# The Journey

An Opera for 4 singers and narrator,

*duration: 58 minutes and 20 seconds of music*
*about one hour and a quarter with the narrations*

## Piano Vocal Version

Poems by James Joyce;
Music and Narrations
by David Edgar Walther

*website: davidedgarwalther.com*
*email: hrwr@earthlink.net*

For My (also non-binary) Spouse, Drew Hubbard (from DEW to Drew)
Special thanks to Jessica Mink in the titling of this work.

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**THE SYNOPSIS:** A gay man In The Land of Day, has to go into The Realm of Night to stop The Beast from causing a plague. Due to the Beast's prejudice against gay men, the gay man is transformed into a woman. In The Realm of The Night the newly transitioned woman falls in love with another woman; the two stop the beast; and are tranformed back into men; They Return to The Land of Day, where they live happily ever after.

**THE CAST: Narrator:** A man or a woman who views the action from beyond; **The Man:** Lyric Baritone or Mezzo-soprano; **The Other Man:** (also The Beast) Lyric/Dramatic Bass-Baritone or Alto; **The Woman:** lyric mezzo-soprano, soprano or baritone; **The Other Woman:** Dramatic Alto, Countertenor or Bass-baritone

**THE SCENES AND NUMBERS:** *(Tacet idential numbers in Chamber Version)*


| Scene I: The Land of Day: 13 minutes and 45 seconds | Page: |
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| 4. The Man: I would in that sweet bosom be (VI) | 12. |
| 5. The Man & The Woman: Transformation from male to female: A Prayer | 14. |
| 6. Traveling Between Realms | 20. |
| Scene II: The Realm of Night: 33 minutes and 10 seconds | |
| 7. The Other Woman: Thou leanest to the shell of night (XXVI) | 22. |
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| 14. & 16. The Beast's Wrath | 42. |
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| 16. The Beast's Wrath | 42. |
| Scene III: The Land of Day: 11 minutes and 25 seconds | |
| 21. The Man: He who hath glory lost, (XXI/XVII) | 64. |

Poems by James Joyce
*Duration 75 mninutes*

# THE JOURNEY

Music by by David Edgar Walther

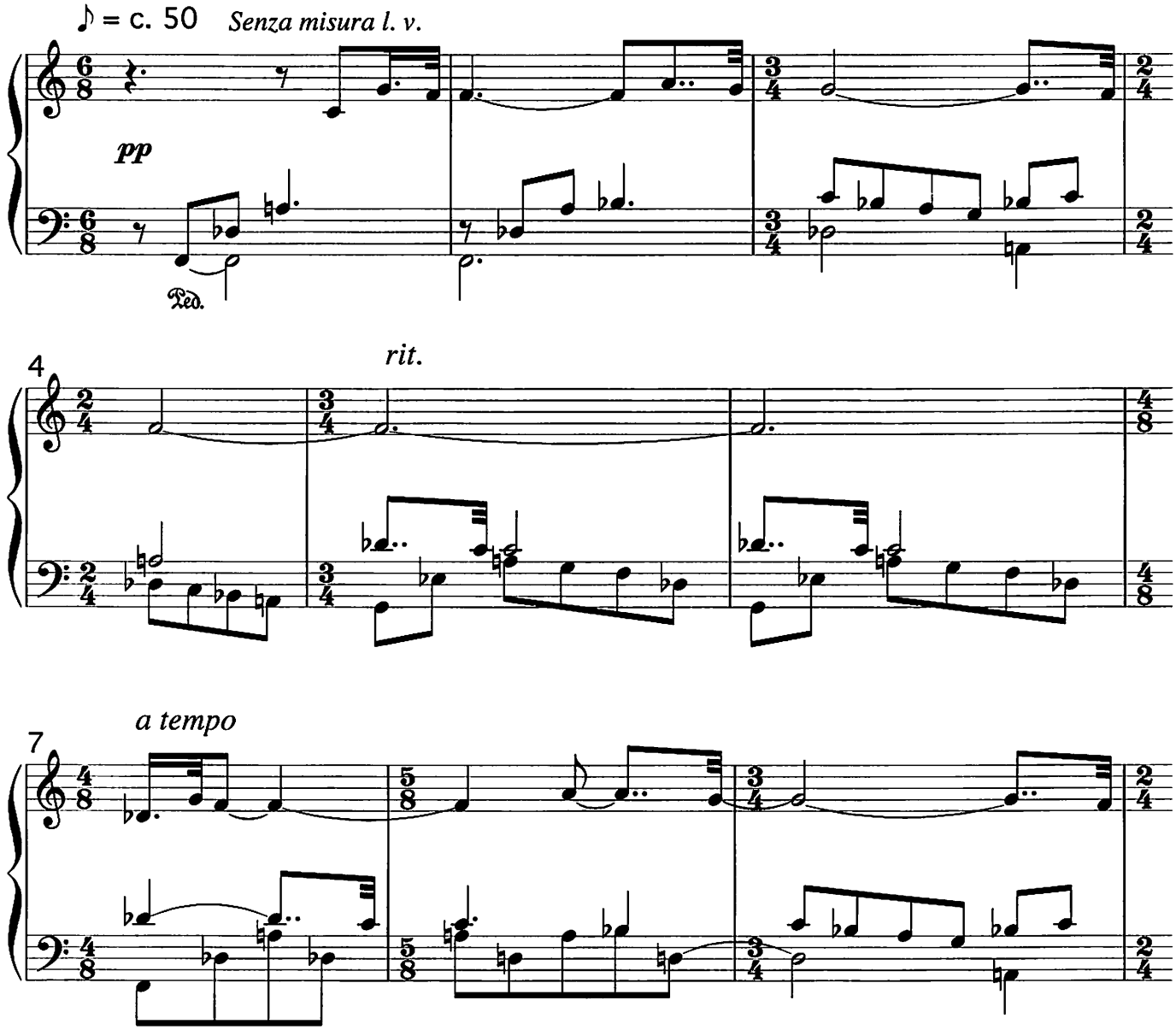
## Piano Vocal Version

*(For Chamber Ensemble Version: 1 narrator, 4 voices, percussion, viola & piano)*

## Scene I: The Land of Day

### 1. Overture & 24. Epilogue

*(As performed with dancers by The Kinetic Theater of Moscow.)*

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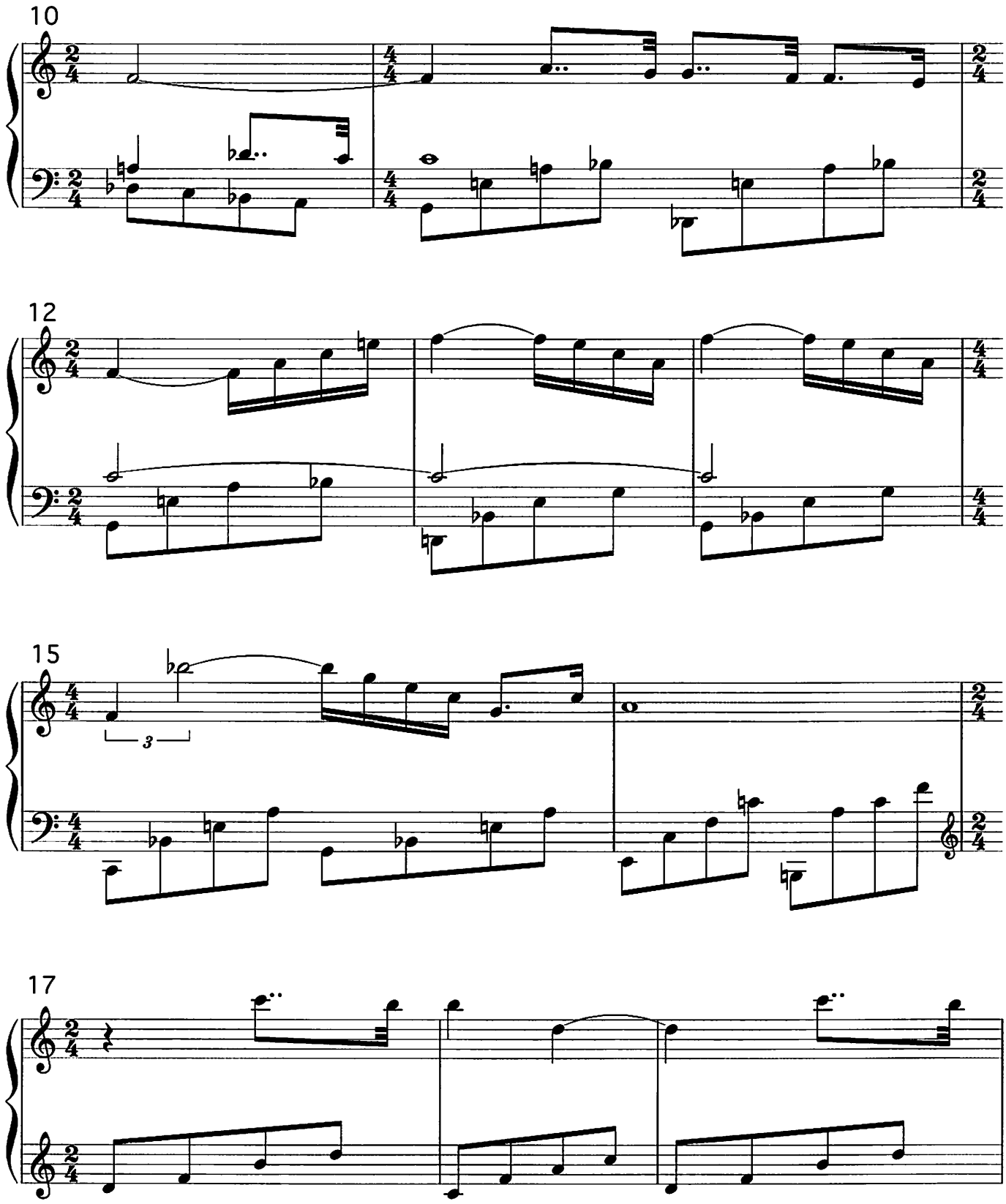
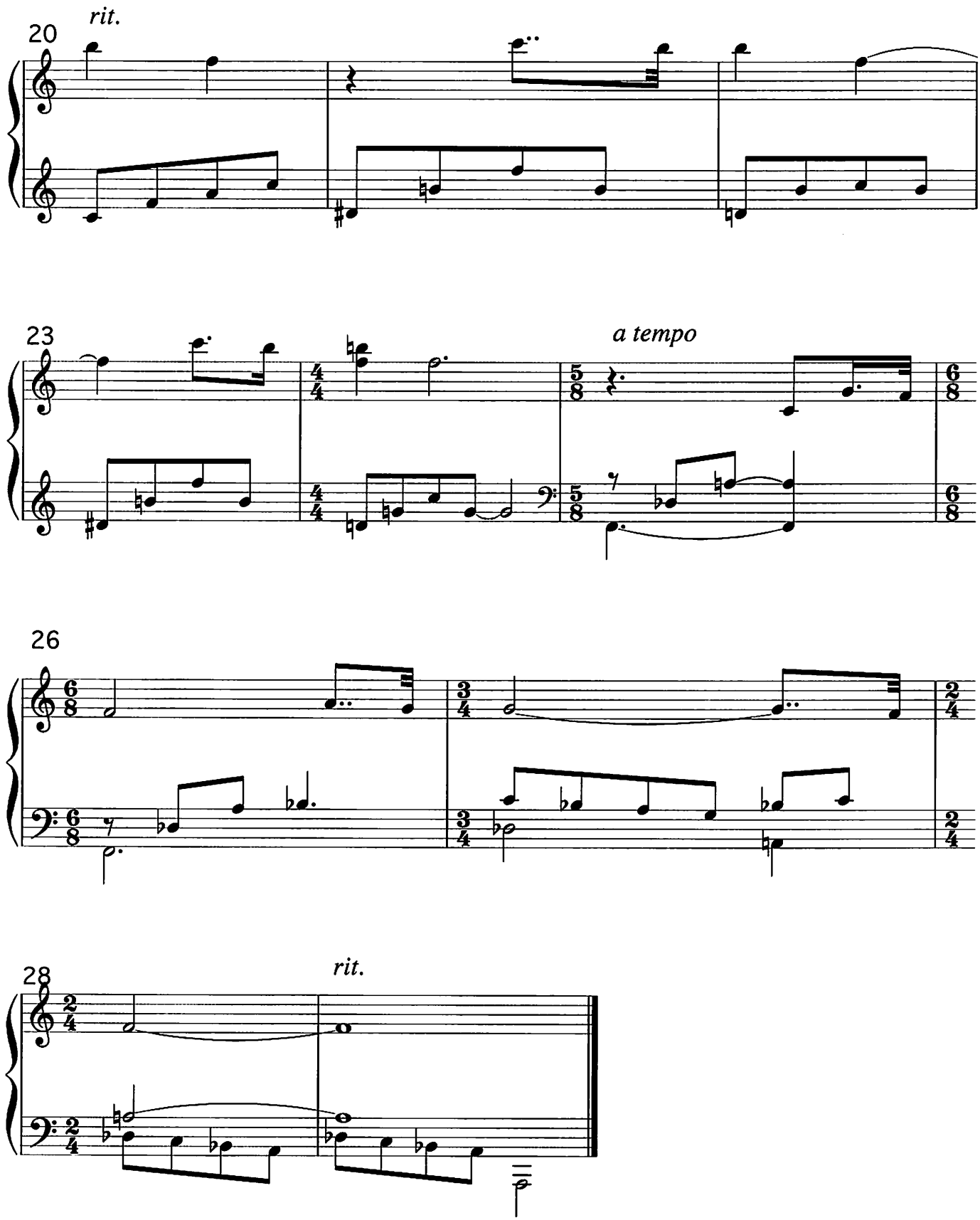
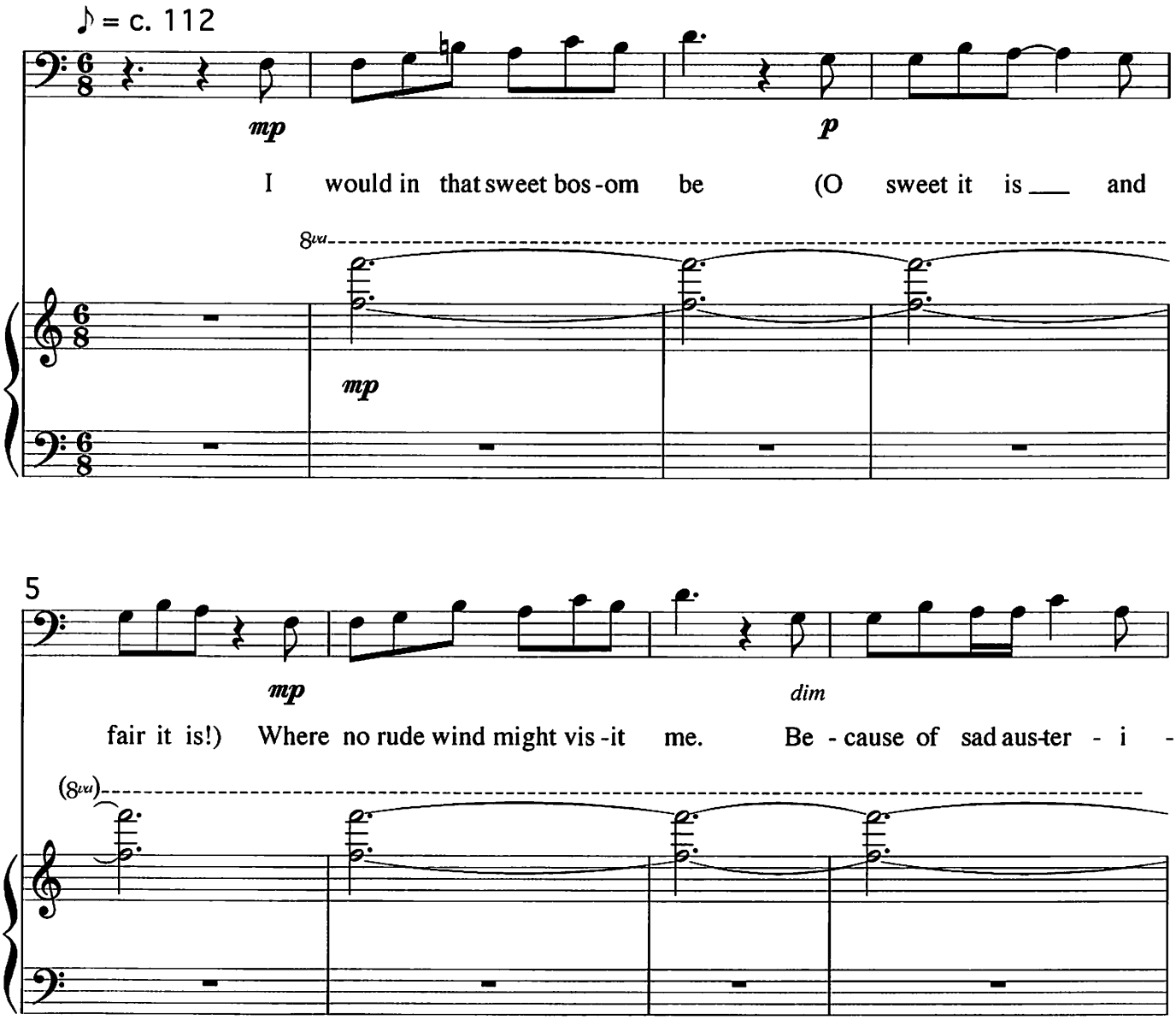
2.

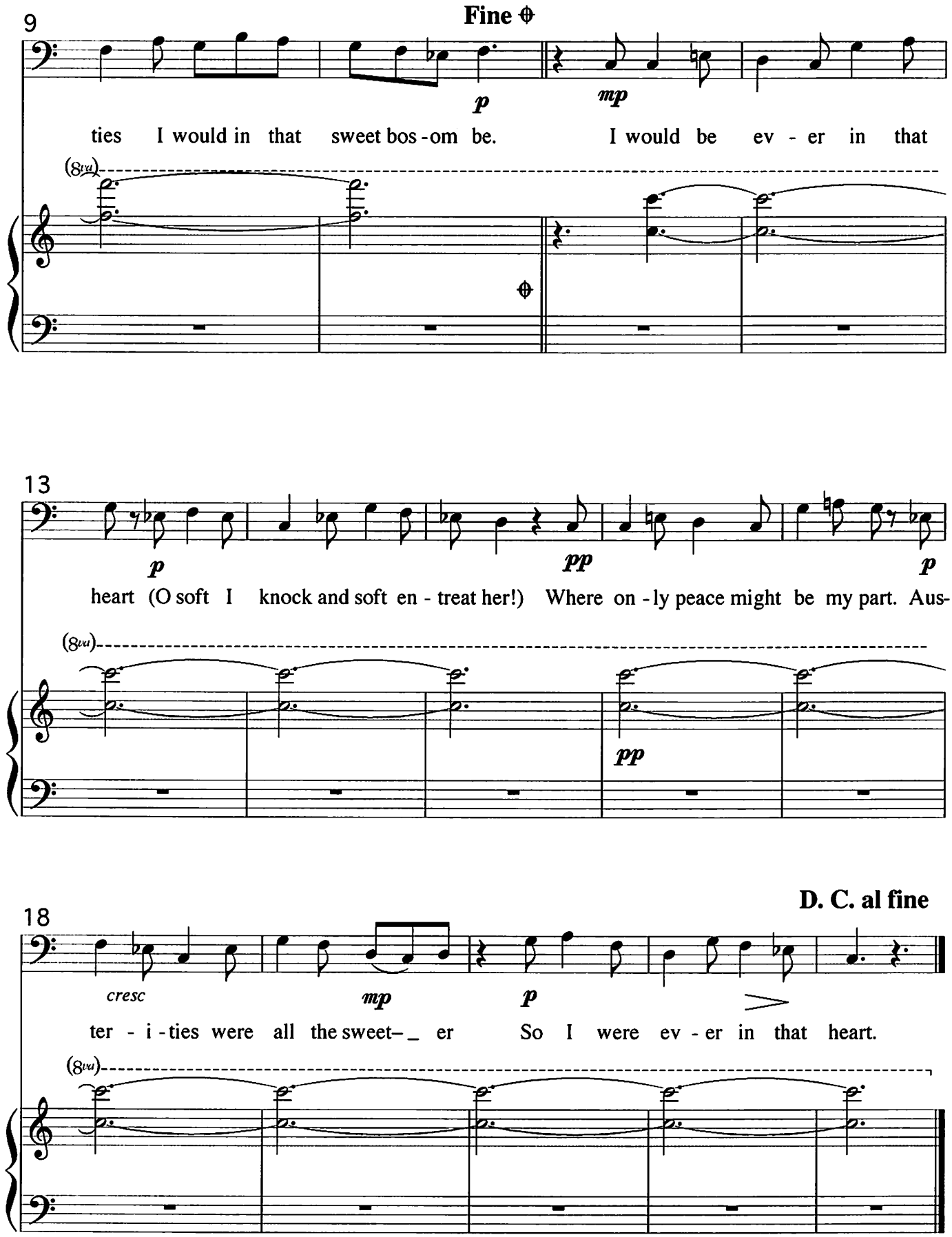



rit.
20
23
a tempo
26
28
rit.

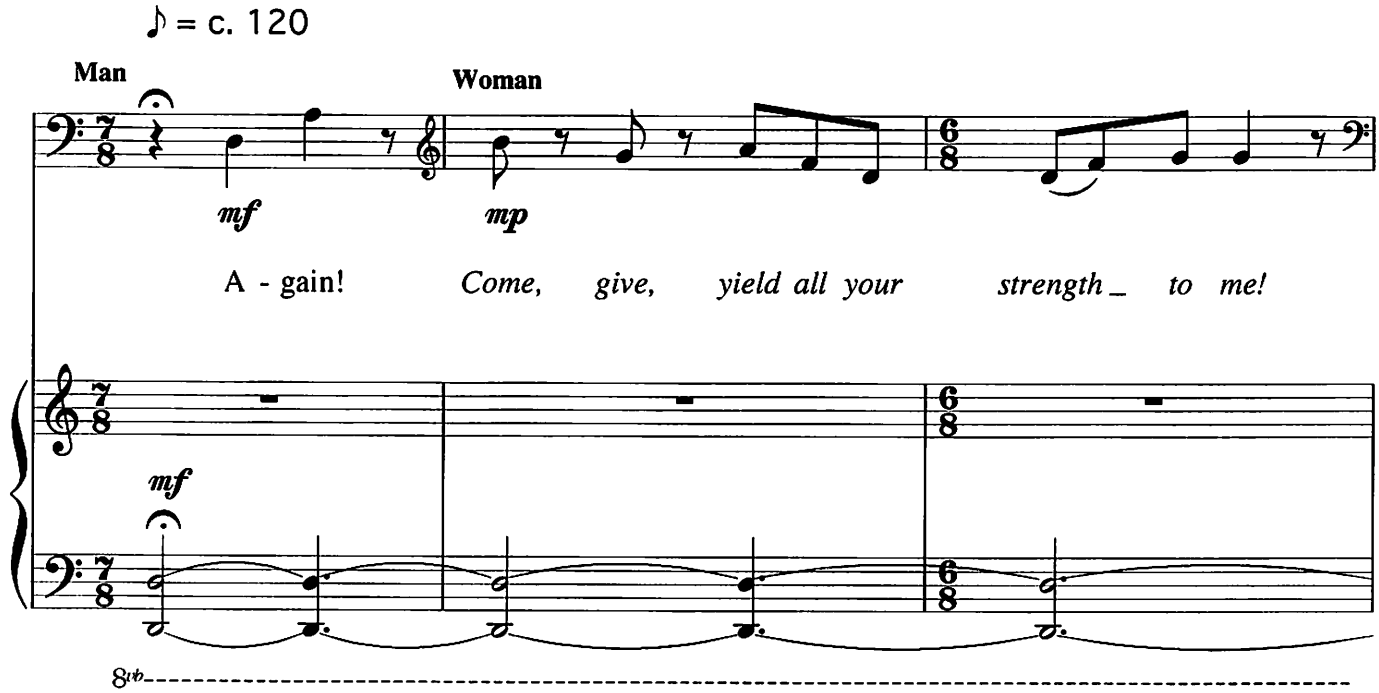
# 4. The Man: I would in that sweet bosom be

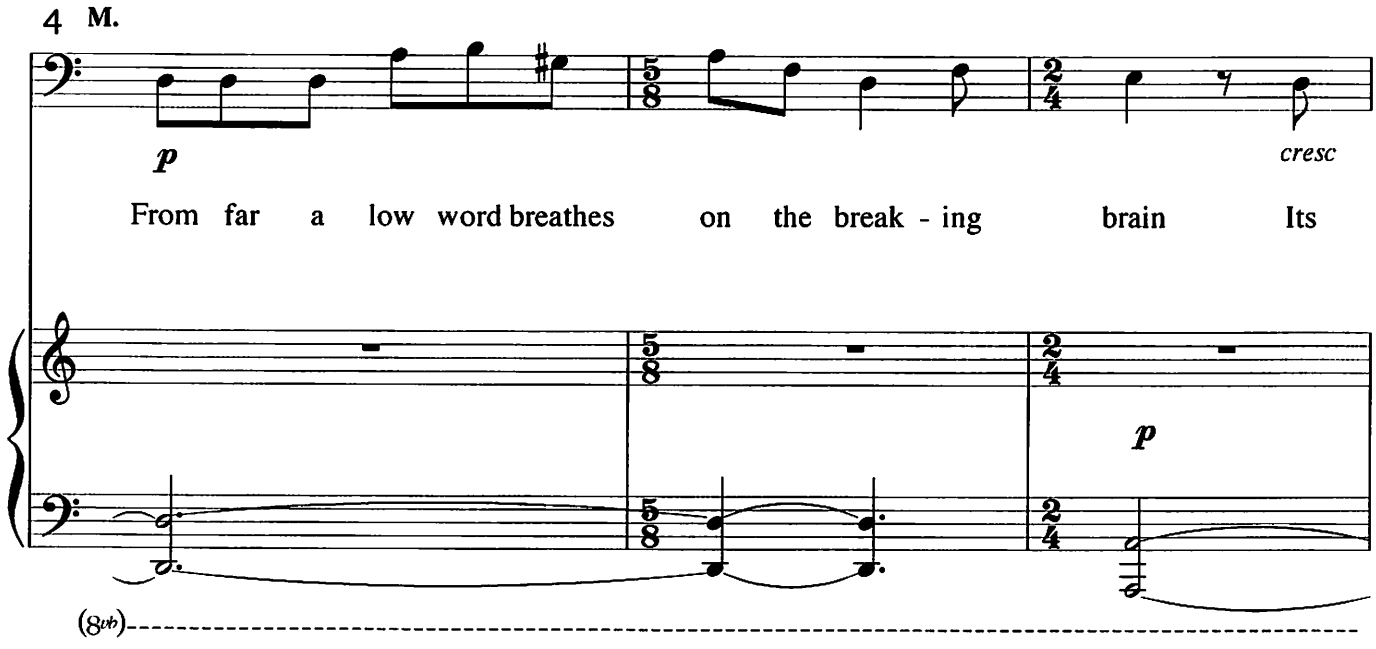
**Narrator:** The Plague was caused by The Beast who rules over The Night Realm. But the man can never enter The Realm of Night as a gay person and survive. The Beast's prejudice is far too strong and the man would be devoured. It is necessary that he become female. So it is that he evokes the woman that I must become. And so the magic is performed; and what was man becomes woman. .

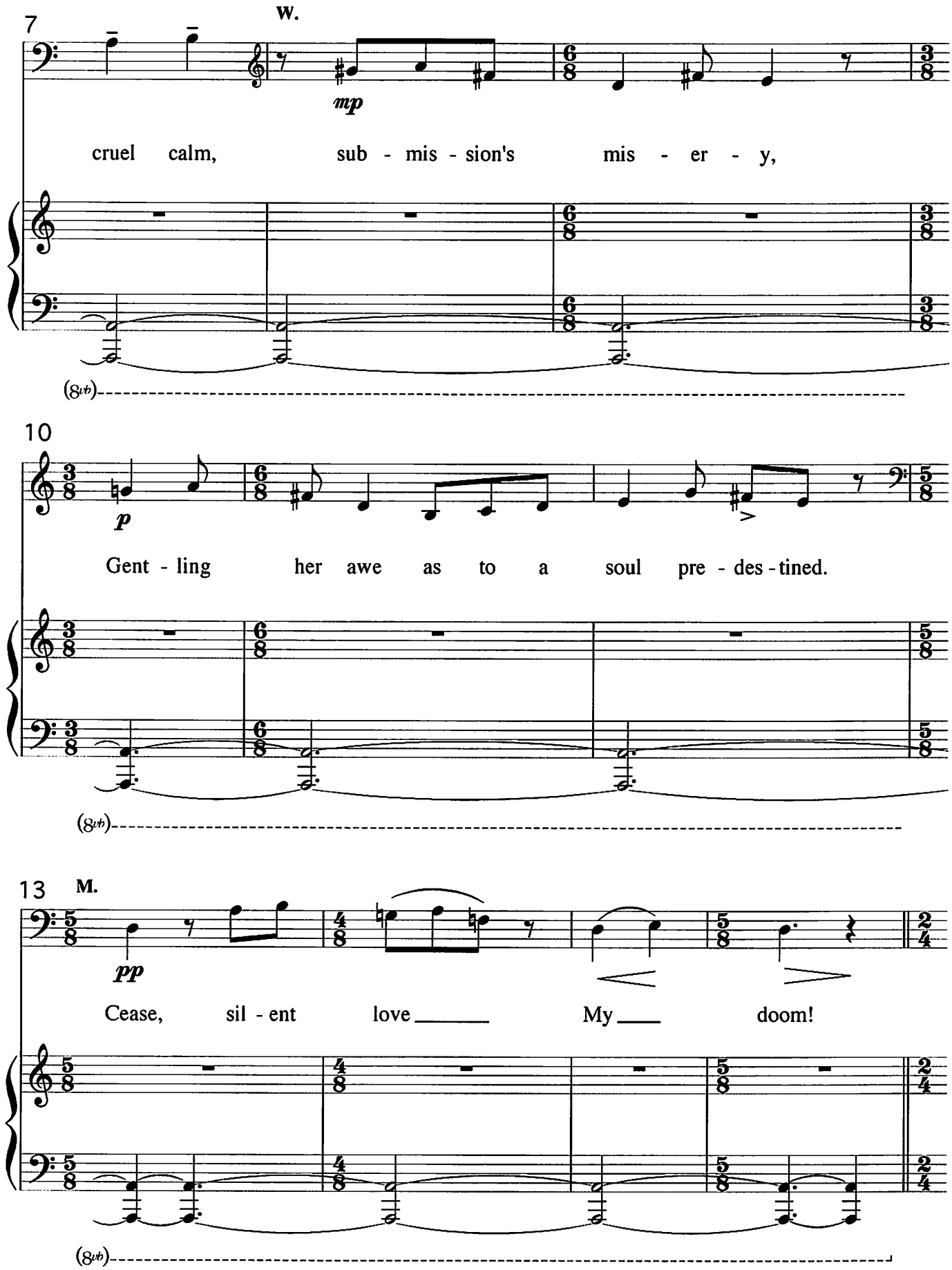


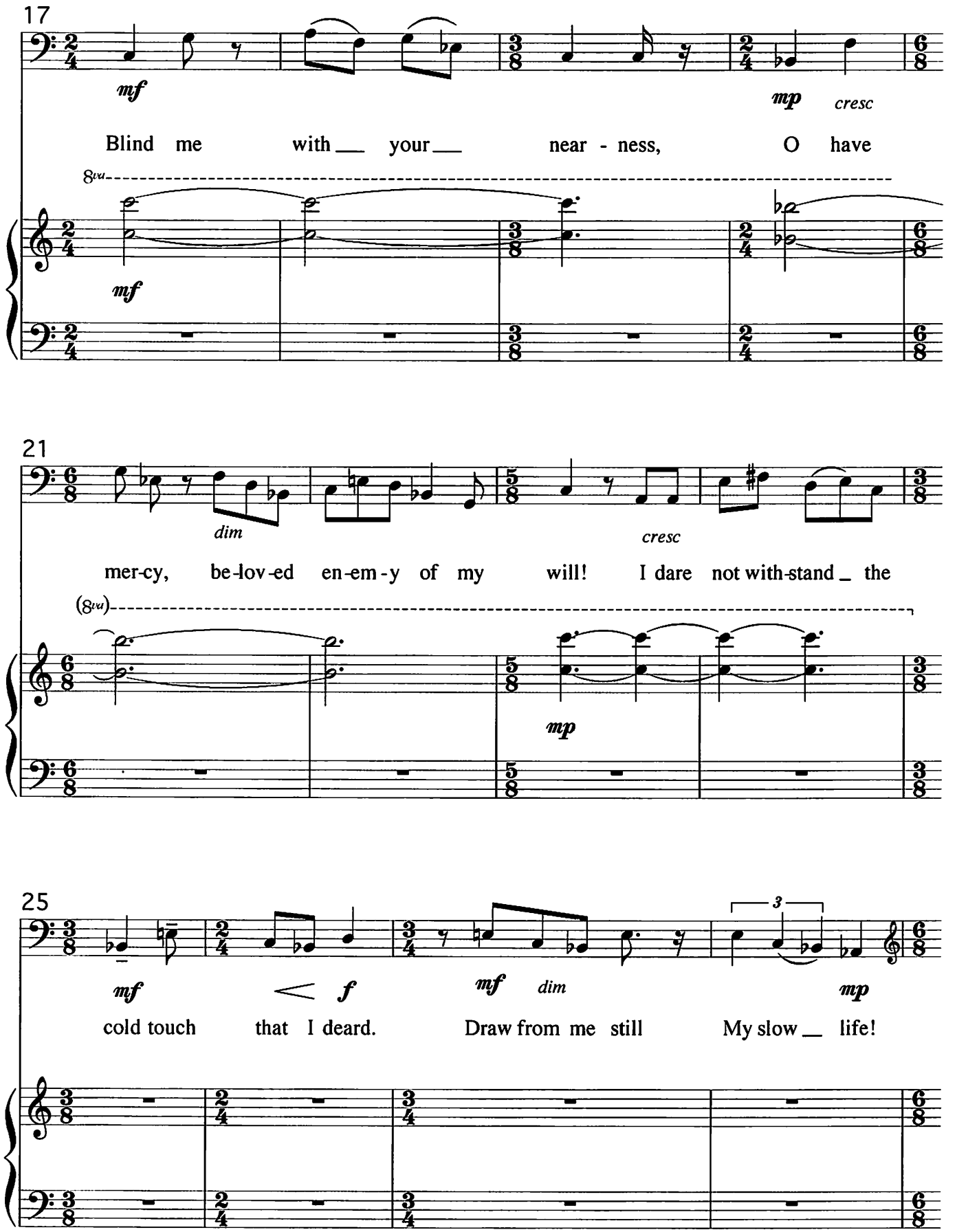

9
Fine
p
mp
ties I would in that sweet bos - om be. I would be ev - er in that
(8va)
13
p
pp
p
heart (O soft I knock and soft en - treat her!) Where on - ly peace might be my part. Aus-
(8va)
pp
D. C. al fine
18
cresc
mp
p
ter - i - ties were all the sweet– _ er So I were ev - er in that heart.
(8va)

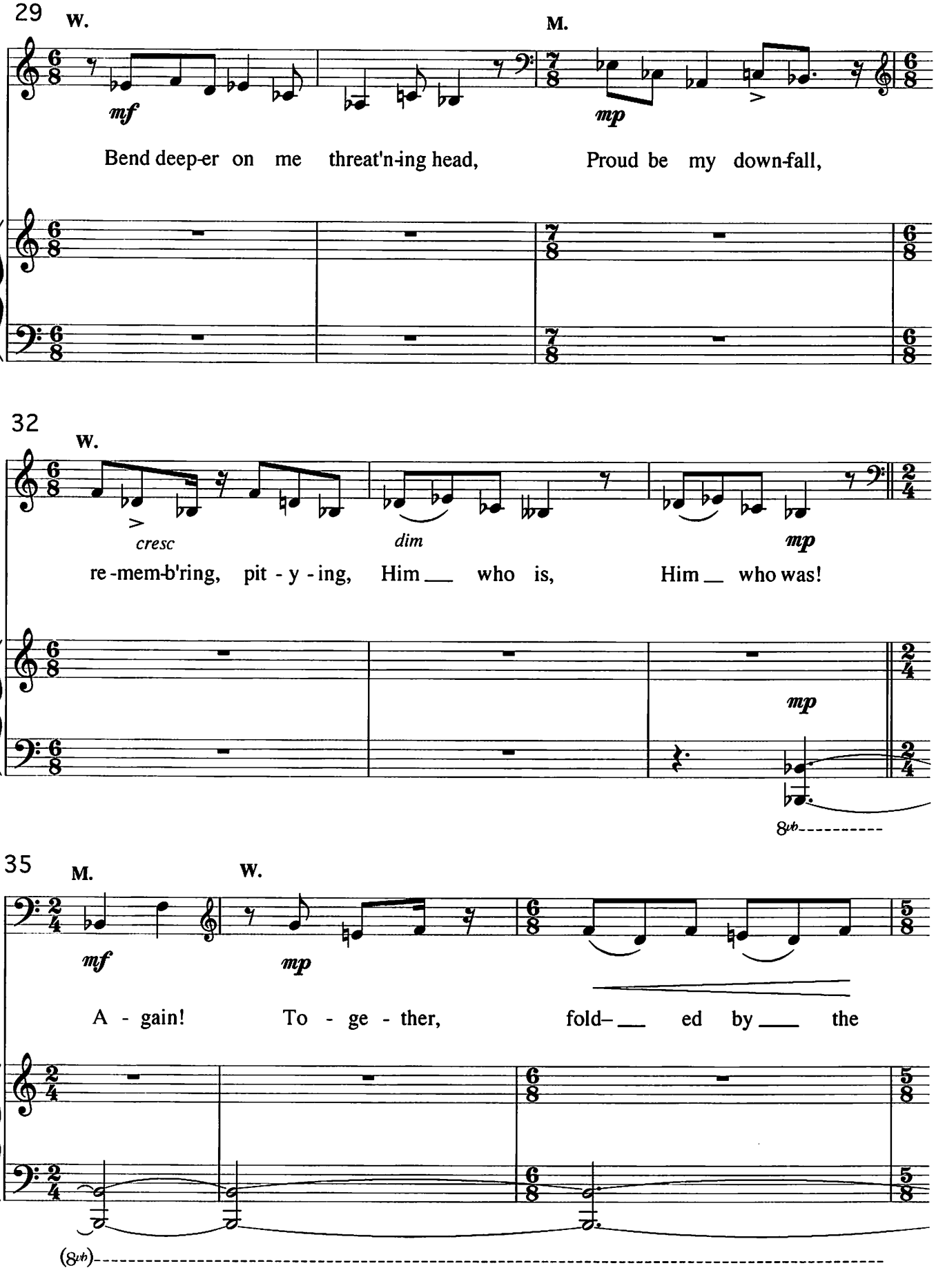
# 5. The Man and The Woman: Again!

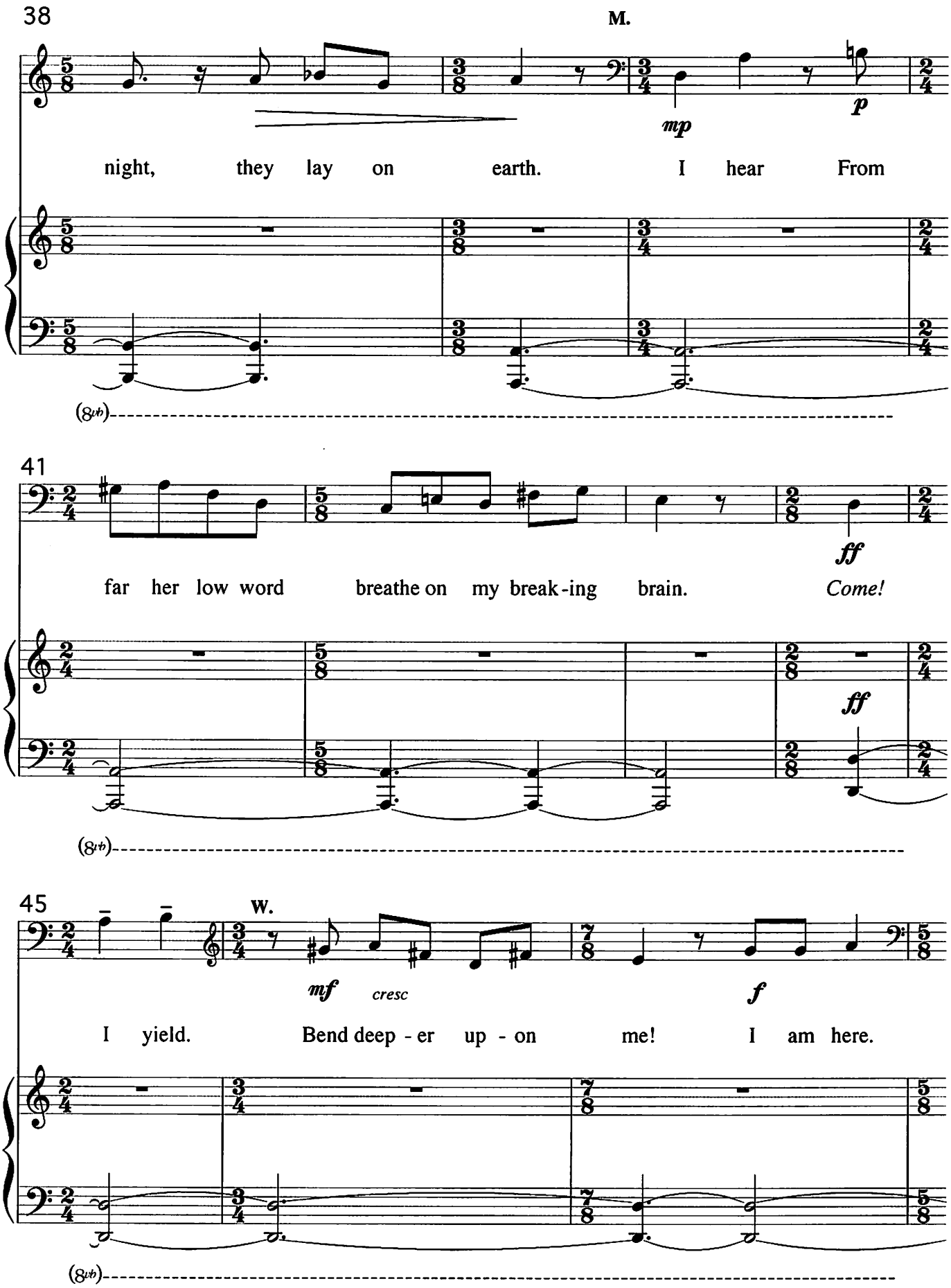


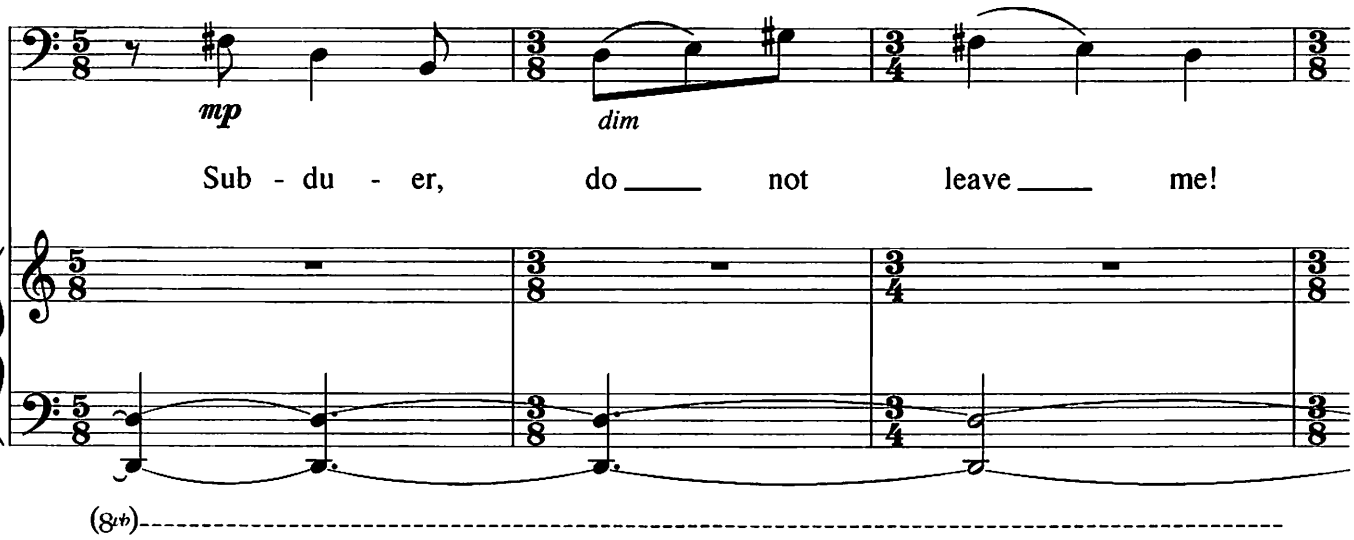

7
W.
mp
cruel calm, sub - mis - sion's mis - er - y,
(8vb)
10
p
Gent - ling her awe as to a soul pre - des - tined.
(8vb)
13
M.
pp
Cease, sil - ent love My doom!
(8vb)


17
mf
mp
cresc
Blind me with your near - ness, O have
8va
mf
21
dim
cresc
mer-cy, be-lov-ed en-em-y of my will! I dare not with-stand the
(8va)
mp
25
mf
f
mf
dim
mp
3
cold touch that I deard. Draw from me still My slow life!

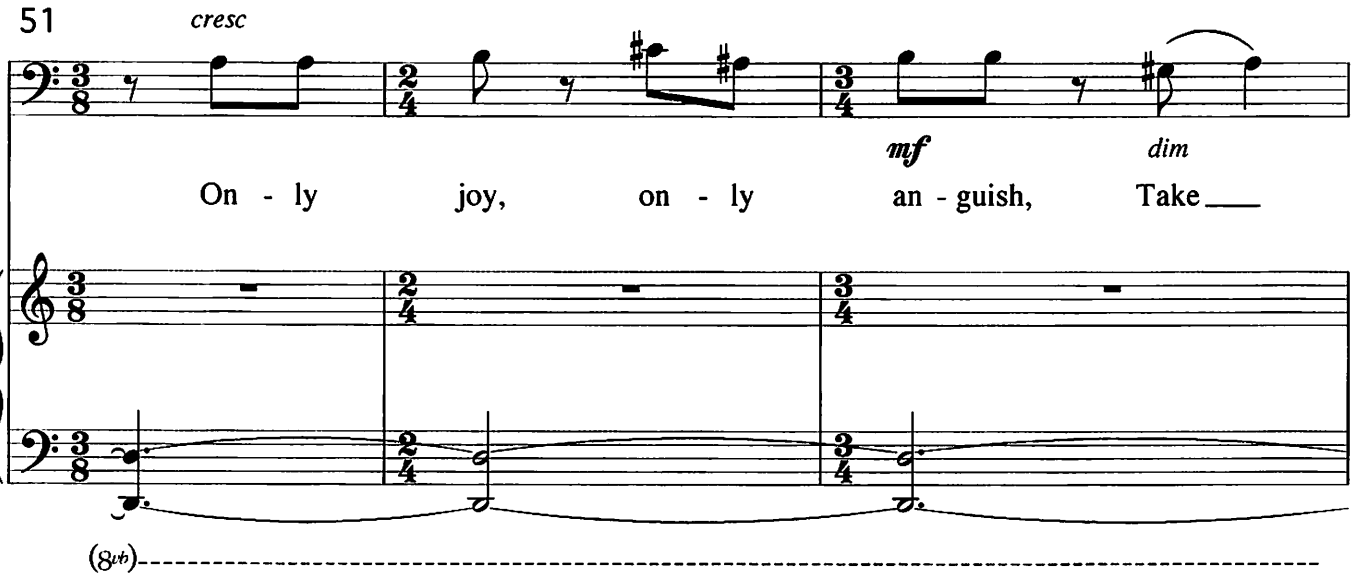

29
W.
M.
mf
mp
Bend deep-er on me threat'n-ing head, Proud be my down-fall,
32
W.
cresc
dim
mp
re-mem-b'ring, pit - y - ing, Him who is, Him who was!
mp
8vb
35
M.
W.
mf
mp
A - gain! To - ge - ther, fold- ed by the
(8vb)


38
M.
mp
p
night, they lay on earth. I hear From
41
ff
far her low word breathe on my break-ing brain. Come!
ff
45
W.
mf cresc
f
I yield. Bend deep - er up - on me! I am here.

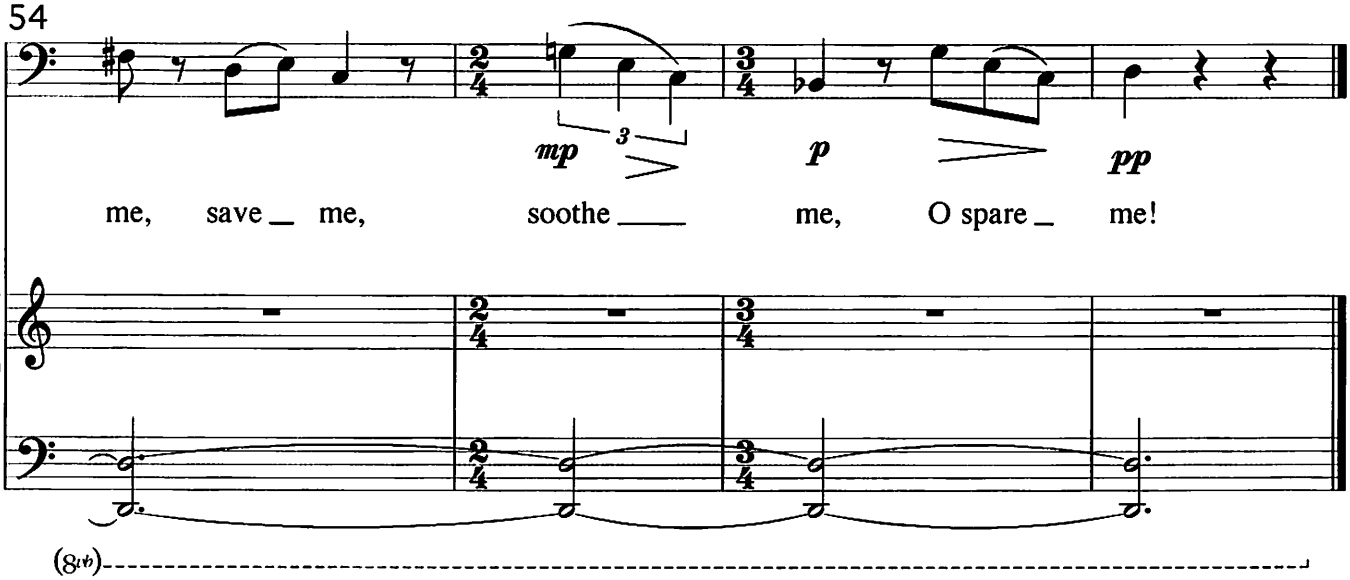
48 M.


mp
dim
Sub - du - er, do not leave me!
(8vb)

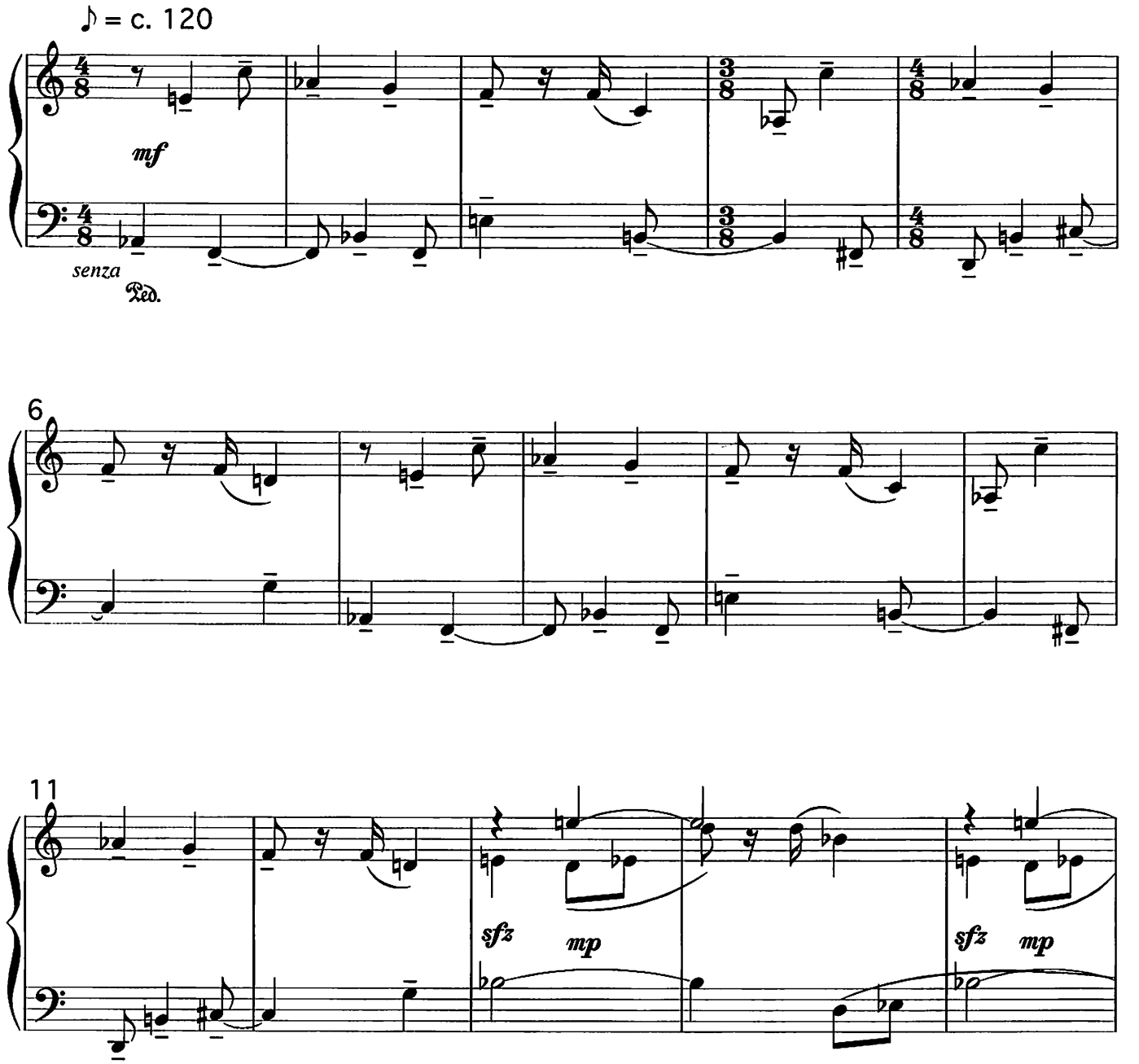
51

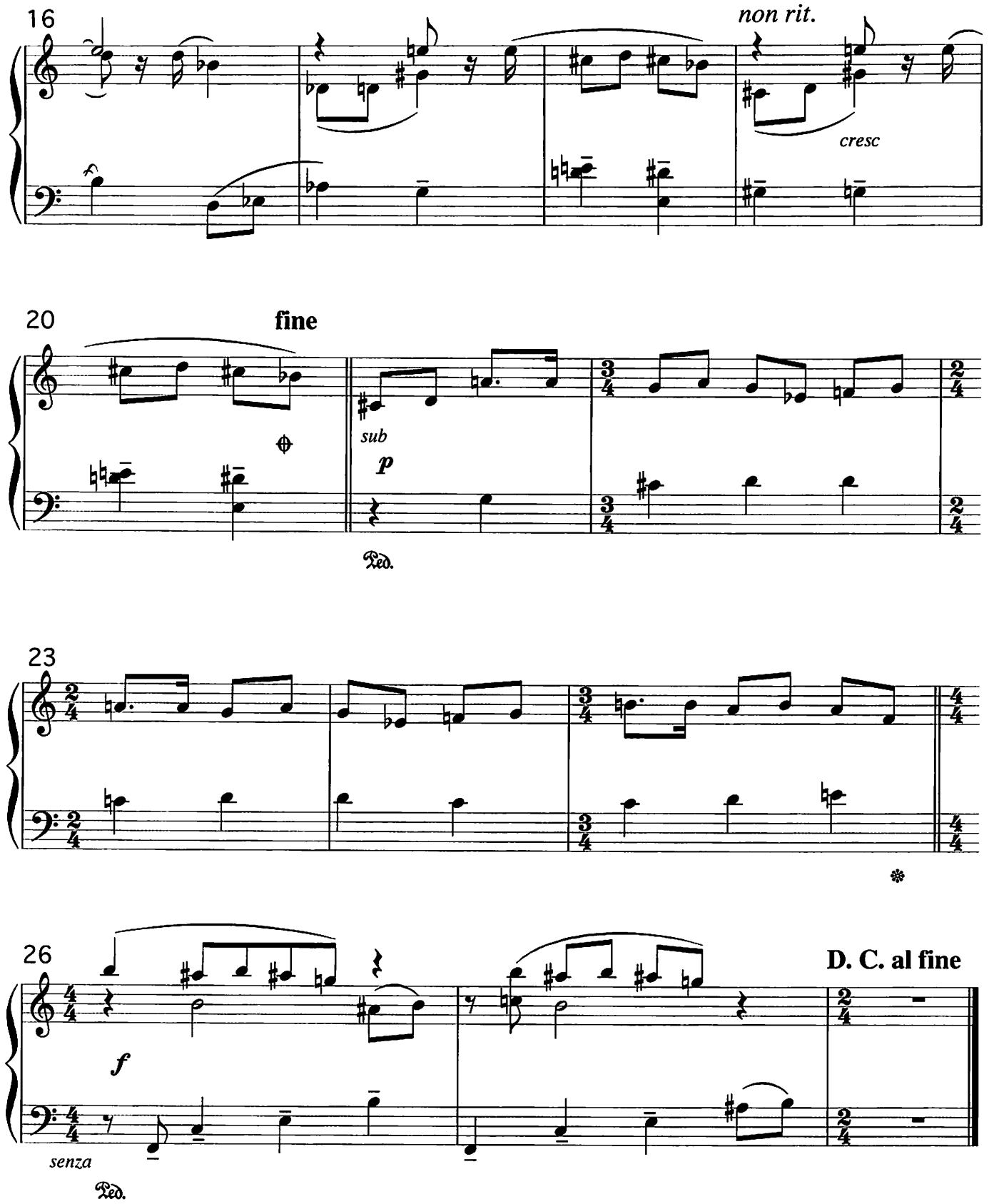

cresc
mf
dim
On - ly joy, on - ly an - guish, Take
(8vb)

54


mp
3
p
pp
me, save me, soothe me, O spare me!
(8vb)

# 6. & 20. Traveling between Realms

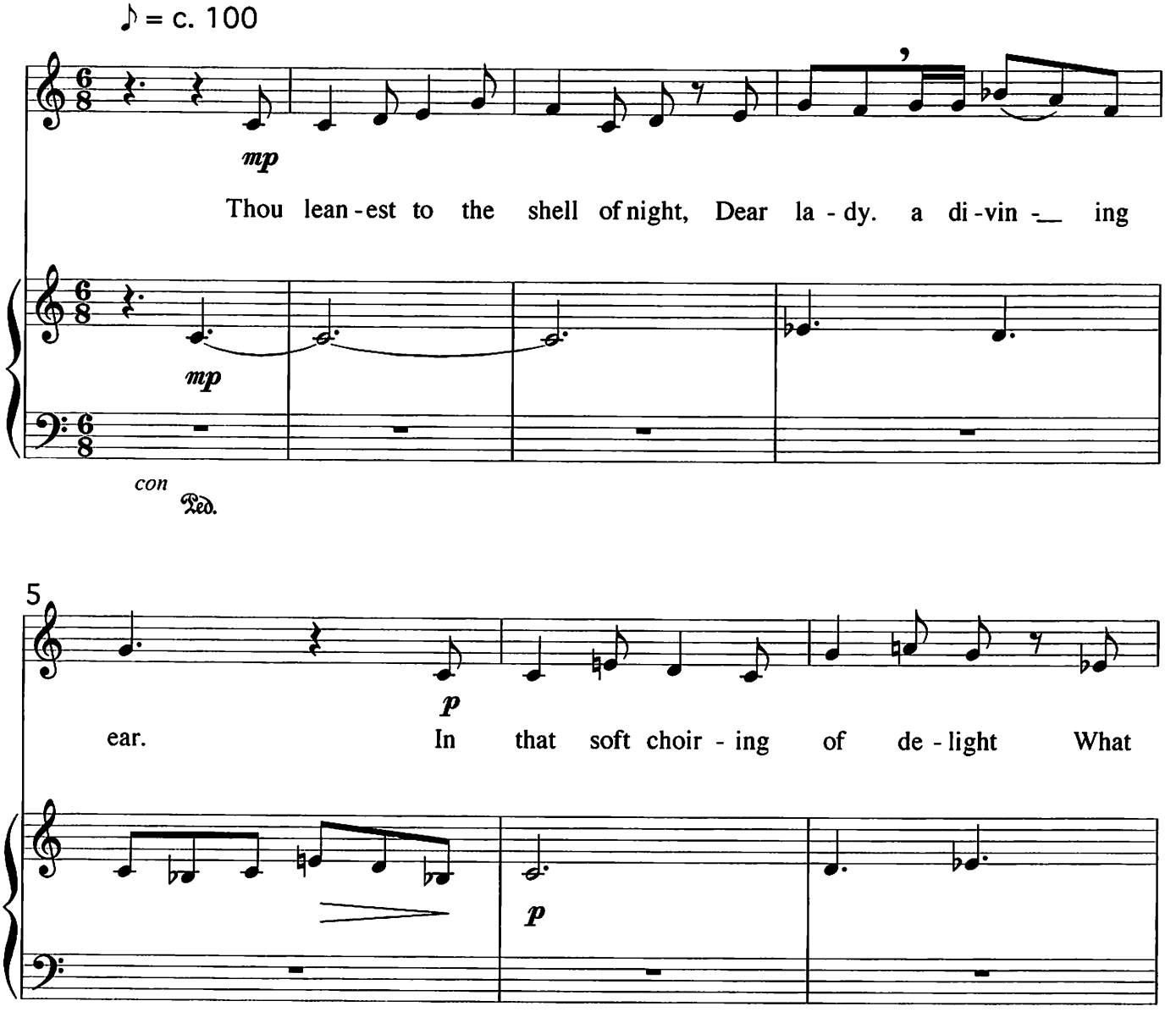


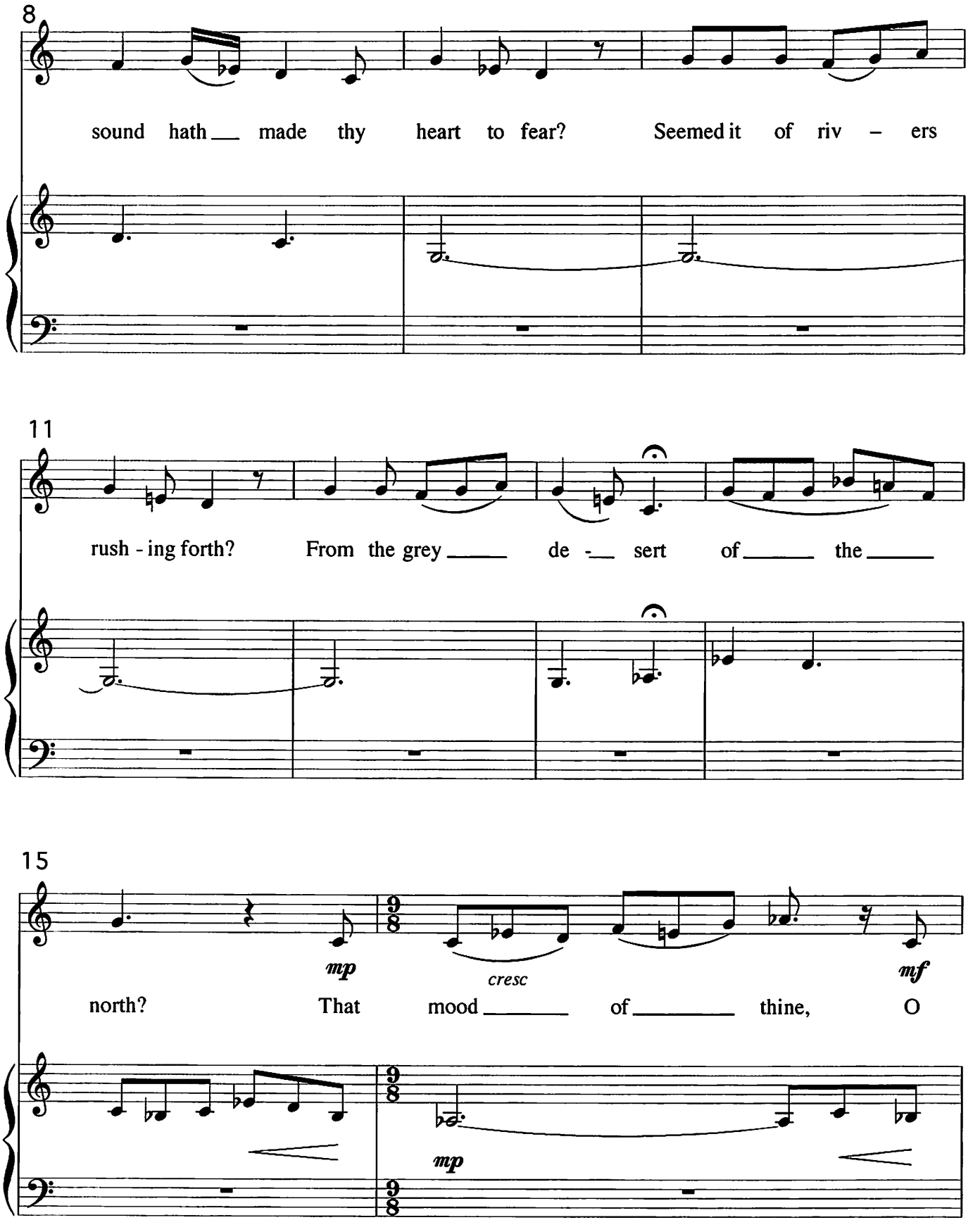

16
non rit.
cresc
20
fine
sub
p
Ped.
23
26
D. C. al fine
f
senza
Ped.

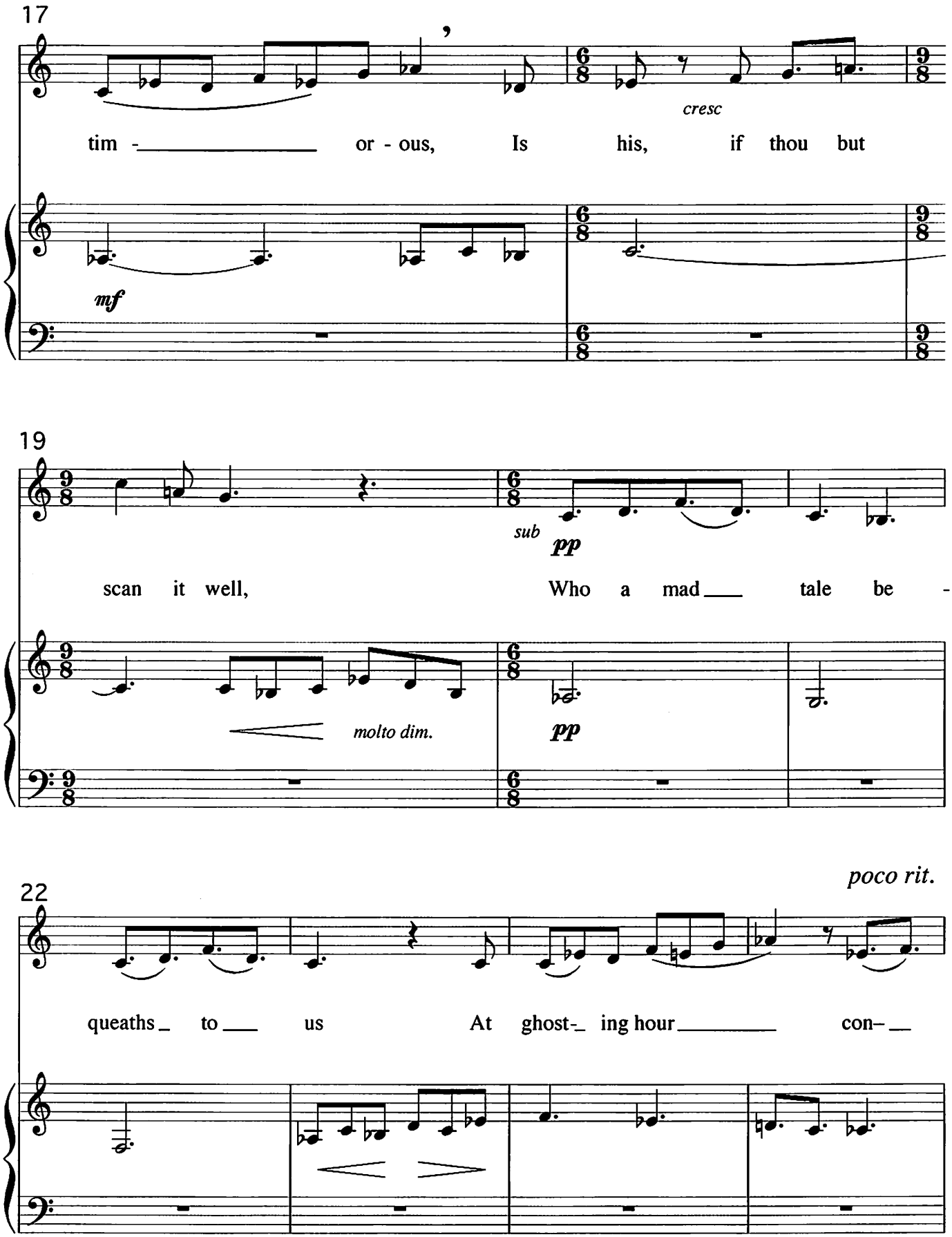
# Scene II: The Realm of Night

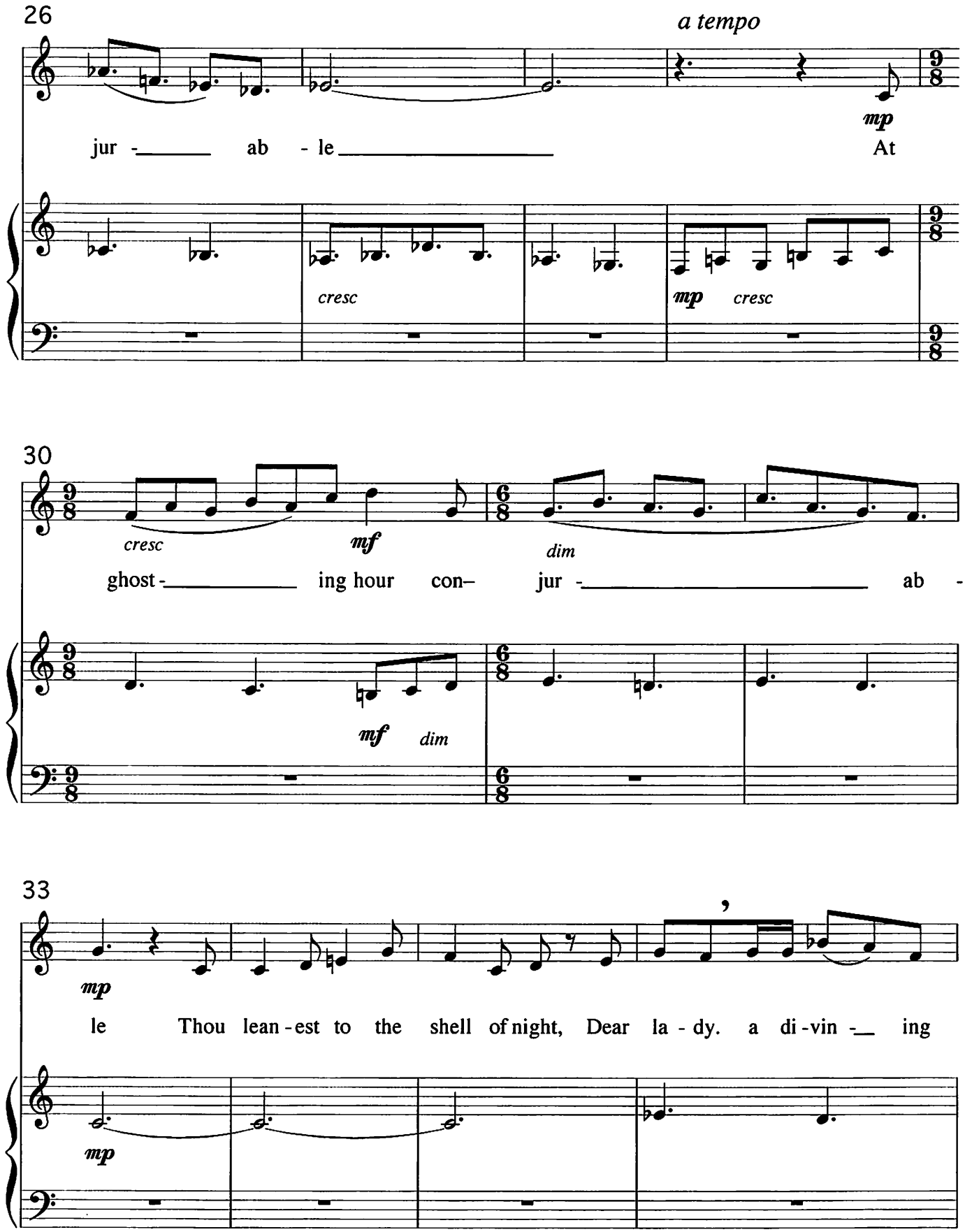
## 7. The Other Woman: Thou leanest to the shell of night (XXVI)

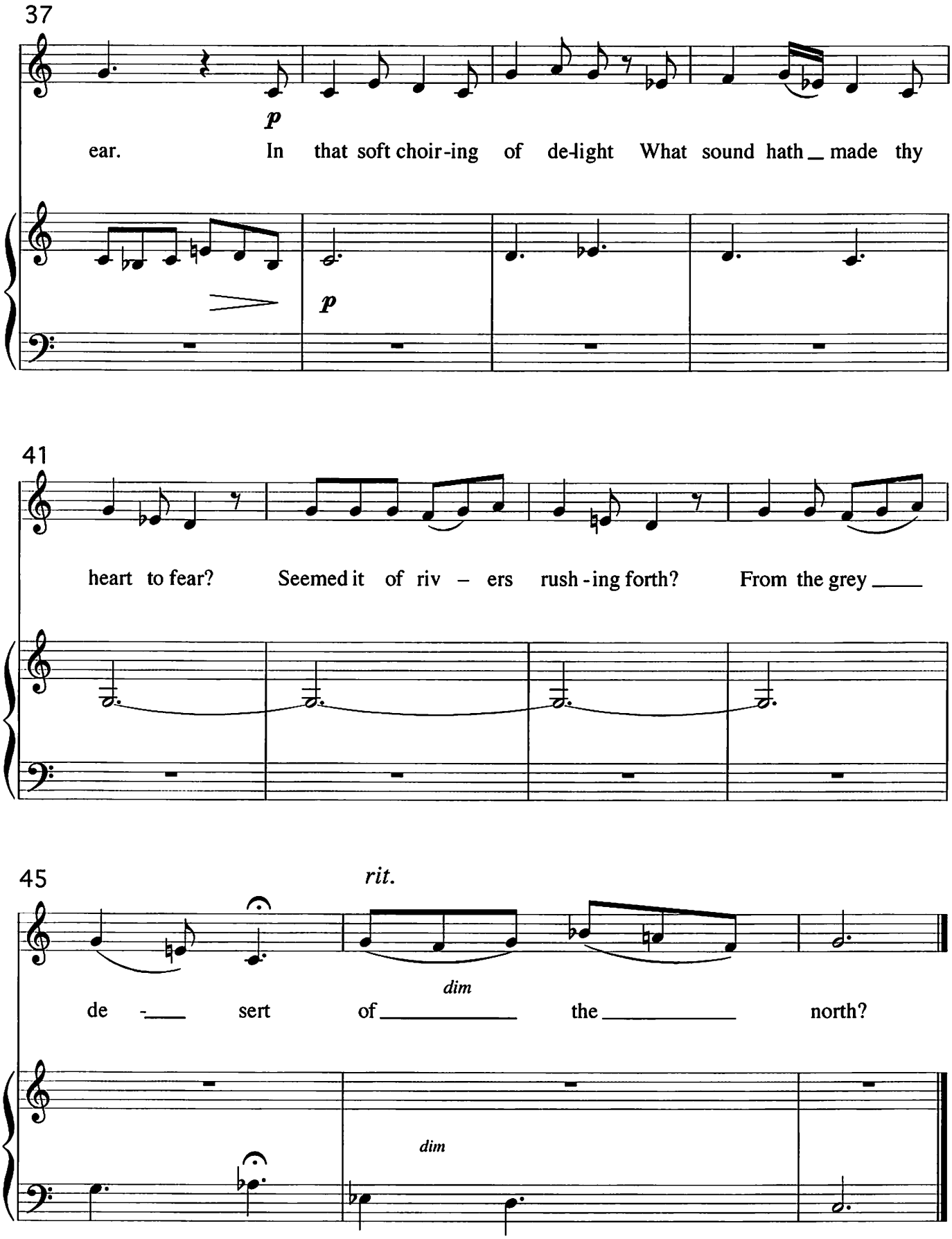
**Narrator:** So it is that the one who was male, and now, is female enters The Realm of Night. The first sound she hears is the most beautiful woman's voice welcoming her "In soft choiring of delight,"




8
sound hath made thy heart to fear? Seemed it of riv – ers
11
rush - ing forth? From the grey de - sert of the
15
mp
cresc
mf
north? That mood of thine, O
mp

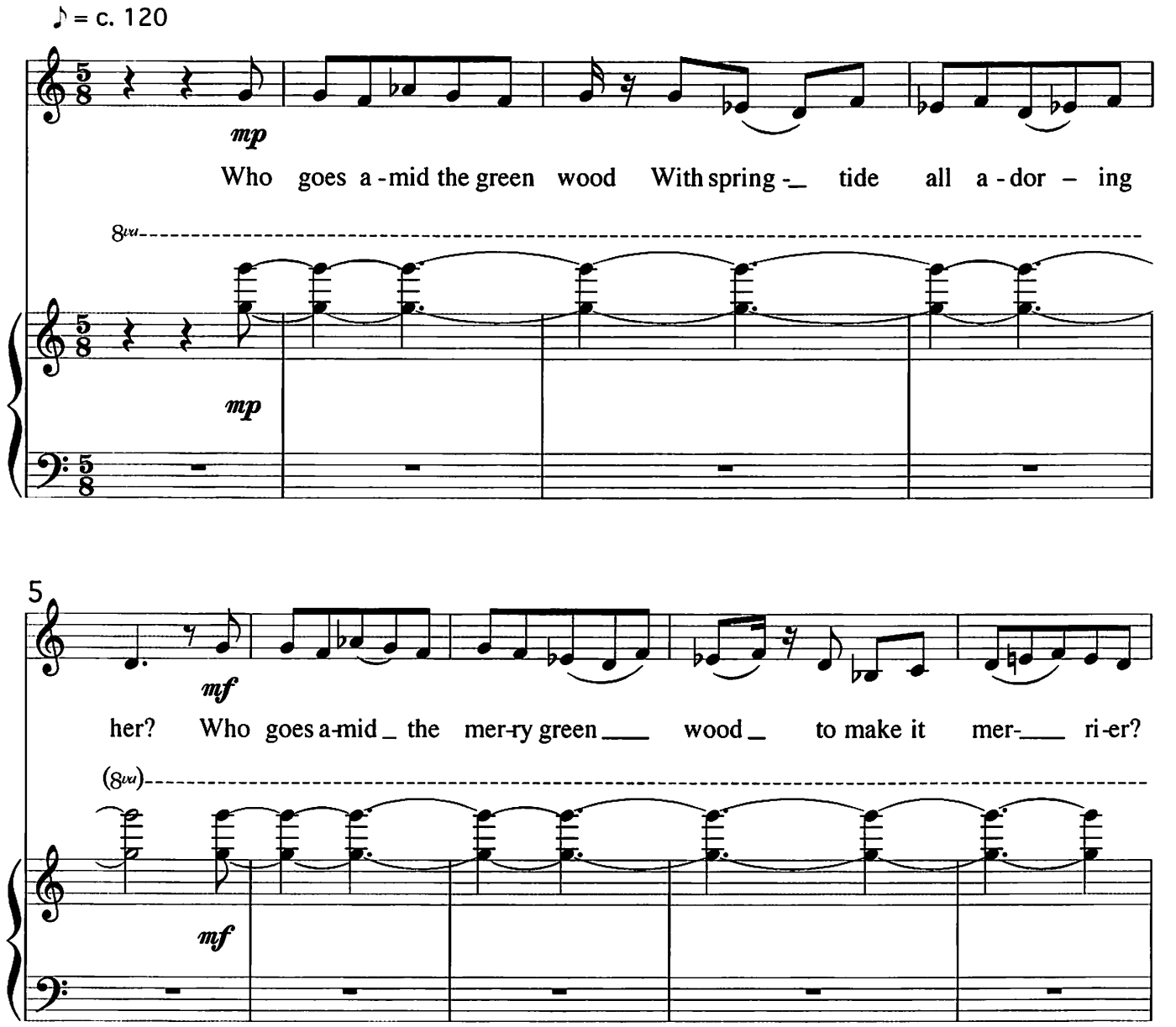

17
cresc
tim - or - ous, Is his, if thou but
mf
19
sub
pp
scan it well, Who a mad tale be -
molto dim.
pp
poco rit.
22
queaths to us At ghost- ing hour con-

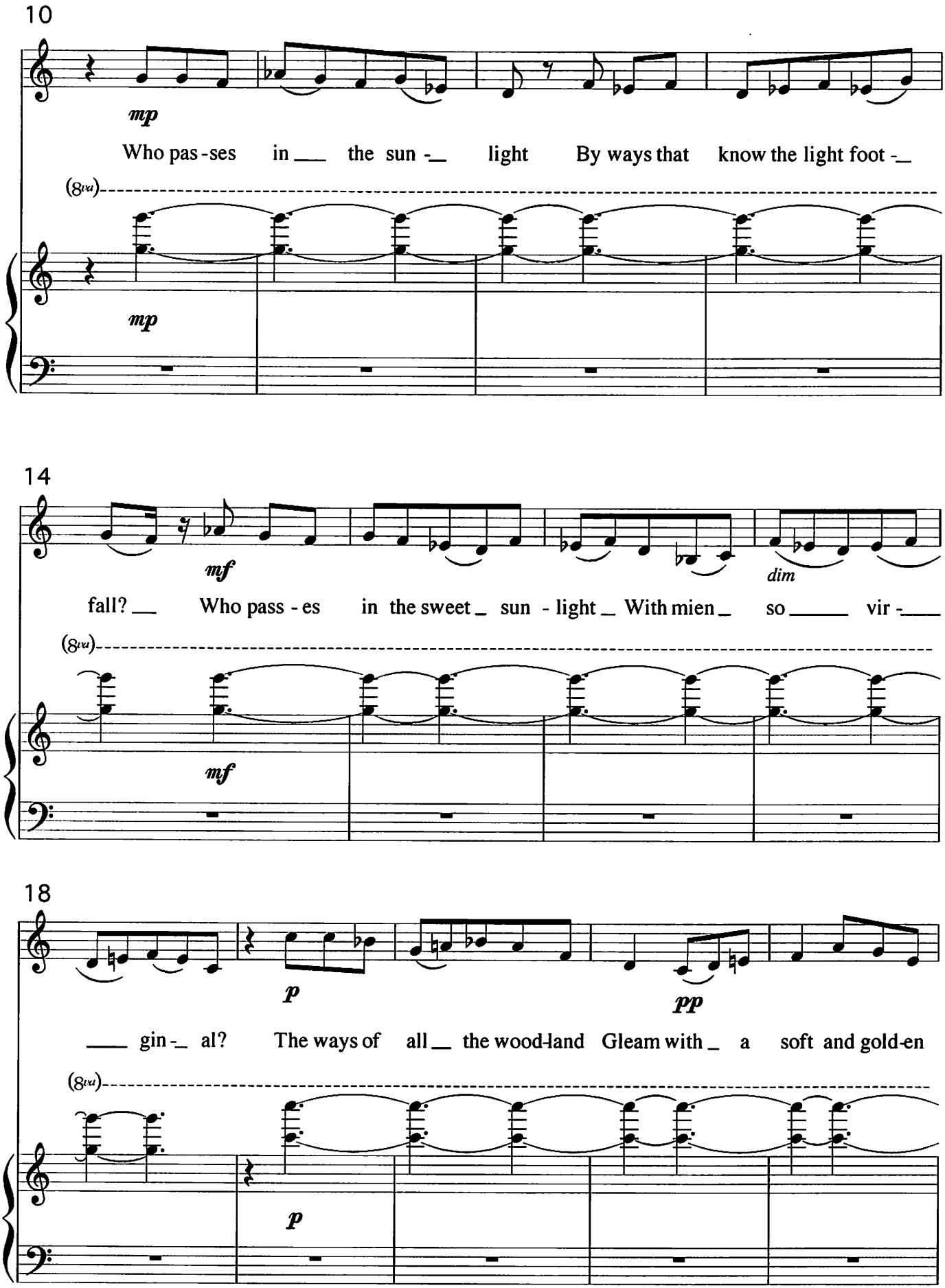

26
a tempo
mp
jur - ab - le At
cresc
mp cresc
30
cresc
mf
dim
ghost - ing hour con- jur - ab -
mf dim
33
mp
le Thou lean - est to the shell of night, Dear la - dy. a di - vin - ing
mp

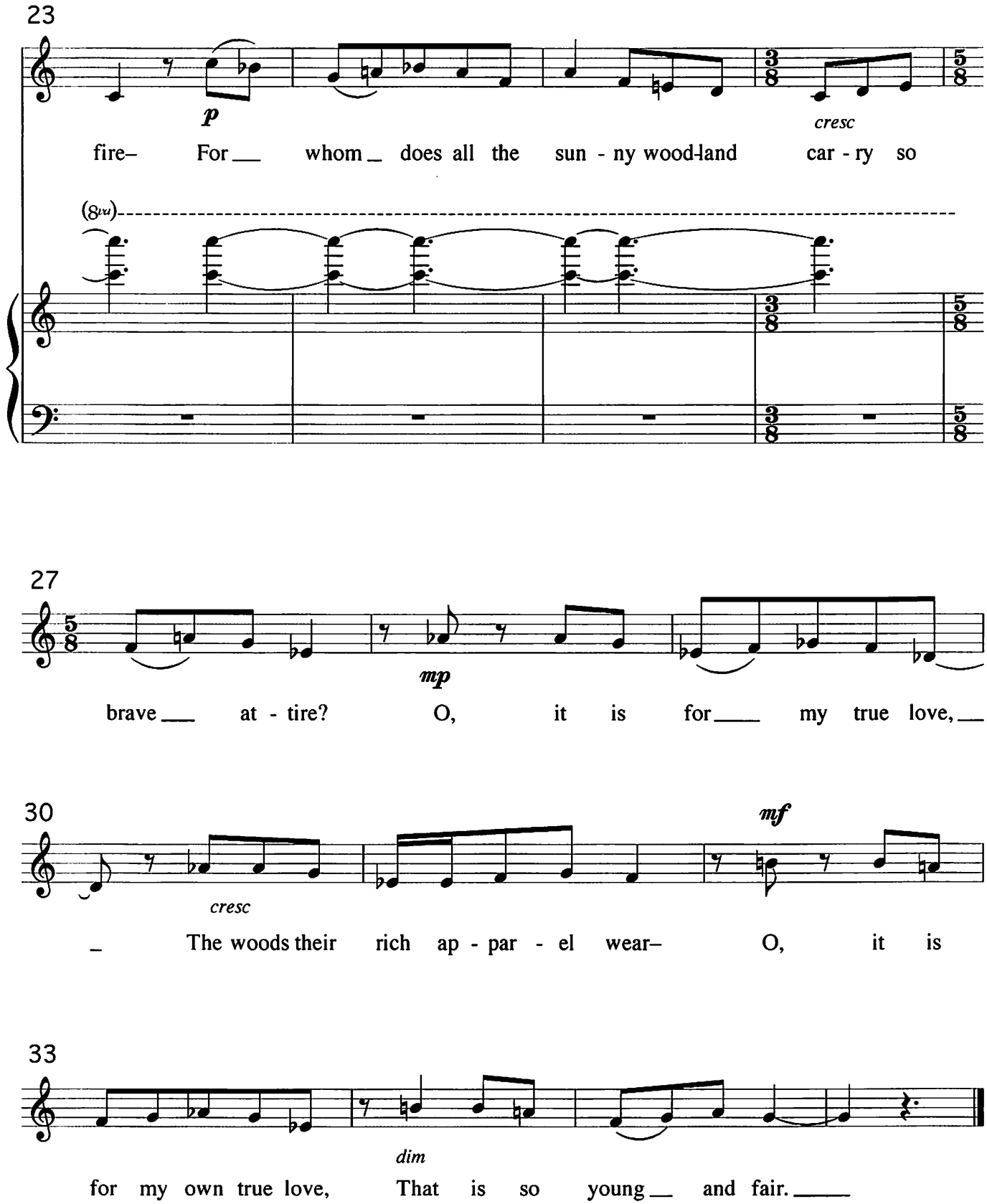

37
p
ear. In that soft choir-ing of de-light What sound hath_ made thy
p
41
heart to fear? Seemed it of riv – ers rush-ing forth? From the grey ____
45
rit.
dim
de -___ sert of _____ the _____ north?
dim

# 8. The Woman: Who goes amid the green wood (VIII)

**Narrator:** Her sight adjusts to the dark more quickly than she would have thought. She sees before her, the most beautiful lady that she had ever seen. Is it this place or some strange trick that was played on her when she entered this place? She didn't know... But for some reason she was immediately and desparately drawn to the lovely woman.

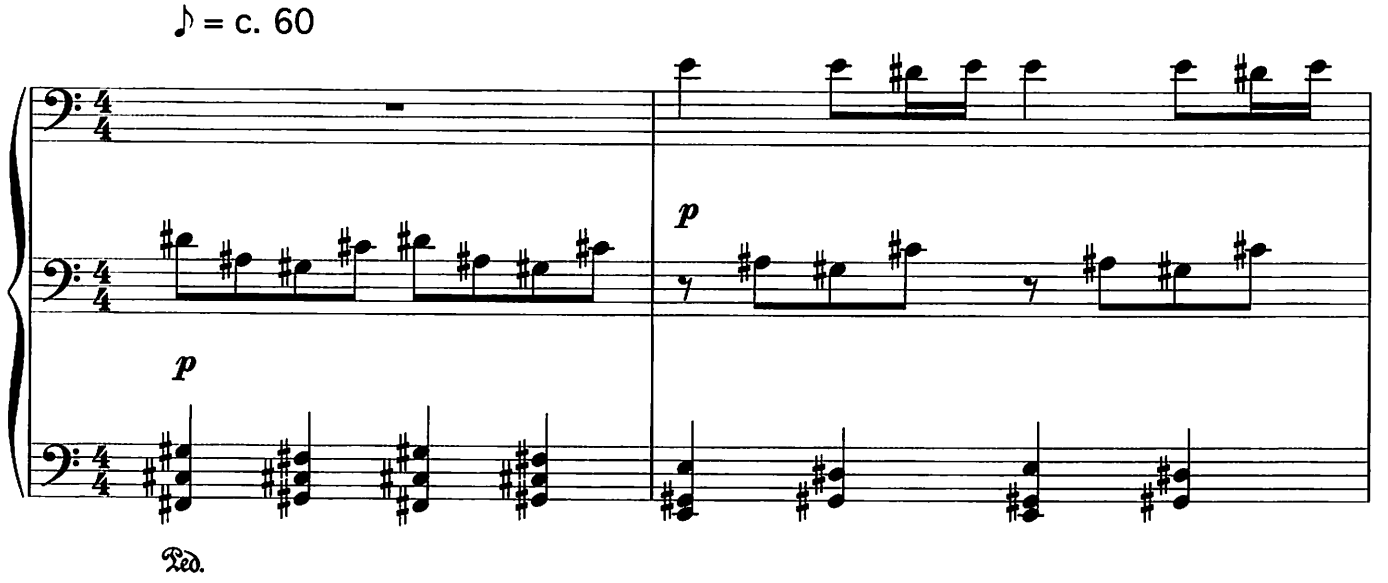


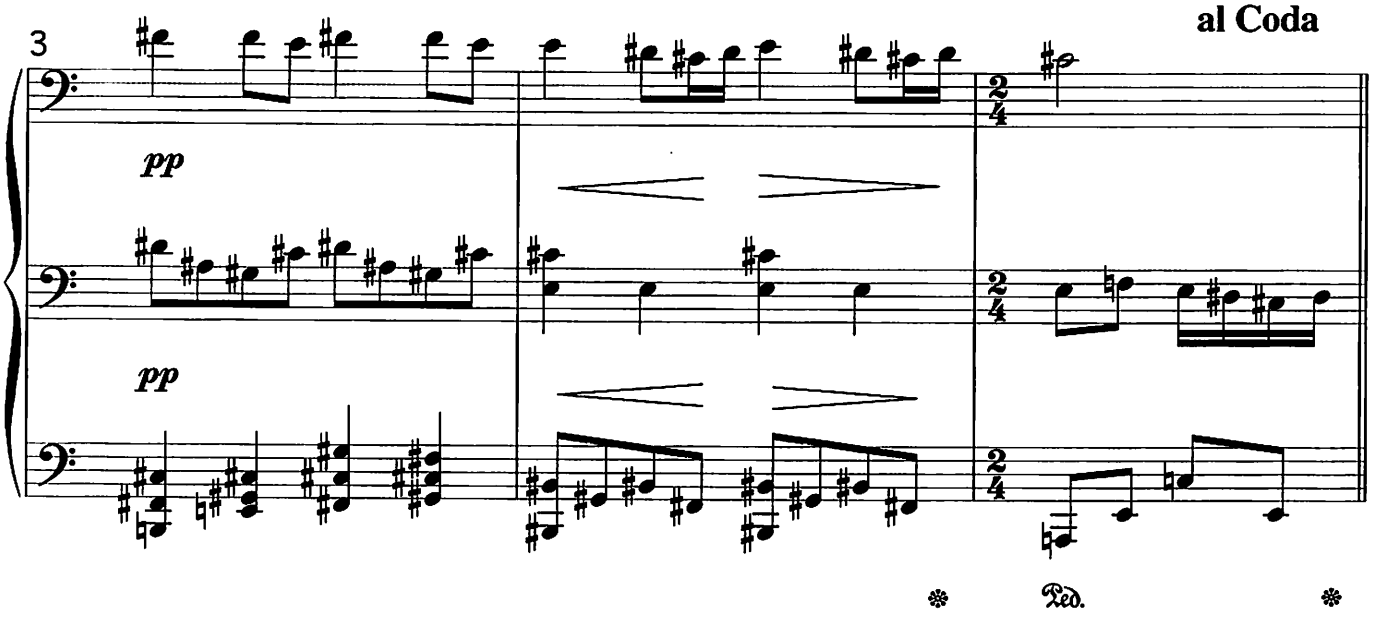

10
mp
Who pas-ses in the sun-light By ways that know the light foot-
(8va)
mp
14
mf
dim
fall? Who pass-es in the sweet sun-light With mien so vir-
(8va)
mf
18
p
pp
gin-al? The ways of all the wood-land Gleam with a soft and gold-en
(8va)
p

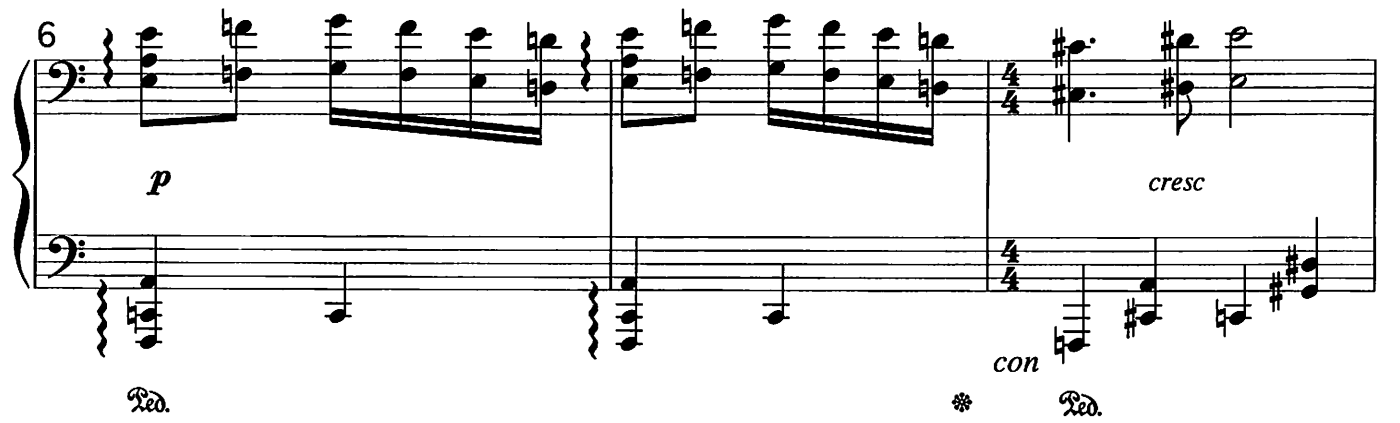

23
p
cresc
fire– For ___ whom _ does all the sun - ny wood-land car - ry so
(8va)
27
mp
brave ___ at - tire? O, it is for ____ my true love, ___
30
mf
cresc
_ The woods their rich ap - par - el wear– O, it is
33
dim
for my own true love, That is so young ___ and fair. _____

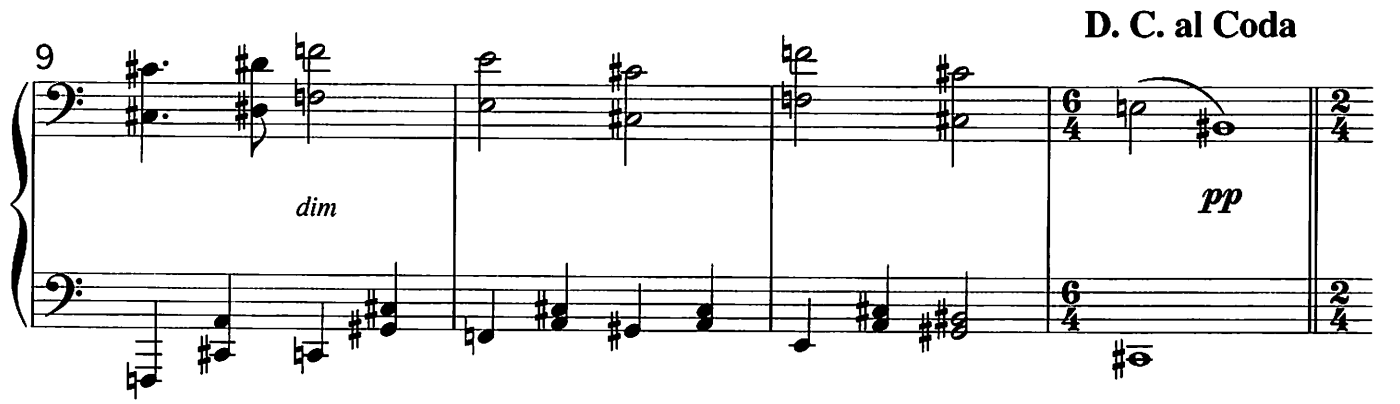
# 9. & 11. Dance by The Water

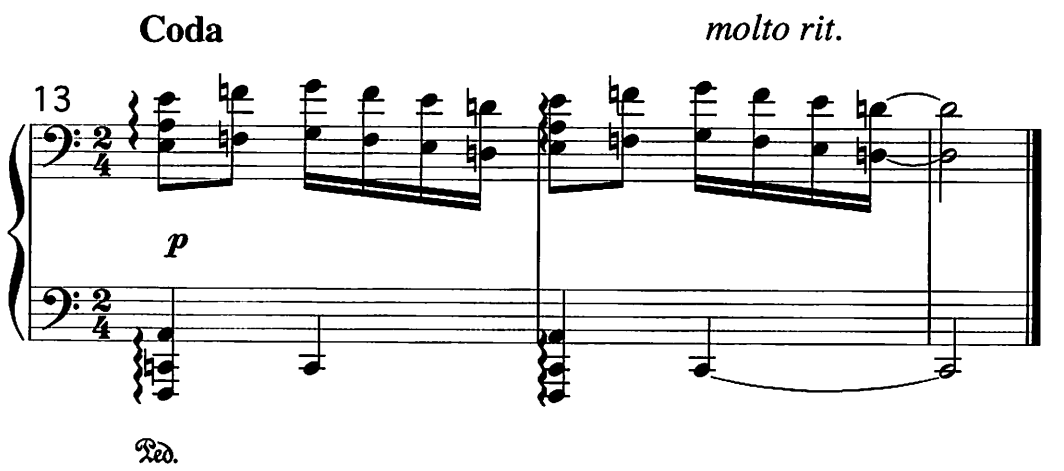
**Narrator:** She who was man who loved man, is now woman who loves woman. What is this magic that is strong enough to have changed her so. It is truly beyond all that contemporary psychology and medicine can offer and travels far into the realm of the occult. "Who goes amid the green wood With springtide all adorning her? Who goes amid the merry green wood to make it merrier?" So the woman calls out to the lovely vision. So it is that the new couple dance together by the waters.



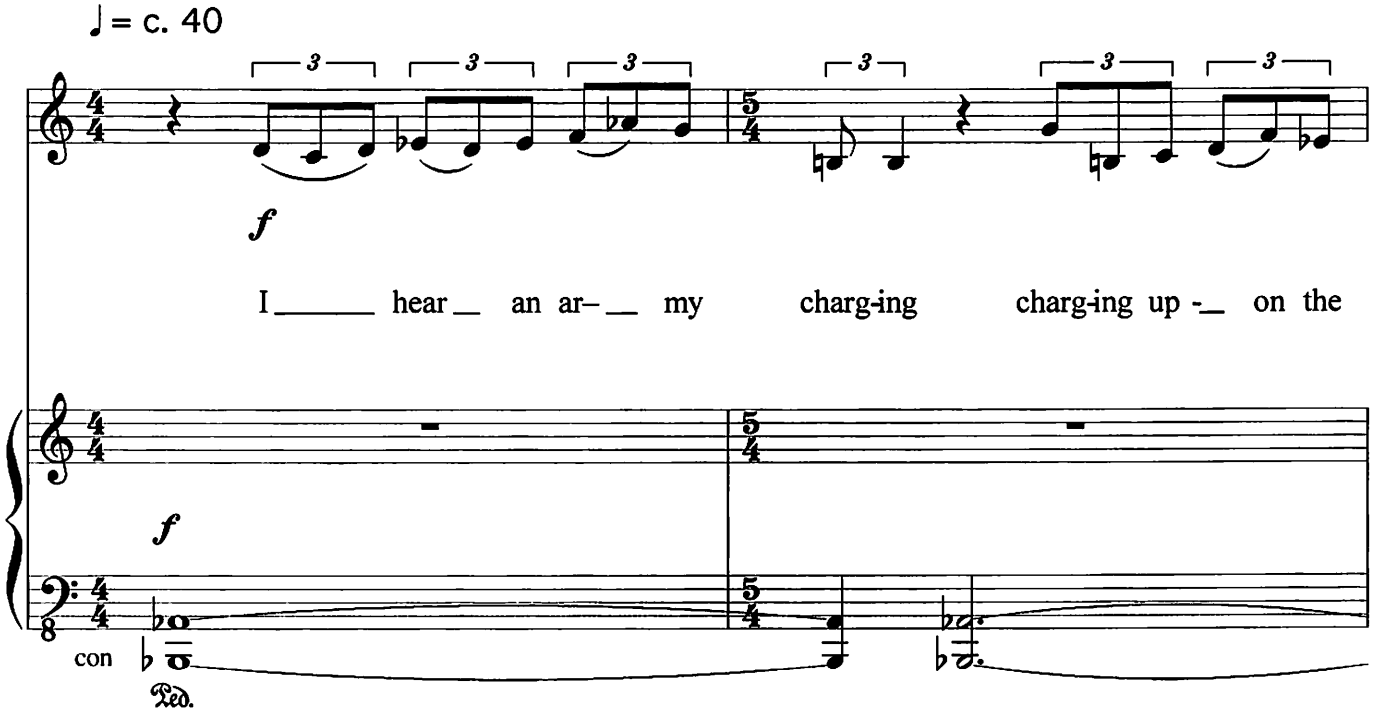

6
p
cresc
con
Ped.
Ped.

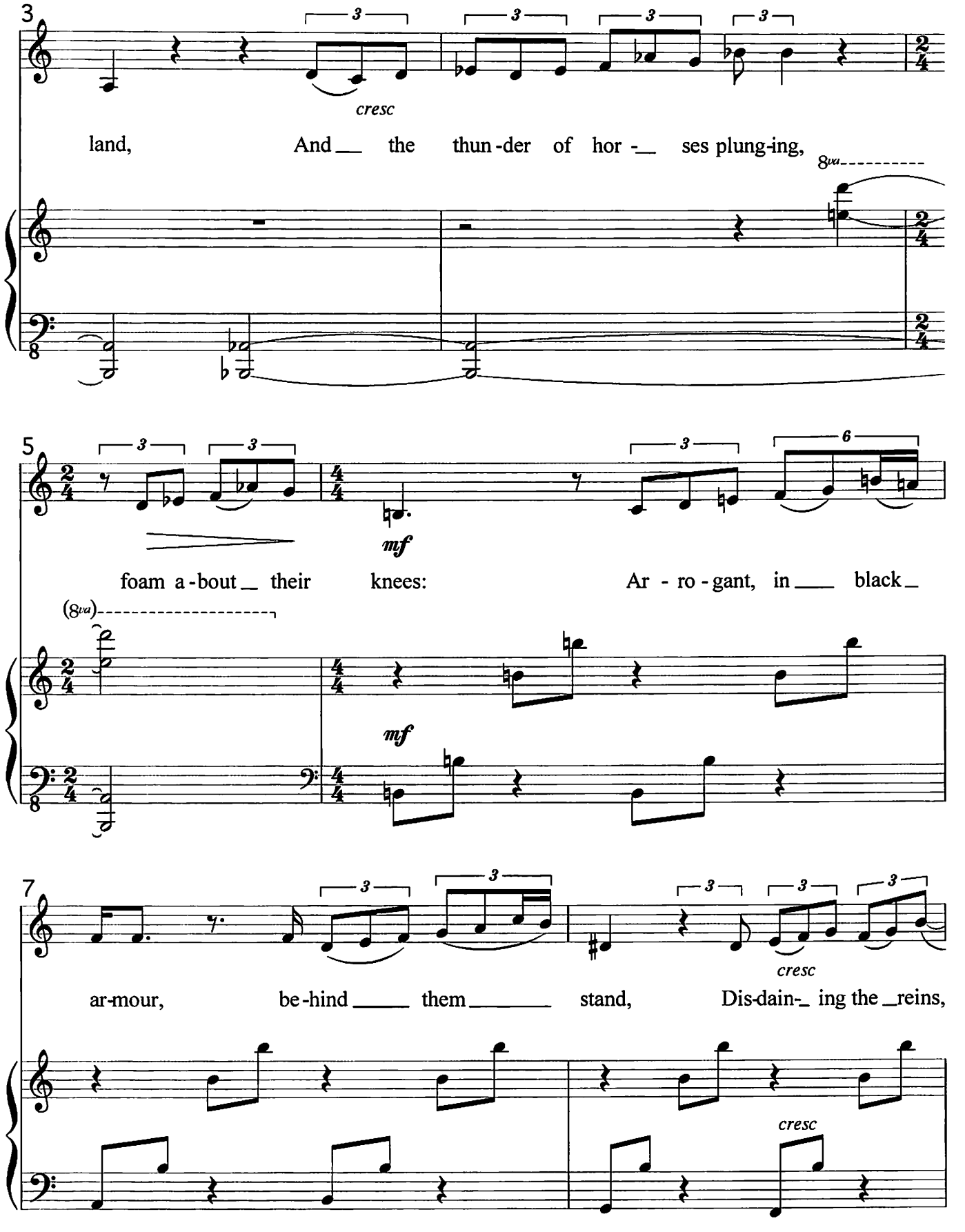

D. C. al Coda
9
dim
pp

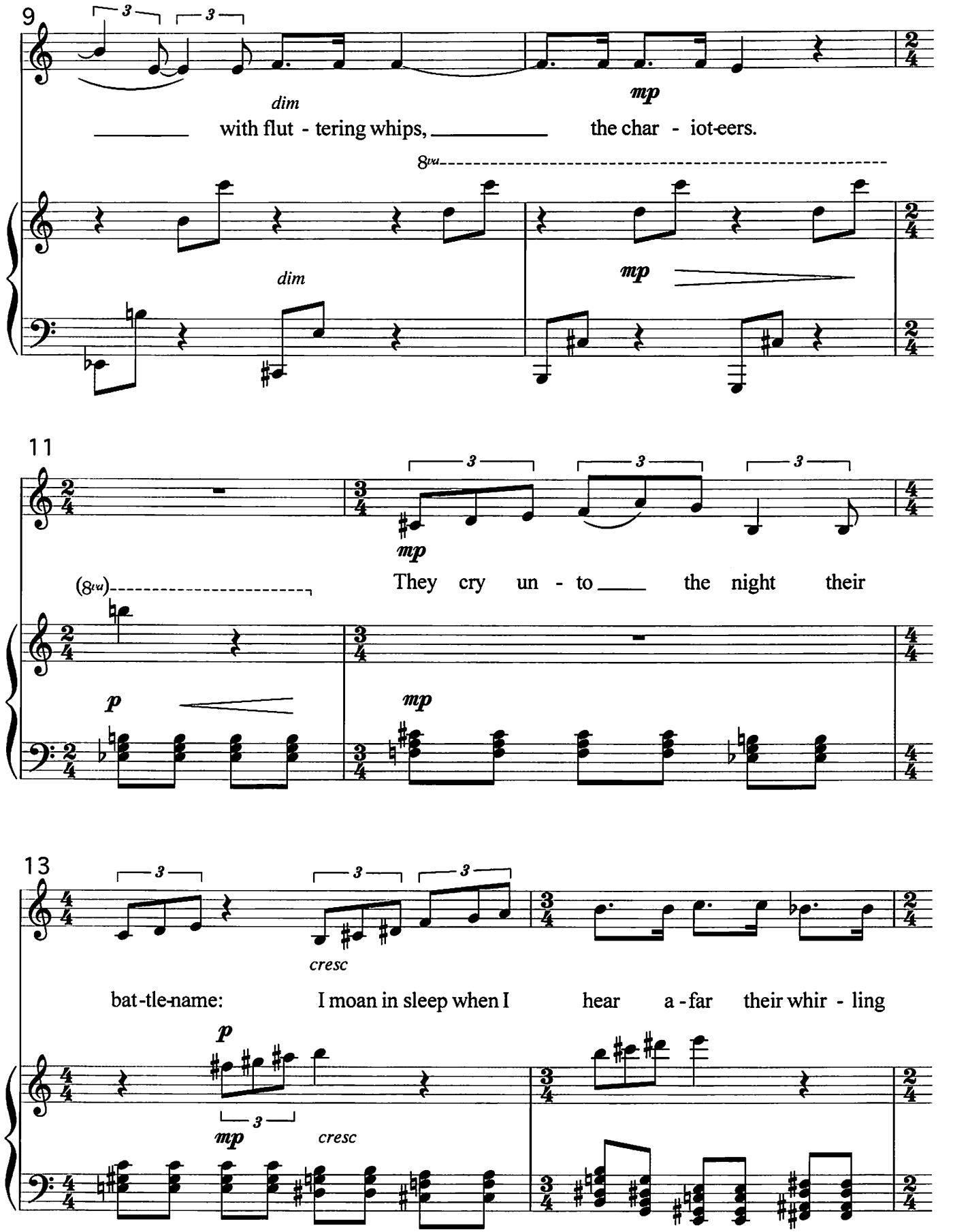

Coda
molto rit.
13
p
Ped.

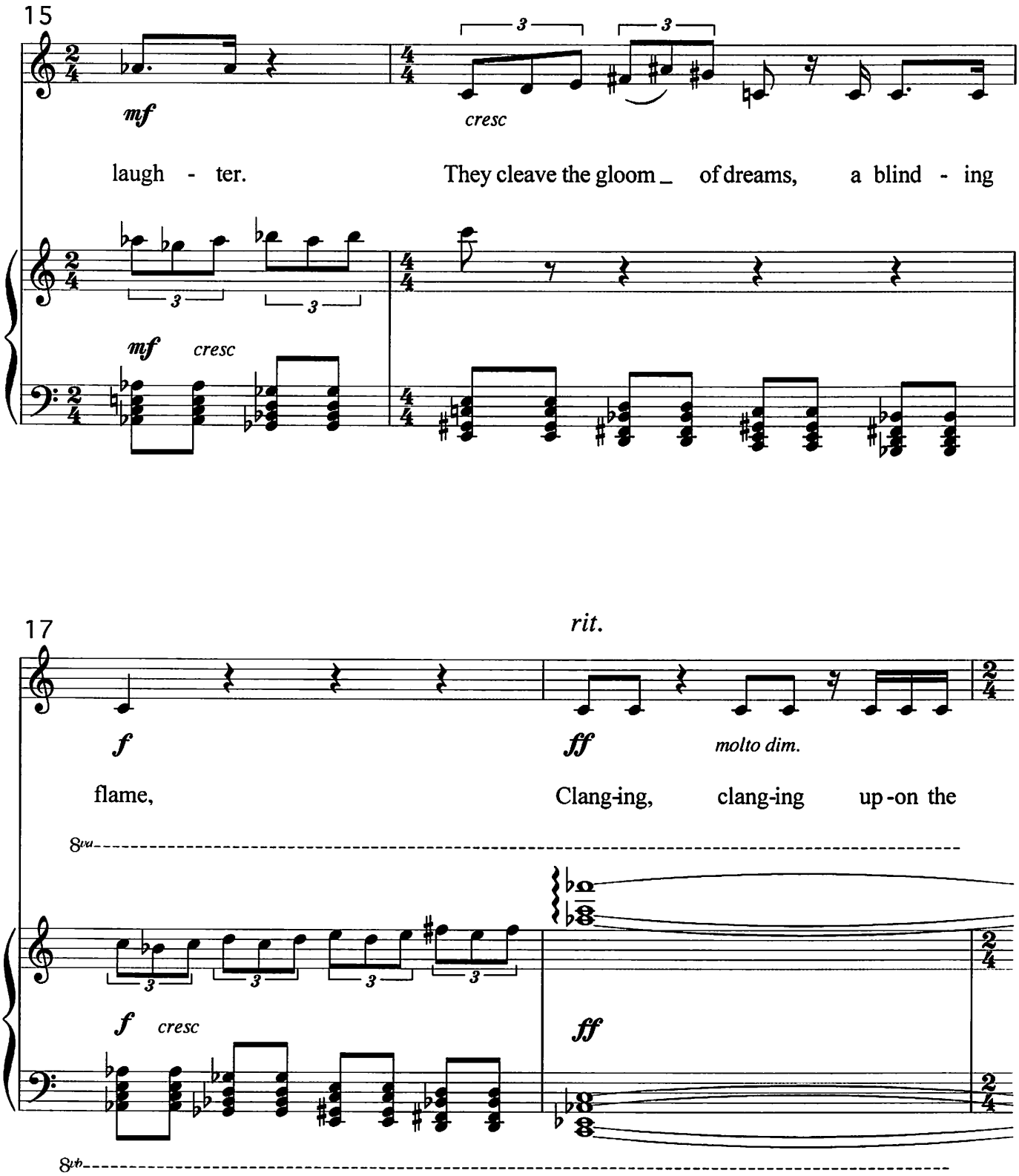
# 12. The Other Woman: I hear an army charging (XXXVI)

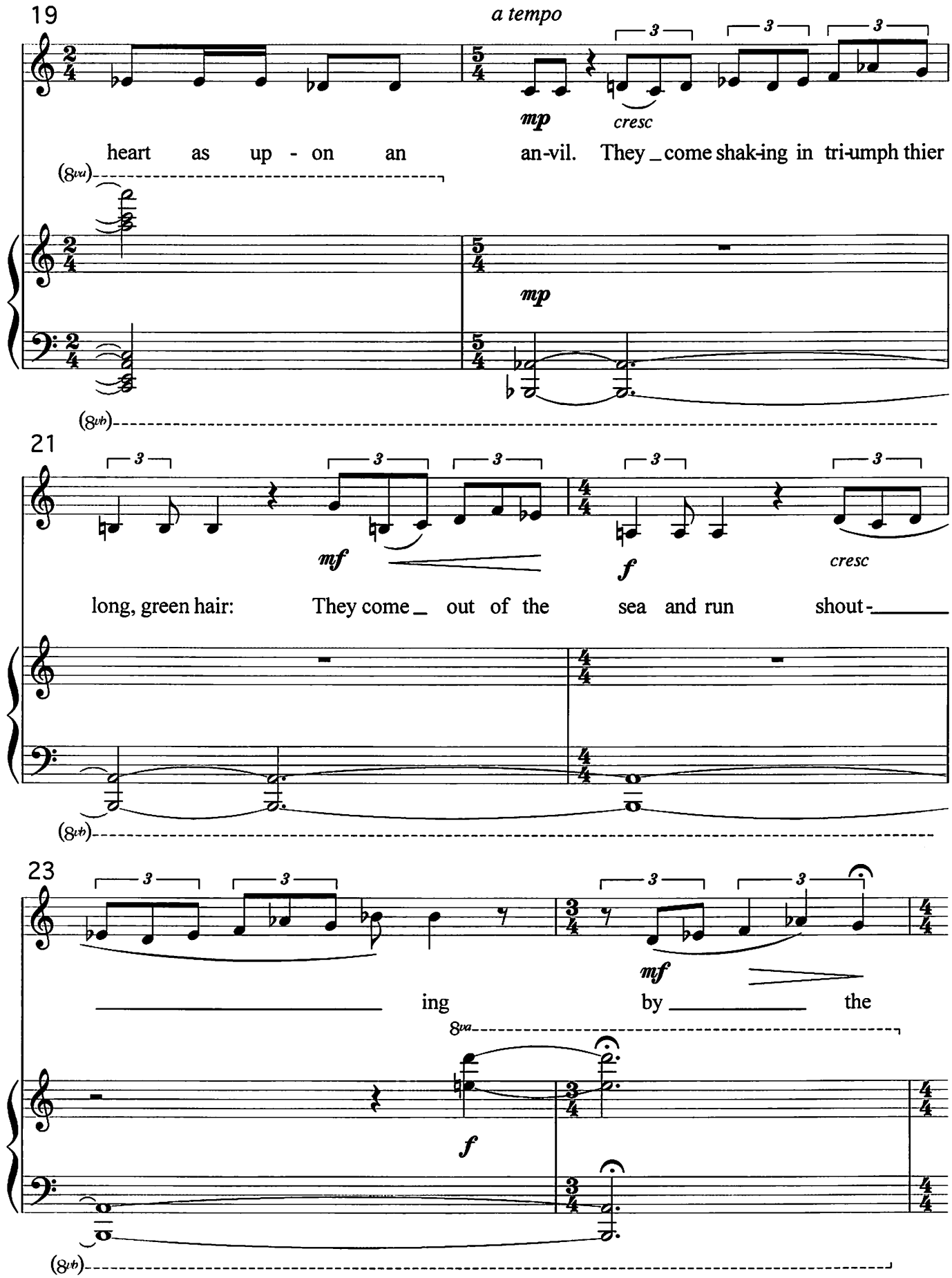
**Narrator**: The couple hears the sounds of a distant army charging across the land; and the thunder of horses plunding as they run out of the sea, shouting by the shore. They can not escape as The darkness descends. They are separated in the fog and cannot find each other.

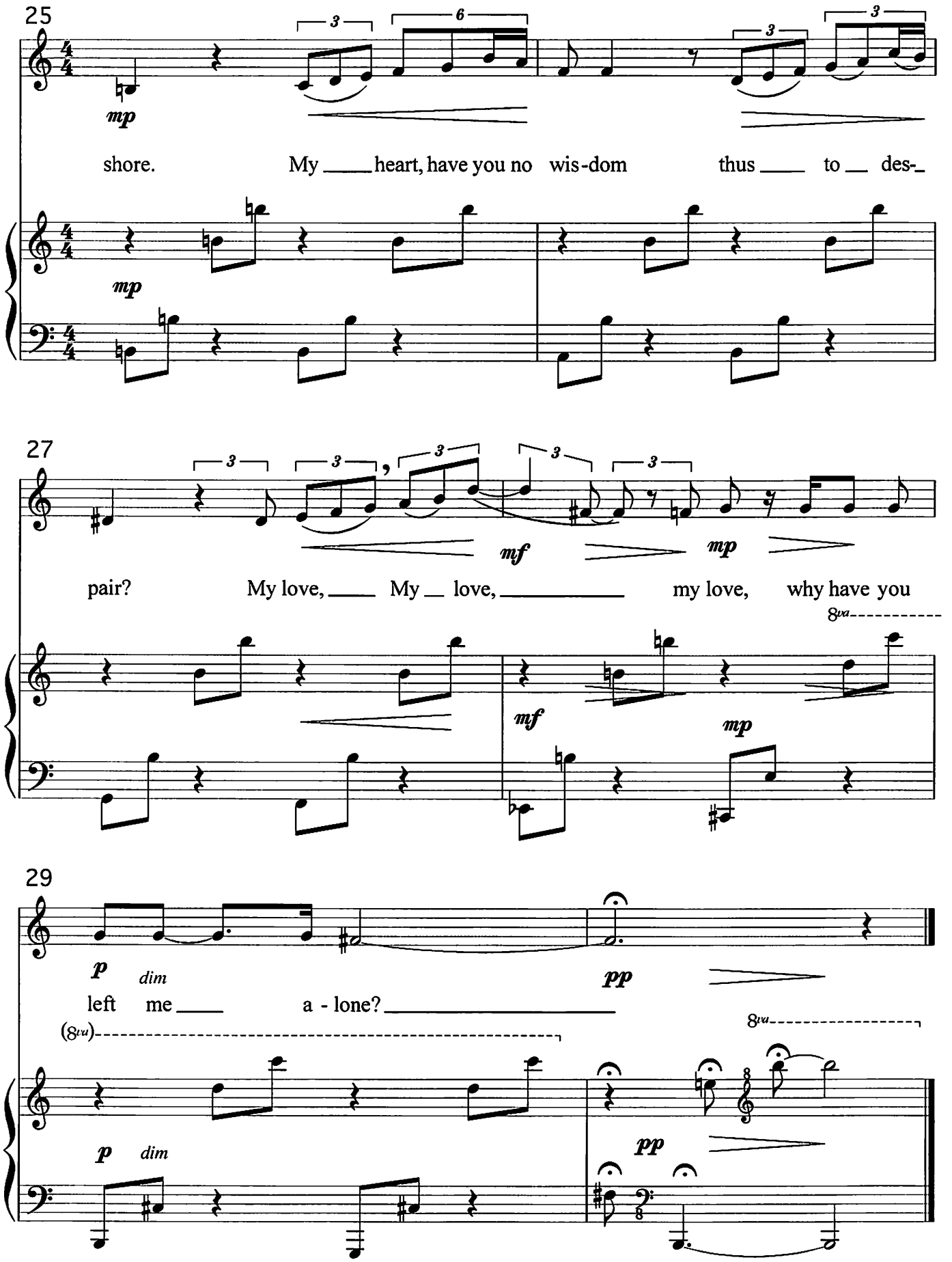



3
cresc
land, And the thun-der of hor- ses plung-ing,
8va
5
mf
foam a-bout their knees: Ar - ro - gant, in black
(8va)
mf
7
cresc
ar-mour, be-hind them stand, Dis-dain- ing the reins,
cresc


9
dim
mp
with flut - tering whips, the char - iot-eers.
8va
dim
mp
11
mp
They cry un - to the night their
(8va)
p
mp
13
cresc
bat-tle-name: I moan in sleep when I hear a - far their whir - ling
p
mp
cresc

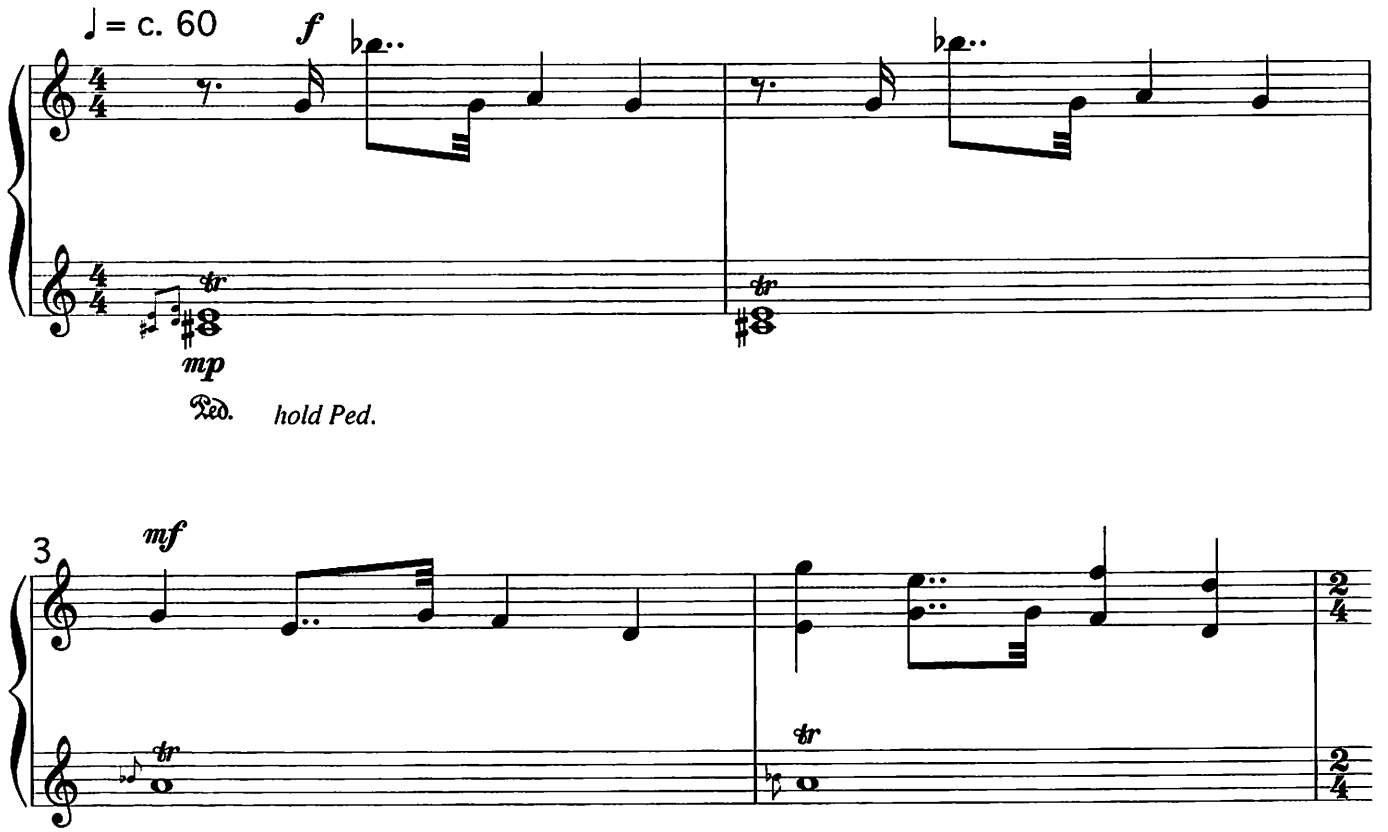

15
mf
cresc
laugh - ter.
They cleave the gloom _ of dreams, a blind - ing
mf cresc
17
rit.
f
ff
molto dim.
flame,
Clang-ing, clang-ing up-on the
8va
f cresc
ff
8vb

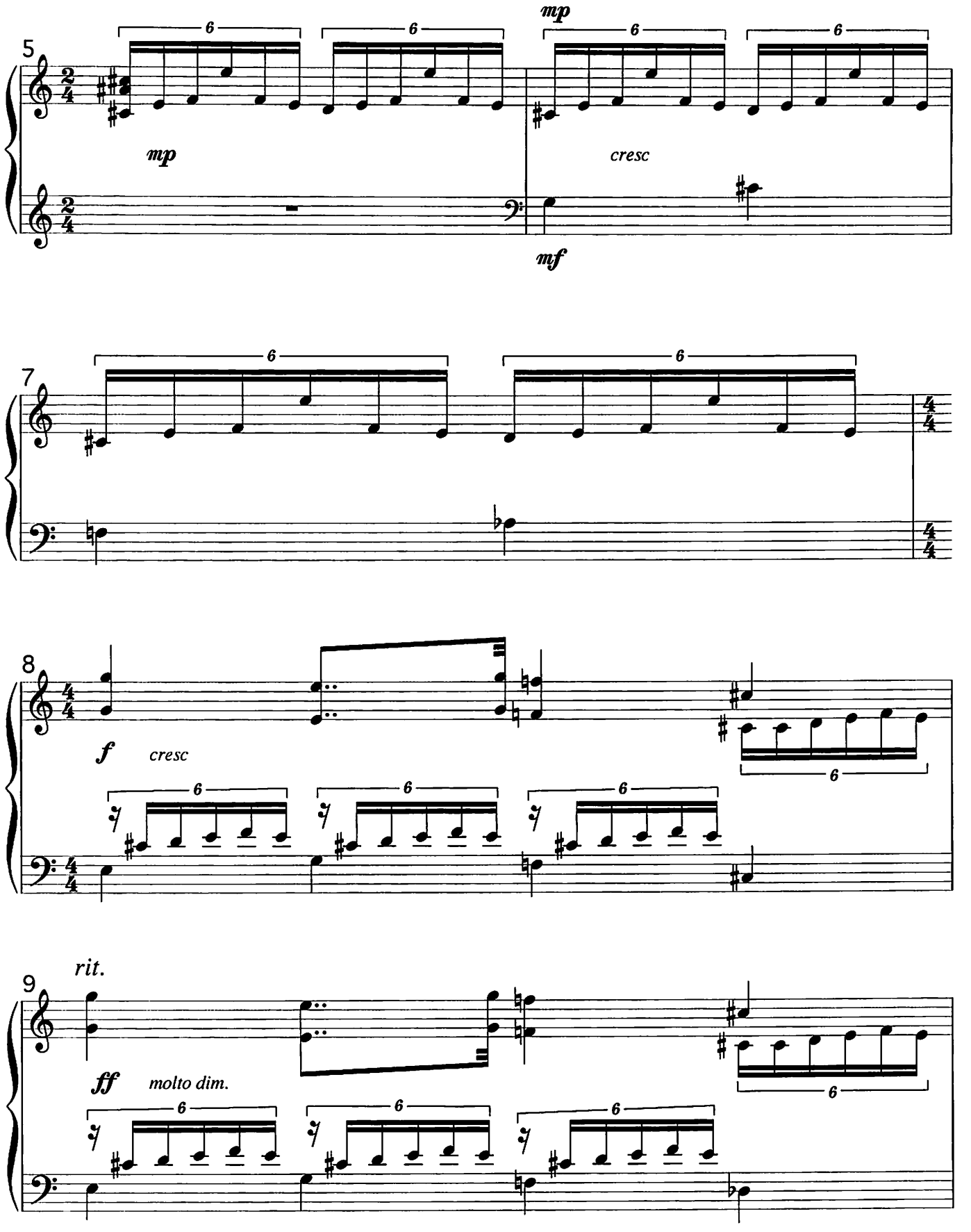

19
a tempo
mp
cresc
heart as up - on an an-vil. They _ come shak-ing in tri-umph thier
(8va)
(8vb)
mp
21
mf
f
cresc
long, green hair: They come _ out of the sea and run shout-_____
(8vb)
23
mf
_____ ing by _____ the
8va
f
(8vb)

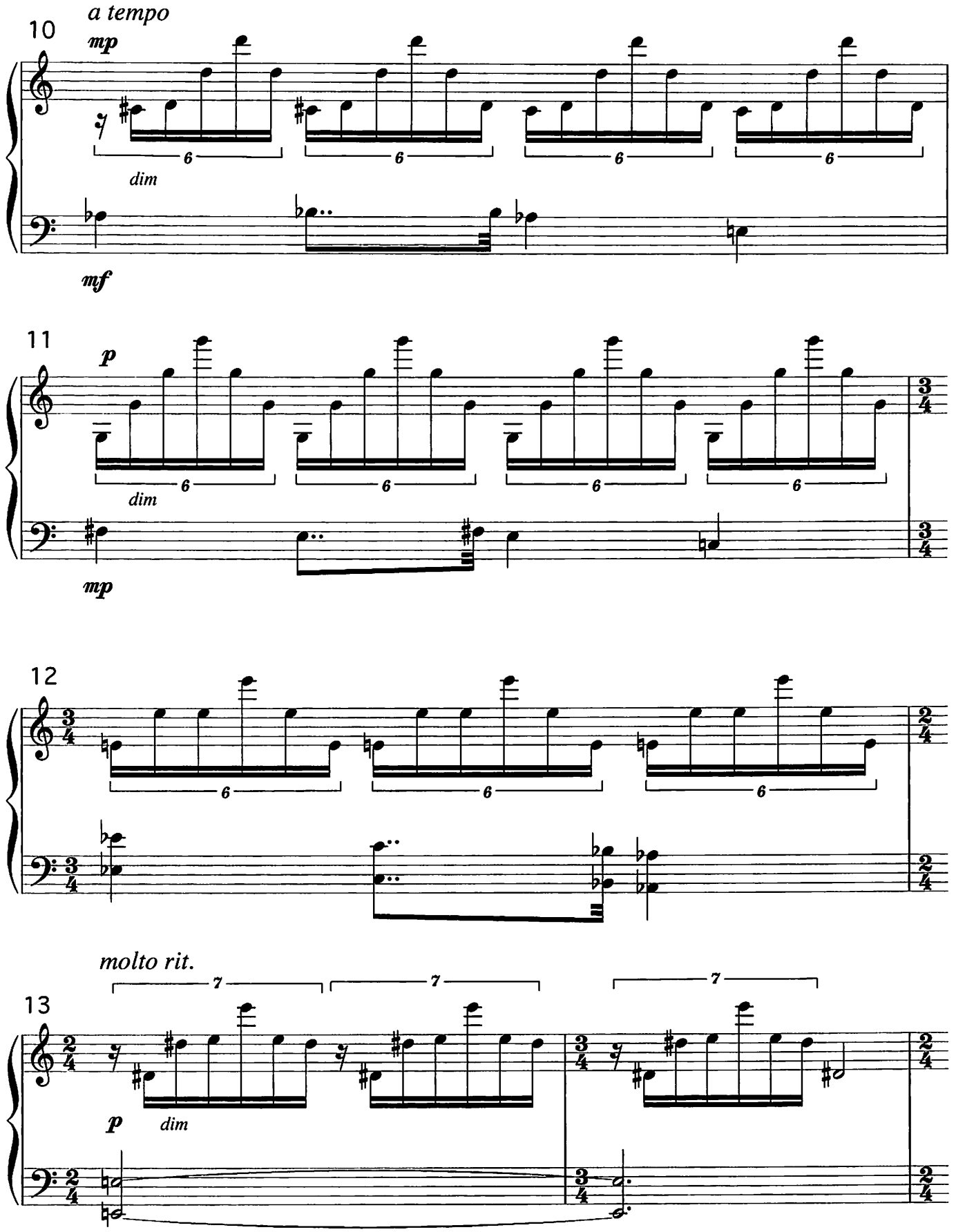

25
mp
shore. My ____ heart, have you no wis-dom thus ____ to __ des-_
mp
27
mf
mp
pair? My love, ____ My __ love, _____ my love, why have you
8va
mf
mp
29
p dim
left me ____ a - lone? _____
pp
(8va)
8va
p dim
pp

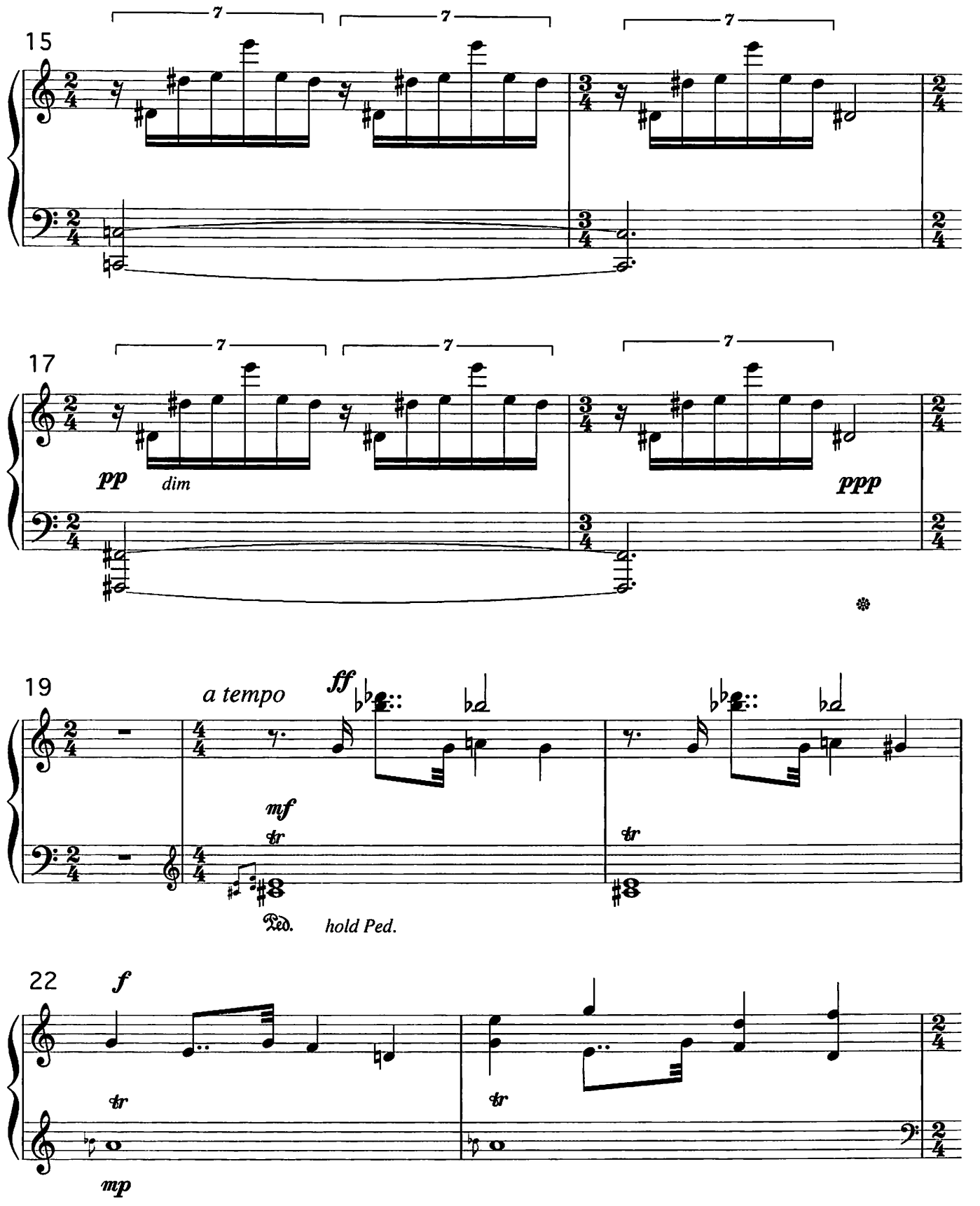
# 14. & 16. The Beast's Wrath

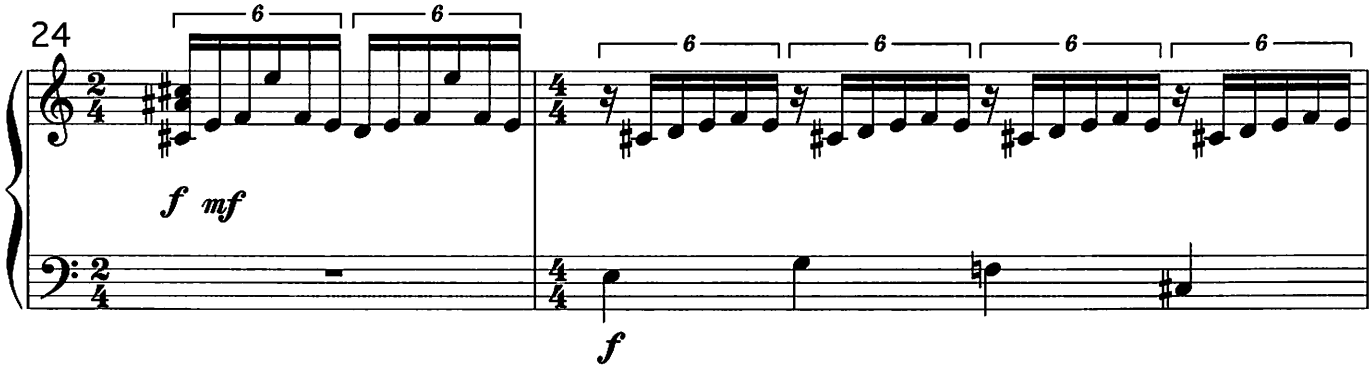
**Narrator:** It Gnashes the thirteen teeth of its lean grin... The stale loveless breath and Harshness
of tongue... They hear The Beast sing as Dire hunger holds its hour.... Saltblood... and fruit of tears... The Beast rapes woman with its unwanted love song and plucks and devours the very soul from her. Then it hurls her lifeless corpse into The Pit of Darkness. With renewed vigor, The Lost Armies once more spew their venom onto the waiting world. They fly into the night to steal
all of the life that remains in The Realm of Day. They suck out the minds and hearts of all who think and love... and all of life is vanquished forever.

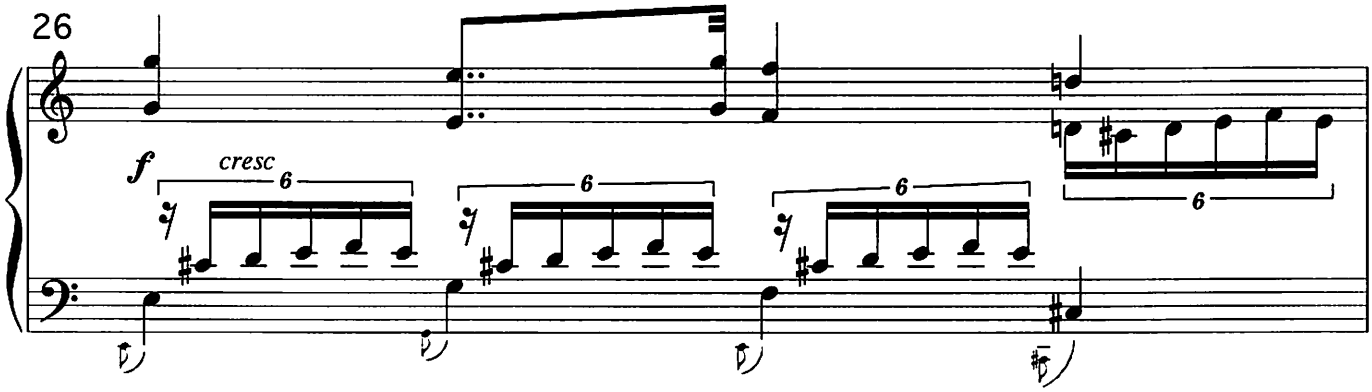


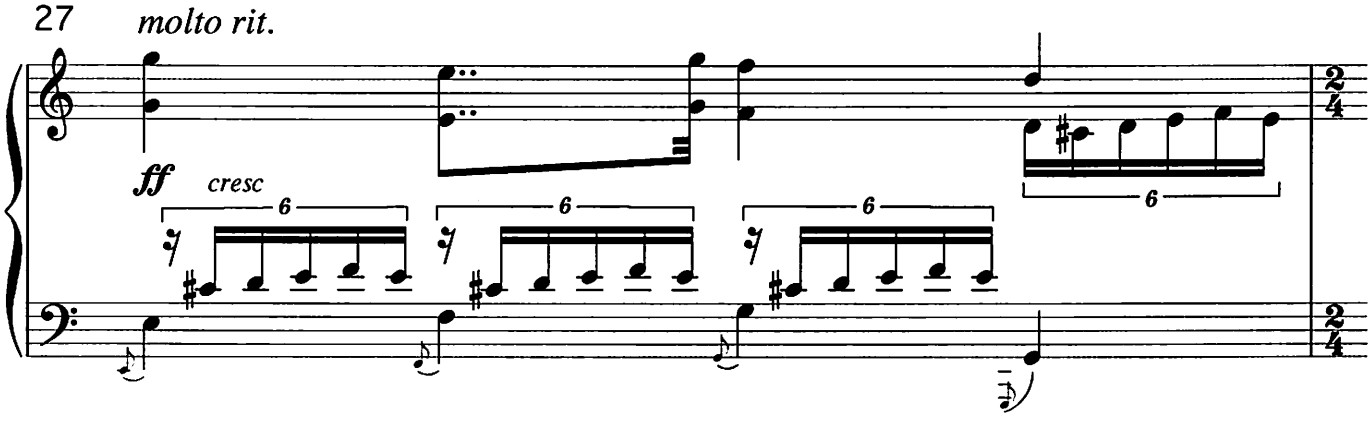

5
mp
mp
cresc
mf
7
8
f
cresc
9
rit.
ff
molto dim.

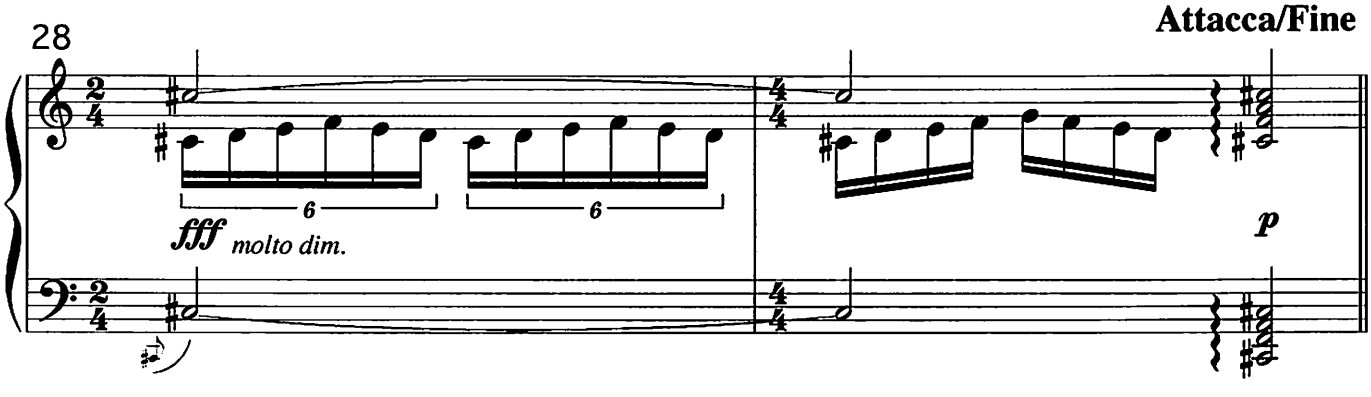

a tempo
10
mp
dim
mf
11
p
dim
mp
12
molto rit.
13
p
dim


15
7
7
7
17
pp
dim
ppp
19
a tempo
ff
mf
tr
Ped.
hold Ped.
22
f
mp

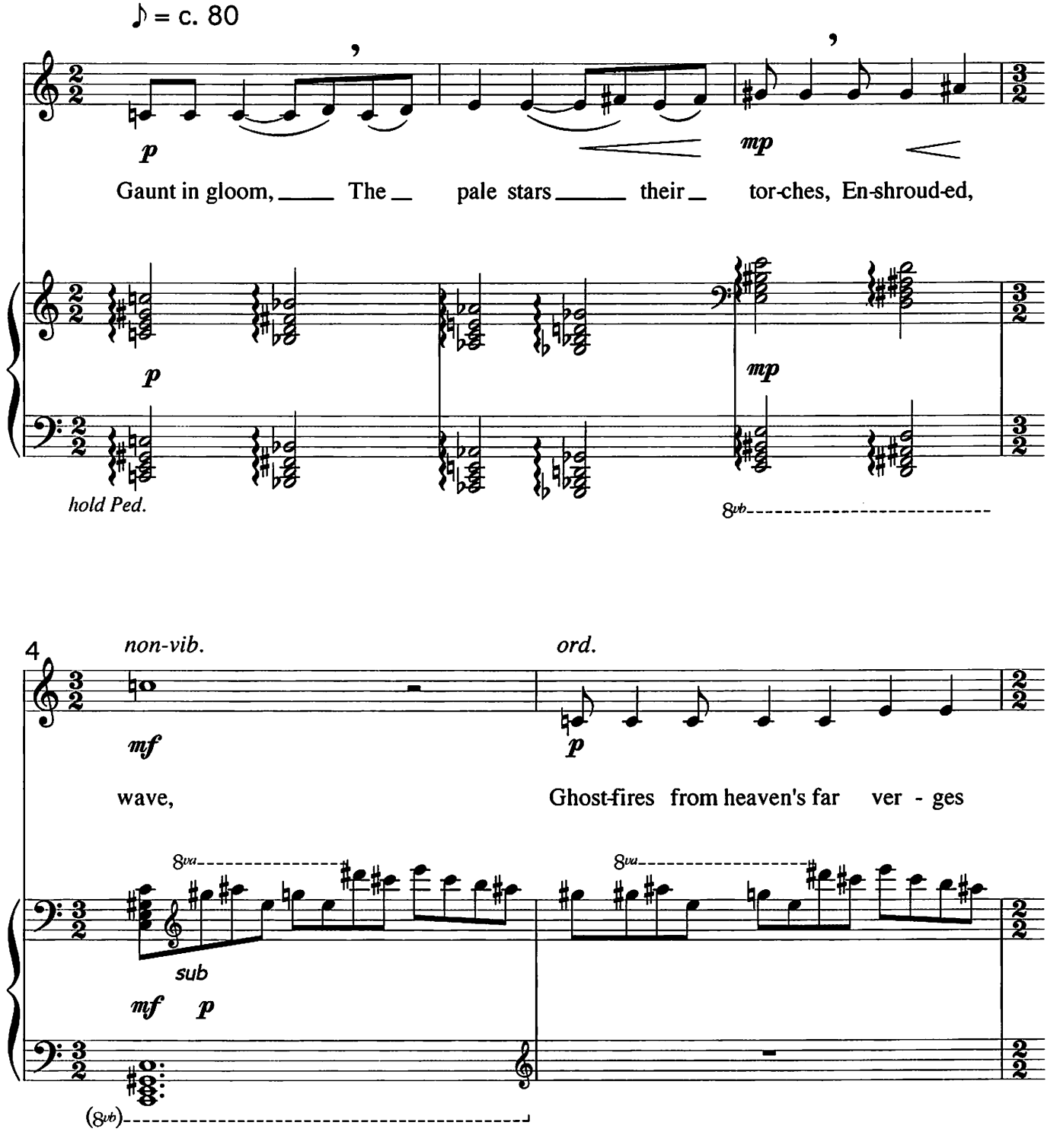

24
f mf
f

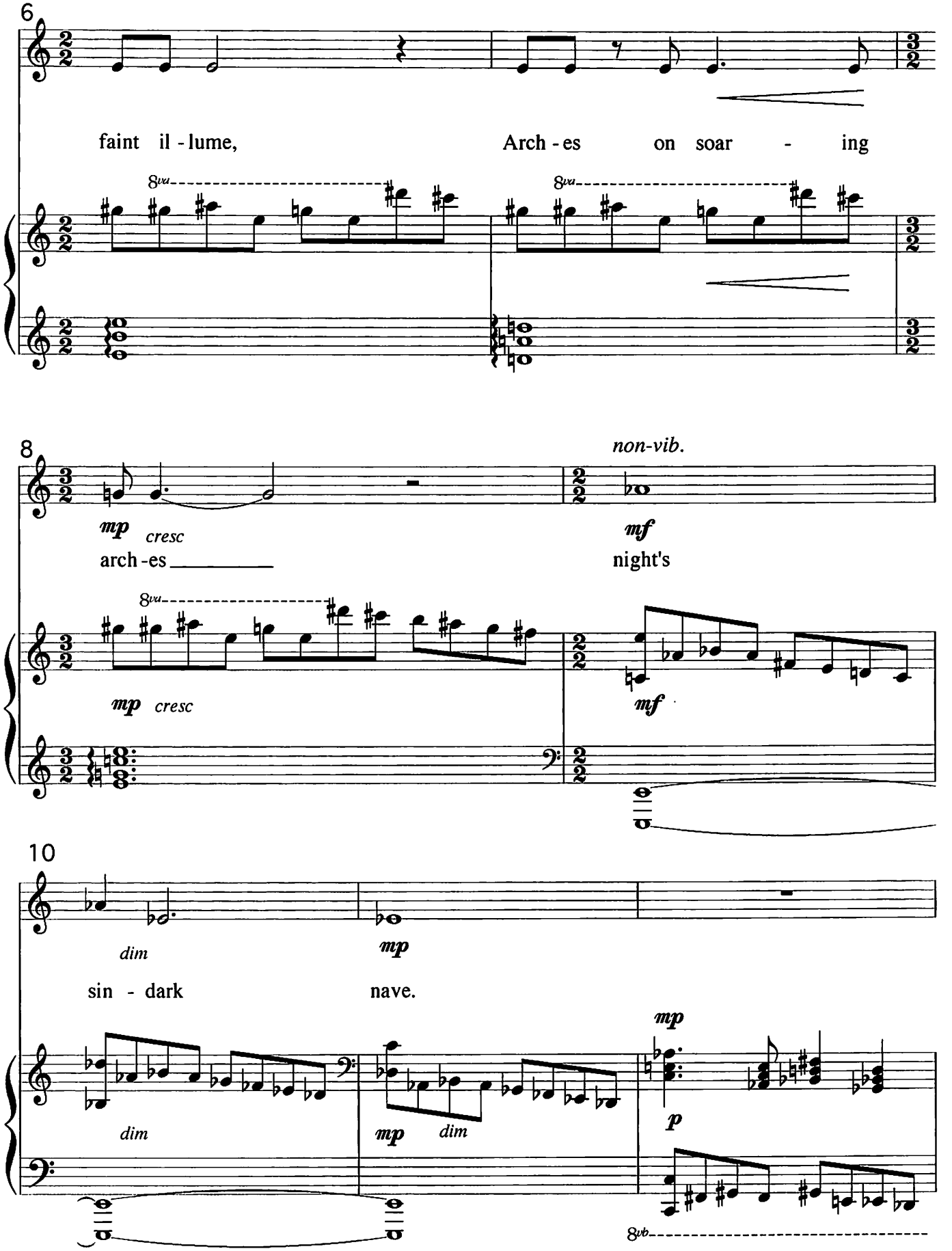

26
f
cresc

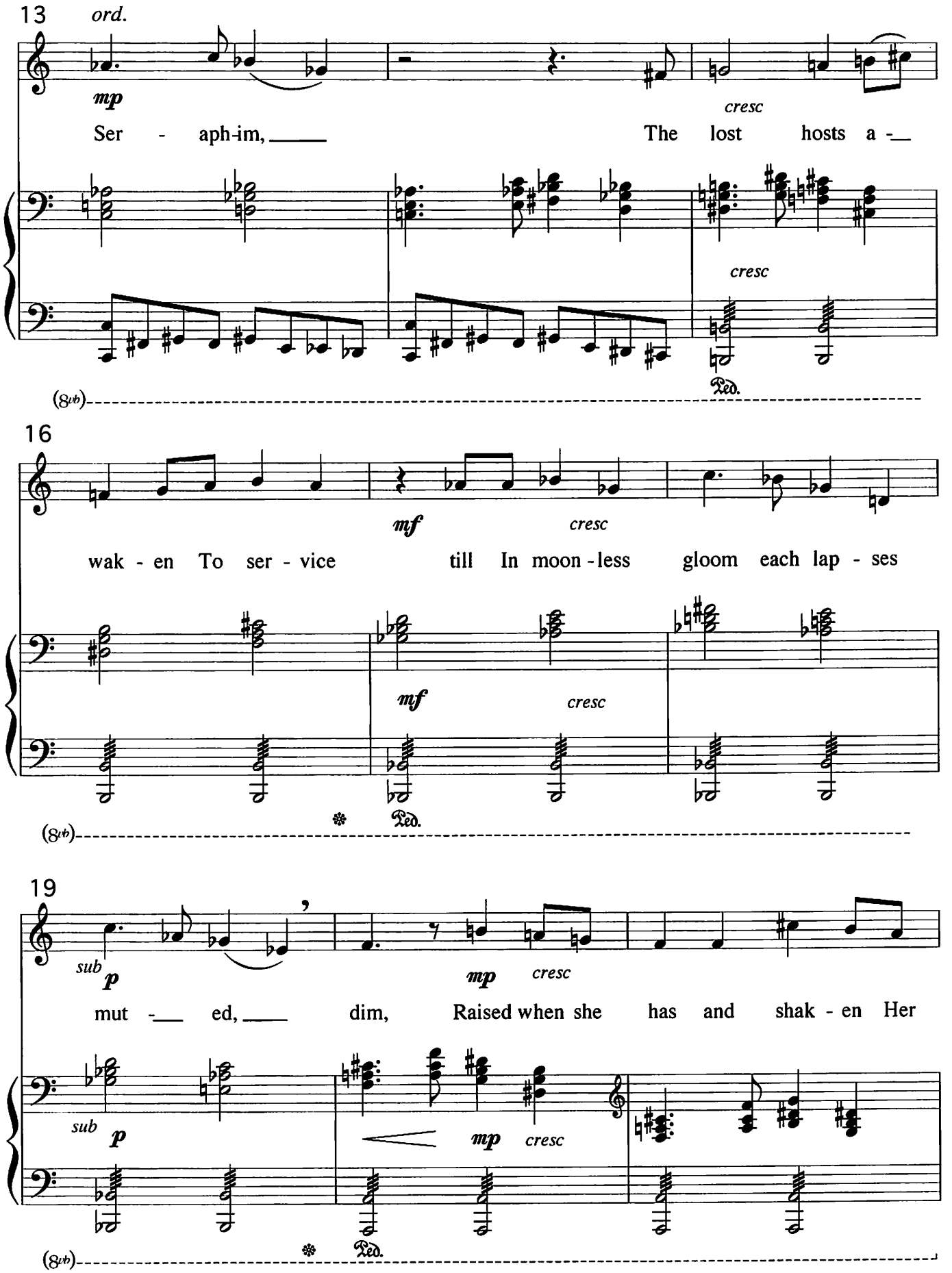

27
molto rit.
ff
cresc

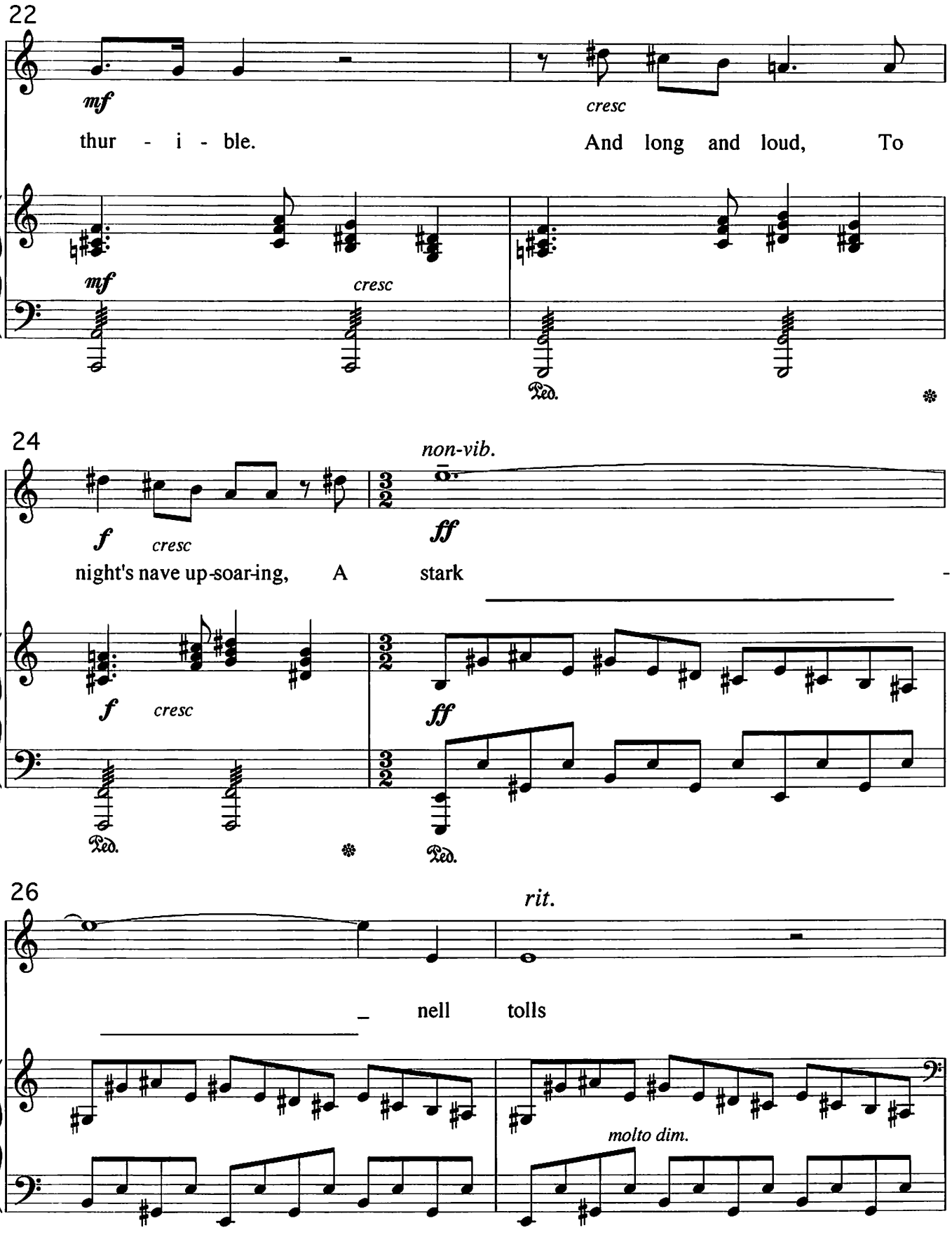

28
Attacca/Fine
fff molto dim.
p

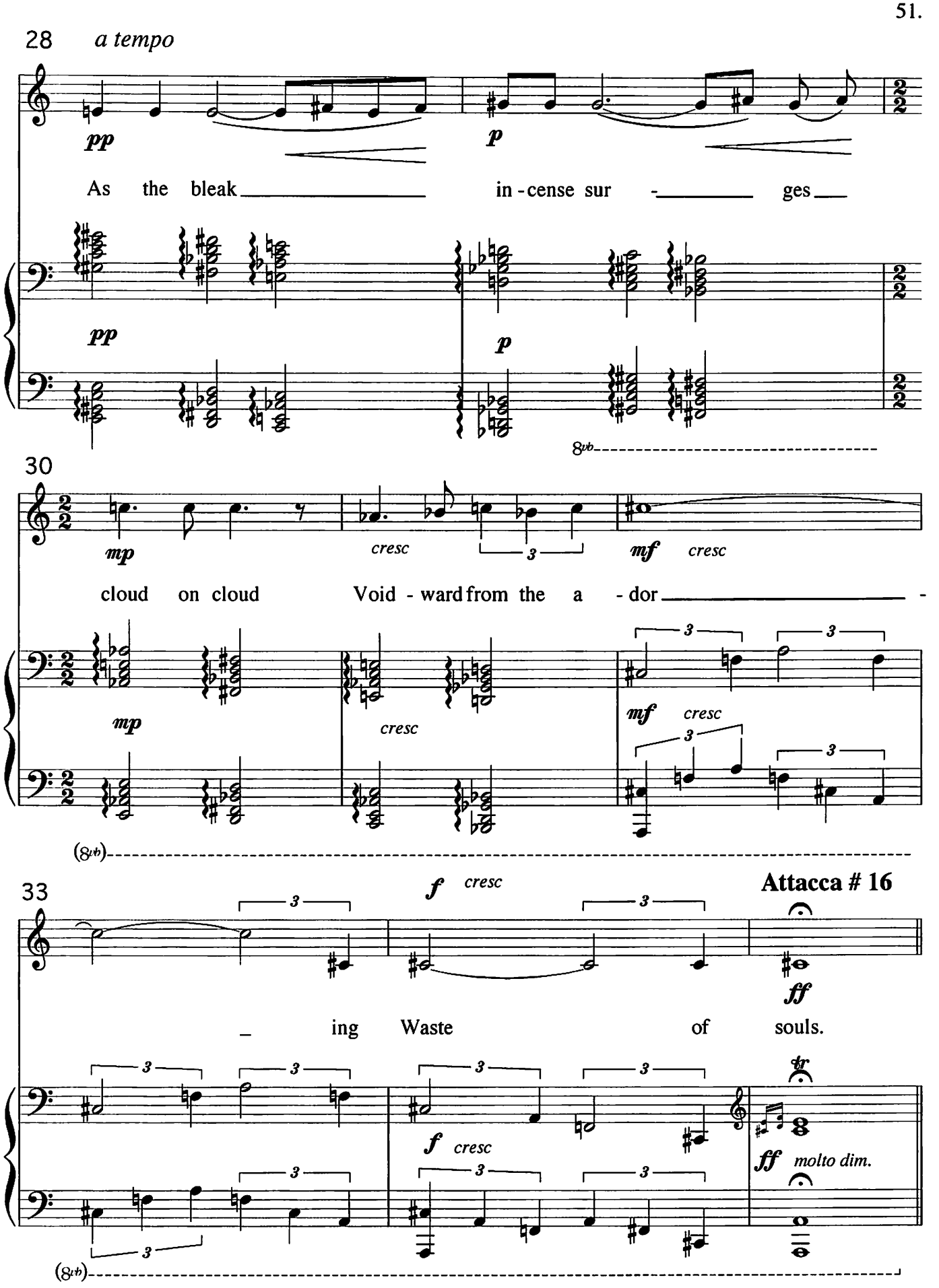
# 15. The Other Woman: Nightpiece




6
faint il - lume,
Arch - es on soar - ing
8va
8va
8
non-vib.
mp cresc
arch - es
mf
night's
8va
mp cresc
mf
10
dim
mp
sin - dark
nave.
mp
dim
mp dim
p
8vb


13
ord.
mp
cresc
Ser - aph-im,
The lost hosts a -
cresc
Ped.
(8vb)
16
mf
cresc
wak - en To ser - vice
till In moon - less
gloom each lap - ses
mf
cresc
Ped.
(8vb)
19
sub p
mp
cresc
mut - ed,
dim,
Raised when she has and shak - en Her
sub p
mp
cresc
Ped.
(8vb)

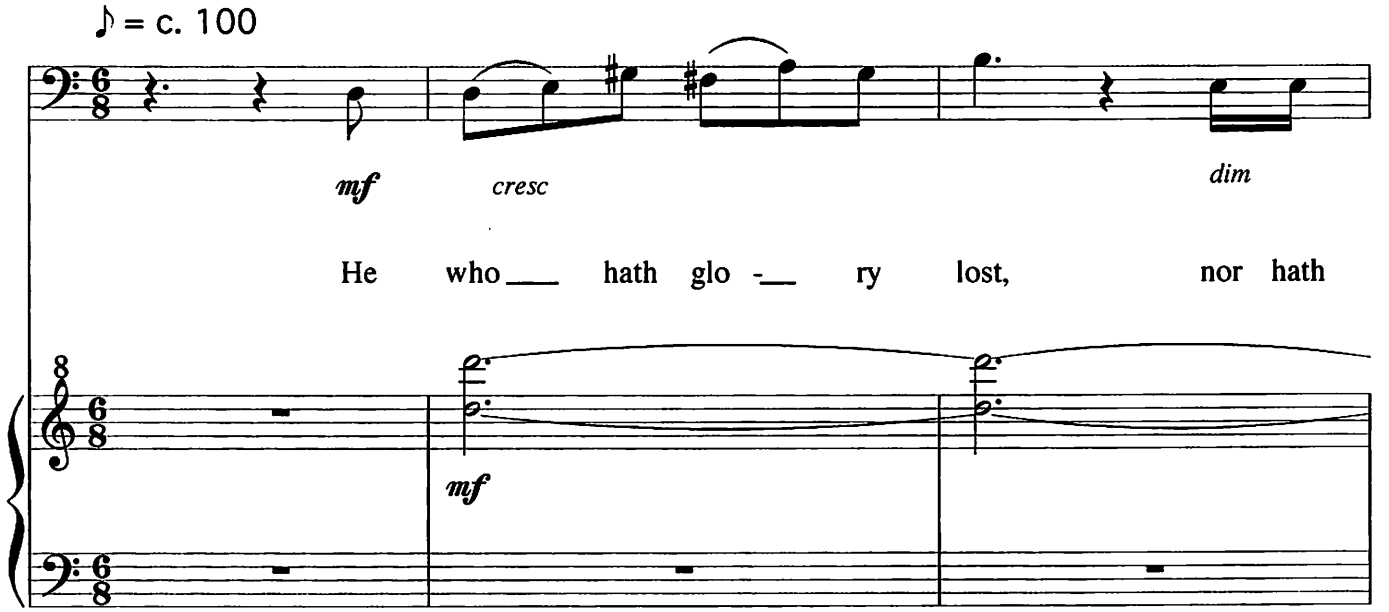

22
mf
cresc
thur - i - ble.
And long and loud, To
mf
cresc
Ped.
24
non-vib.
f
cresc
ff
night's nave up-soar-ing, A stark
f
cresc
ff
Ped.
Ped.
26
rit.
nell tolls
molto dim.

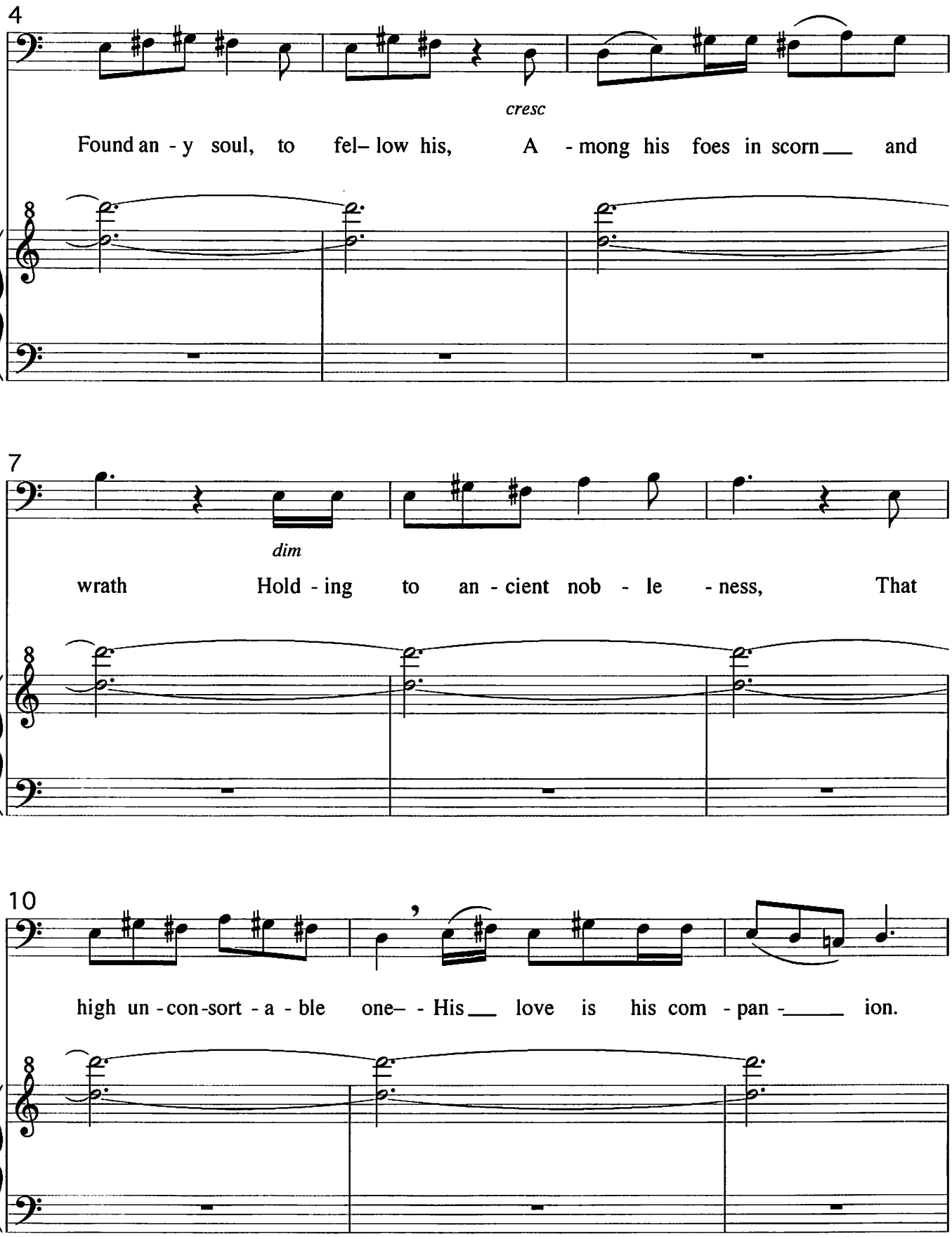

28
a tempo
pp
p
As the bleak in - cense sur - ges
8vb
30
mp
cresc
3
mf
cresc
cloud on cloud Void - ward from the a - dor -
33
f
cresc
Attacca # 16
ff
ing Waste of souls.
tr
molto dim.

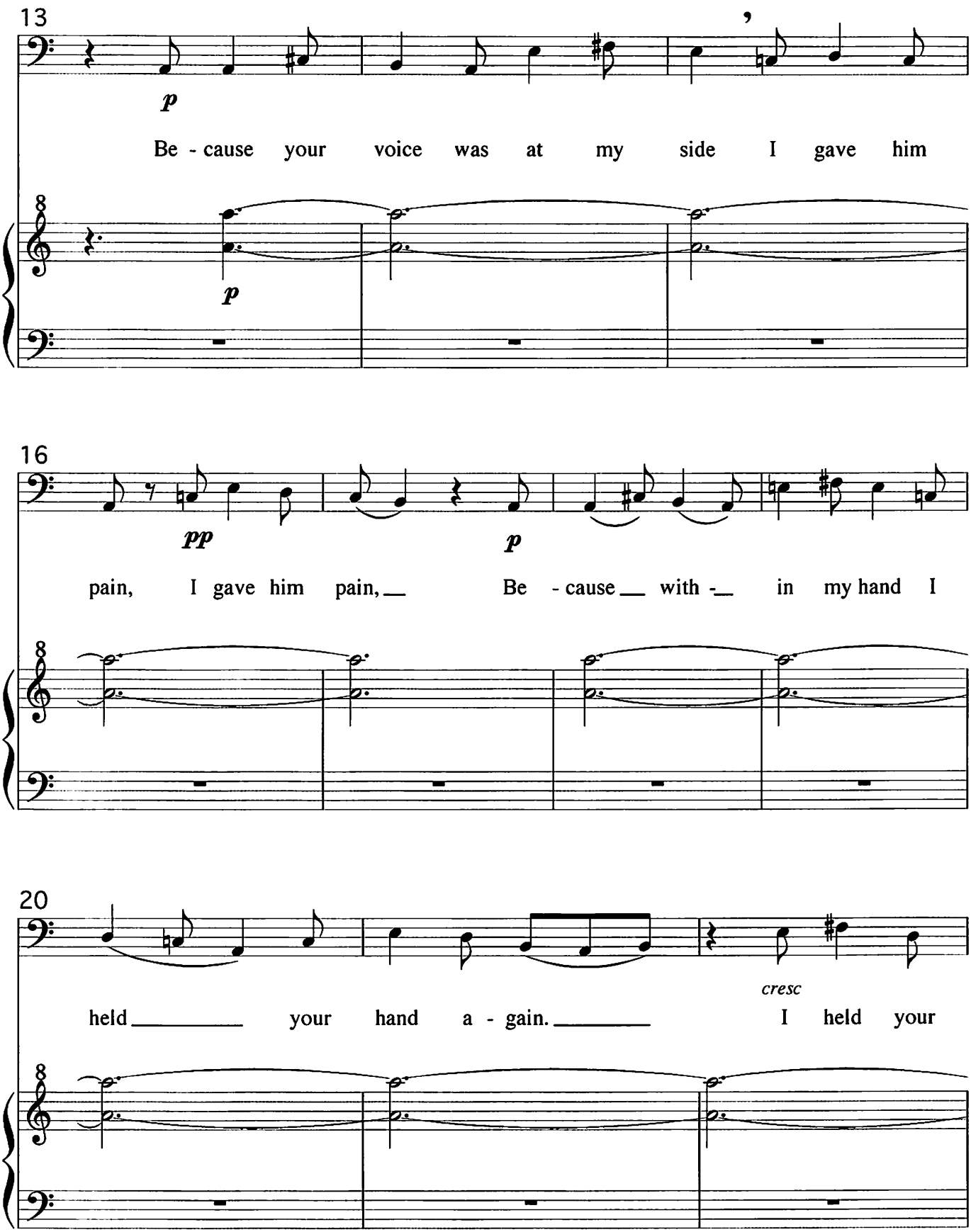
# Scene I: The Land of Day

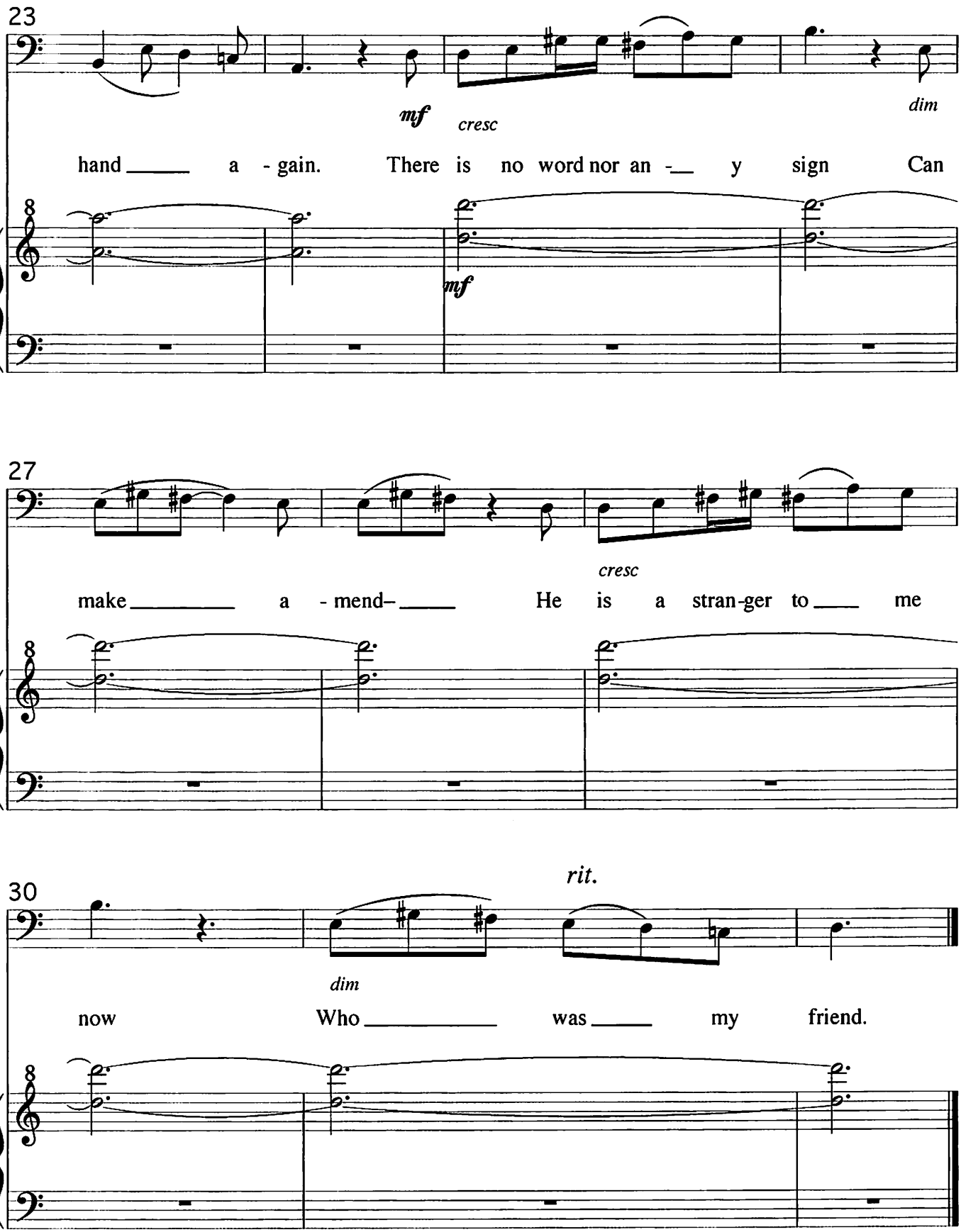
## 21. The Other Man: He who hath glory lost, (XXI/XVII)

**Narrator:** The Beast, who hath glory lost, is a stranger to us now, because within their hands, they hold hod love's hand again. He who was man, then woman, have become man once again. His lovely woman has become his beautiful man love. As the wise choirs of faery Begin innumberous to be heard. Their love sings proudly in The Realm of Night as the couple travels into the Land of Day.




4
cresc
Found an - y soul, to fel– low his, A - mong his foes in scorn___ and
8
7
dim
wrath Hold - ing to an - cient nob - le - ness, That
8
10
high un - con-sort - a - ble one– - His___ love is his com - pan -_____ ion.
8


13
p
Be - cause your voice was at my side I gave him
8
p
16
pp
p
pain, I gave him pain, Be - cause with - in my hand I
8
20
cresc
held your hand a - gain. I held your
8


23
mf
cresc
dim
hand a - gain. There is no word nor an - y sign Can
8
mf
27
cresc
make a - mend– He is a stran-ger to me
8
rit.
30
dim
now Who was my friend.
8