Vocal Score

Still The Sirens

Danyal Dhondy

Still The Sirens

for SATB choir, soprano solo, baritone solo, *and*:

2 trumpets, 4 horns, 2 bassoons, timpani, tubular bell in C#, harp, organ, strings
or 2 horns, timpani, tubular bell in C#, harp, organ, strings
or organ (plus optional tubular bell in C#)

texts by
A. E. Housman
Adelaide Crapsey
Dennis Brutus
Stephen Crane
John Donne
Emily Dickinson
Maya Angelou

Set to music by
Danyal Dhondy

" Still the Sirens"
Music by Danyal Dhondy, Text by Maya Angelou and Dennis Brutus (NA) Copyright © 2017
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First performed by the Elysian Singers, conducted by Sam Laughton, on 24/2/2018.

Second edition (August 2018)

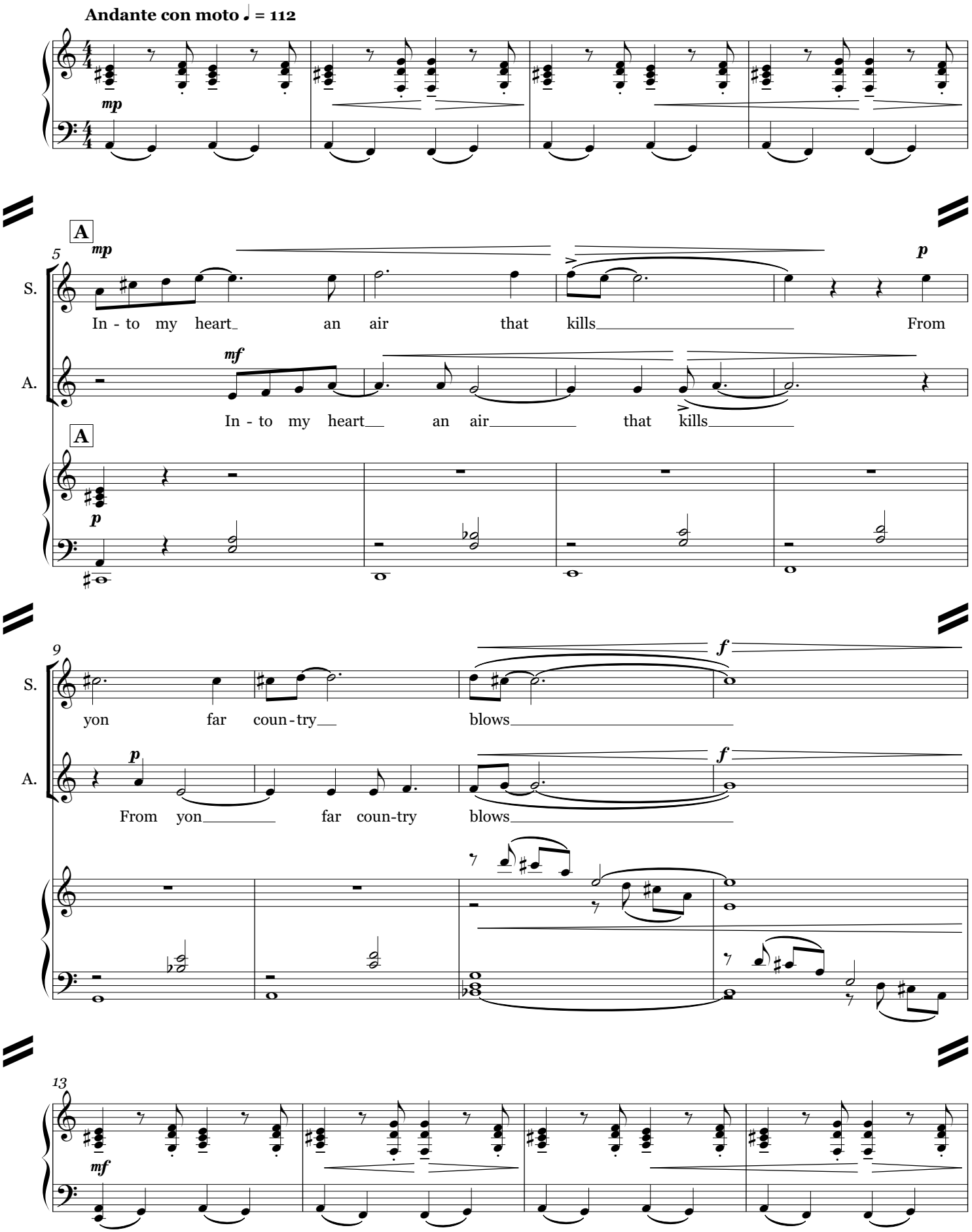
Vocal Score

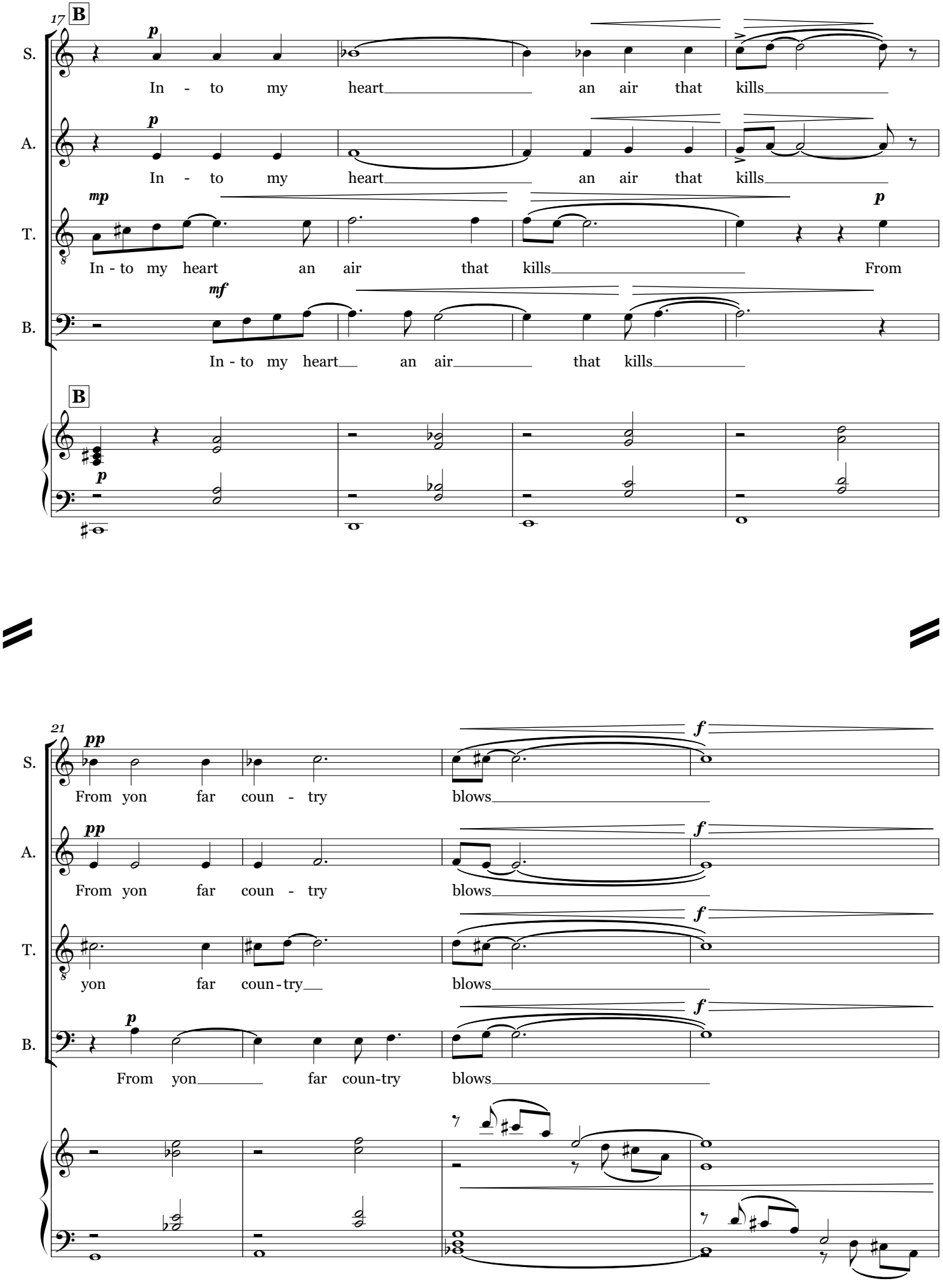
Still The Sirens

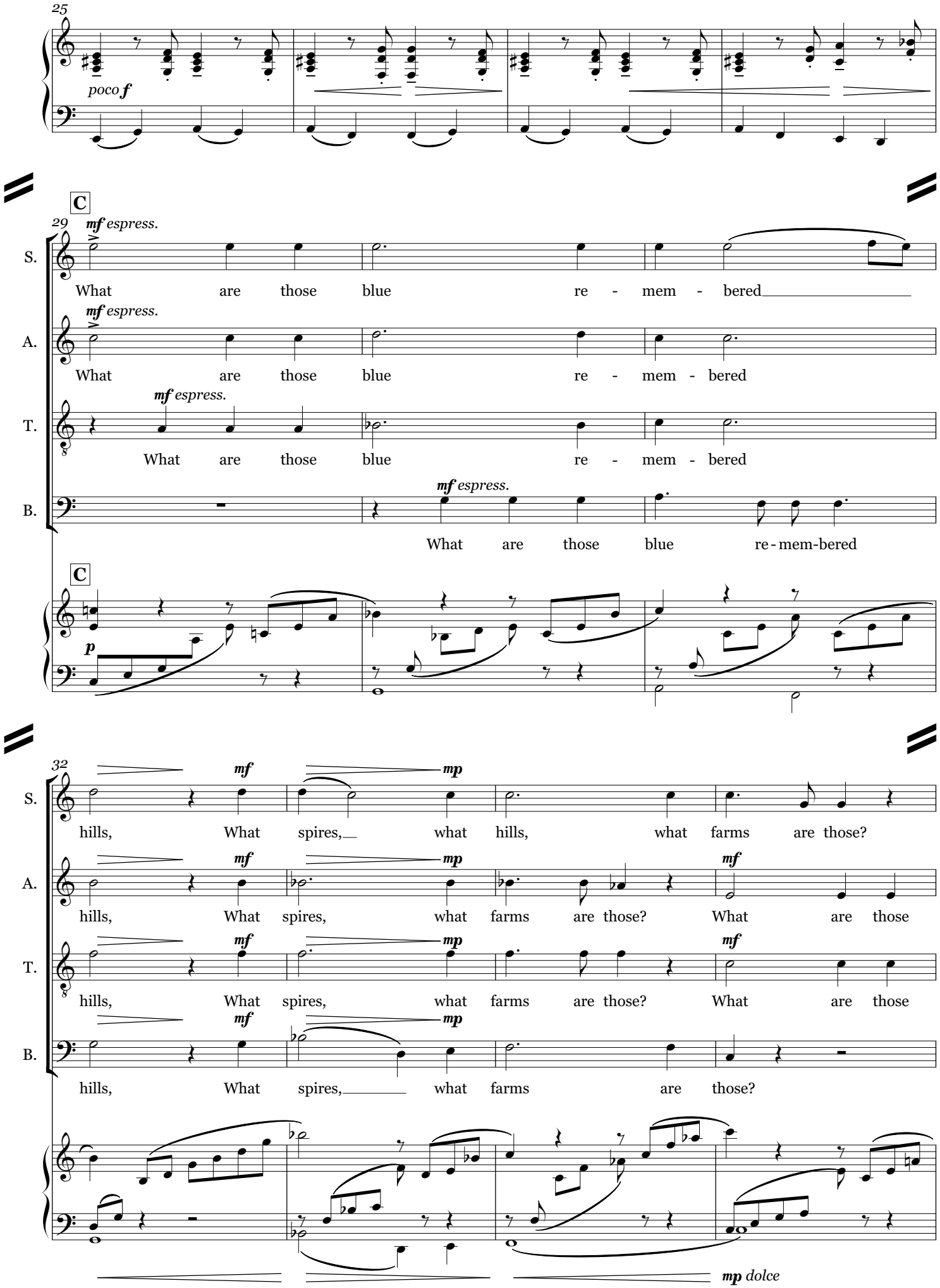
1. Into My Heart

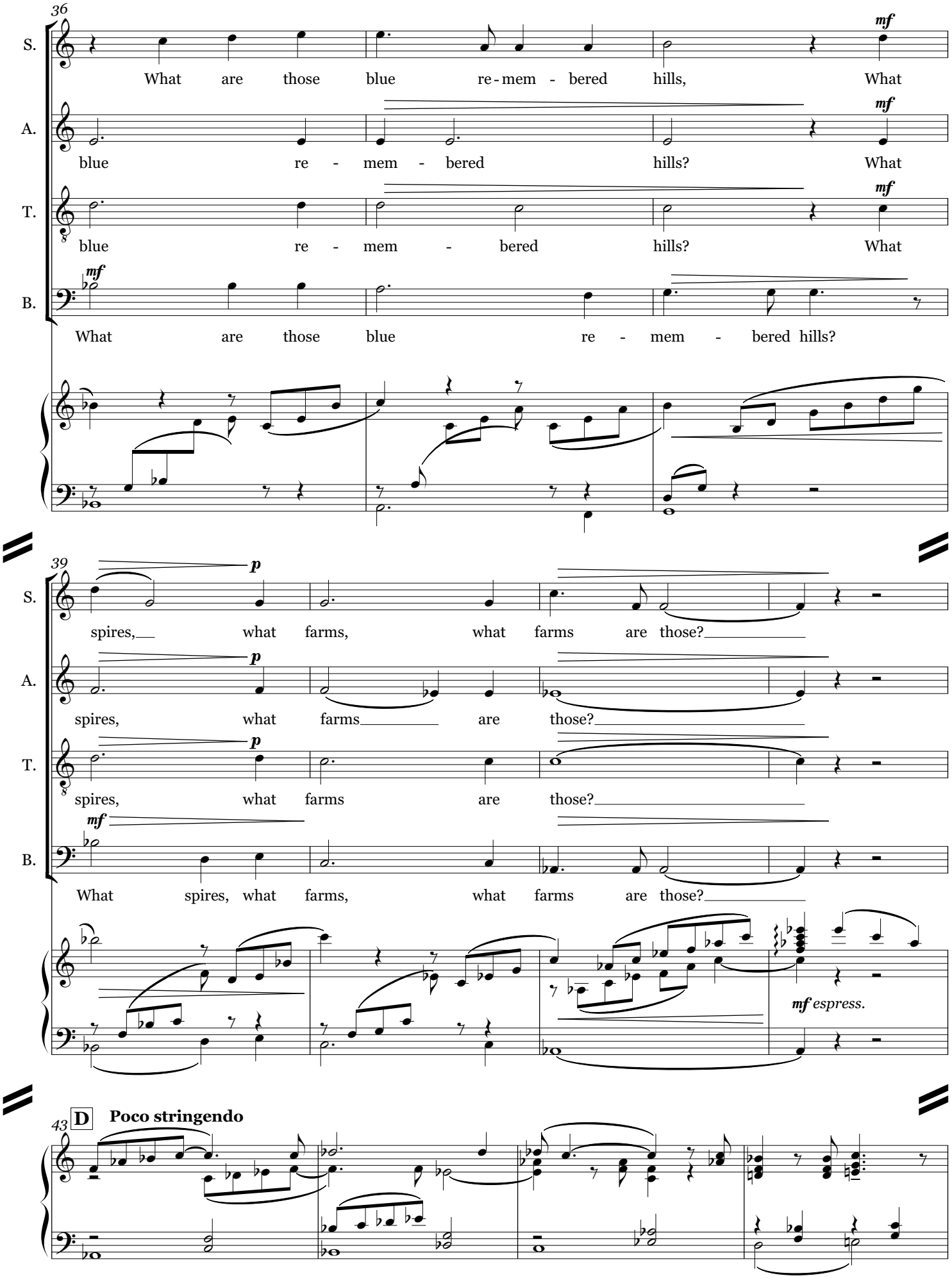
Danyal Dhondy

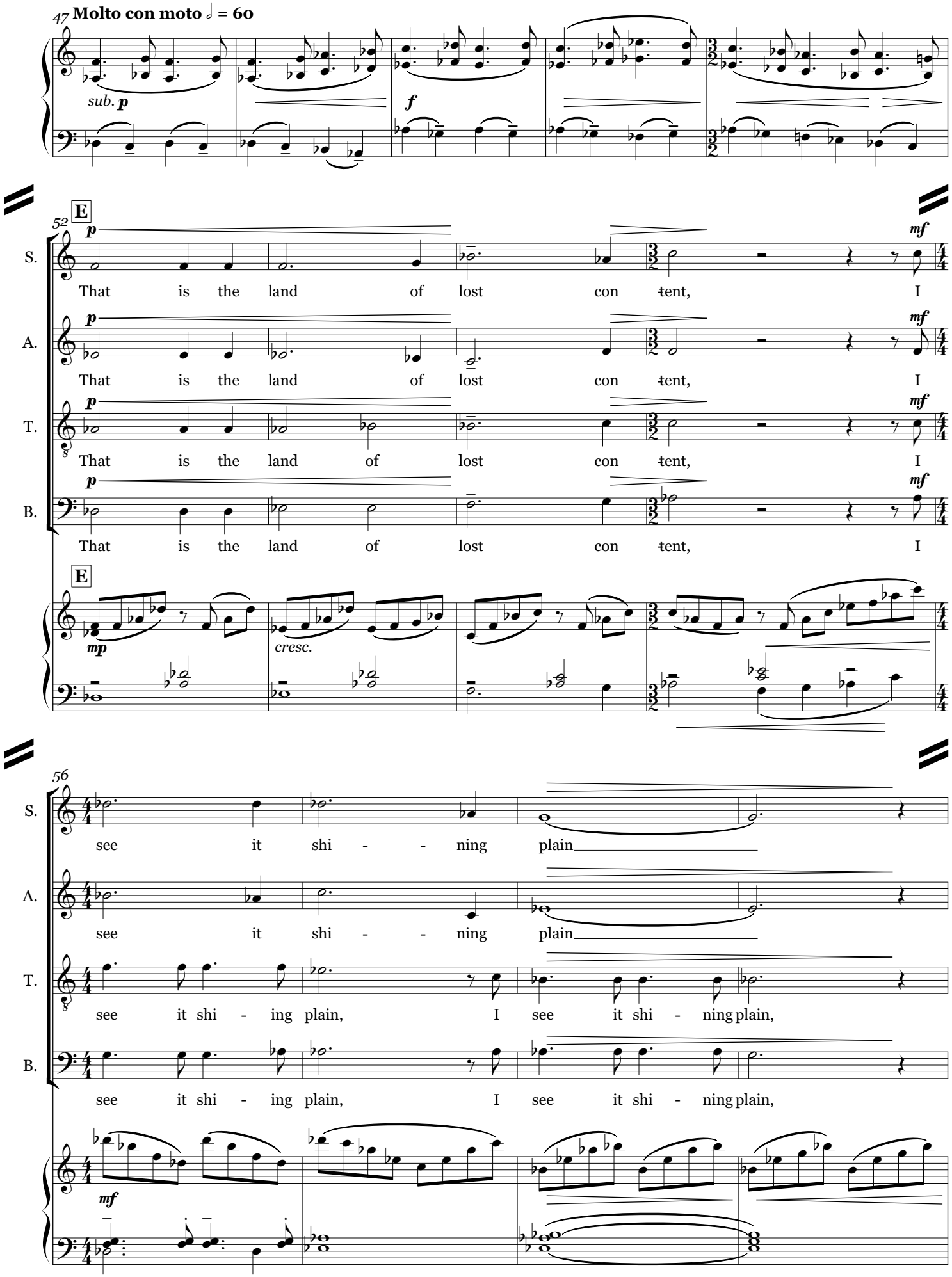
A.E. Housman

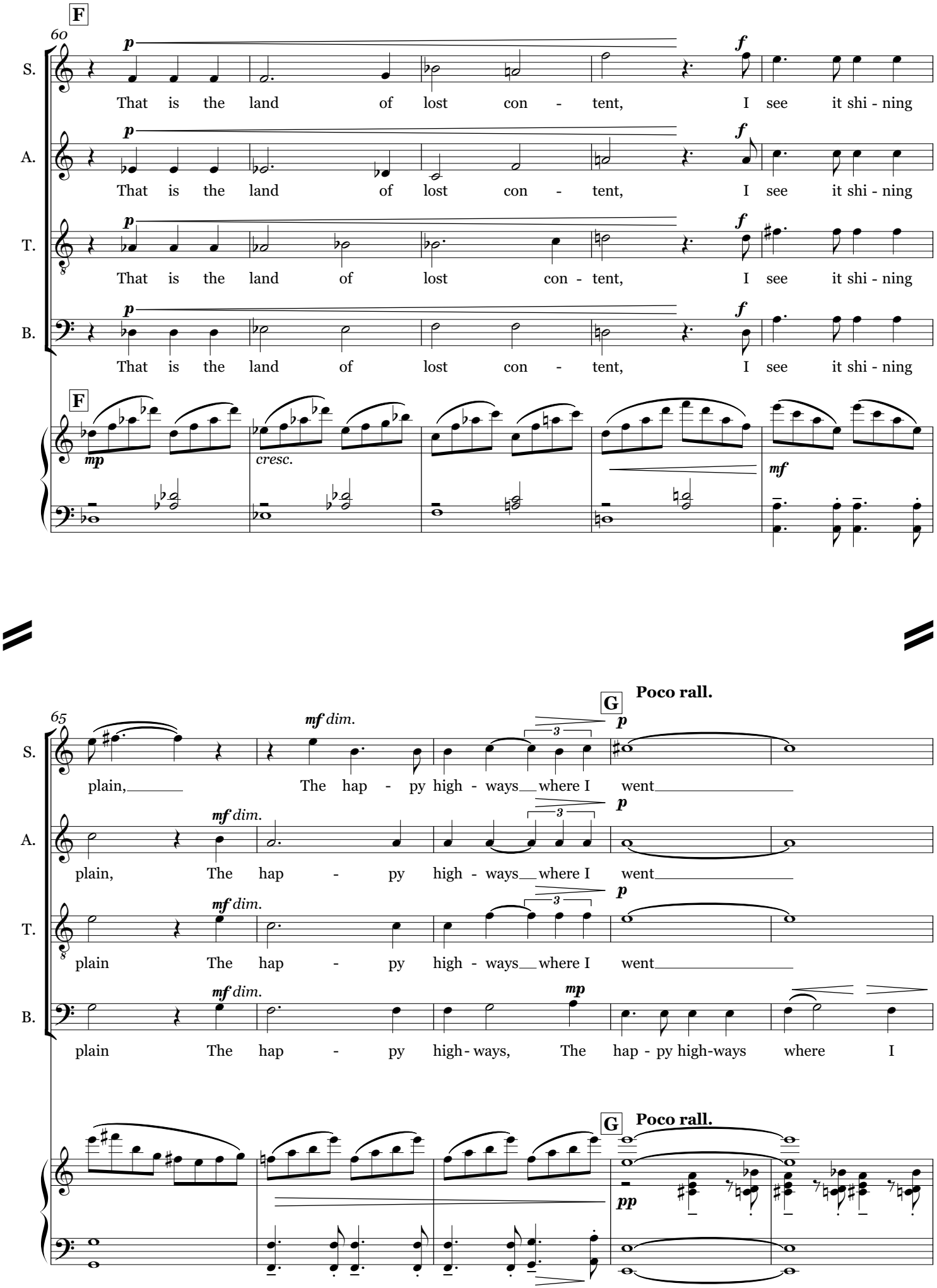


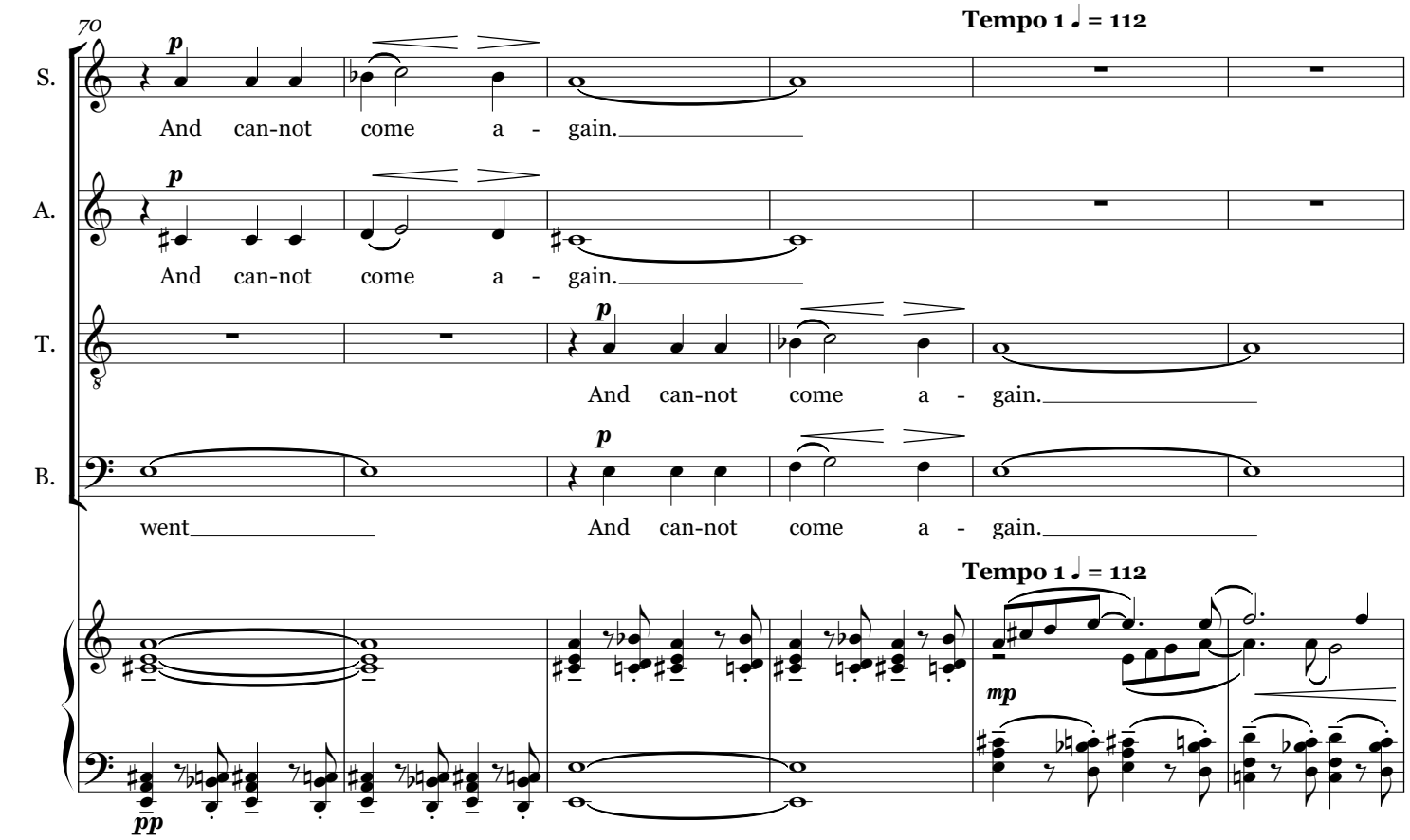

17
B
S.
A.
T.
B.
p
mp
mf
In - to my heart an air that kills
In - to my heart an air that kills
In - to my heart an air that kills
From
B
21
pp
f
From yon far coun - try blows
From yon far coun - try blows
yon far coun - try blows
From yon far coun-try blows

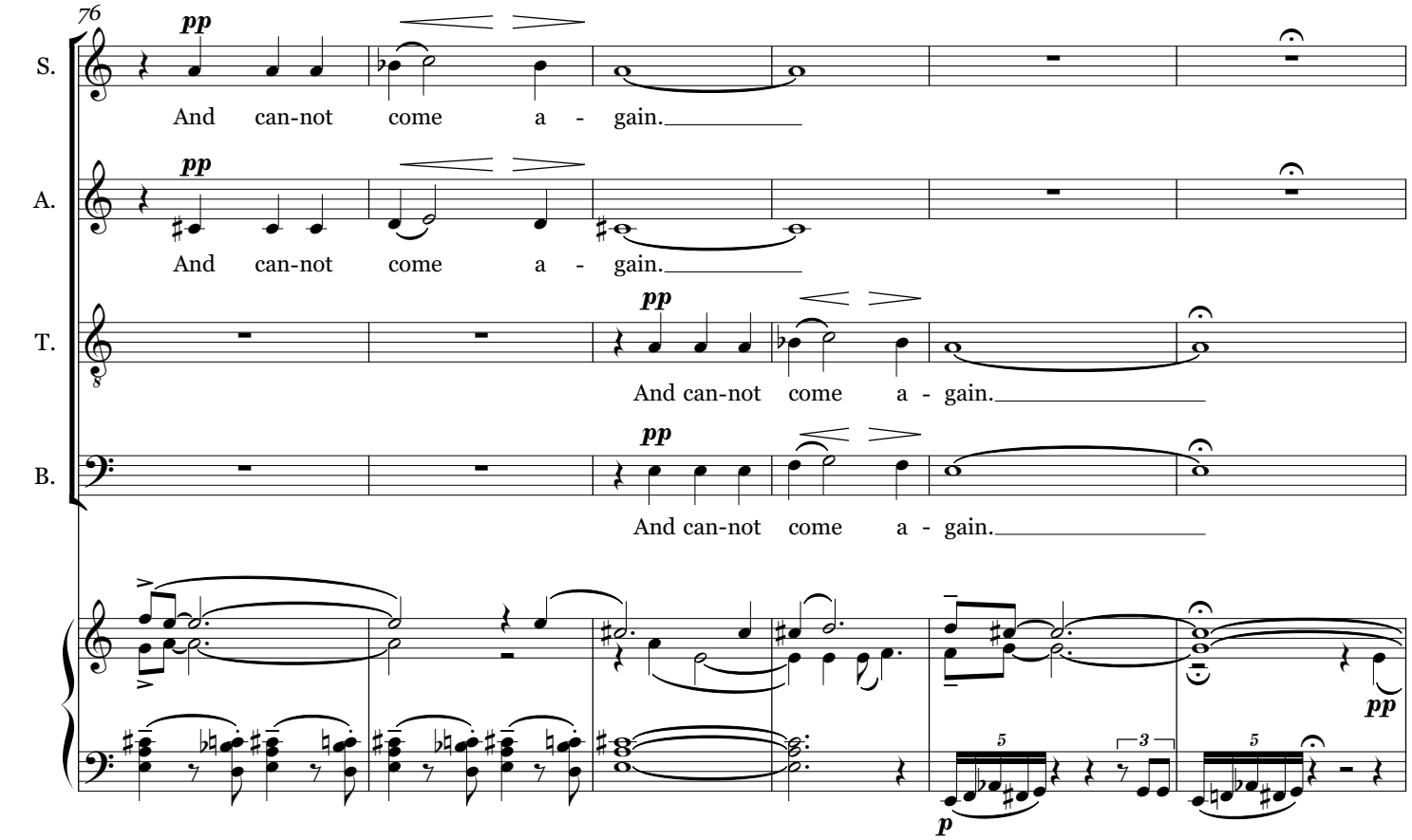

25
poco f
C
29
mf espress.
S.
What are those blue re - mem - bered
A.
What are those blue re - mem - bered
T.
What are those blue re - mem - bered
B.
What are those blue re-mem-bered
p
32
mf
mp
hills, What spires, what hills, what farms are those?
hills, What spires, what farms are those? What are those
hills, What spires, what farms are those? What are those
hills, What spires, what farms are those?
mp dolce

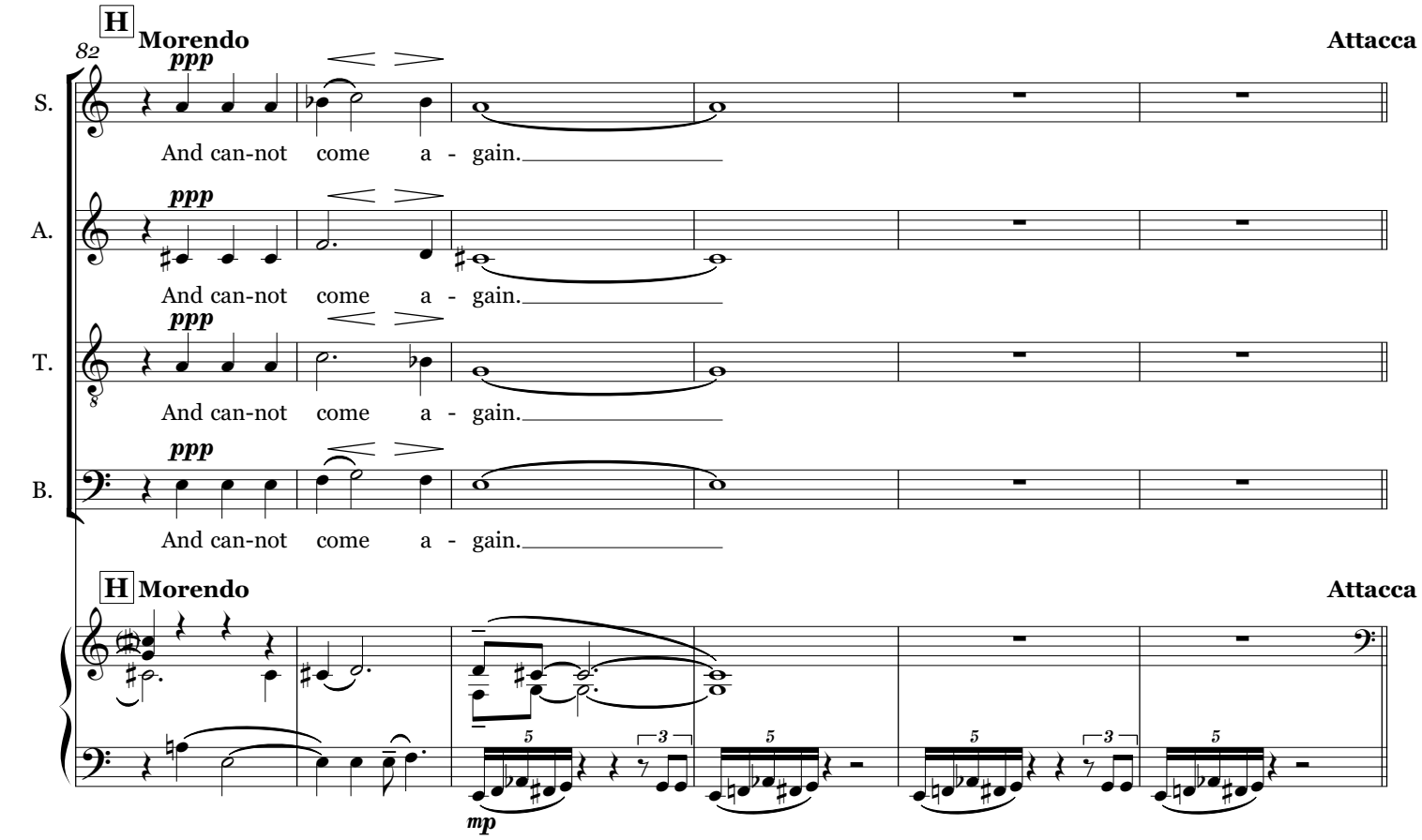

36
S.
What are those blue re - mem - bered hills, What
mf
A.
blue re - mem - bered hills? What
mf
T.
blue re - mem - bered hills? What
mf
B.
What are those blue re - mem - bered hills?
39
p
S.
spires, what farms, what farms are those?
p
A.
spires, what farms are those?
p
T.
spires, what farms are those?
mf
B.
What spires, what farms, what farms are those?
mf espress.
43
D
Poco stringendo


47
Molto con moto ♩ = 60
sub. p
f
52
E
p
mf
S.
That is the land of lost con tent, I
A.
That is the land of lost con tent, I
T.
That is the land of lost con tent, I
B.
That is the land of lost con tent, I
E
mp
cresc.
56
S.
see it shi - - ning plain
A.
see it shi - - ning plain
T.
see it shi - ing plain, I see it shi - ning plain,
B.
see it shi - ing plain, I see it shi - ning plain,
mf


F
60
S.
That is the land of lost con - tent, I see it shi - ning
A.
That is the land of lost con - tent, I see it shi - ning
T.
That is the land of lost con - tent, I see it shi - ning
B.
That is the land of lost con - tent, I see it shi - ning
F
mp
cresc.
mf
65
G
Poco rall.
mf dim.
plain, The hap - py high - ways where I went
plain, The hap - py high - ways where I went
plain The hap - py high - ways where I went
plain The hap - py high - ways, The hap - py high-ways where I
G
Poco rall.
pp

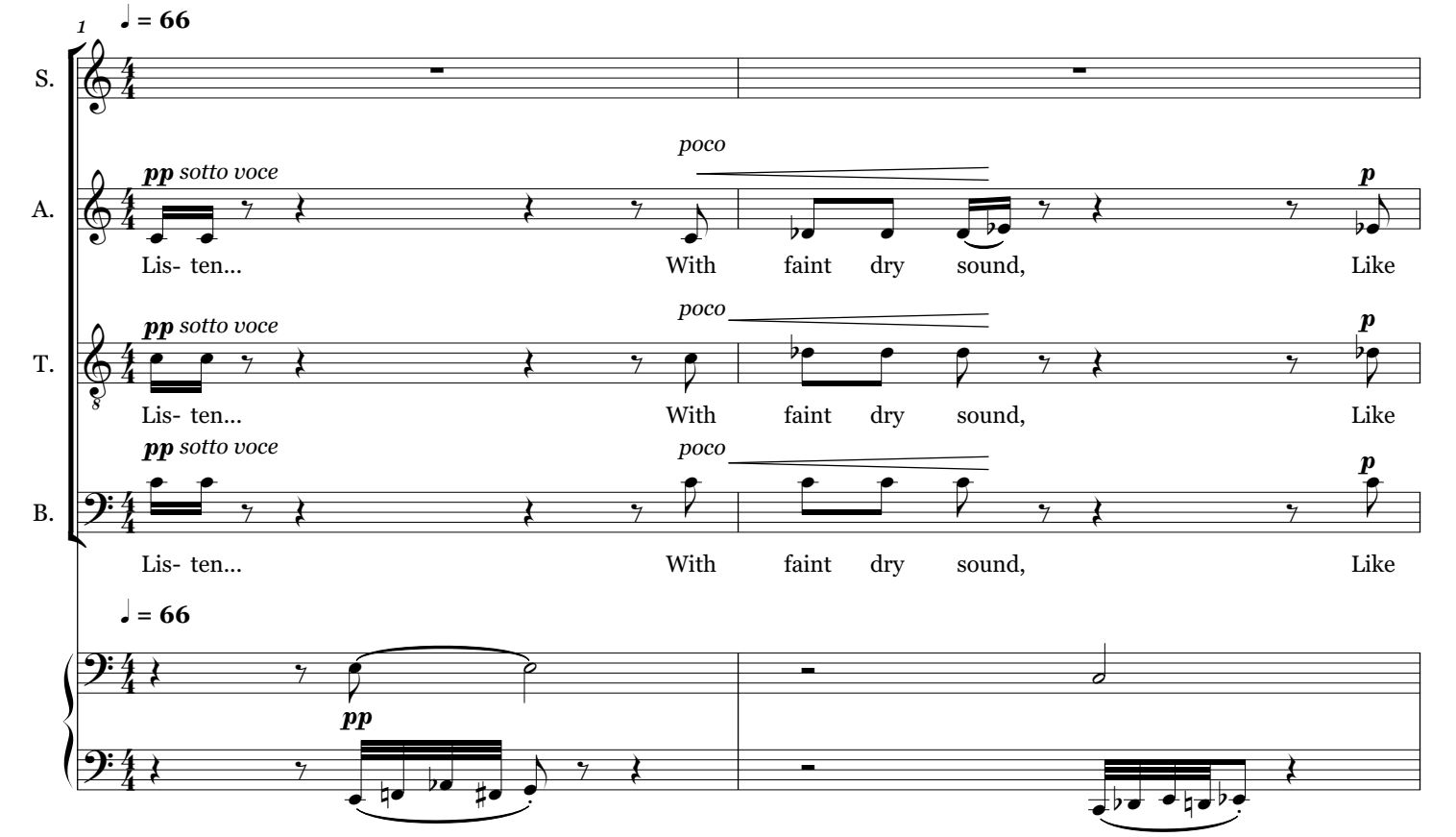

70
Tempo 1 ♩. = 112
S.
A.
T.
B.
p
And can-not come a - gain.
went
And can-not come a - gain.
Tempo 1 ♩. = 112
mp
pp

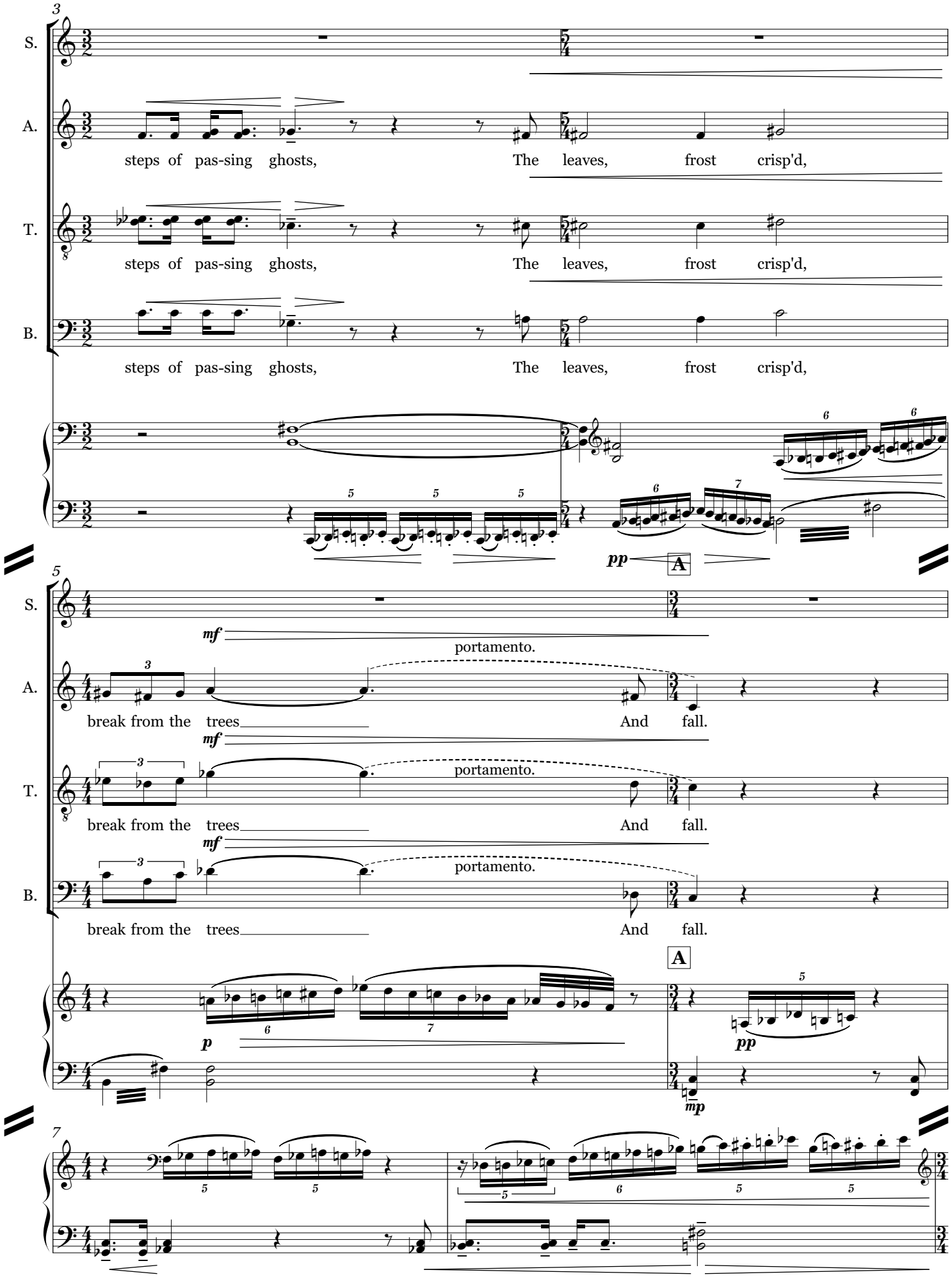

76
S.
A.
T.
B.
pp
And can-not come a - gain.
p

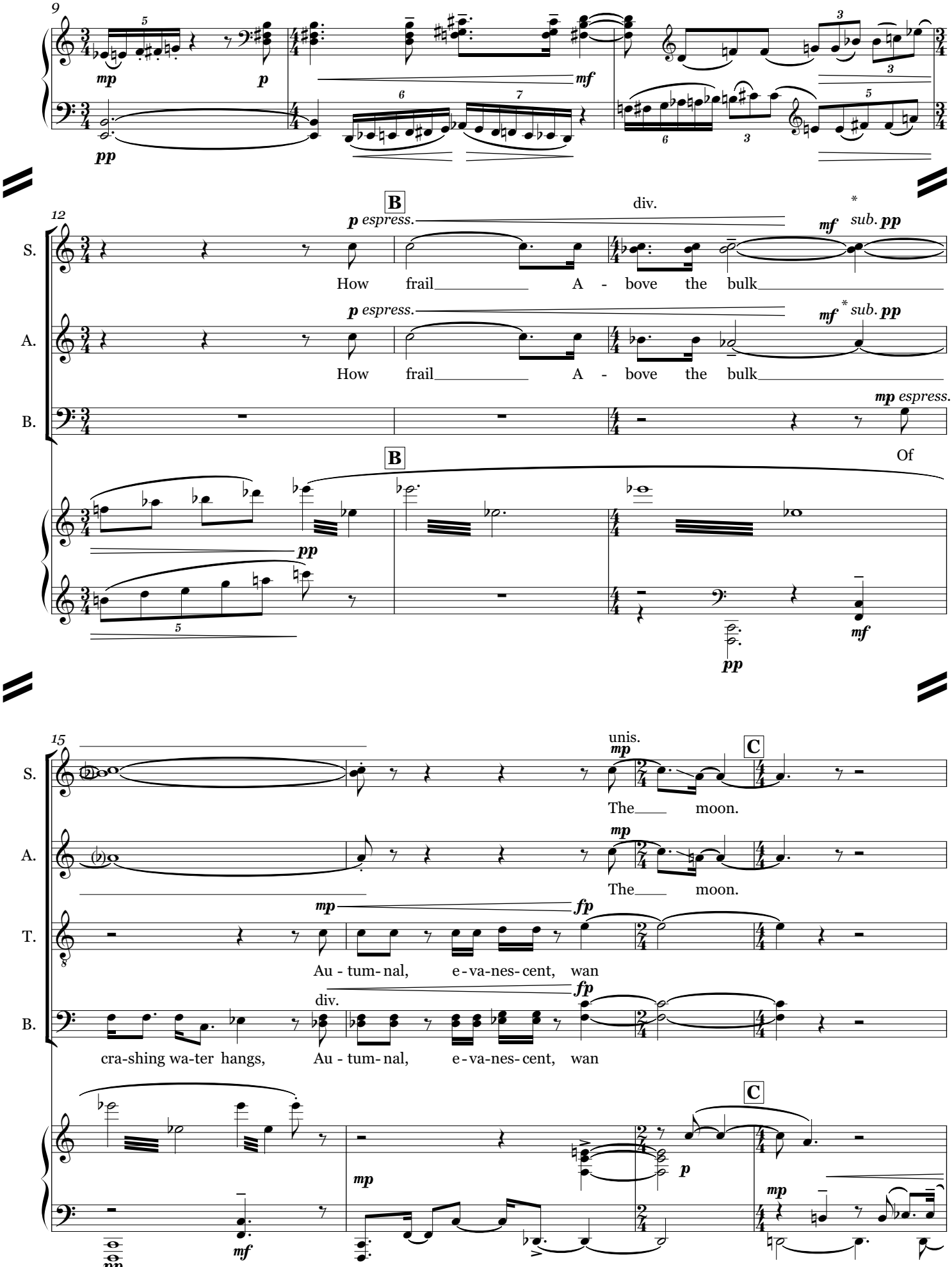


2. Five Cinquains

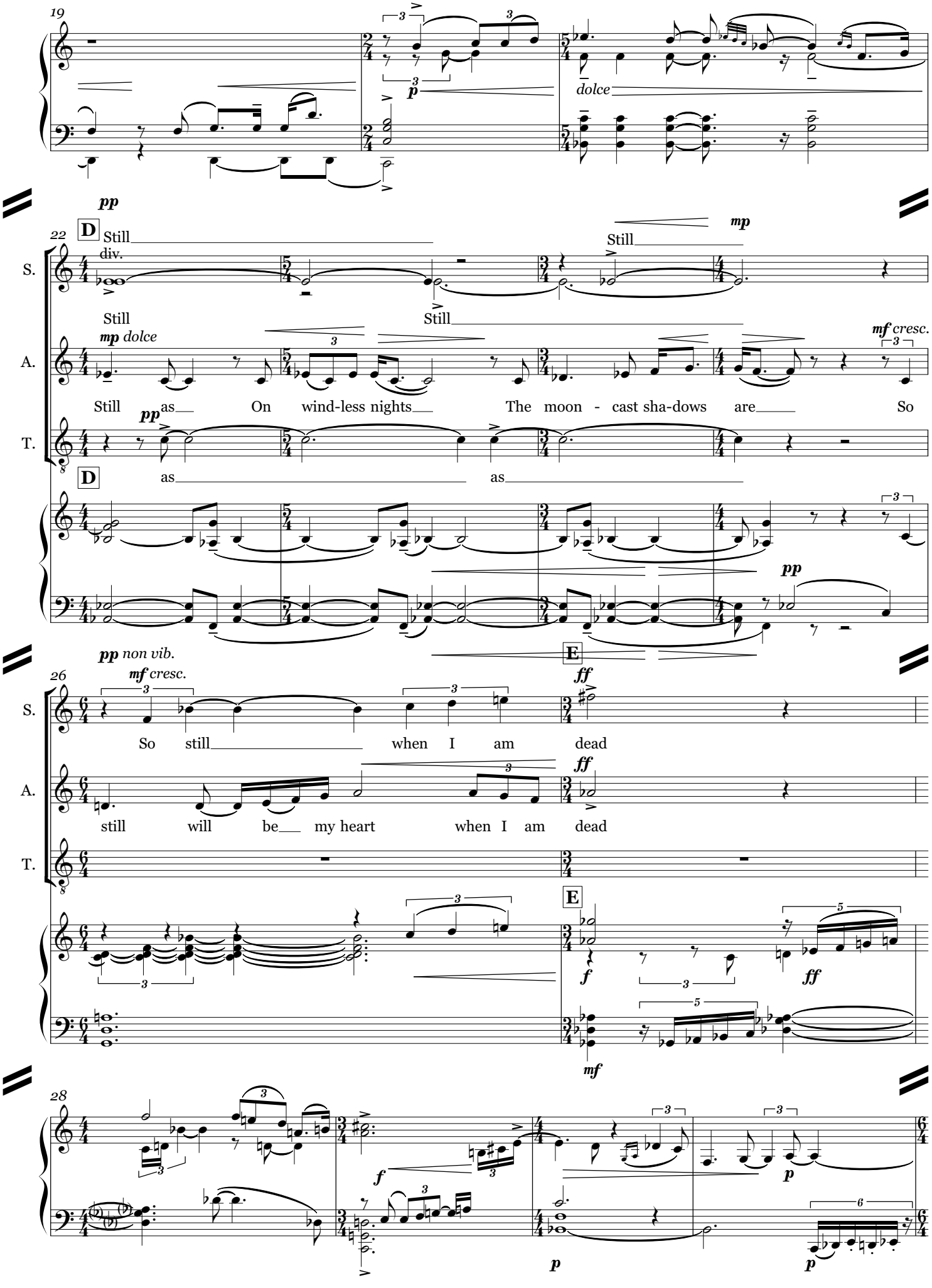
Adelaide Crapsey

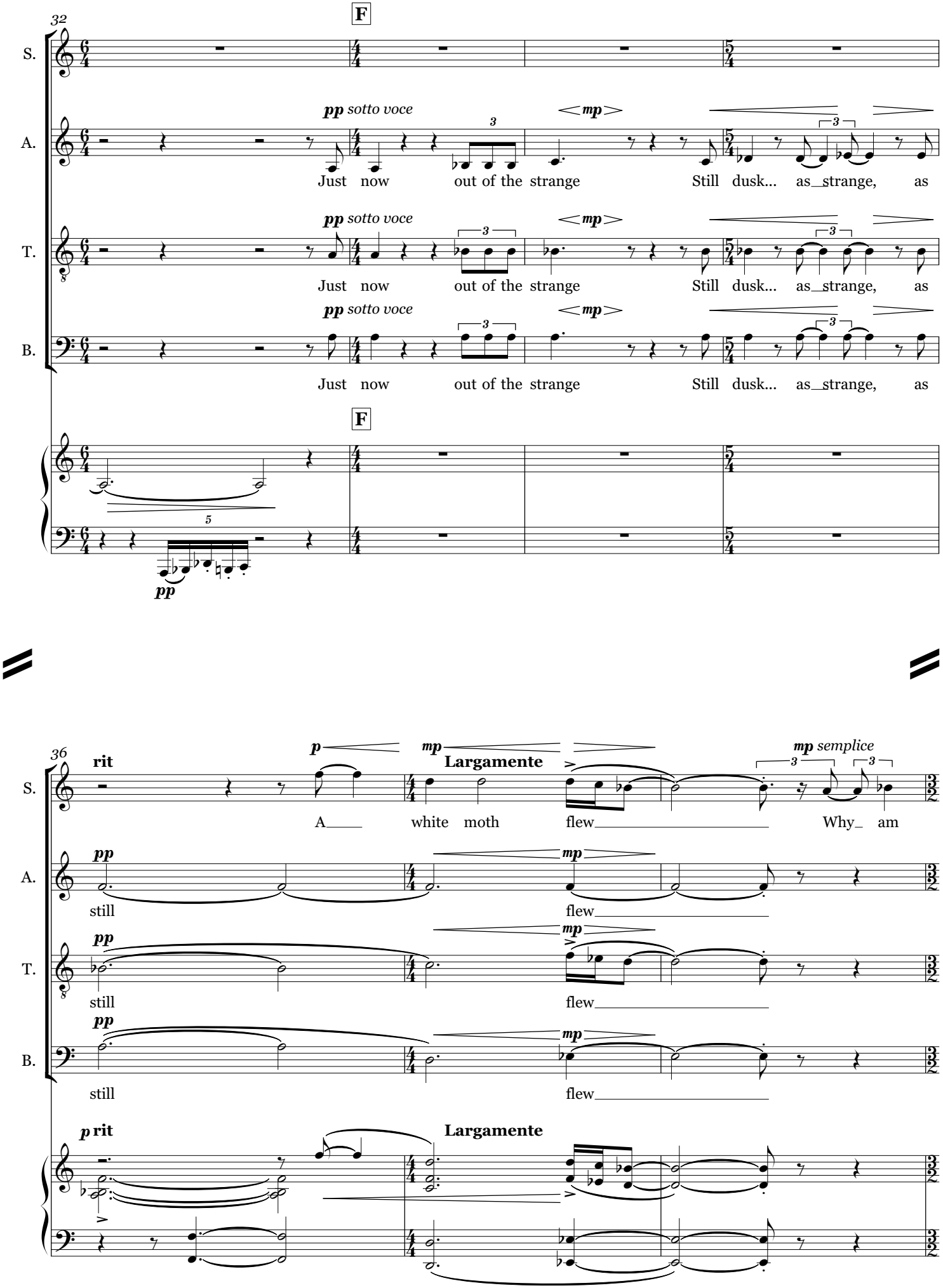


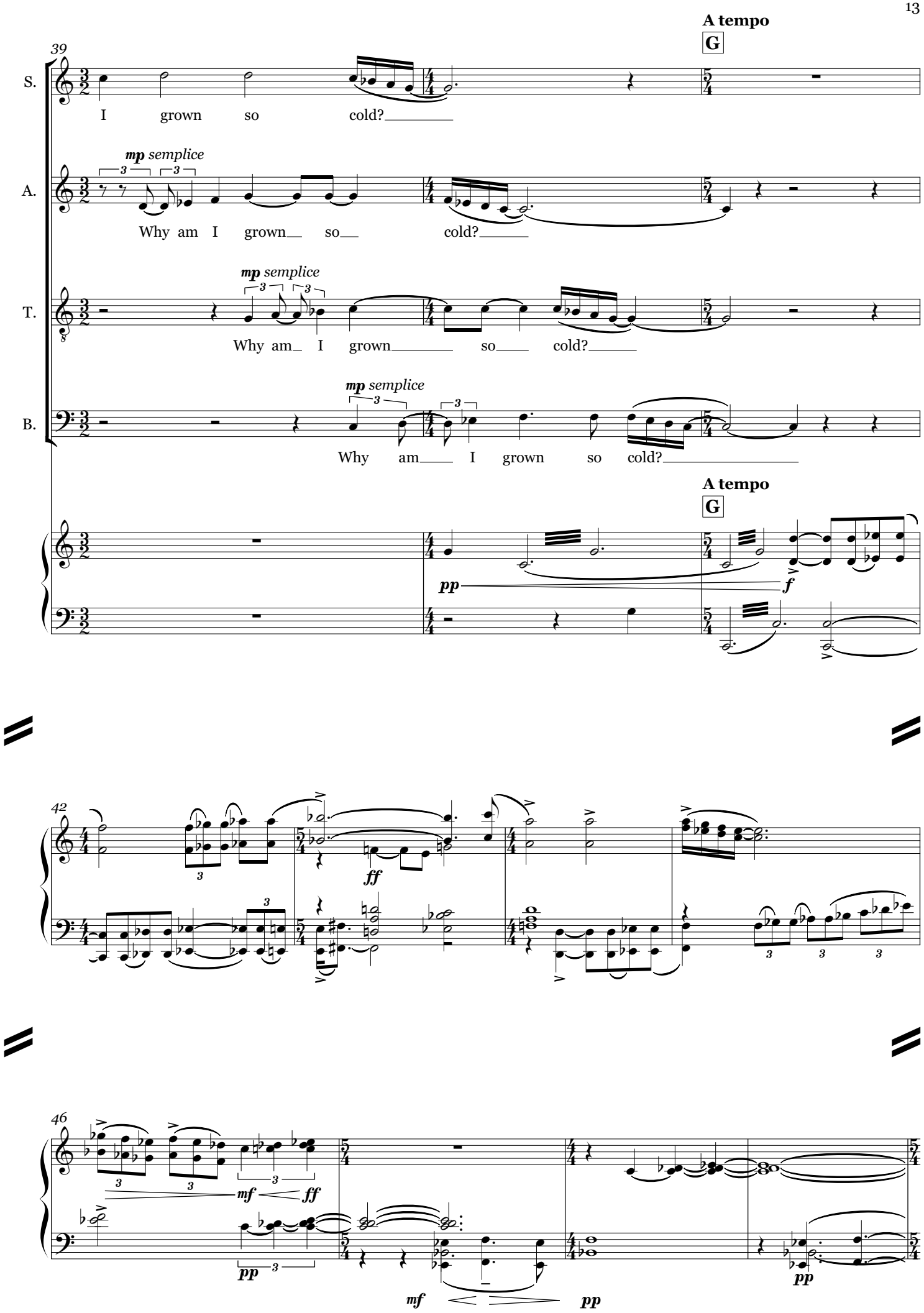

3
S.
A.
T.
B.
steps of pas-sing ghosts, The leaves, frost crisp'd,
steps of pas-sing ghosts, The leaves, frost crisp'd,
steps of pas-sing ghosts, The leaves, frost crisp'd,
pp
A
5
mf
portamento.
break from the trees And fall.
mf
portamento.
break from the trees And fall.
mf
portamento.
break from the trees And fall.
A
p
pp
mp
7

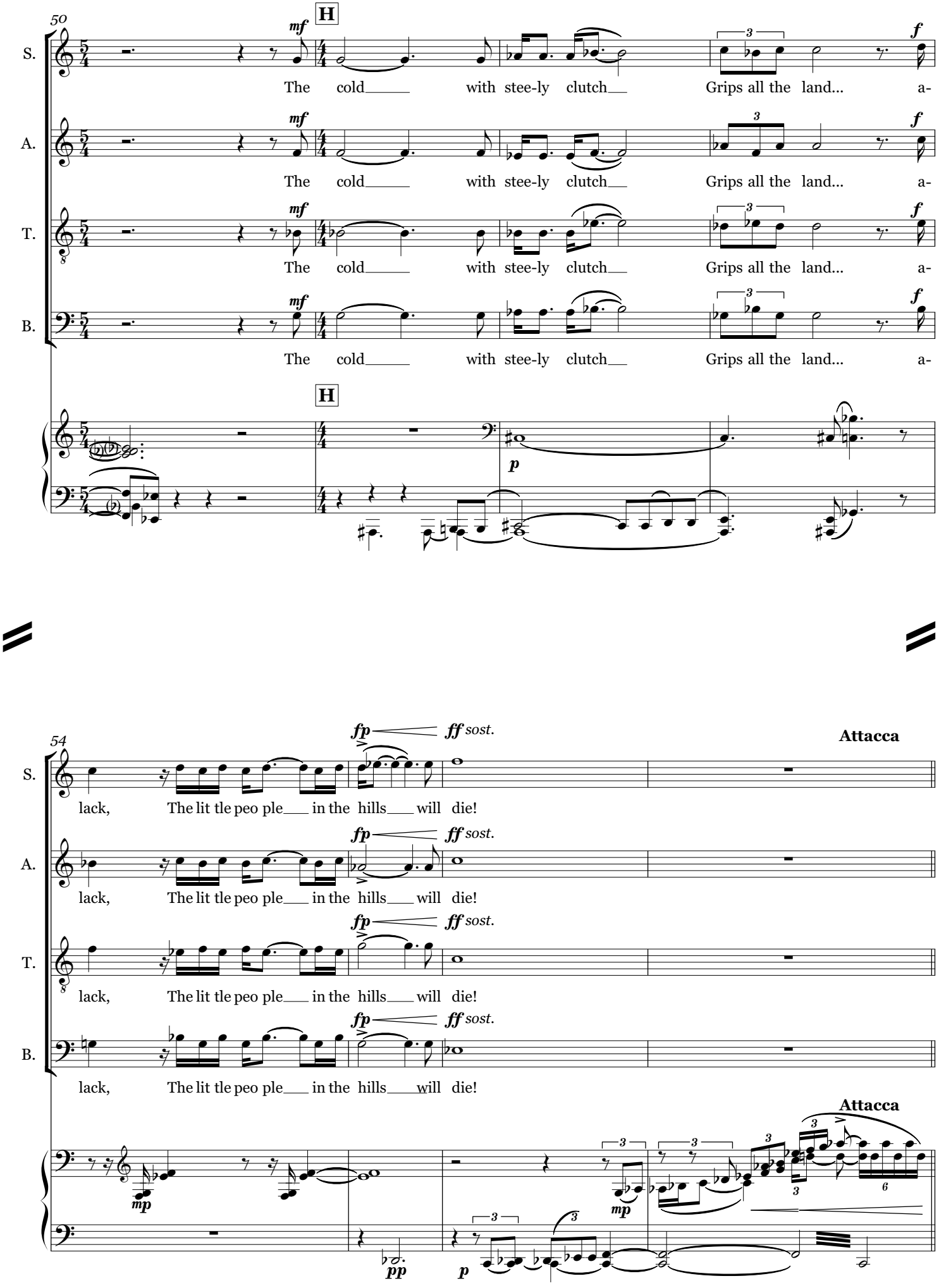


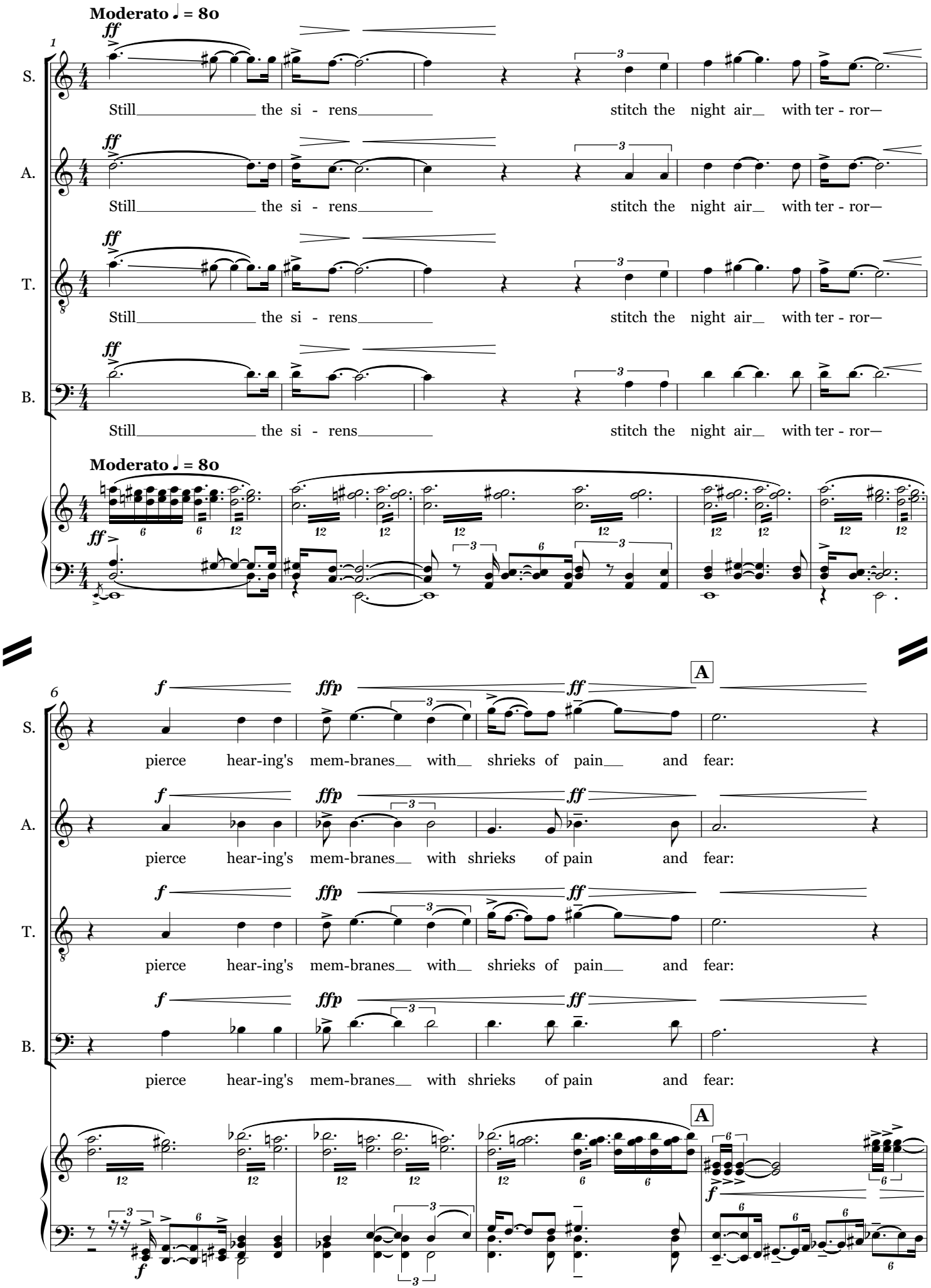
* Directly on the 4th beat, One or two singers per note should strongly sound 'lk' and come off .
All other singers should hold 'bulk' for its full duration (observing the sub. ***pp***) and sound 'lk' softly.

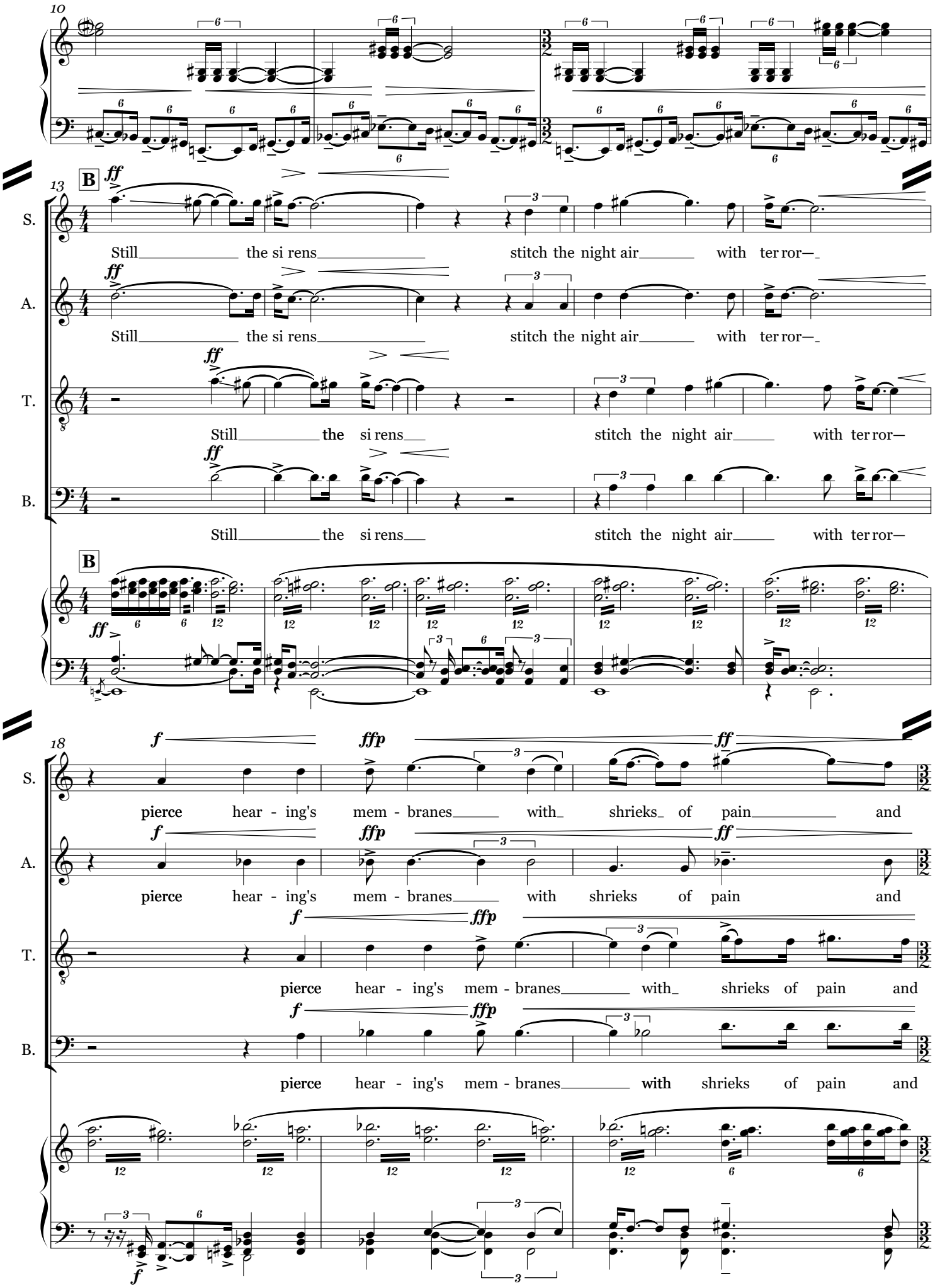

19
p
dolce
pp
22
D
Still
div.
Still
mp
S.
Still
Still
mp dolce
mf cresc.
A.
Still as On wind-less nights The moon - cast sha-dows are So
pp
T.
as as
D
pp
pp non vib.
E
26
mf cresc.
ff
S.
So still when I am dead
ff
A.
still will be my heart when I am dead
T.
E
f
ff
mf
28
f
p
p
p

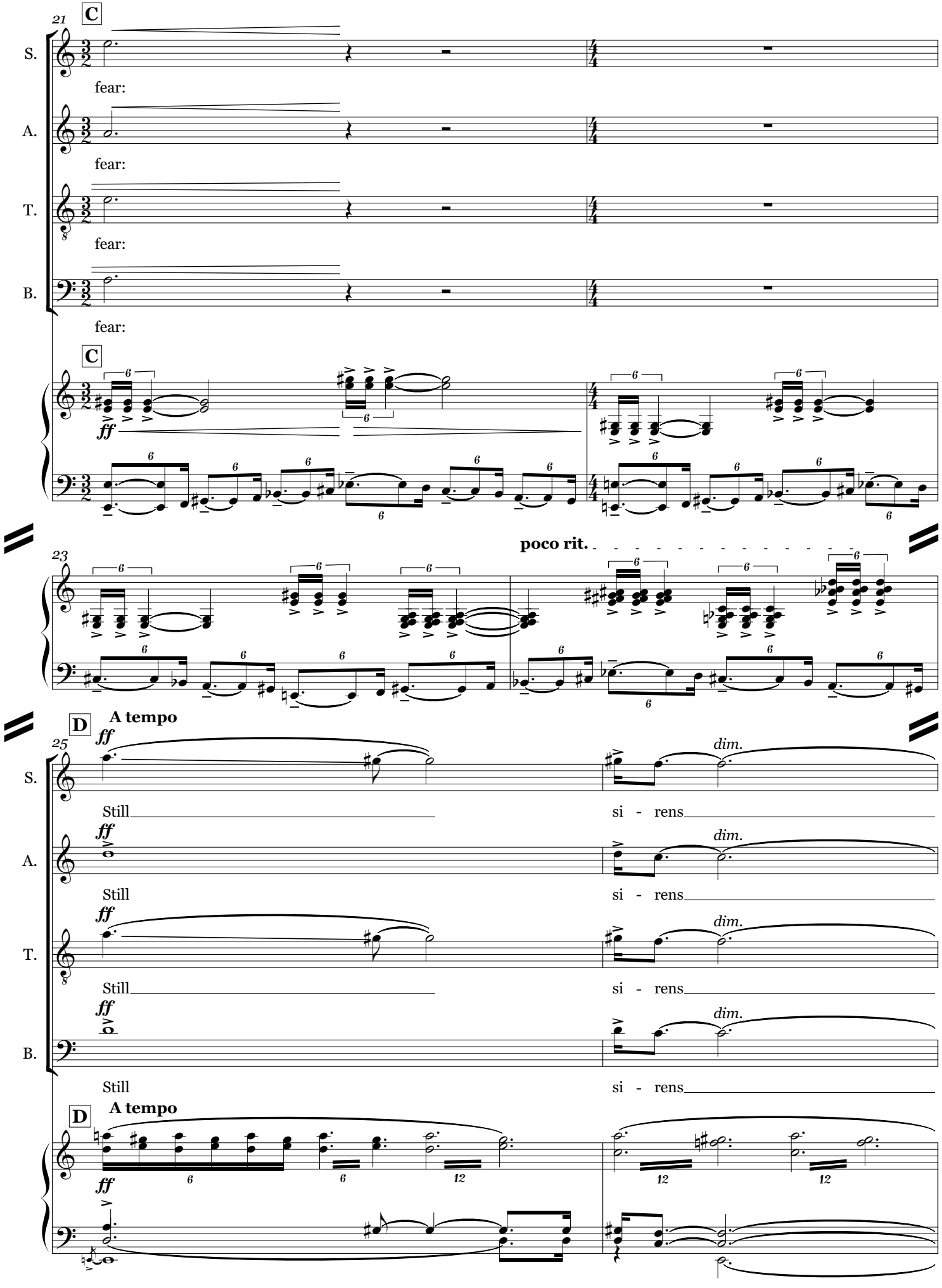

32
F
S.
A.
T.
B.
pp sotto voce
mp
Just now out of the strange Still dusk... as strange, as
F
pp
36
rit
p
mp
Largamente
mp semplice
A white moth flew Why am
still
flew
pp
mp
p rit
Largamente

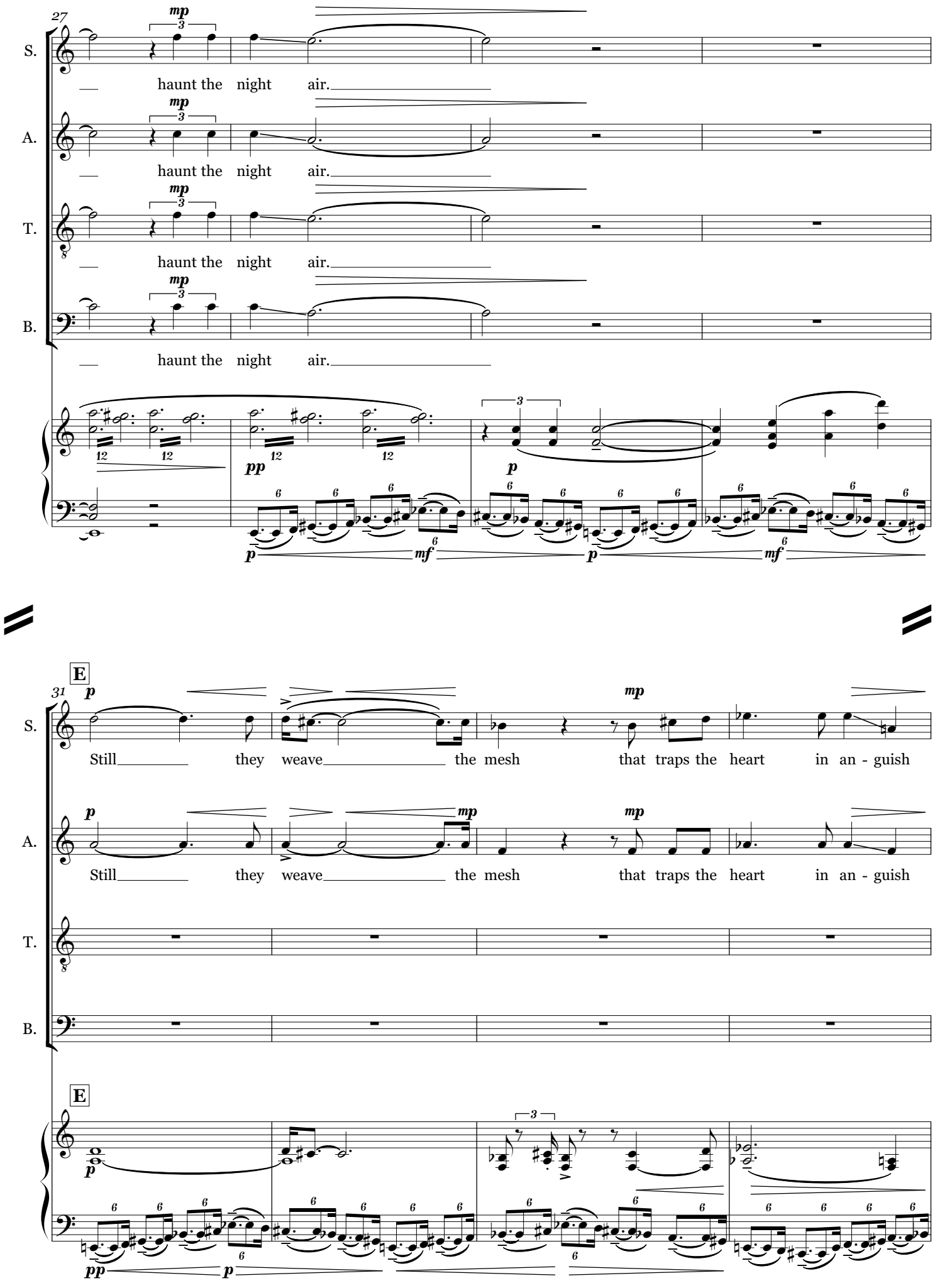

A tempo
G
39
S.
I grown so cold?
mp semplice
A.
Why am I grown so cold?
mp semplice
T.
Why am I grown so cold?
mp semplice
B.
Why am I grown so cold?
A tempo
G
pp
f
42
ff
46
mf
ff
pp
mf
pp
pp

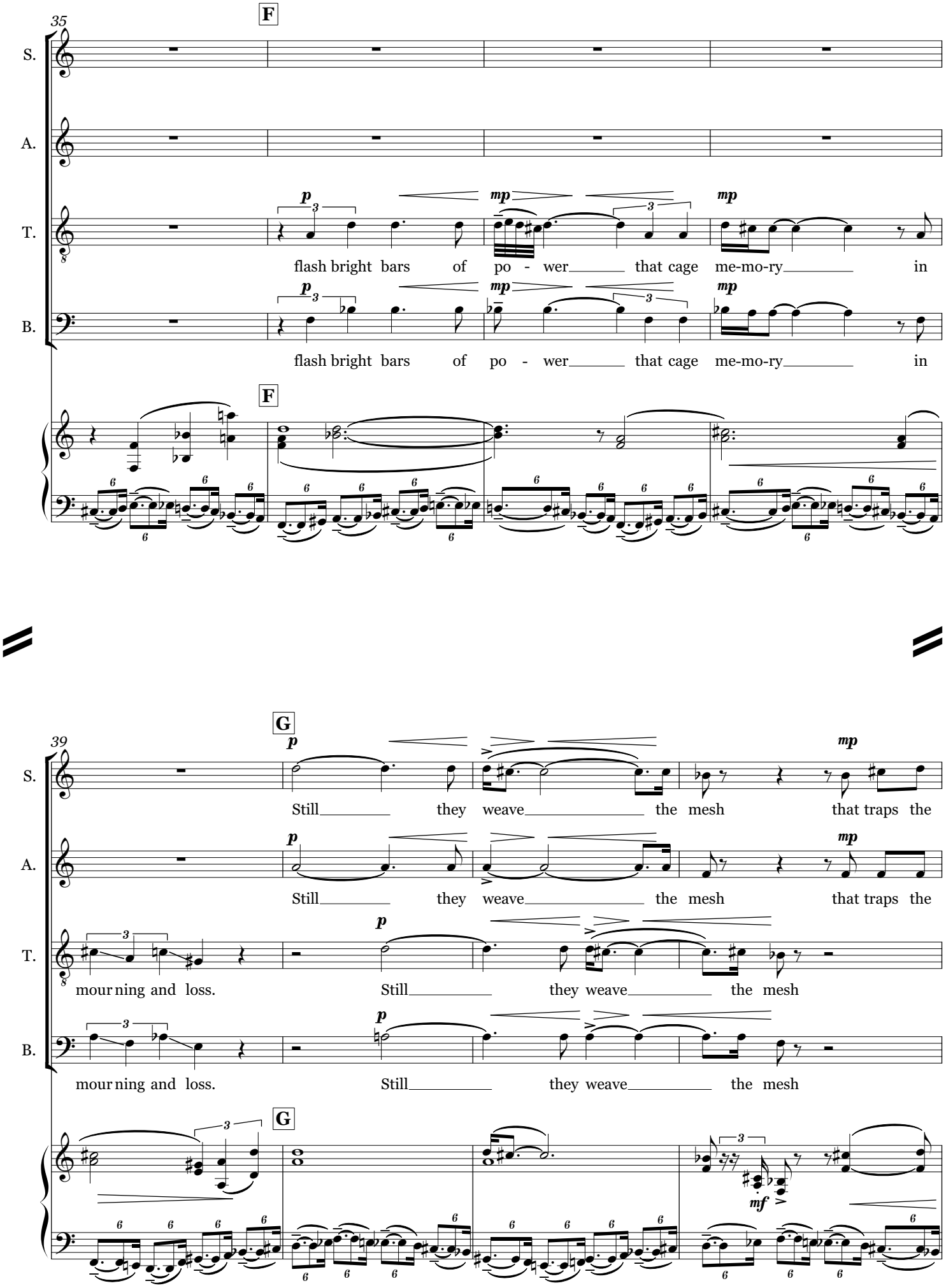

50
S.
A.
T.
B.
mf
H
The cold with stee-ly clutch Grips all the land... a-
f
p
54
fp
ff sost.
Attacca
lack, The lit tle peo ple in the hills will die!
mp
pp

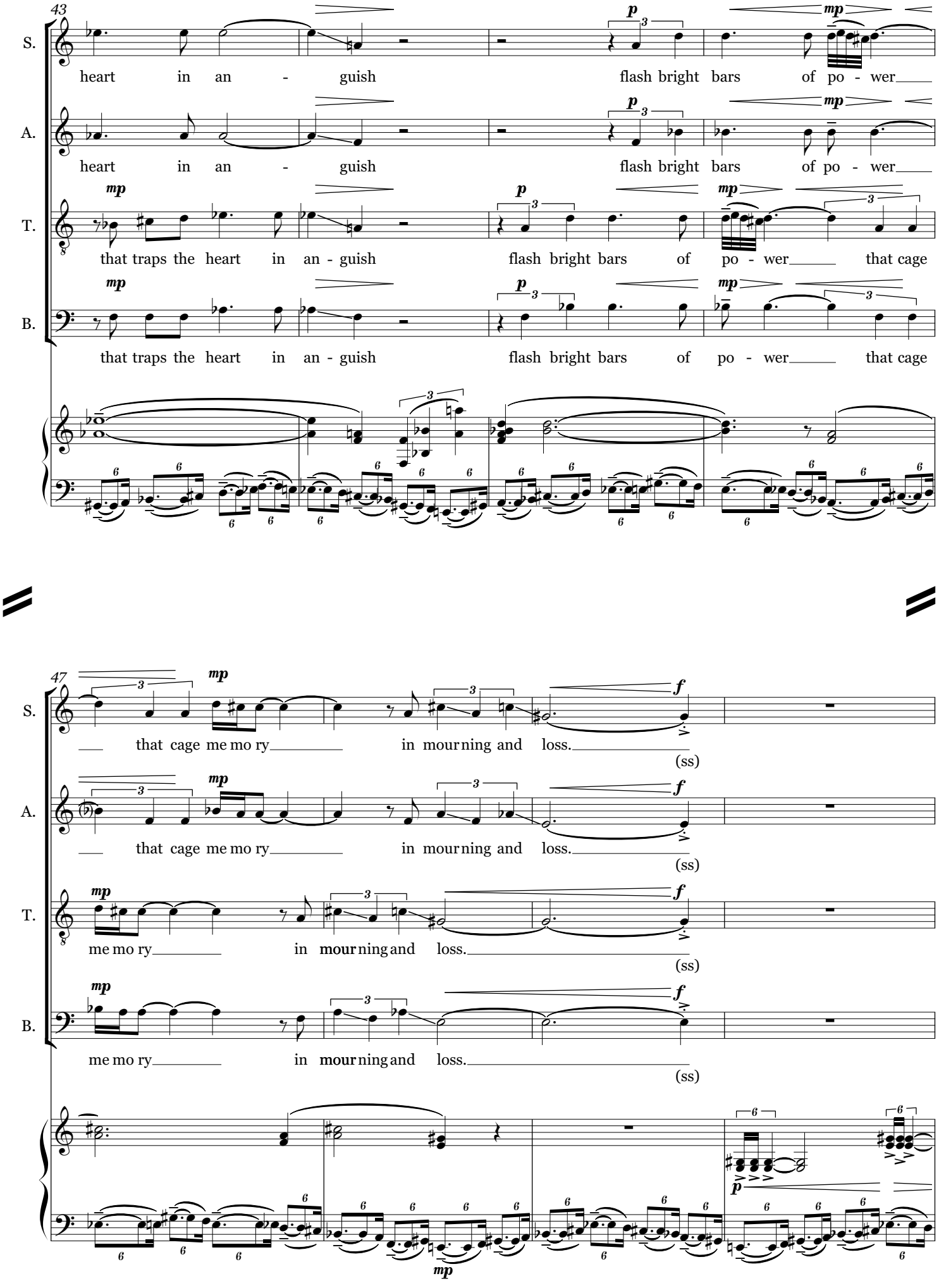

Moderato ♩ = 80
S.
A.
T.
B.
Still the si - rens stitch the night air with ter - ror—
Moderato ♩ = 80
pierce hear-ing's mem-branes with shrieks of pain and fear:
A
A

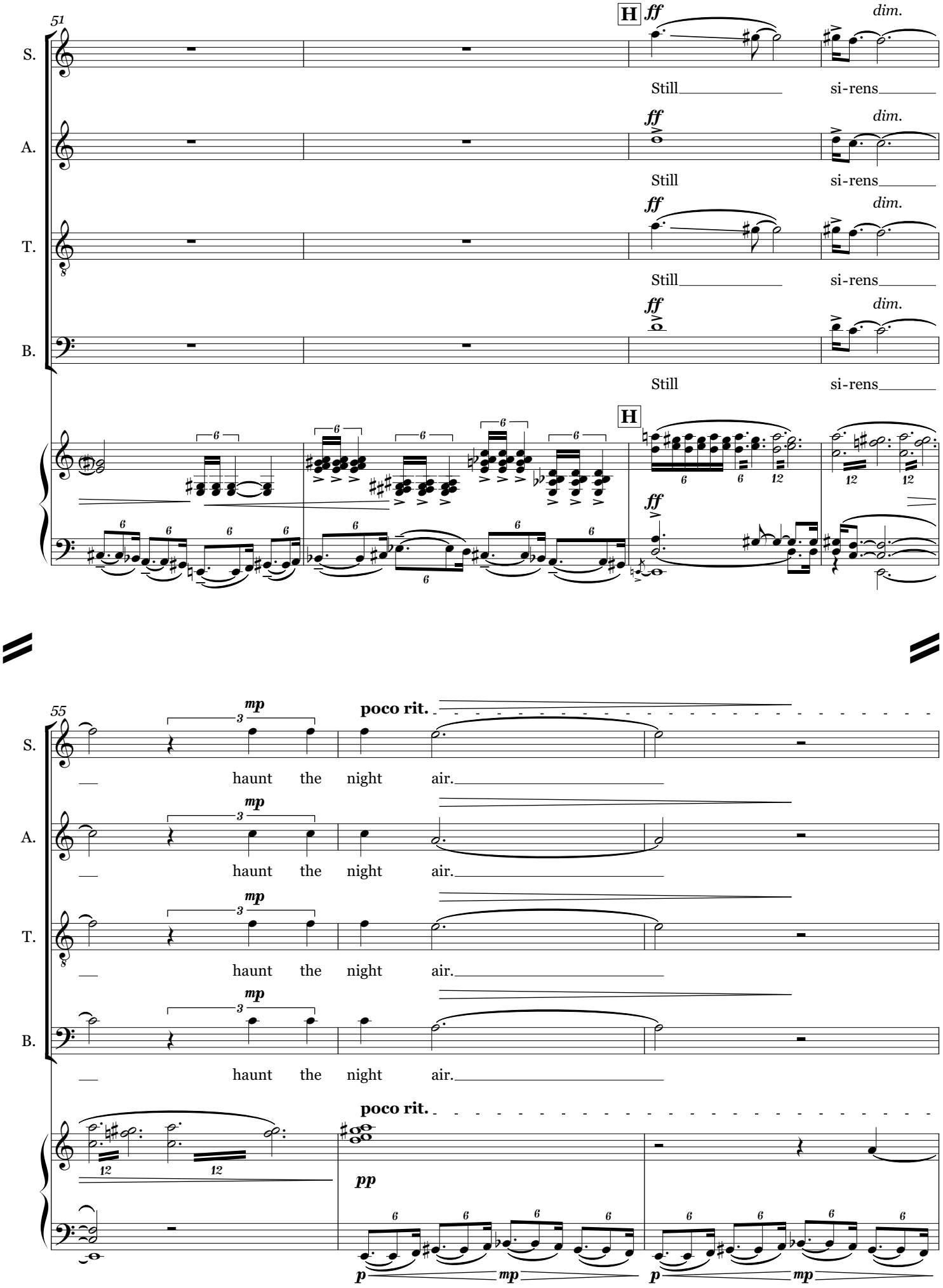

10
13
B
ff
S.
A.
T.
B.
Still the si rens stitch the night air with ter ror—
18
f
ffp
ff
pierce hear - ing's mem - branes with shrieks of pain and

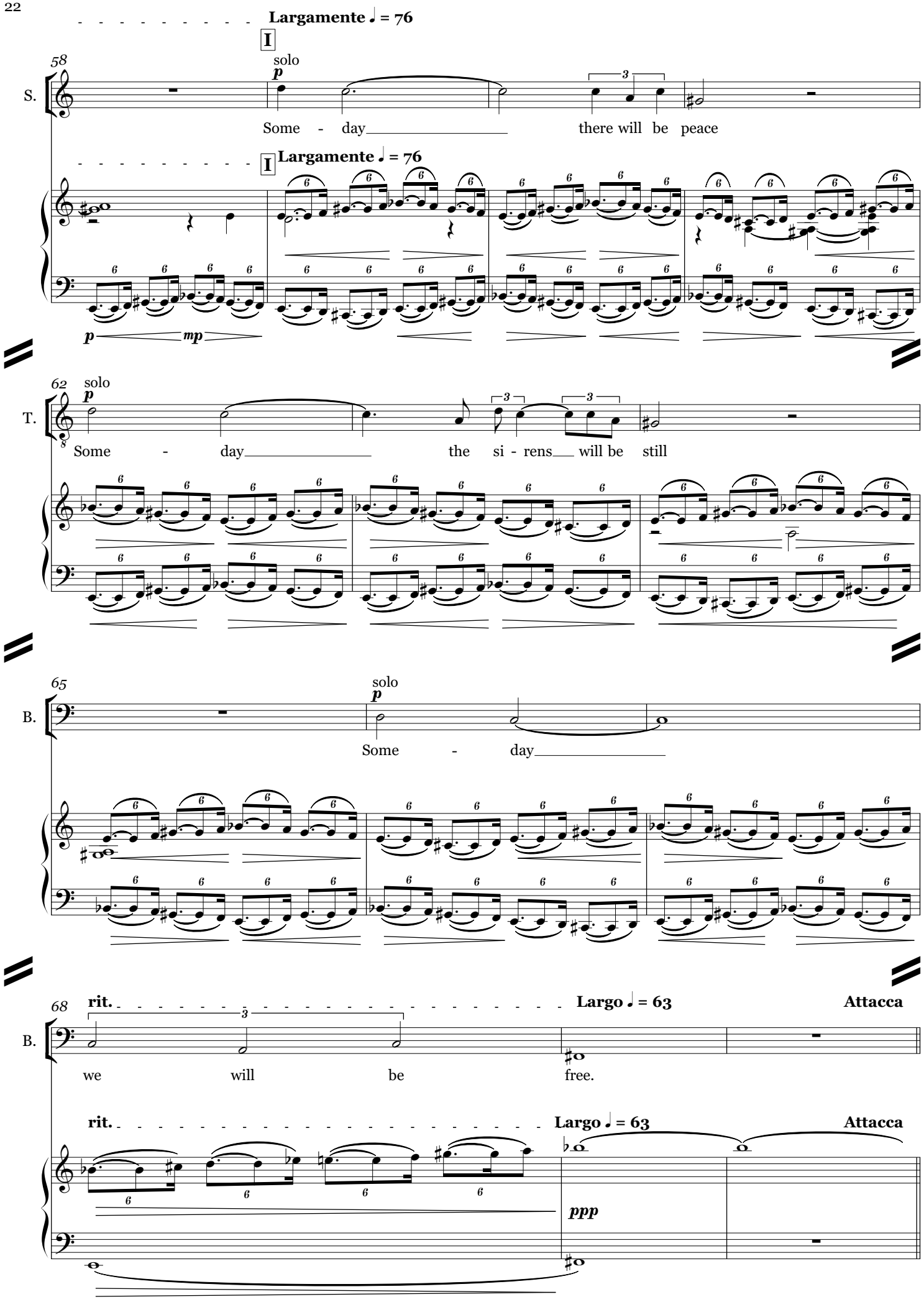

21
C
S.
fear:
A.
fear:
T.
fear:
B.
fear:
C
ff
poco rit.
23
D
A tempo
25
ff
dim.
Still
si - rens
D
A tempo

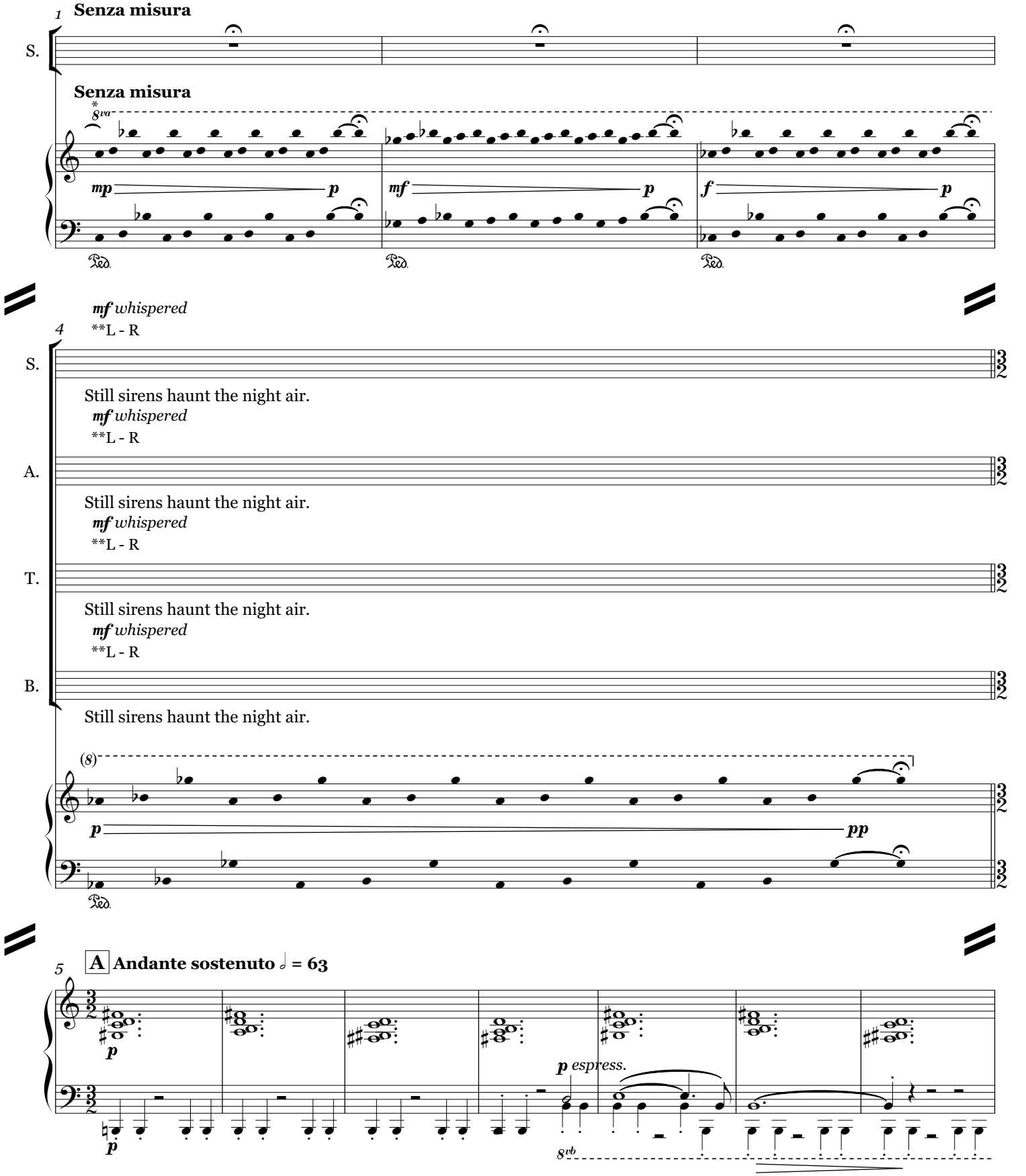

27
S.
A.
T.
B.
mp
haunt the night air.
pp
p
mf
31
E
Still they weave the mesh that traps the heart in an - guish


35
F
S.
A.
T.
B.
p
mp
flash bright bars of po - wer that cage me-mo-ry in
39
G
Still they weave the mesh that traps the
mour ning and loss.
mf


43
S.
heart in an - guish flash bright bars of po - wer
A.
heart in an - guish flash bright bars of po - wer
T.
that traps the heart in an - guish flash bright bars of po - wer that cage
B.
that traps the heart in an - guish flash bright bars of po - wer that cage
47
S.
that cage me mo ry in mour ning and loss.
(ss)
A.
that cage me mo ry in mour ning and loss.
(ss)
T.
me mo ry in mour ning and loss.
(ss)
B.
me mo ry in mour ning and loss.
(ss)

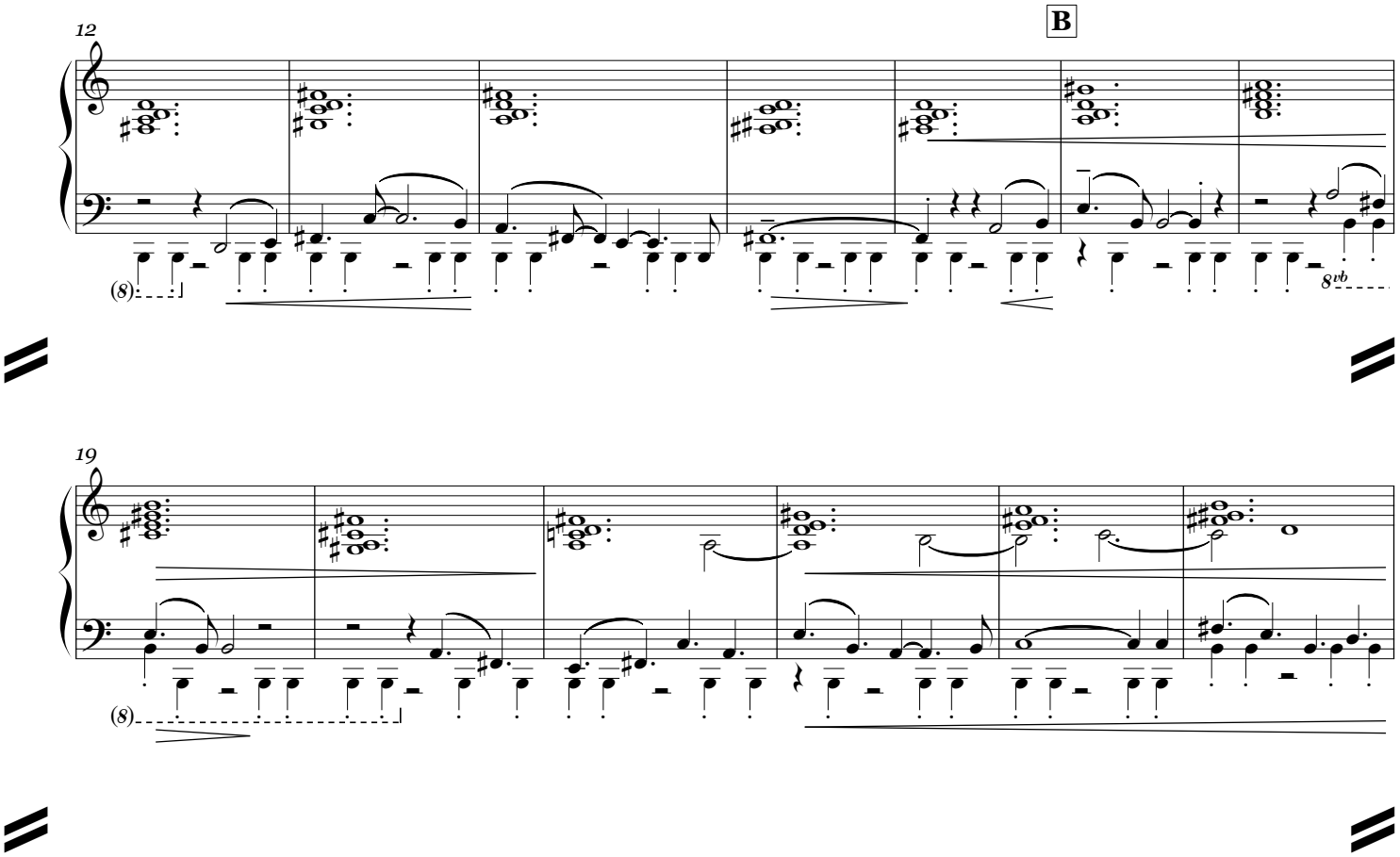

51
H
ff
dim.
S.
A.
T.
B.
Still si-rens
55
mp
poco rit.
haunt the night air.
pp
p
mp

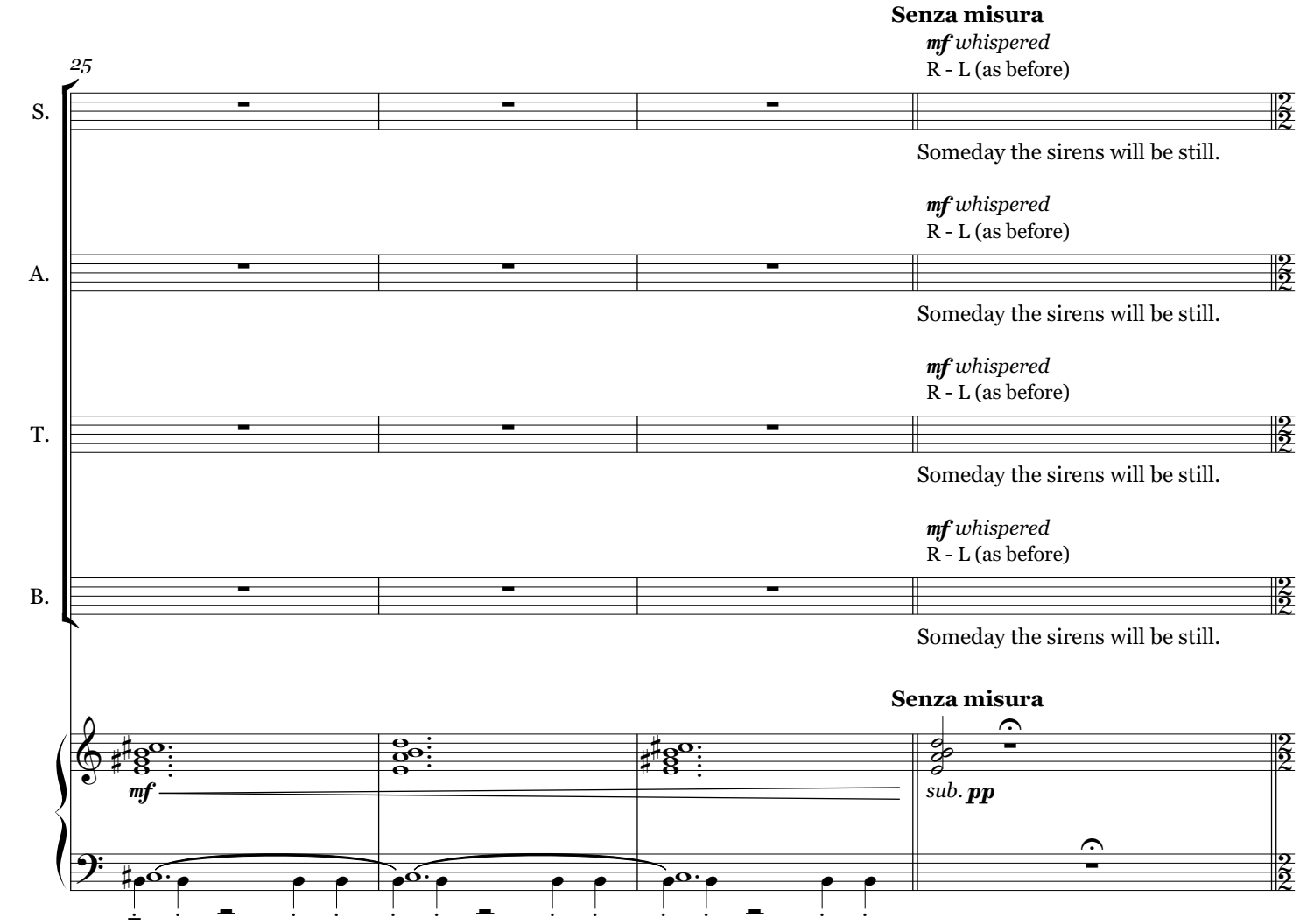

Largamente ♩ = 76
I
solo
58
S.
Some - day there will be peace
Largamente ♩ = 76
62
solo
T.
Some - day the si - rens will be still
65
solo
B.
Some - day
68
rit.
Largo ♩ = 63
Attacca
B.
we will be free.
rit.
Largo ♩ = 63
Attacca
ppp

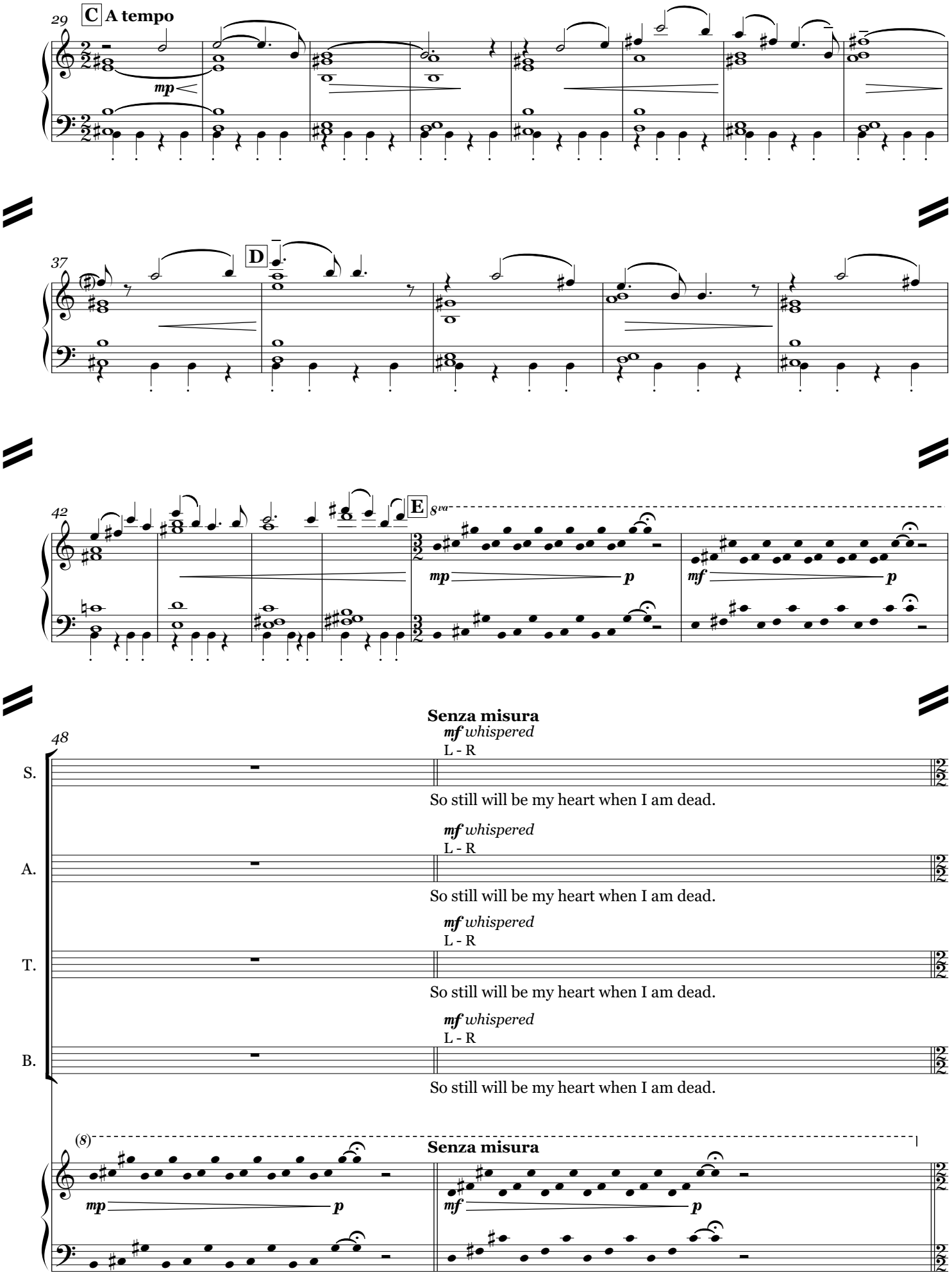


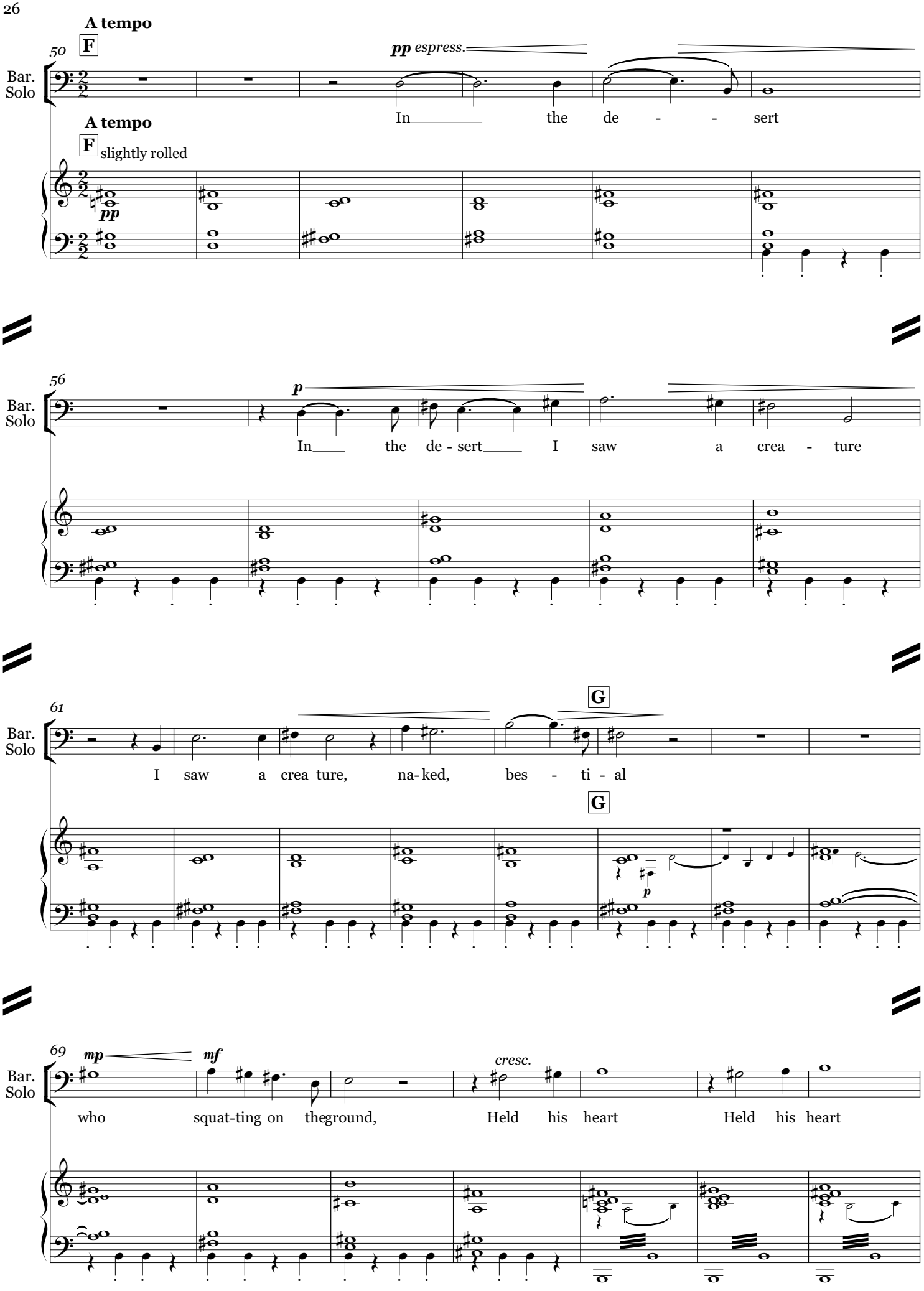
* Play these notes at your own (variable) tempo, following the dynamic contour. Each bar should last about 6 seconds.

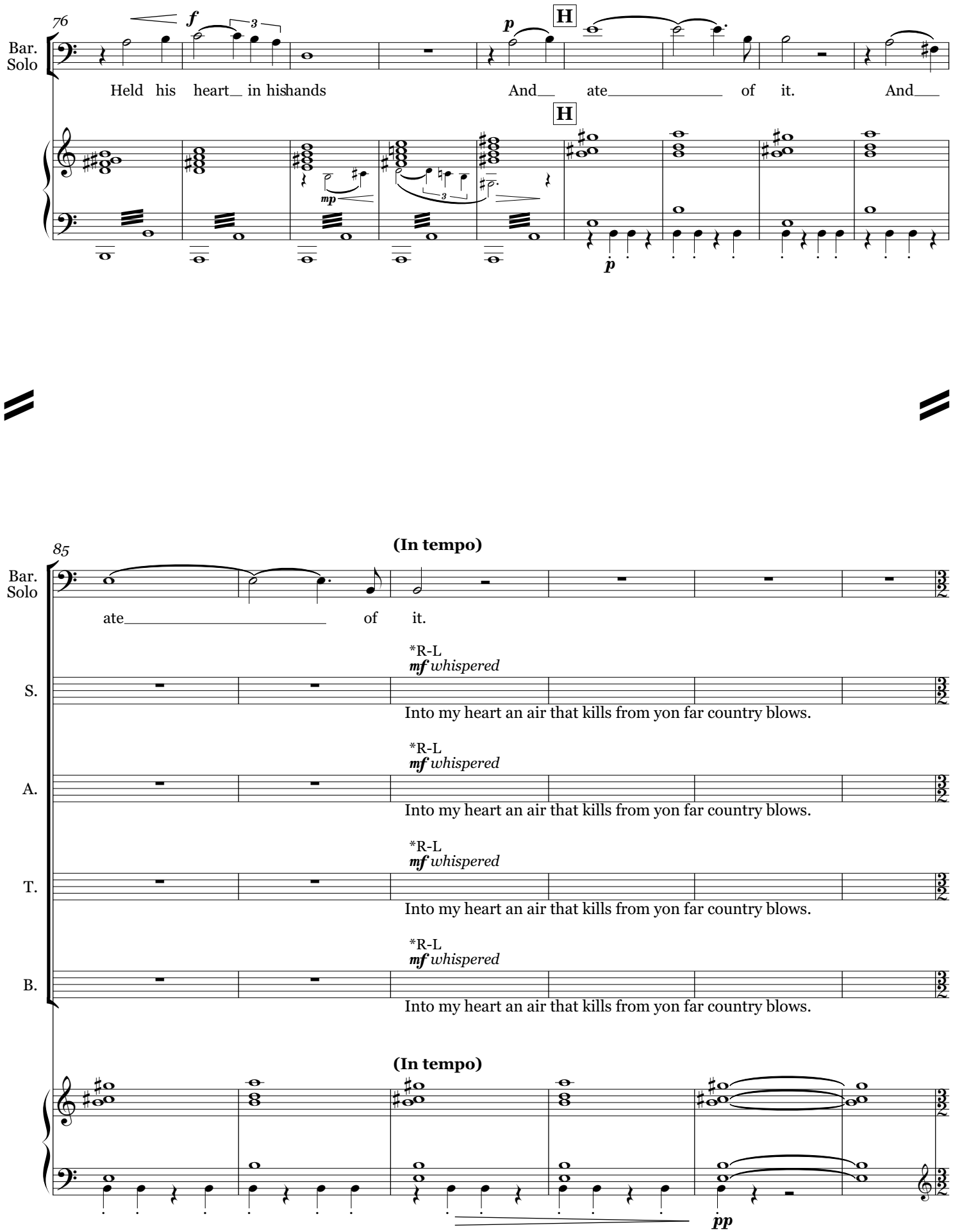
** Wait for conductor's cue. The conductor starts by indicating the left-most singer(s), gradually sweeping across the choir, to the right-most singer(s). The sweep should be slow at first, so that individual entries are clearly distinguishable, getting a little faster towards the middle (try and arrive at the middle as the strings finish playing), and then slow again towards the end. Wait until the last singer has finished before moving onto the next bar.


12
B
(8)
8vb
19
(8)

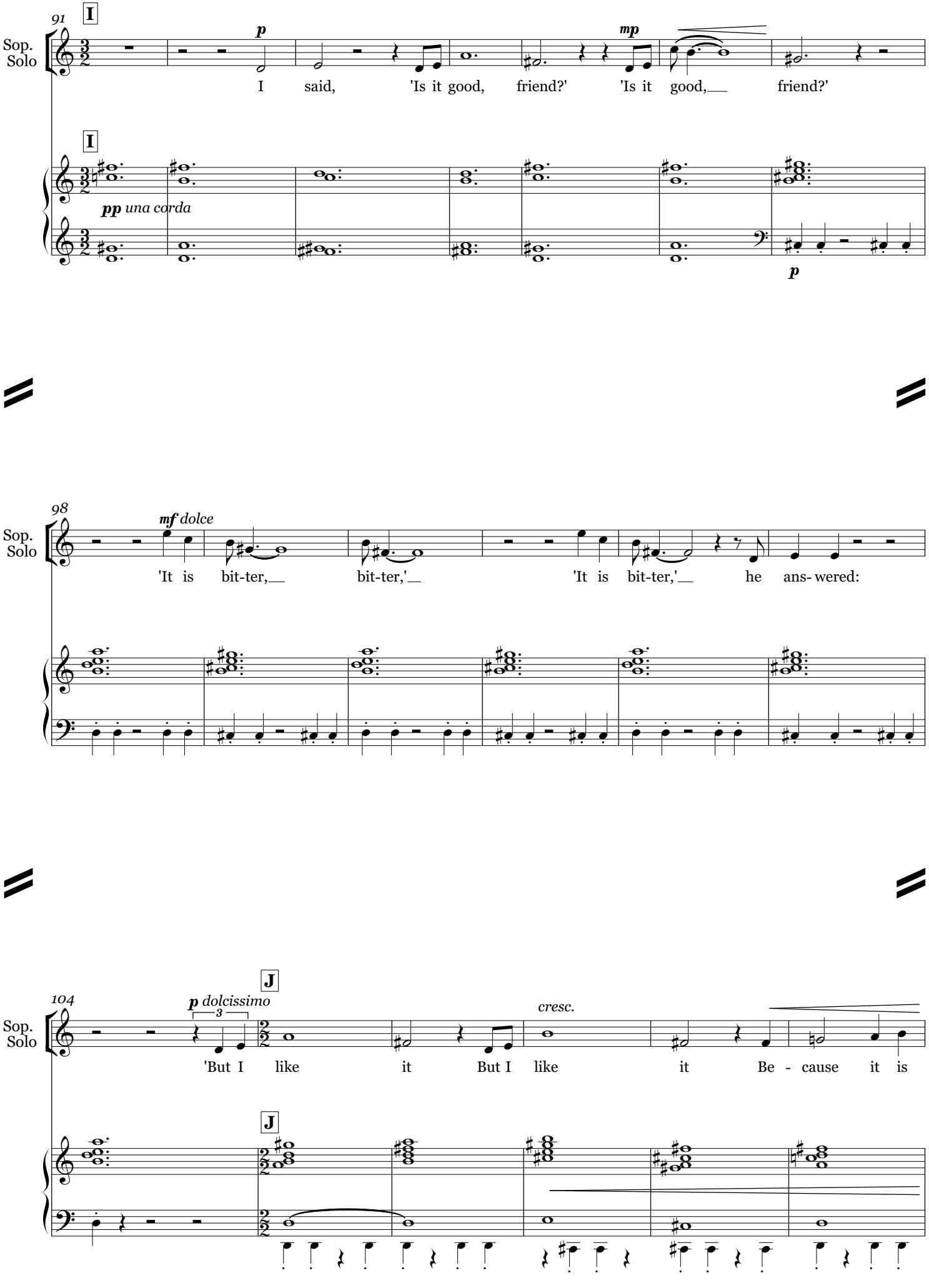

Senza misura
mf whispered
R - L (as before)
25
S.
Someday the sirens will be still.
mf whispered
R - L (as before)
A.
Someday the sirens will be still.
mf whispered
R - L (as before)
T.
Someday the sirens will be still.
mf whispered
R - L (as before)
B.
Someday the sirens will be still.
Senza misura
mf
sub. pp

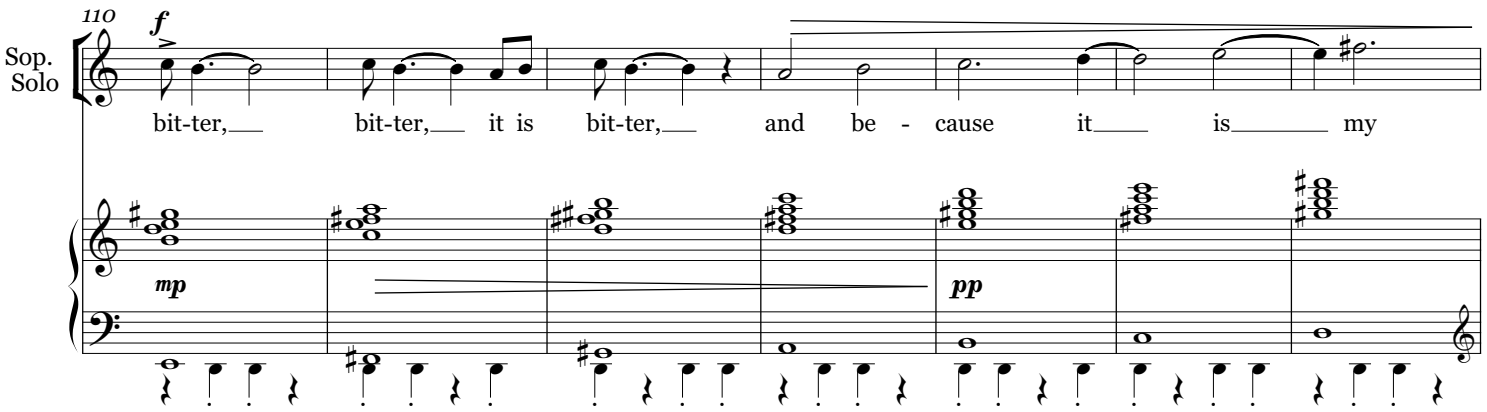

29
C A tempo
mp
37
D
42
E
8va
mp
p
mf
p
48
Senza misura
mf whispered
L - R
S.
So still will be my heart when I am dead.
mf whispered
L - R
A.
So still will be my heart when I am dead.
mf whispered
L - R
T.
So still will be my heart when I am dead.
mf whispered
L - R
B.
So still will be my heart when I am dead.
(8)
Senza misura
mp
p
mf
p

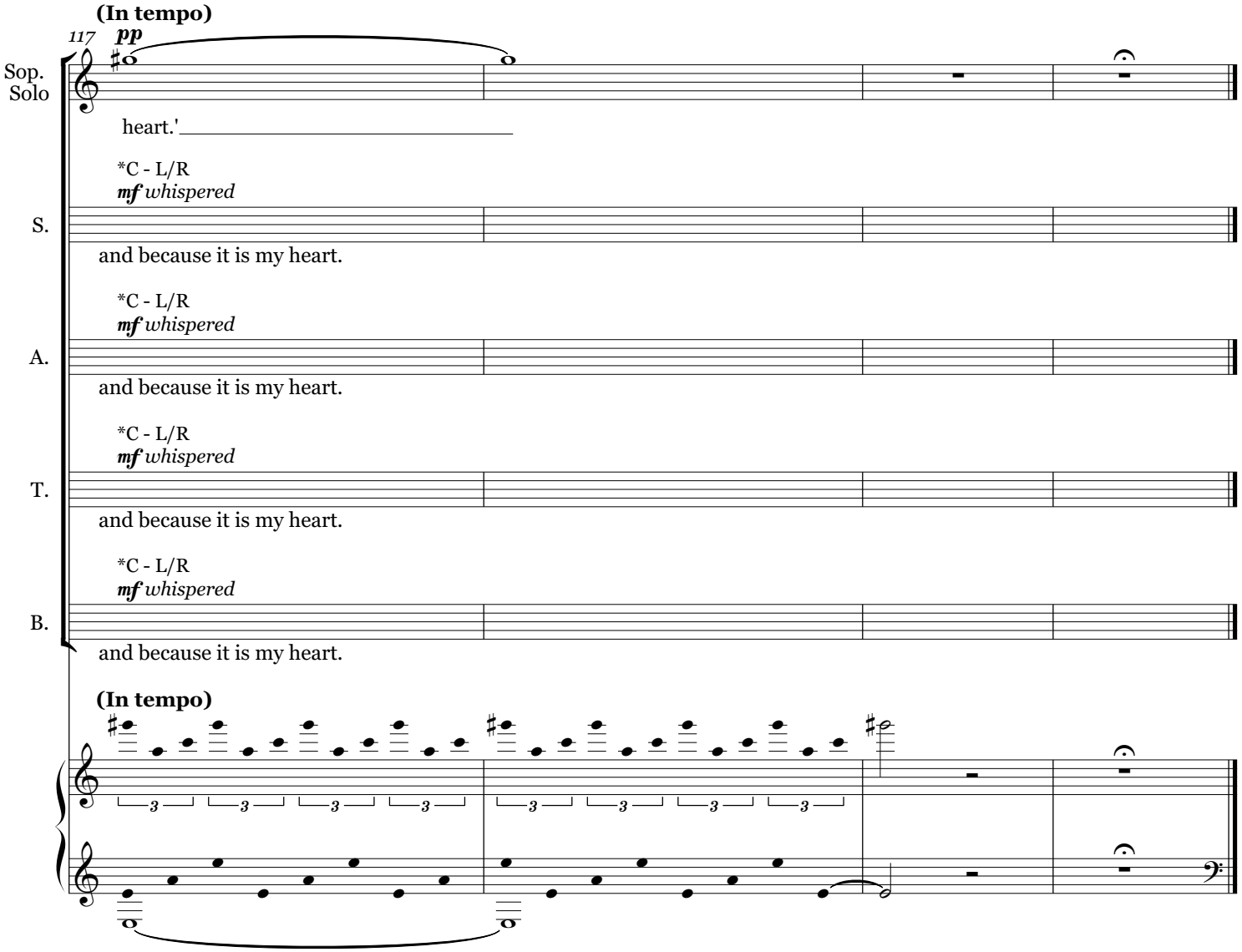

A tempo
50
F
pp espress.
Bar.
Solo
In the de - - sert
A tempo
F
slightly rolled
pp
56
p
In the de - sert I saw a crea - ture
61
G
I saw a crea ture, na- ked, bes - ti - al
G
p
69
mp
mf
cresc.
who squat-ting on theground, Held his heart Held his heart



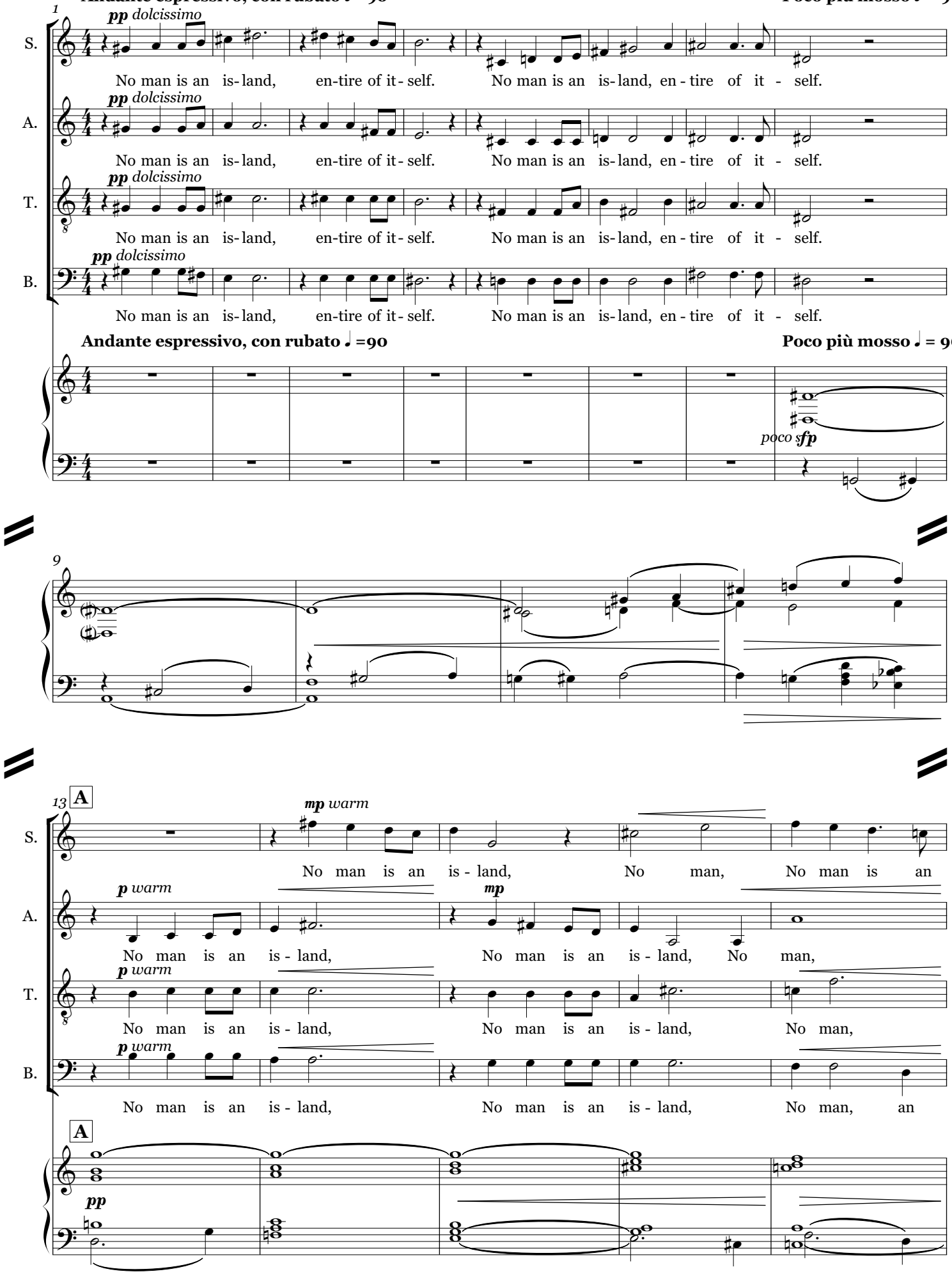
* The choir perform this line in their own tempo as before.The conductor should maintain a consistent tempo for the orchestra, timing the choir 'sweep' over roughly 3 bars, so that the final choir singers finish their line somewhere in the following three bars.

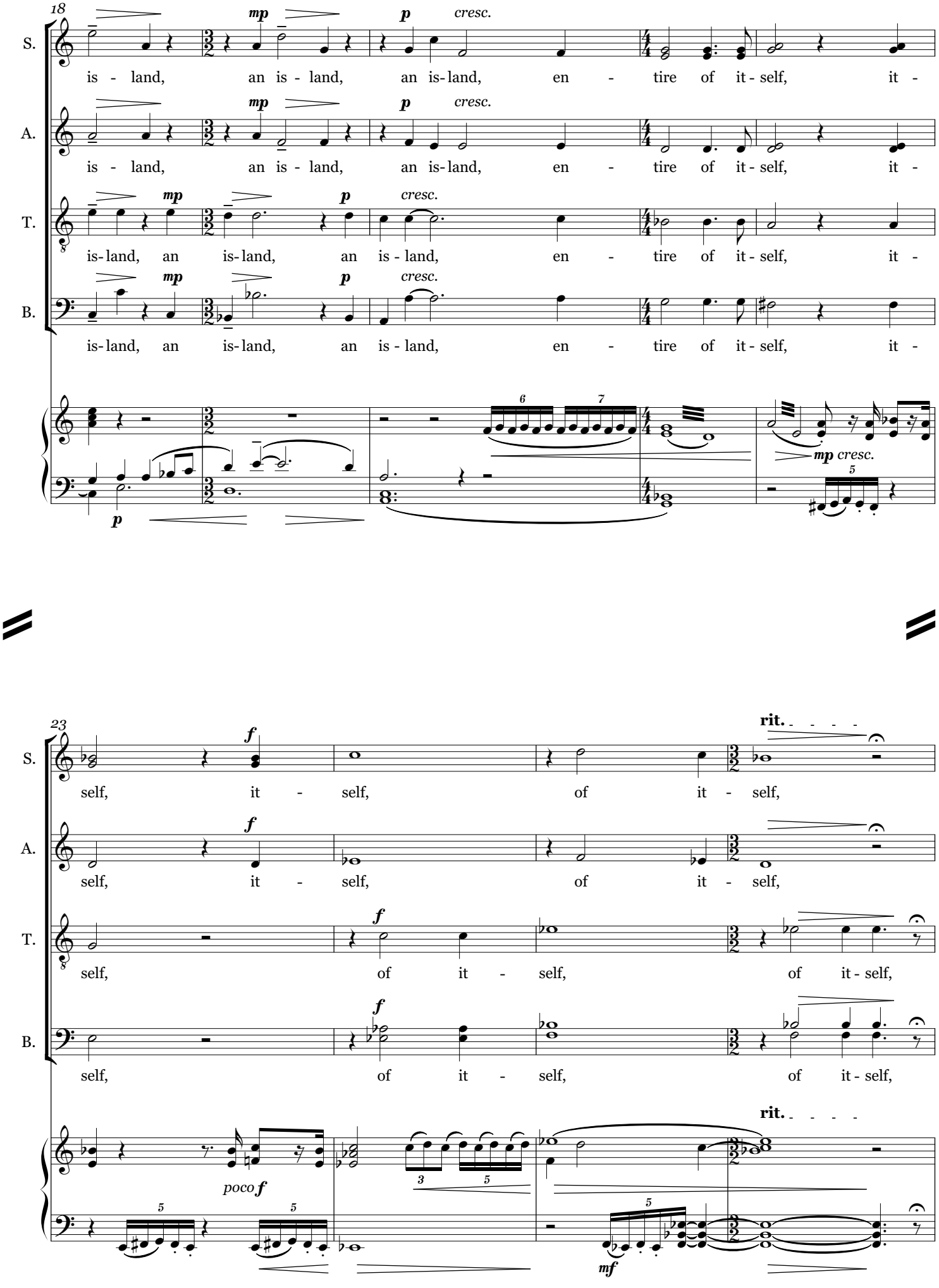

91
I
Sop. Solo
p
mp
I said, 'Is it good, friend?' 'Is it good, friend?'
I
pp una corda
p
98
mf dolce
'It is bit-ter, bit-ter,' 'It is bit-ter,' he ans- wered:
104
J
p dolcissimo
3
cresc.
'But I like it But I like it Be - cause it is
J

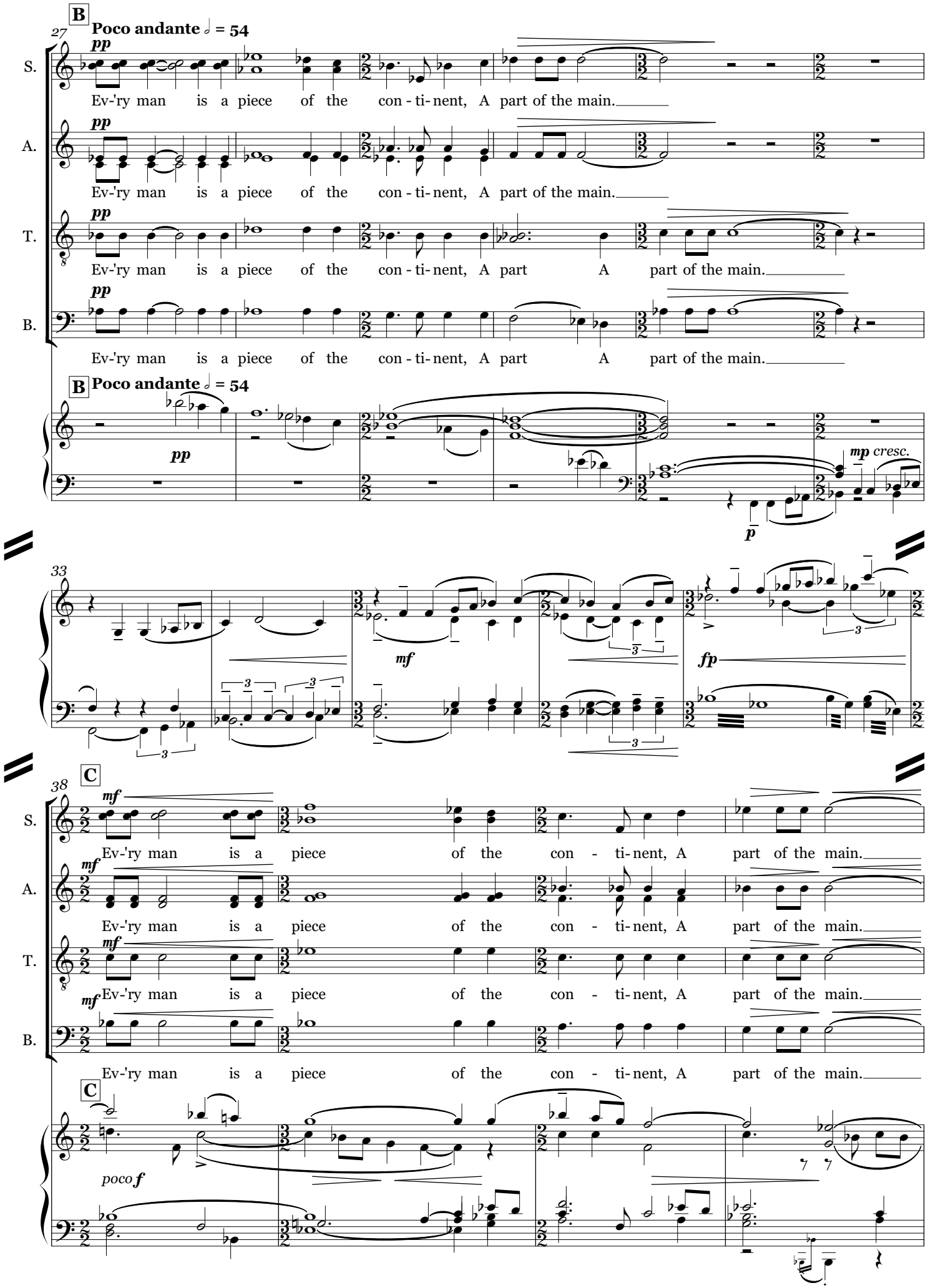


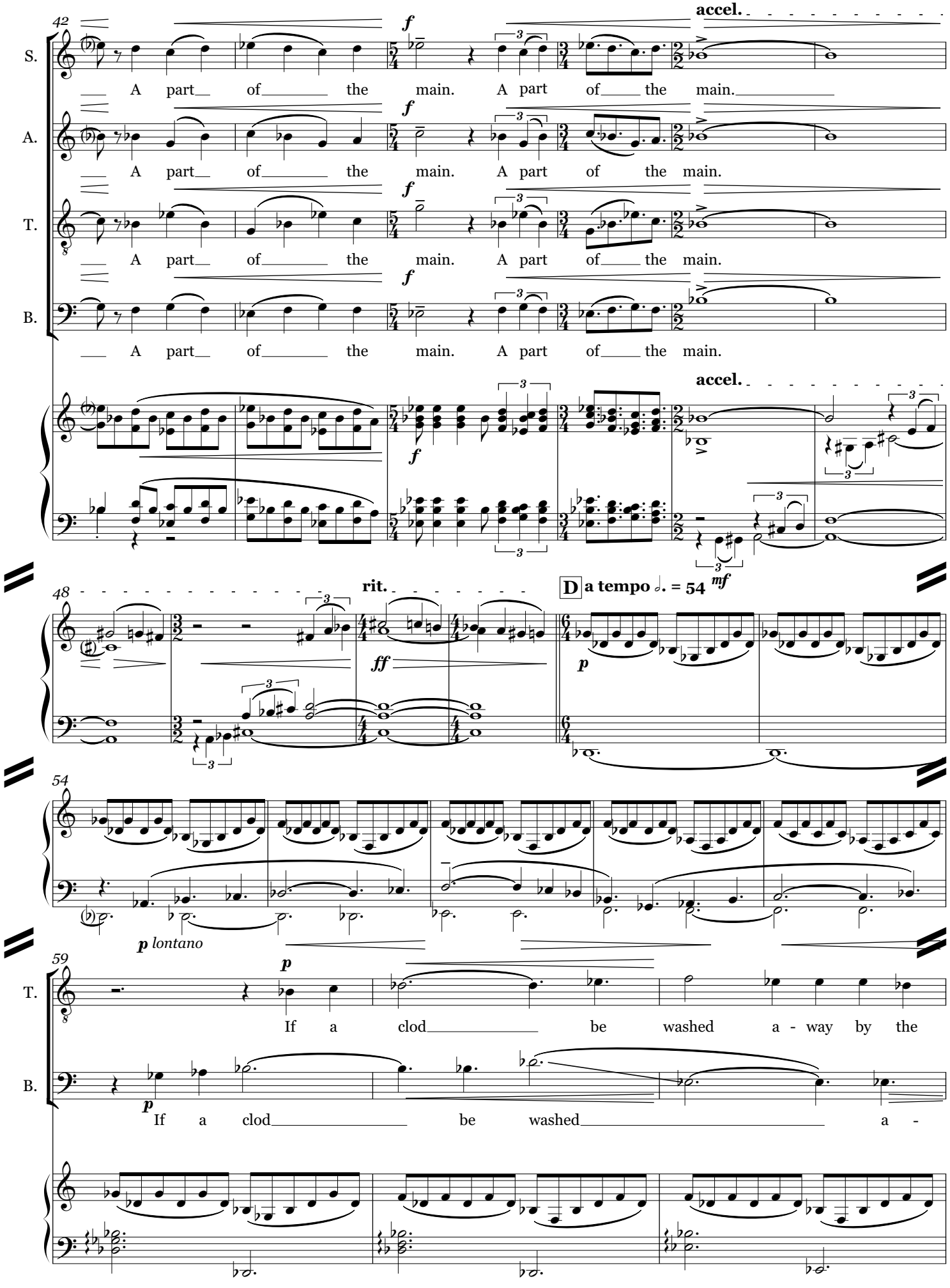


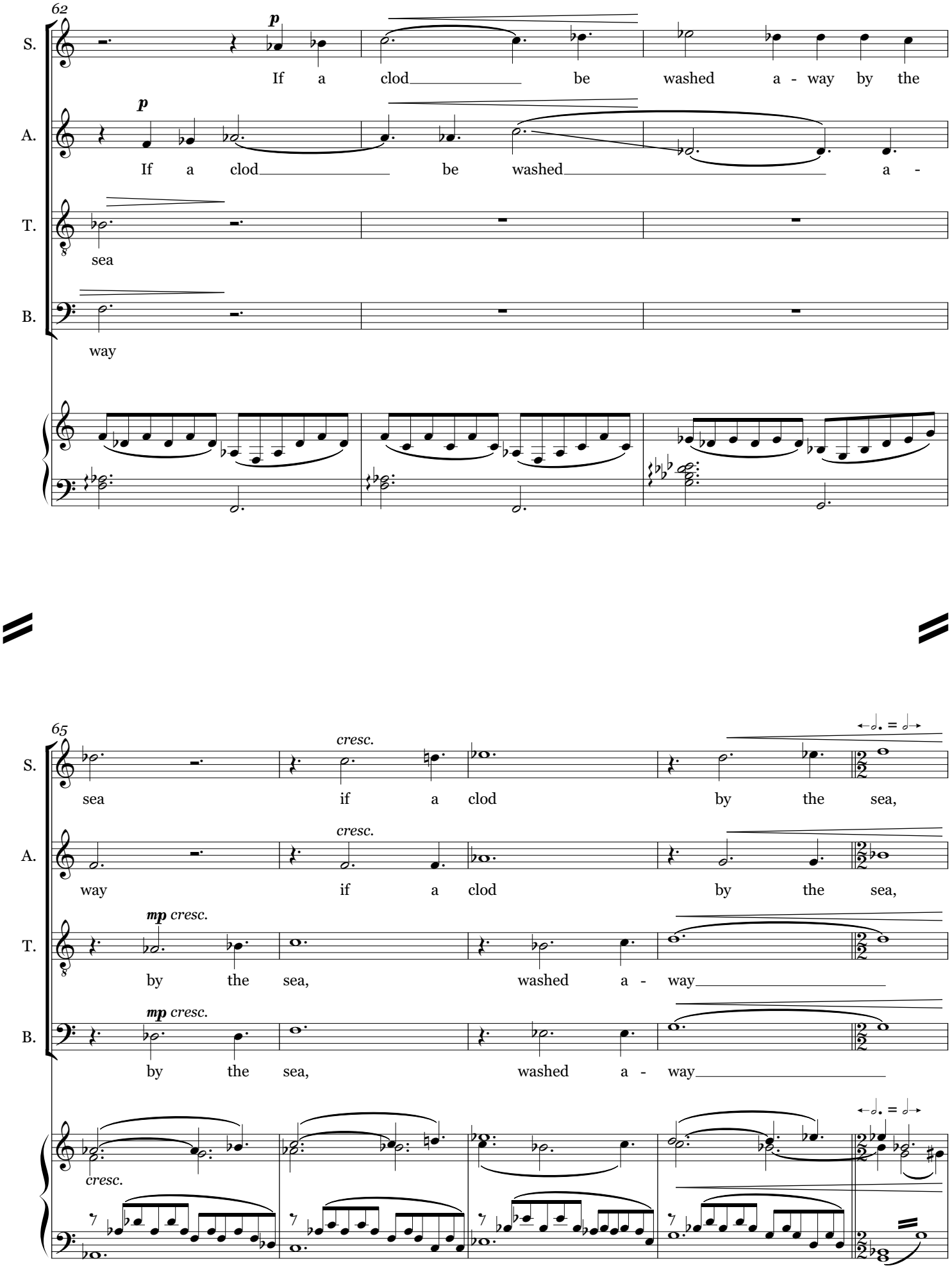
*The accompaniment and soloist continue in tempo. The conductor starts the choir 'sweep' in the middle, with both hands, fanning out to both sides over the final four bars. Wait until the last singer has finished, and allow a substantial pause, before starting the following movement.

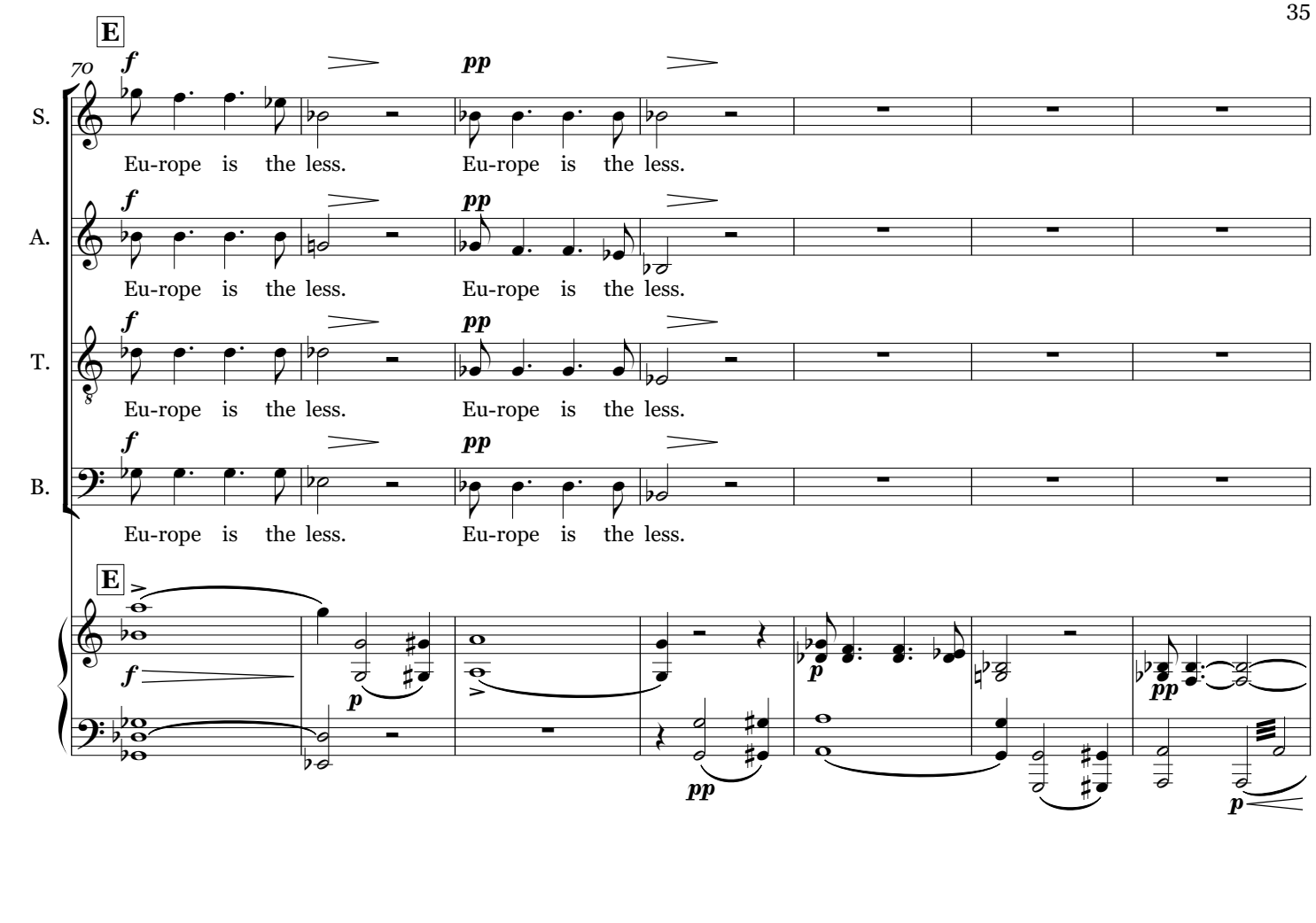

Andante espressivo, con rubato ♩=90
Poco più mosso ♩= 96
1
pp dolcissimo
S.
A.
T.
B.
No man is an is-land, en-tire of it-self. No man is an is-land, en-tire of it - self.
poco s fp
9
13
A
mp warm
p warm
mp
No man is an is - land, No man, No man is an
No man is an is - land, No man is an is - land, No man,
No man is an is - land, No man is an is - land, No man,
No man is an is - land, No man is an is - land, No man, an
pp

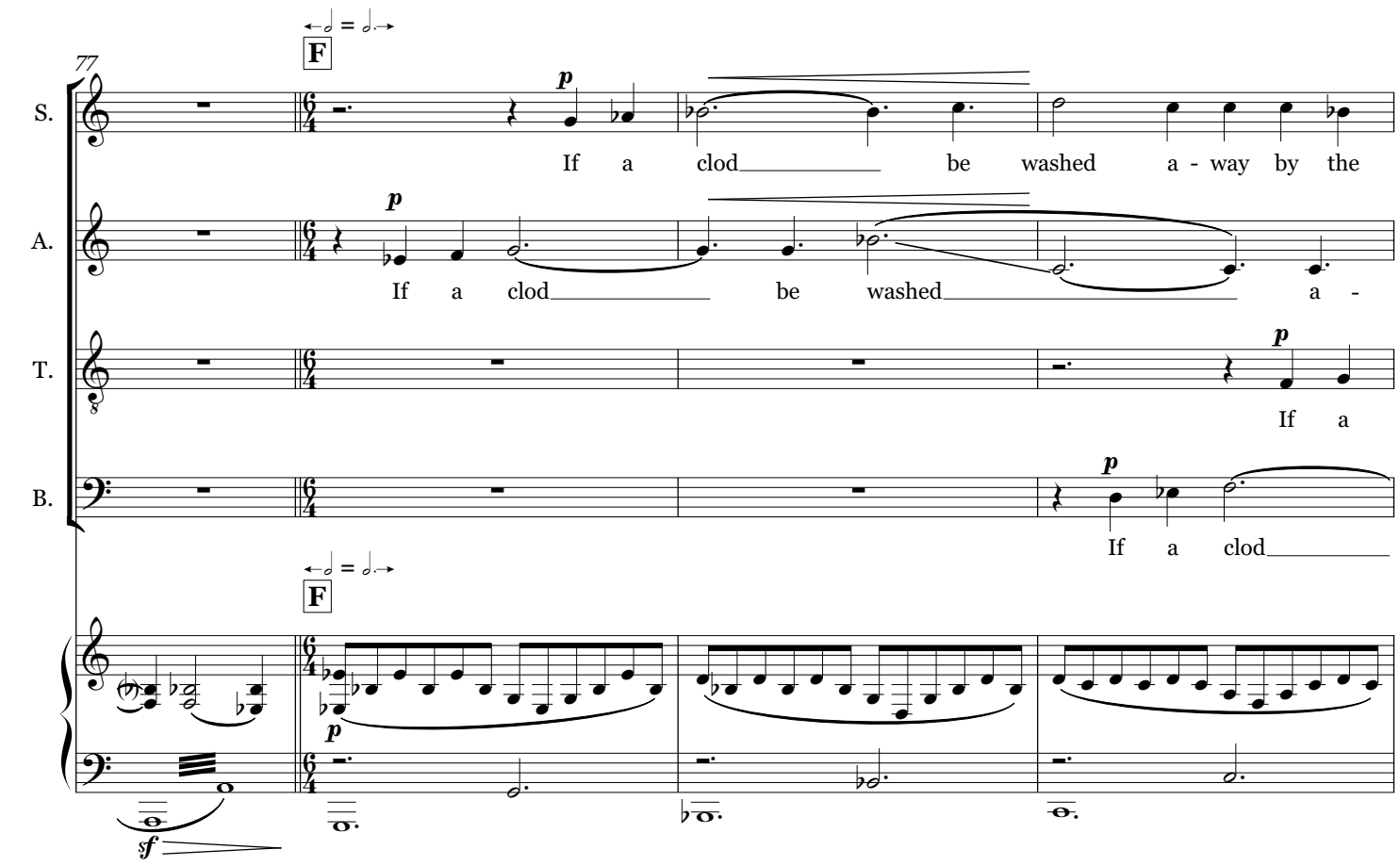

18
S.
A.
T.
B.
mp
p
cresc.
is - land, an is - land, an is-land, en - tire of it - self, it -
is-land, an is-land, an is - land, en - tire of it - self, it -
mp cresc.
23
f
rit.
self, it - self, of it - self,
self, of it - self, of it - self,
poco f
mf

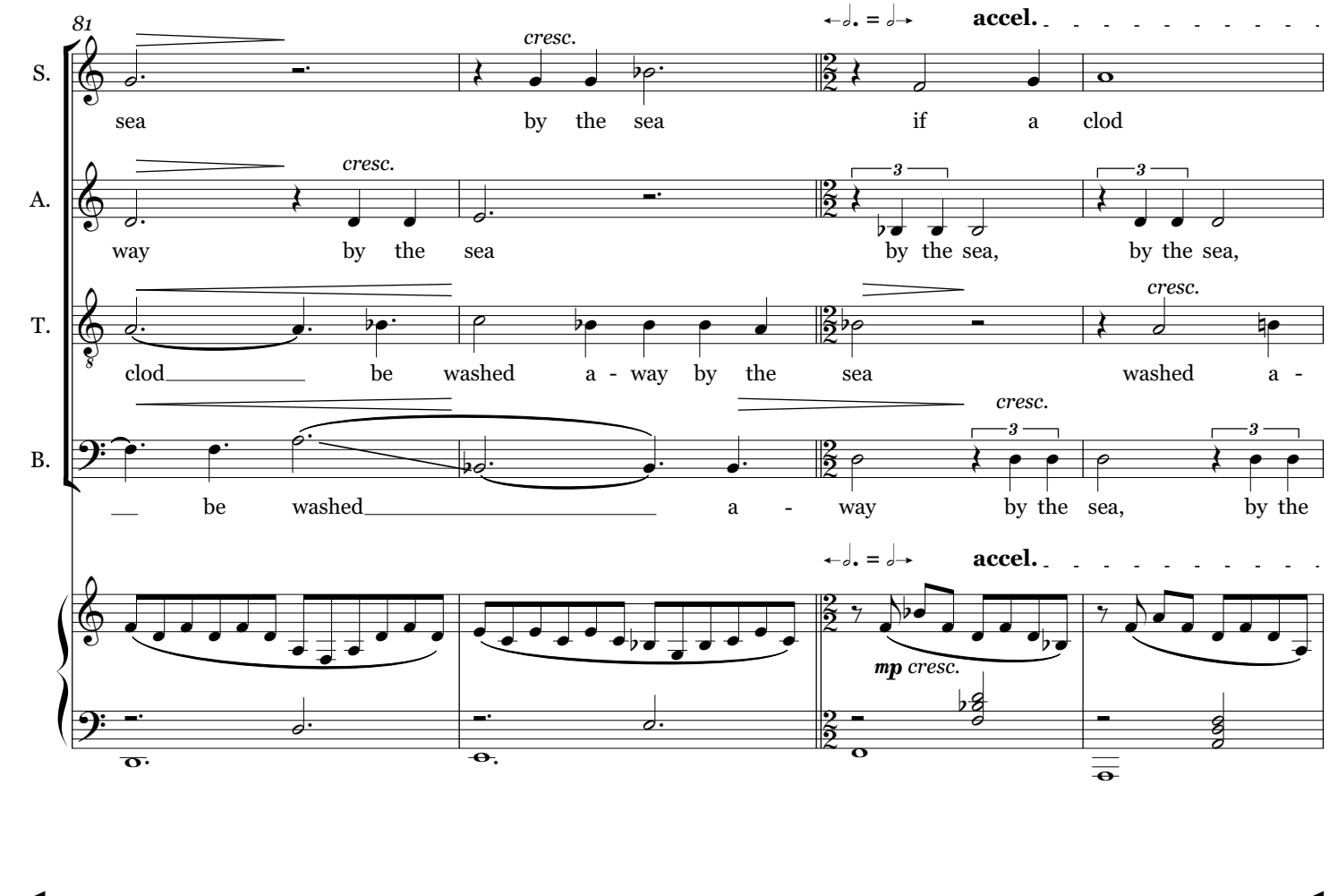

B
Poco andante ♩ = 54
27
pp
S.
A.
T.
B.
Ev-'ry man is a piece of the con - ti- nent, A part of the main.
Ev-'ry man is a piece of the con - ti- nent, A part of the main.
Ev-'ry man is a piece of the con - ti- nent, A part A part of the main.
Ev-'ry man is a piece of the con - ti- nent, A part A part of the main.
B
Poco andante ♩ = 54
pp
mp cresc.
p
33
mf
fp
38
C
mf
Ev-'ry man is a piece of the con - ti- nent, A part of the main.
C
poco f

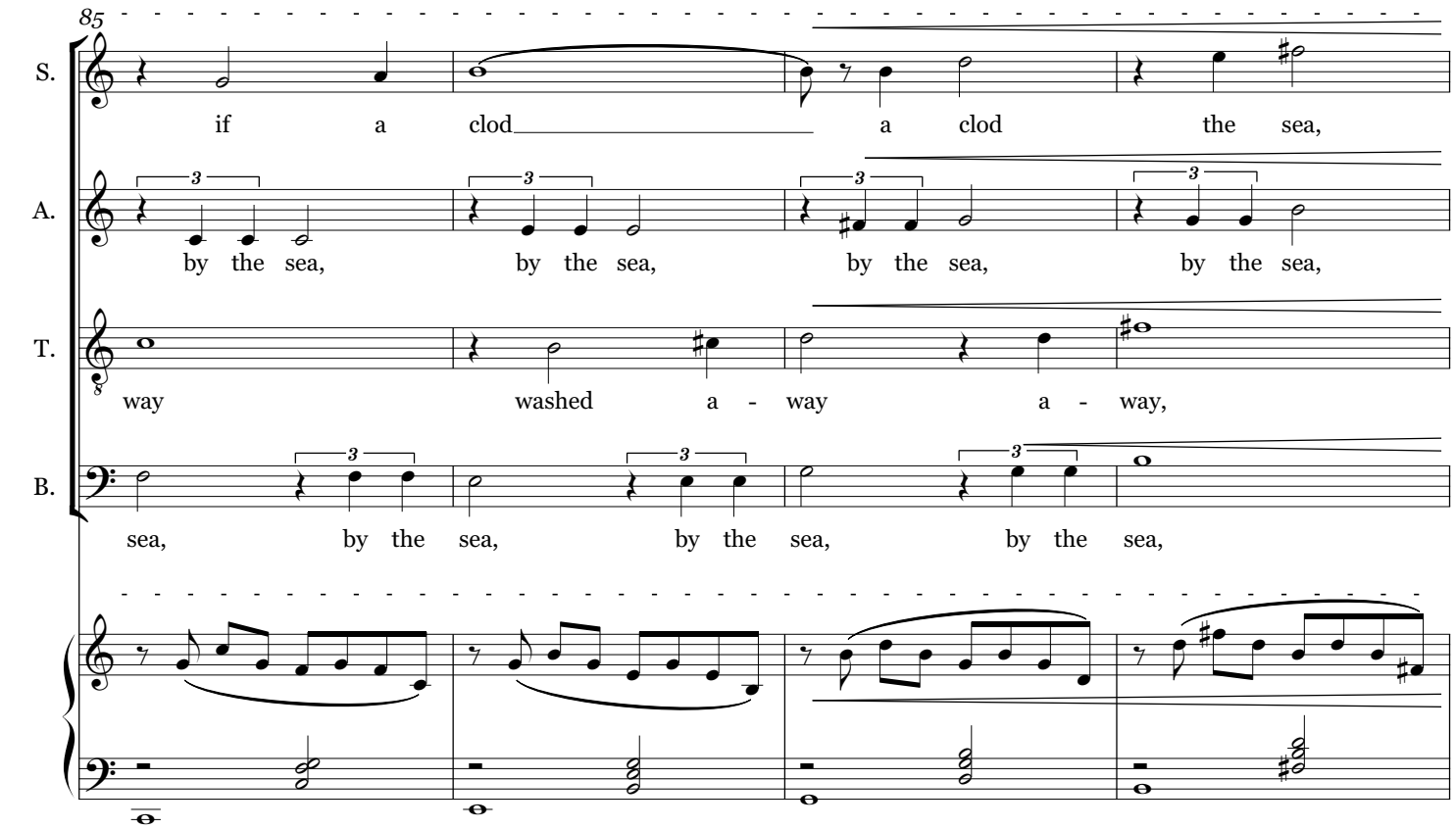

42
accel.
S.
A part of the main. A part of the main.
A.
A part of the main. A part of the main.
T.
A part of the main. A part of the main.
B.
A part of the main. A part of the main.
accel.
48
rit.
D a tempo ♩. = 54
mf
ff
p
54
p lontano
59
p
T.
If a clod be washed a - way by the
B.
If a clod be washed a -

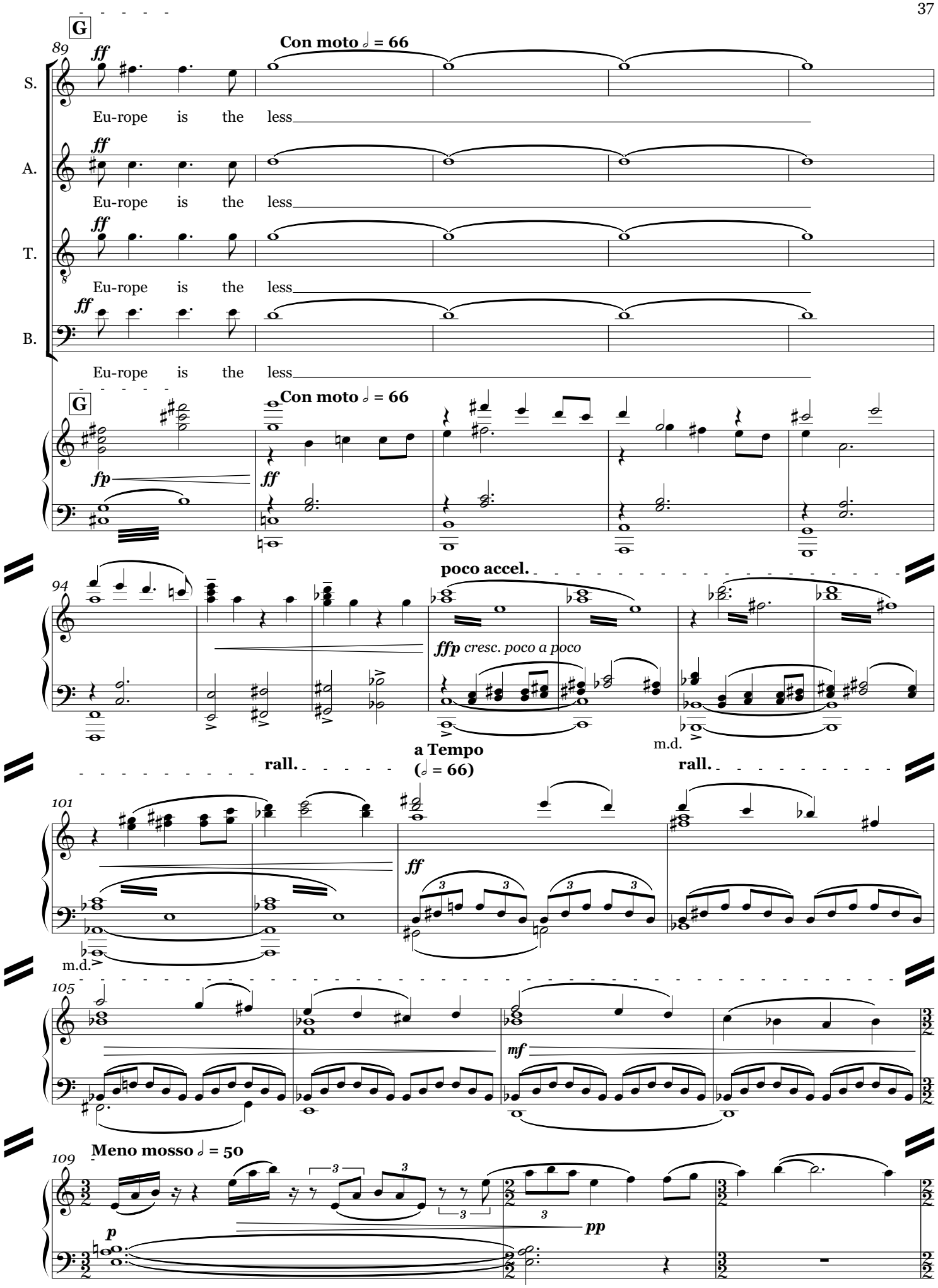

62
S.
p
If a clod be washed a - way by the
A.
p
If a clod be washed a -
T.
sea
B.
way
65
cresc.
sea if a clod by the sea,
cresc.
way if a clod by the sea,
mp cresc.
by the sea, washed a - way
mp cresc.
by the sea, washed a - way
cresc.

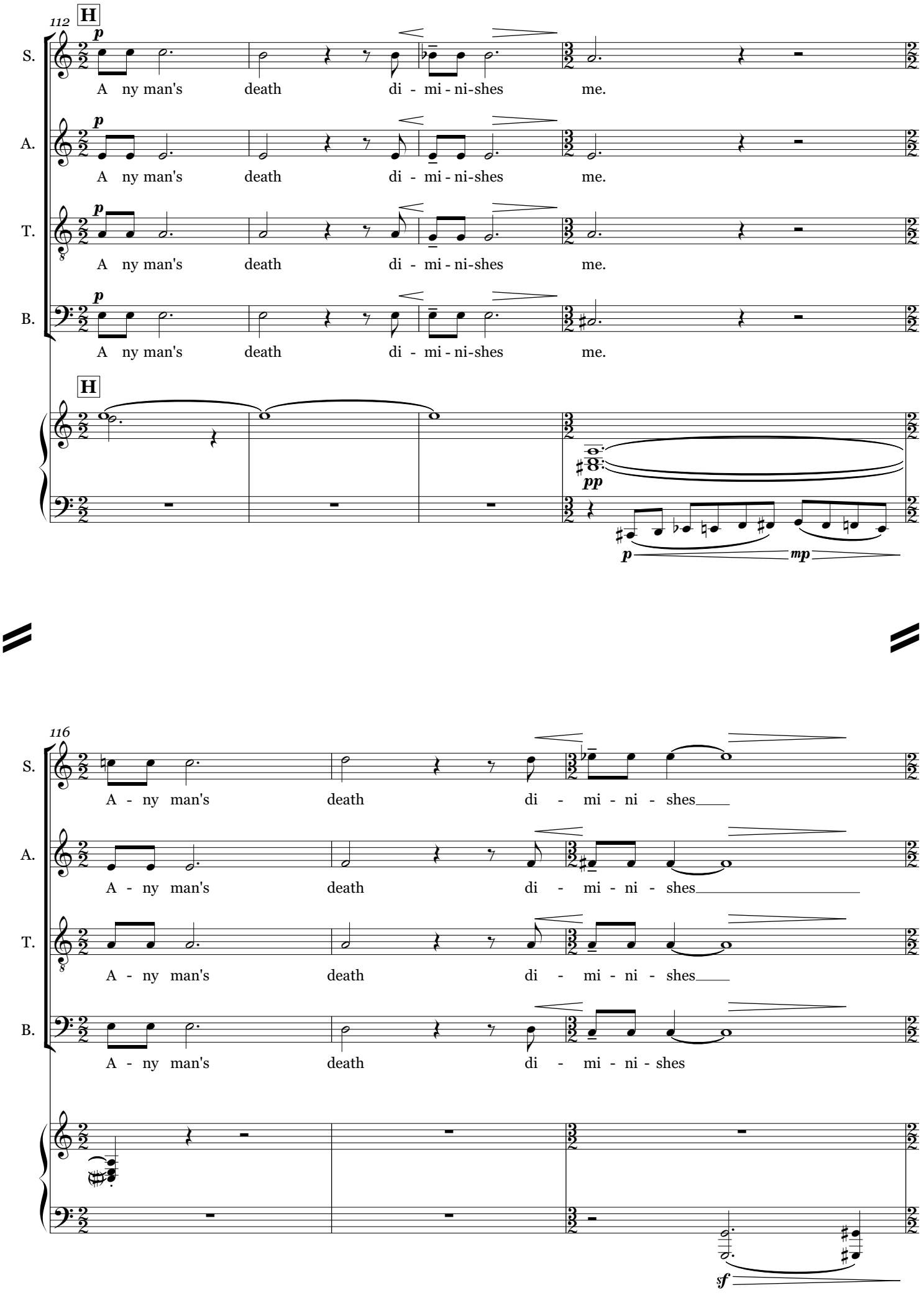

E
70
S.
A.
T.
B.
f
pp
Eu-rope is the less.
Eu-rope is the less.
E
f
p
pp

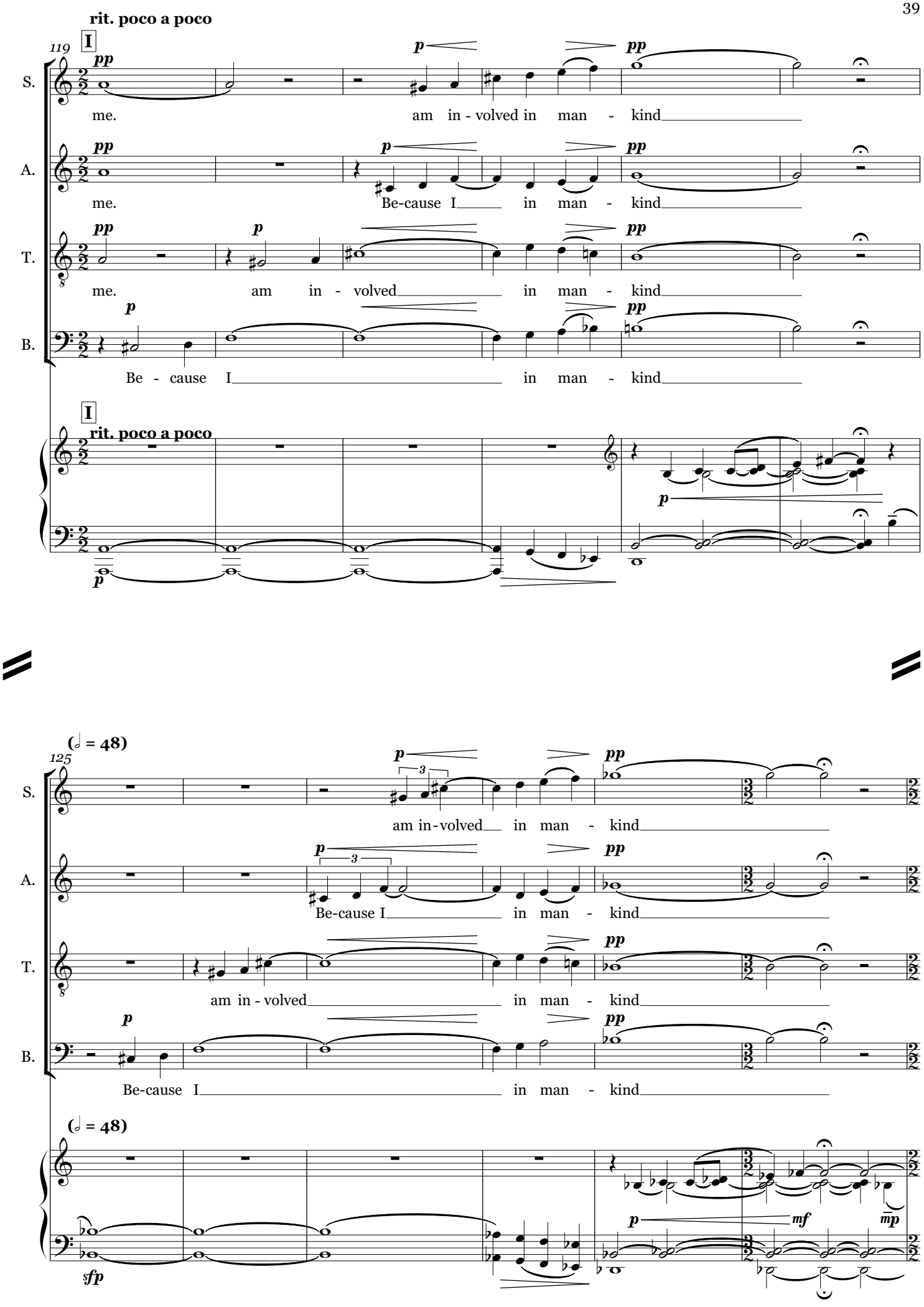

77
F
S.
A.
T.
B.
p
If a clod be washed a - way by the
If a clod be washed a -
If a
If a clod
F
p
sf

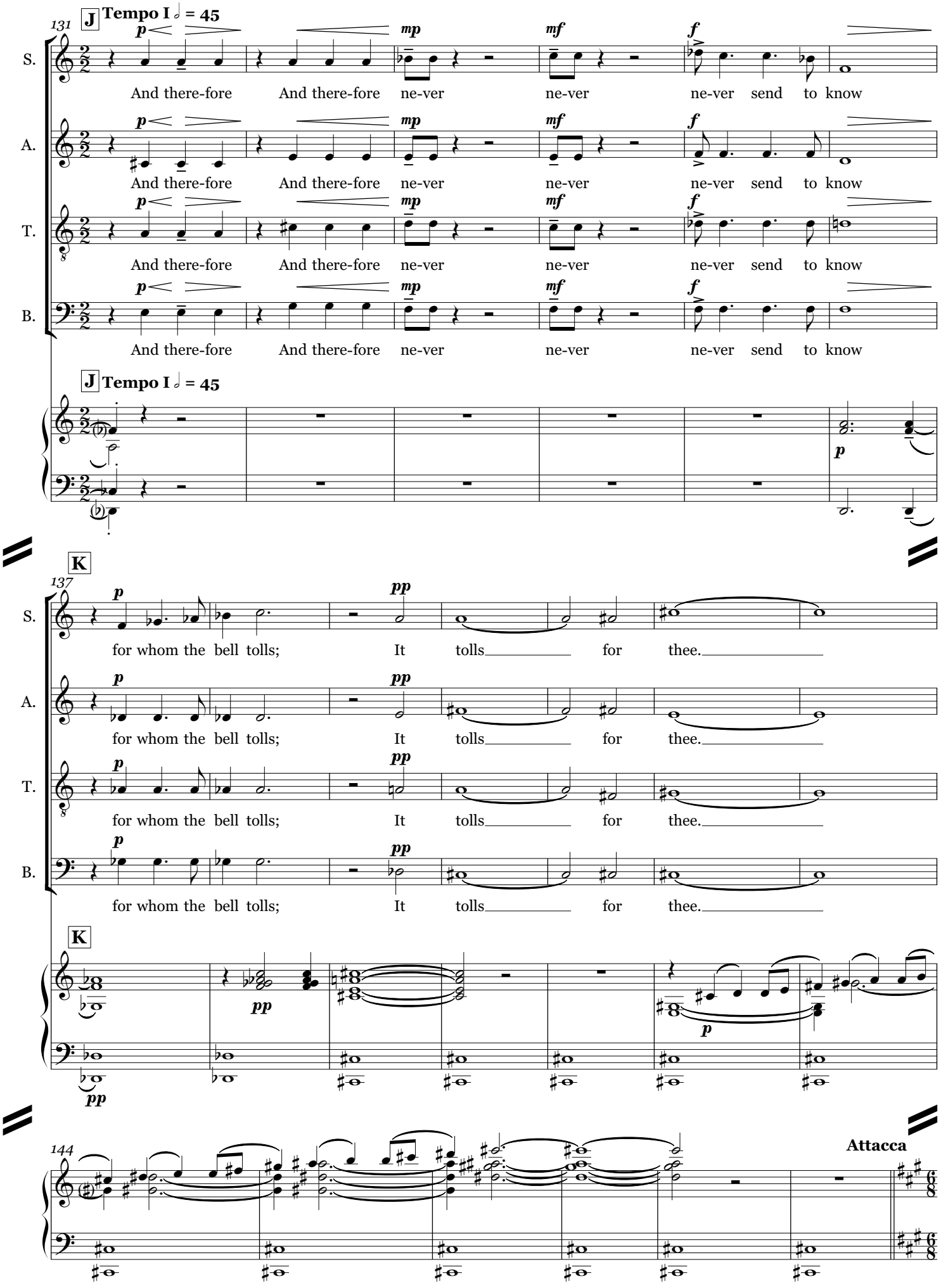

81
S.
A.
T.
B.
cresc.
accel.
sea by the sea if a clod
way by the sea by the sea, by the sea,
clod be washed a - way by the sea washed a -
be washed a - way by the sea, by the
mp cresc.


85
S.
A.
T.
B.
if a clod a clod the sea,
by the sea, by the sea, by the sea, by the sea,
way washed a - way a - way,
sea, by the sea, by the sea, by the sea,

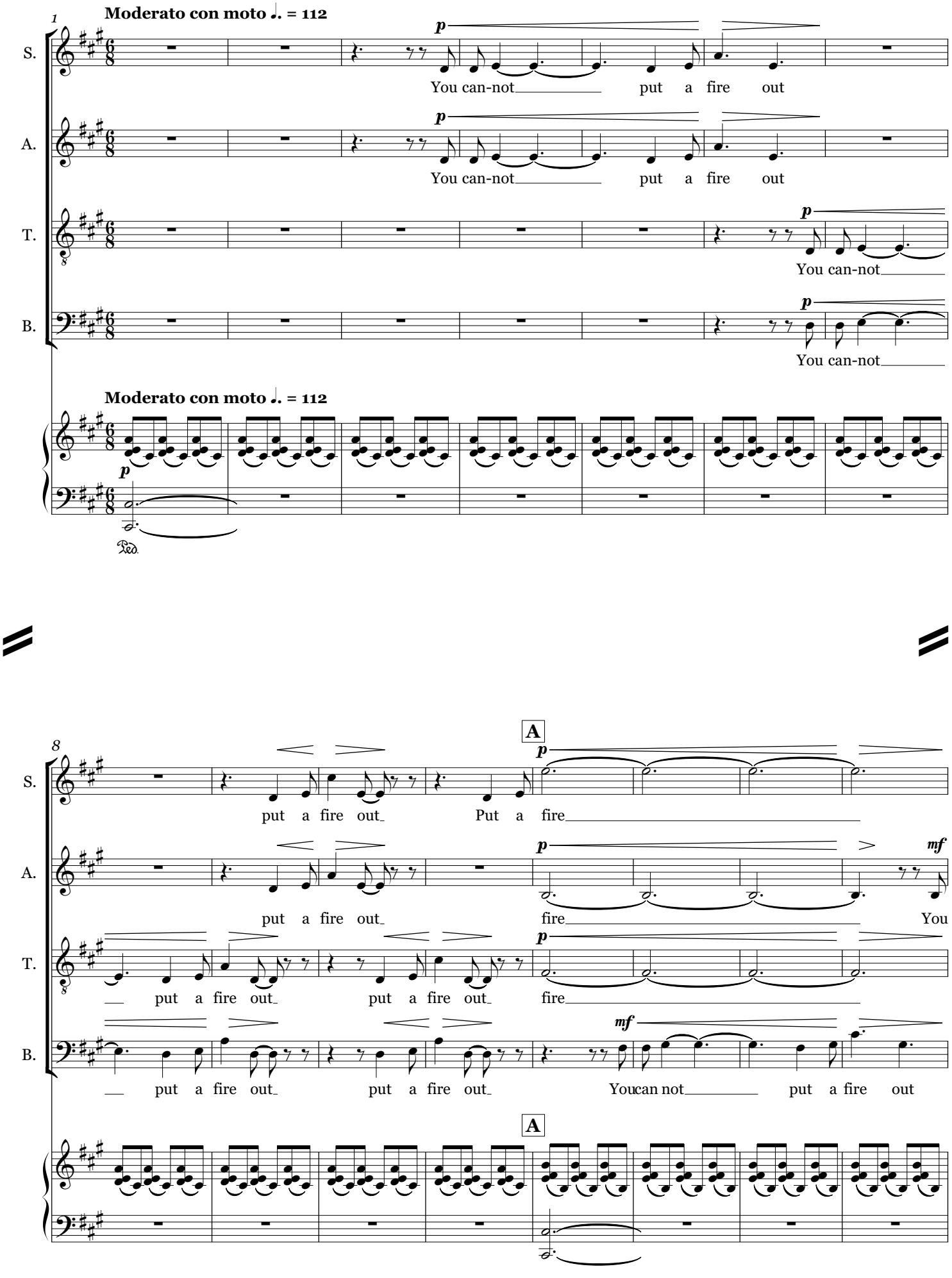

G
89
Con moto ♩ = 66
S.
A.
T.
B.
ff
Eu-rope is the less
G
Con moto ♩ = 66
fp
ff
94
poco accel.
ffp cresc. poco a poco
m.d.
rall.
a Tempo
(♩ = 66)
rall.
101
ff
m.d.
105
mf
Meno mosso ♩ = 50
109
p
pp

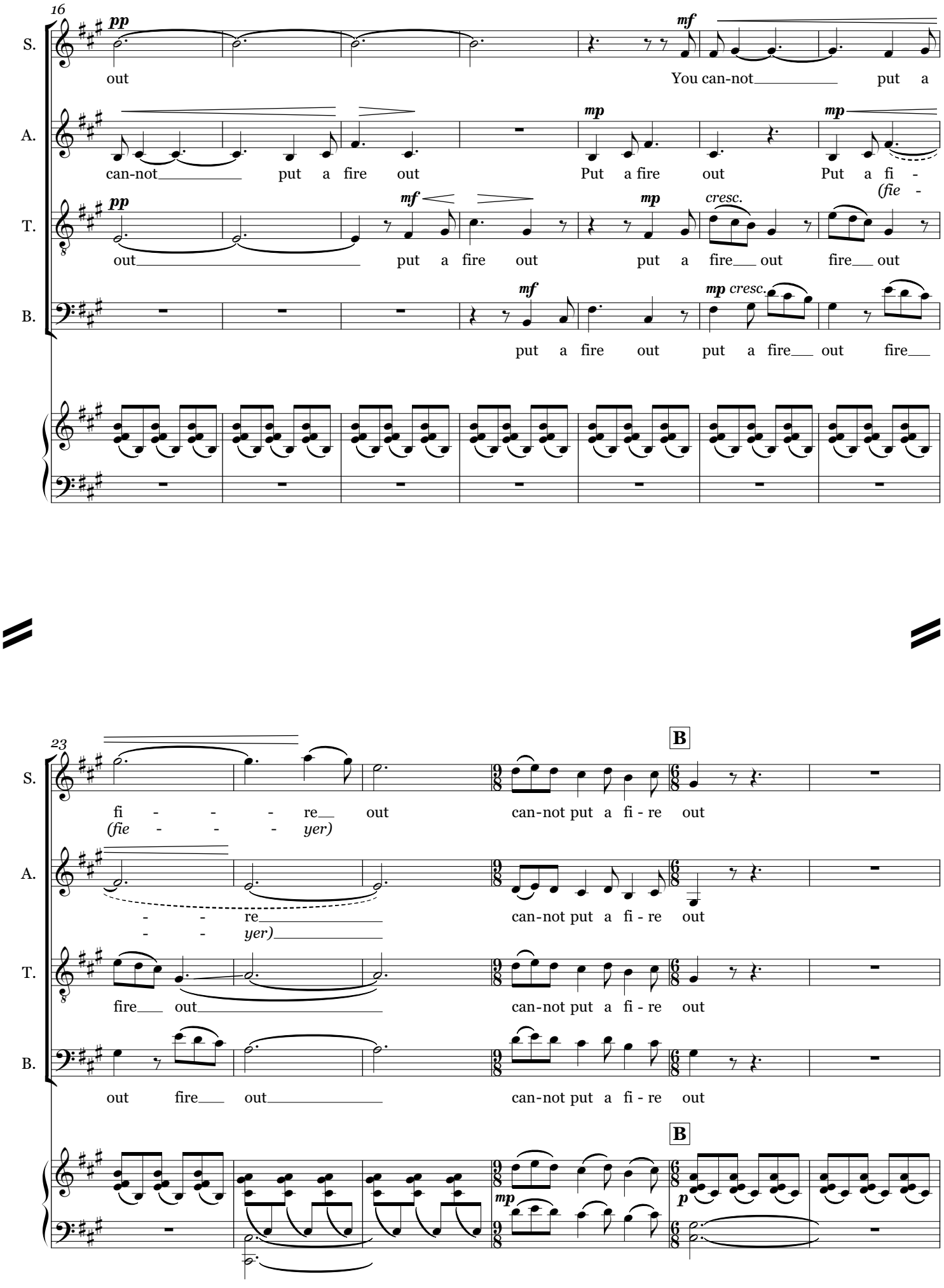

112
H
S.
A.
T.
B.
A ny man's death di - mi - ni-shes me.
pp
p
mp
116
A - ny man's death di - mi - ni - shes
sf

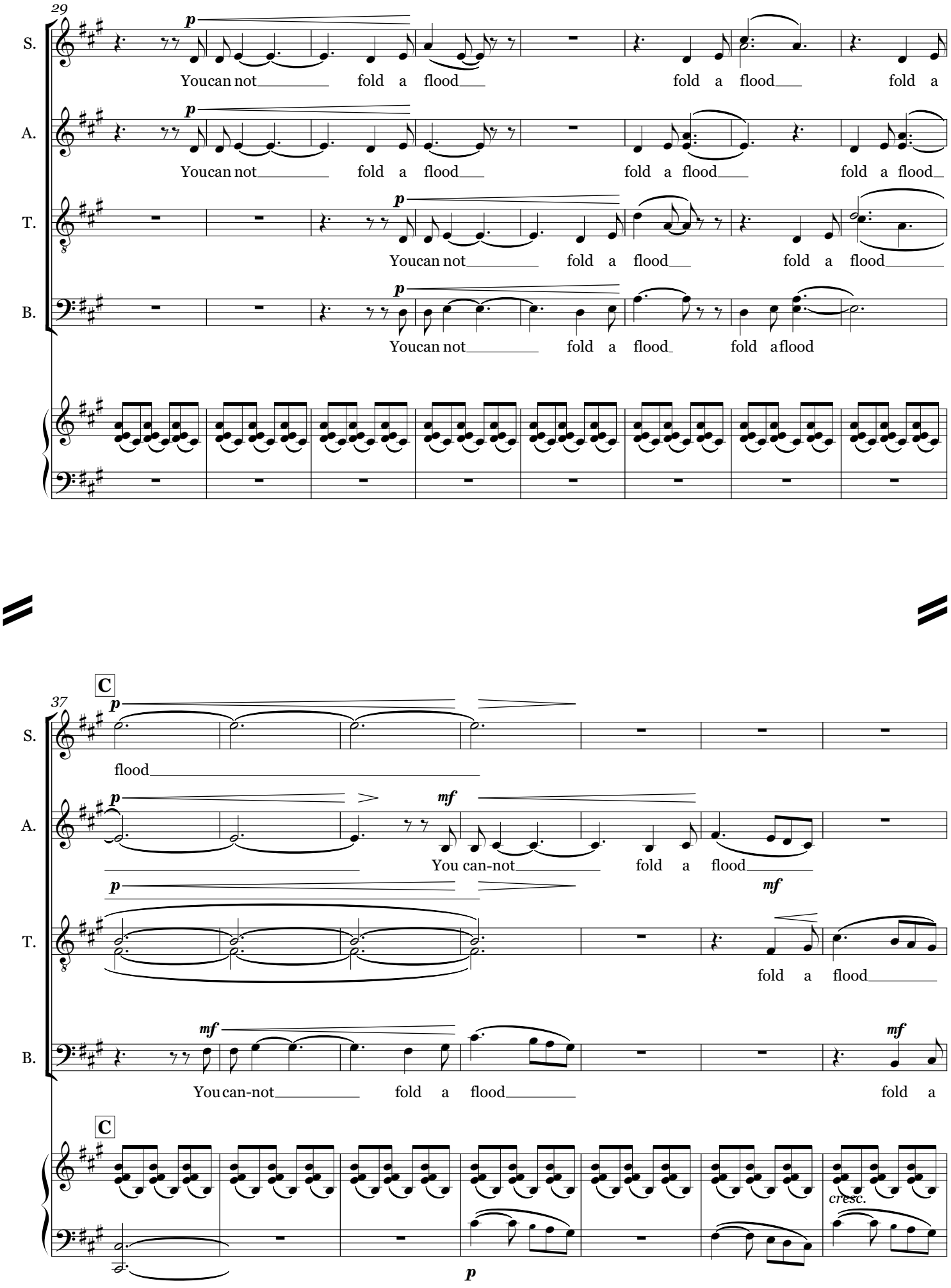

rit. poco a poco
119
I
S.
A.
T.
B.
me.
Be-cause I
am in - volved
in man - kind
rit. poco a poco
(𝅗𝅥 = 48)
125
am in-volved
Be-cause I
sfp
mf
mp

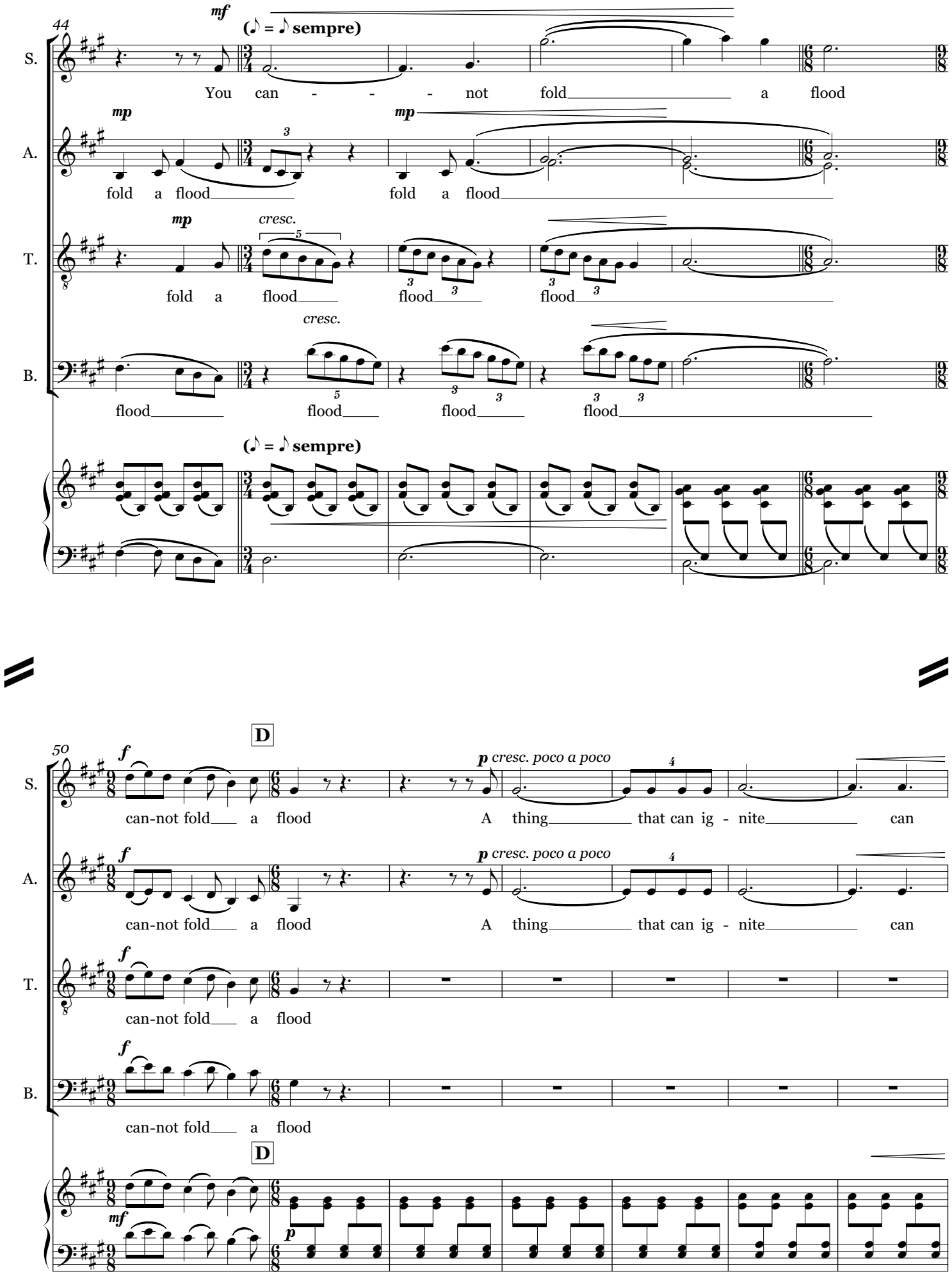

131
J Tempo I ♩ = 45
S.
A.
T.
B.
p mp mf f
And there-fore And there-fore ne-ver ne-ver ne-ver send to know
J Tempo I ♩ = 45
p
137
K
for whom the bell tolls; It tolls for thee.
pp
K
144
Attacca

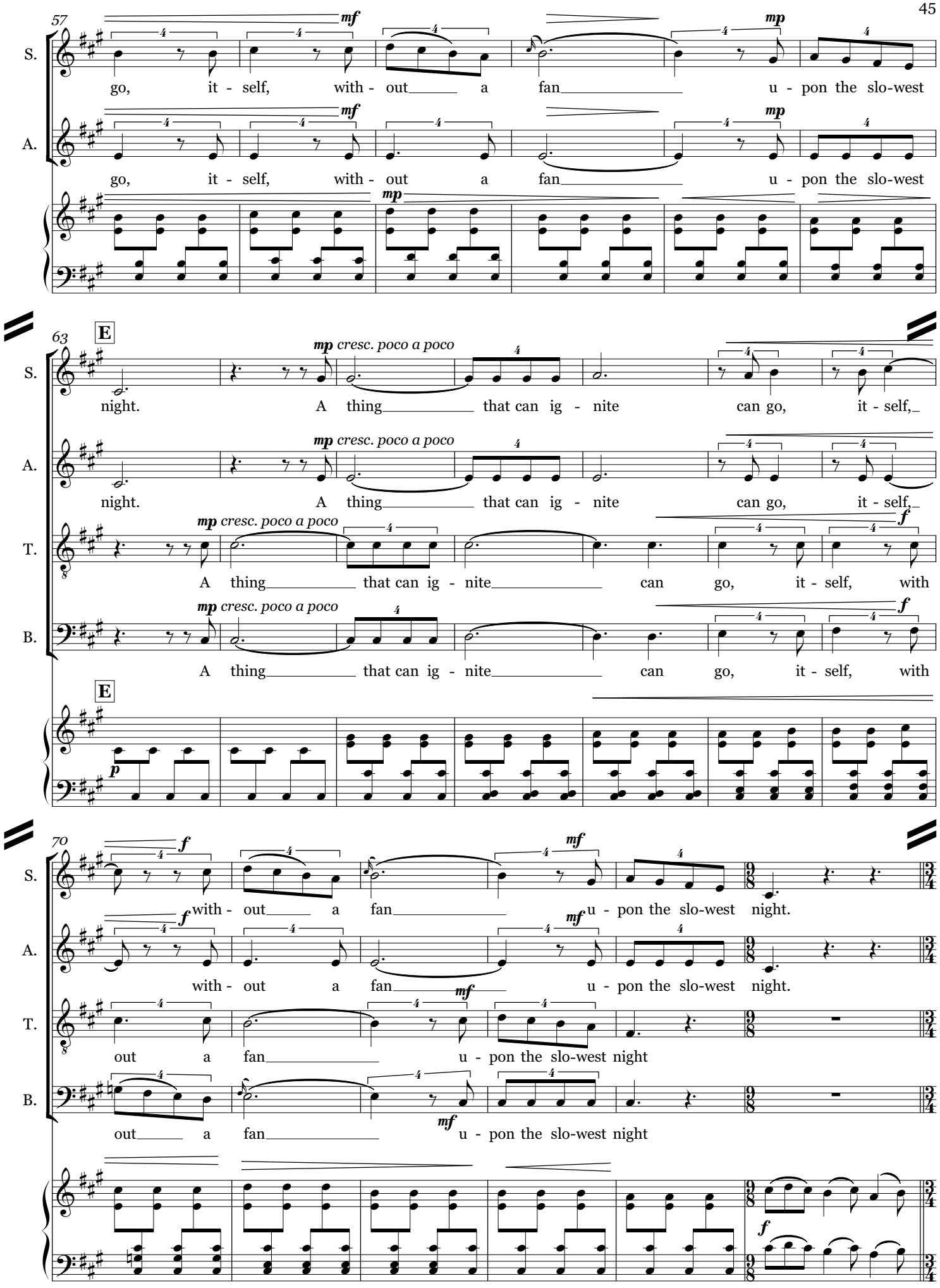
Emily Dickinson

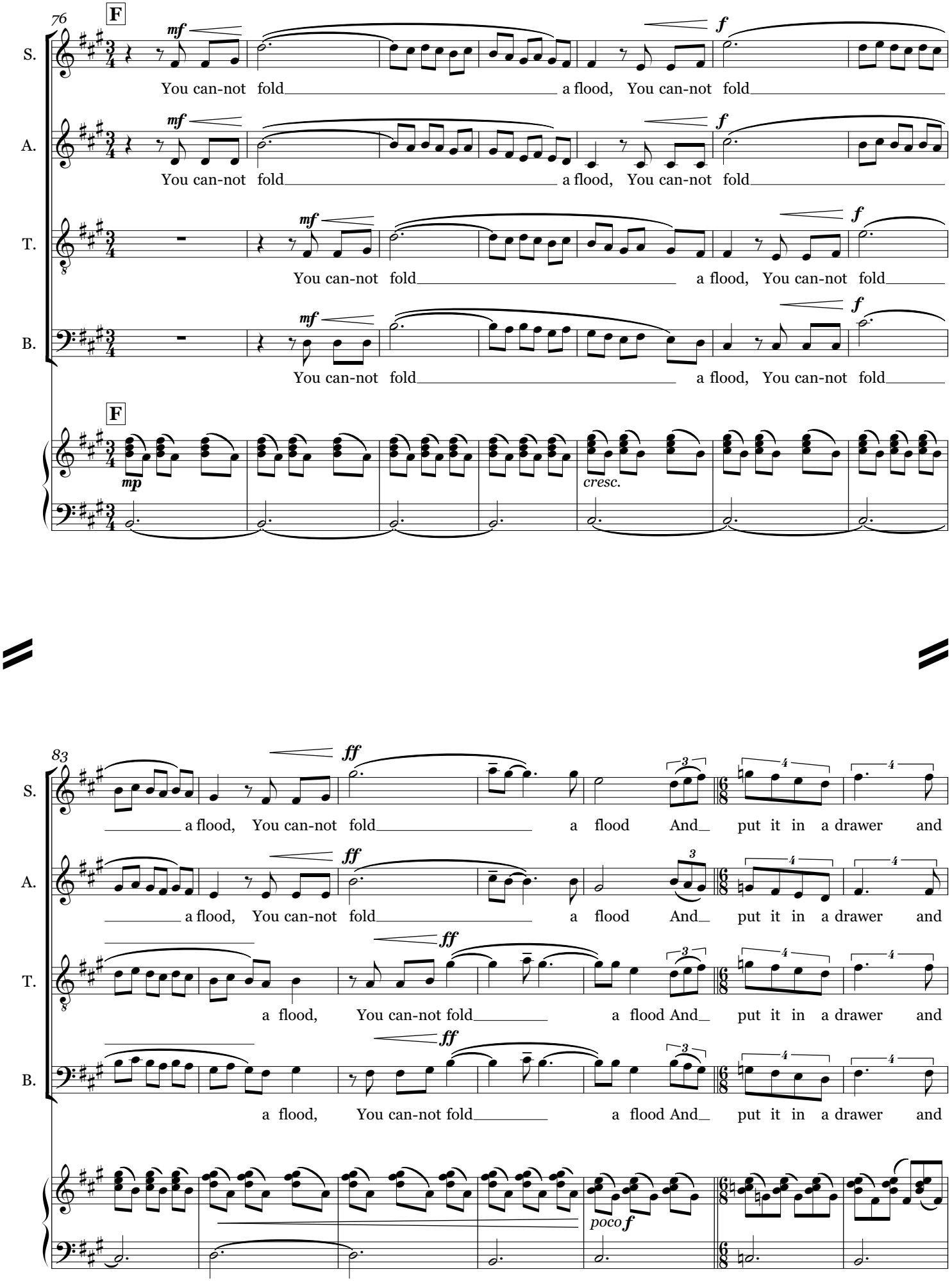


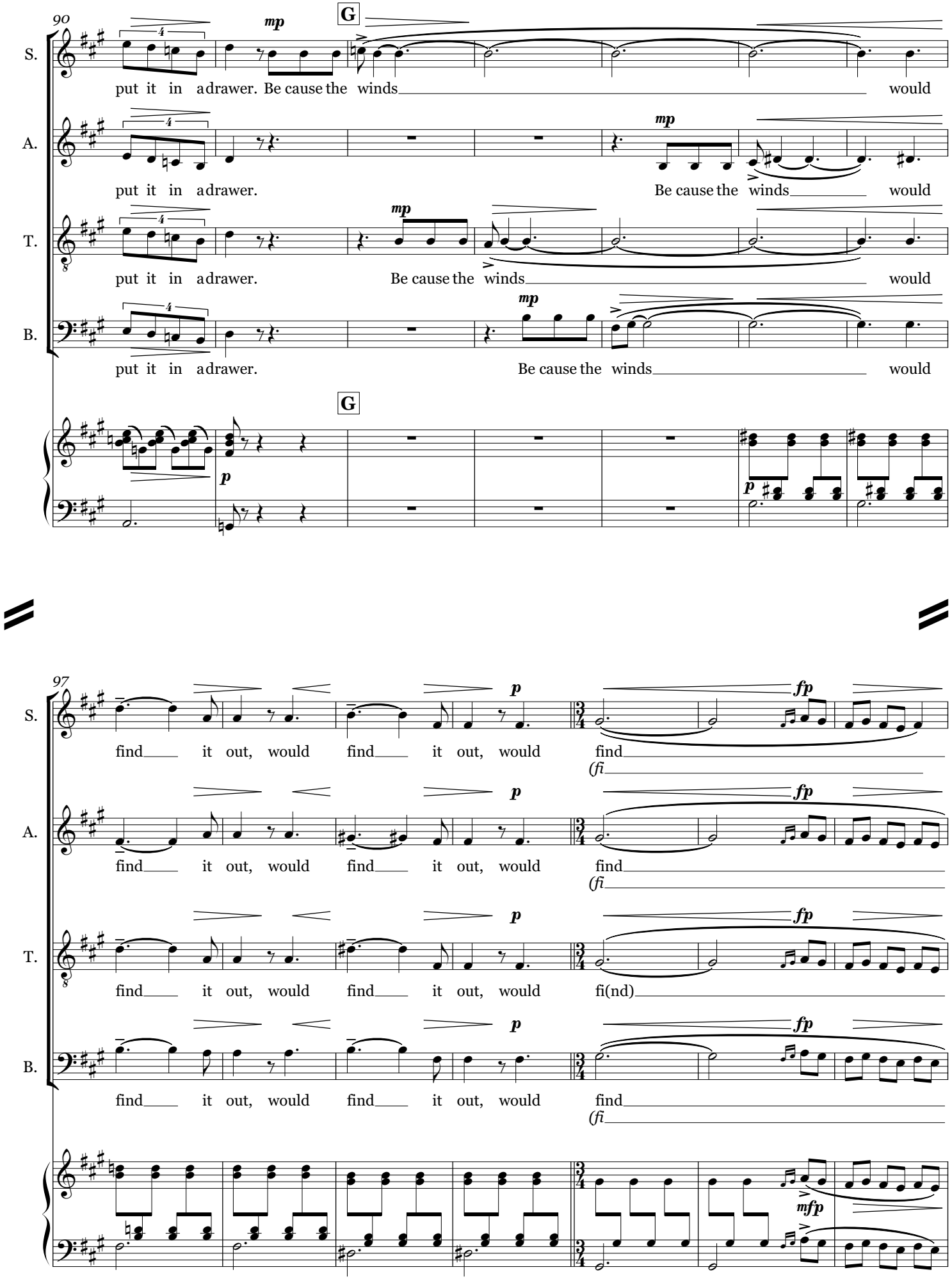

16
S.
A.
T.
B.
pp
mf
mp
cresc.
out
You can-not put a
can-not put a fire out
Put a fire out
Put a fi -
(fie -
out put a fire out
put a fire out
put a fire out
23
B
fi - - - re out
(fie - - - yer)
can-not put a fi - re out
- - re
- - yer)
fire out
out fire out

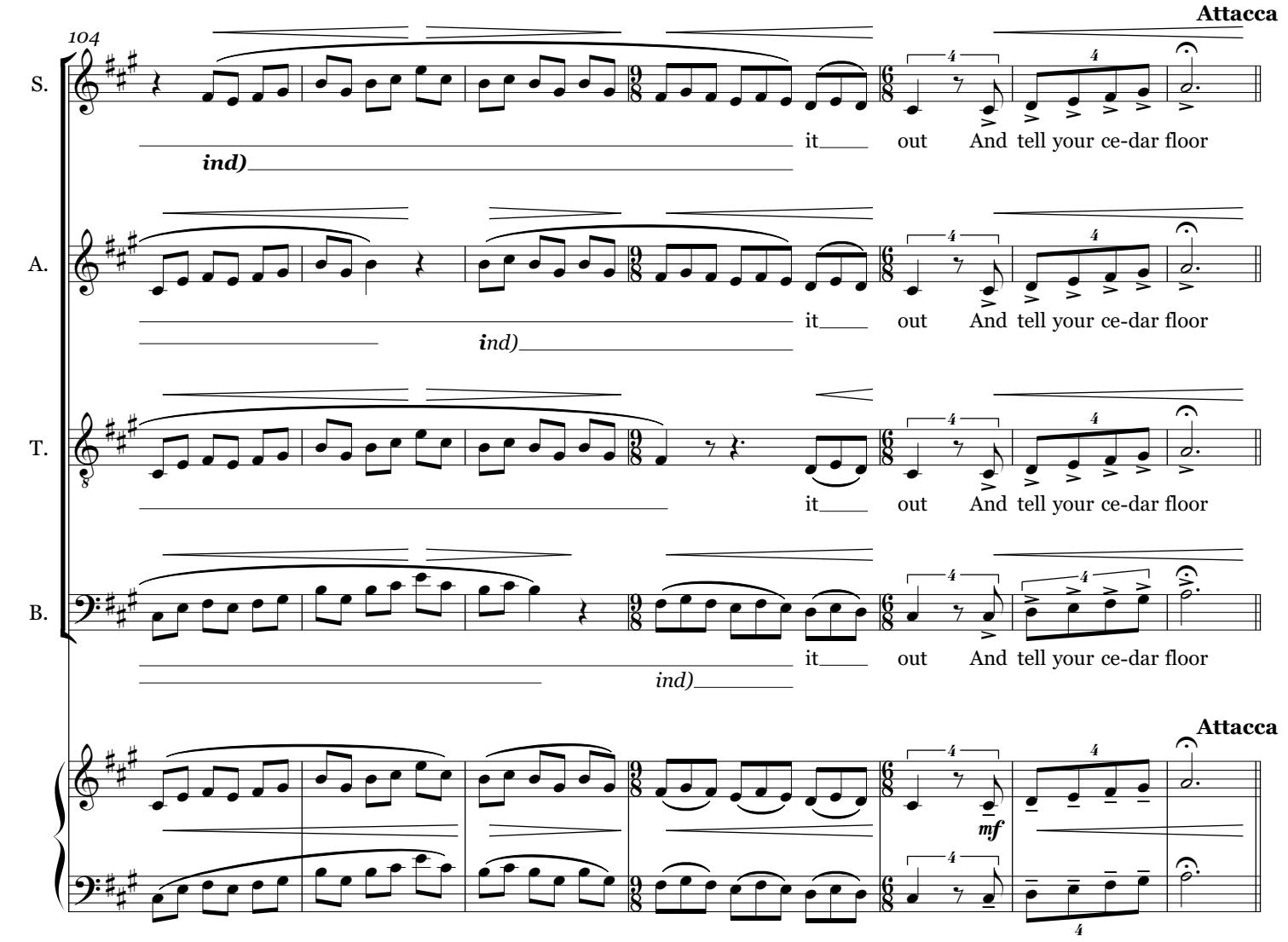

29
S.
A.
T.
B.
p
Youcan not fold a flood fold a flood fold a
Youcan not fold a flood fold a flood fold a flood
Youcan not fold a flood fold a flood
Youcan not fold a flood fold a flood
37
C
flood
mf
You can-not fold a flood
You can-not fold a flood fold a
cresc.


44
mf
(♪ = ♪ sempre)
S.
You can - - - not fold a flood
A.
mp
fold a flood
mp
fold a flood
T.
mp
cresc.
fold a flood
flood
flood
B.
cresc.
flood
flood
flood
flood
(♪ = ♪ sempre)
50
D
f
p cresc. poco a poco
can-not fold a flood
A thing that can ig - nite can
mf
p


57
S.
go, it - self, with - out a fan u - pon the slo-west
A.
go, it - self, with - out a fan u - pon the slo-west
63
E
S.
night. A thing that can ig - nite can go, it - self,
A.
night. A thing that can ig - nite can go, it - self,
T.
A thing that can ig - nite can go, it - self, with
B.
A thing that can ig - nite can go, it - self, with
cresc. poco a poco
70
S.
with - out a fan u - pon the slo-west night.
A.
with - out a fan u - pon the slo-west night.
T.
out a fan u - pon the slo-west night
B.
out a fan u - pon the slo-west night

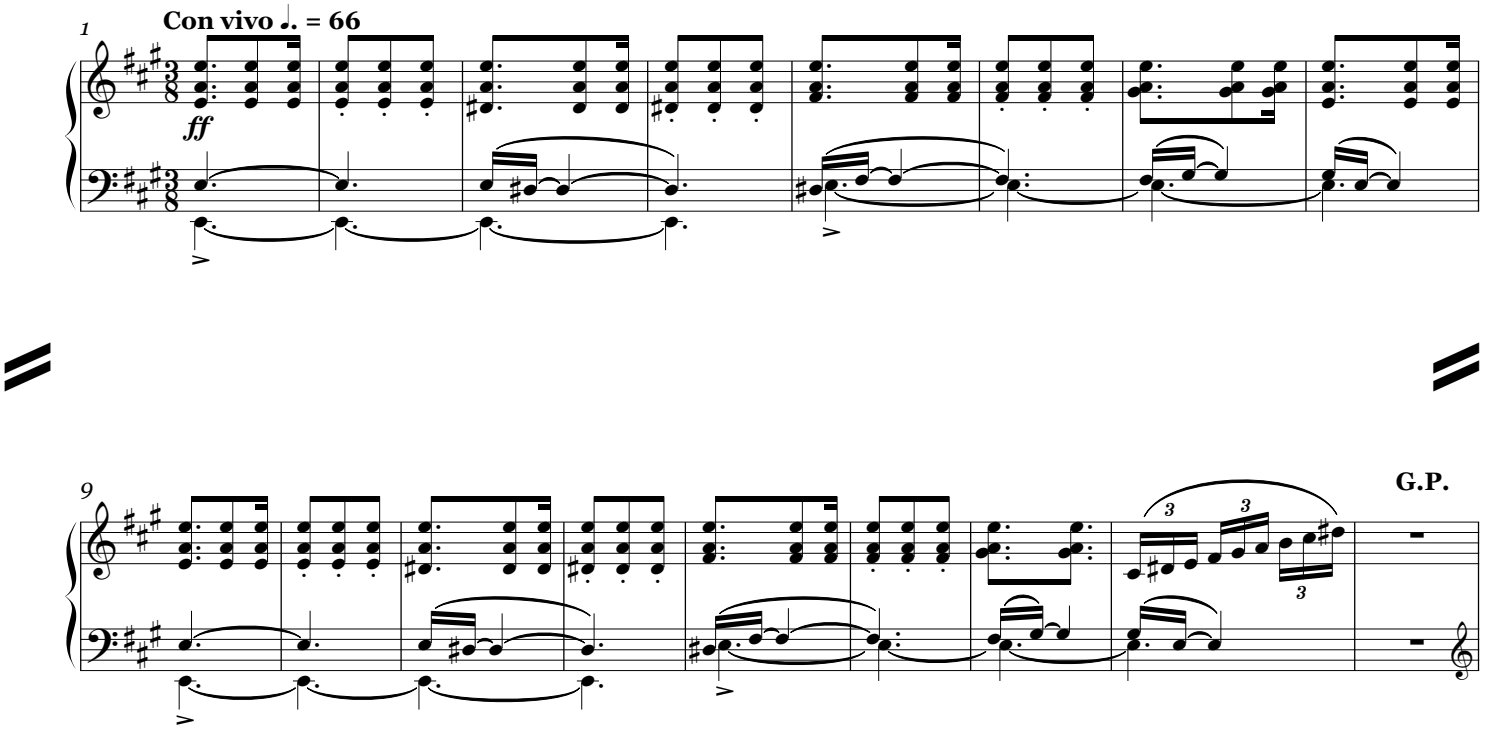

76
F
S.
A.
T.
B.
mf
f
You can-not fold a flood, You can-not fold
F
mp
cresc.
83
ff
a flood, You can-not fold a flood And put it in a drawer and
poco f

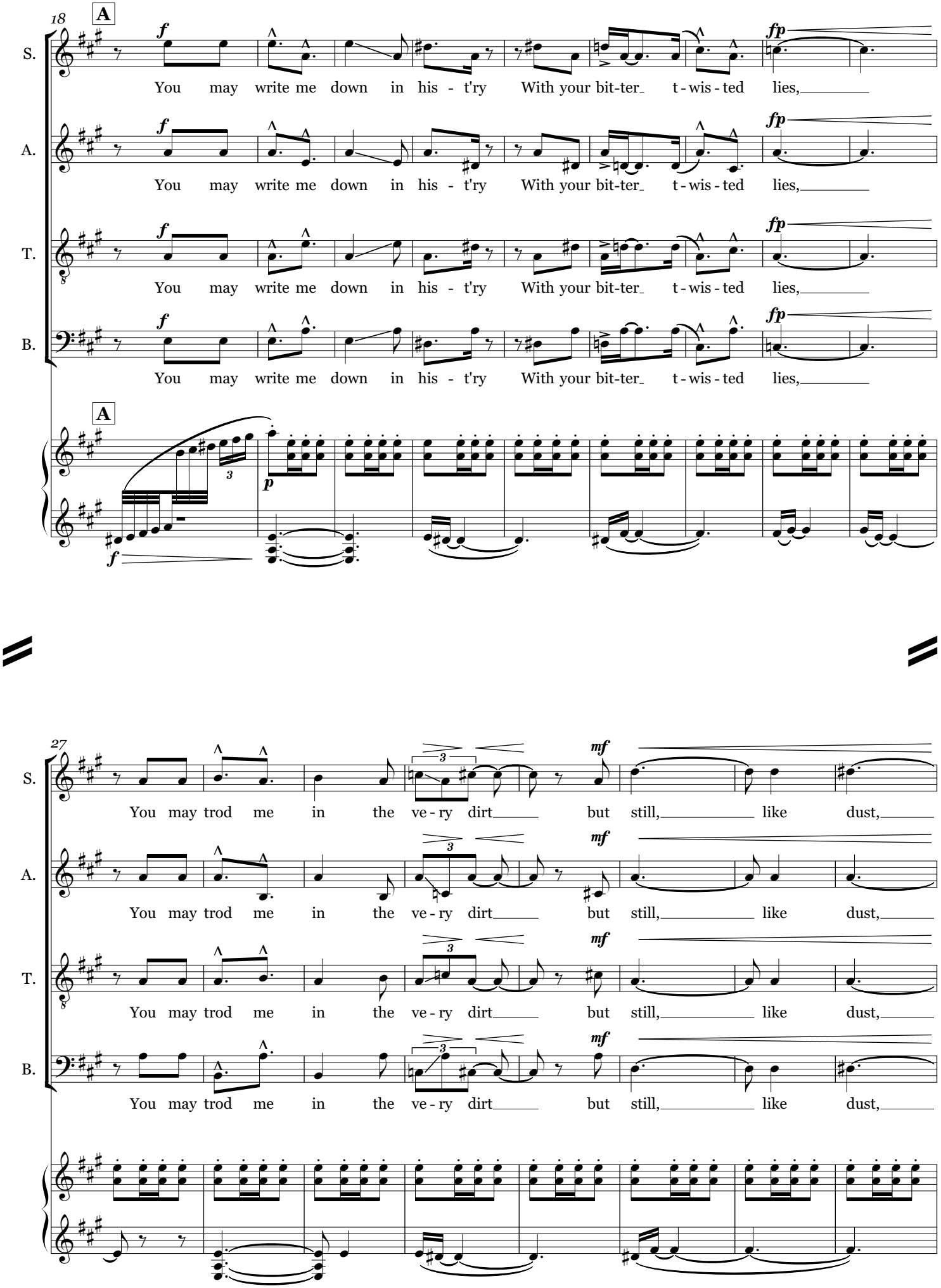

90
G
mp
S.
put it in a drawer. Be cause the winds would
A.
put it in a drawer. Be cause the winds would
T.
put it in a drawer. Be cause the winds would
B.
put it in a drawer. Be cause the winds would
G
p
97
p
fp
find it out, would find it out, would find
(fi
find it out, would find it out, would find
(fi
find it out, would find it out, would fi(nd)
find it out, would find it out, would find
(fi
mfp

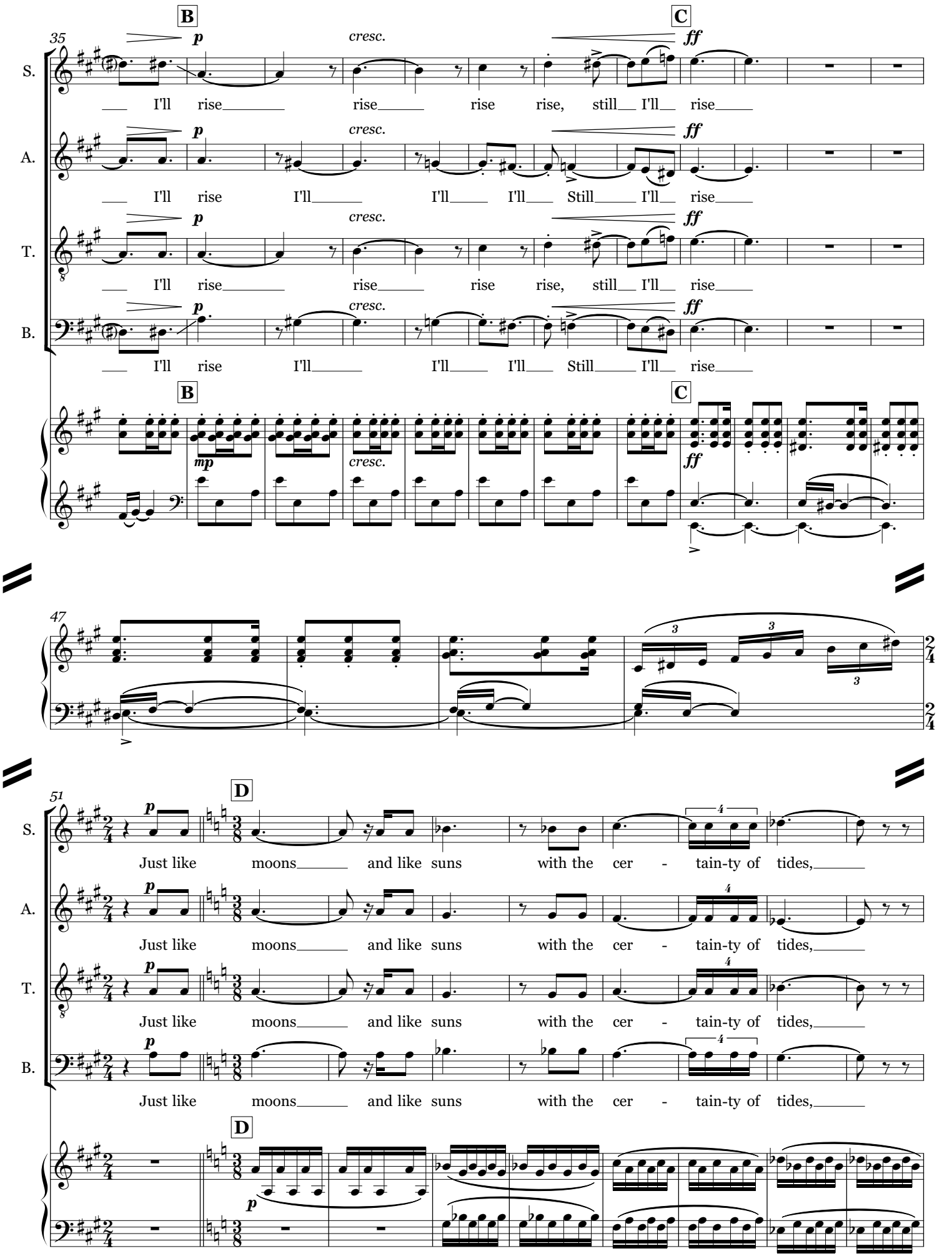


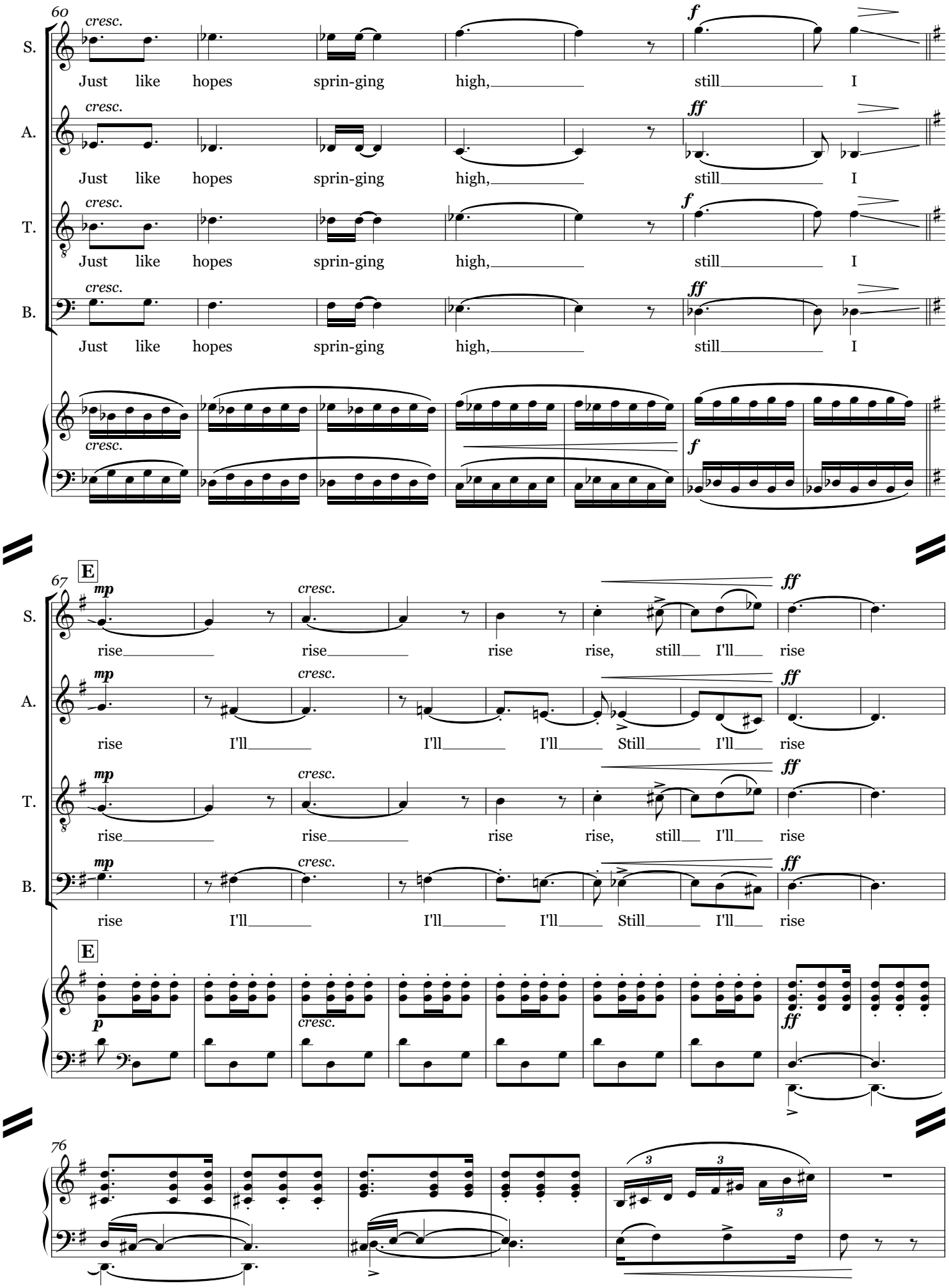
7. Still I Rise

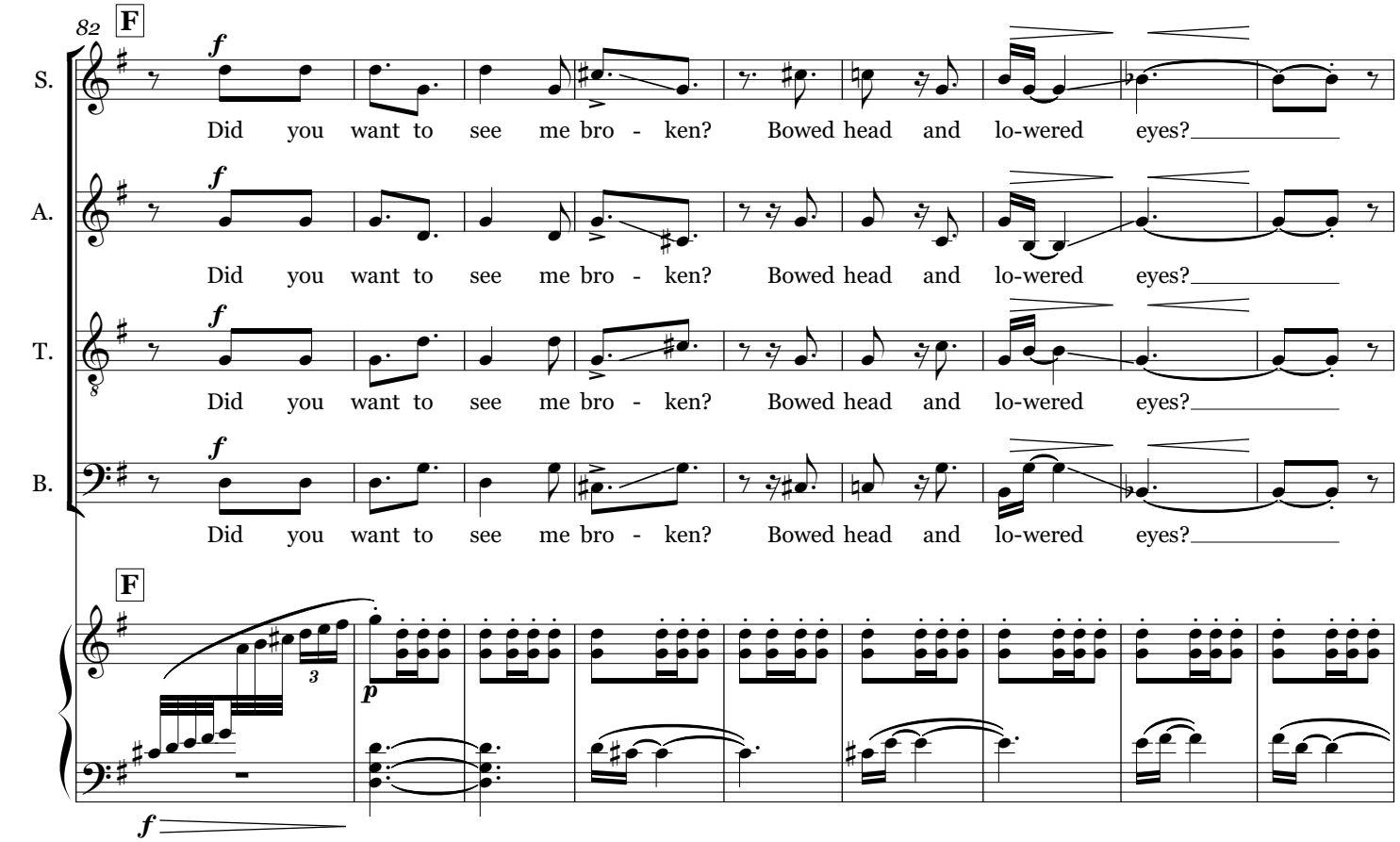
Maya Angelou

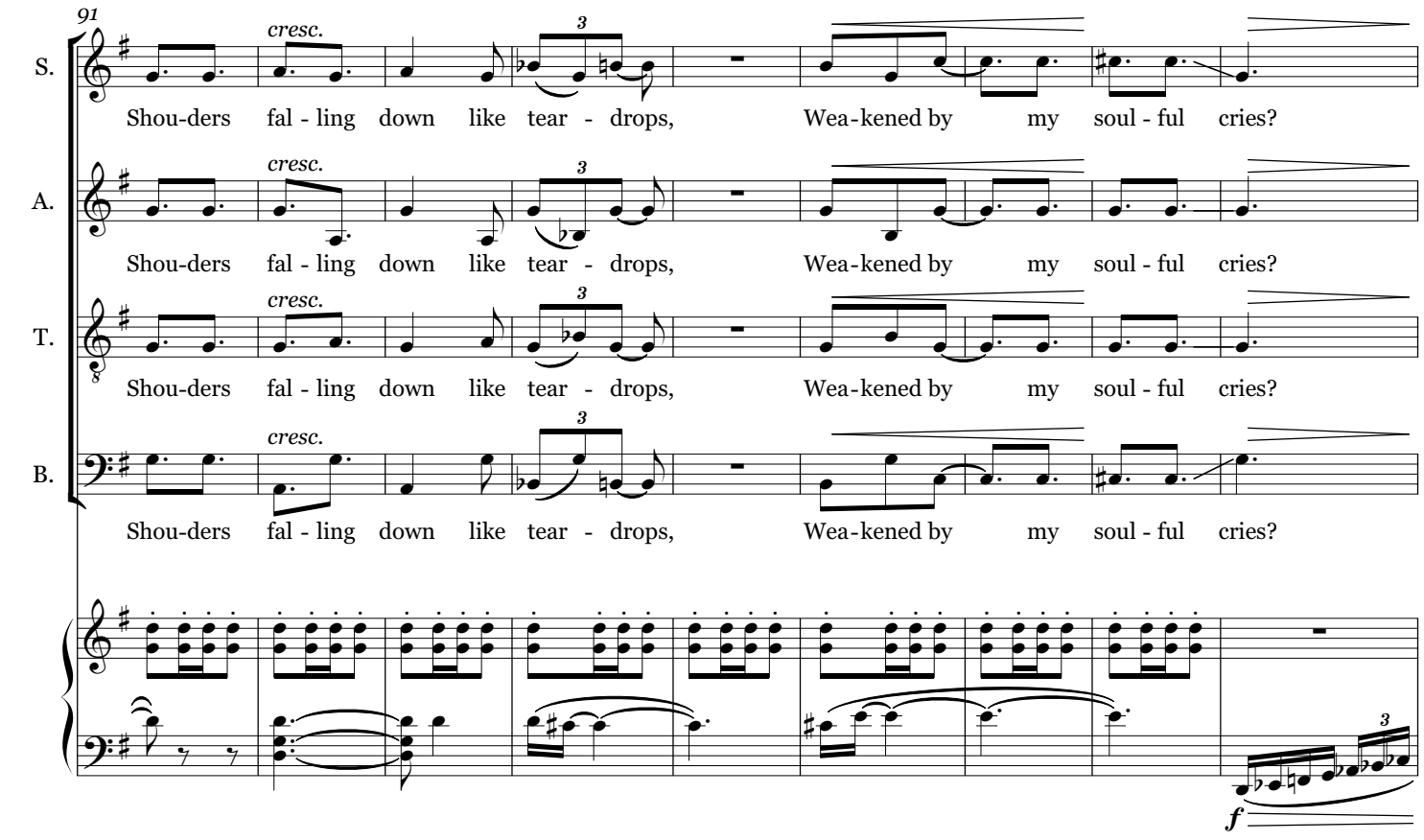


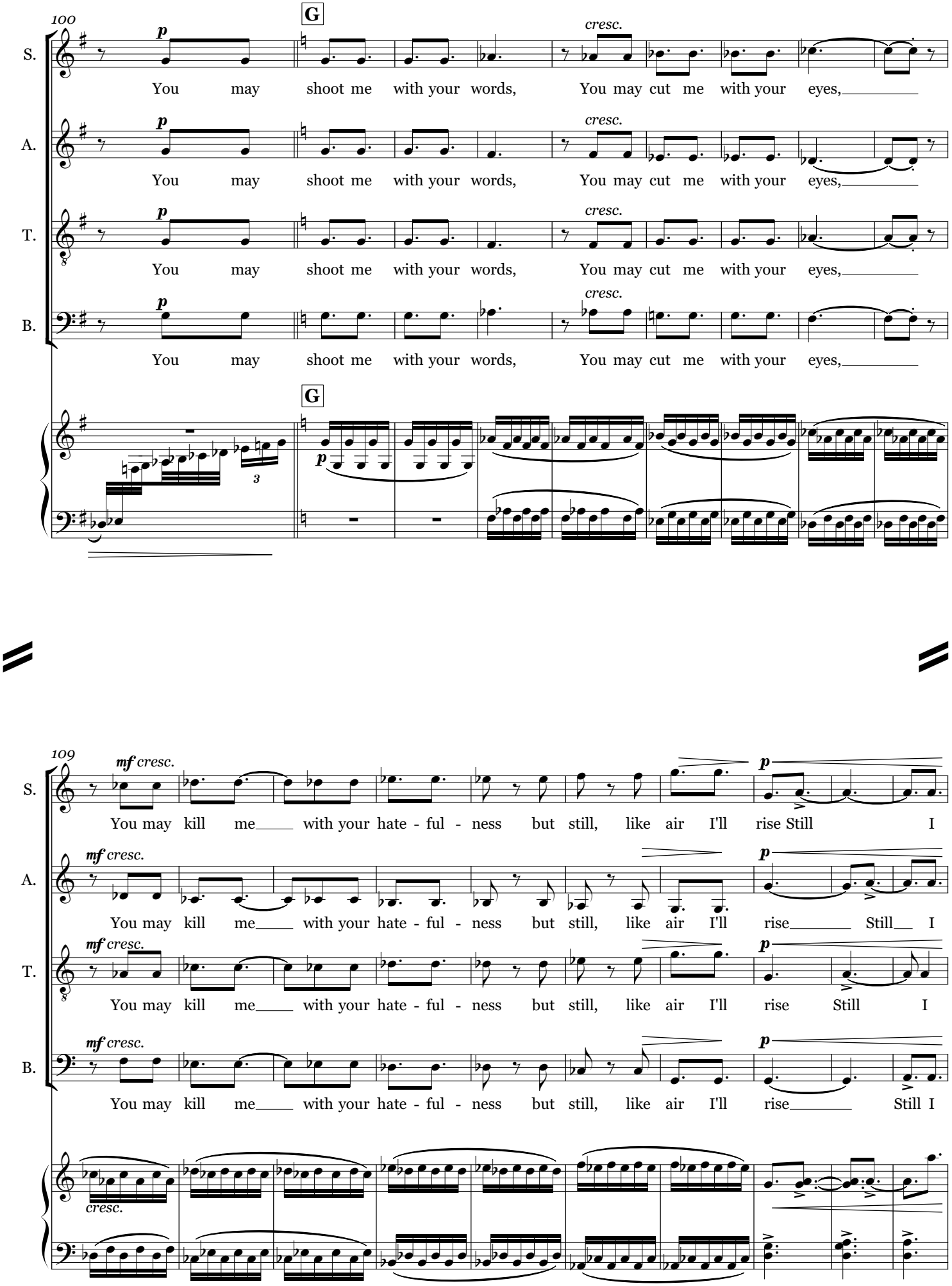

18
A
S.
A.
T.
B.
f
fp
You may write me down in his - t'ry With your bit-ter_ t - wis - ted lies,
A
p
f
27
mf
You may trod me in the ve - ry dirt but still, like dust,

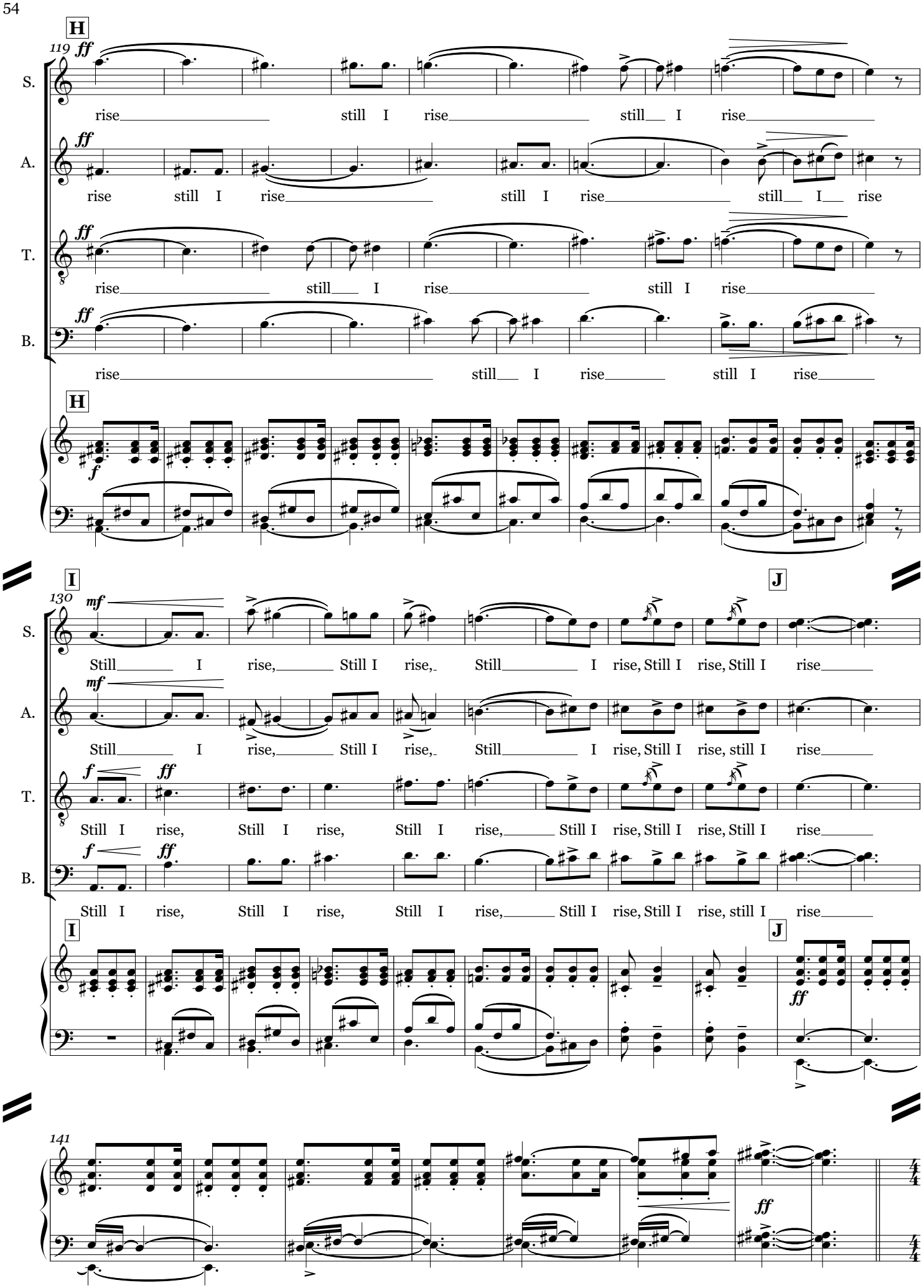

B
C
35
S.
A.
T.
B.
p
cresc.
ff
I'll rise rise rise rise, still I'll rise
I'll rise I'll I'll I'll Still I'll rise
mp
47
3
2/4
D
51
Just like moons and like suns with the cer - tain-ty of tides,
4
3/8

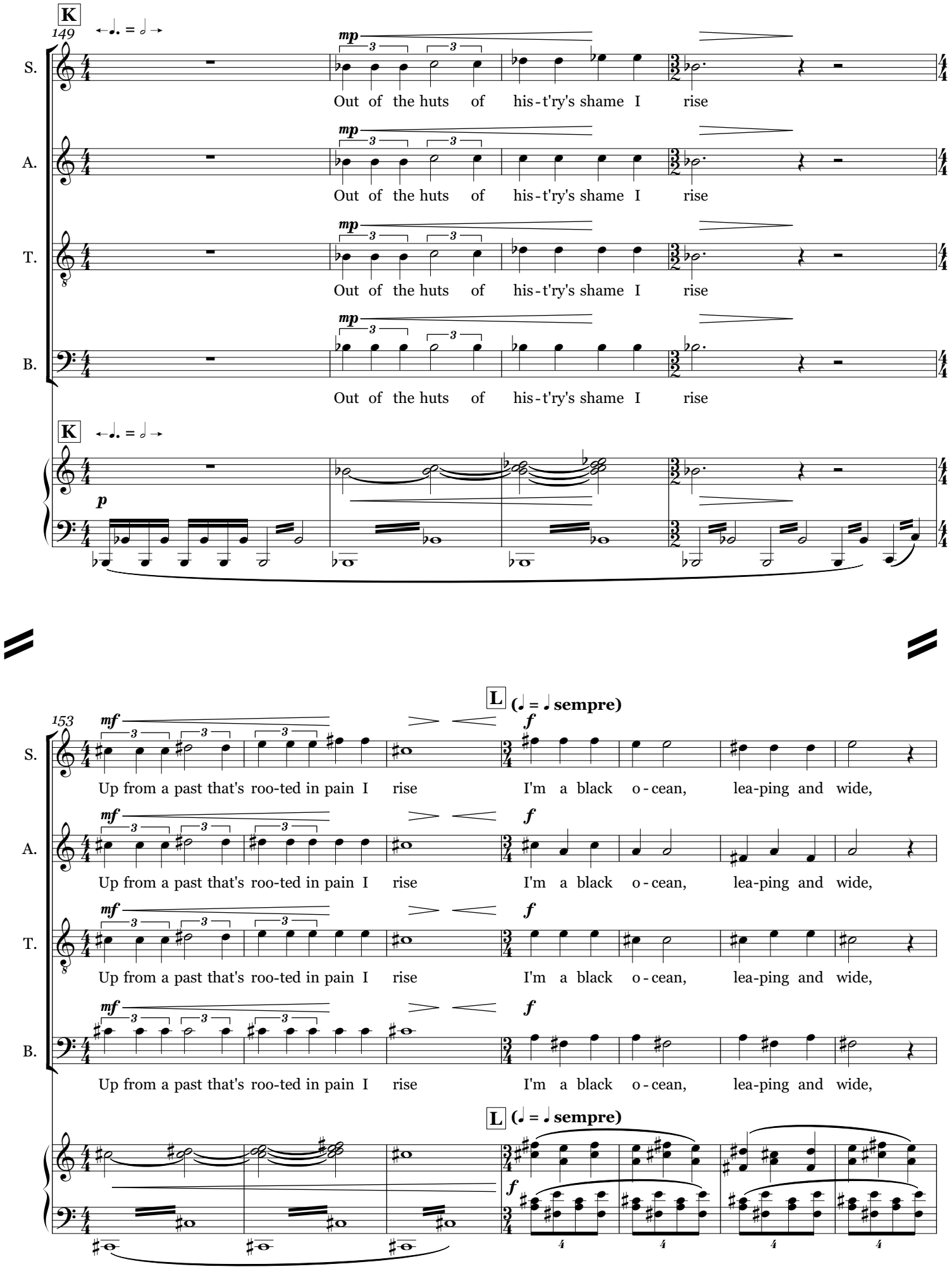

60
cresc.
S.
Just like hopes sprin-ging high, still I
A.
Just like hopes sprin-ging high, still I
T.
Just like hopes sprin-ging high, still I
B.
Just like hopes sprin-ging high, still I
f
ff
67
E
mp
rise rise rise rise, still I'll rise
rise I'll I'll I'll Still I'll rise
p
76

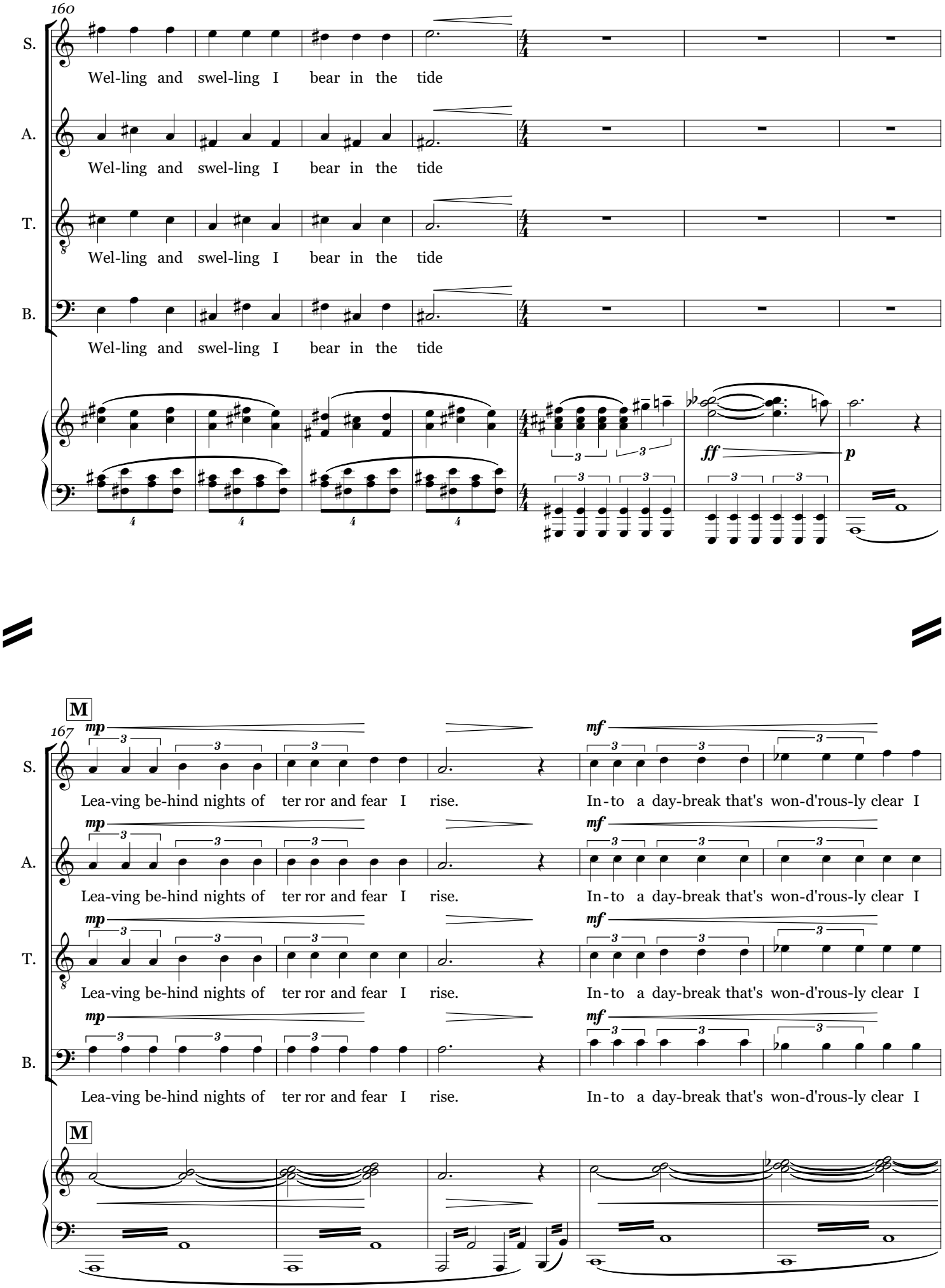

82
F
S.
A.
T.
B.
Did you want to see me bro - ken? Bowed head and lo-wered eyes?
F
p
f

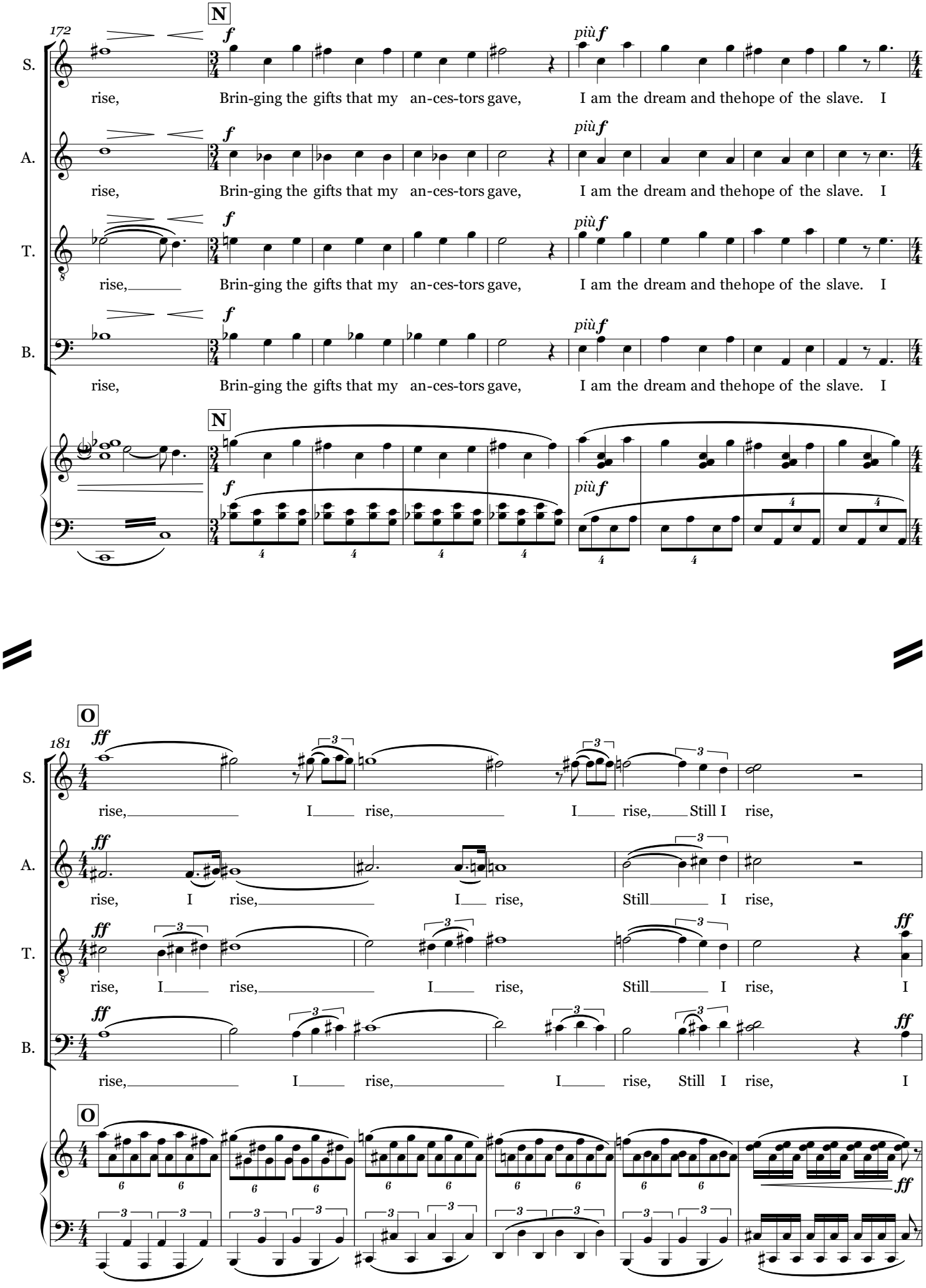

91
cresc.
S.
A.
T.
B.
Shou-ders fal - ling down like tear - drops, Wea-kened by my soul - ful cries?
f

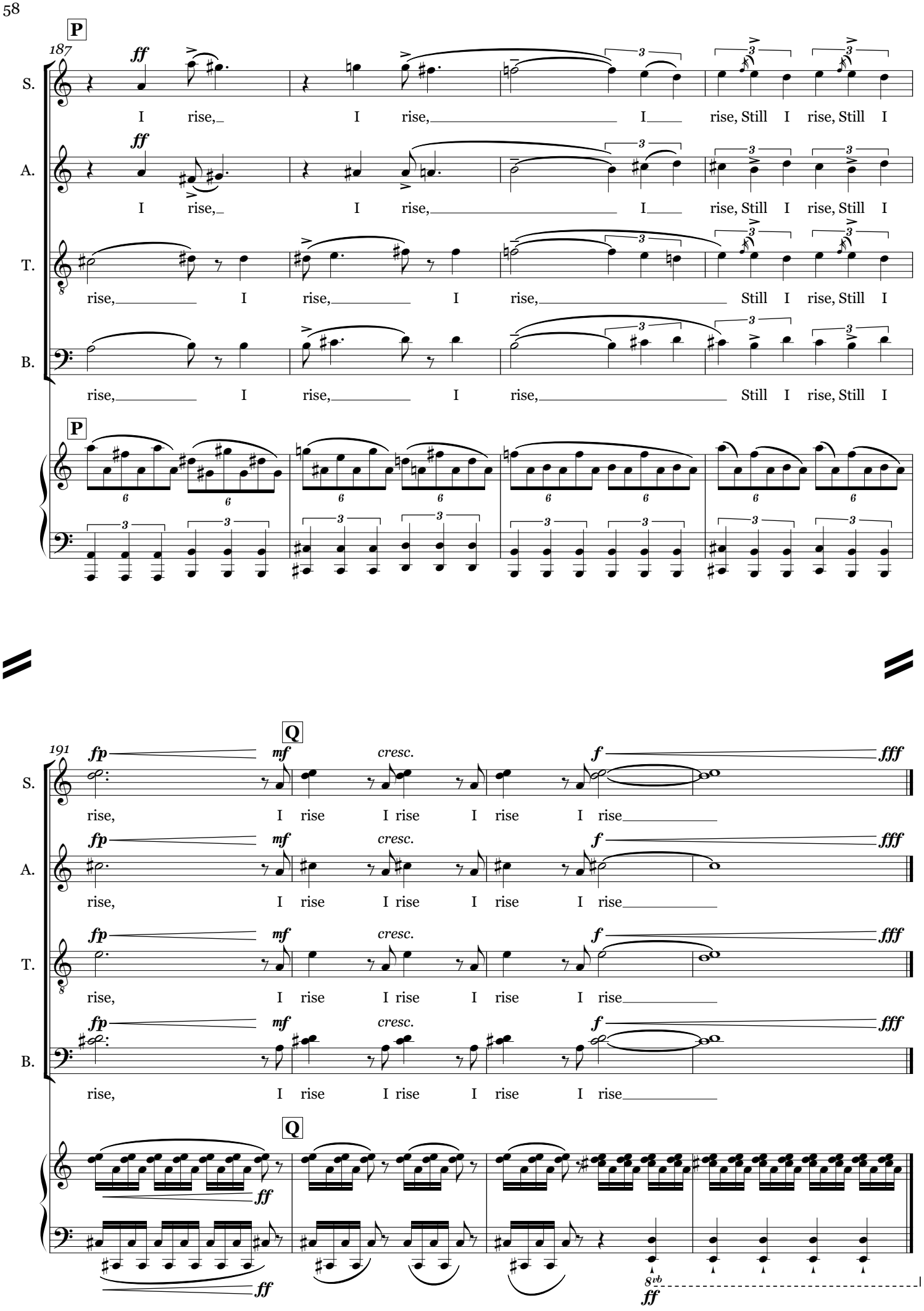

100
G
p
cresc.
S.
You may shoot me with your words, You may cut me with your eyes,
A.
You may shoot me with your words, You may cut me with your eyes,
T.
You may shoot me with your words, You may cut me with your eyes,
B.
You may shoot me with your words, You may cut me with your eyes,
G
3
109
mf cresc.
You may kill me with your hate - ful - ness but still, like air I'll rise Still I
You may kill me with your hate - ful - ness but still, like air I'll rise Still I
You may kill me with your hate - ful - ness but still, like air I'll rise Still I
You may kill me with your hate - ful - ness but still, like air I'll rise Still I
cresc.


H
119
ff
S.
rise still I rise still I rise
A.
rise still I rise still I rise still I rise
T.
rise still I rise still I rise
B.
rise still I rise still I rise
H
f
I
J
130
mf
S.
Still I rise, Still I rise, Still I rise, Still I rise, Still I rise
A.
Still I rise, Still I rise, Still I rise, still I rise
T.
f
ff
Still I rise, Still I rise, Still I rise, Still I rise, Still I rise, Still I rise
B.
Still I rise, Still I rise, Still I rise, Still I rise, Still I rise, still I rise
I
J
ff
141
ff
4/4


K
149
S.
A.
T.
B.
mp
Out of the huts of his-t'ry's shame I rise
p
L
(𝅗𝅥. = 𝅗𝅥 sempre)
153
mf
f
Up from a past that's roo-ted in pain I rise
I'm a black o-cean, lea-ping and wide,


160
S.
Wel-ling and swel-ling I bear in the tide
A.
Wel-ling and swel-ling I bear in the tide
T.
Wel-ling and swel-ling I bear in the tide
B.
Wel-ling and swel-ling I bear in the tide
ff
p
M
167
mp
mf
S.
Lea-ving be-hind nights of ter ror and fear I rise.
In-to a day-break that's won-d'rous-ly clear I
A.
Lea-ving be-hind nights of ter ror and fear I rise.
In-to a day-break that's won-d'rous-ly clear I
T.
Lea-ving be-hind nights of ter ror and fear I rise.
In-to a day-break that's won-d'rous-ly clear I
B.
Lea-ving be-hind nights of ter ror and fear I rise.
In-to a day-break that's won-d'rous-ly clear I
M


172
N
S.
A.
T.
B.
rise, Brin-ging the gifts that my an-ces-tors gave, I am the dream and thehope of the slave. I
rise,_____ Brin-ging the gifts that my an-ces-tors gave, I am the dream and thehope of the slave. I
rise, Brin-ging the gifts that my an-ces-tors gave, I am the dream and thehope of the slave. I
rise, Brin-ging the gifts that my an-ces-tors gave, I am the dream and thehope of the slave. I
f
più f
181
O
ff
rise,_____ I_____ rise,_____ I_____ rise,_____Still I rise,
rise, I rise,_____ I_____ rise, Still_____ I rise,
rise, I_____ rise,_____ I_____ rise, Still_____ I rise, I
rise,_____ I_____ rise,_____ I_____ rise, Still I rise, I


P
187
ff
S.
I rise, I rise, I rise, Still I rise, Still I
A.
I rise, I rise, I rise, Still I rise, Still I
T.
rise, I rise, I rise, Still I rise, Still I
B.
rise, I rise, I rise, Still I rise, Still I
P
Q
191
fp
mf
cresc.
f
fff
S.
rise, I rise I rise I rise I rise
A.
rise, I rise I rise I rise I rise
T.
rise, I rise I rise I rise I rise
B.
rise, I rise I rise I rise I rise
Q
ff
8vb
ff