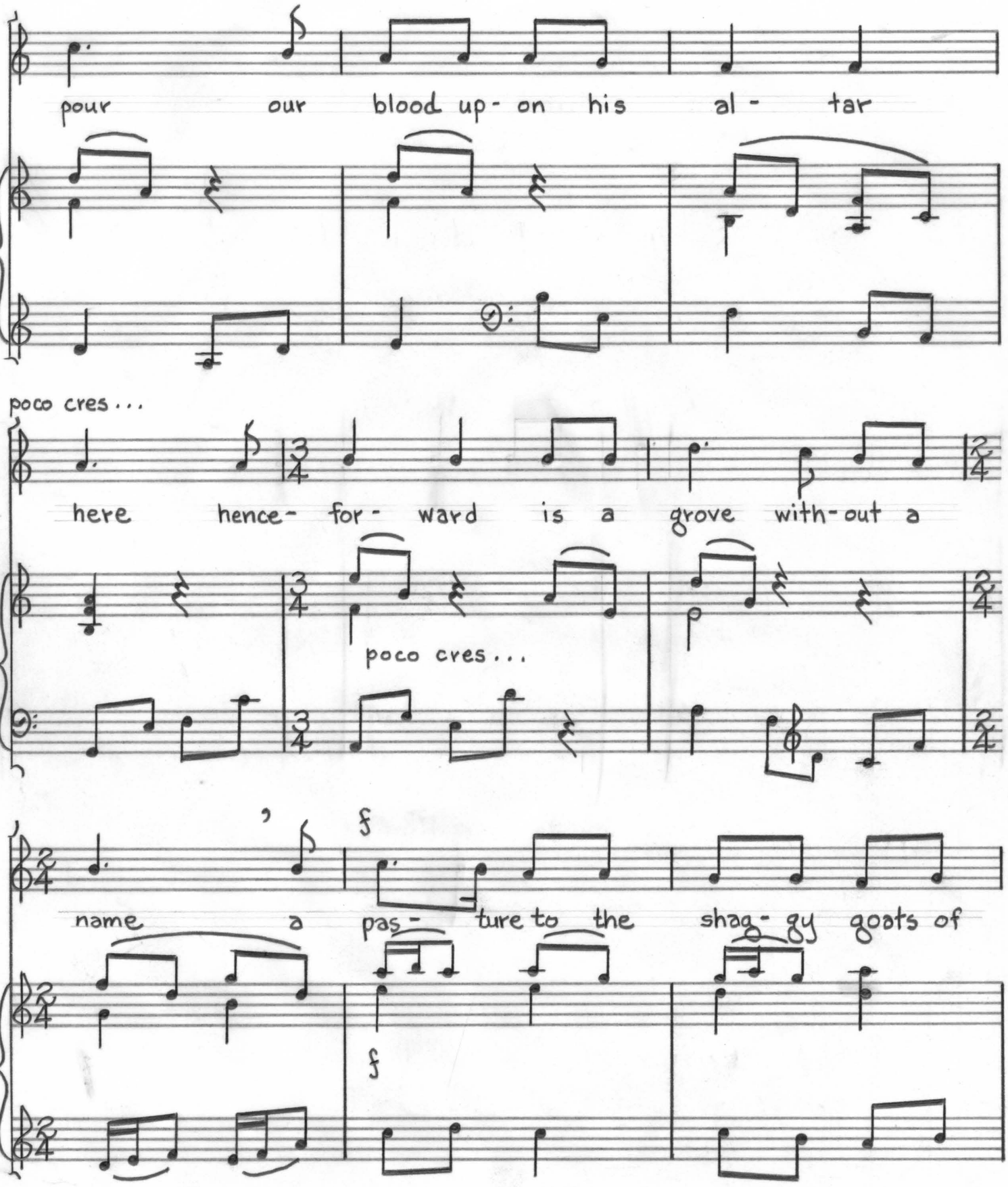


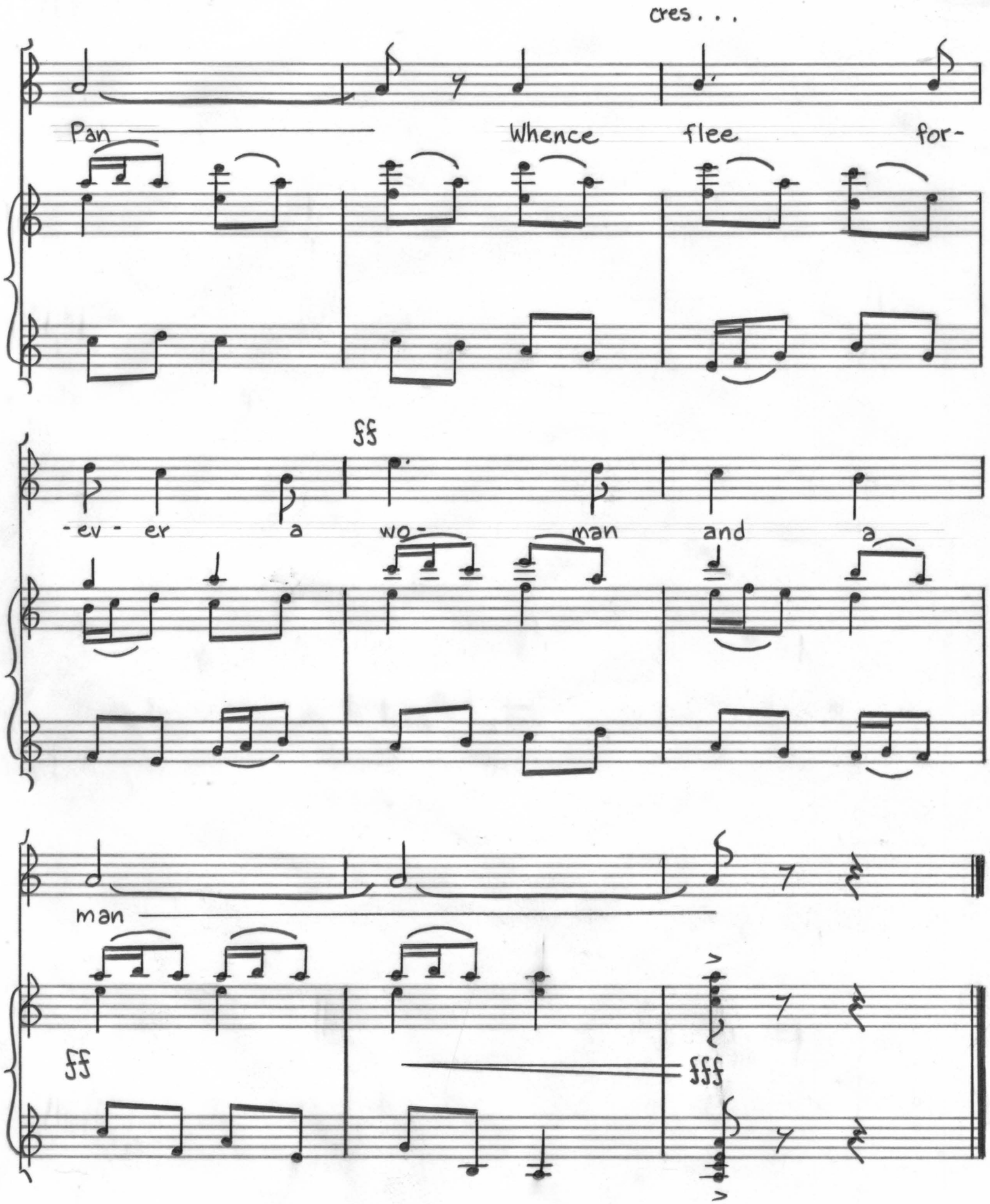

mf
drenched the al - tars of love's sa - cred grove,
shak - ing to earth green fruits im - pa -
3
-tient af-ter the launch-ing of the col-oured moths —— of


poco rit. . .
poco meno mosso
love.
mp
mp
Love's pro-per
mf
mp
myr-tle
and his moth-er's
zone
We
bound a-bout our


ir - rel - ig - ious brows And fet - tered him with
mf
mp
gar - lands of our own And spread a
mf
poco accel . . .
ban - quet in his house
mf

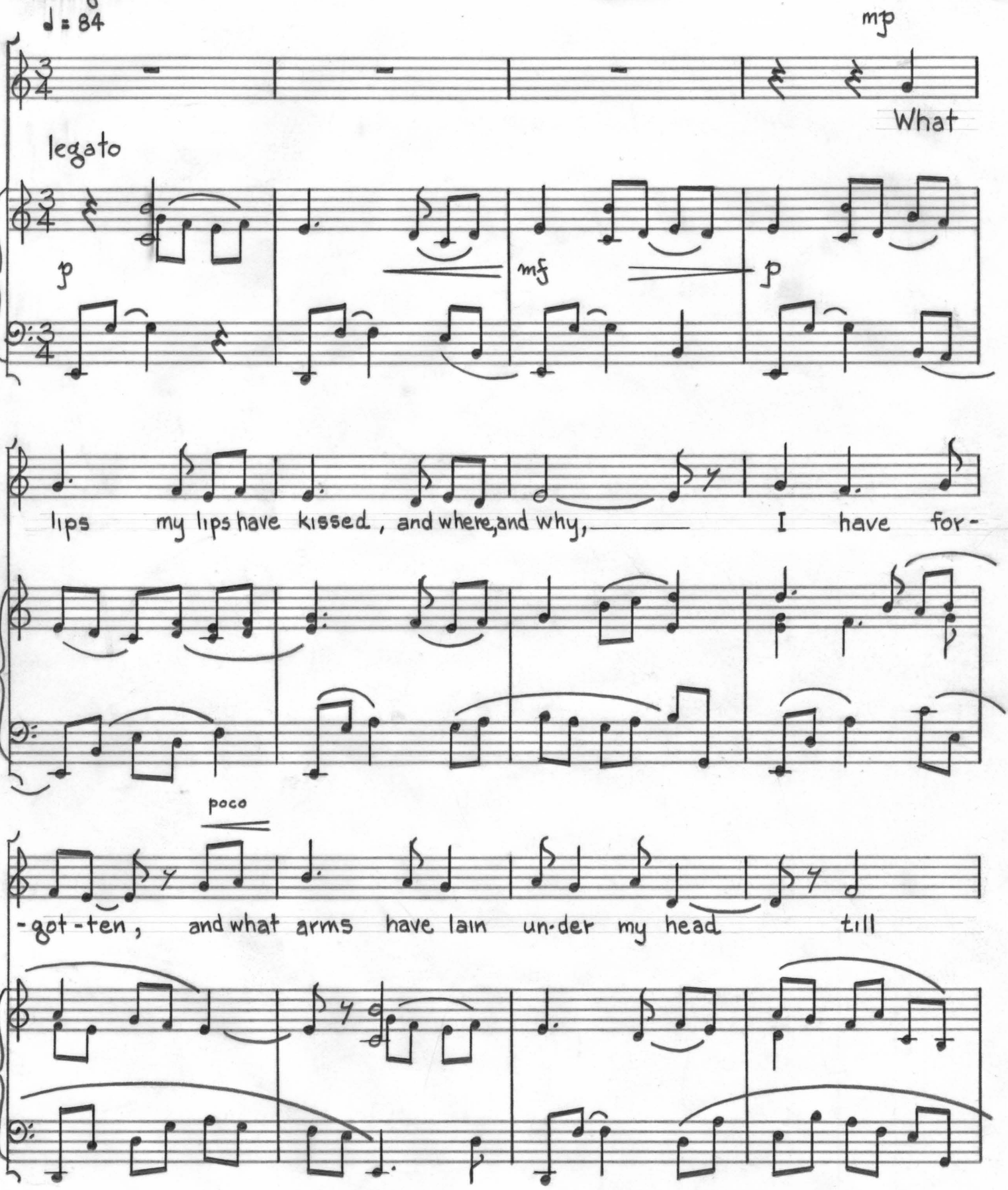

. . .
. . . Tempo 1°
mp
Not yet the god has spo- ken
f
sub. p
mf
But I fear though we should
break our bod- ies in his flame and

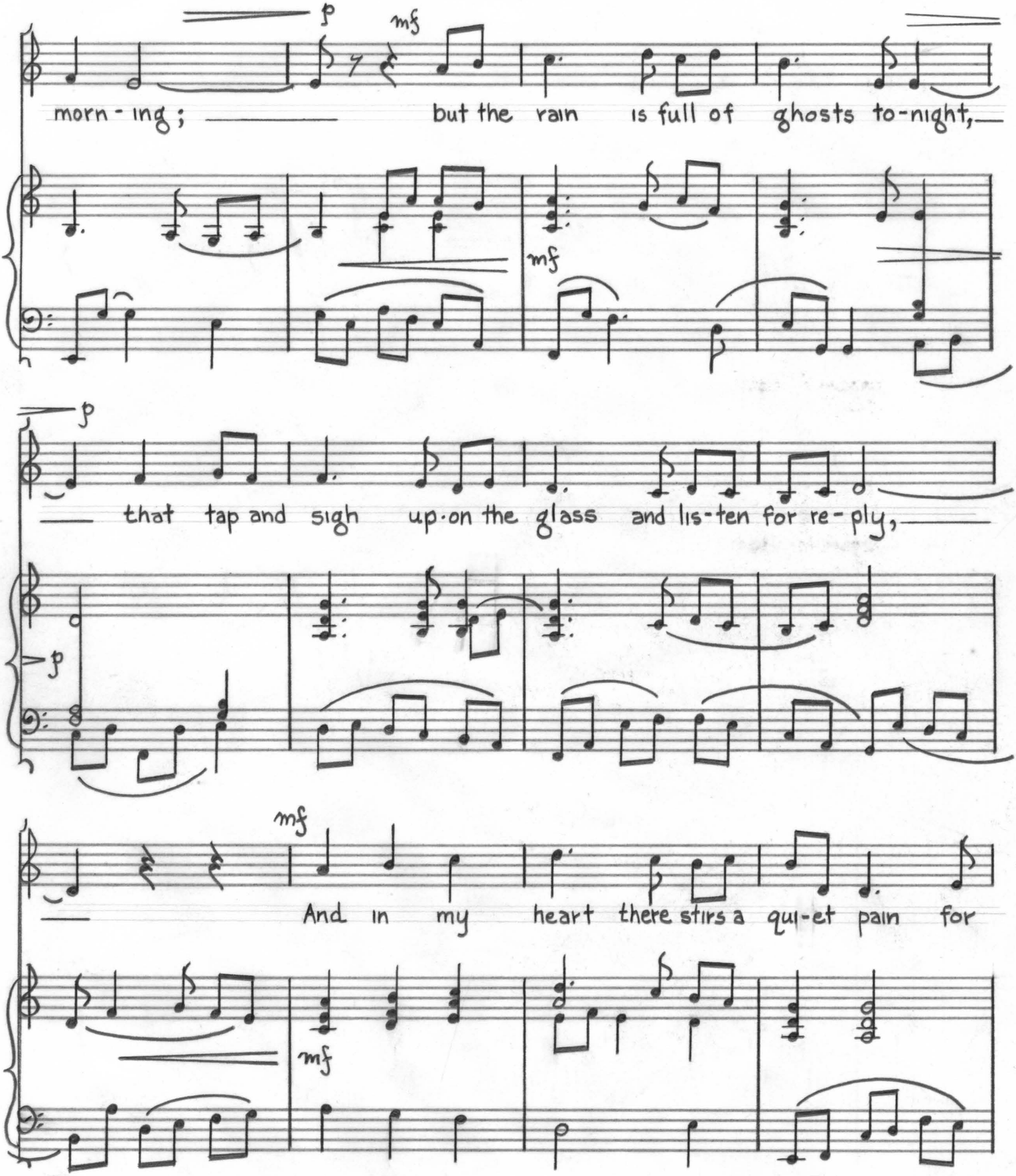

pour our blood up- on his al - tar
poco cres...
here hence- for- ward is a grove with- out a
poco cres...
name a pas- ture to the shag- gy goats of
f
f

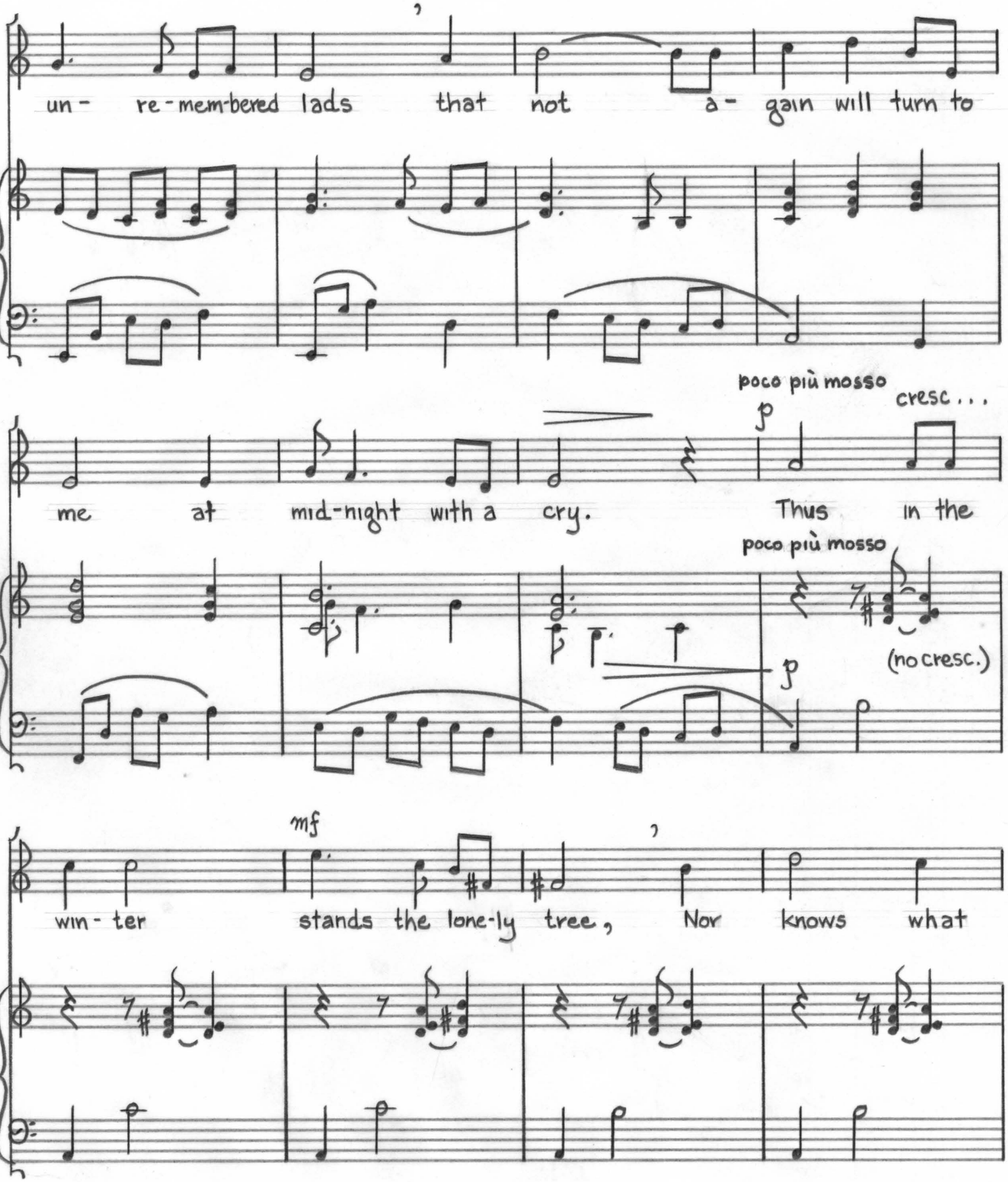

cres. . .
Pan
Whence
flee
for-
ff
-ev - er
a
wo-
man
and
a
man
ff
fff

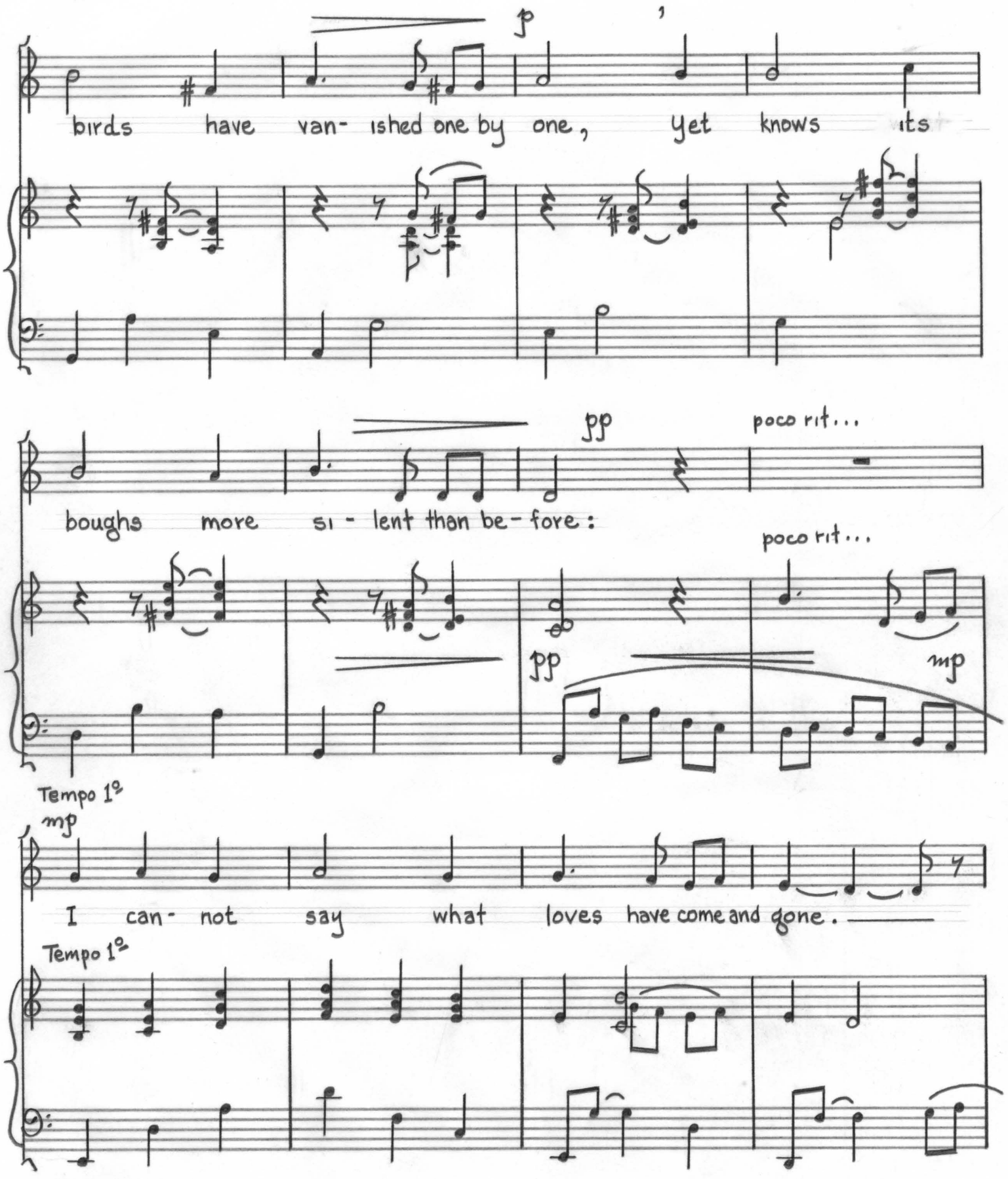
Nostalgic, without bitterness

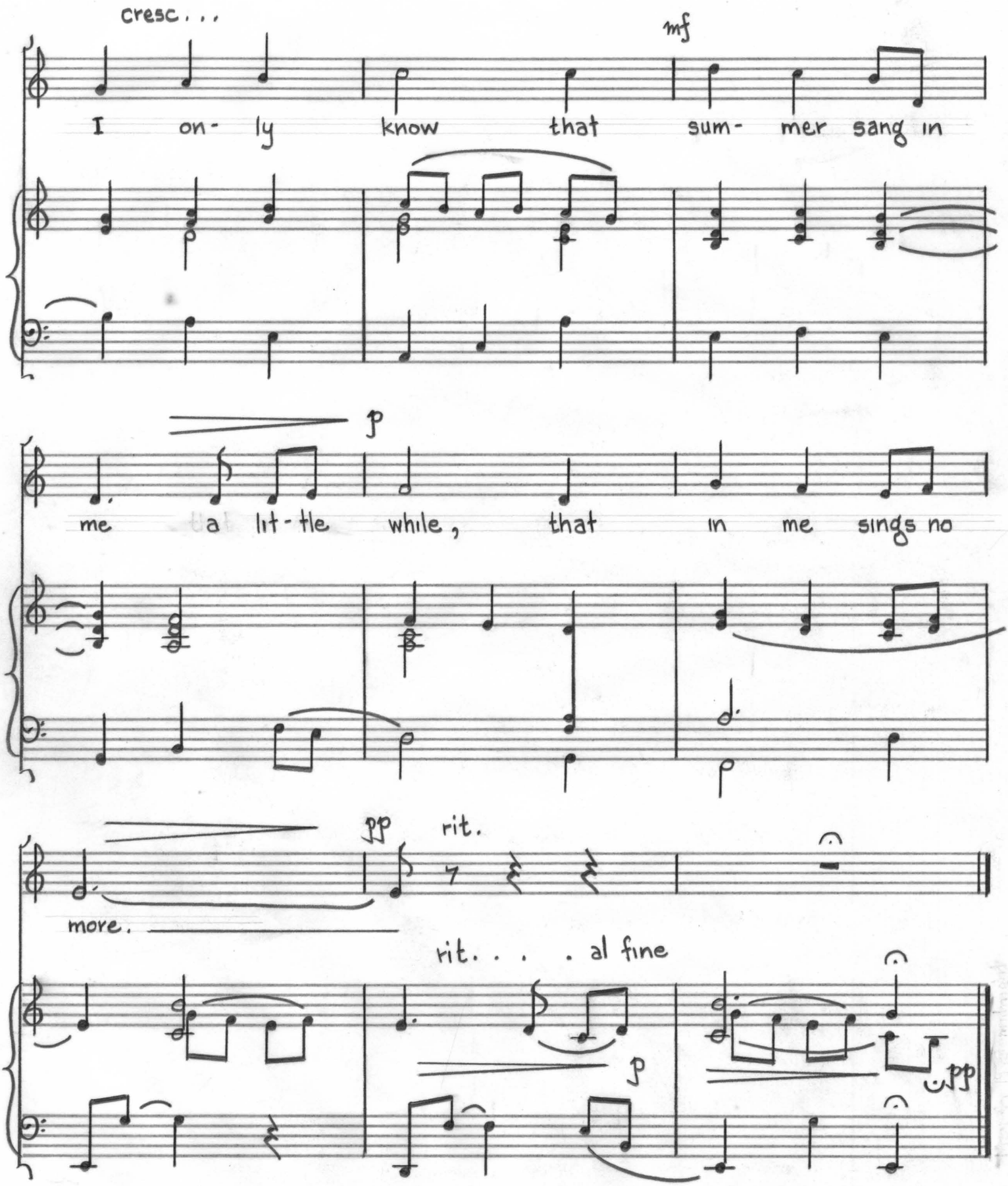
♩ = 84




p
mf
morn - ing ; but the rain is full of ghosts to-night,
mf
p
that tap and sigh up·on the glass and lis-ten for re-ply,
p
mf
And in my heart there stirs a qui-et pain for
mf

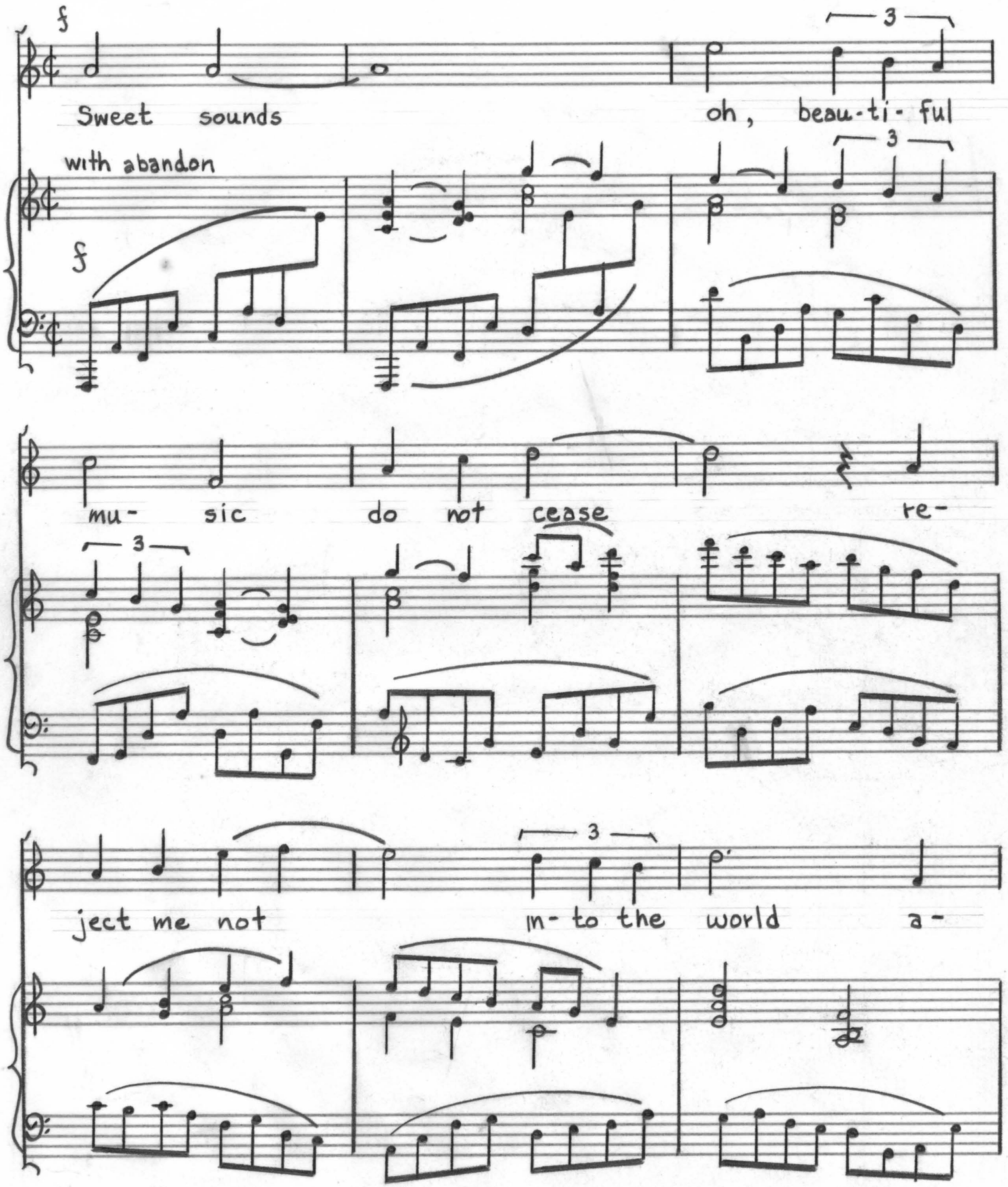

un - re-mem-bered lads that not a - gain will turn to
poco più mosso
cresc . . .
me at mid-night with a cry. Thus in the
poco più mosso
(no cresc.)
mf
win - ter stands the lone-ly tree, Nor knows what


p
birds have van- ished one by one, yet knows its
pp
poco rit...
boughs more si - lent than be- fore:
poco rit...
pp
mp
Tempo 1º
mp
I can- not say what loves have come and gone.
Tempo 1º

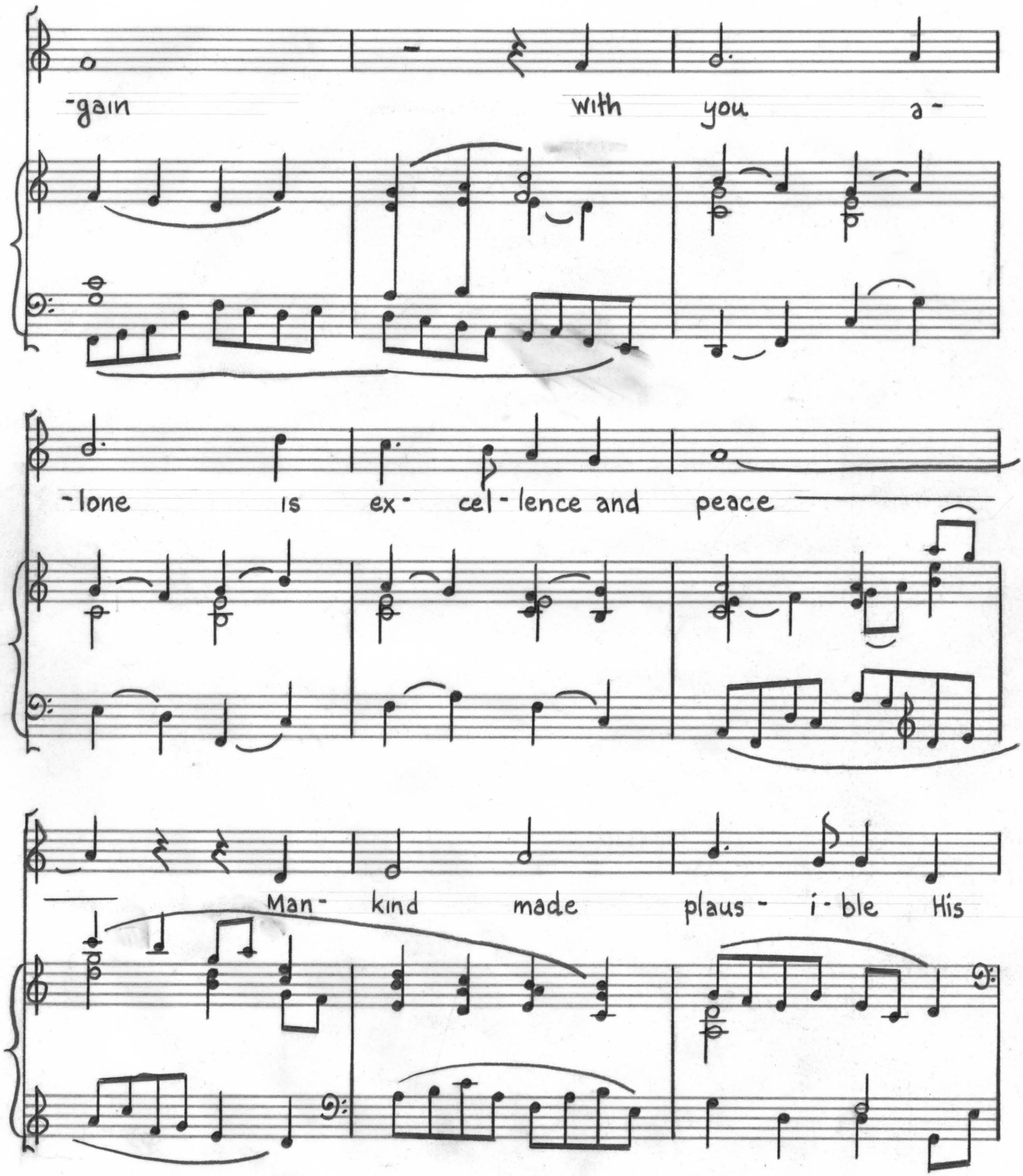

cresc. . .
mf
I on- ly know that sum- mer sang in
p
me a lit- tle while, that in me sings no
pp rit.
more.
rit. . . . al fine
p
pp

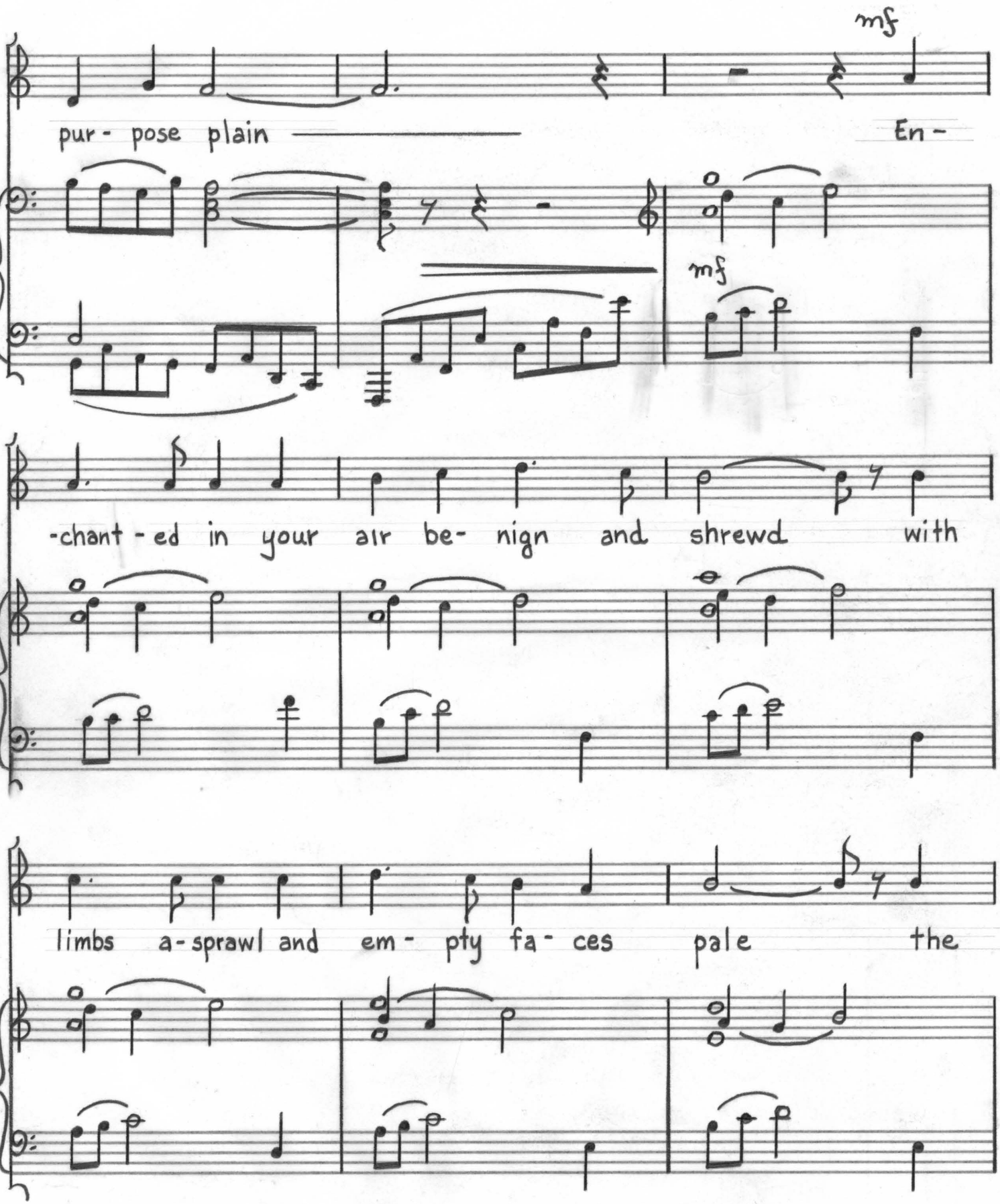
26.

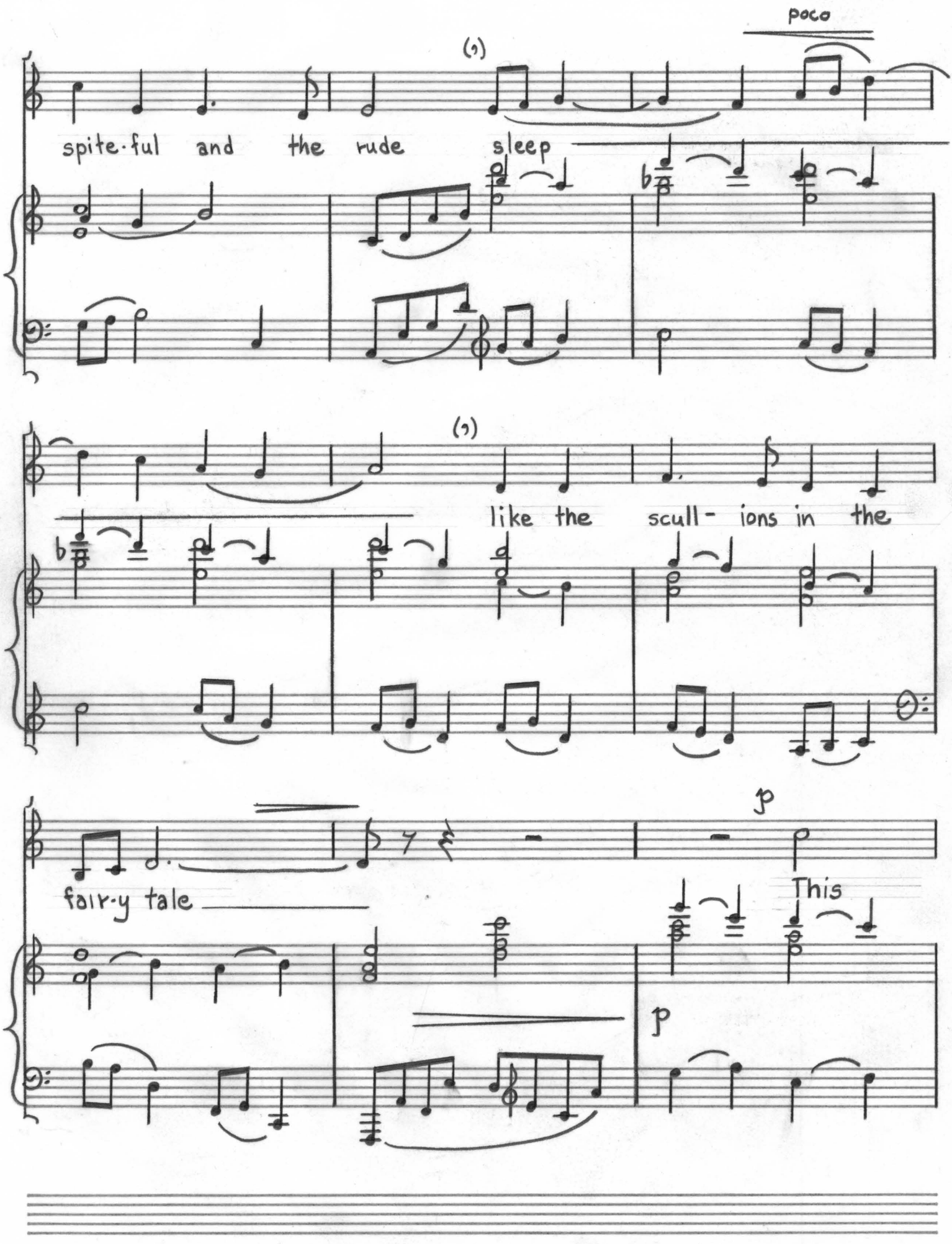
Exuberant ♩=96

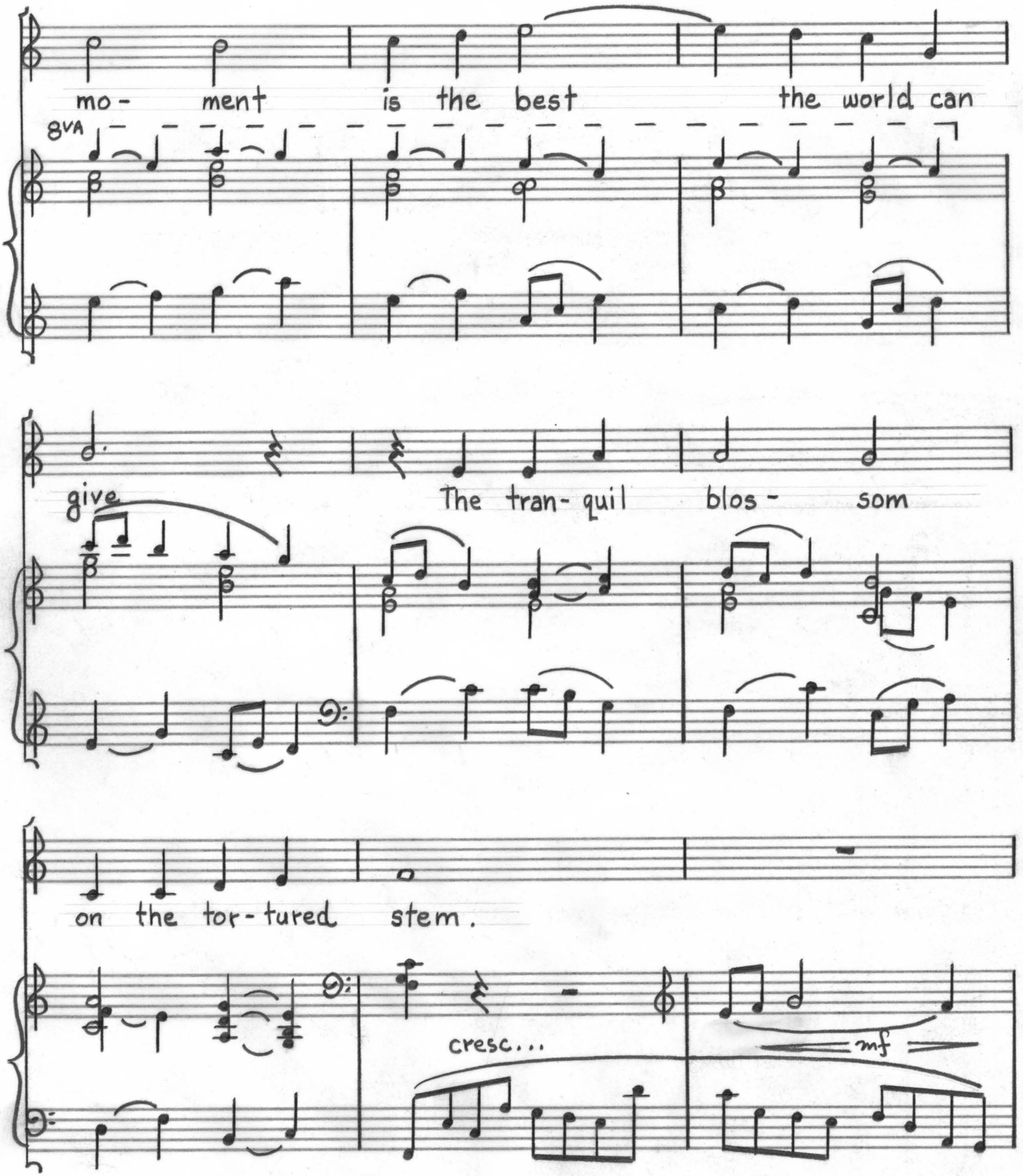


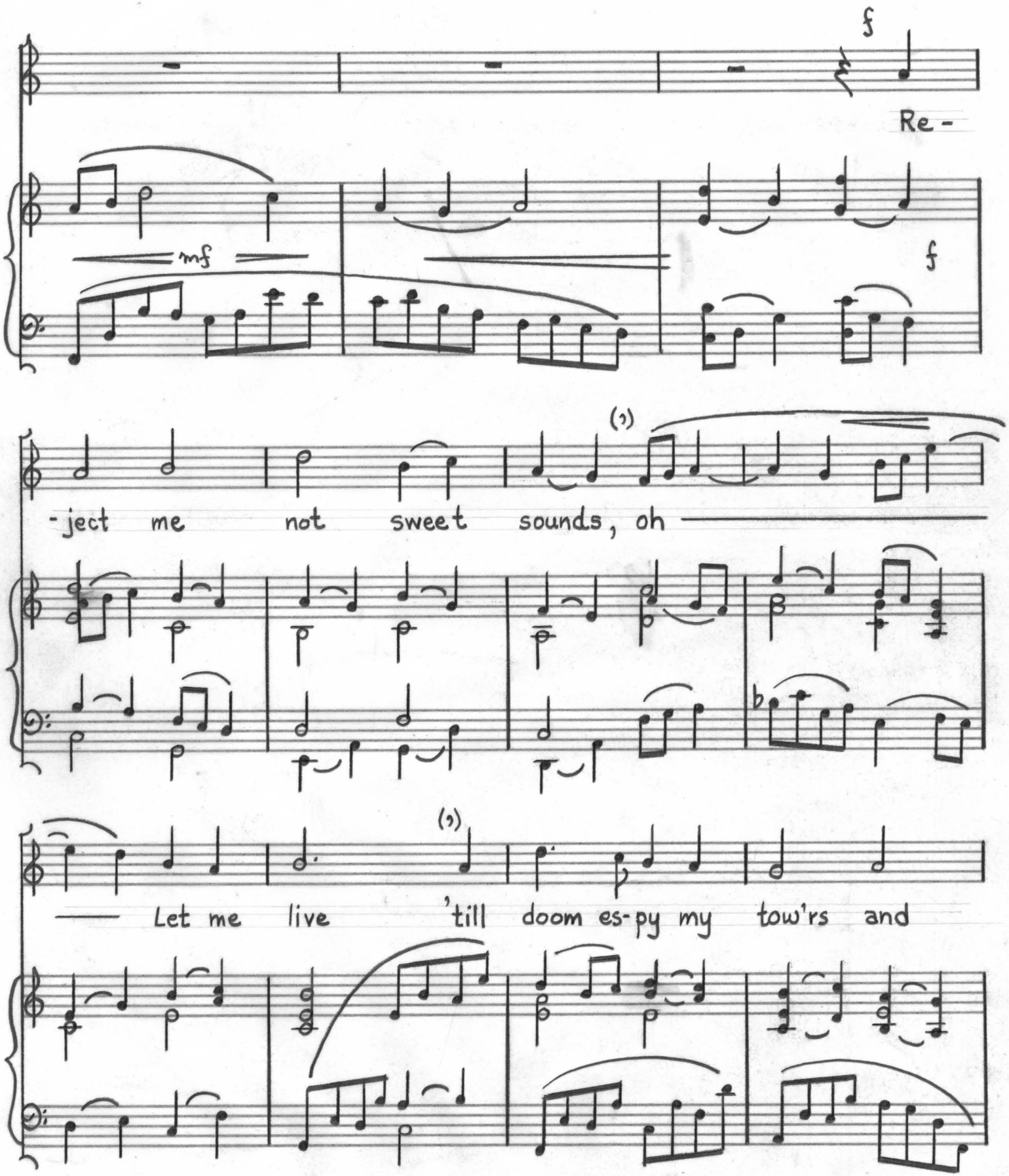
KING BRAND
1595 B'WAY, N. Y.

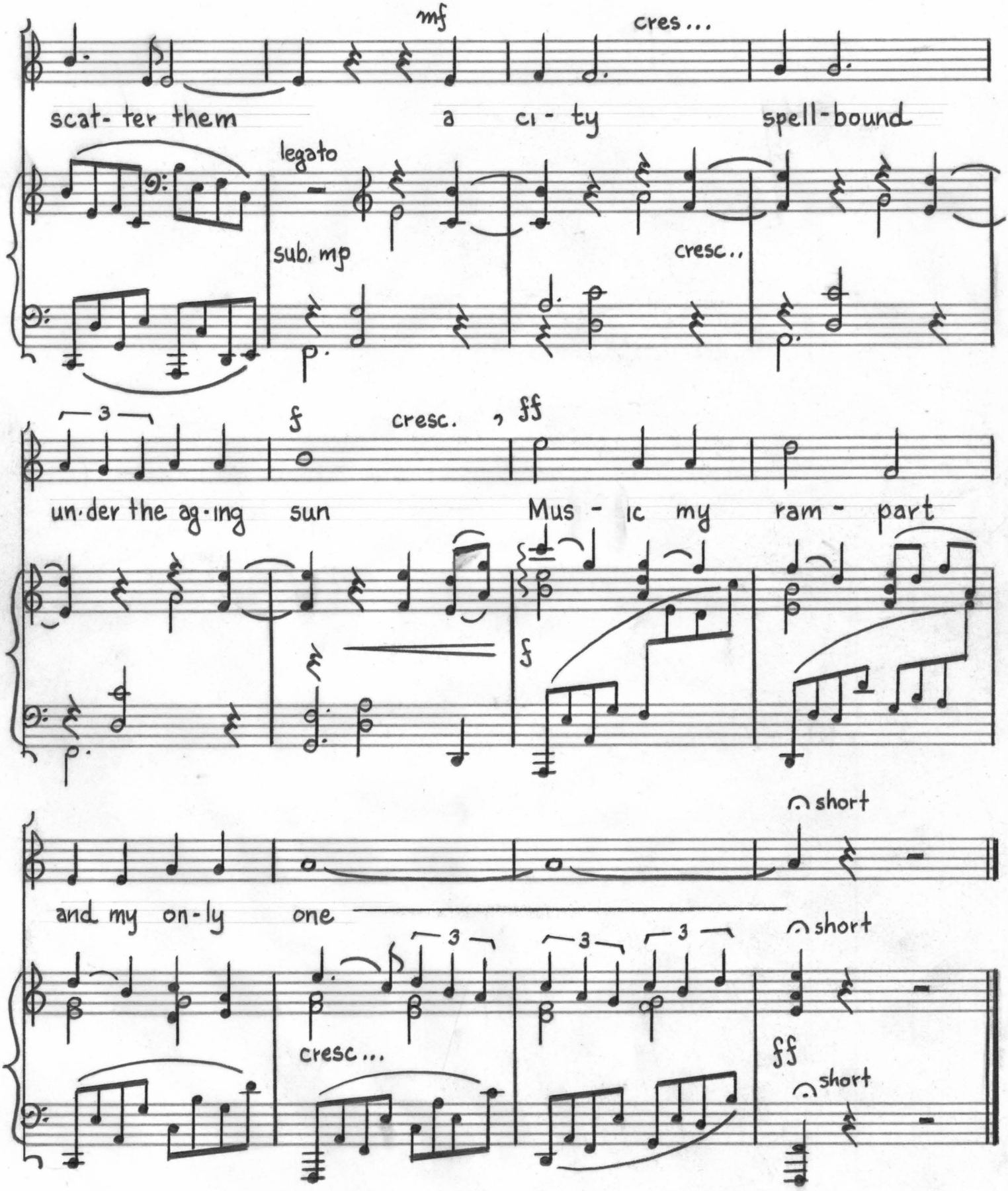

-gain with you a-
-lone is ex- cel-lence and peace
Man- kind made plaus- i-ble His


mf
pur- pose plain
En-
mf
-chant- ed in your air be- nign and shrewd with
limbs a- sprawl and em- pty fa- ces pale the


poco
spite-ful and the rude sleep
like the scull-ions in the
fair-y tale
This
p
p


mo- ment is the best the world can
8va
give The tran- quil blos- som
on the tor- tured stem.
cresc...
mf


f
Re -
mf
f
-ject me not sweet sounds, oh
Let me live 'till doom es-py my tow'rs and


mf
cres...
scat- ter them a ci - ty spell-bound
legato
sub. mp
cresc..
3
f
cresc.
ff
un·der the ag·ing sun
Mus - ic my ram - part
f
short
and my on-ly one
short
3
3
3
cresc...
ff
short