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CHARLES SHADLE: SIX DICKINSON SONGS (2000)
For Soprano and Clarinet

I. I'm Nobody

I'm Nobody! Who are you?
Are you nobody too?
Then there's a pair o f u s -
Don't tell! They'd banish us, you know.

How dreary to be somebody!
How public like a frog
To tell your name the live long day
To an admiring bog.

2. Brazil

I asked no other thing,
No other was denied.
I offered Being for it;
The mighty merchant smiled.

"Brazil!" He twirled at button,
Without a glance my way:
"But, madam, is there nothing else
That we can show today?"

3. Wild Nights!

Wild nights! Wild nights!
Were I with thee,
Wild nights should be
Our luxury!

Futile the winds
To a heart in port,–
Done with the compass
Done with the chart.

Rowing in Eden
Ah! The sea!
Might I but moor tonight
In thee!

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4. Come Slowly, Eden

Come slowly, Eden
Lips unused to thee
Bashful, sip thy jasmines,
As a fainting Bee.

Reaching late his flower
Round her chamber hums,
Counts his nectars-
Enters And is lost in balms!

5. Aristocracy

The pedigree of honey
Does not concern the bee;
A clover any time, to him
Is aristocracy!

6. The Morning After Death

The bustle in a house
The morning after death
Is solemnest of industries
Enacted upon earth,--

The sweeping up the heart,
And putting love away
We shall not want to use again
Until Eternity.

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for Margaret O'Keefe

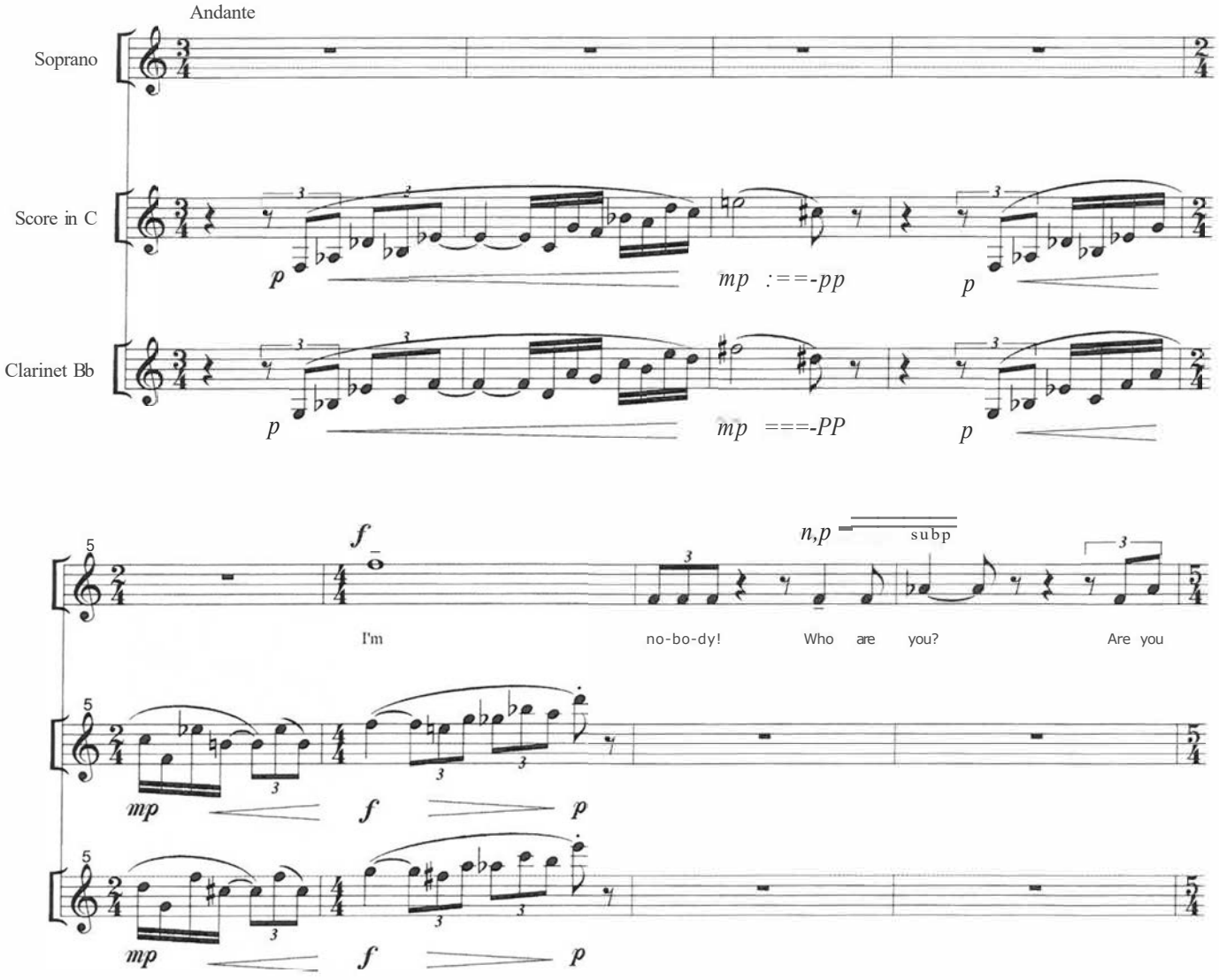
Six Dickinson Songs

for soprano and clarinet

Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

Charles Shadle (b. 1960)

1. I'm Nobody!



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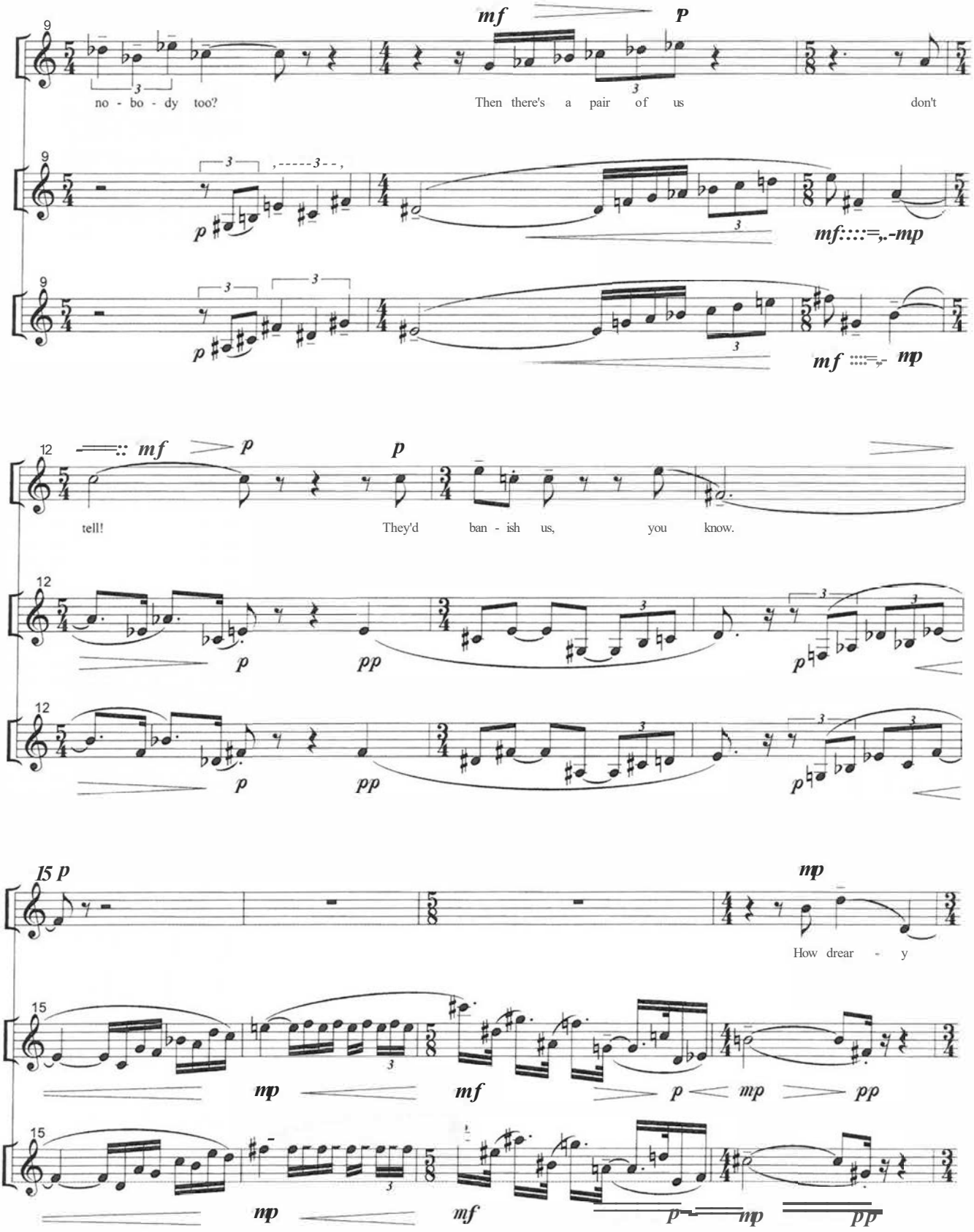

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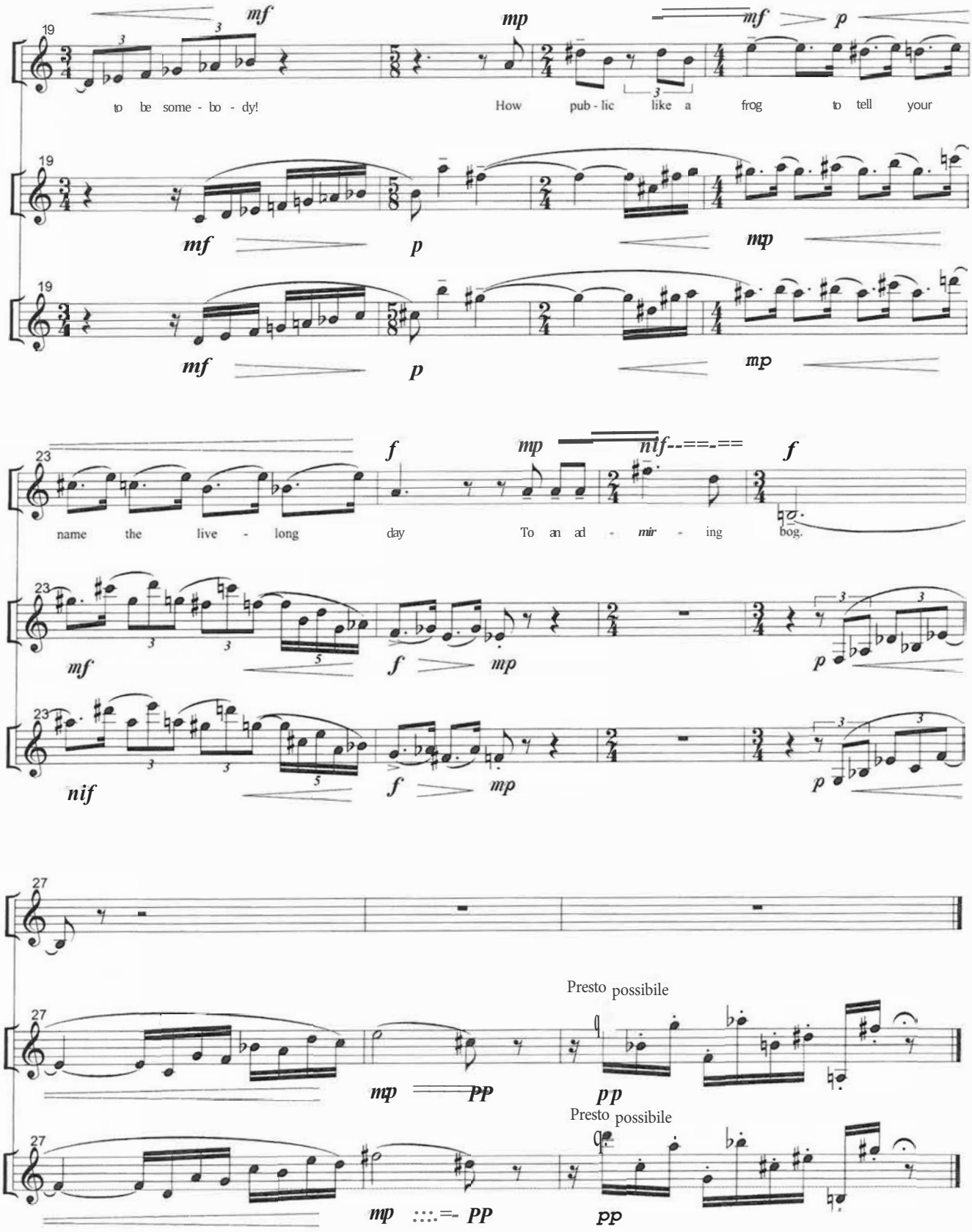

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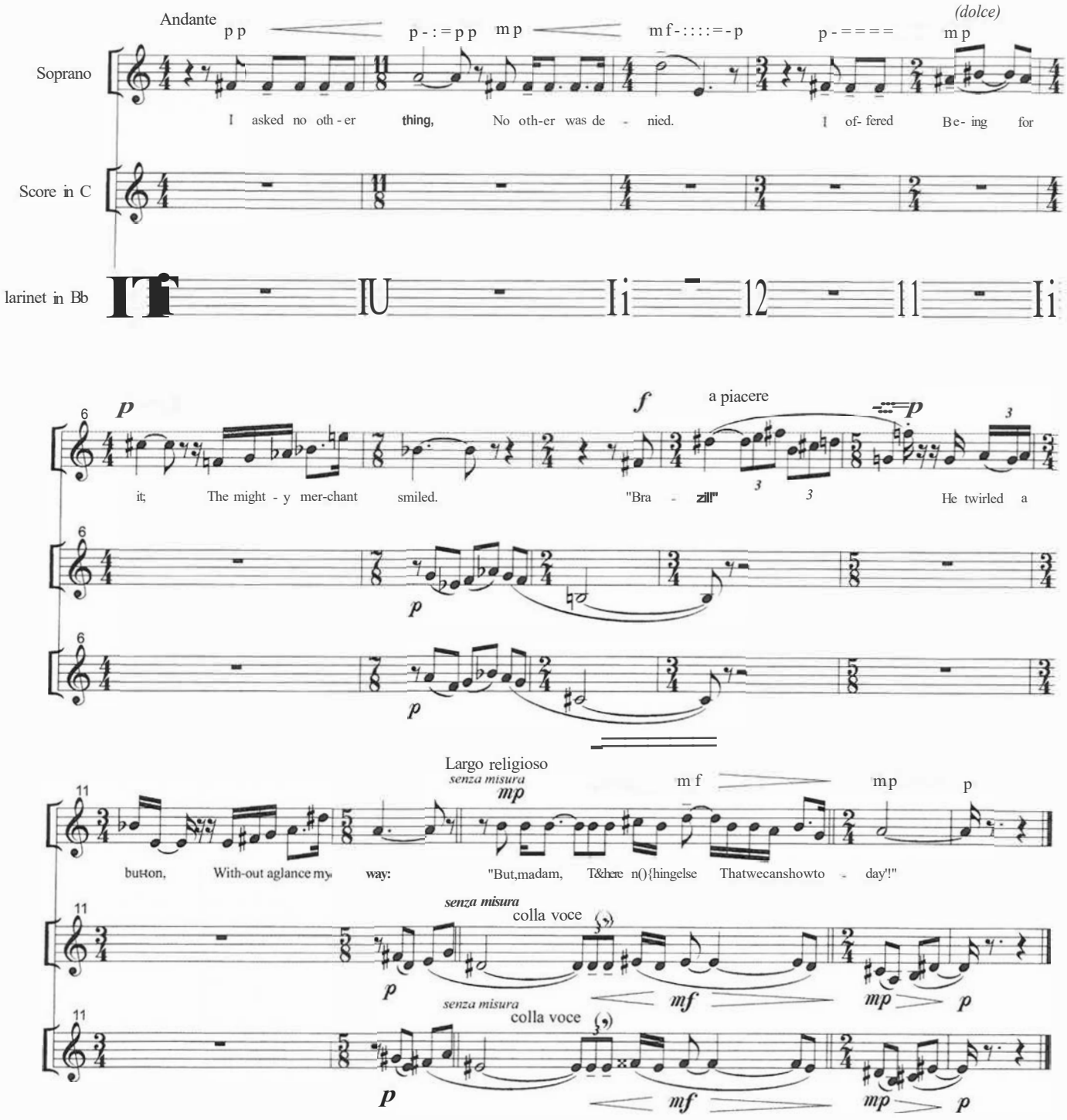
2. Brazil



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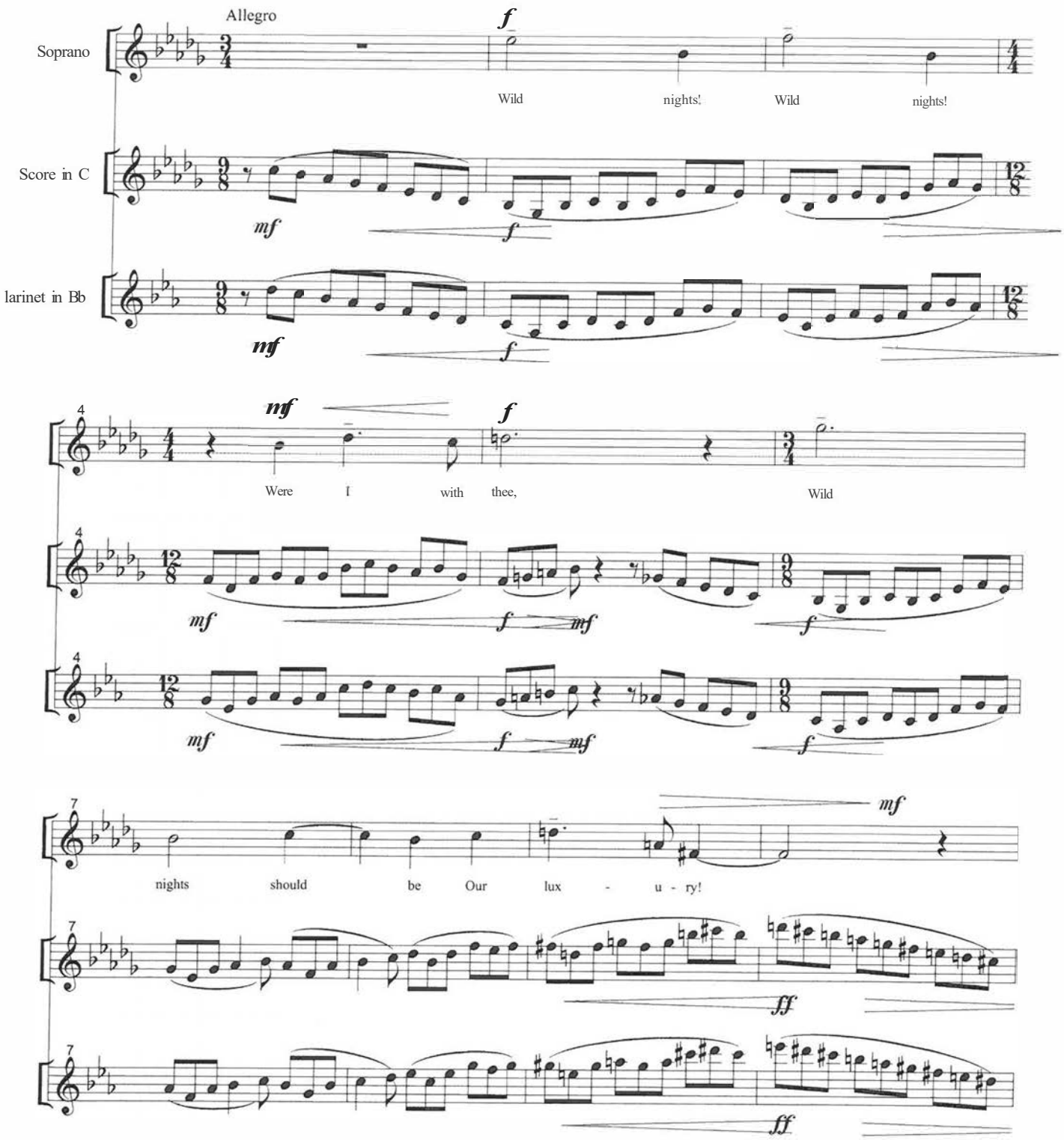
3. Wild Nights!



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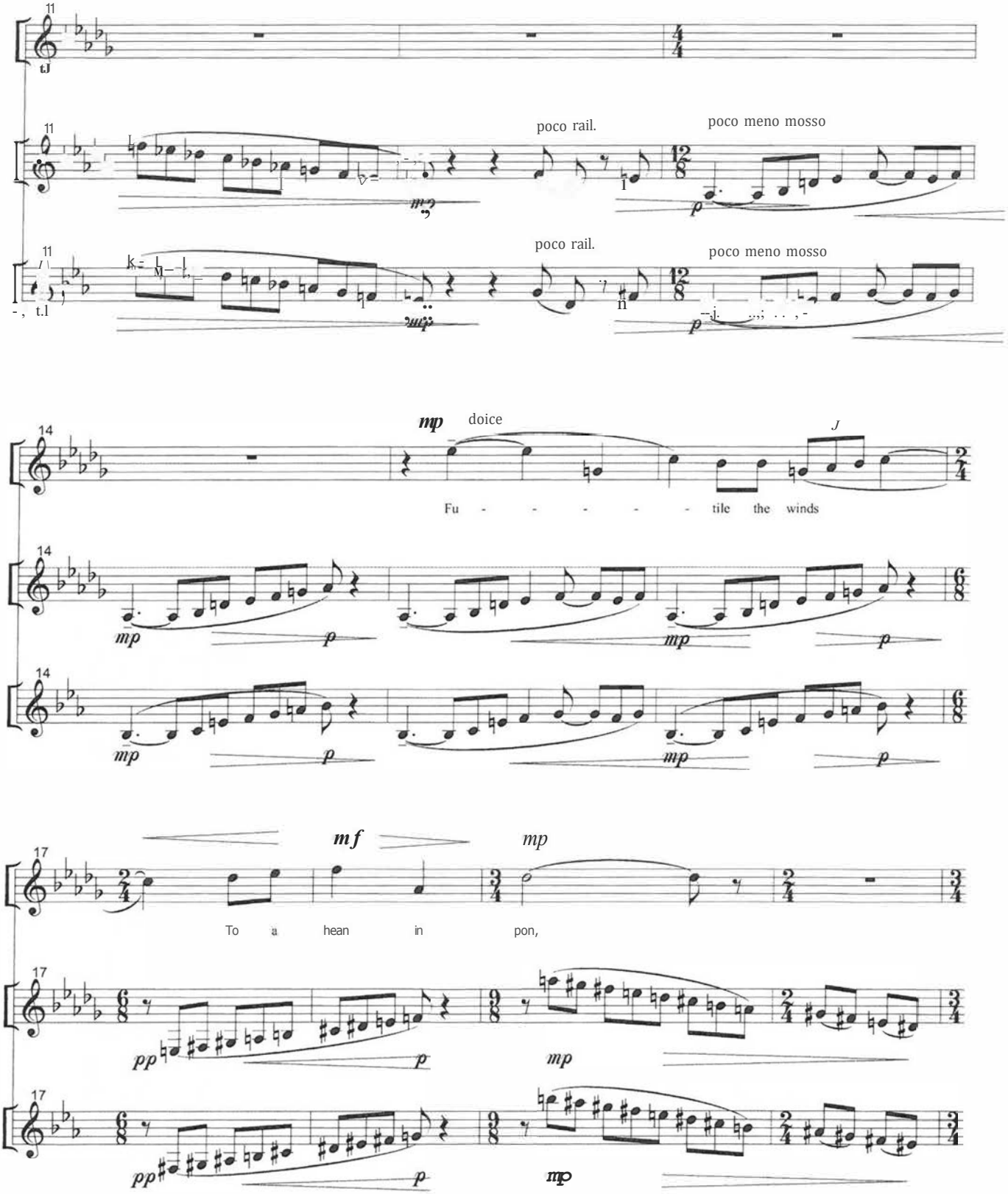

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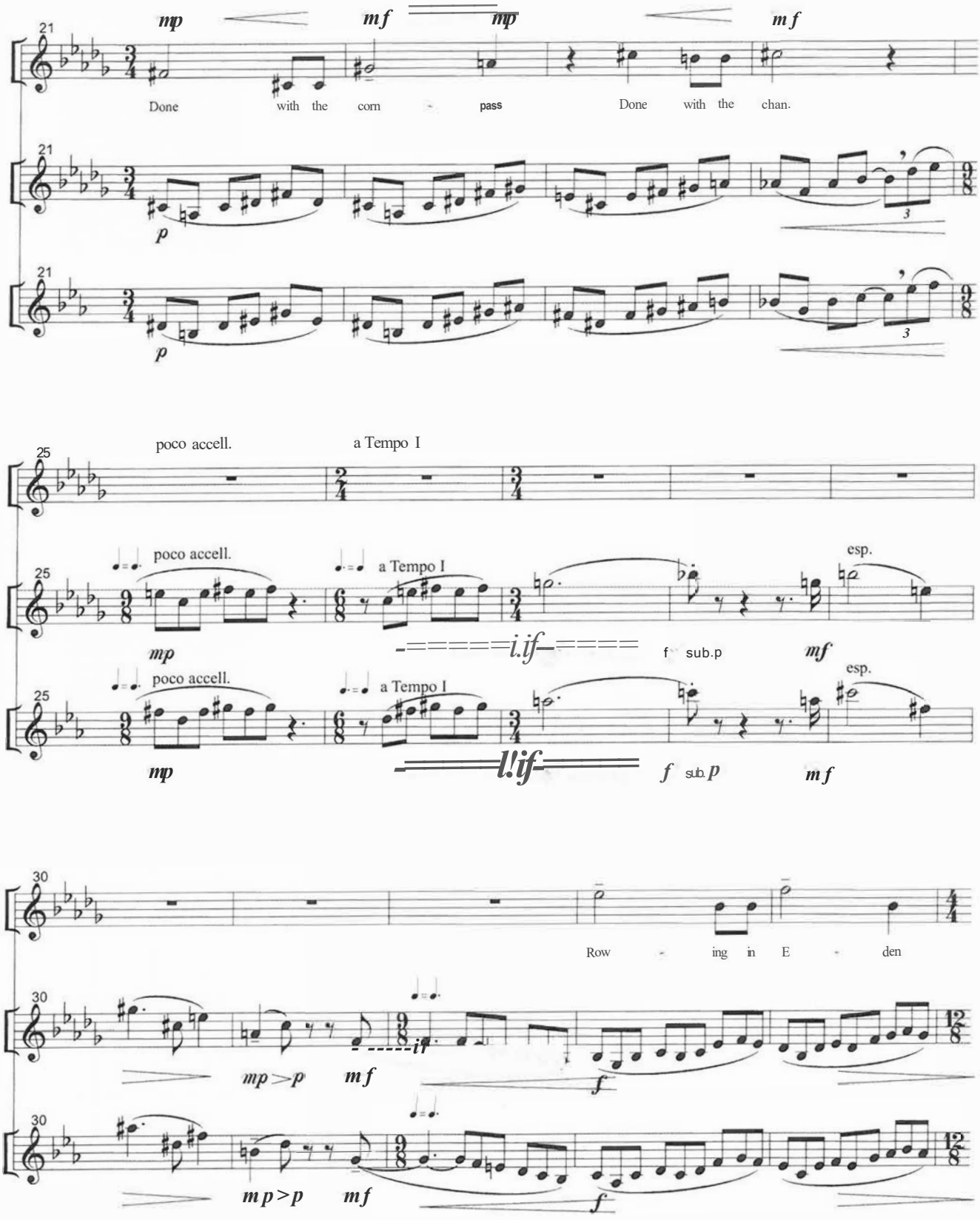

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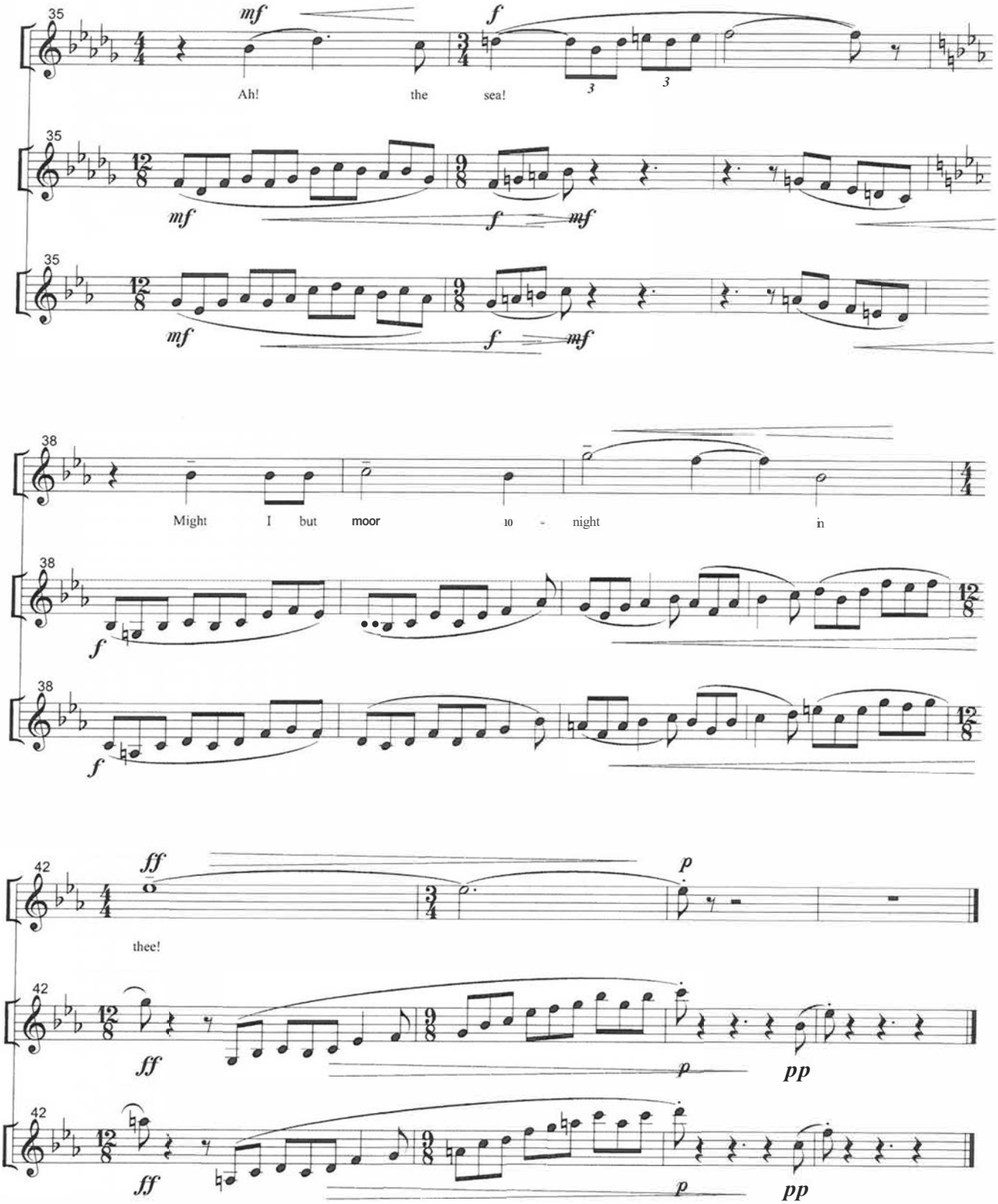

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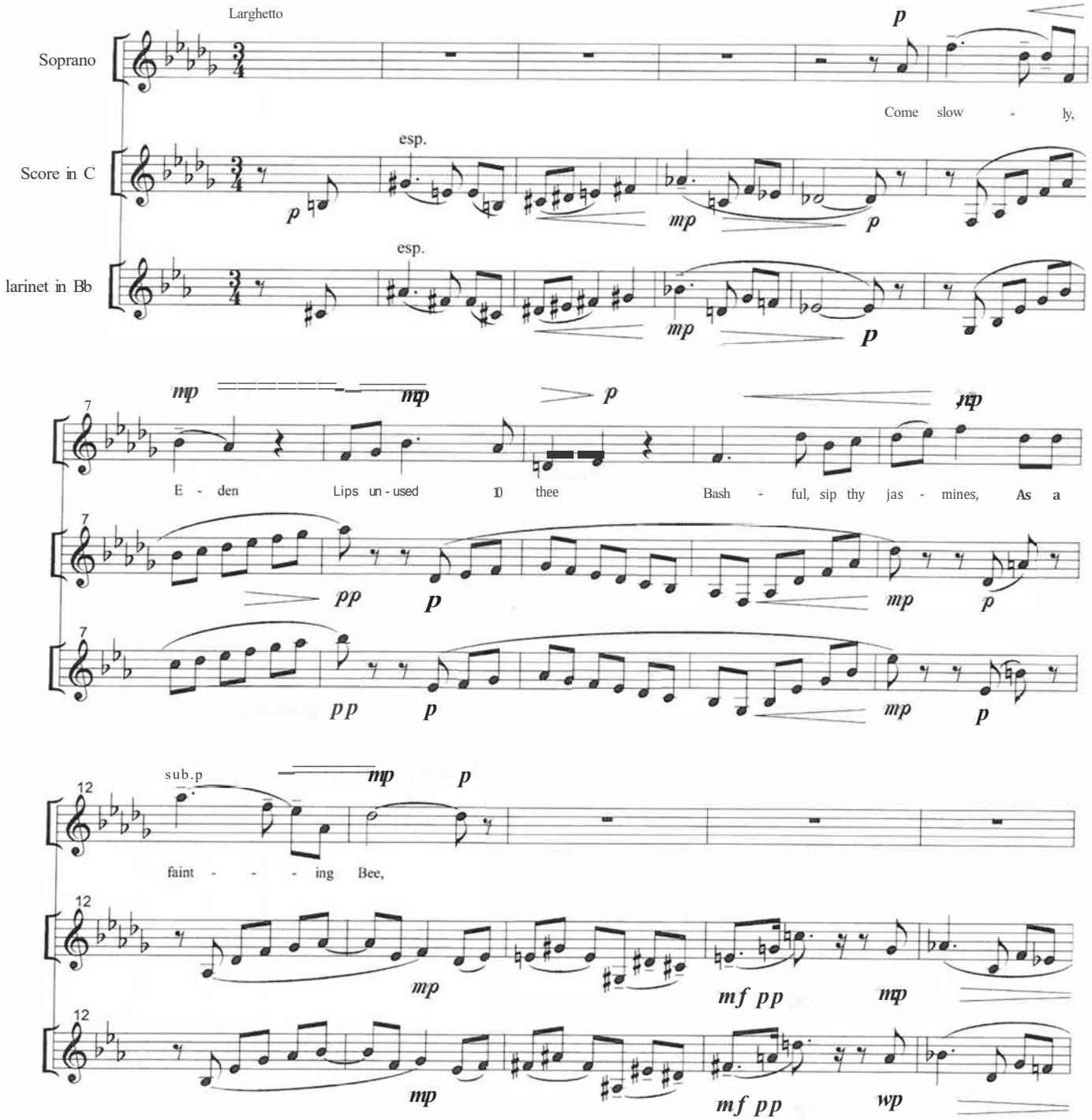

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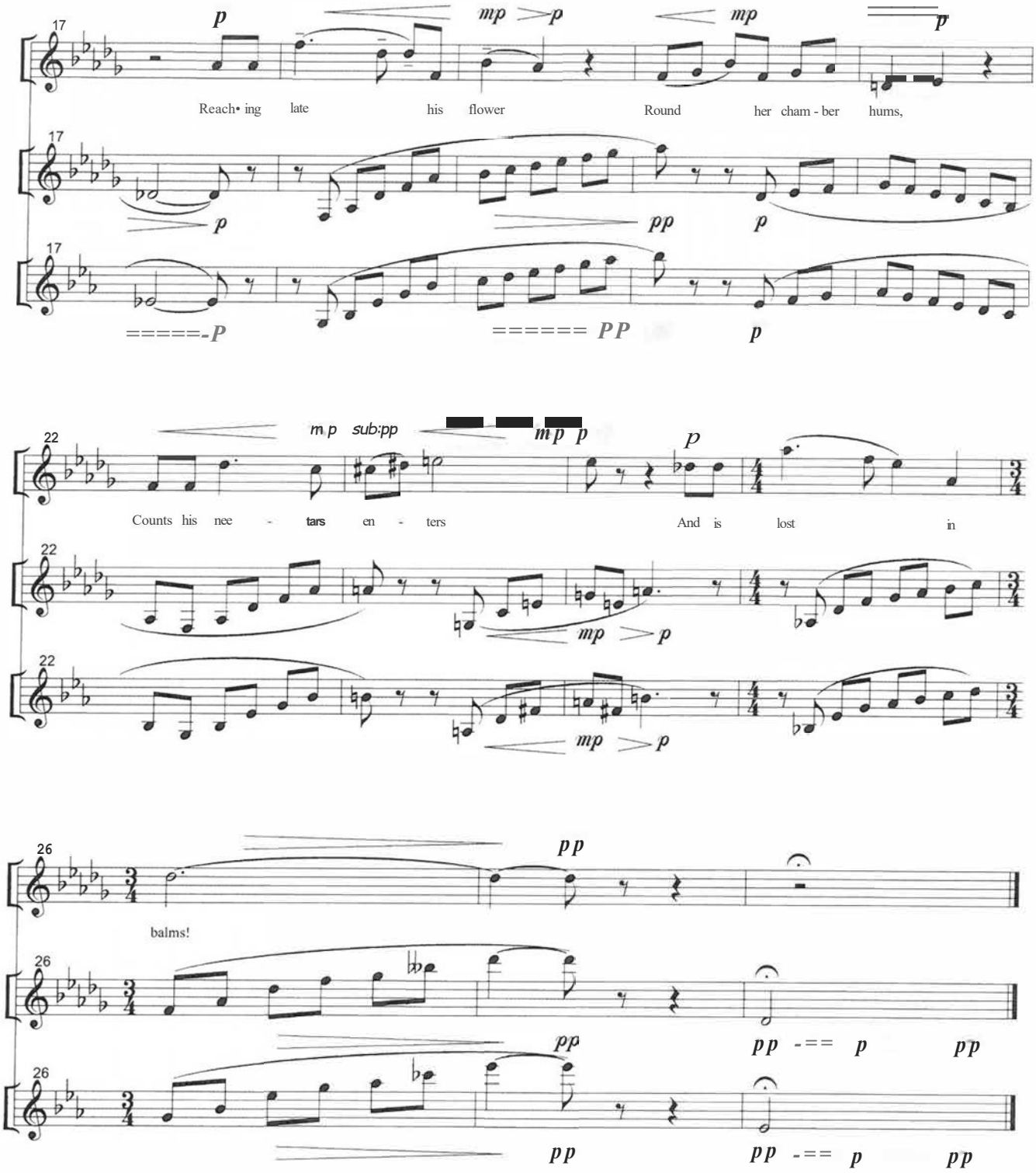

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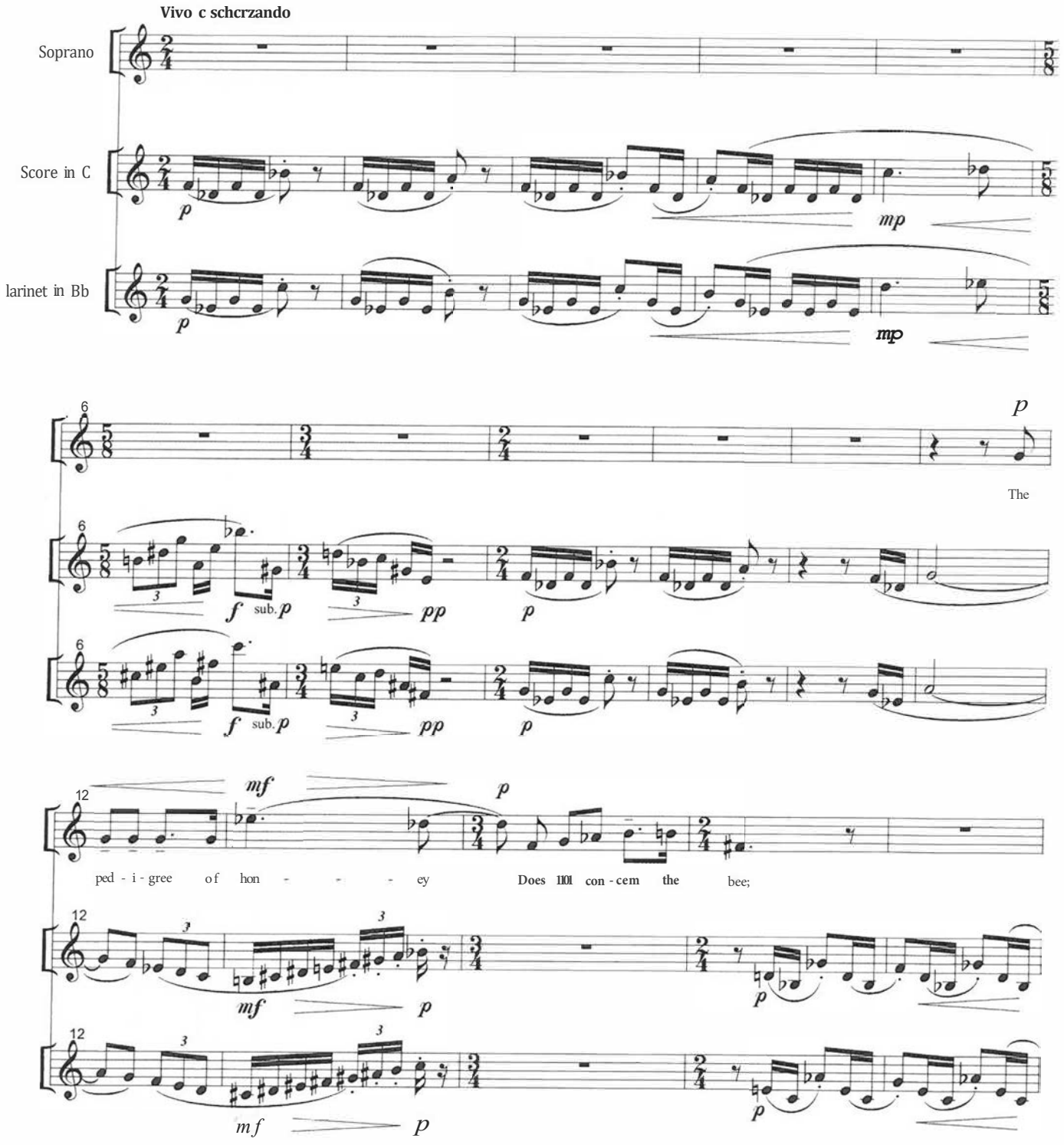
5. Aristocracy



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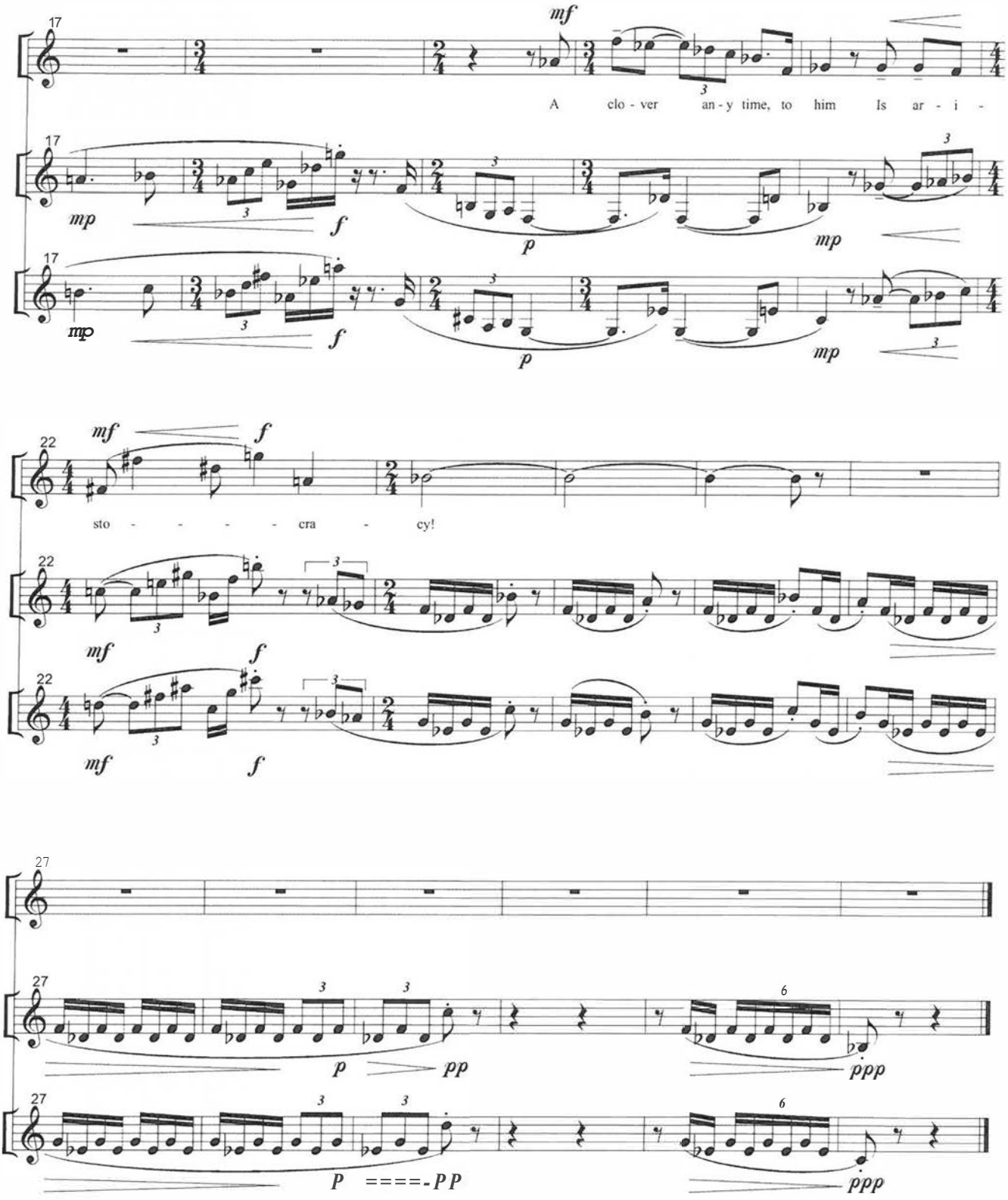

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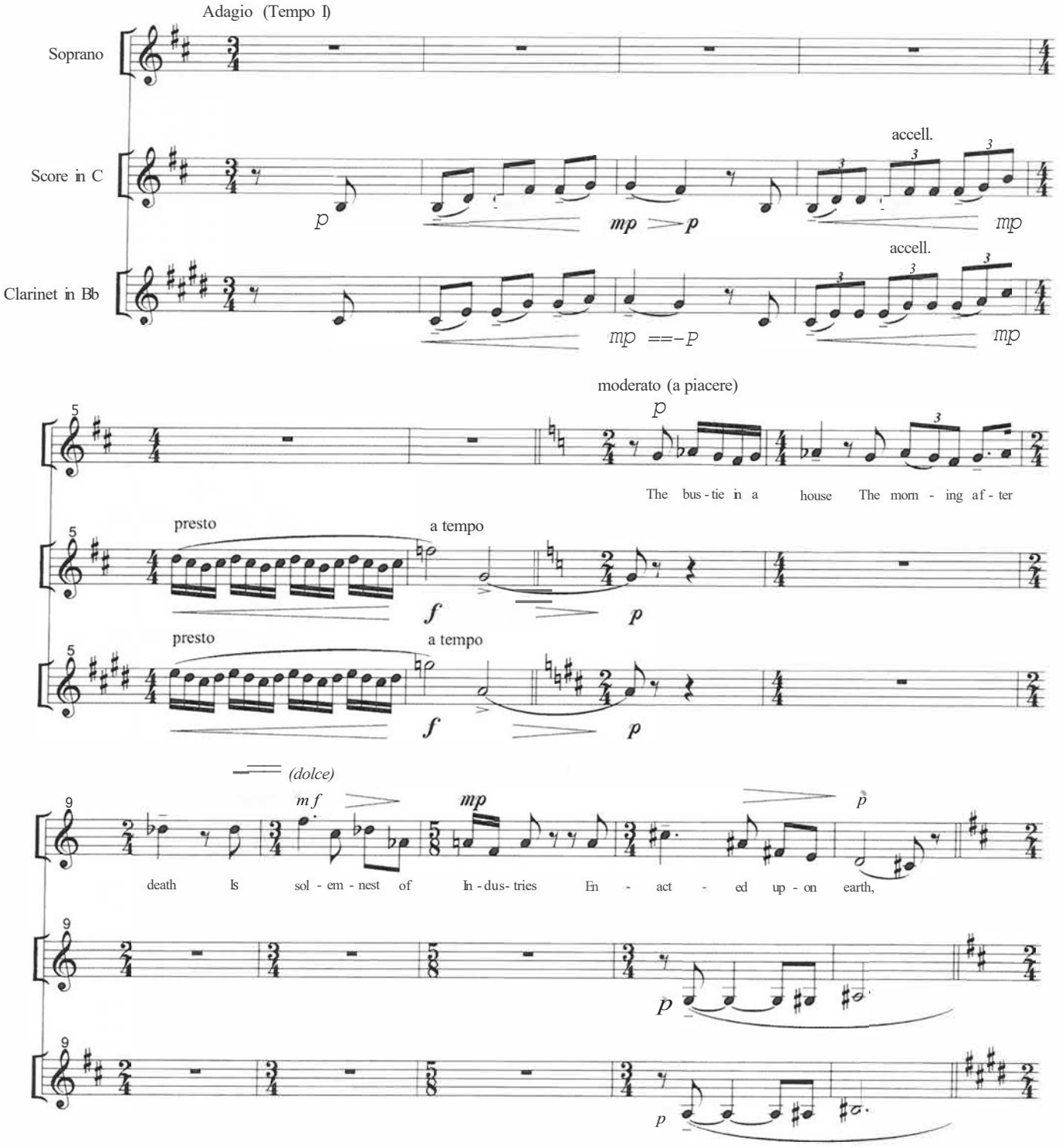
6. The Morning After Death



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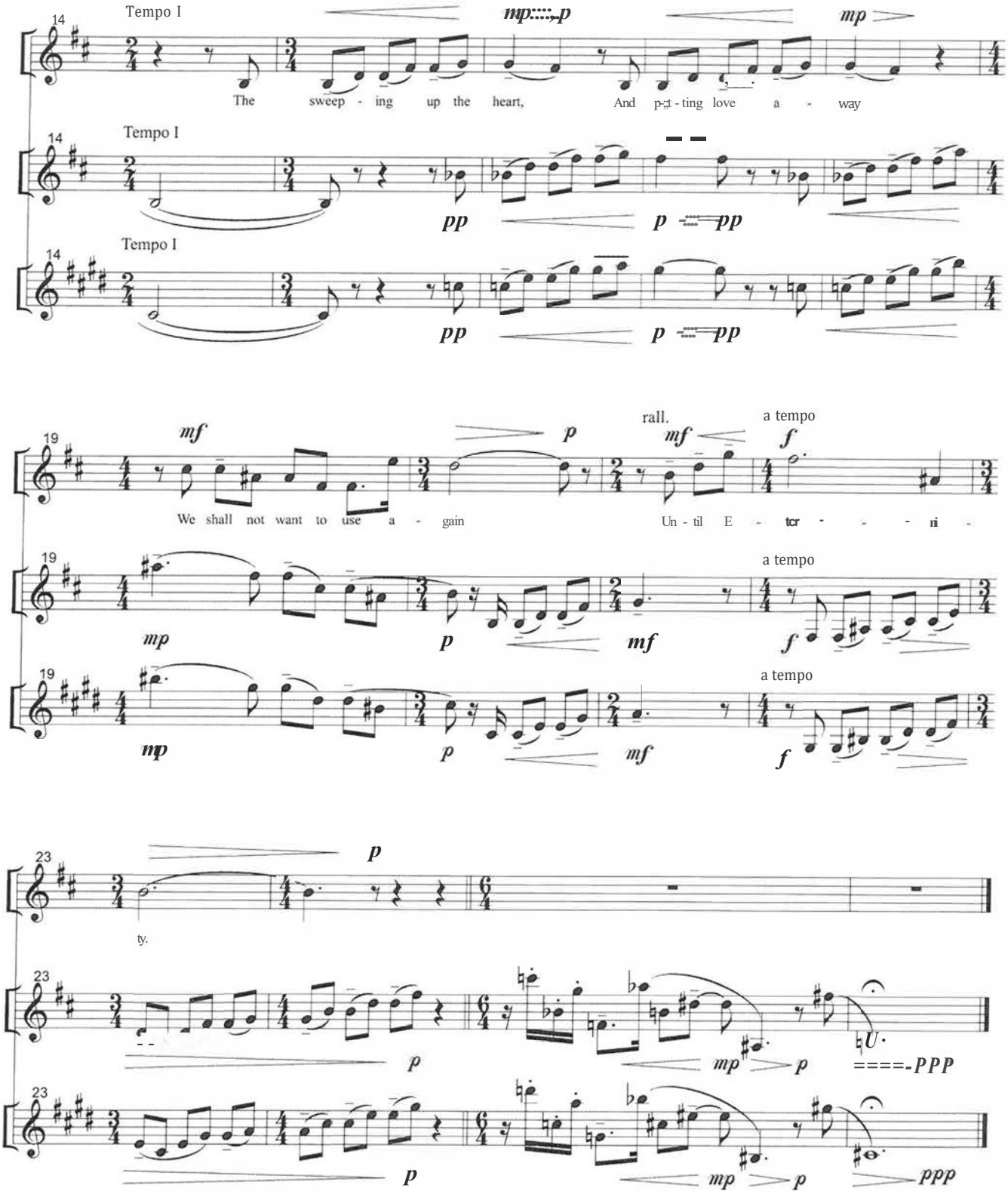

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21L.004 Reading Poetry
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