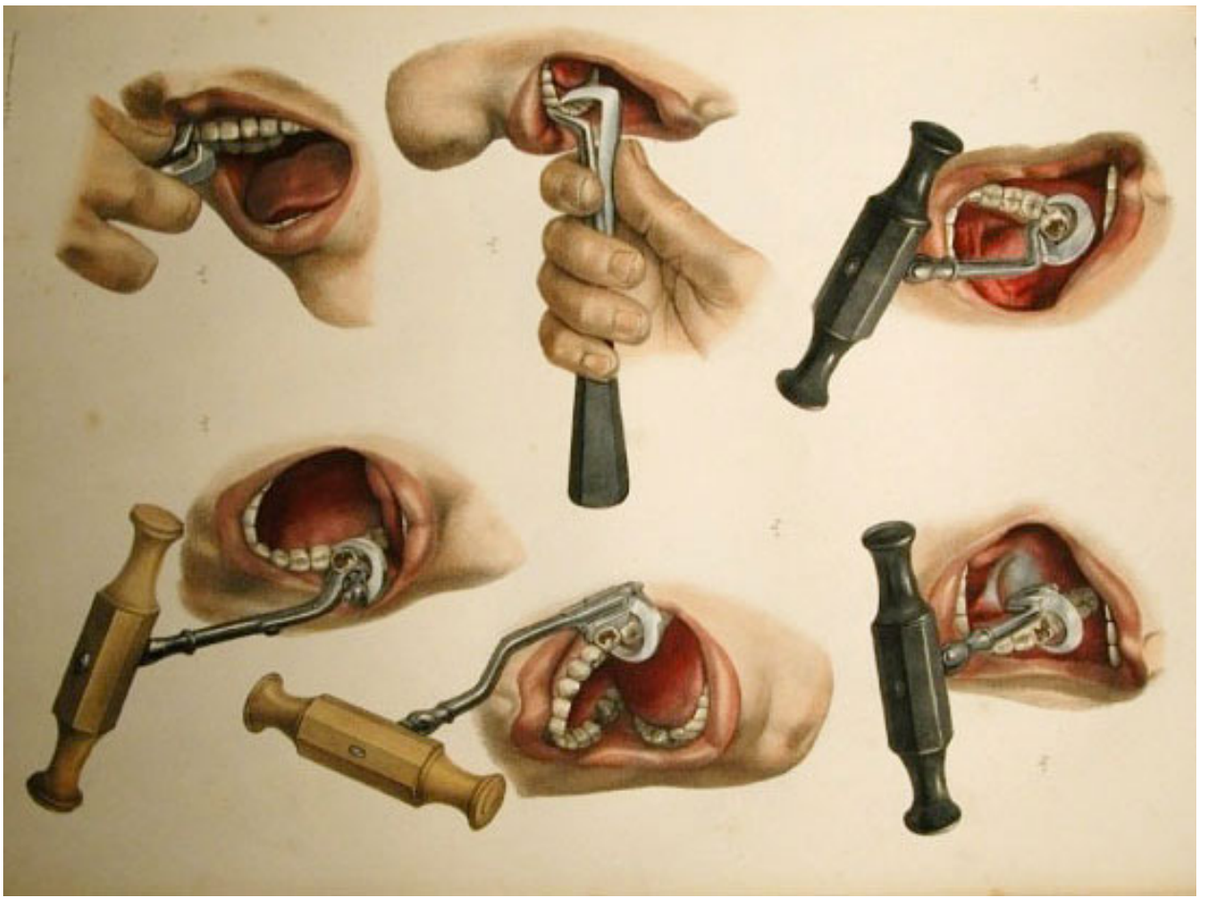
THE MOUTH HARNESS



ERIC SHANFIELD

THE MOUTH HARNESS

Eric Shanfield | ENS.2014.5 | 11.9.14-11.19.16 | 11'

Texts by Ben Marcus from "The Age of Wire and String"

for Alexandra Brokalakis

1. Sleep

2. Weather

3. Food

Soprano

Solo Percussion: Glockenspiel, Vibraphone, Marimba, Bass Drum

The bass drum maybe played with a pedal.

Mallets ad lib.

The percussionist sings the title of each section as notated in the score. Any octave is acceptable.

Do not worry about tone; only pitch and rhythm is important.

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THE MOUTH HARNESS
texts from "The Age of Wire and String" by Ben Marcus

1. Sleep

ALBERT

Nightly killer of light, applied to systems or bodies which alter postures under various stages of darkness. Flattened versions exist only in the water or grass. They may not rise until light is poured upon them.

SHIRT OF NOISE

Garment, fabric, or residue that absorbs and holds sound, storing messages for journeys. Its loudness cannot be soothed. It can destroy the member which inhabits it.

WIND BOWL

Pocket of curved, unsteady space formed between speaking persons. They may discuss the house, its grass, some foods, the father inside. The wind bowl will tilt and push across their faces, that they might appear leaning back, arching away from each other, grasping at the ground behind them as if sleeping.

2. Weather

BACKWARD WIND

Forward wind.

RAIN

Hard, shiny silver object, divided into knives and used for cutting procedures.

DROWNING METHOD

System of speech distortion in which gestures filtering through rain and water fields are perceived as their opposites. In order to show affection, a member is instructed to smash or squeeze. In devious weather, the shrewdest member is seen acting only at odds with his true desire, so that others may see his insides, which have otherwise been drowned.

3. Food

BLAIN

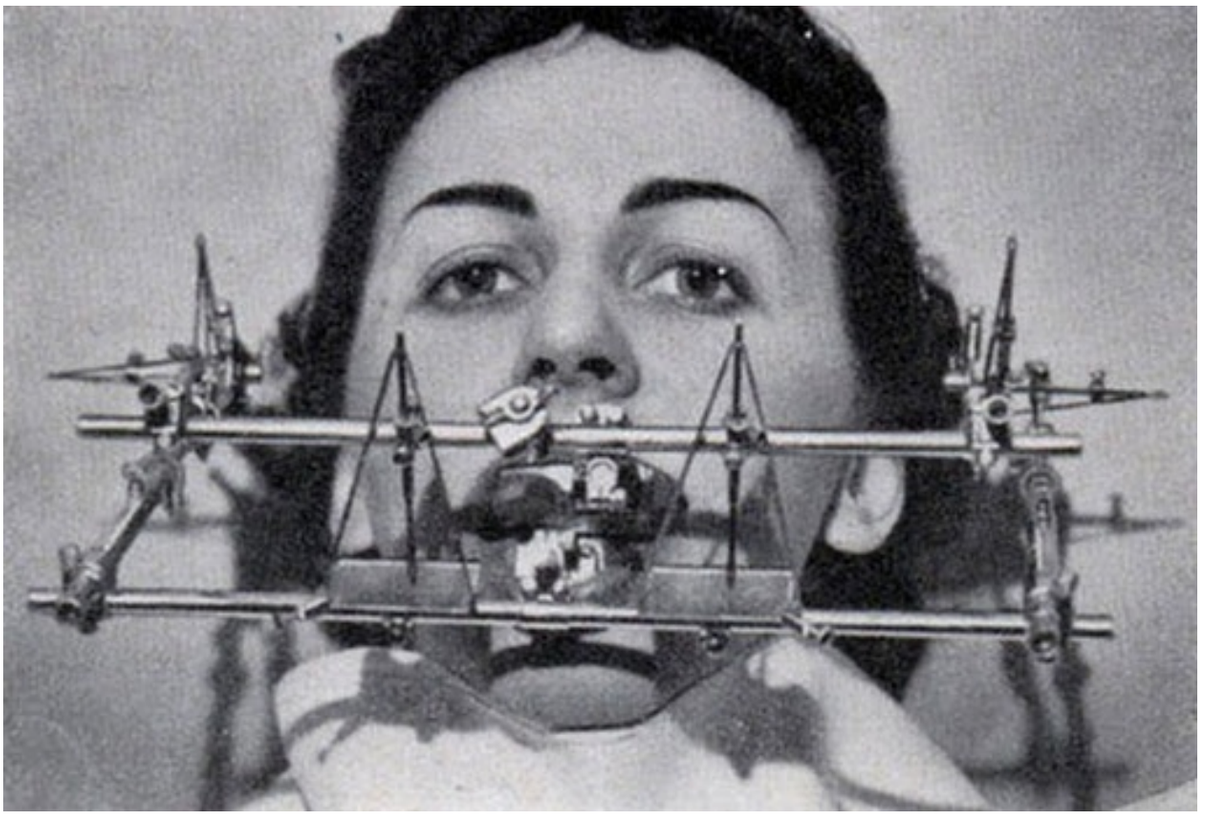
Cloth chewed to frequent raggedness by a boy. Lethal to birds. When blanketed over the house, the sky will be swept of objects.

MOUTH HARNESS, THE

Device for trapping and containing the head. Mouths are often stuffed with items-—he only objects legally defined as suspicious or worthy of silent paranoid regard. A claim is therefore made that we eat suspicion and become filled with it. The harness is designed to block all ingestion.

EATING

Dying. Since the first act of the body is to produce its own demise, eating can be considered an acceleration of this process. Morsels and small golden breads enter the mouth from without to enhance the motions and stillnesses, boost the tones and silences. These are items which bring forth instructions from the larger society to the place of darkness and unknowing; the sticky core, the area within, the bone.

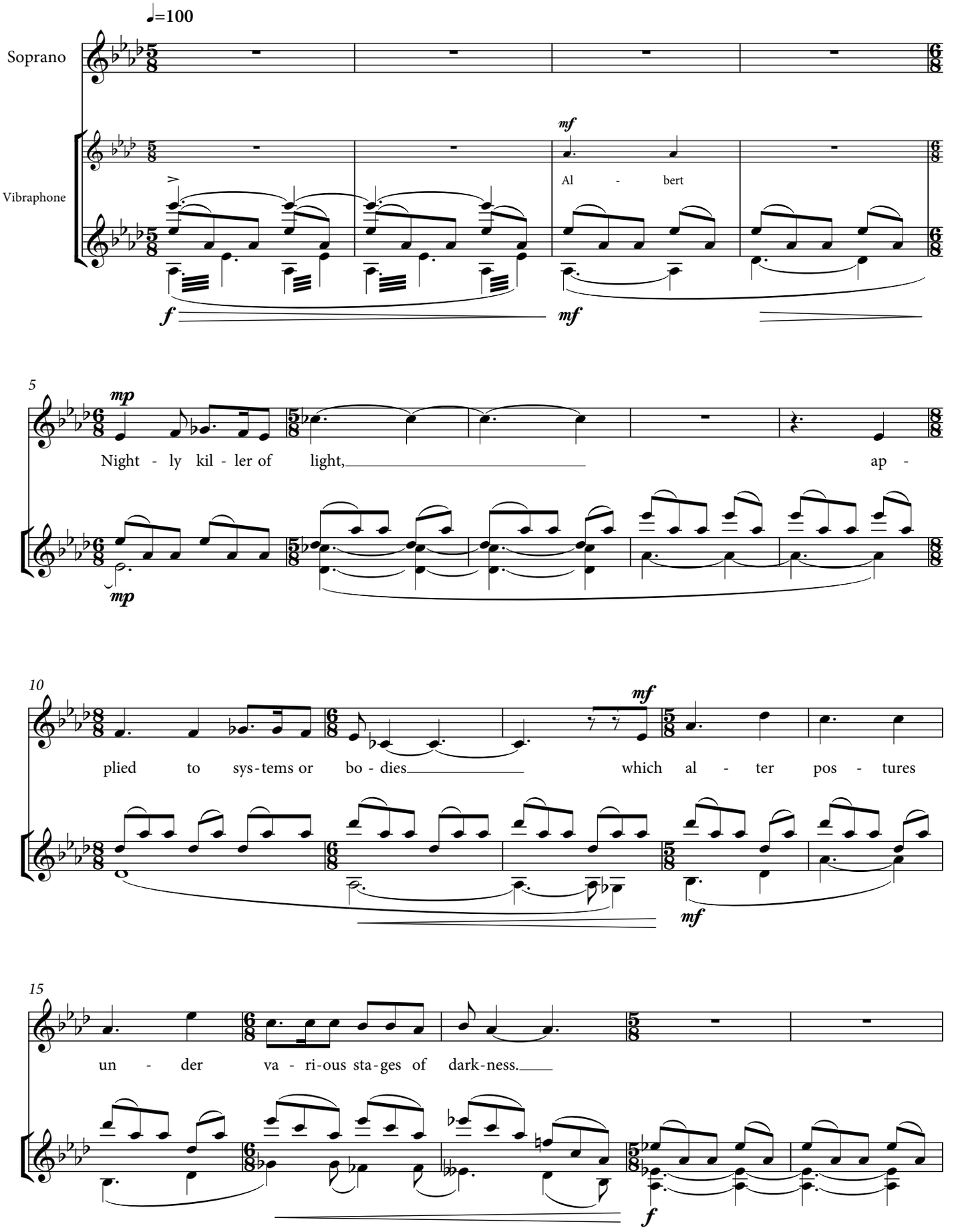


THE MOUTH HARNESS

1. SLEEP

Ben Marcus

Eric Shanfield



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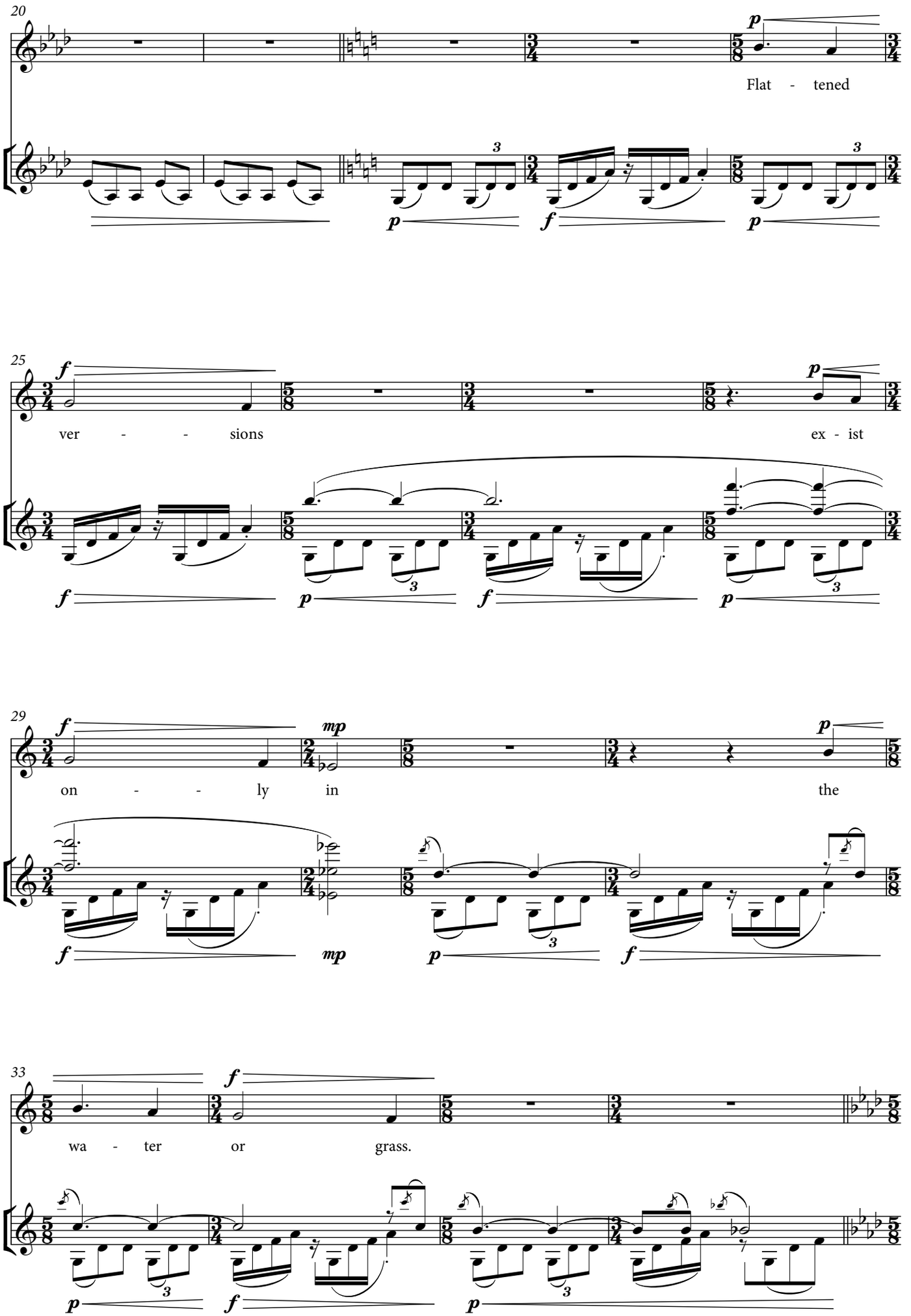

20
Flat - tened
25
ver - - - sions
ex - ist
29
on - - ly in
the
33
wa - ter or grass.

37

mf

They may not rise un-

f *mf*

42

f *mf*

til light is poured u-

f *mf*

47

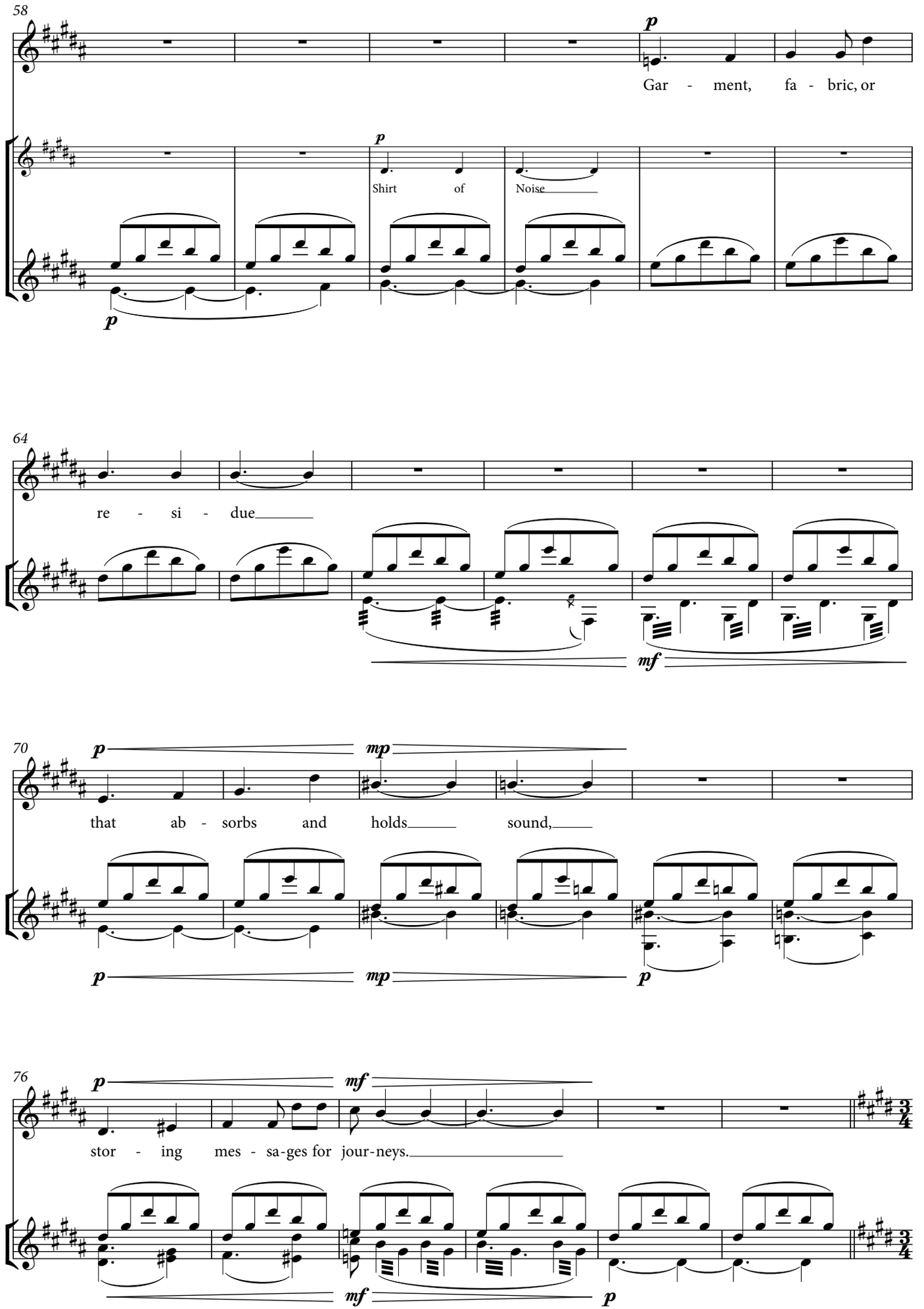
pon them.

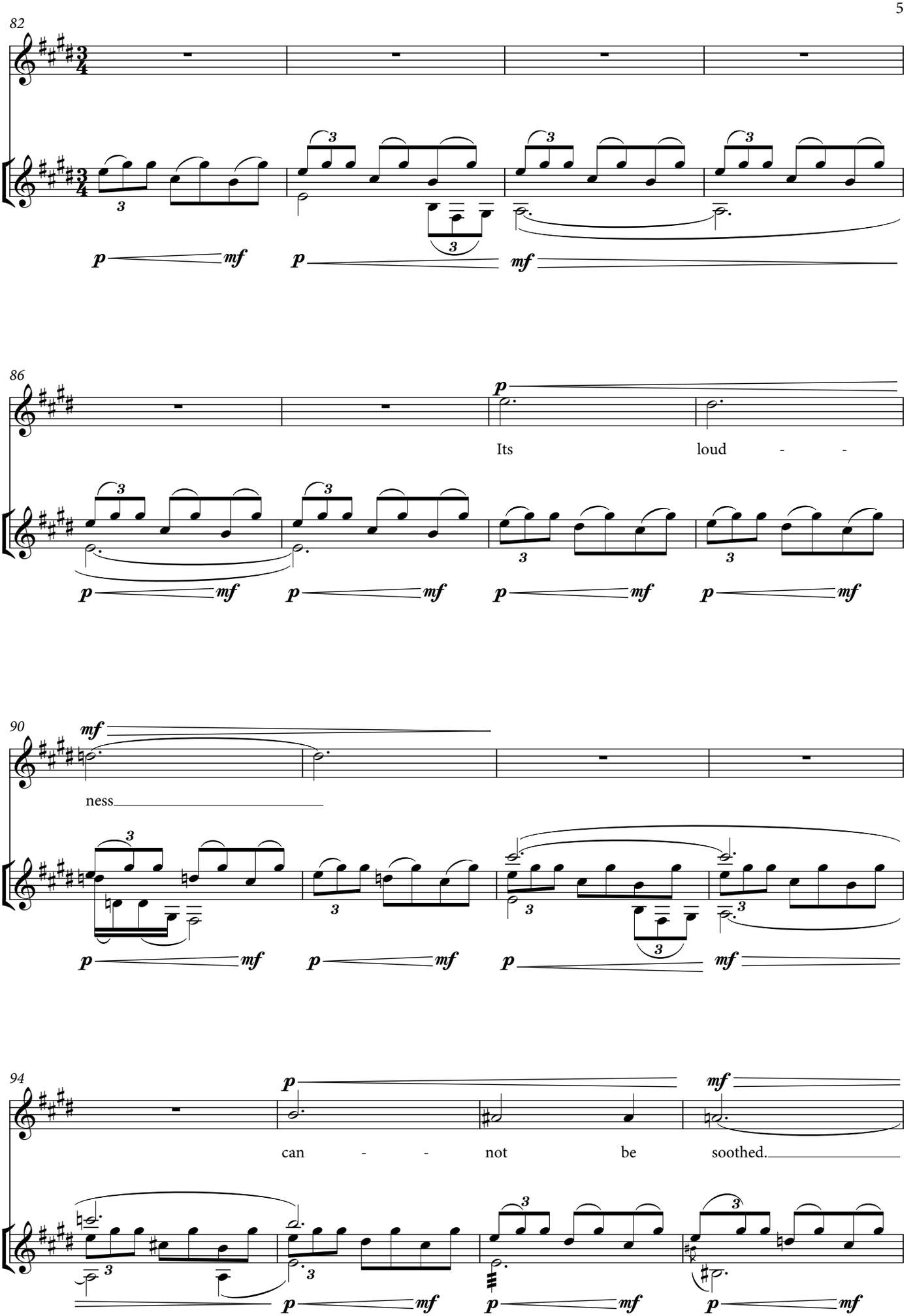
f

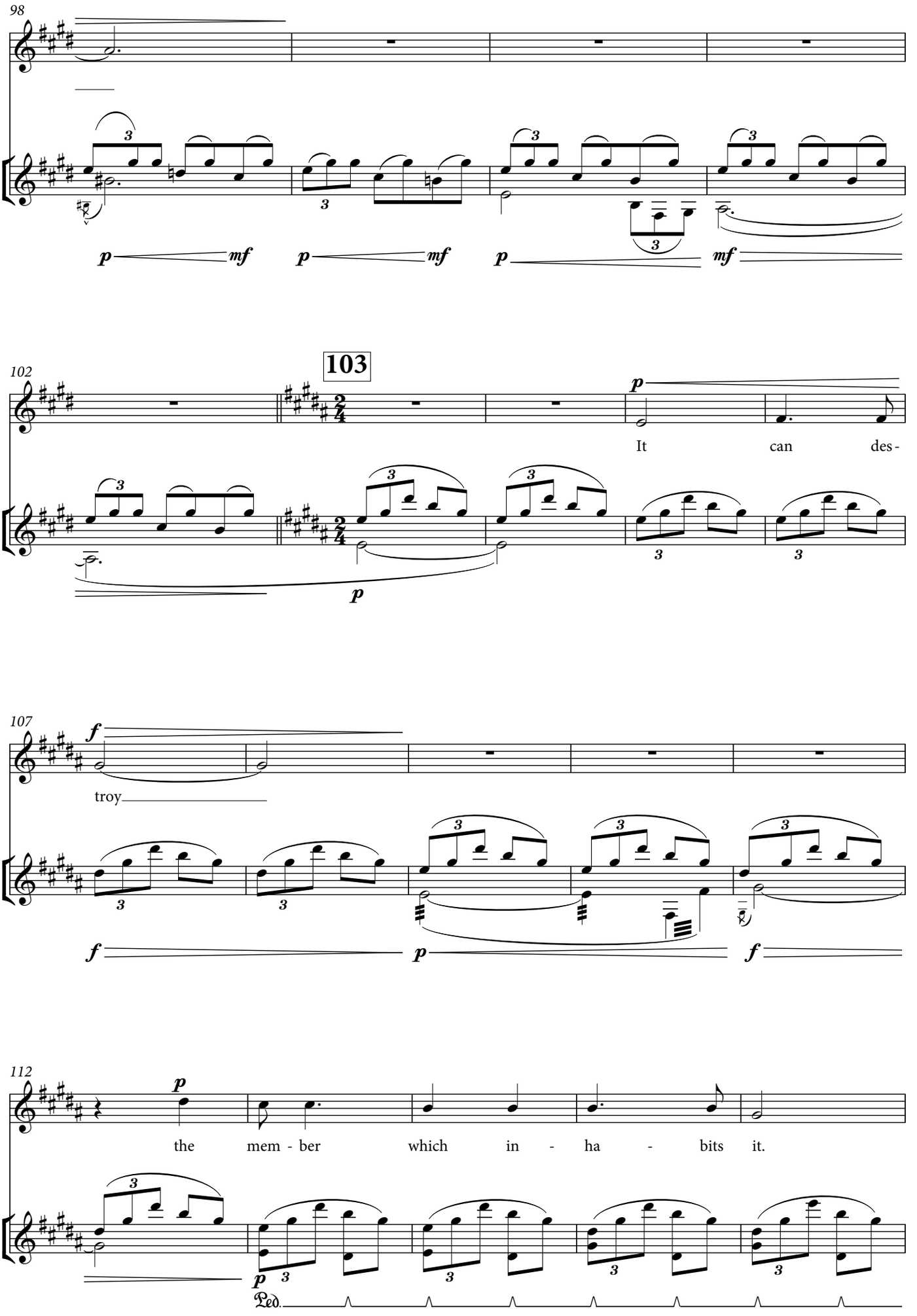
Ped.

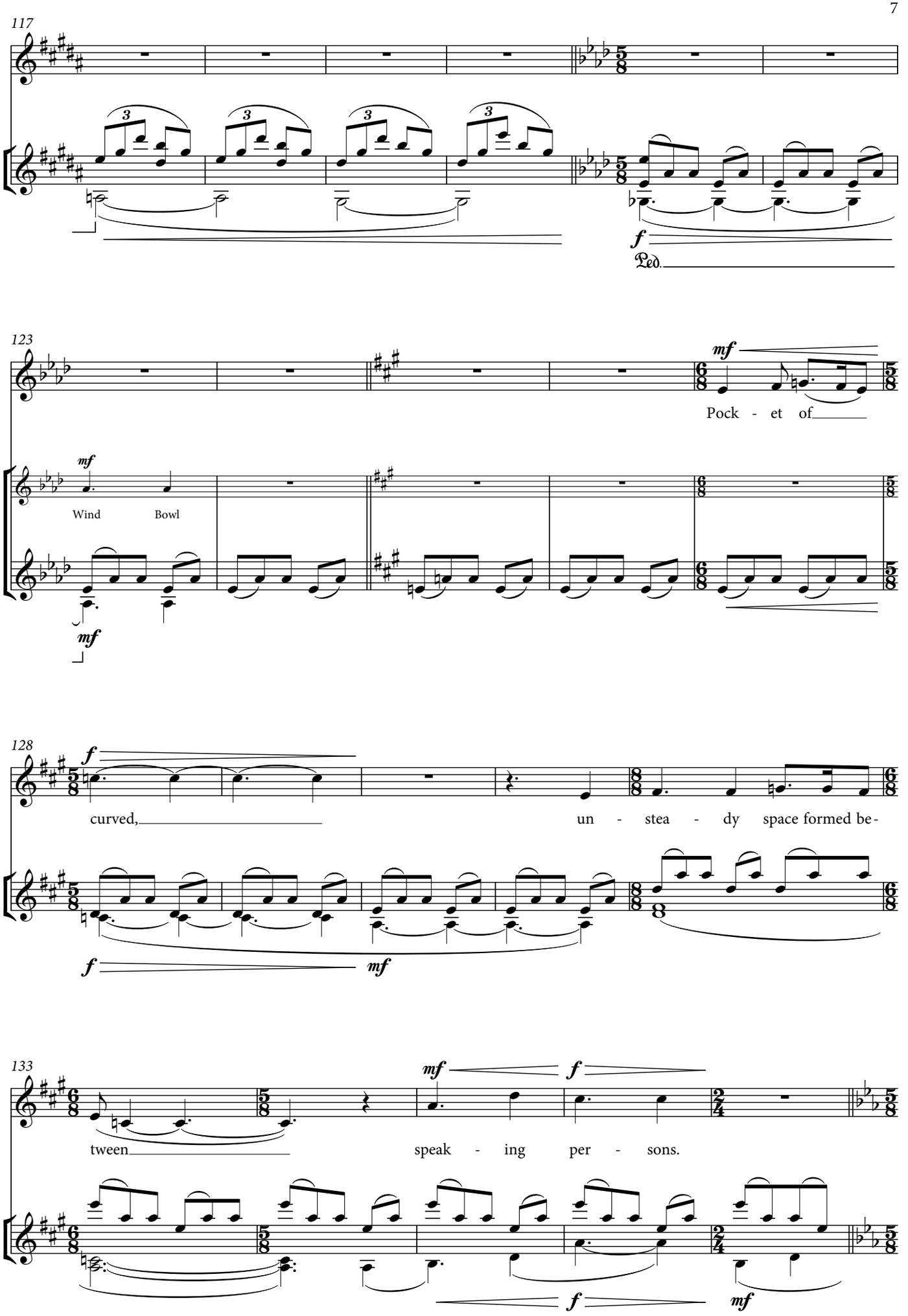
53

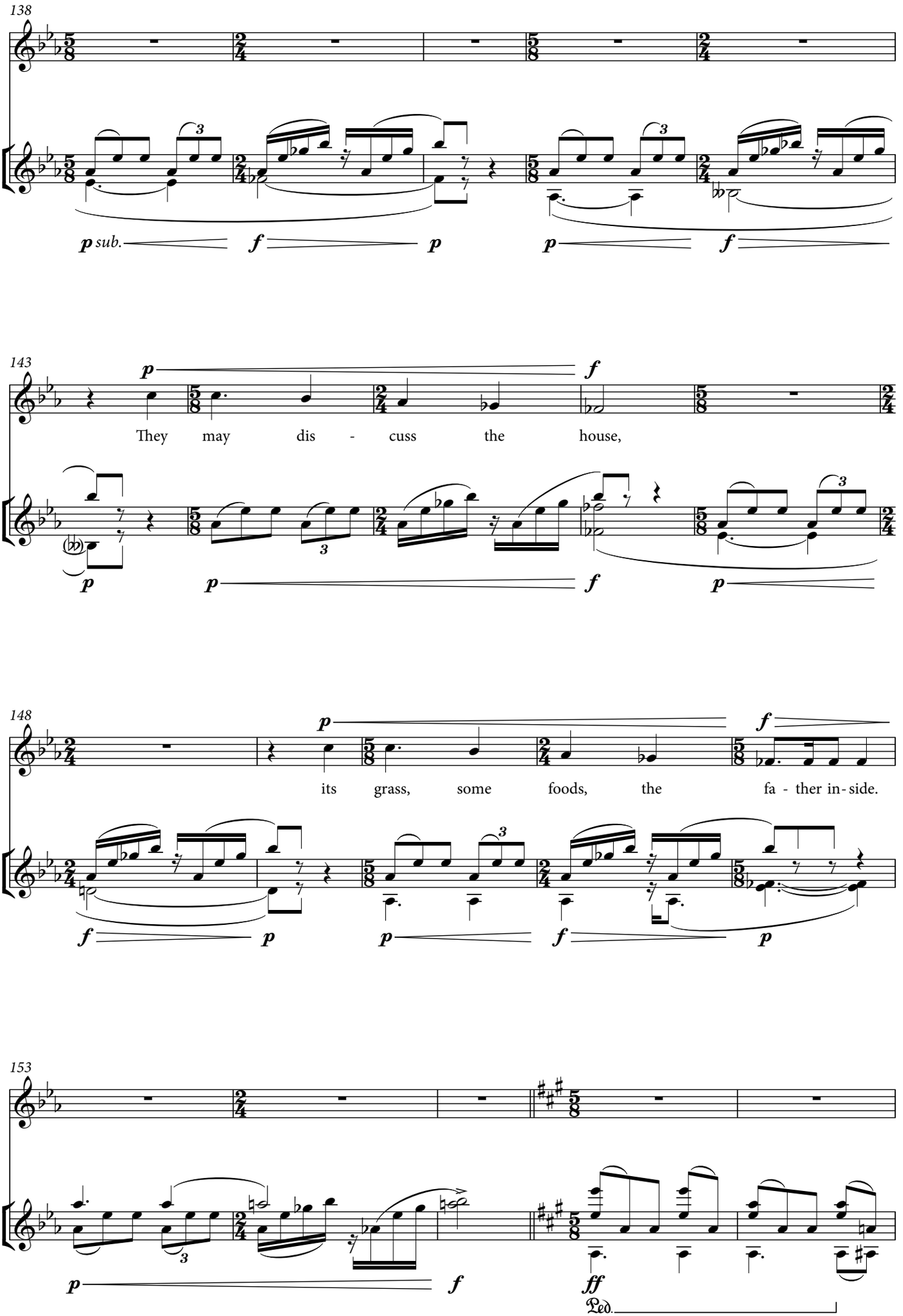
ff

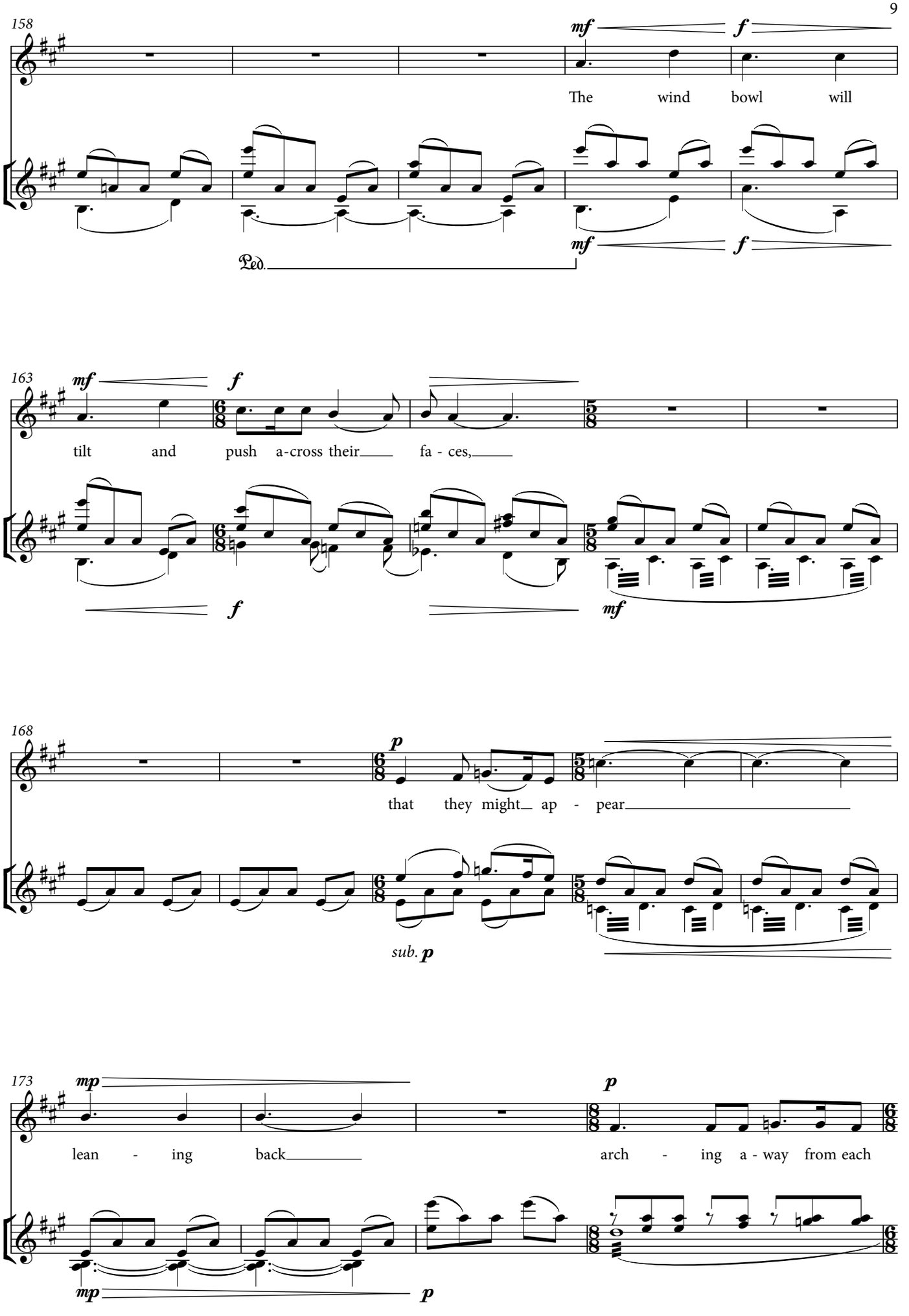

58
p
Gar - ment, fa - bric, or
p
Shirt of Noise
p
64
re - si - due
mf
70
p
mp
that ab - sorbs and holds sound,
p
mp
p
76
p
mf
stor - ing mes - sa-ges for jour-neys.
mf
p

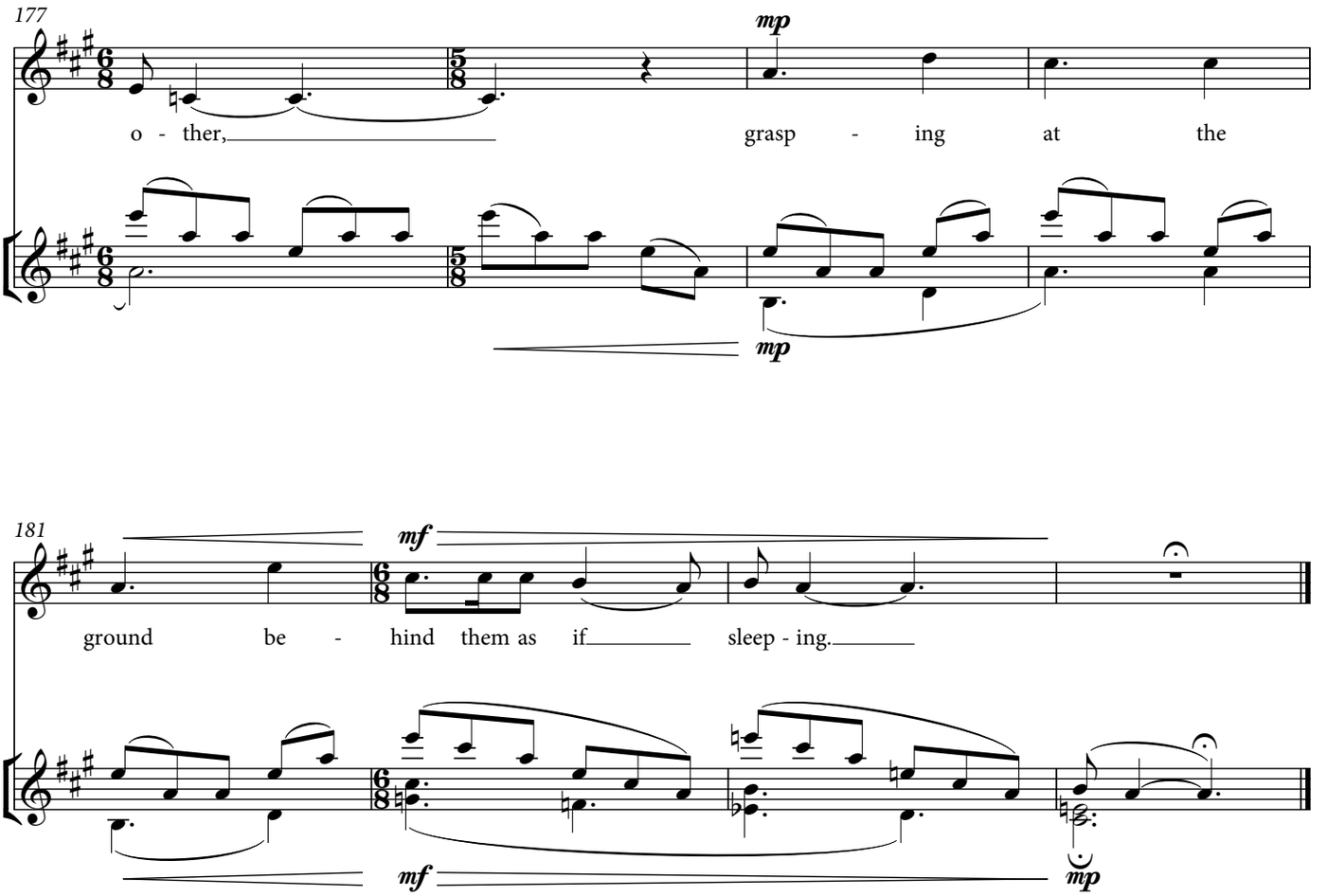

82
86
Its loud - -
90
ness
94
can - - not be soothed.


98
p
mf
p
mf
p
mf
102
103
p
It
can
des-
p
107
f
troy
f
p
f
112
the
mem - ber
which
in - ha - bits
it.
p
Ped.


117
f
Ped.
123
mf
Pock - et of
mf
Wind Bowl
mf
128
f
curved,
un - stea - dy space formed be -
f
mf
133
mf
f
tween
speak - ing per - sons.
f
mf


138
p sub.
f
p
p
f
143
p
f
They may dis - cuss the house,
p
p
f
p
148
p
f
its grass, some foods, the fa - ther in - side.
f
p
p
f
p
153
p
f
ff
Ped.


158
mf
f
The wind bowl will
Ped.
163
mf
f
tilt and push a-cross their fa - ces,
f
mf
168
p
that they might ap - pear
sub. p
173
mp
p
lean - ing back
arch - ing a - way from each
mp
p


177
mp
o - ther,
grasp - ing at the
mp

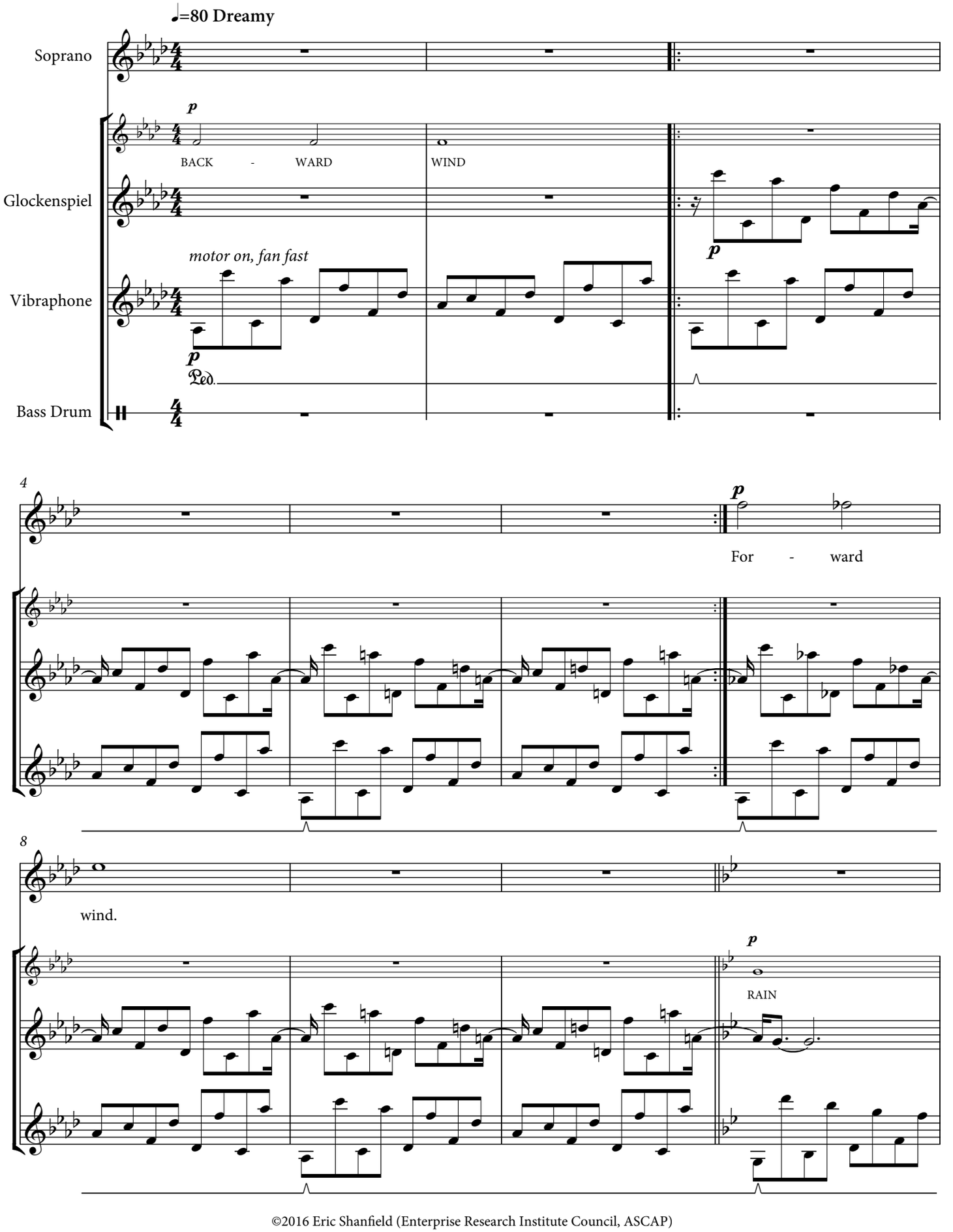
181
mf
ground be - hind them as if
sleep - ing.
mf
mp

THE MOUTH HARNESS

2. WEATHER

Ben Marcus

Eric Shanfield



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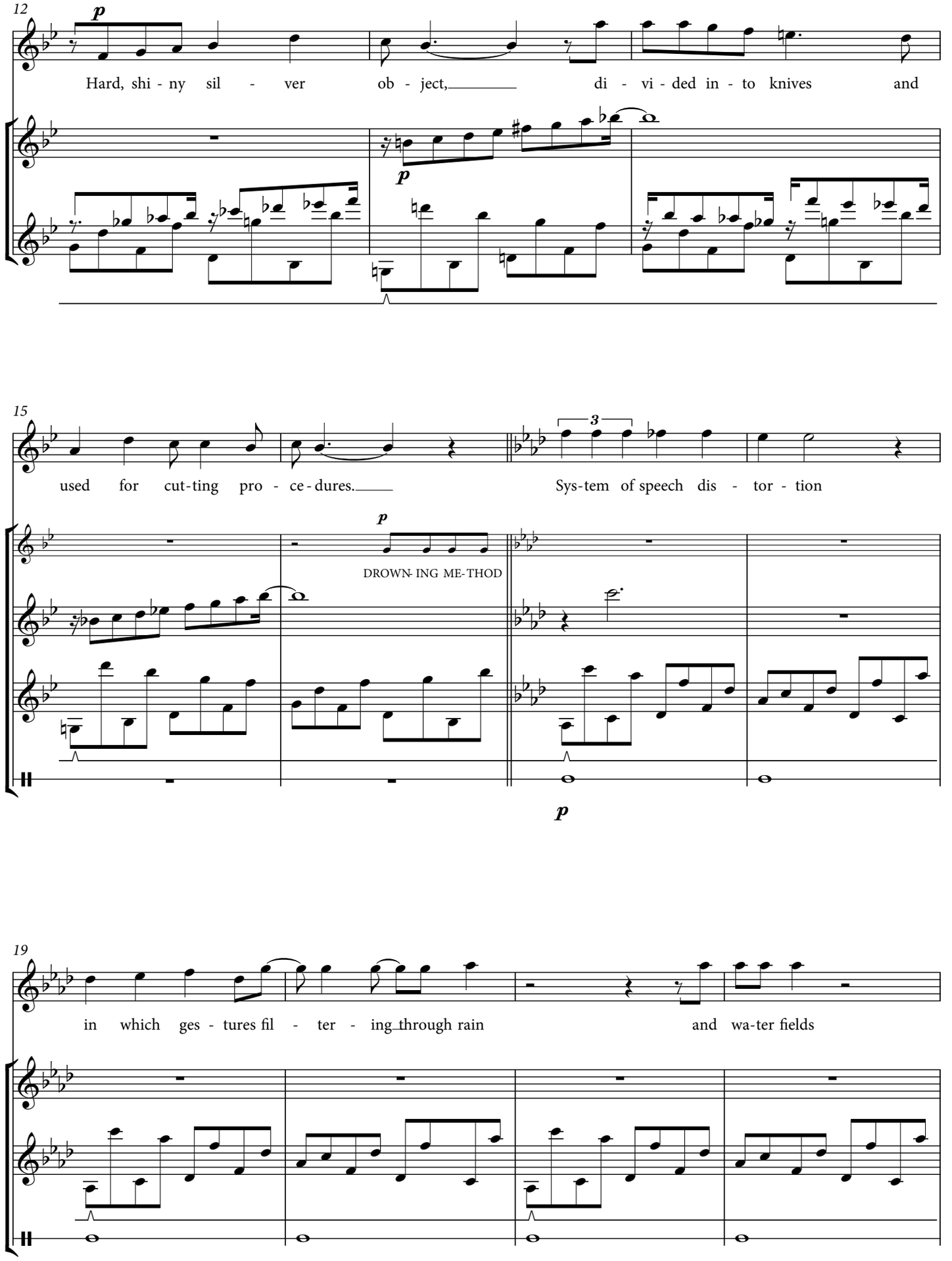
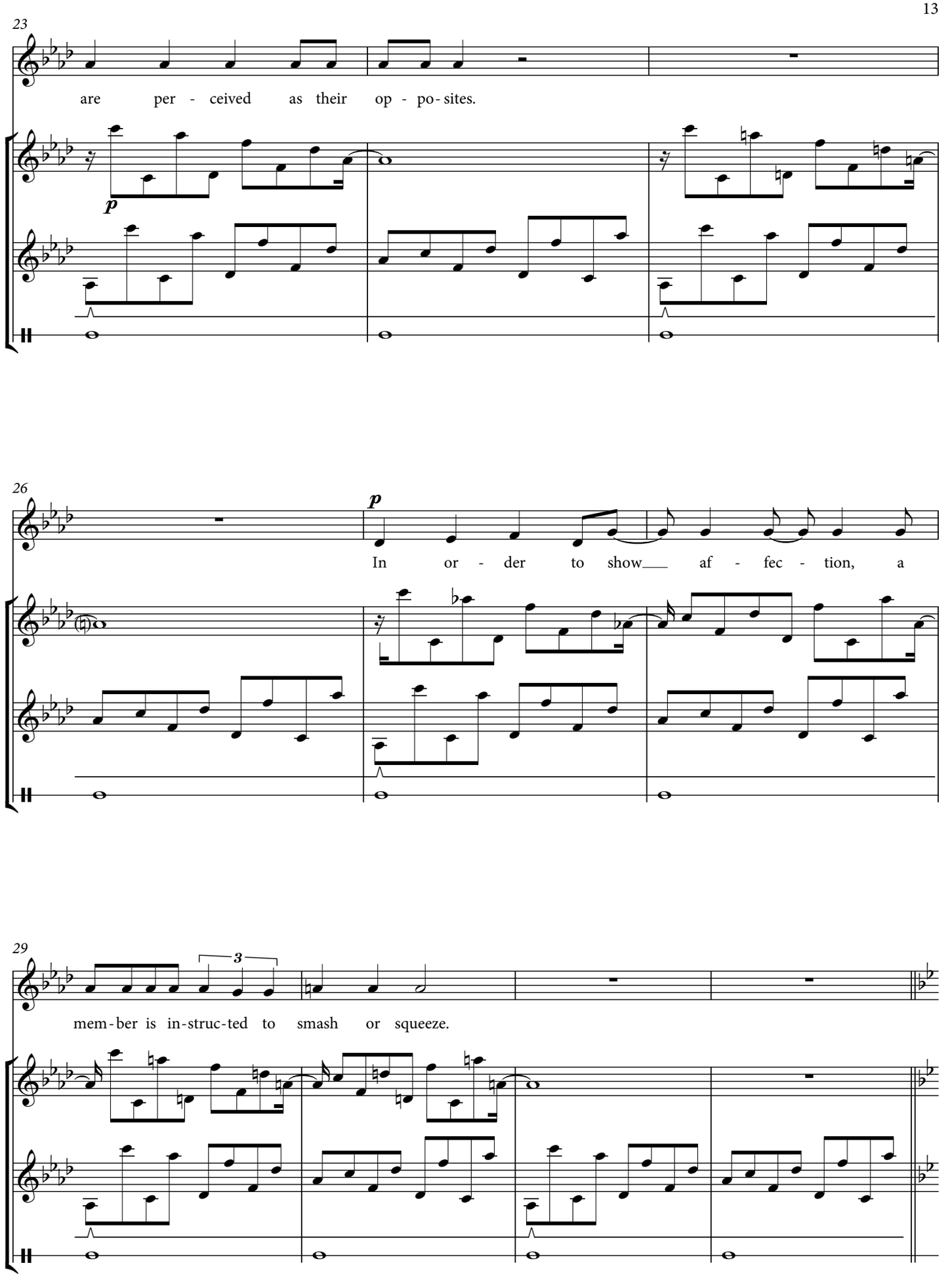
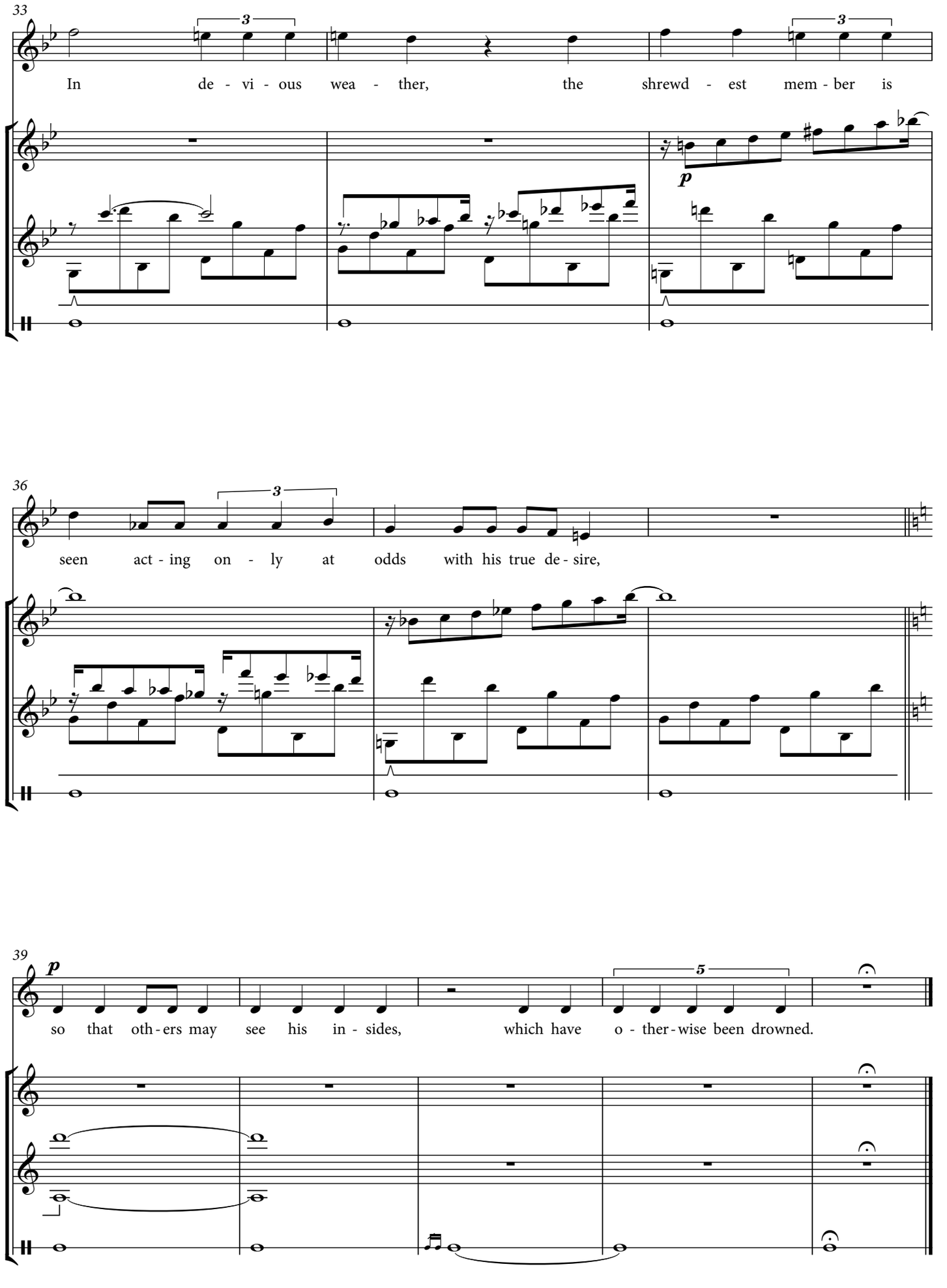

12
p
Hard, shi - ny sil - ver ob - ject, di - vi - ded in - to knives and
p
15
used for cut-ting pro - ce - dures. Sys-tem of speech dis - tor - tion
3
p
DROWN- ING ME-THOD
p
19
in which ges - tures fil - ter - ing through rain and wa-ter fields


23
are per - ceived as their op - po - sites.
p
26
p
In or - der to show af - fec - tion, a
29
3
mem - ber is in - struc - ted to smash or squeeze.

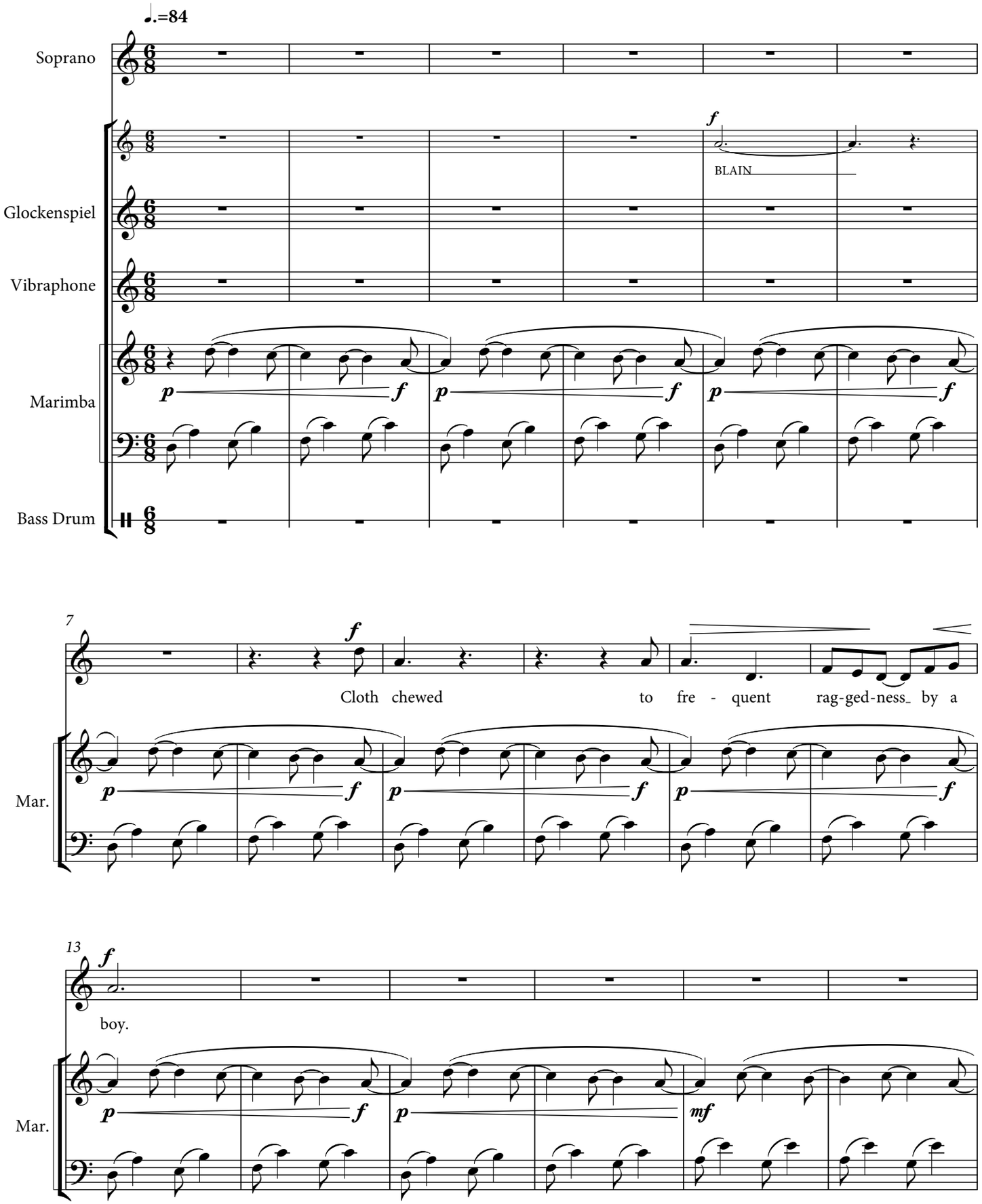

33
In de - vi - ous wea - ther, the shrewd - est mem - ber is
p
36
seen act - ing on - ly at odds with his true de - sire,
39
p
so that oth - ers may see his in - sides, which have o - ther - wise been drowned.

THE MOUTH HARNESS

3. FOOD

Ben Marcus

Eric Shanfield



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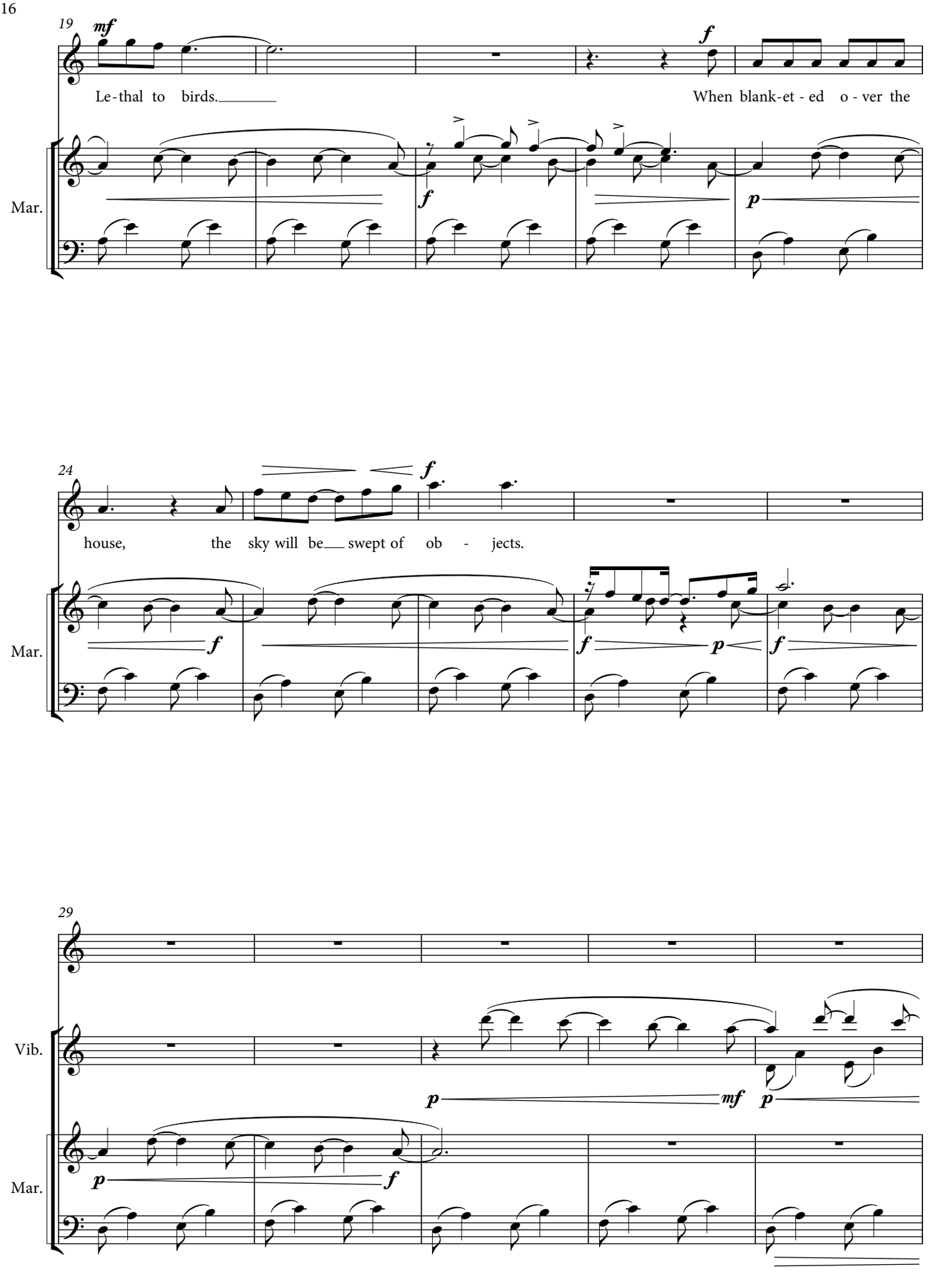
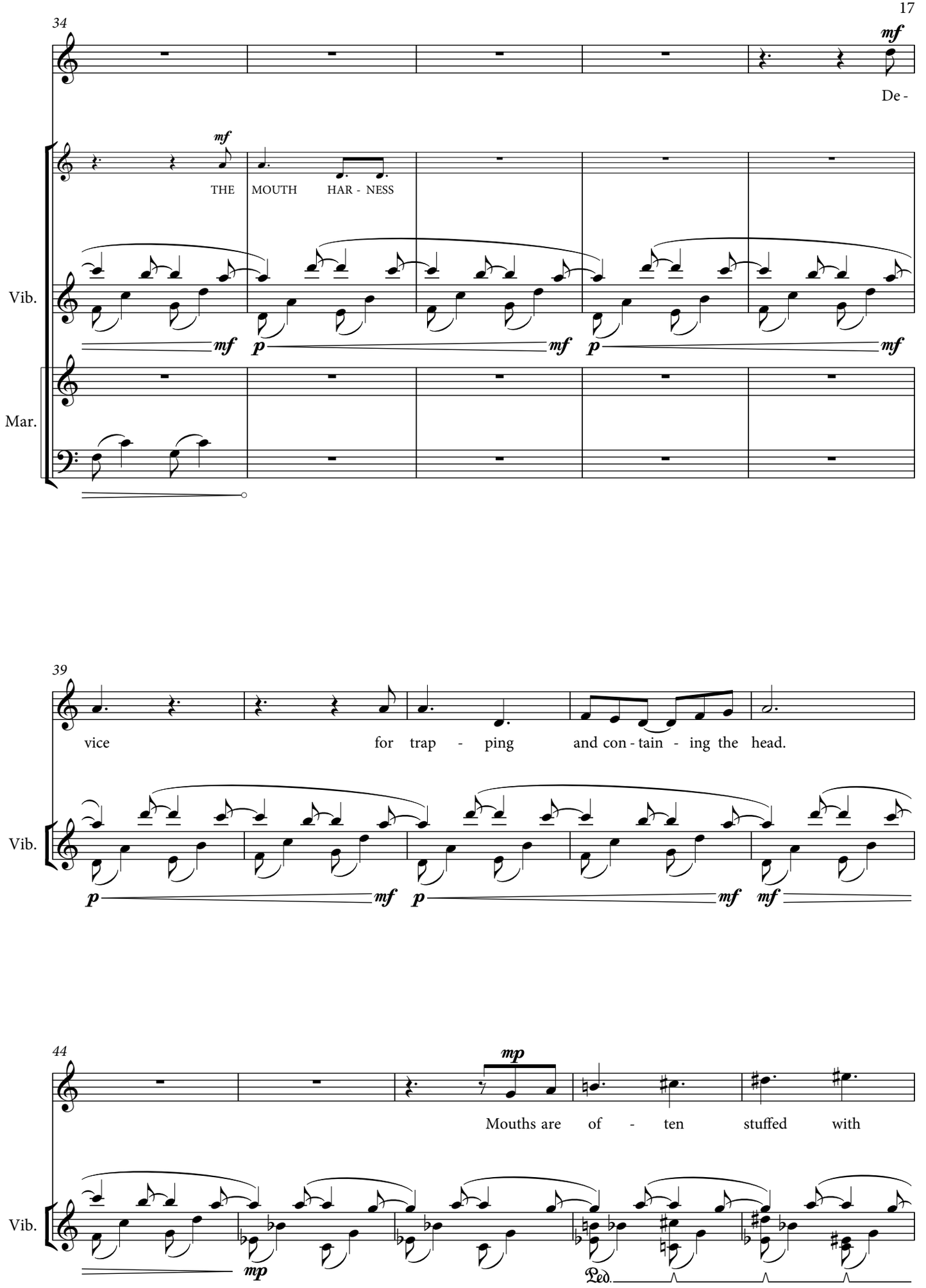
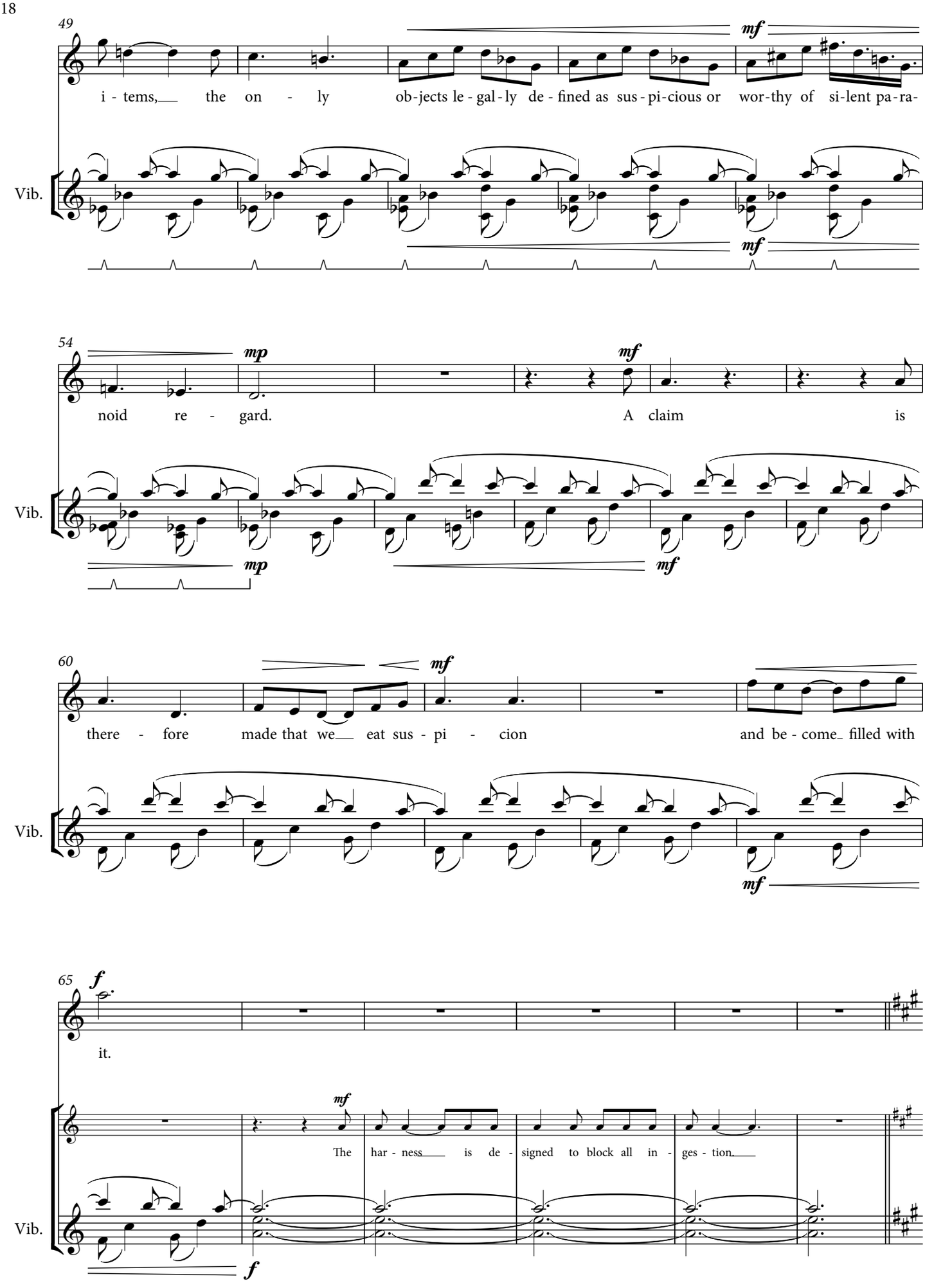
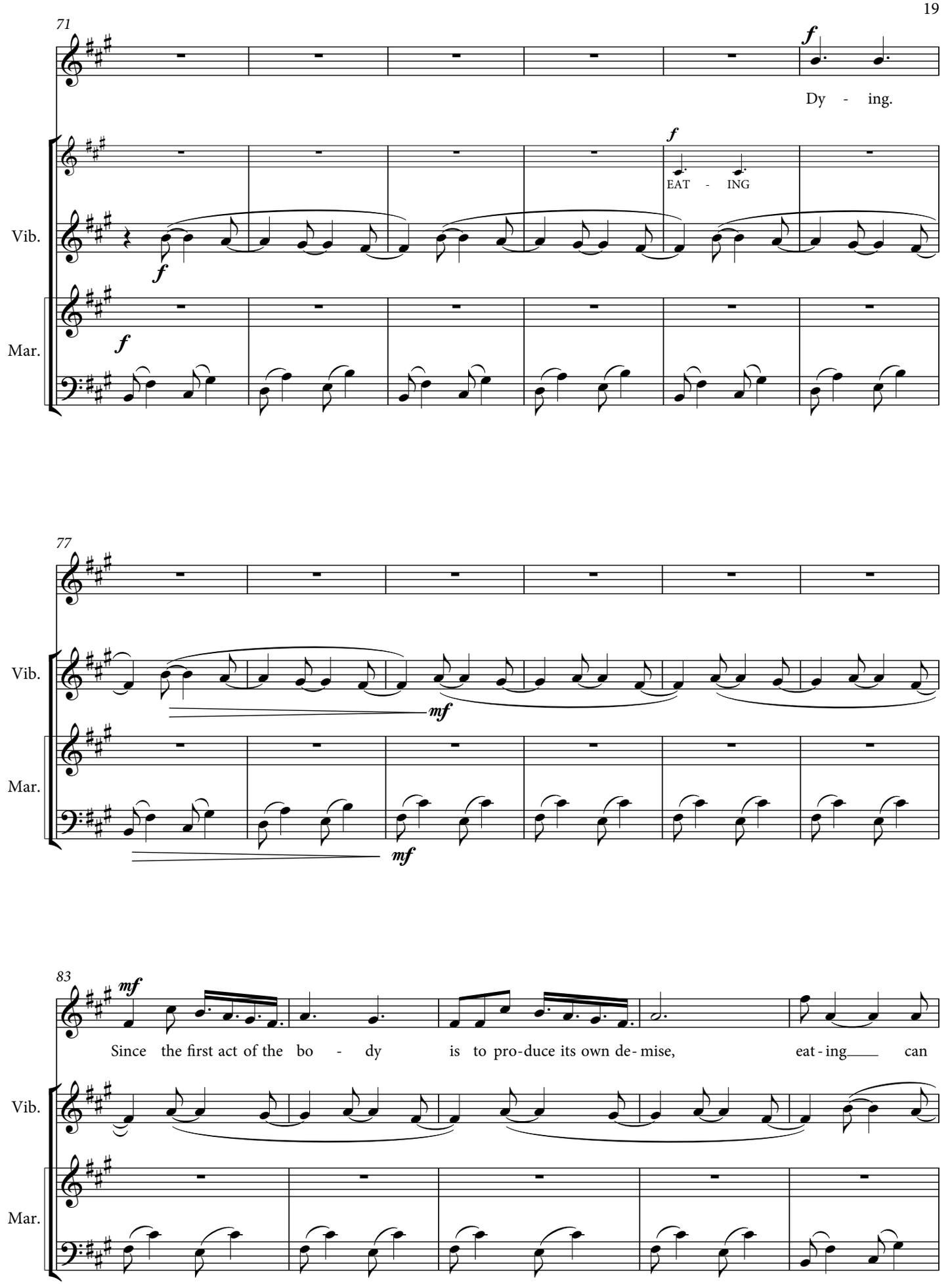
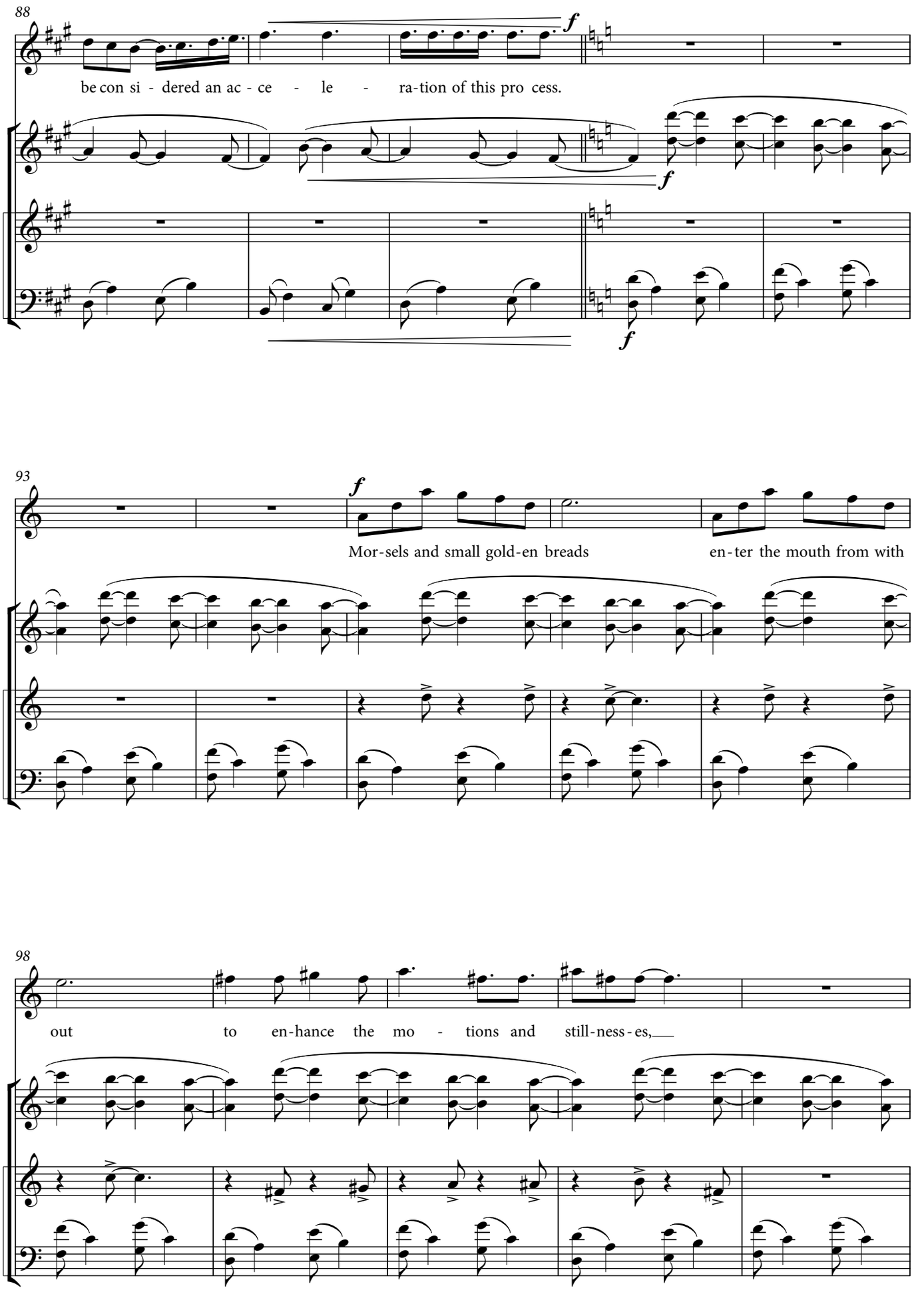
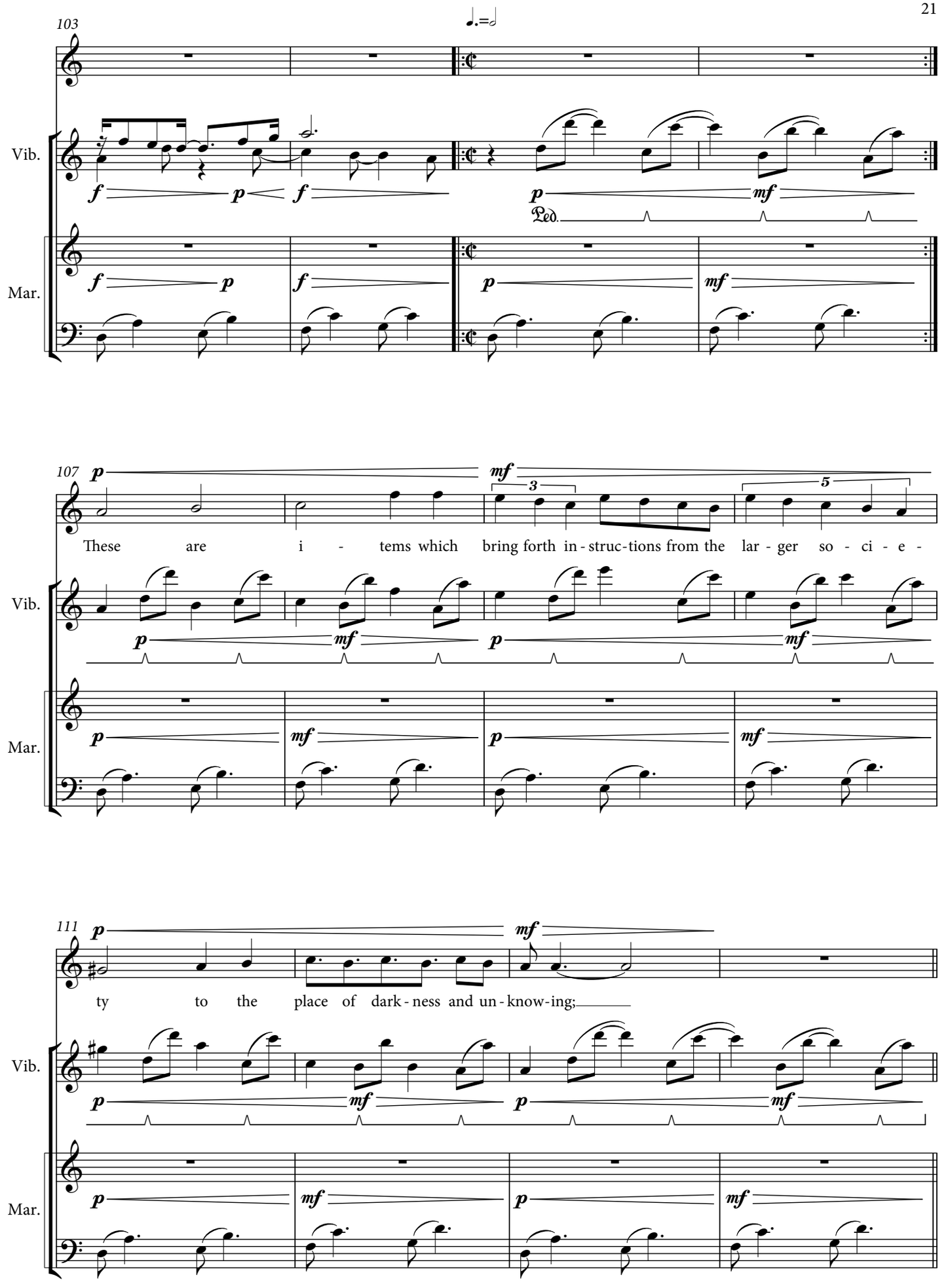

19
mf
f
Le-thal to birds.
When blank-et-ed o-ver the
Mar.
f
p
24
f
house, the sky will be swept of ob-jects.
Mar.
f
f
p
f
29
Vib.
p
mf
p
Mar.
p
f

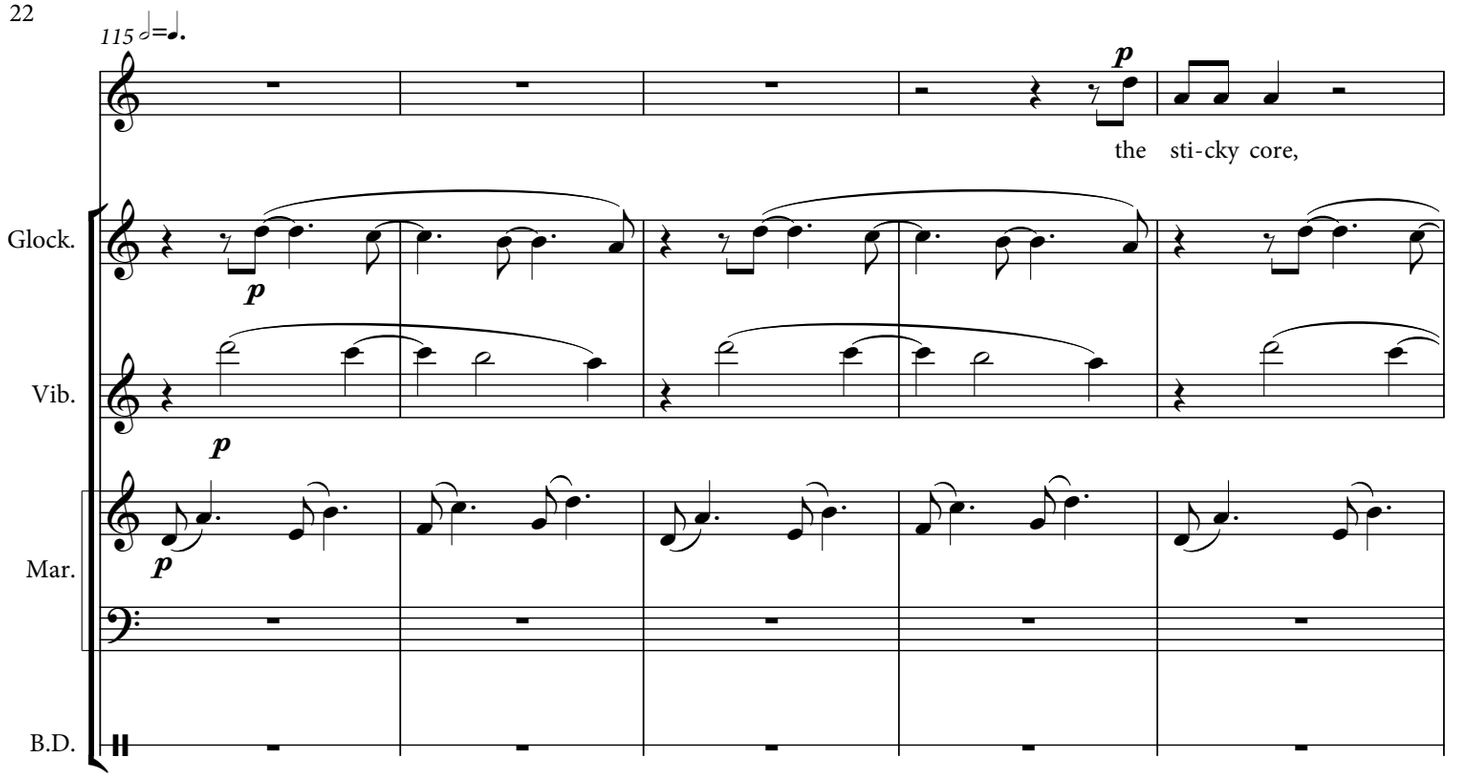

34
mf
De -
THE MOUTH HAR - NESS
Vib.
Mar.
39
vice for trap - ping and con - tain - ing the head.
44
mp
Mouths are of - ten stuffed with
Ped.

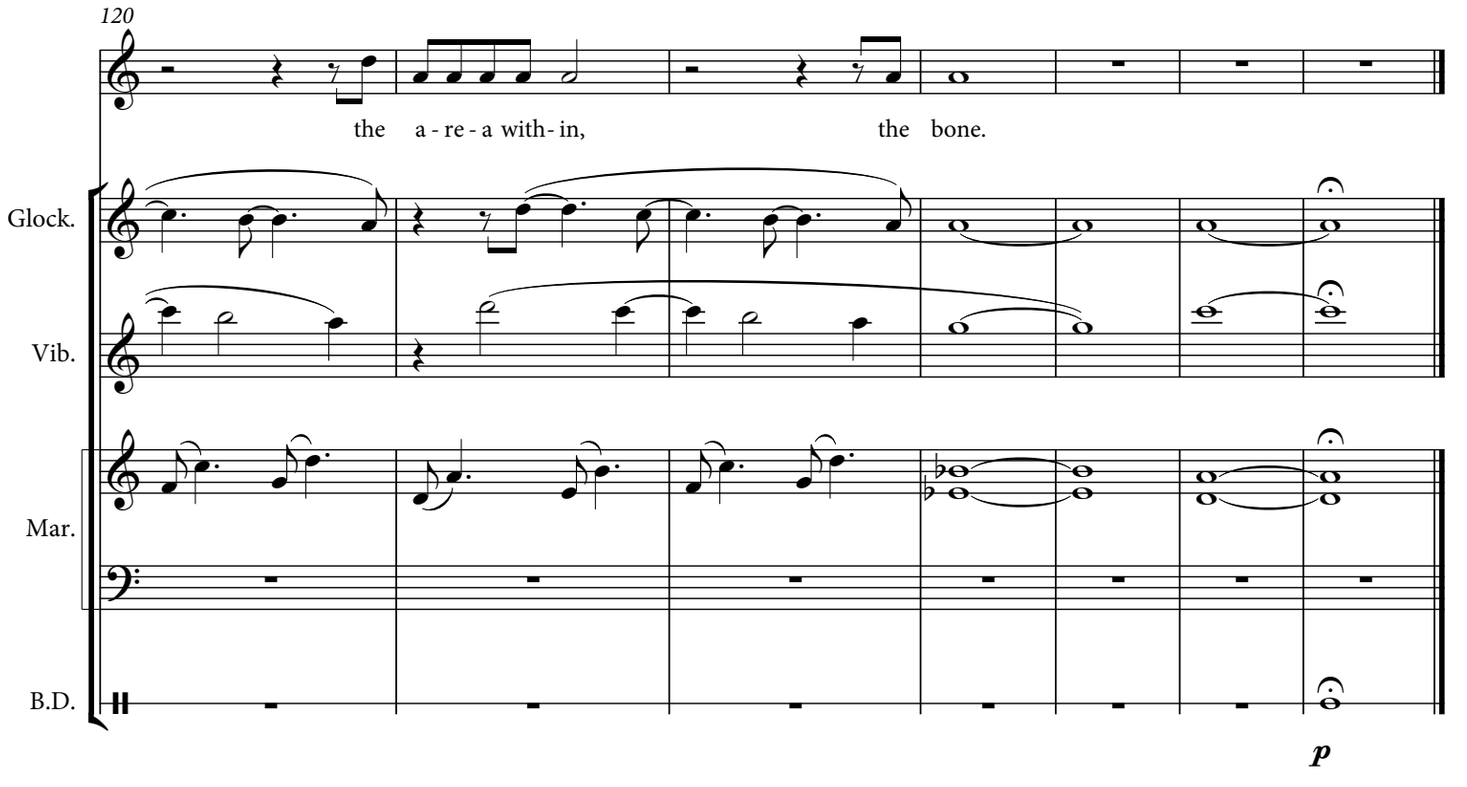

49
mf
i - tems, the on - ly ob-jects le - gal - ly de - fined as sus - pi-cious or wor-thy of si-lent pa-ra-
Vib.
mf
54
mp
mf
noid re - gard. A claim is
Vib.
mp
mf
60
mf
there - fore made that we eat sus - pi - cion and be - come filled with
Vib.
mf
65
f
it.
mf
The har - ness is de - signed to block all in - ges - tion.
Vib.
f


71
f
Dy - ing.
f
EAT - ING
Vib.
f
Mar.
f
77
Vib.
mf
Mar.
mf
83
mf
Since the first act of the bo - dy is to pro-duce its own de-mise, eat-ing can
Vib.
Mar.


88
be con si - dered an ac - ce - le - ra-tion of this pro cess.
Vib.
Mar.
93
Mor-sels and small gold-en breads en-ter the mouth from with
Vib.
Mar.
98
out to en-hance the mo - tions and still-ness-es,
Vib.
Mar.


103
Vib.
Mar.
Ped.
107
These are i - tems which bring forth in - struc - tions from the lar - ger so - ci - e -
111
ty to the place of dark - ness and un - know - ing;


115
p
the sti-cky core,
Glock.
p
Vib.
p
Mar.
p
B.D.


120
the a-re-a with-in, the bone.
Glock.
Vib.
Mar.
B.D.
p