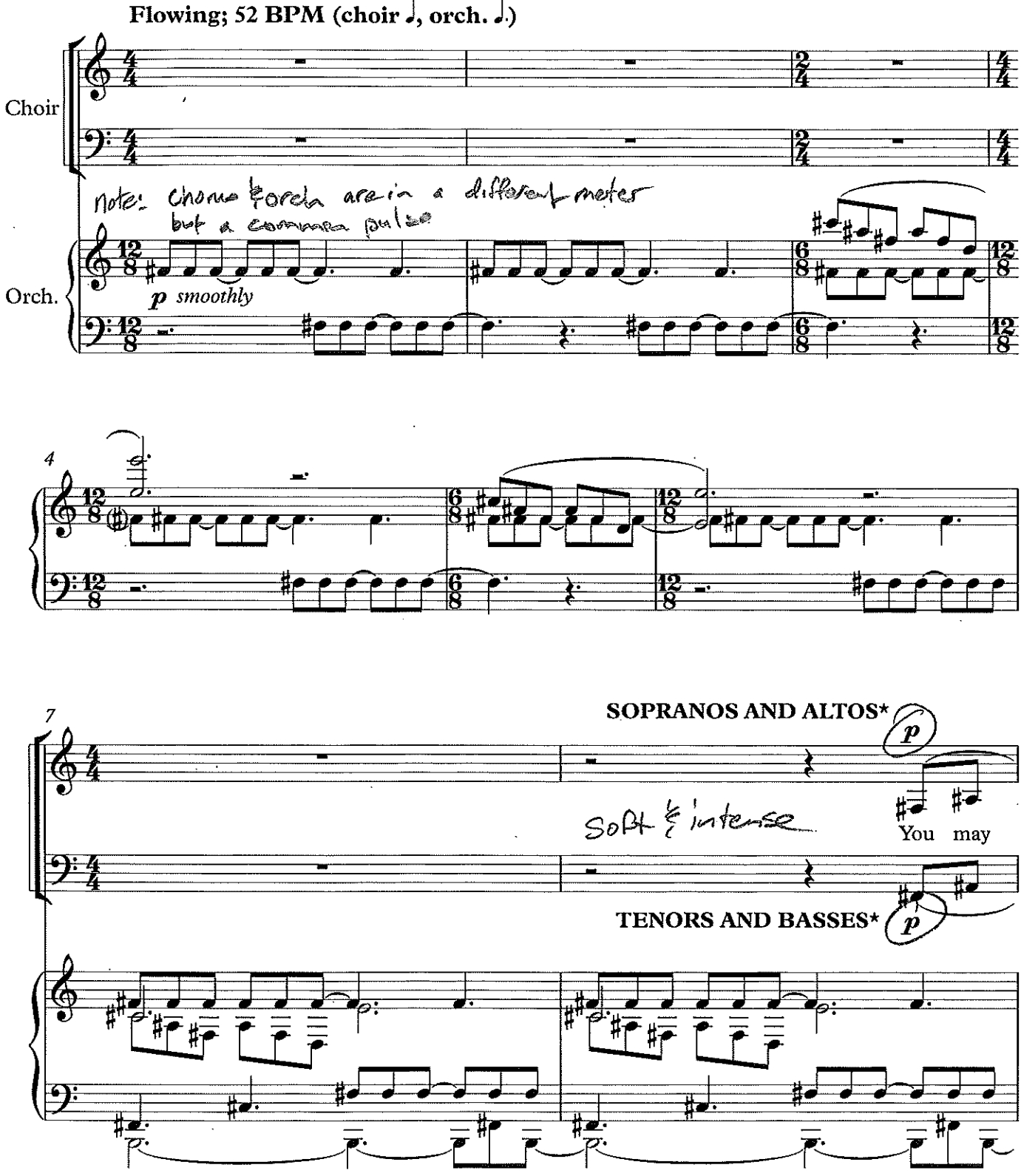
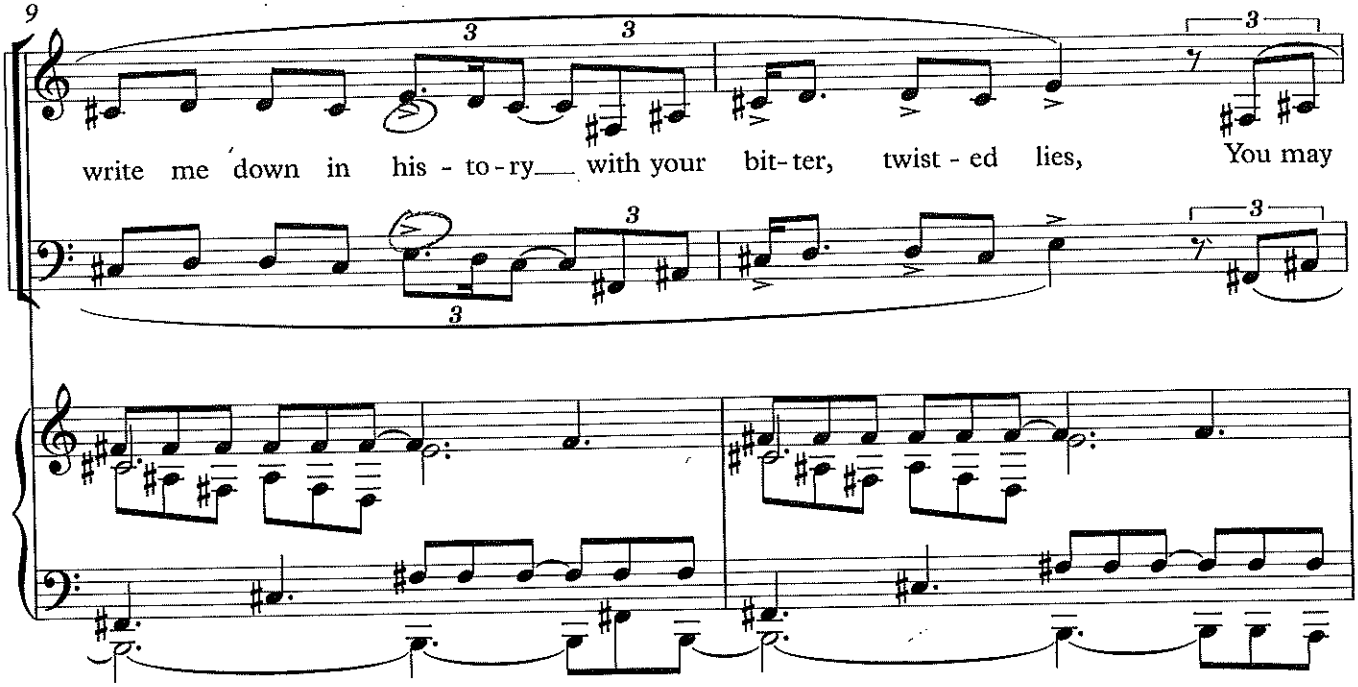
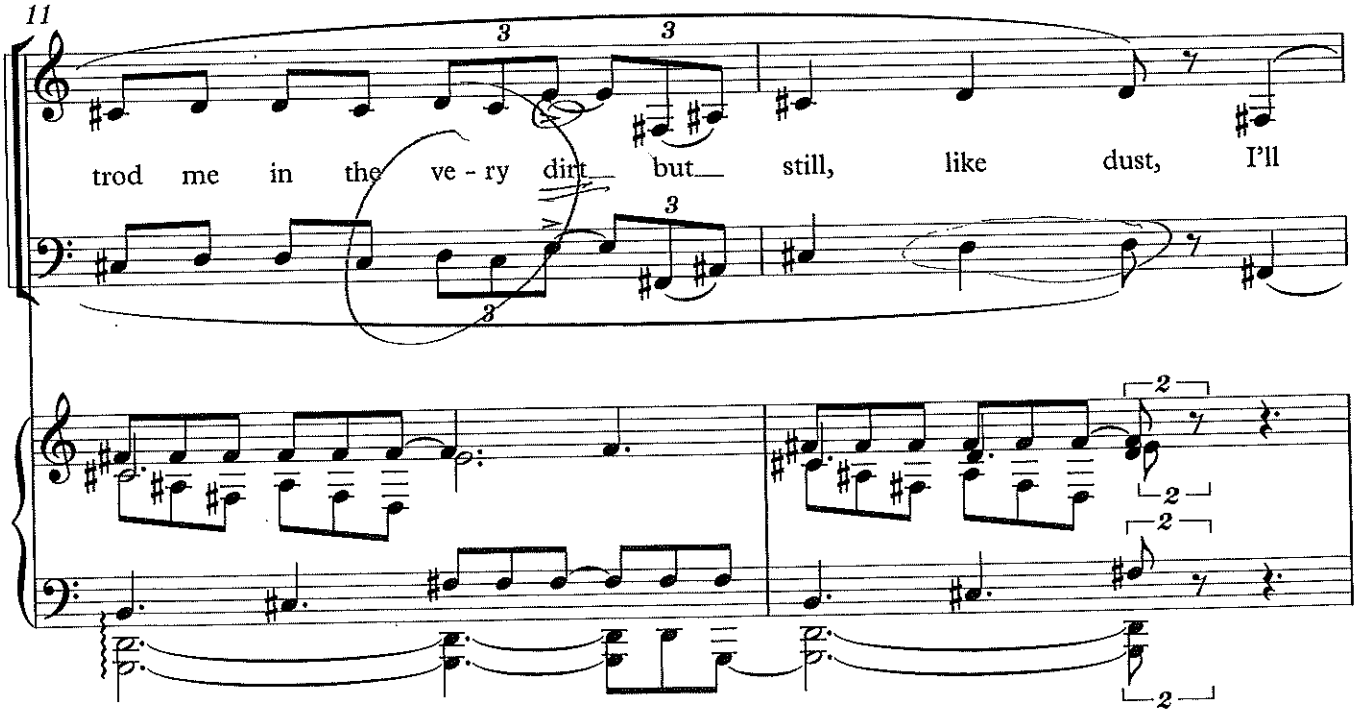
4. The Dream and the Hope of the Slave

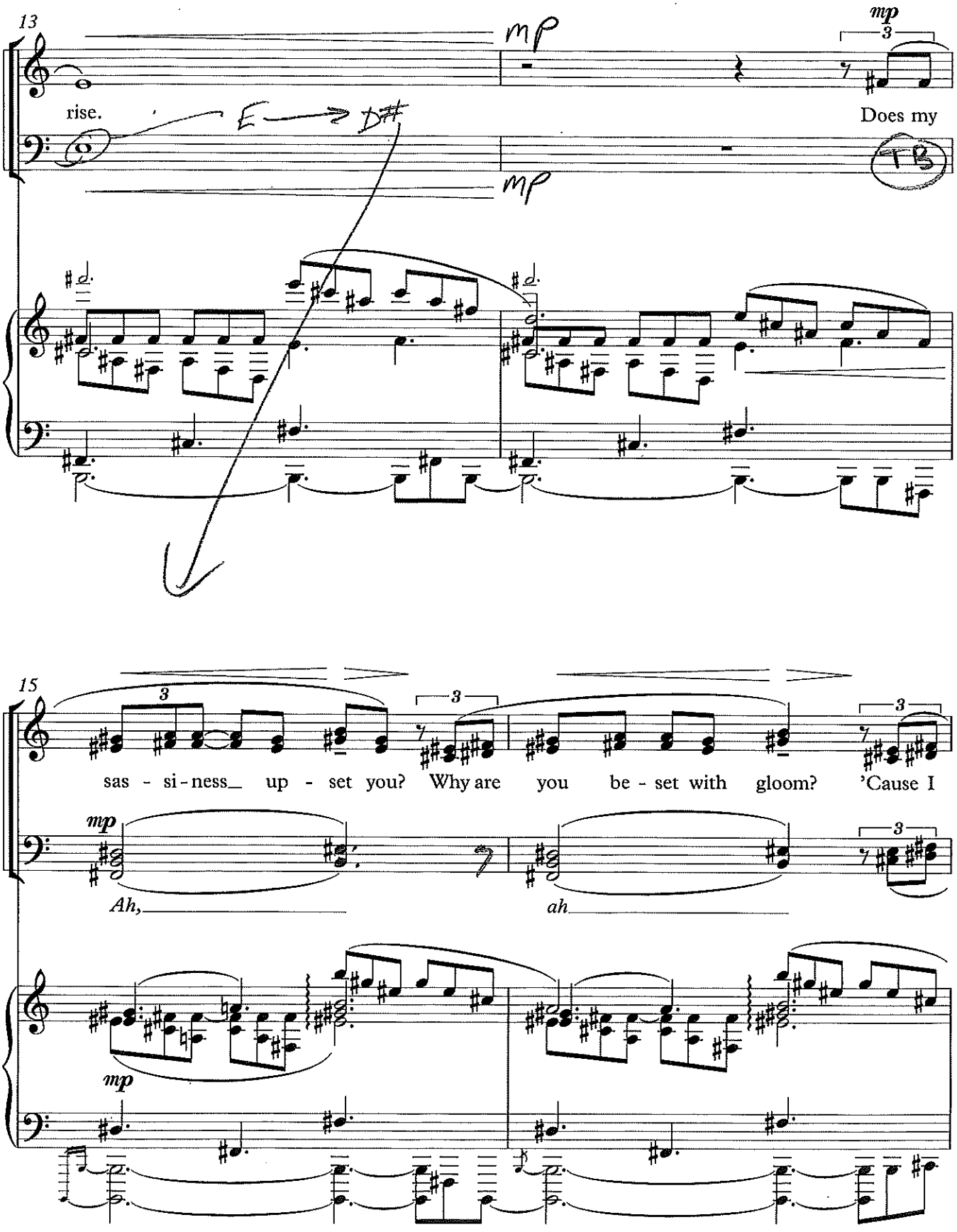
Maya Angelou
1978

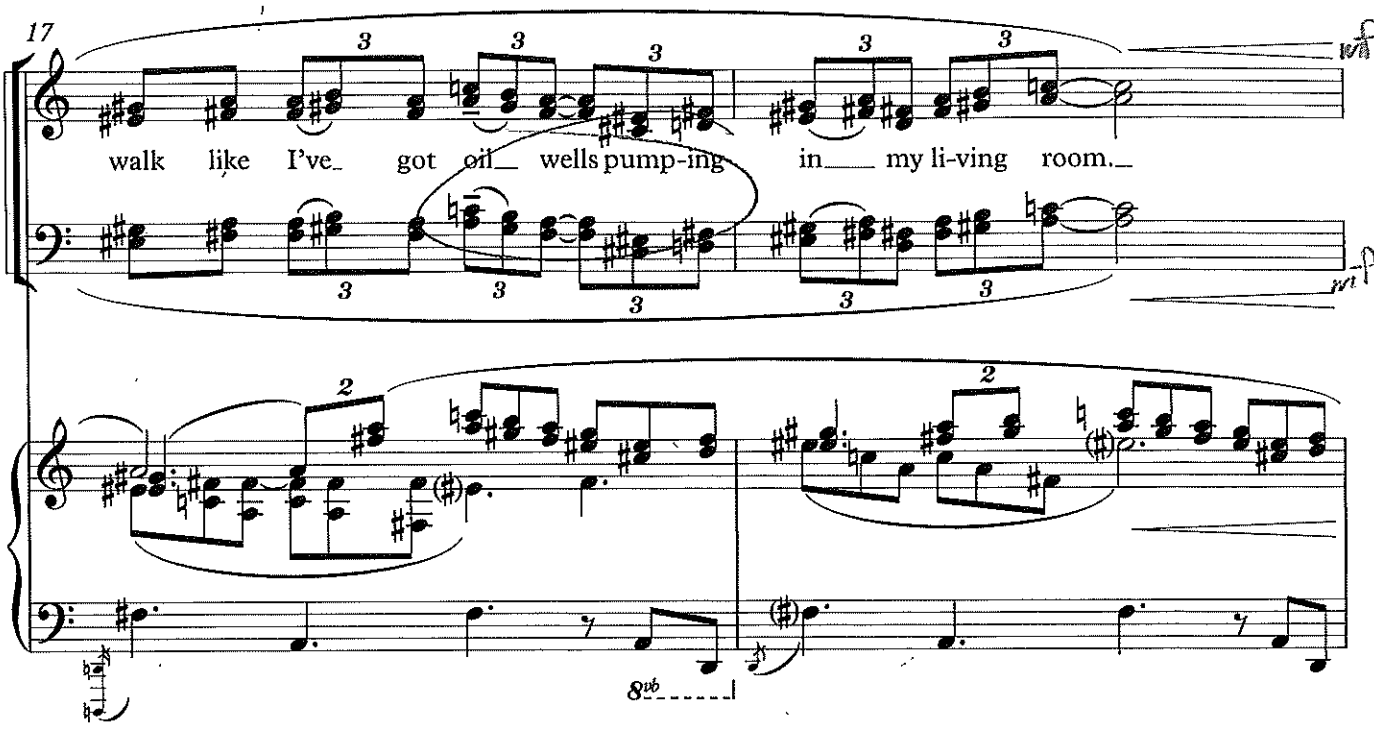


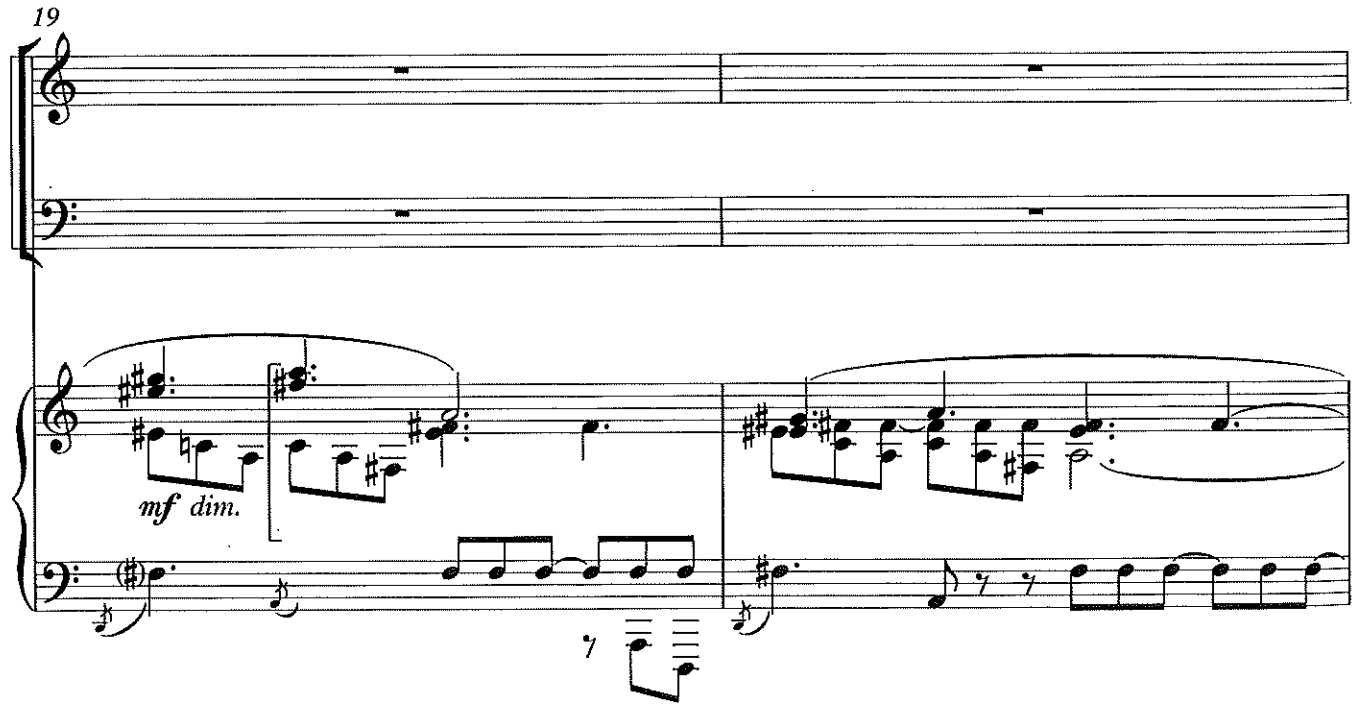
* Measures 8-12 will be understandably uncomfortable, or even impossible, to sing, and that's the point. If all you can manage is a weak, breathy sound, that's fine. If you can't sing the low notes at all, just mouth the words—participate in whatever way you can. However, do not sing your line an octave higher, even if you would only be doubling other parts at pitch (i.e., tenors and basses).


9
write me down in his - to - ry with your bit - ter, twist - ed lies, You may

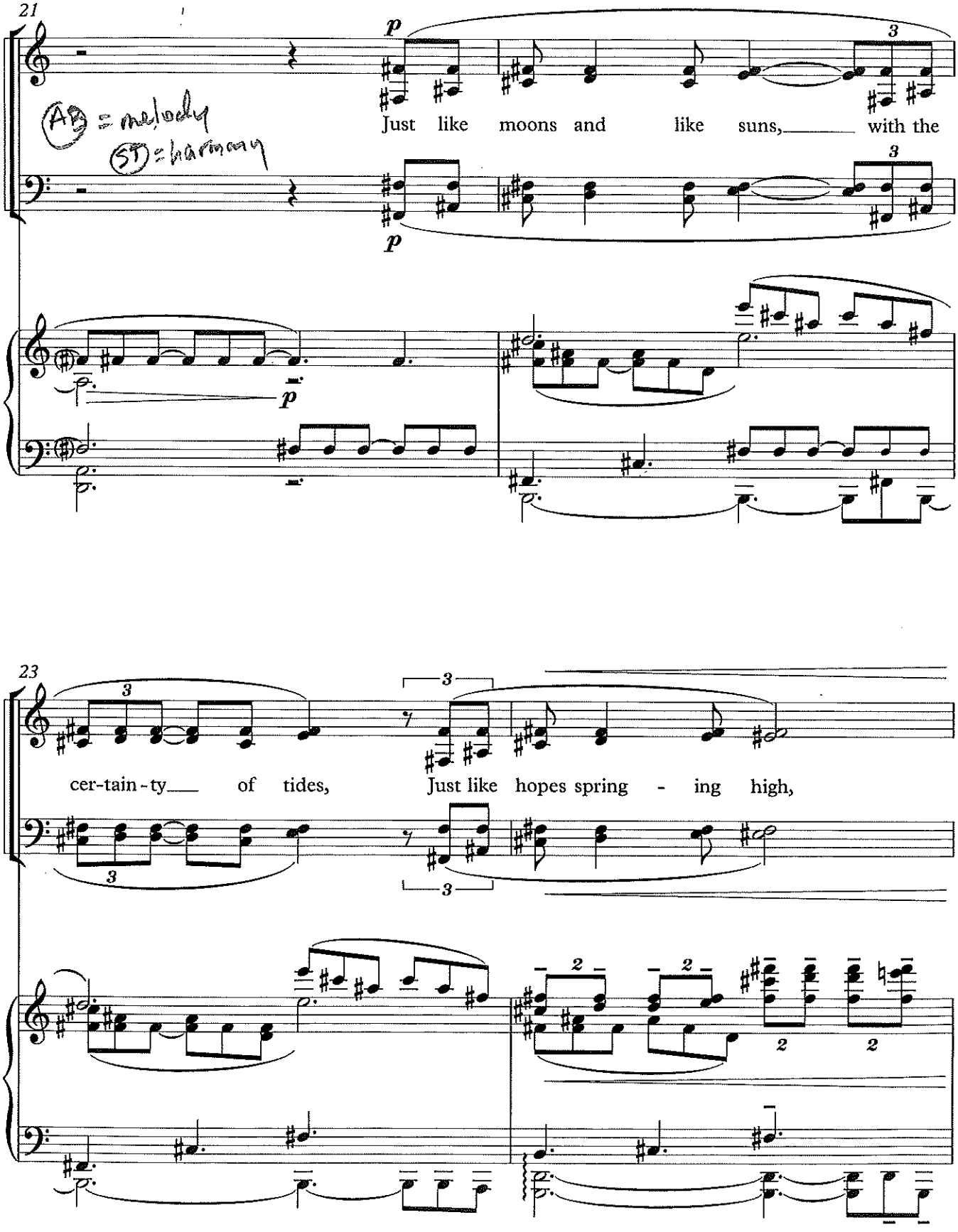

11
trod me in the ve - ry dirt but still, like dust, I'll

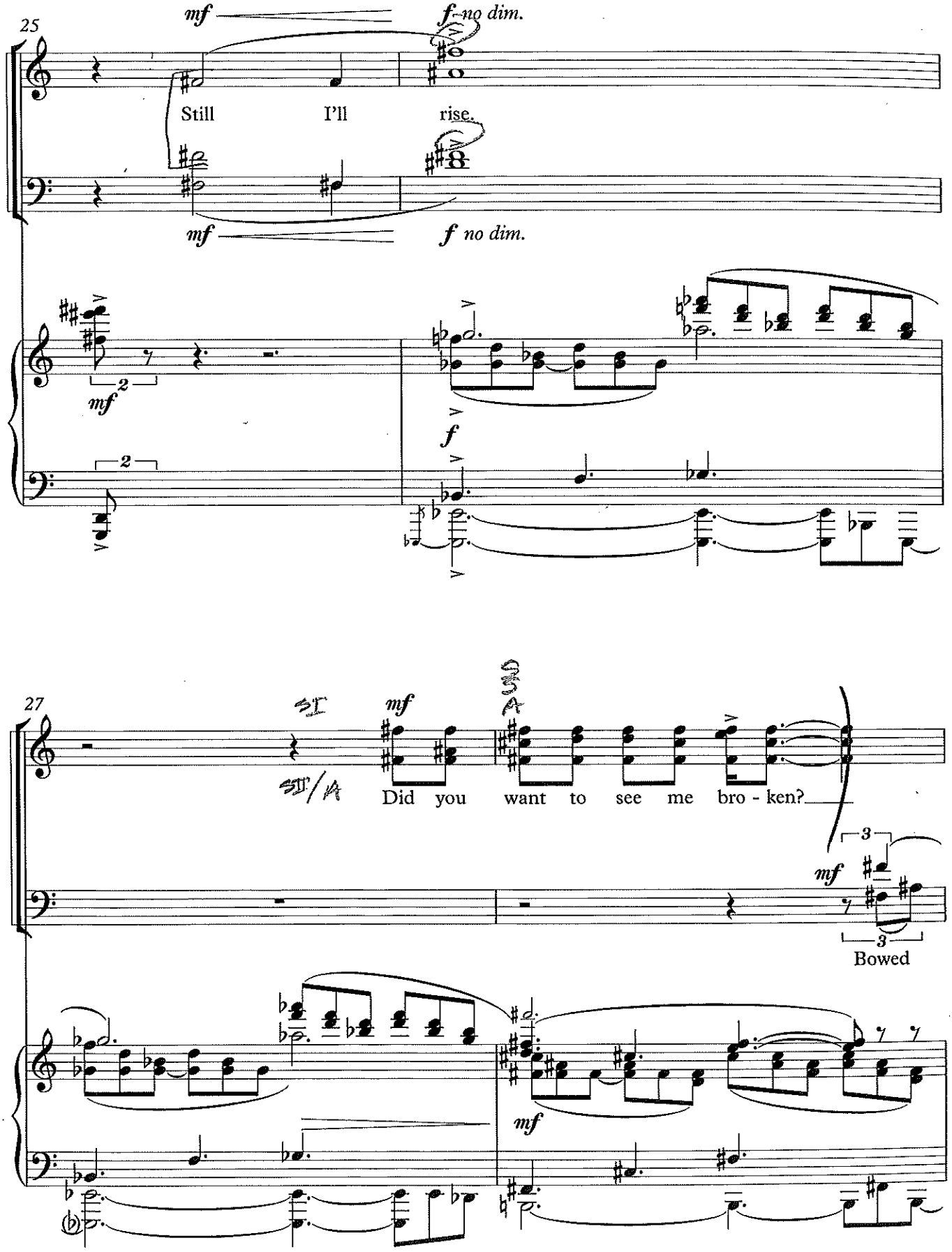

13
rise.
Does my
mp
15
sas - si - ness up - set you? Why are you be - set with gloom? 'Cause I
Ah,
ah
mp

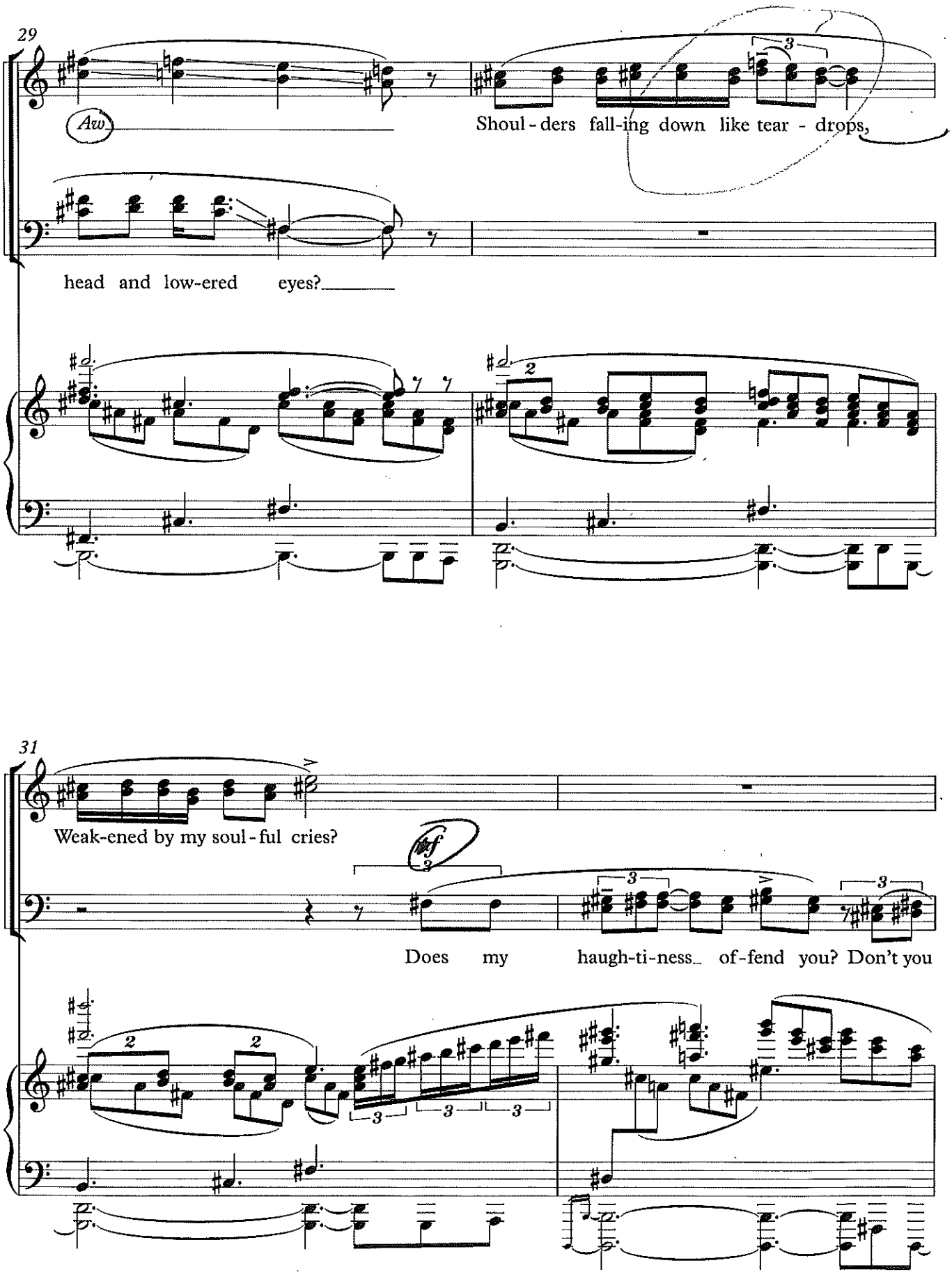

17
walk like I've got oil wells pump-ing in my li-ving room.
mf
8vb

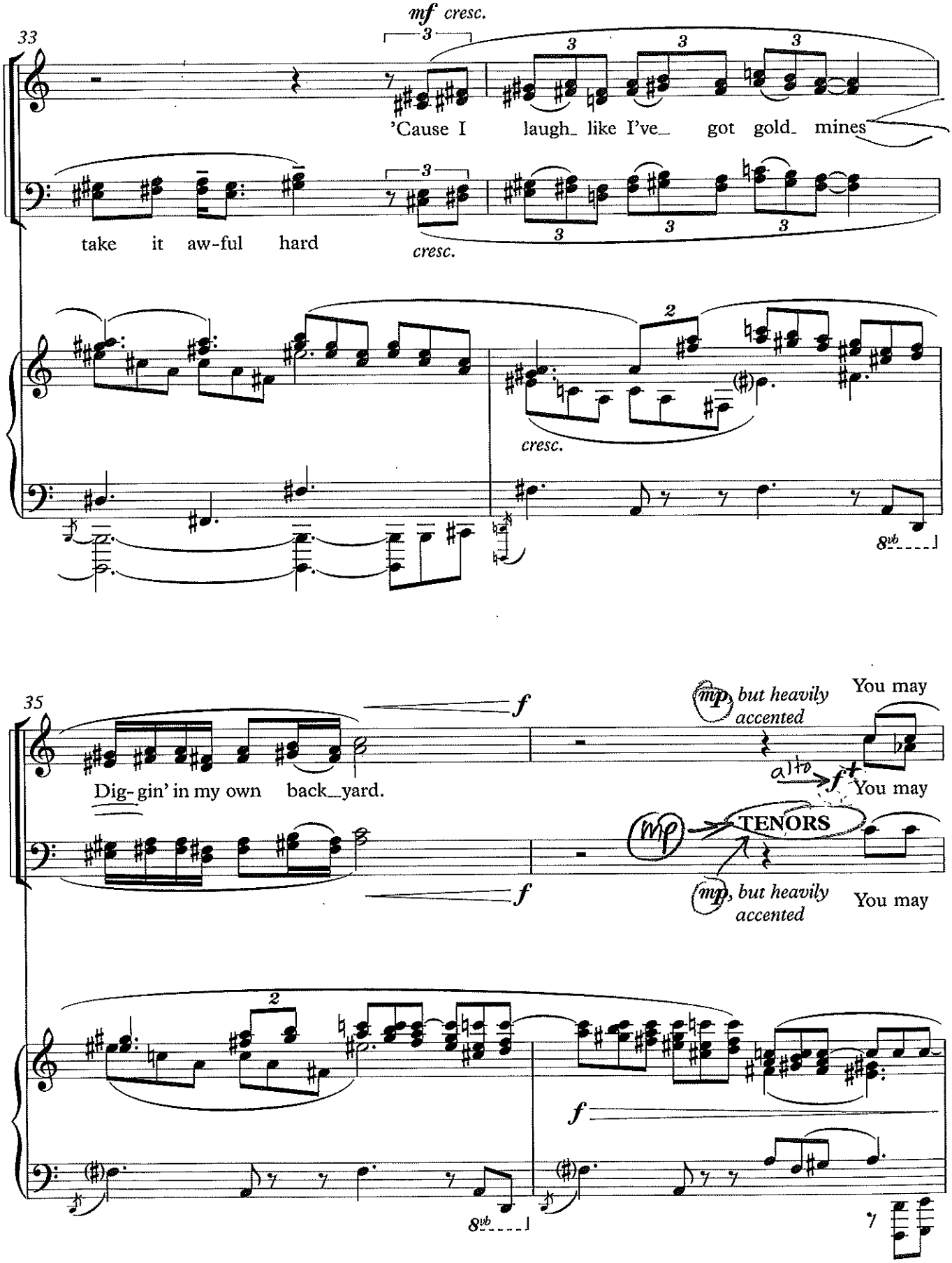

19
mf dim.

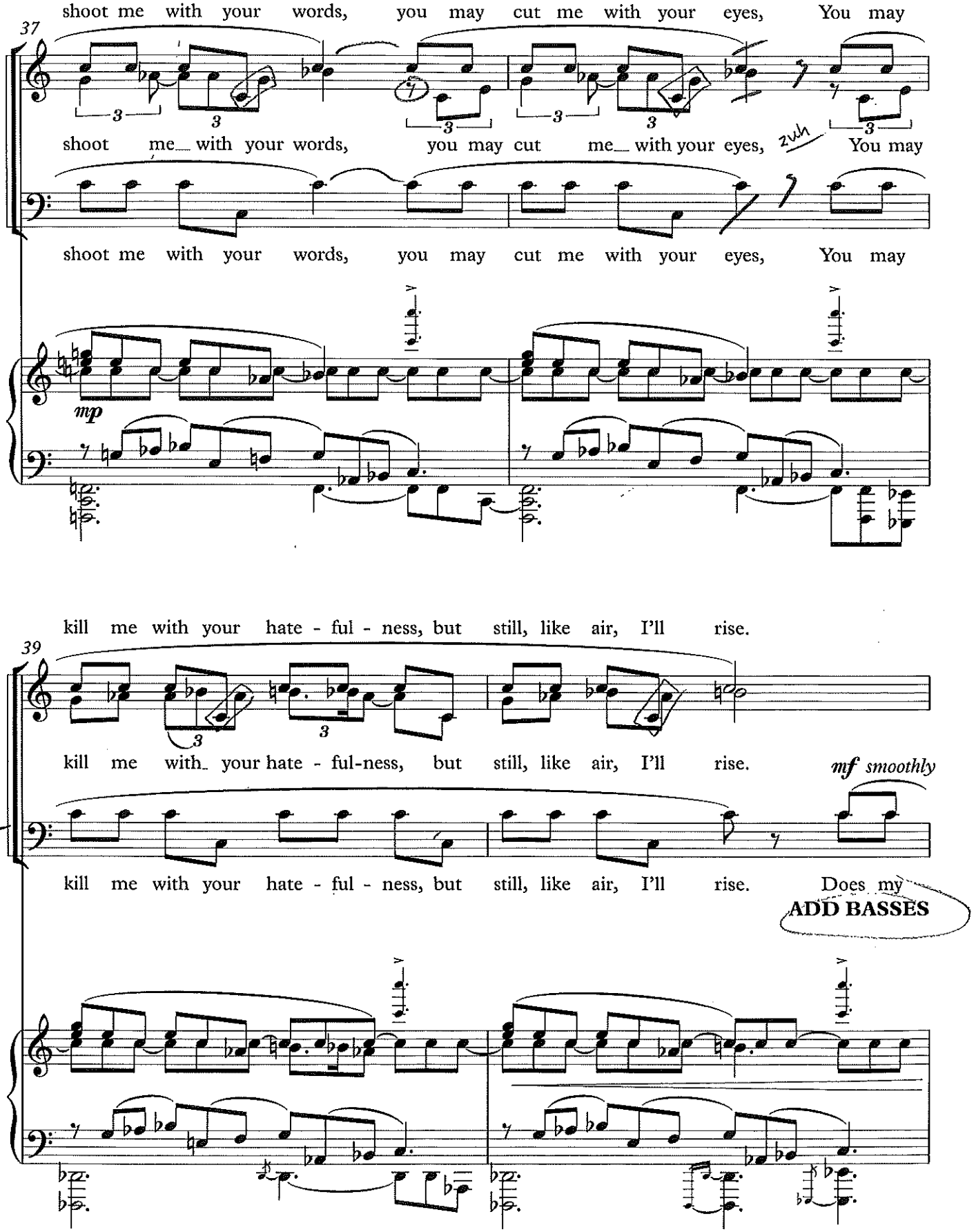
alto / bass prominent (melody)

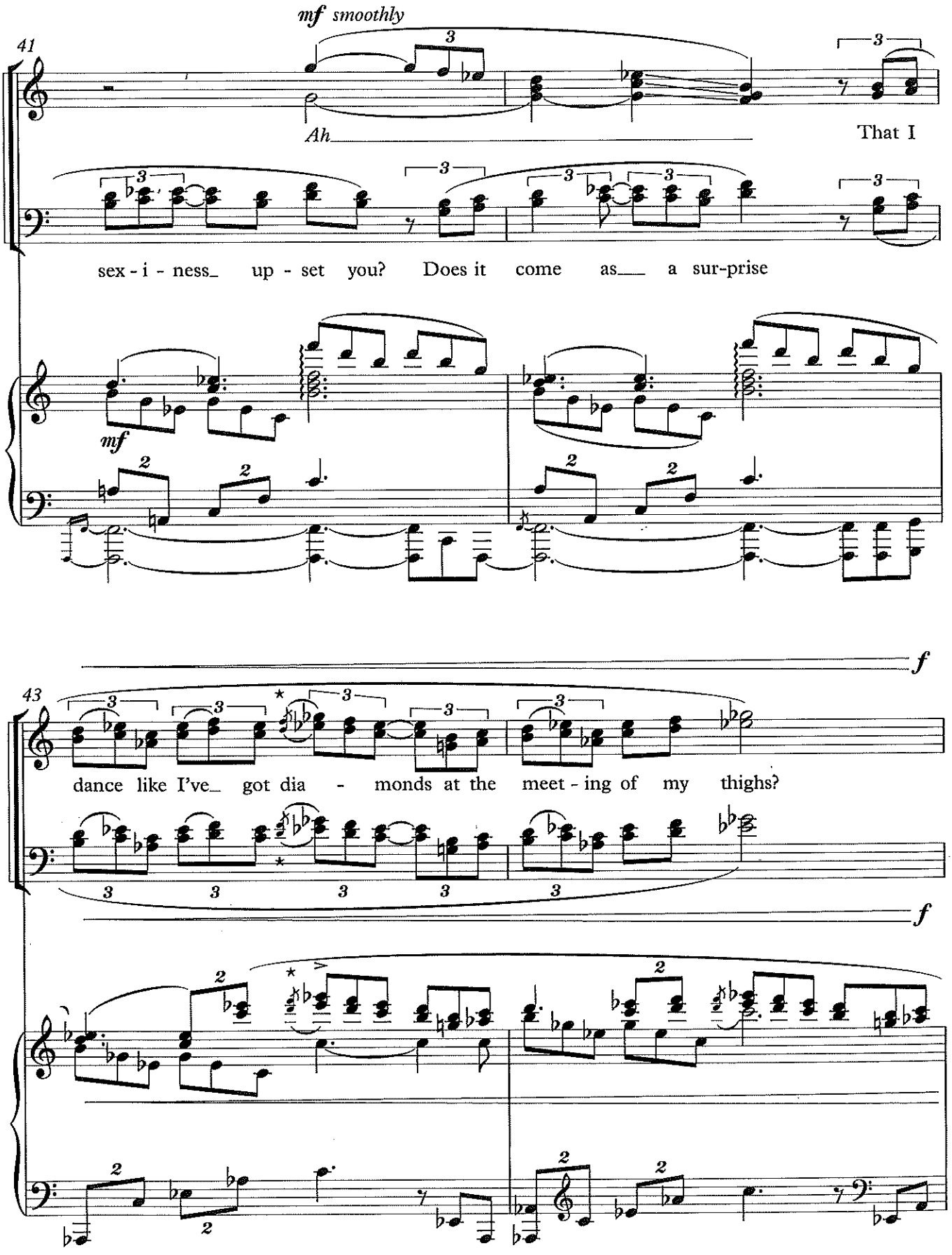



25
mf
f no dim.
Still
I'll
rise.
mf
f no dim.
mf
f
27
mf
Did you want to see me bro - ken?
mf
Bowed
mf

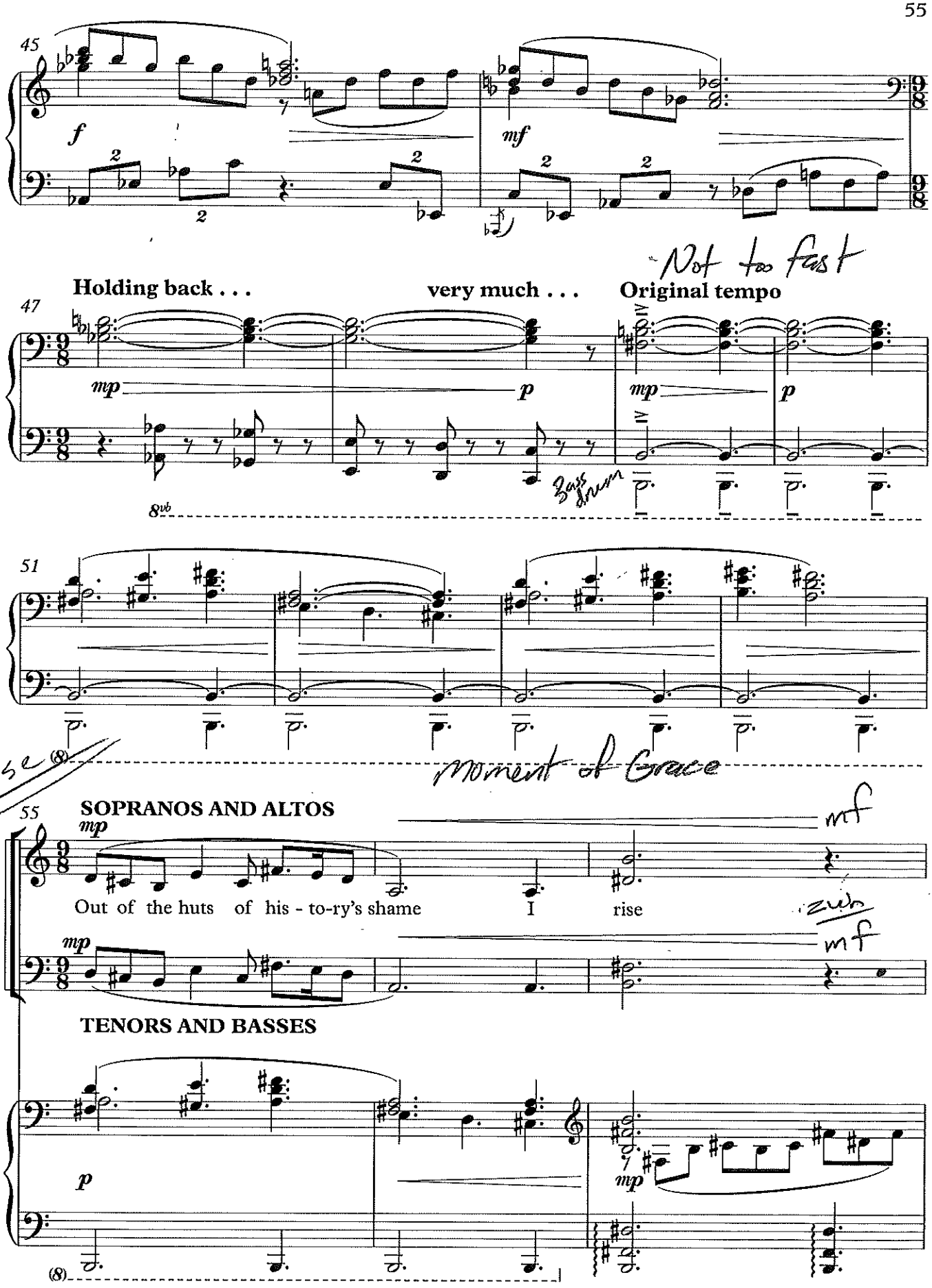

29
Aw
Shoul - ders fall-ing down like tear - drops,
head and low-ered eyes?
31
Weak-ened by my soul - ful cries?
Does my haugh-ti-ness of-fend you? Don't you

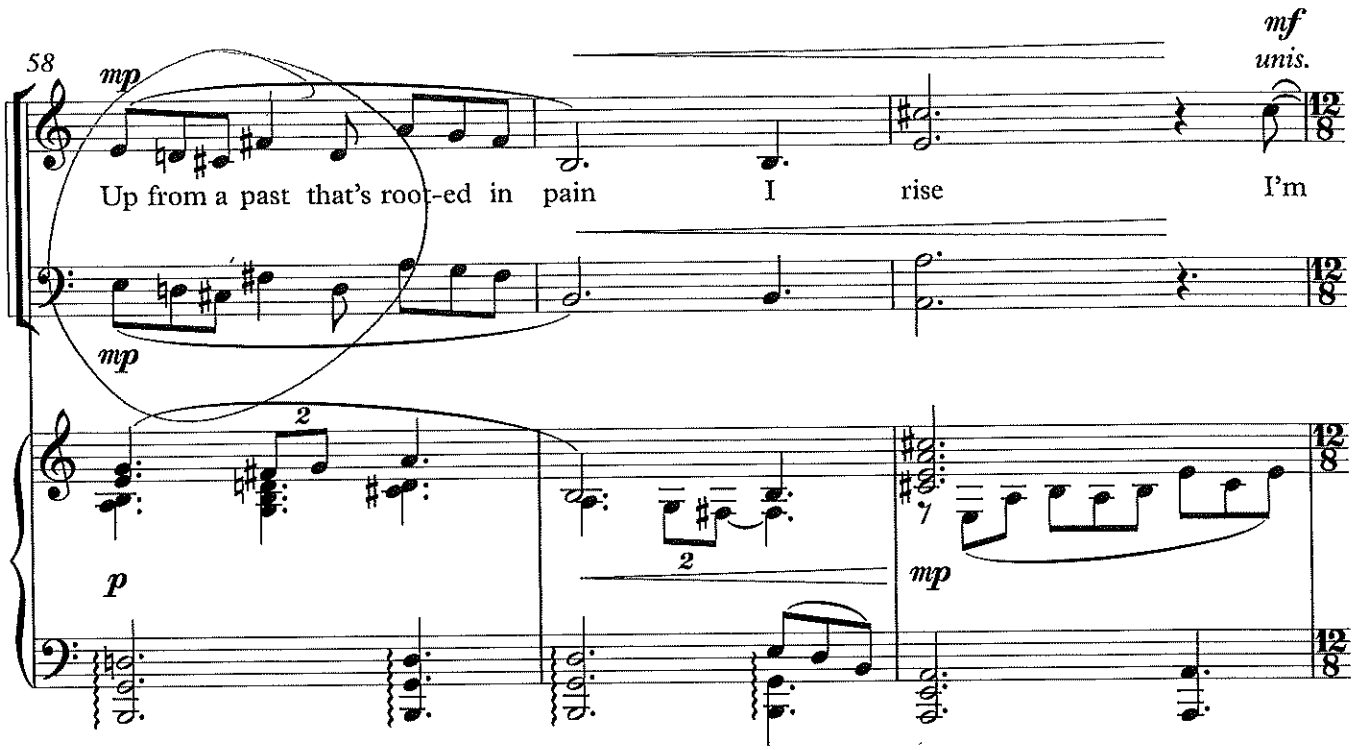

33
mf cresc.
'Cause I laugh_ like I've_ got gold_ mines
take it aw-ful hard
cresc.
cresc.
8vb
35
f
Dig-gin' in my own back_yard.
mp, but heavily accented
You may
a tempo
f
You may
TENORS
mp
mp, but heavily accented
You may
f
8vb

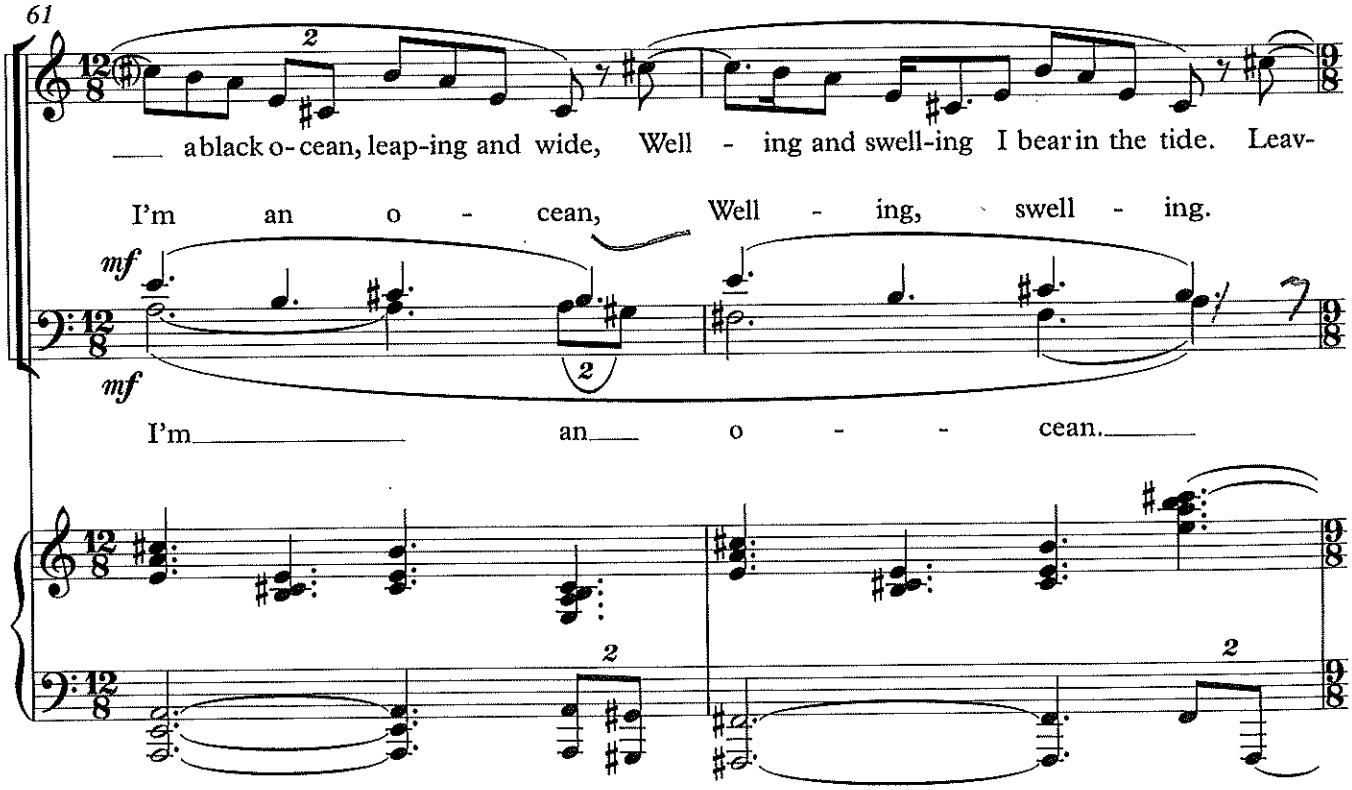

37
shoot me with your words, you may cut me with your eyes, You may
shoot me with your words, you may cut me with your eyes, You may
shoot me with your words, you may cut me with your eyes, You may
mp
kill me with your hate - ful - ness, but still, like air, I'll rise.
39
S/A
kill me with your hate - ful-ness, but still, like air, I'll rise.
mf smoothly
T
kill me with your hate - ful - ness, but still, like air, I'll rise. Does my
ADD BASSES

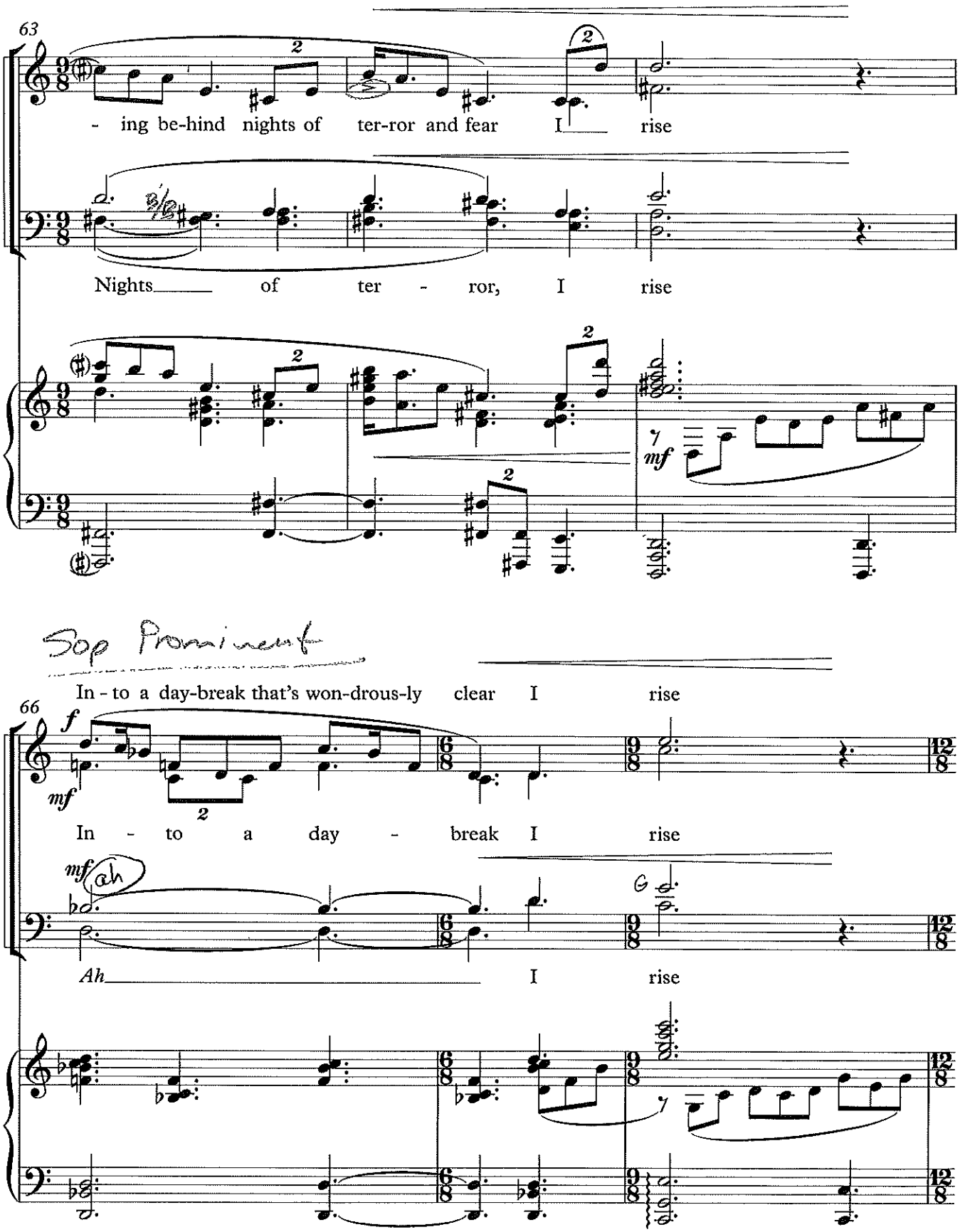


* Grace notes before the beat.


45
f
mf
Not too fast
Holding back . . .
very much . . .
Original tempo
47
mp
p
mp
p
8vb
51
Sunrise
Moment of Grace
55
SOPRANOS AND ALTOS
mp
mf
Out of the huts of his - to-ry's shame
I
rise
mp
mf
TENORS AND BASSES
p
mp
(8)

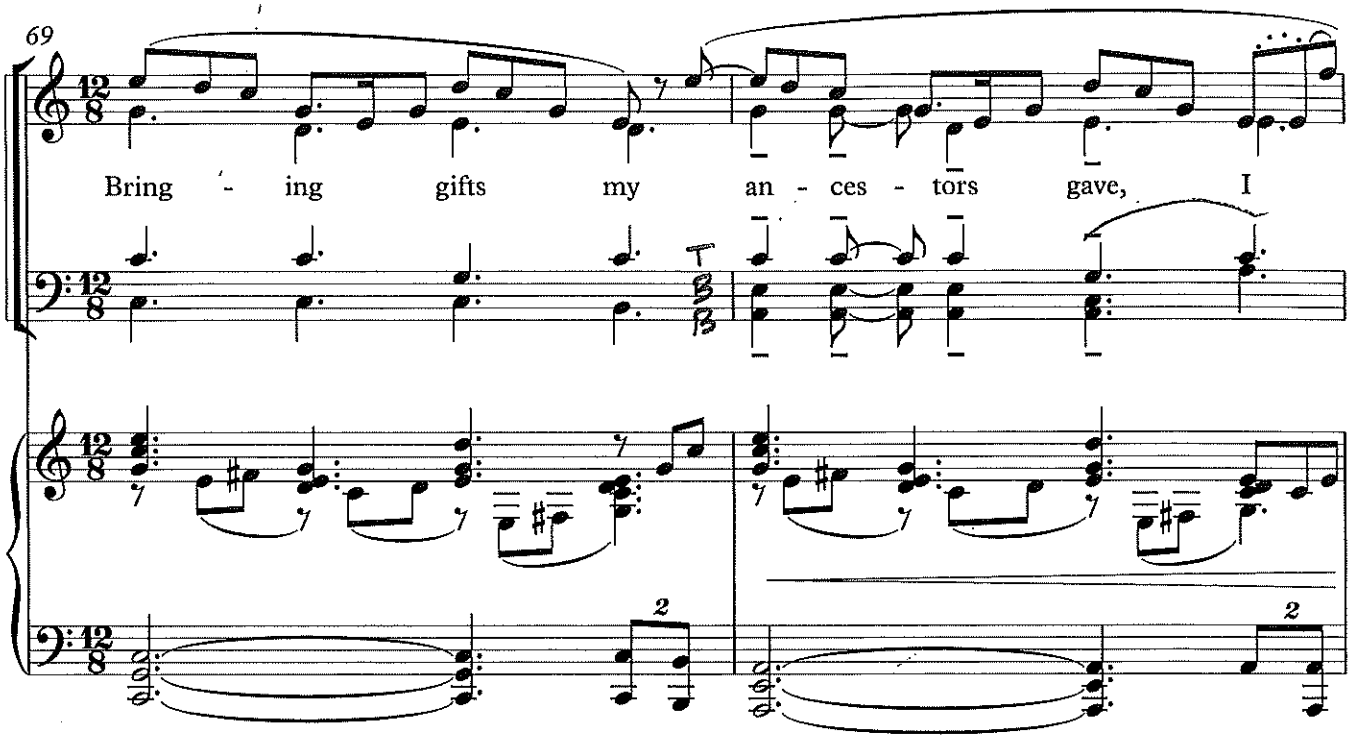

58
mp
mf
unis.
Up from a past that's root-ed in pain I rise I'm
mp
2
p
2
mp

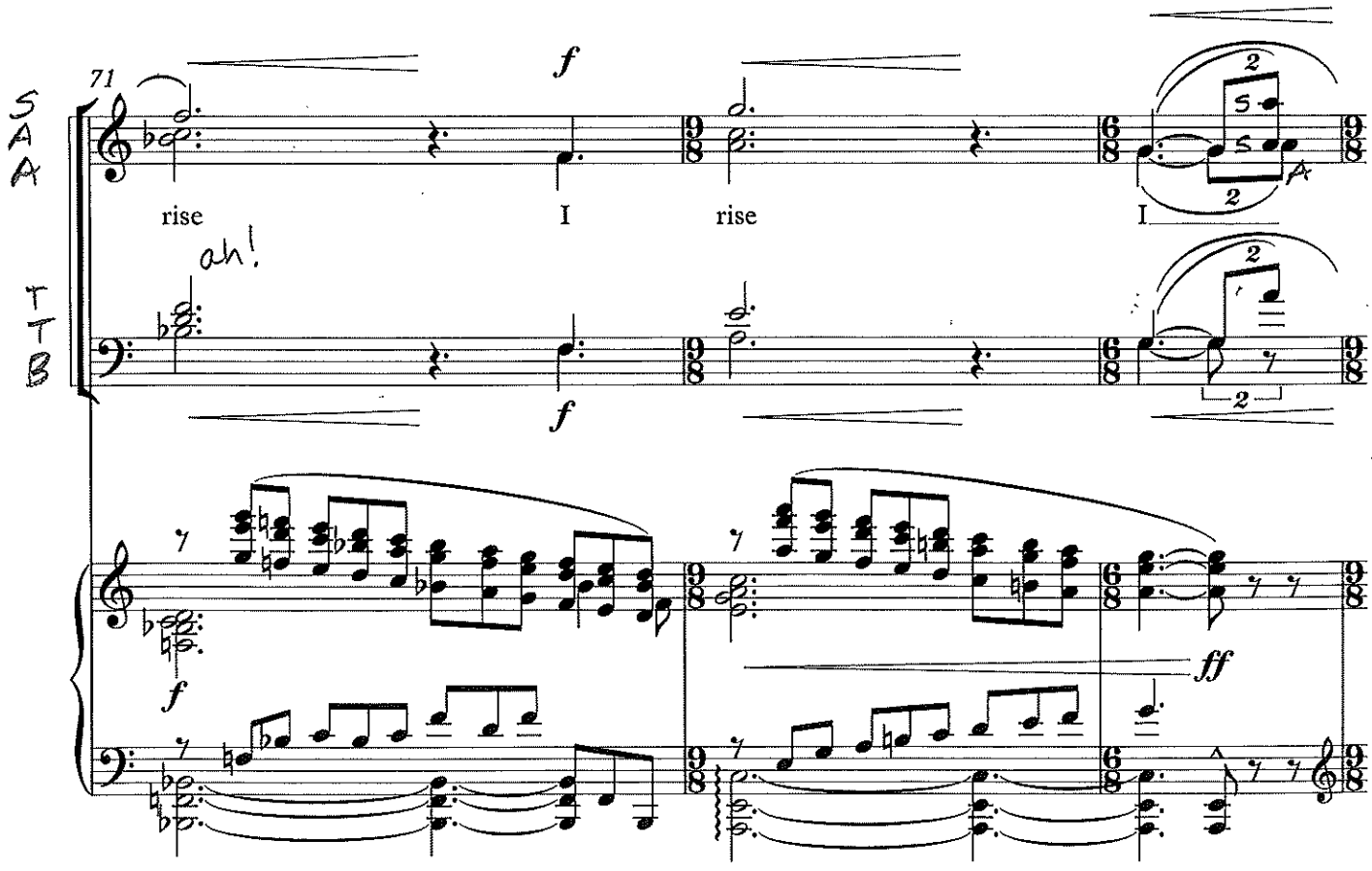

61
2
a black o-cean, leap-ing and wide, Well - ing and swell-ing I bear in the tide. Leav-
I'm an o - cean, Well - ing, swell - ing.
mf
mf
2
I'm an o - - cean.
2
2

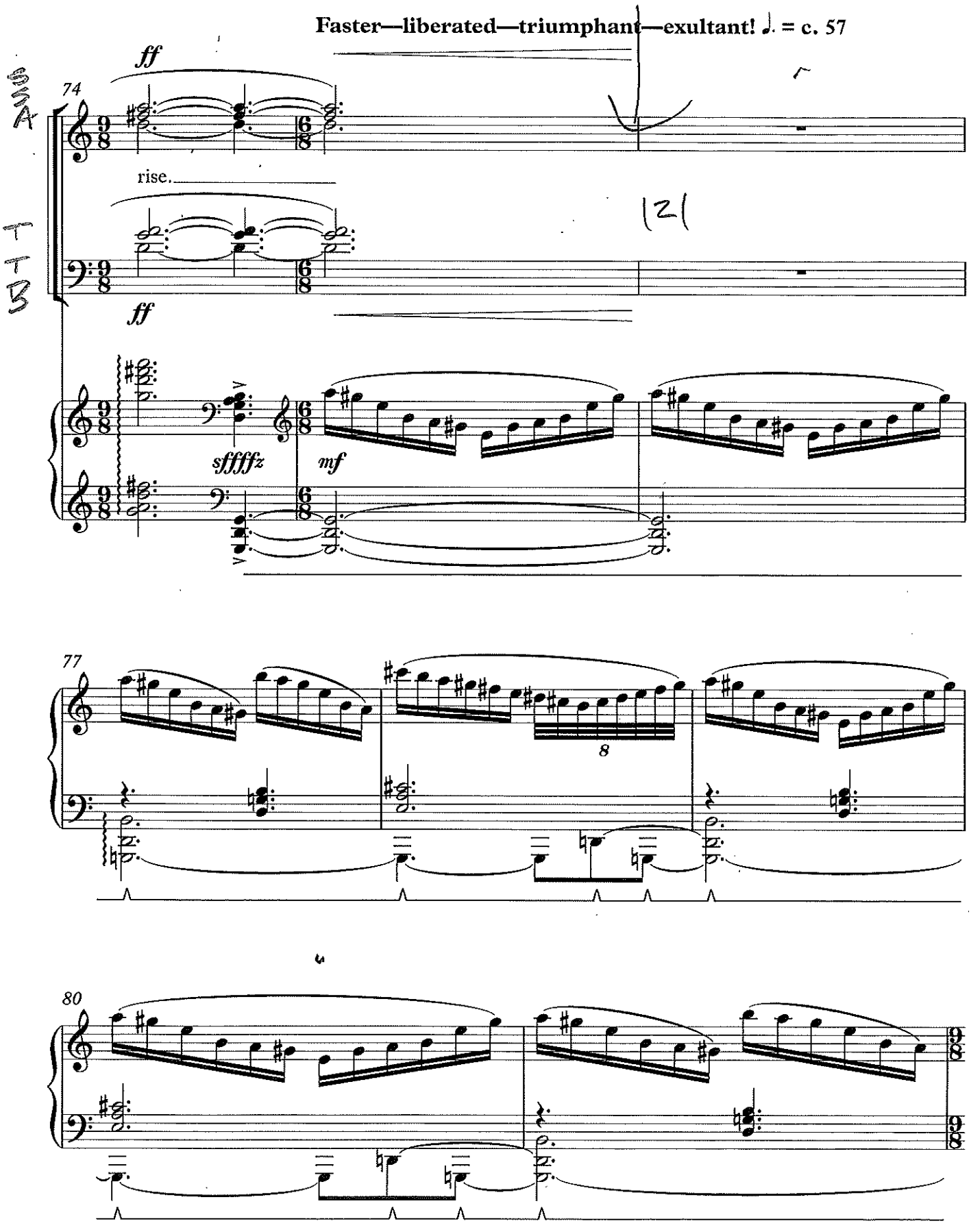

63
- ing be-hind nights of ter-ror and fear I rise
Nights of ter - ror, I rise
mf
Sop Prominent
In - to a day-break that's won-drous-ly clear I rise
66
f
mf
In - to a day - break I rise
mf ah
Ah I rise

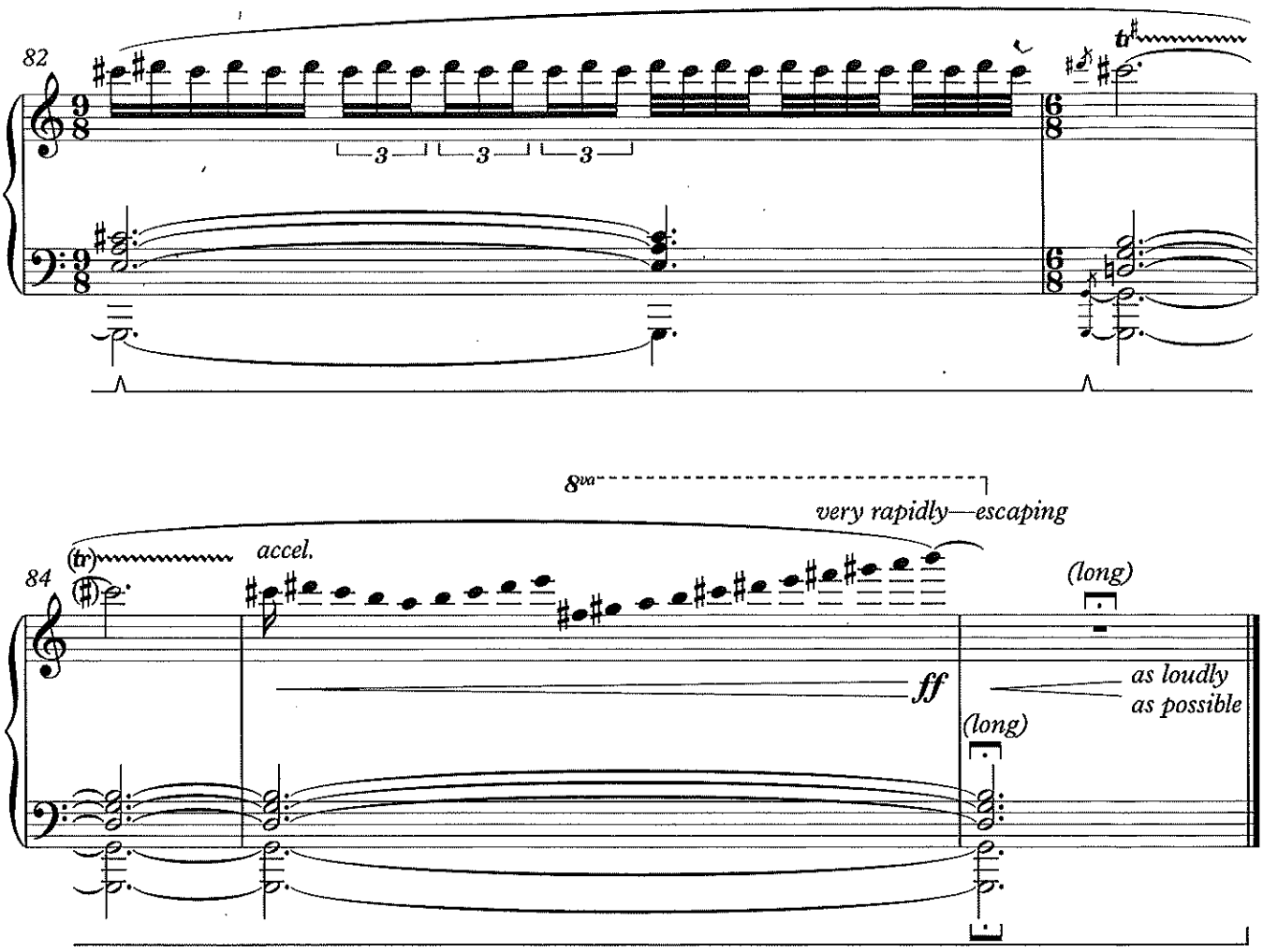
Title of this movement

Bring-ing the gifts that my an-ces-tors gave, I___ am the dream and the hope of the slave. I___






Faster—liberated—triumphant—exultant! ♩. = c. 57
74
ff
rise.
ff
sffffz
mf
77
8
80


82
3
3
3
tr
8va
very rapidly—escaping
(tr)
accel.
84
(long)
ff
as loudly
as possible
(long)