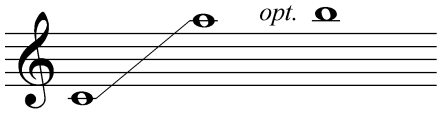
The Moon Songs

A cycle of songs based on the Moon Poetry of Vachel Lindsay

Music by M. Ryan Taylor

High Voice



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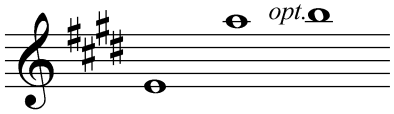
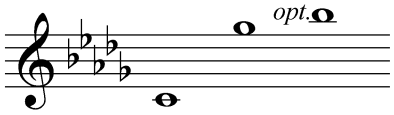
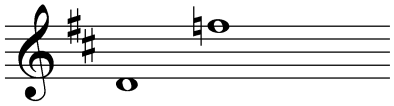
Contents-

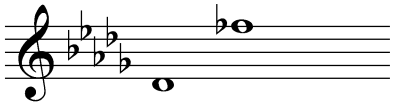


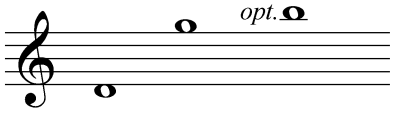
Pg. 1 - What Grandpa Told the Children



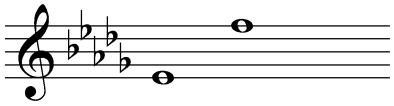
Pg. 4 - What the Hyena Said

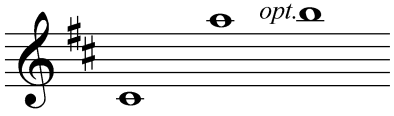

Pg. 11 - What the Little Girl Said


Pg. 13 - What the Miner in the Desert Said



Pg. 16 - What the Rattlesnake Said


Pg. 19 - The Strength of the Lonely



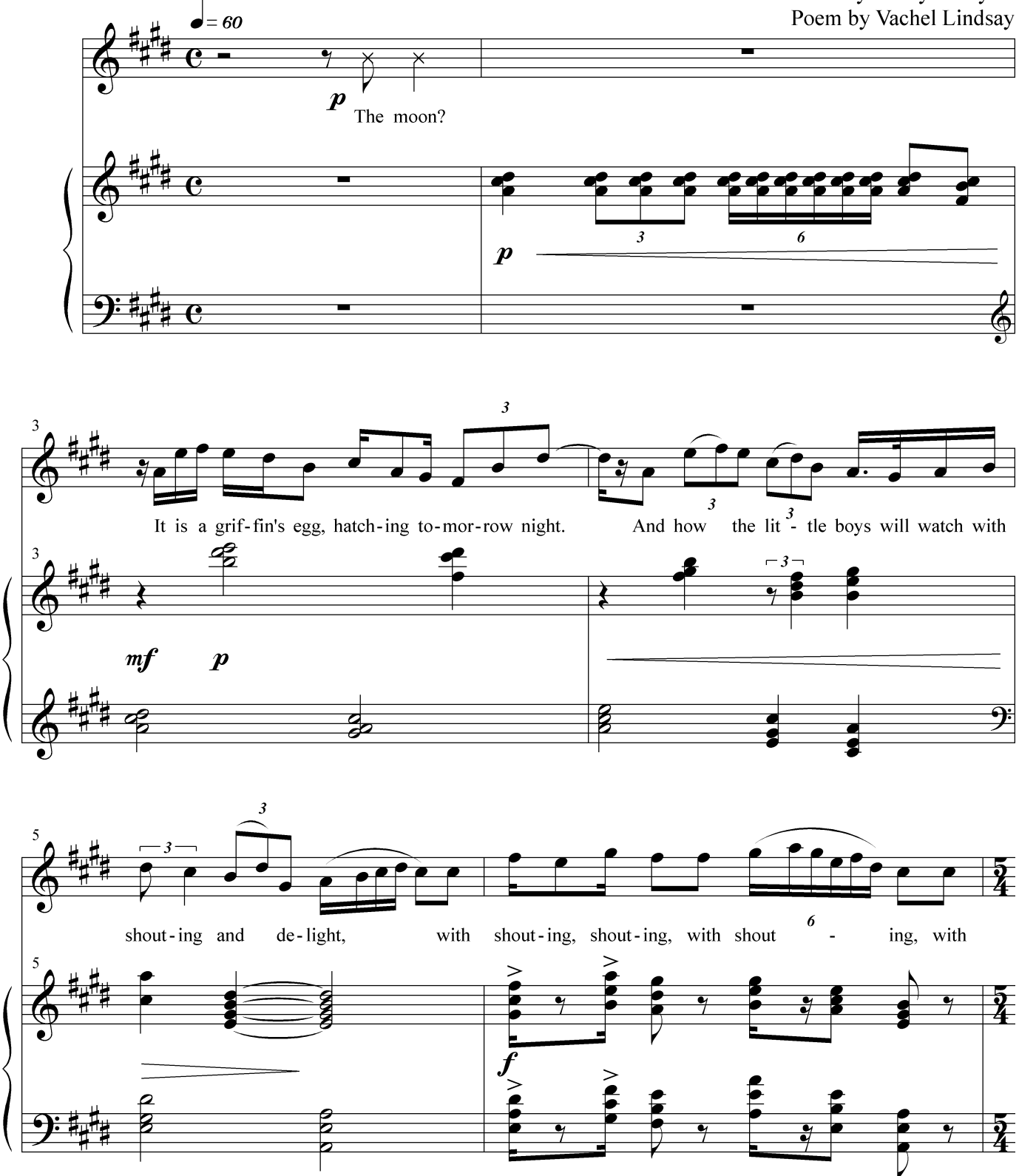
Pg. 23 - What the Man of Faith Said

The Moon Songs

A cycle of songs based on the Moon Poetry of Vachel Lindsay

1. What Grandpa Told the Children

Music by M. Ryan Taylor
Poem by Vachel Lindsay



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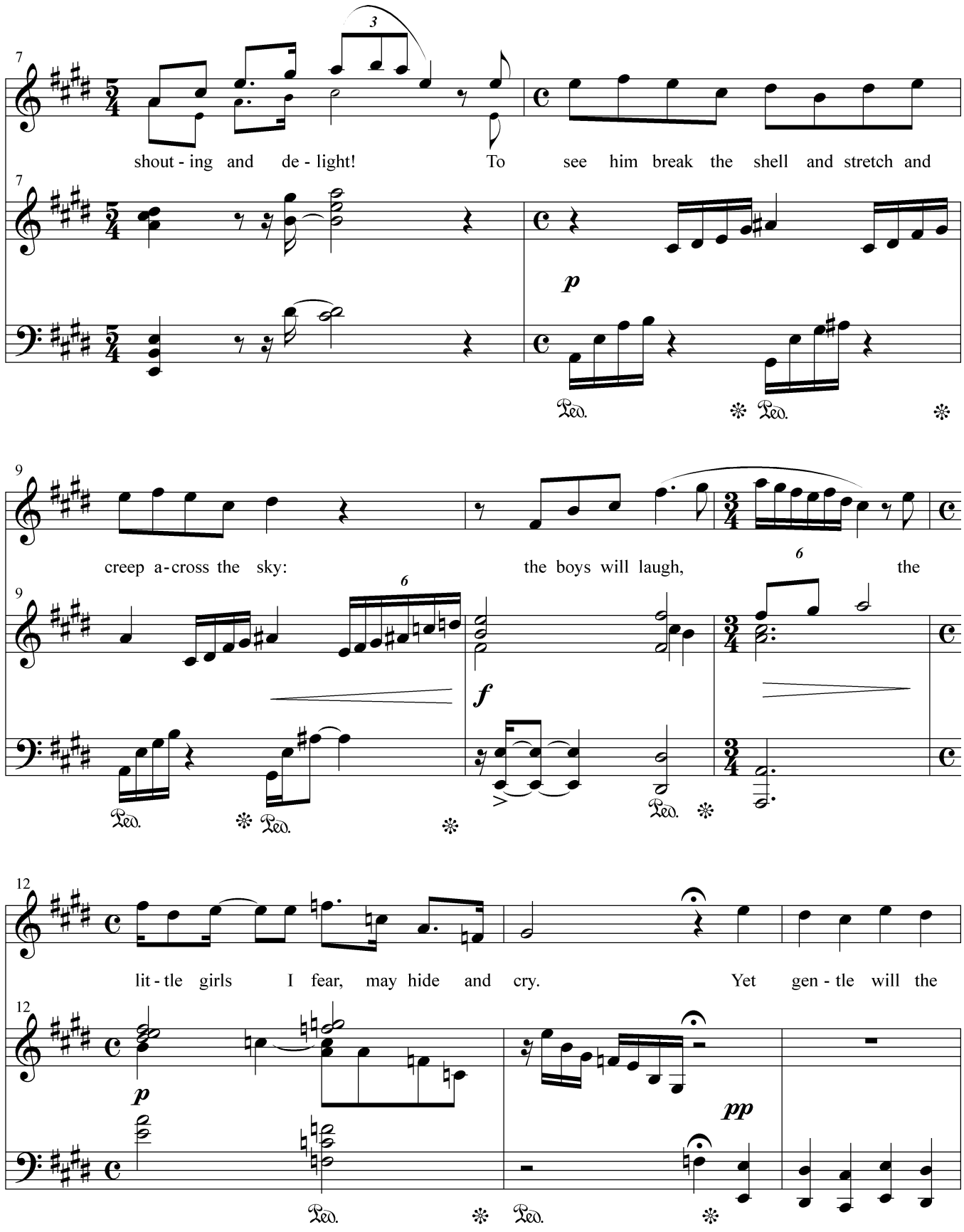
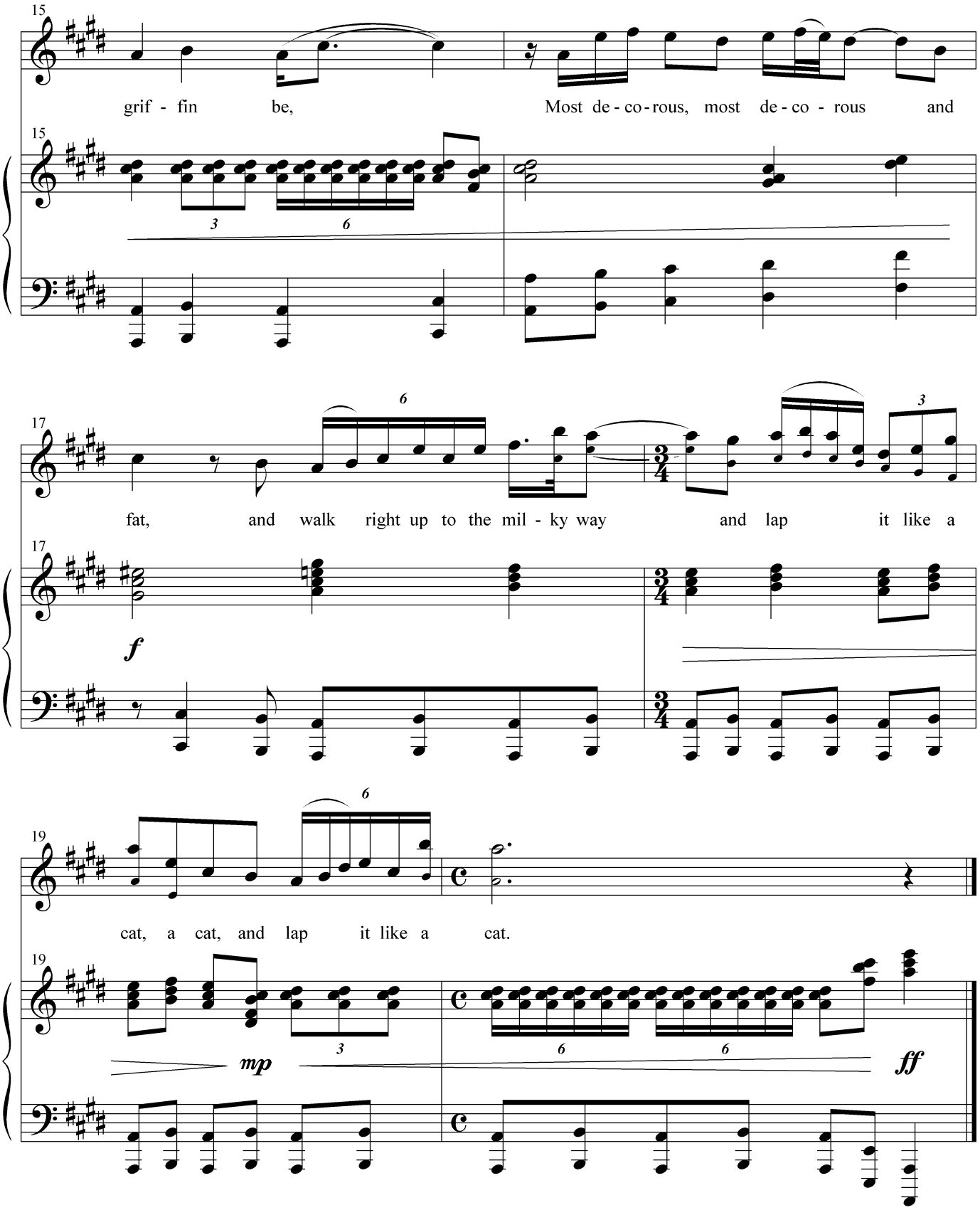
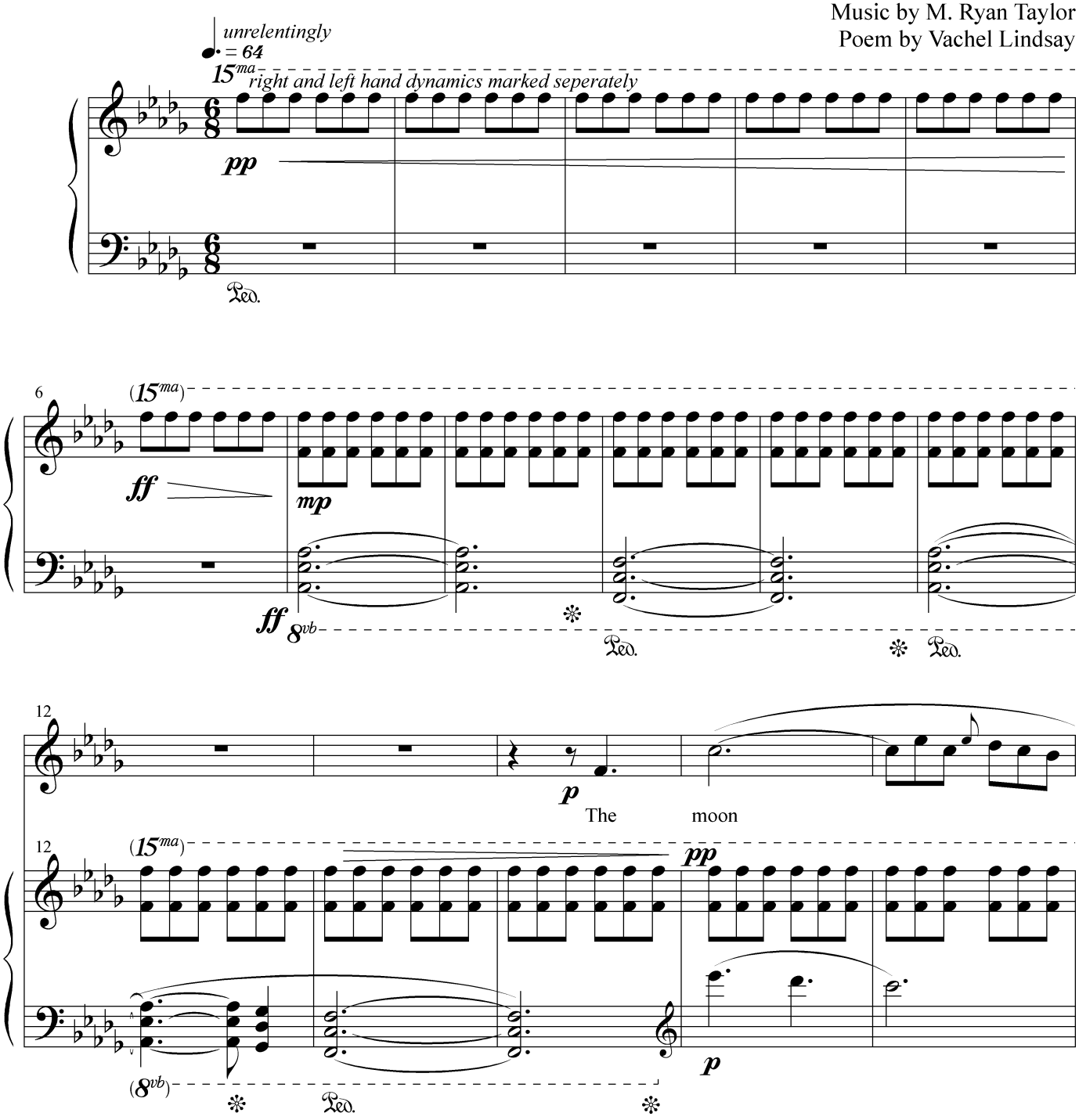

7
shout - ing and de - light! To see him break the shell and stretch and
p
Ped.
9
creep a - cross the sky: the boys will laugh, the
6
f
12
lit - tle girls I fear, may hide and cry. Yet gen - tle will the
p
pp


15
grif - fin be,
Most de - co - rous, most de - co - rous and
17
fat, and walk right up to the mil - ky way and lap it like a
f
19
cat, a cat, and lap it like a cat.
mp
ff

2. What the Hyena Said

Music by M. Ryan Taylor
Poem by Vachel Lindsay



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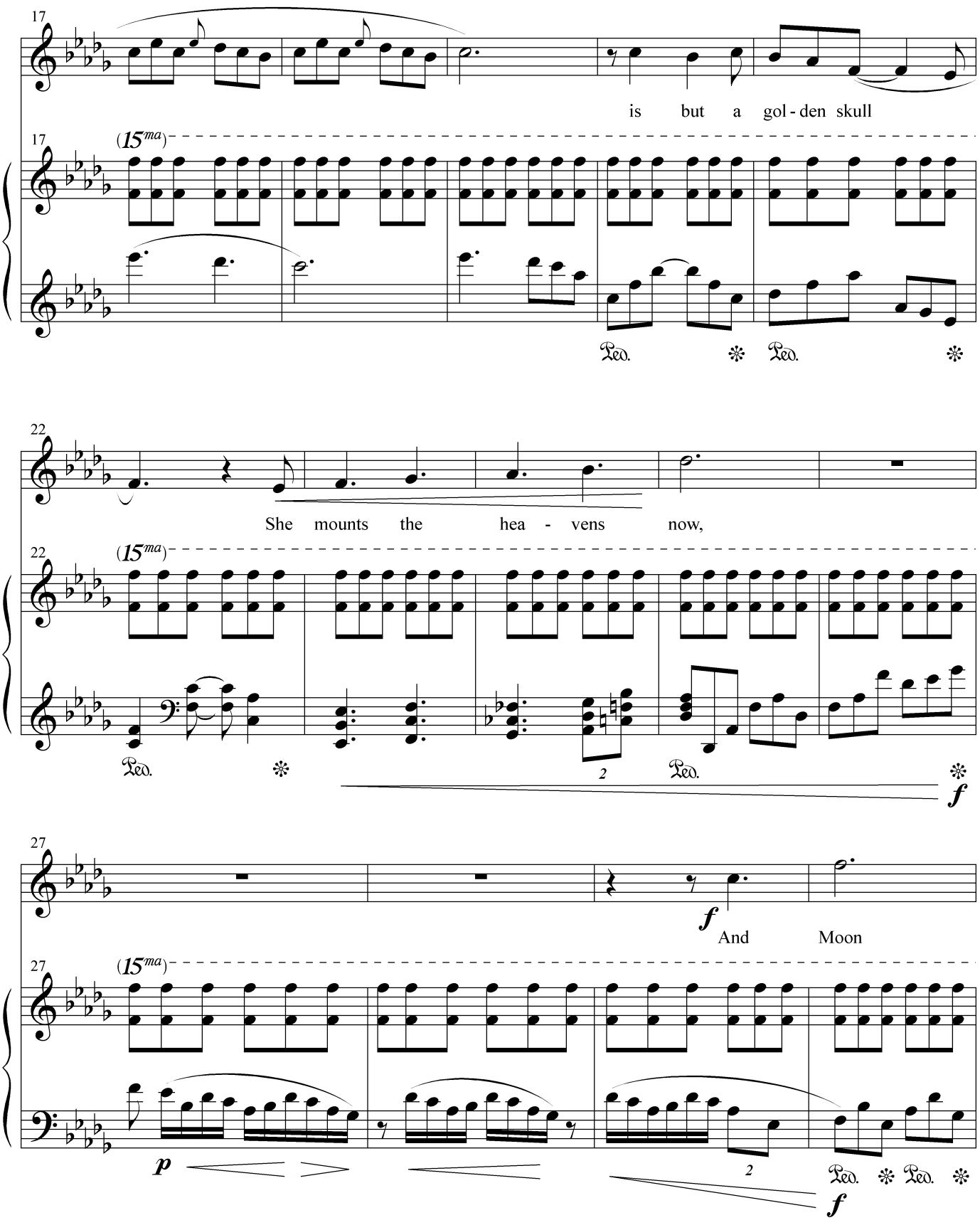
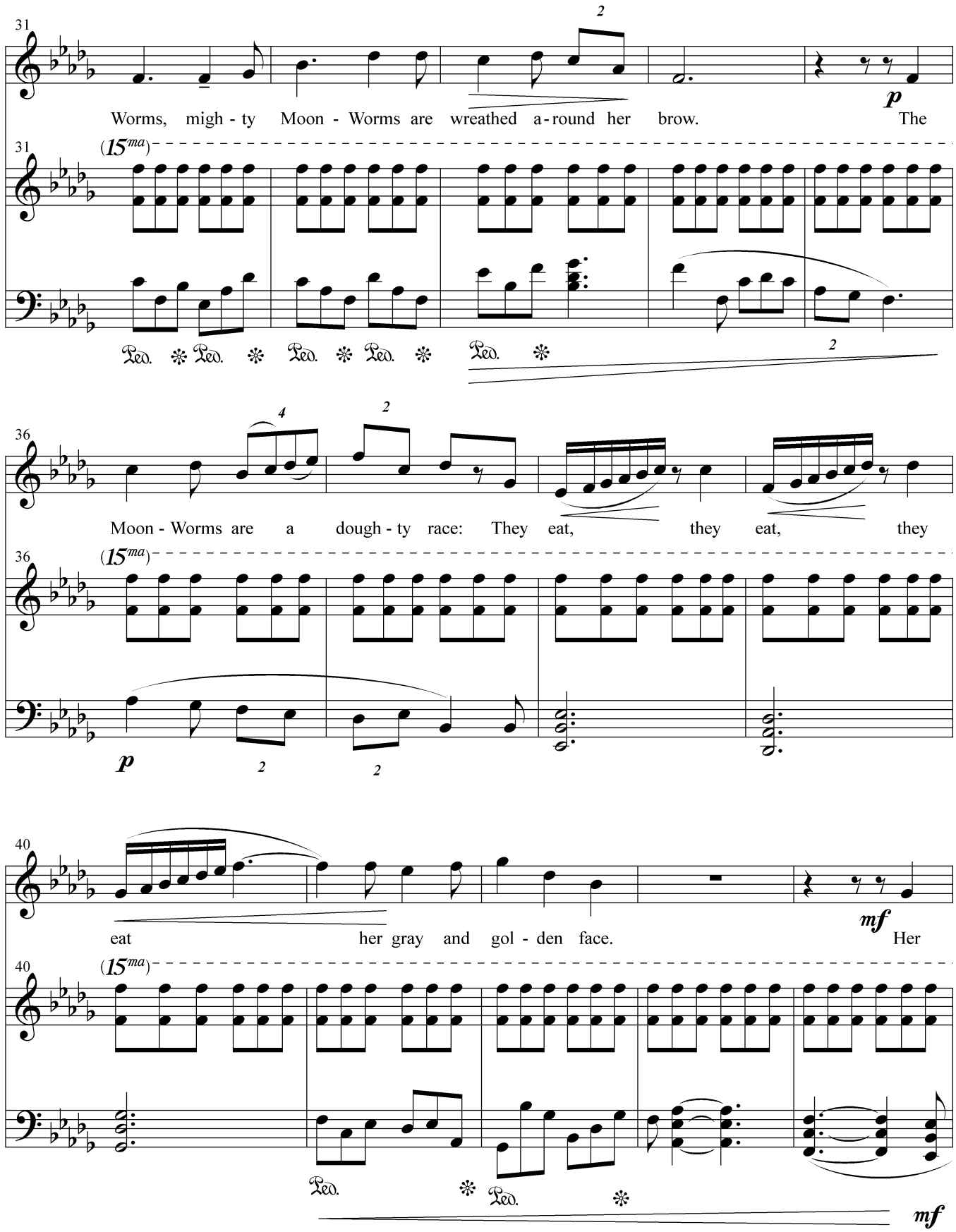
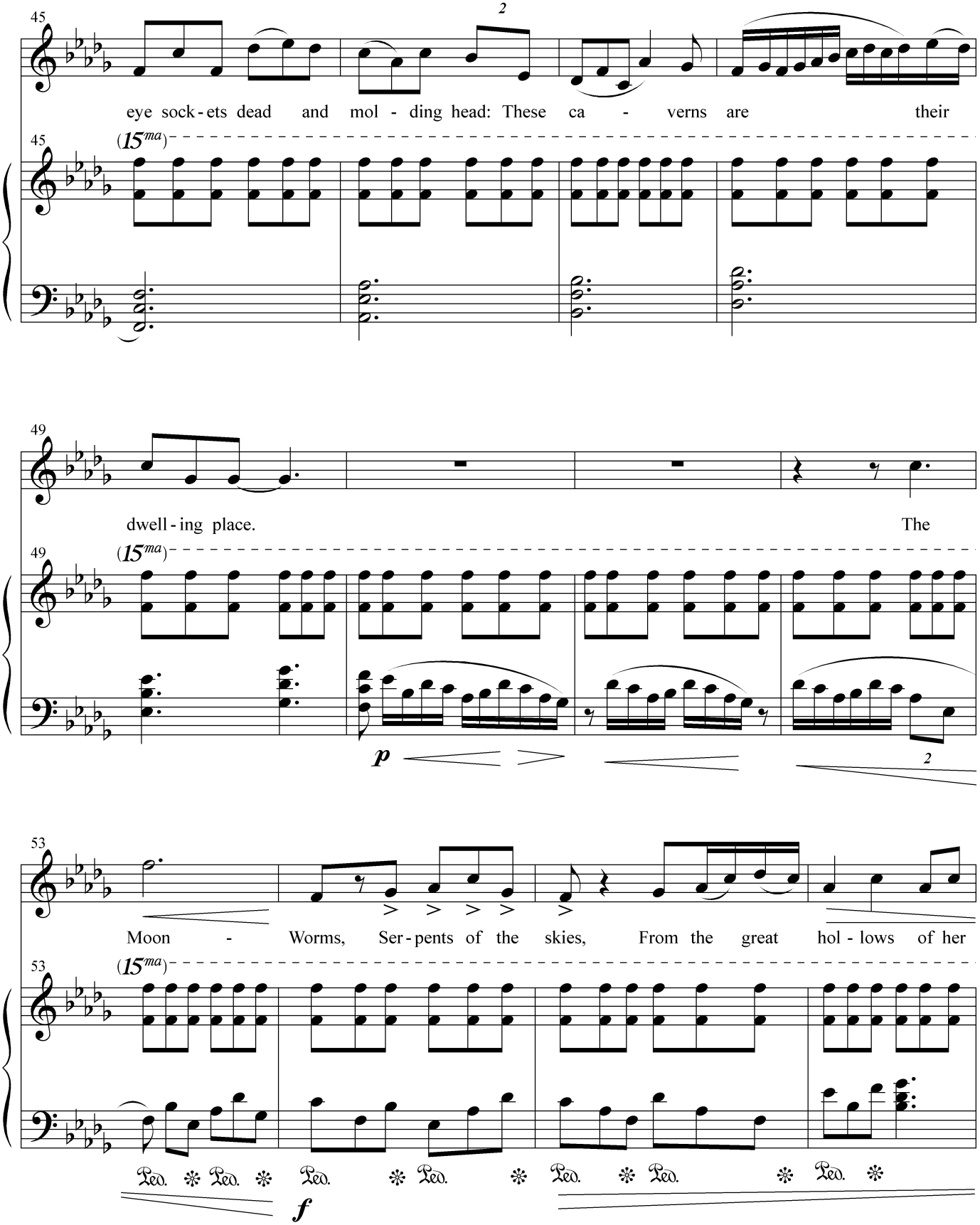
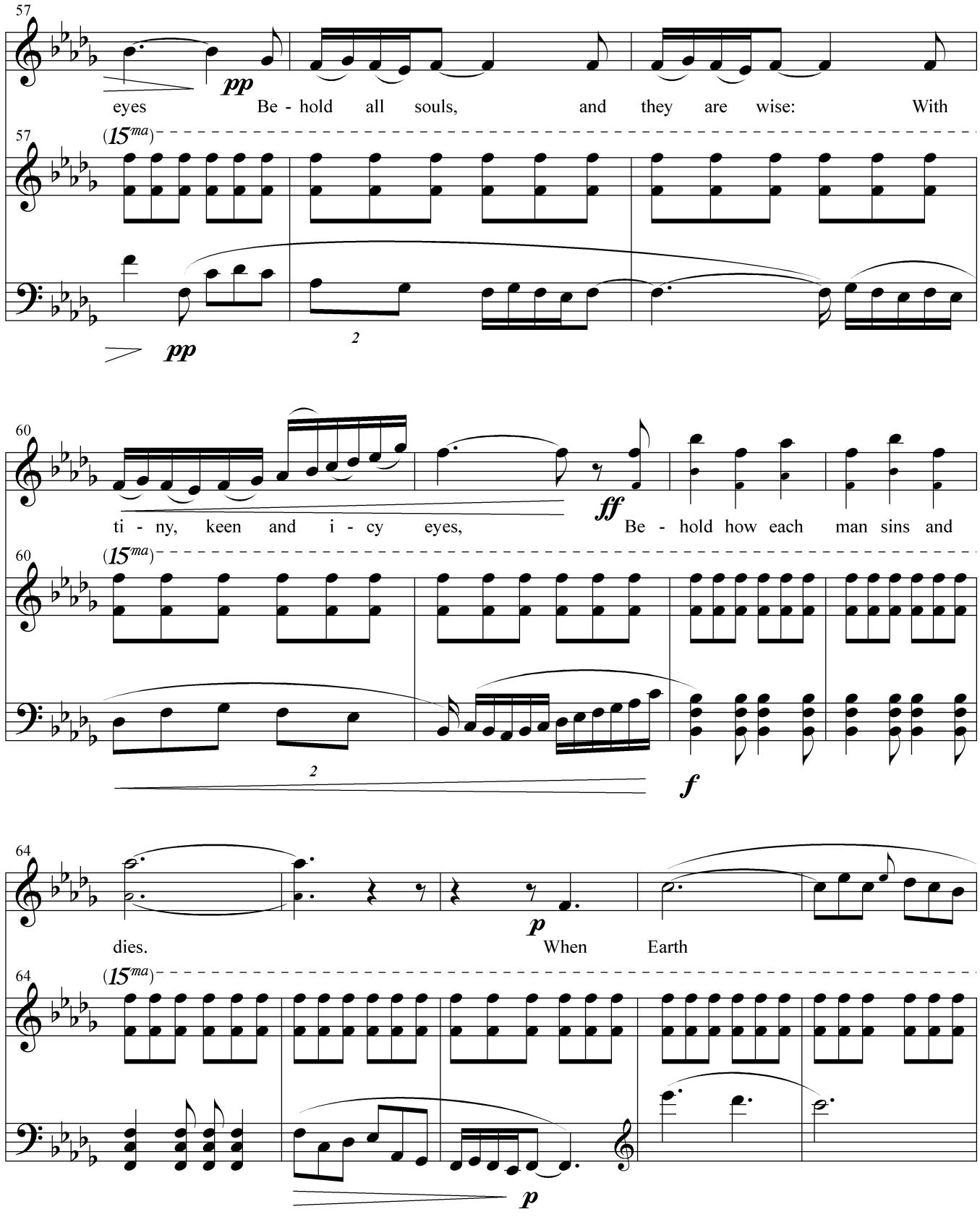
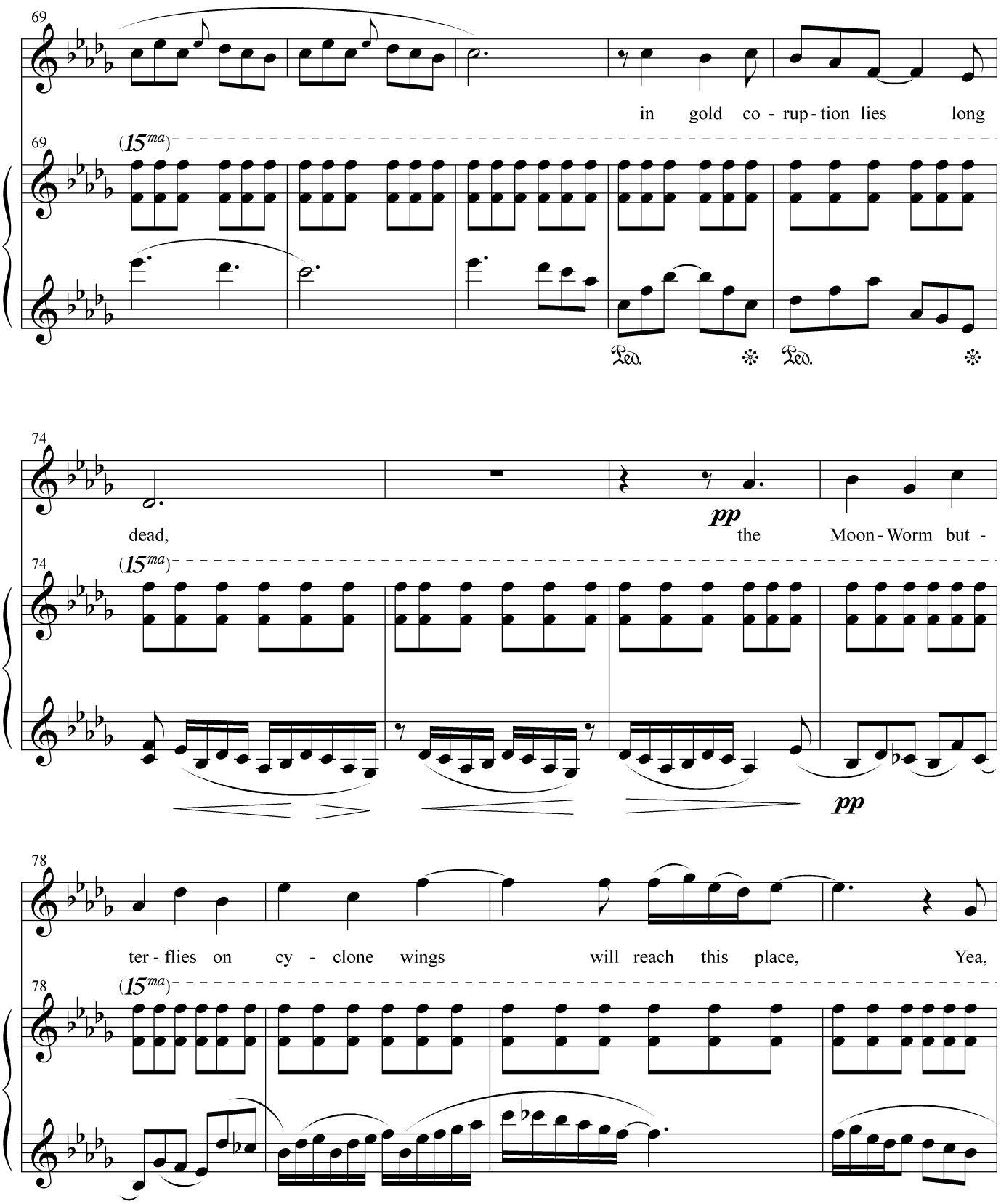
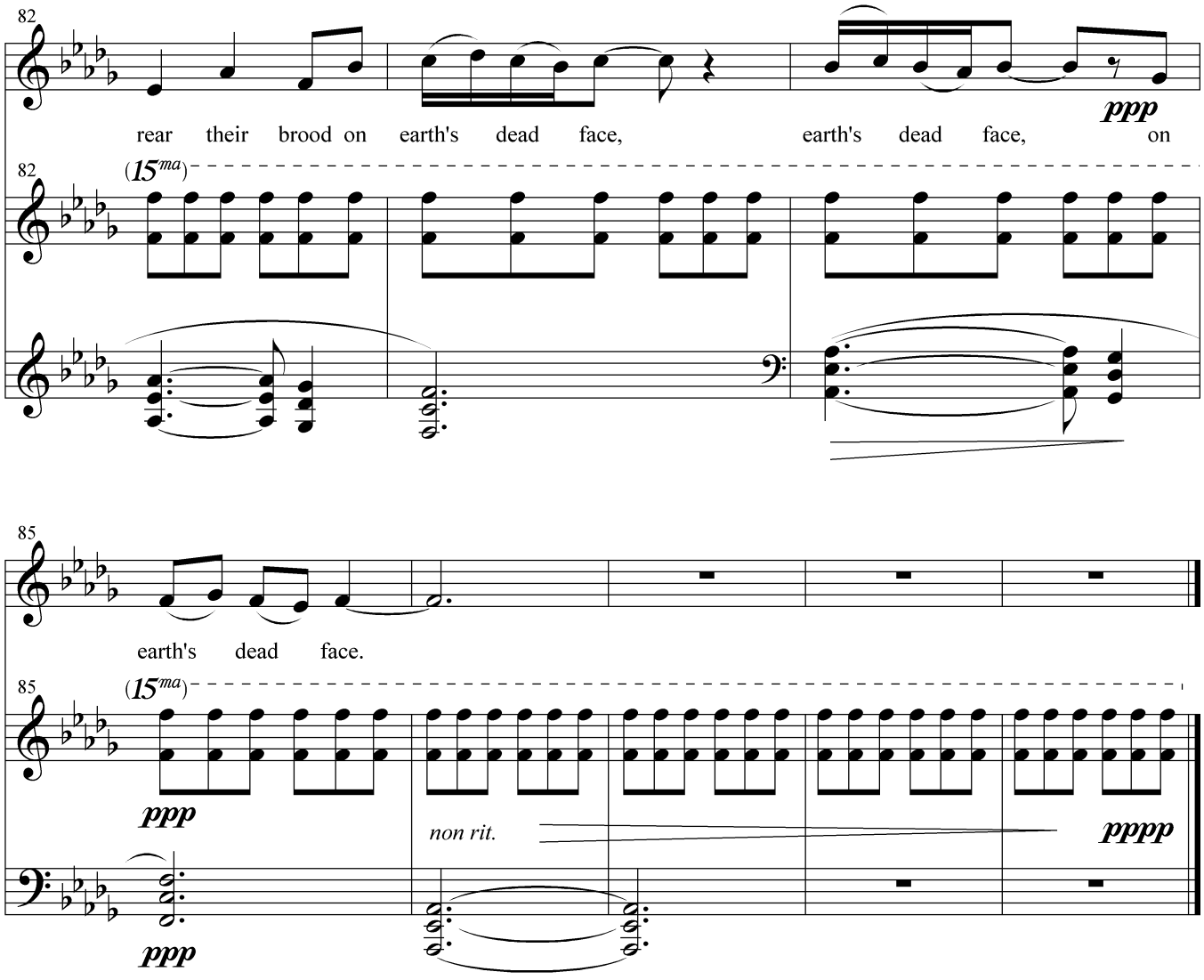

17
is but a gol - den skull
(15ma)
Ped.
Ped.
22
She mounts the hea - vens now,
(15ma)
Ped.
Ped.
f
27
f
And Moon
(15ma)
p
2
Ped.
Ped.
f


31
Worms, migh - ty Moon - Worms are wreathed a - round her brow. The
(15ma)
Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *
p
36
Moon - Worms are a dough - ty race: They eat, they eat, they
(15ma)
p
40
eat her gray and gol - den face. Her
(15ma)
Ped. * Ped. *
mf
mf


45
eye sock - ets dead and mol - ding head: These ca - verns are their
(15ma)
49
dwell - ing place. The
(15ma)
p
53
Moon - Worms, Ser - pents of the skies, From the great hol - lows of her
(15ma)
Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *
f


57
pp
eyes Be - hold all souls, and they are wise: With
(15ma)
pp
2
60
ff
ti - ny, keen and i - cy eyes, Be - hold how each man sins and
(15ma)
2
f
64
p
dies. When Earth
(15ma)
p

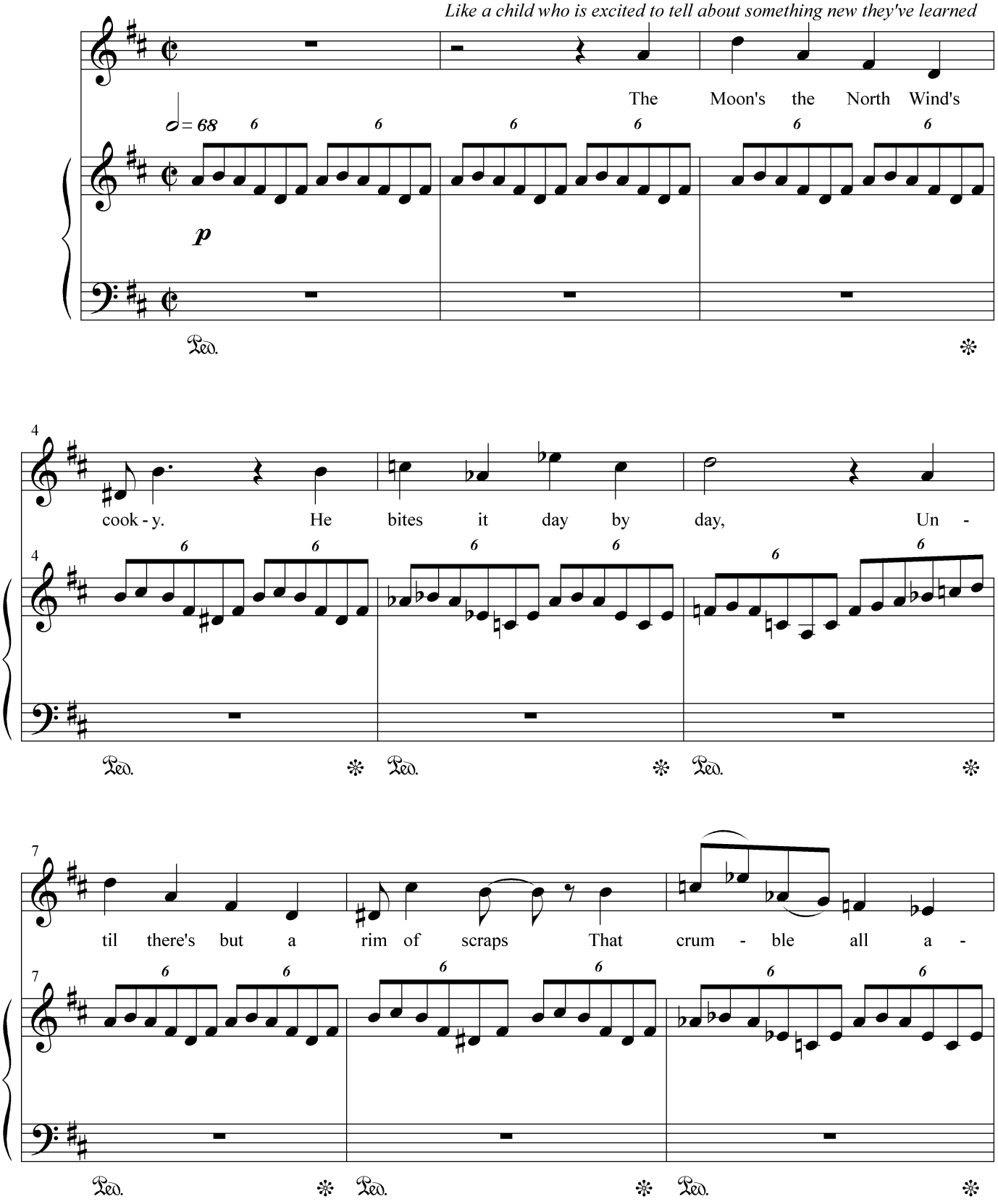

69
in gold co - rup - tion lies long
(15ma)
Ped. Ped.
74
dead,
pp
the Moon - Worm but -
pp
78
ter - flies on cy - clone wings will reach this place, Yea,


82
rear their brood on earth's dead face, earth's dead face, on
ppp
82
(15ma)
85
earth's dead face.
85
(15ma)
ppp
non rit.
pppp
ppp

3. What the Little Girl Said

Music by M. Ryan Taylor
Poem by Vachel Lindsay

Like a child who is excited to tell about something new they've learned



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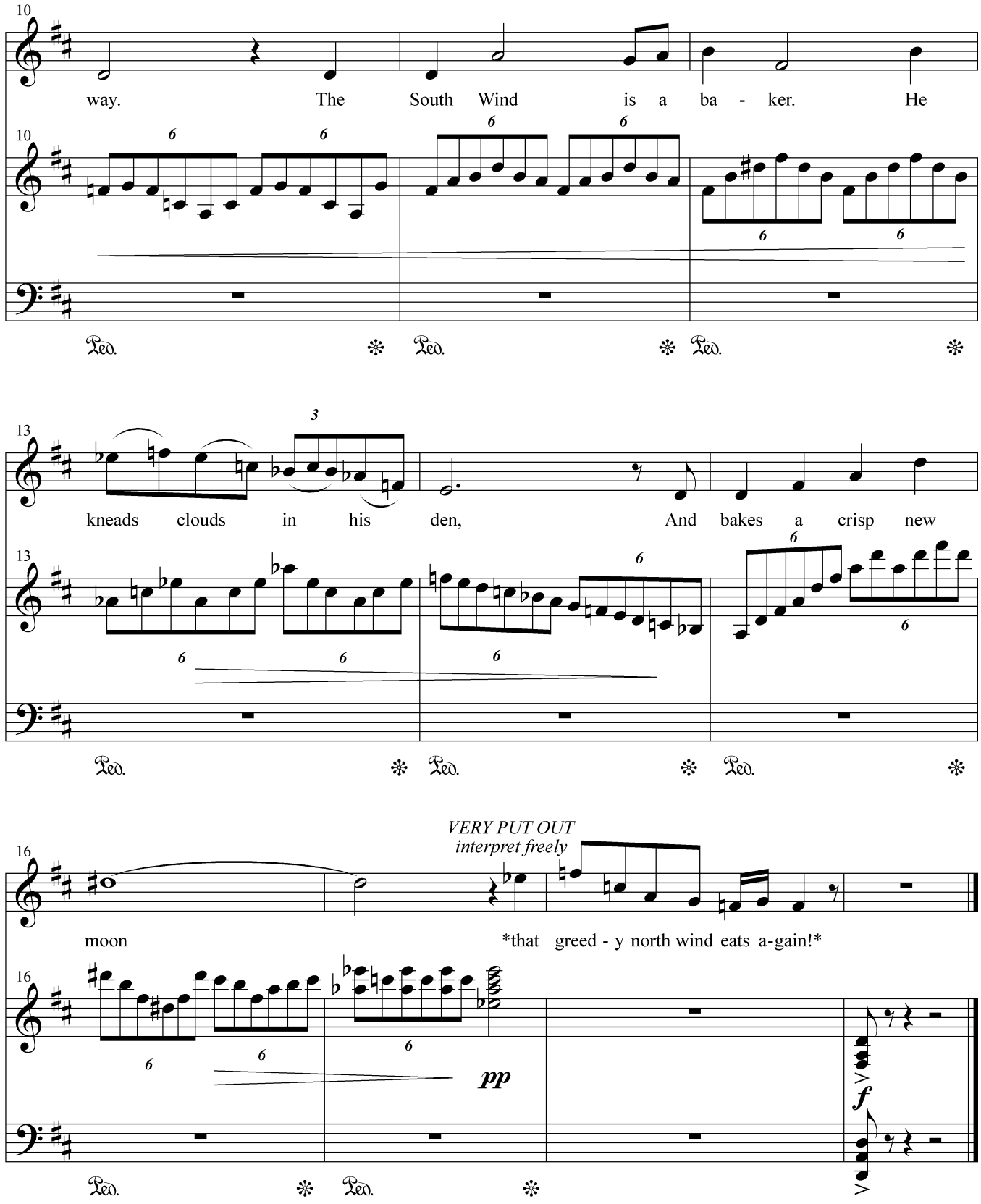
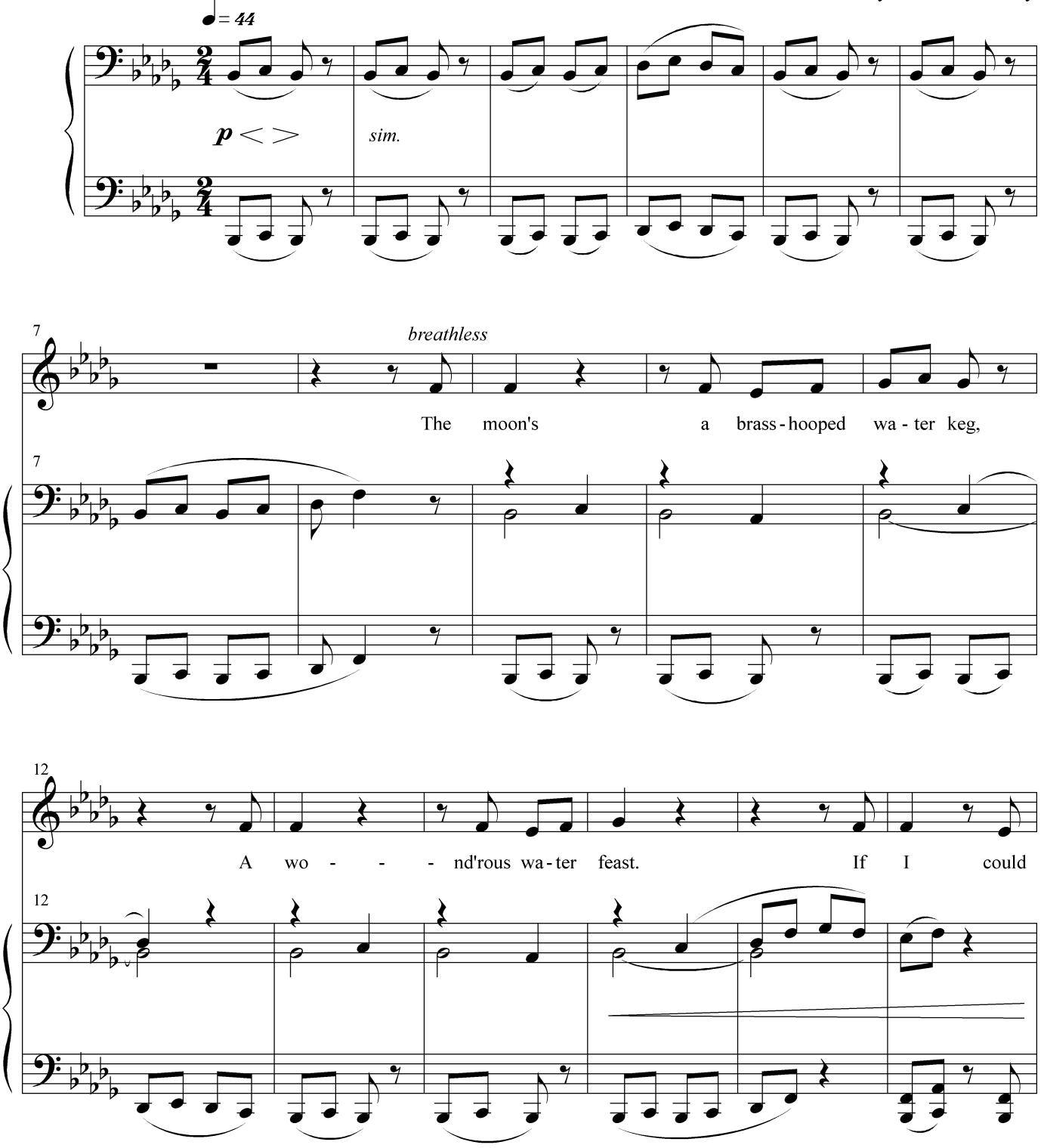

10
way. The South Wind is a ba - ker. He
13
kneads clouds in his den, And bakes a crisp new
16
VERY PUT OUT
interpret freely
moon
that greed - y north wind eats a-gain!
pp
f
Ped.

4. What the Miner in the Desert Said

Music by M. Ryan Taylor
Poem by Vachel Lindsay



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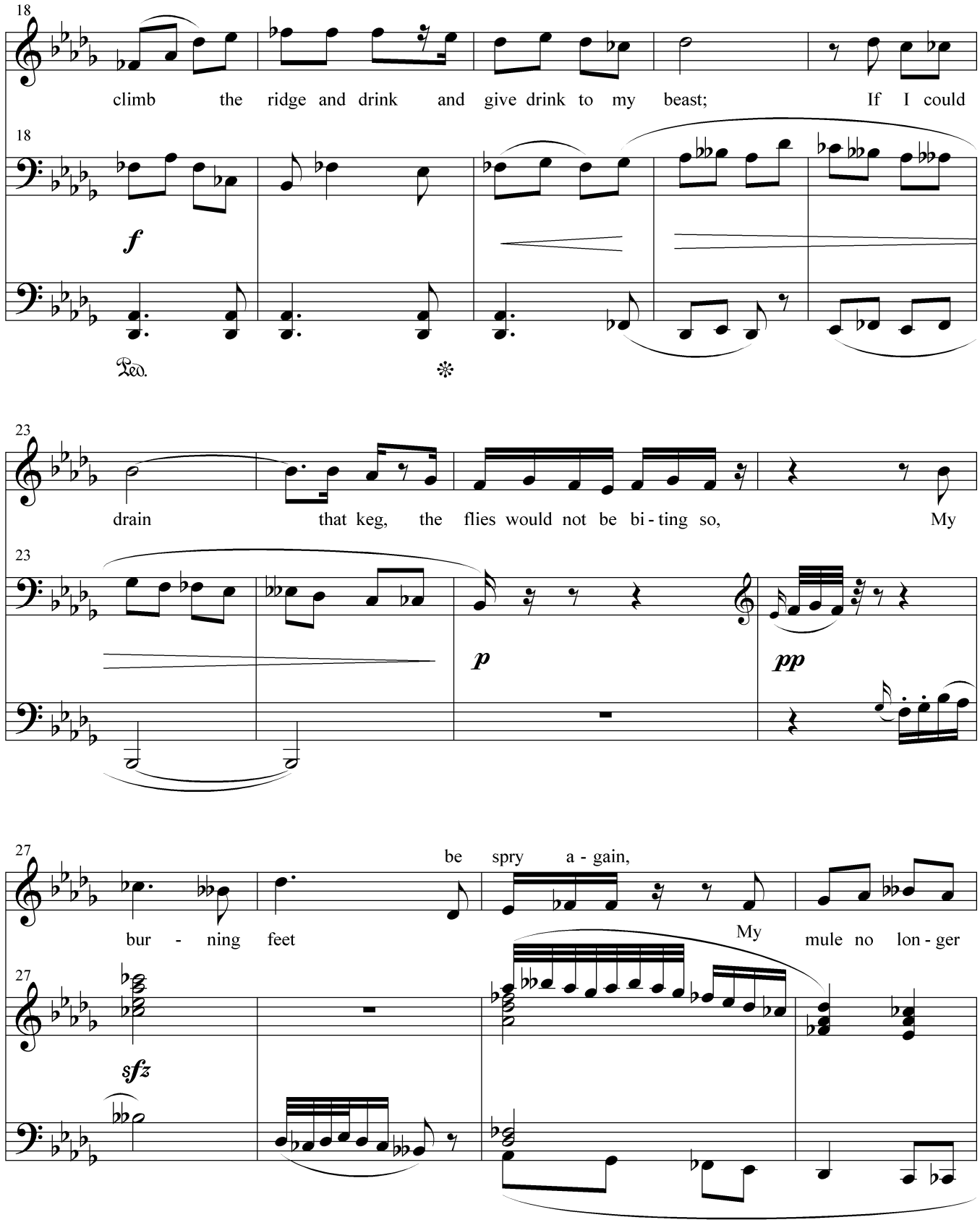
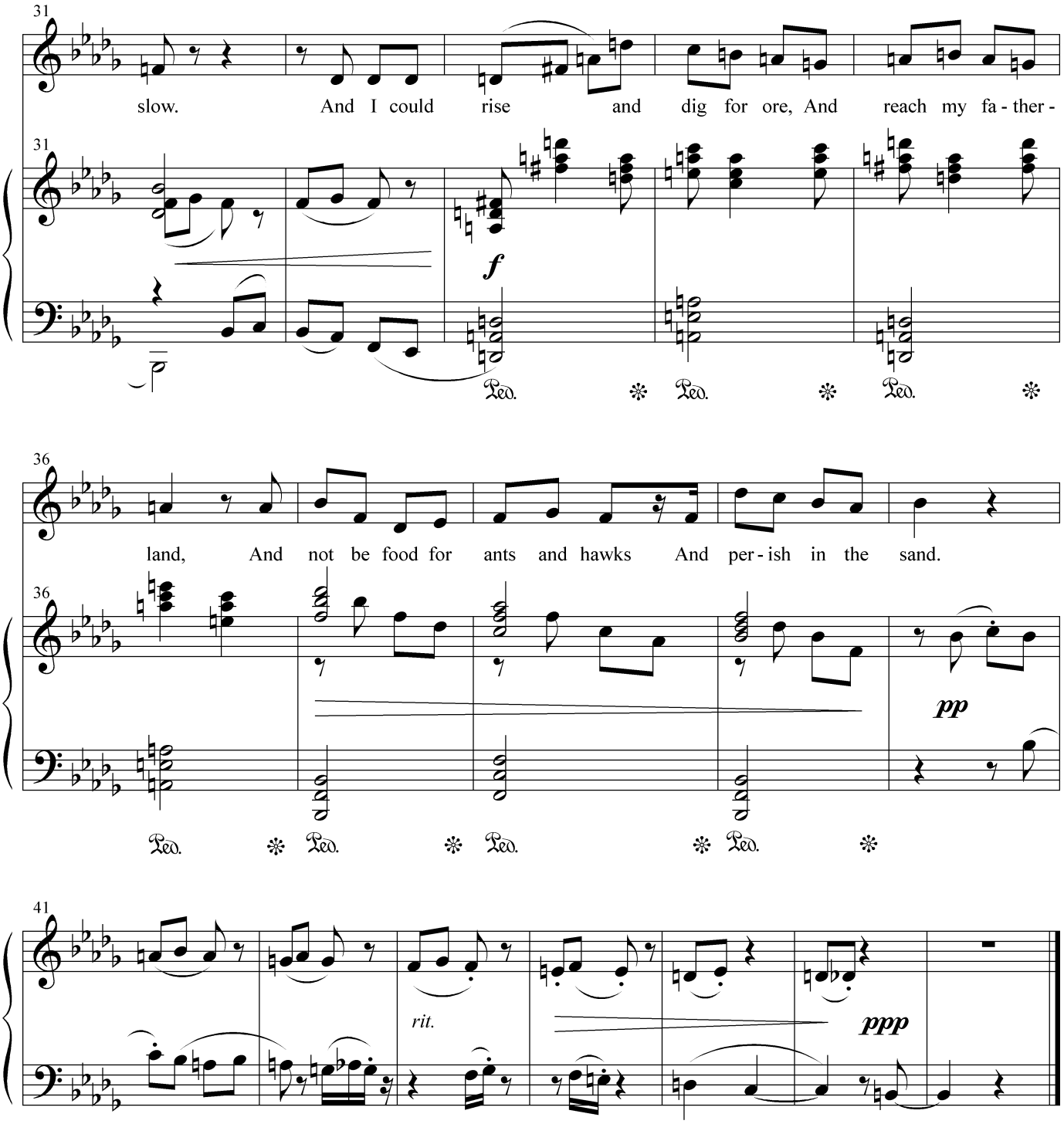
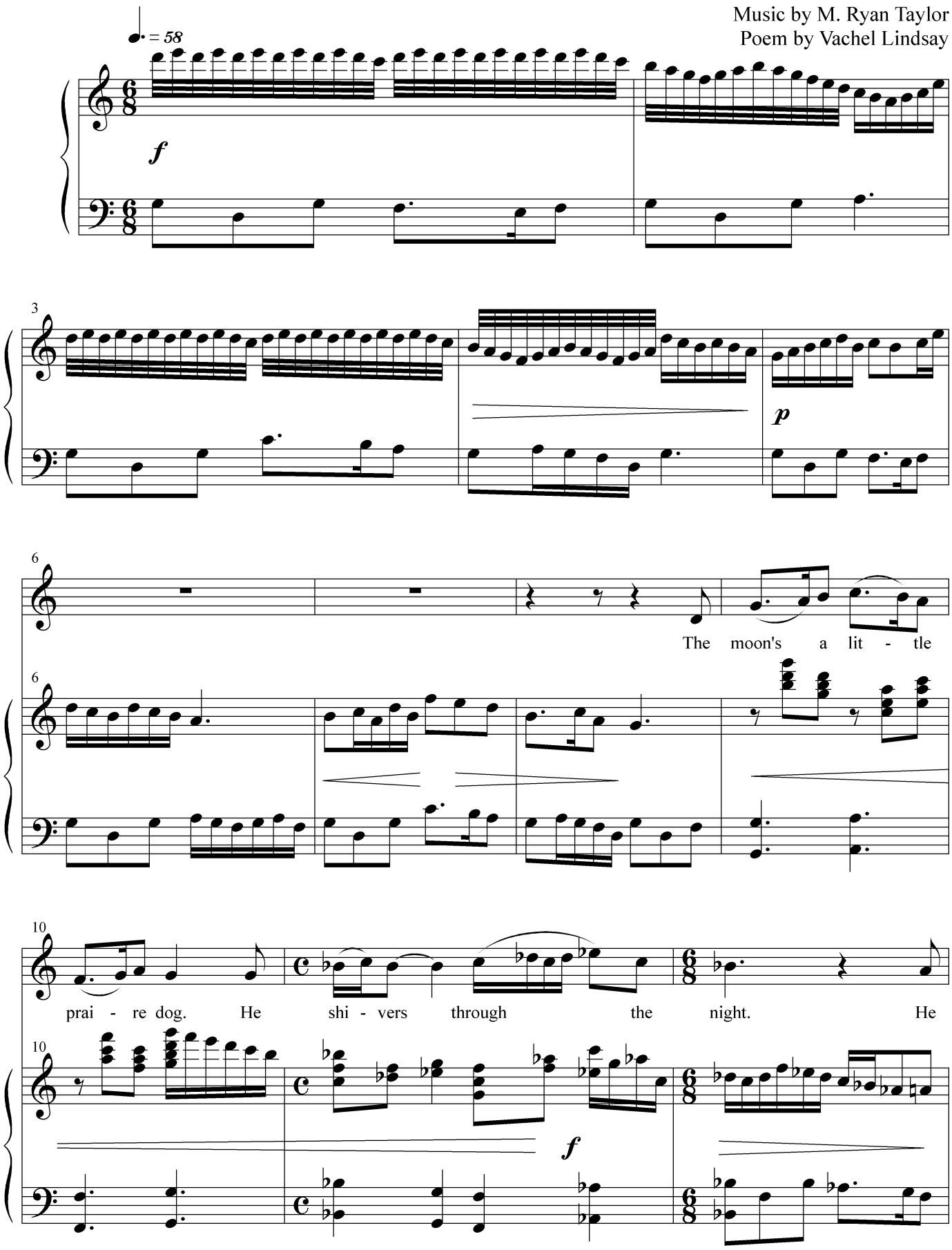

18
climb the ridge and drink and give drink to my beast; If I could
18
f
Ped.
23
drain that keg, the flies would not be bi - ting so, My
23
p
pp
27
be spry a - gain,
bur - ning feet
My mule no lon - ger
27
sfz


31
slow. And I could rise and dig for ore, And reach my fa - ther -
31
f
Ped. Ped. Ped.
36
land, And not be food for ants and hawks And per - ish in the sand.
36
pp
Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.
41
rit.
ppp

5. What the Rattlesnake Said

Music by M. Ryan Taylor
Poem by Vachel Lindsay



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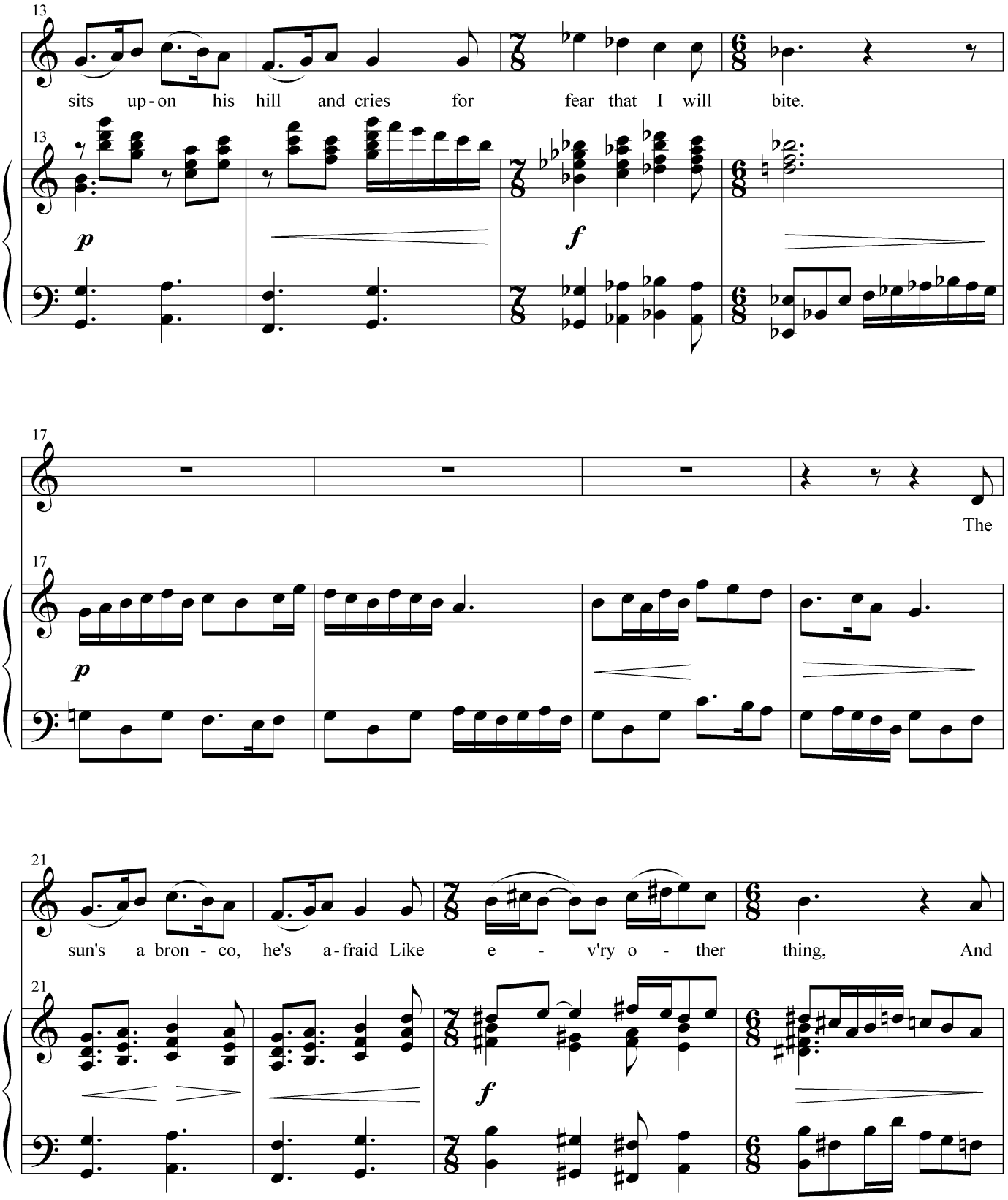
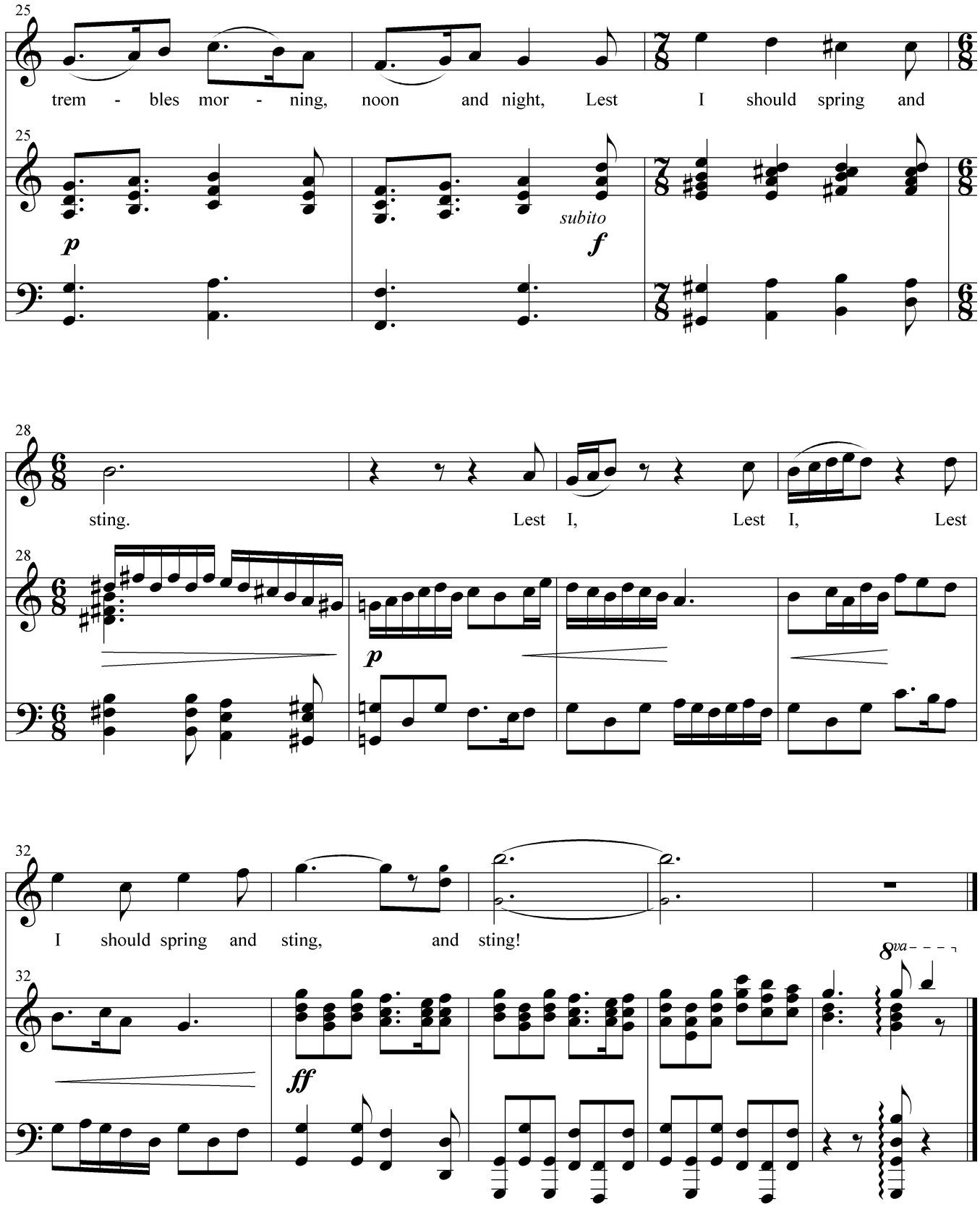
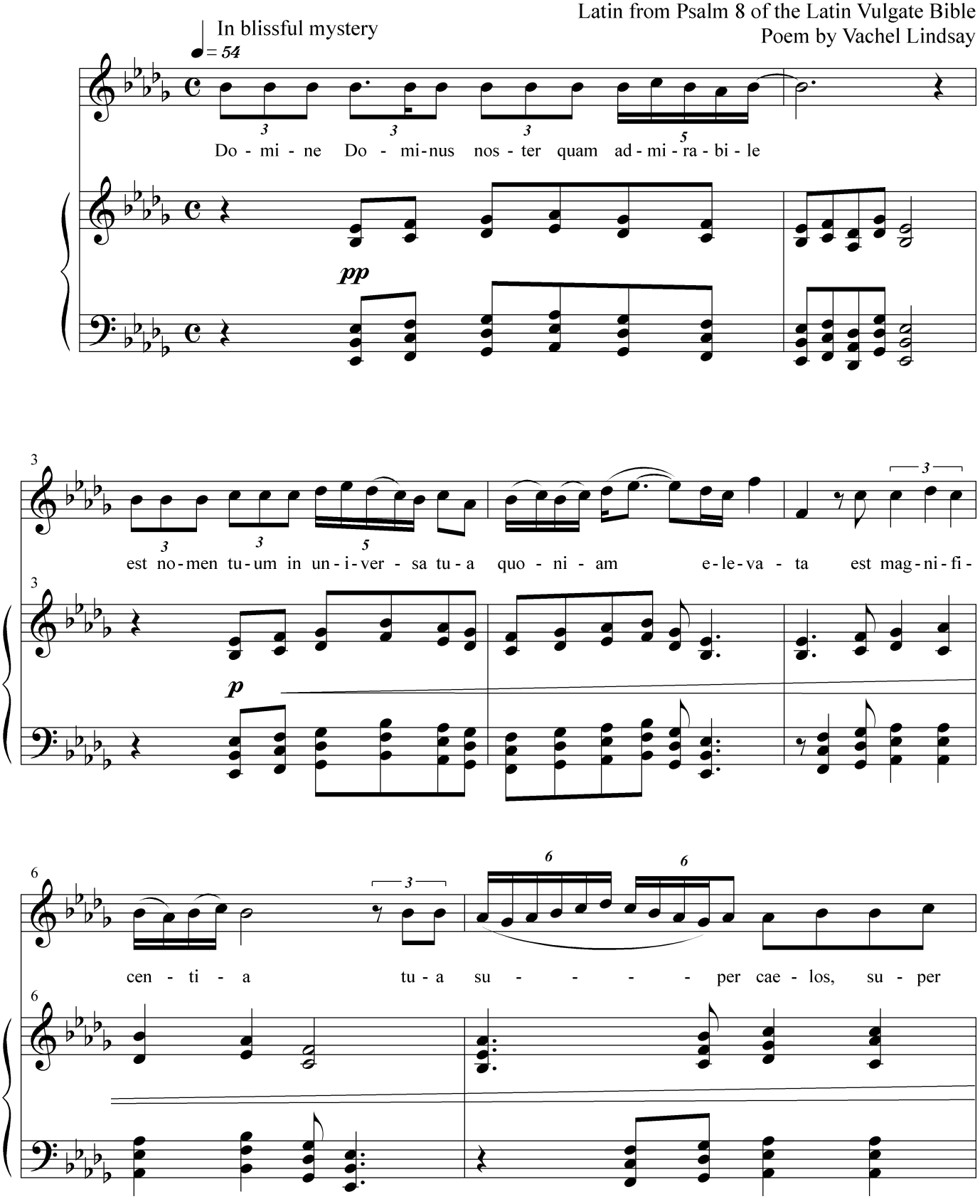

13
sits up-on his hill and cries for fear that I will bite.
p
f
17
The
p
21
sun's a bron - co, he's a-fraid Like e - v'ry o - ther thing, And
f


25
trem - bles mor - ning, noon and night, Lest I should spring and
p
subito
f
28
sting. Lest I, Lest I, Lest
p
32
I should spring and sting, and sting!
8va
ff

6. The Strength of the Lonely

Music by M. Ryan Taylor
Latin from Psalm 8 of the Latin Vulgate Bible
Poem by Vachel Lindsay



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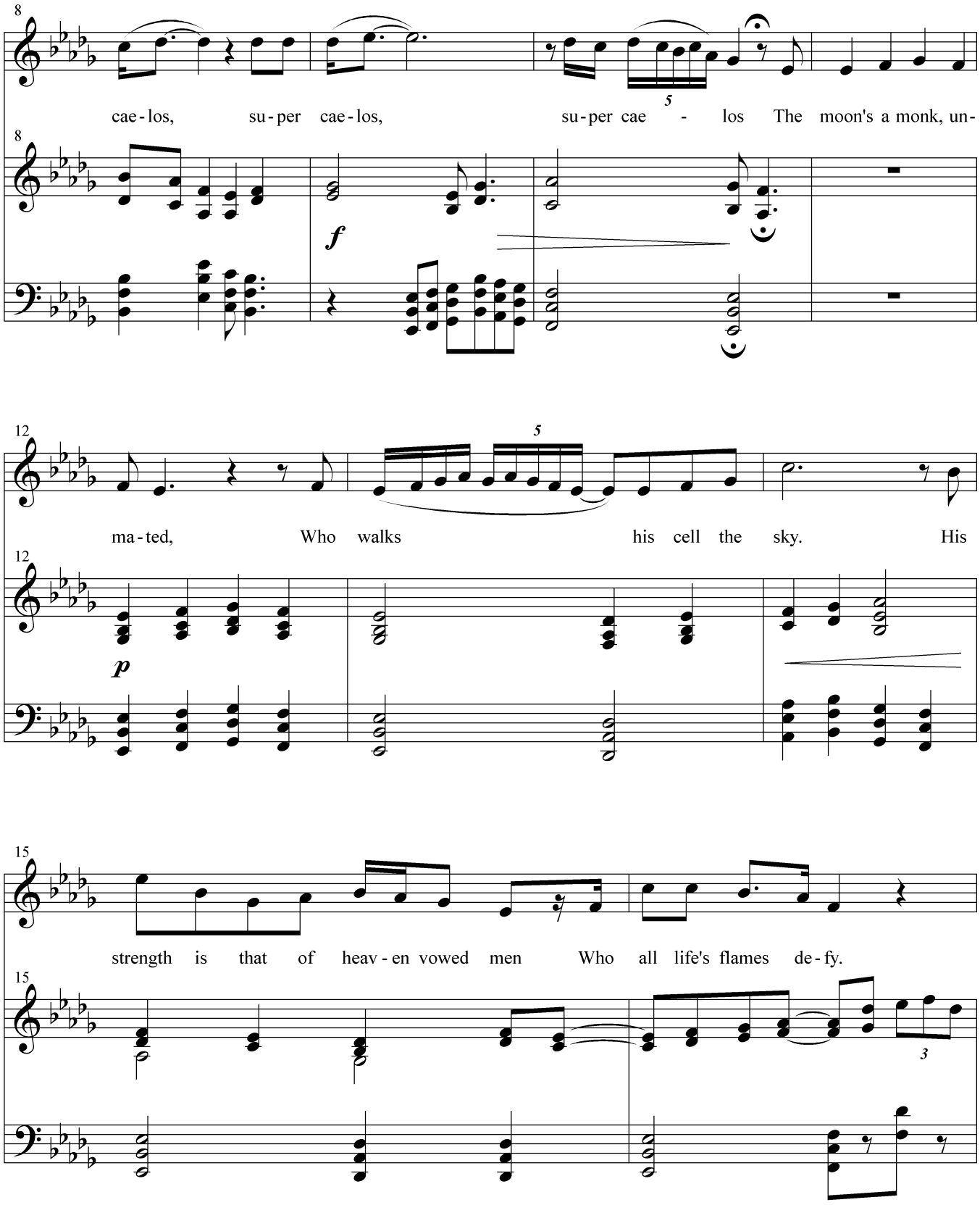
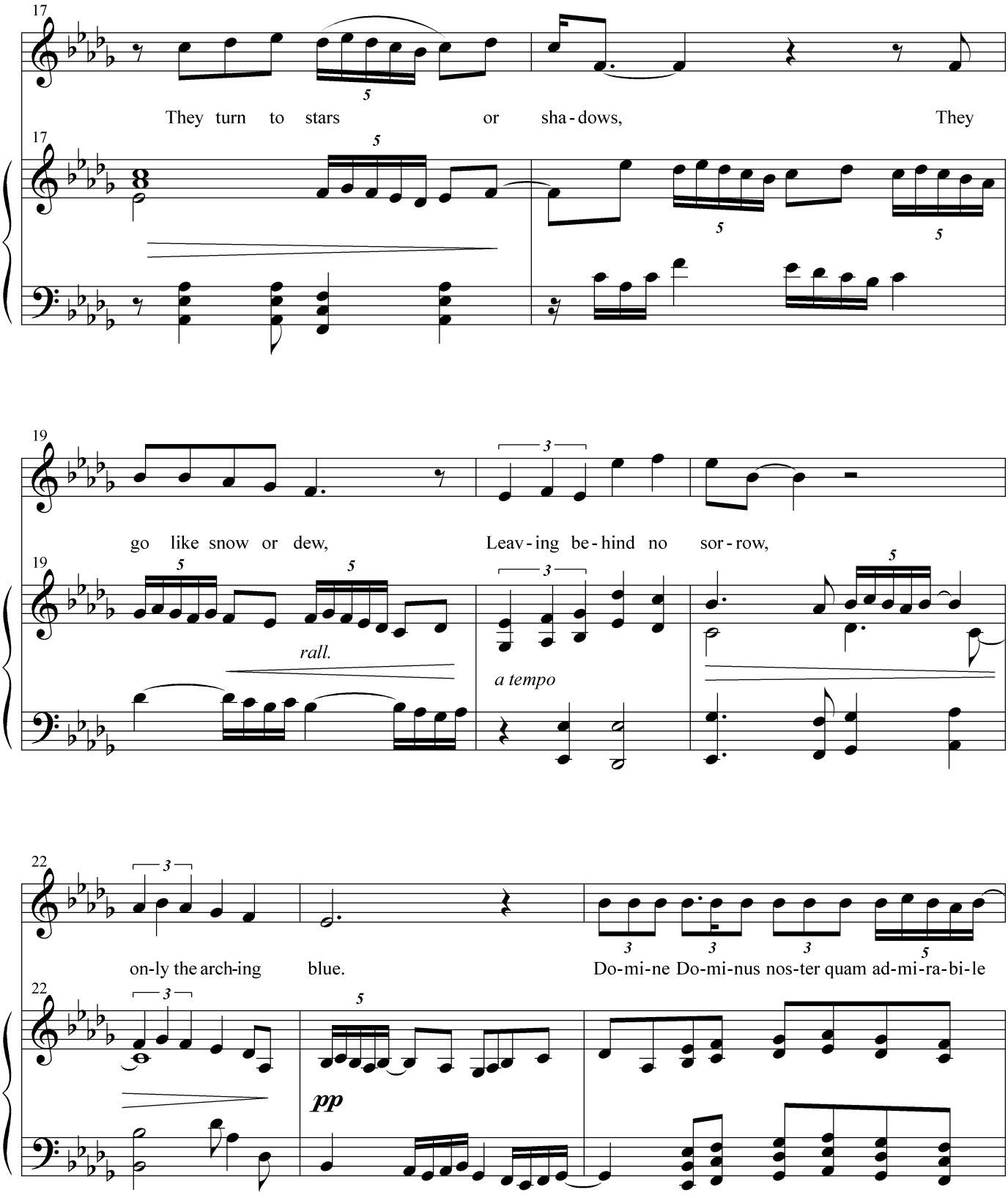
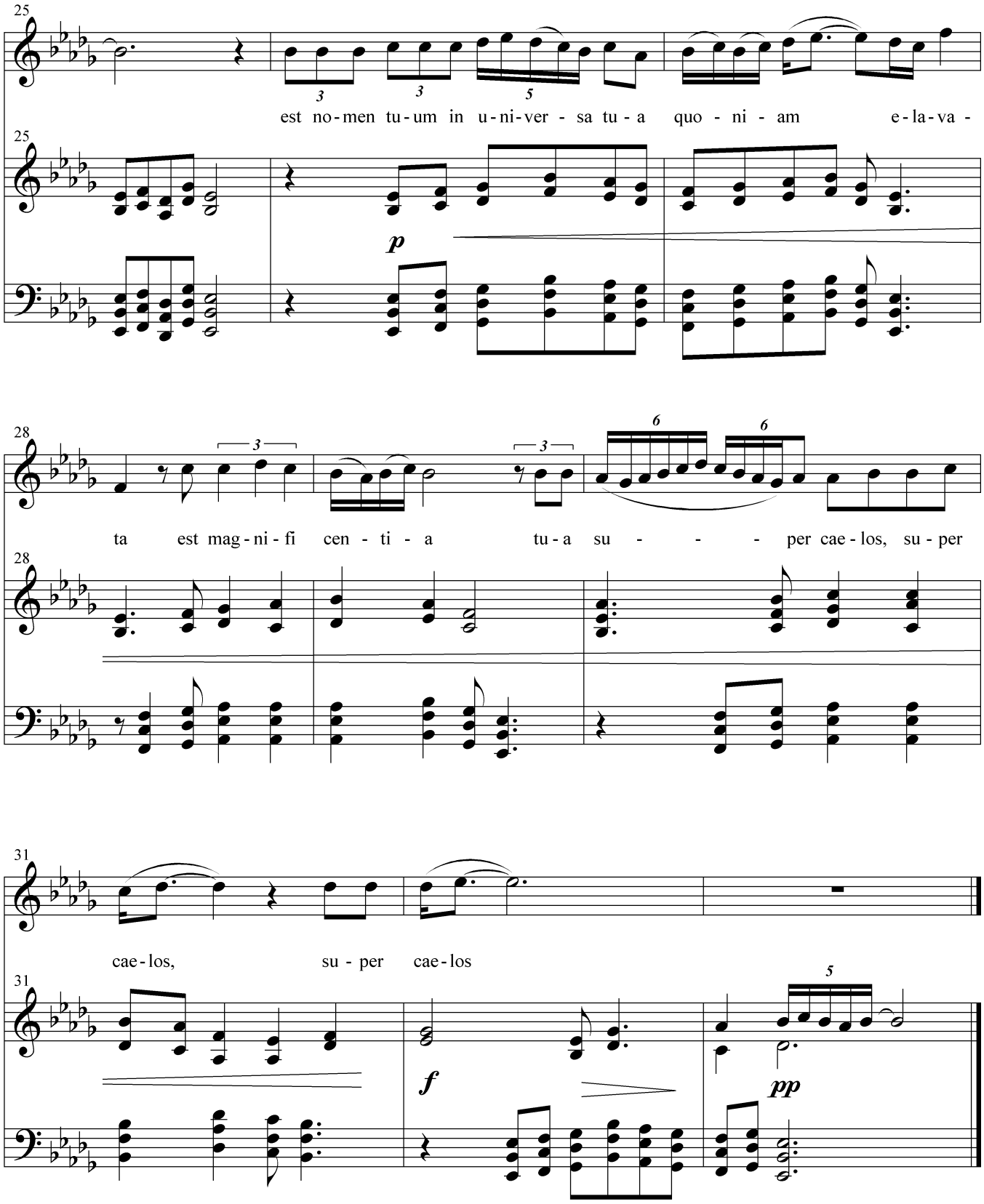
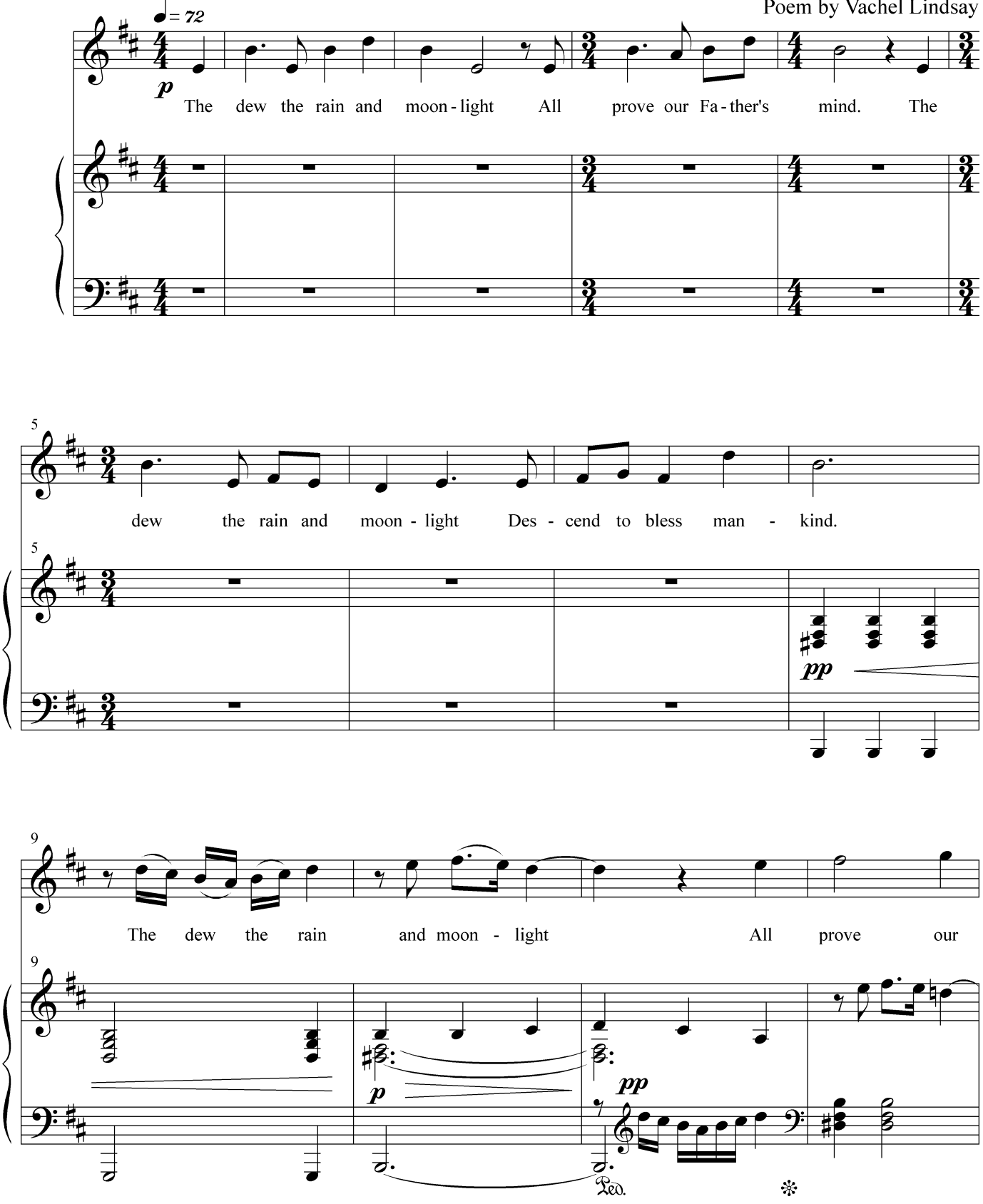

8
cae - los, su - per cae - los, su - per cae - los The moon's a monk, un-
f
12
ma - ted, Who walks his cell the sky. His
p
15
strength is that of heav - en vowed men Who all life's flames de - fy.


17
They turn to stars or sha - dows, They
19
go like snow or dew, Leav - ing be - hind no sor - row,
rall.
a tempo
22
on-ly the arch-ing blue. Do-mi-ne Do-mi-nus nos-ter quam ad-mi-ra-bi-le
pp


25
est no-men tu-um in u-ni-ver - sa tu - a quo - ni - am e-la-va -
p
28
ta est mag-ni-fi cen - ti - a tu-a su - - - per cae-los, su-per
31
cae-los, su - per cae-los
f
pp

7. What the Man of Faith Said

Music by M. Ryan Taylor
Poem by Vachel Lindsay



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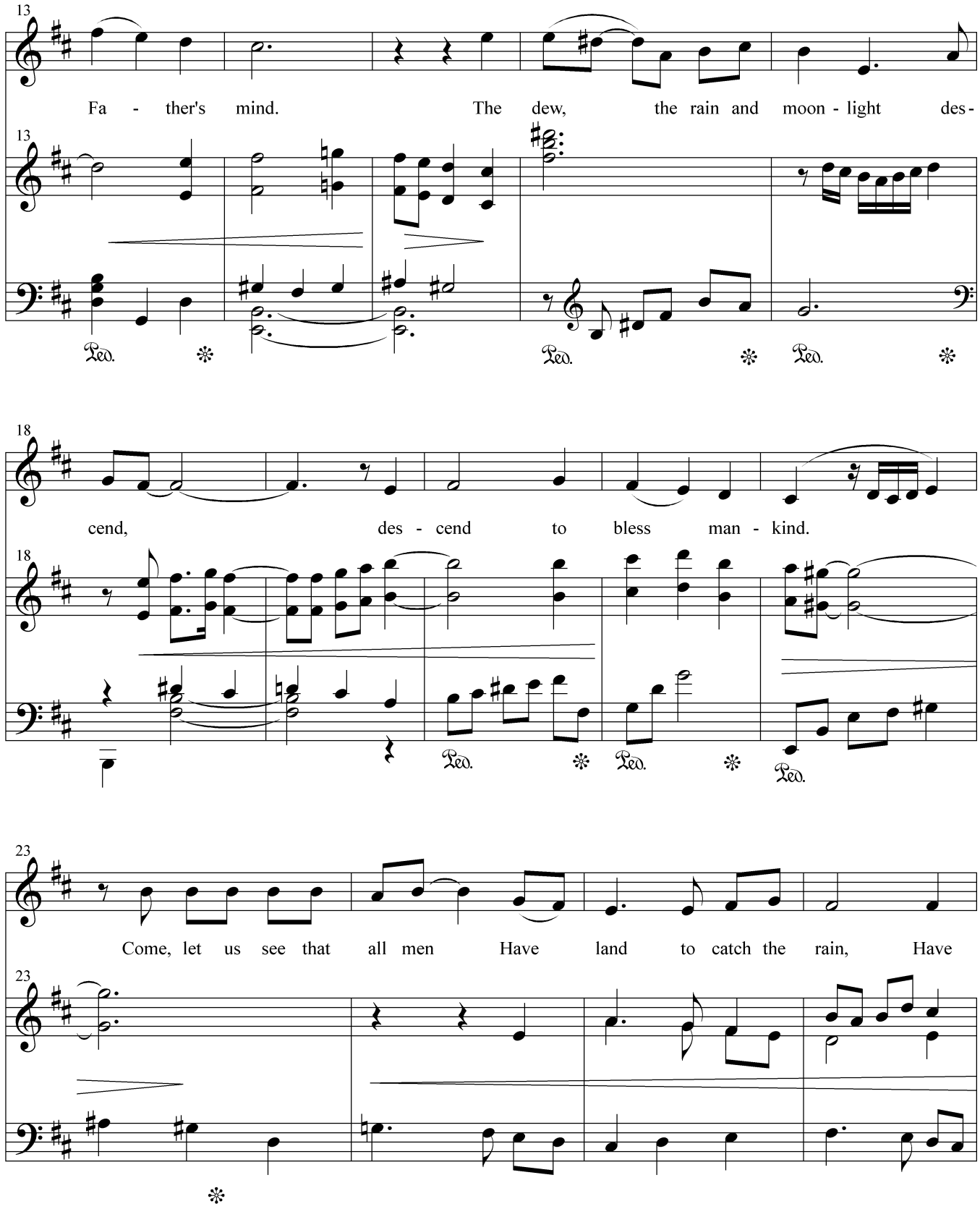
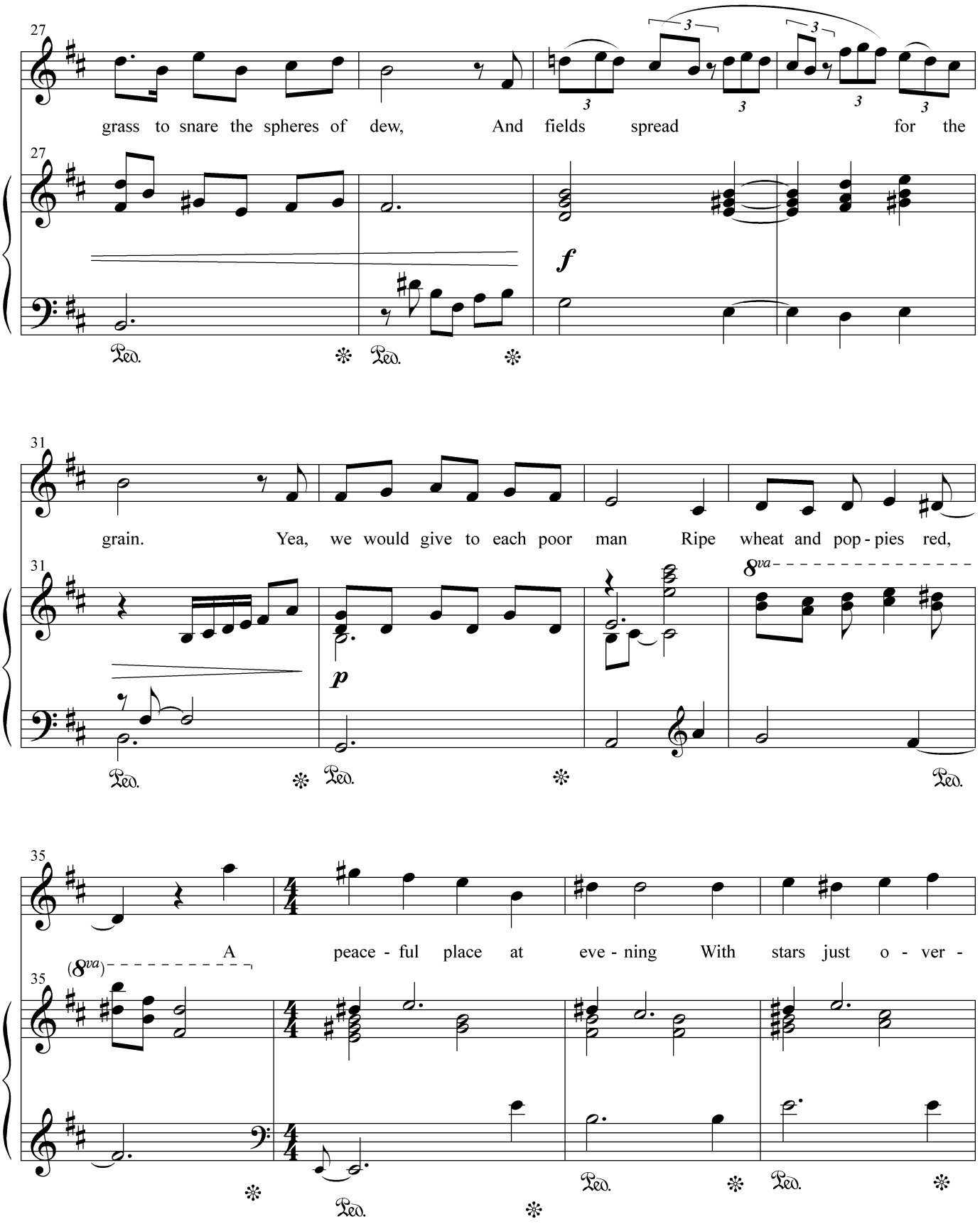
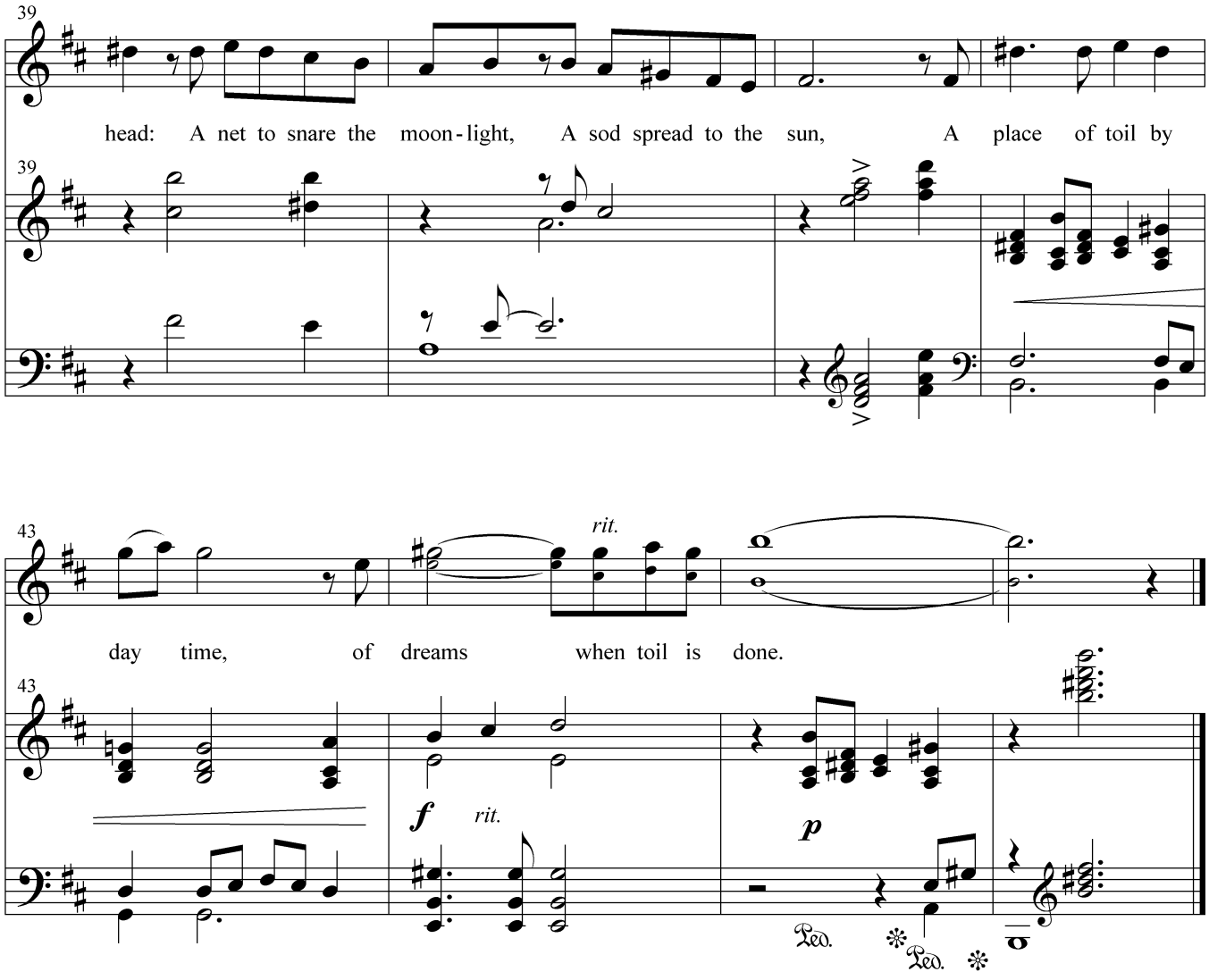

13
Fa - ther's mind. The dew, the rain and moon - light des-
Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *
18
cend, des - cend to bless man - kind.
Ped. * Ped. * Ped.
23
Come, let us see that all men Have land to catch the rain, Have
*


27
grass to snare the spheres of dew, And fields spread for the
f
Ped.
31
grain. Yea, we would give to each poor man Ripe wheat and pop - pies red,
p
8va
35
A peace - ful place at eve - ning With stars just o - ver -
(8va)


39
head: A net to snare the moon - light, A sod spread to the sun, A place of toil by
39
43
rit.
day time, of dreams when toil is done.
43
f
rit.
p
Ped.
Ped.

The Last Page

An important message from M. Ryan Taylor . . .

Thank you for downloading one of my original vocal works. You might ask why a professional composer would be allowing you to download and print his original music for free. The truth is that most composers (with a few notable exceptions) do not make a significant portion of their income from the sale of scores. At one time, traditional paper publishing firms were the only way to get scores into the hands of performers like yourselves. The electronic transfer of information over the internet has abolished the need for a middleman between composers and performers, and the traditional costs of printing, storing and shipping of sheet music as well as the vast administrative costs of managing a large publishing firm are no longer a relevant issue. Therefore, you may print as many copies of this music as you need to perform this work, free of charge.

What I ask of you . . .

I ask that you be vigilant in informing me whenever you perform this music. No matter what the performance venue (concert, church, recital, symposium, etc.), your notifying me of each performance ensures that I can keep an up-to-date performance record of the piece as well as receive a performance royalty from my performing rights organization, ASCAP (the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers). This royalty payment, *which costs you nothing*, contributes greatly to my being able to continue to compose new music for you.

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- **Title of the work/s performed**
- **Performing group/individual and contact information**
- **Date and location of the performance/s**

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- **Spread the word** about the art songs at MRyanTaylor.com and the music you've performed.
- Send me an audio or video **recording of your performance** to post on the the site.
- Though the costs of publishing have gone down dramatically, a composer still needs money for food and shelter. Oftentimes these costs are met through the support of Generous patrons of the arts like yourself. Visit MRyanTaylor.com and make a freewill monetary donation to **support the creation of new works**.
- Contact me at mryan@choirworks.com about commissioning a **new work written especially for you**.

My sincere thanks for your support. I look forward to many years of making music together. Please keep in touch.

All the best to you,

M. Ryan Taylor

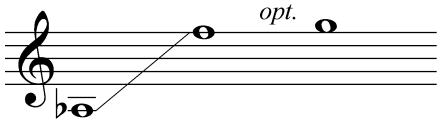
Notes

The Moon Songs

A cycle of songs based on the Moon Poetry of Vachel Lindsay

Music by M. Ryan Taylor

Medium Low Voice



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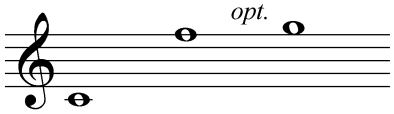
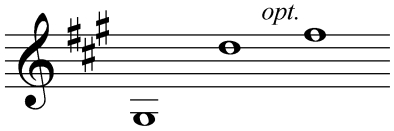
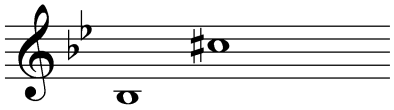
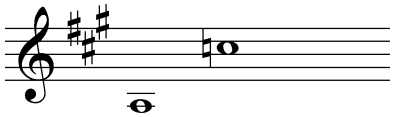


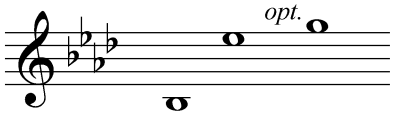
Pg. 1 - What Grandpa Told the Children



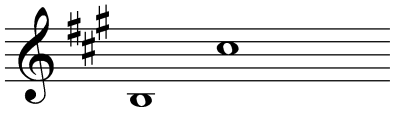
Pg. 4 - What the Hyena Said

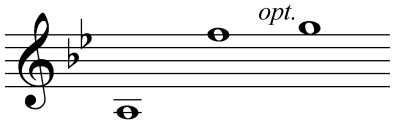

Pg. 11 - What the Little Girl Said


Pg. 13 - What the Miner in the Desert Said



Pg. 16 - What the Rattlesnake Said


Pg. 19 - The Strength of the Lonely



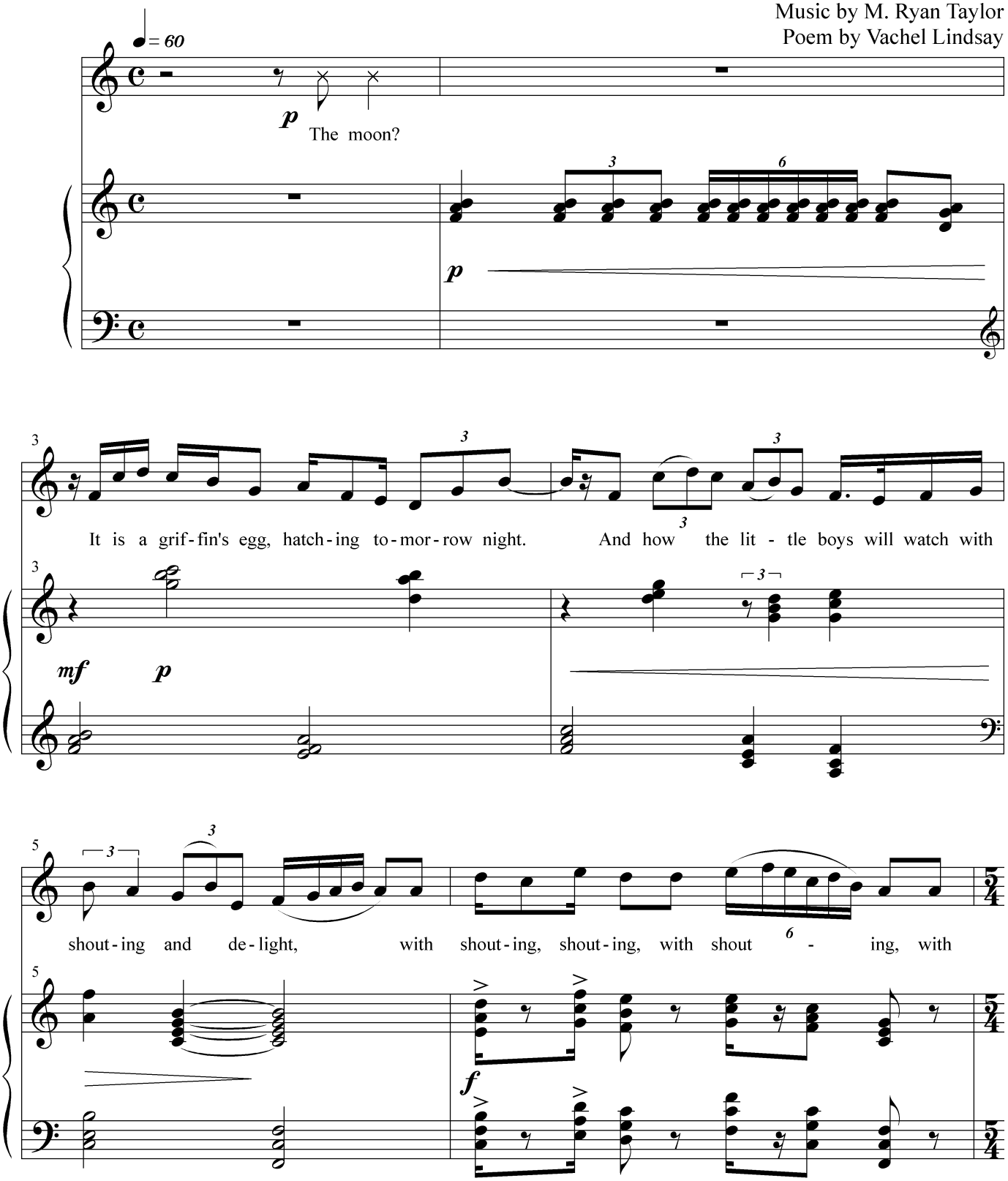
Pg. 23 - What the Man of Faith Said

The Moon Songs

A cycle of songs based on the Moon Poetry of Vachel Lindsay

1. What Grandpa Told the Children

Music by M. Ryan Taylor
Poem by Vachel Lindsay



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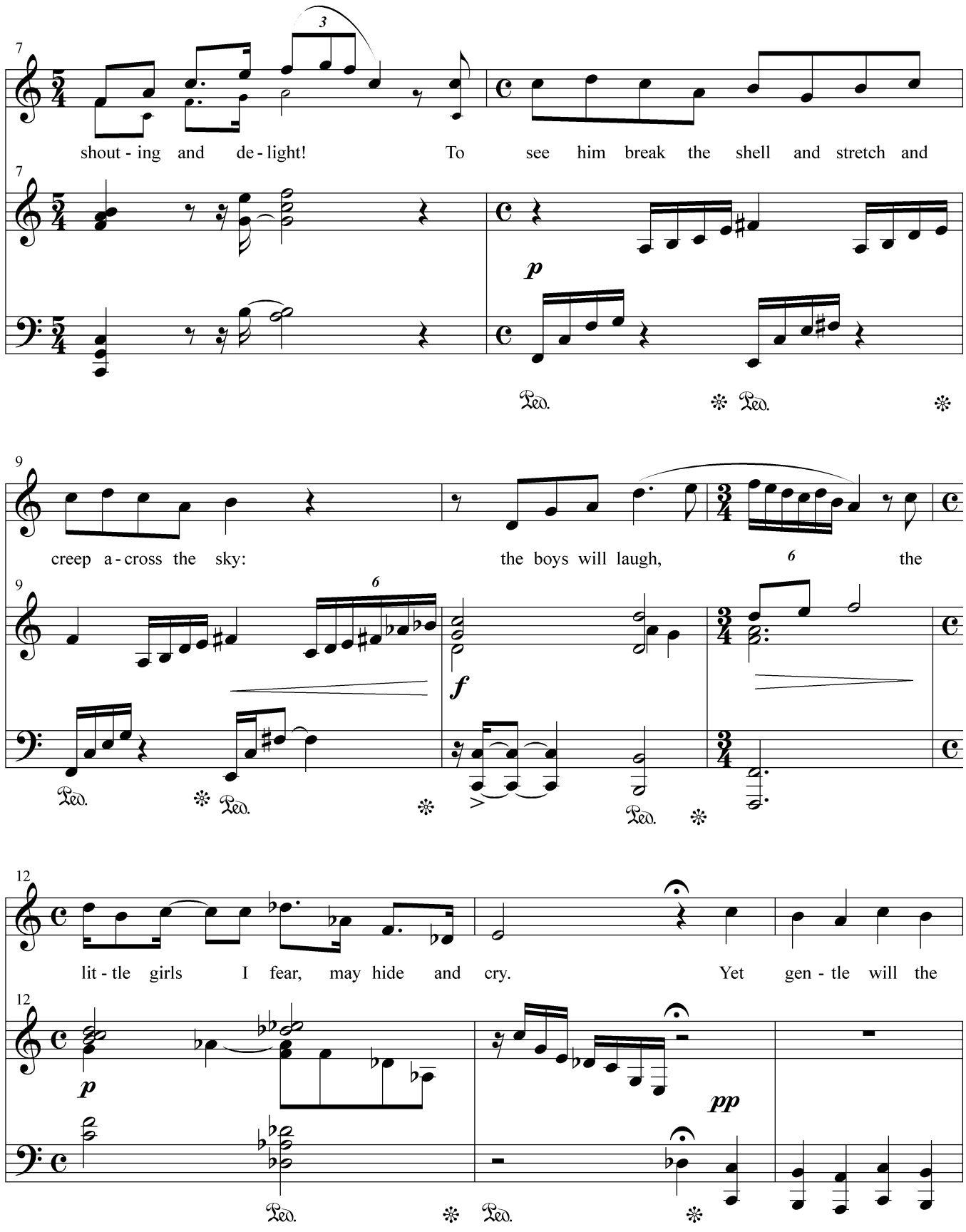
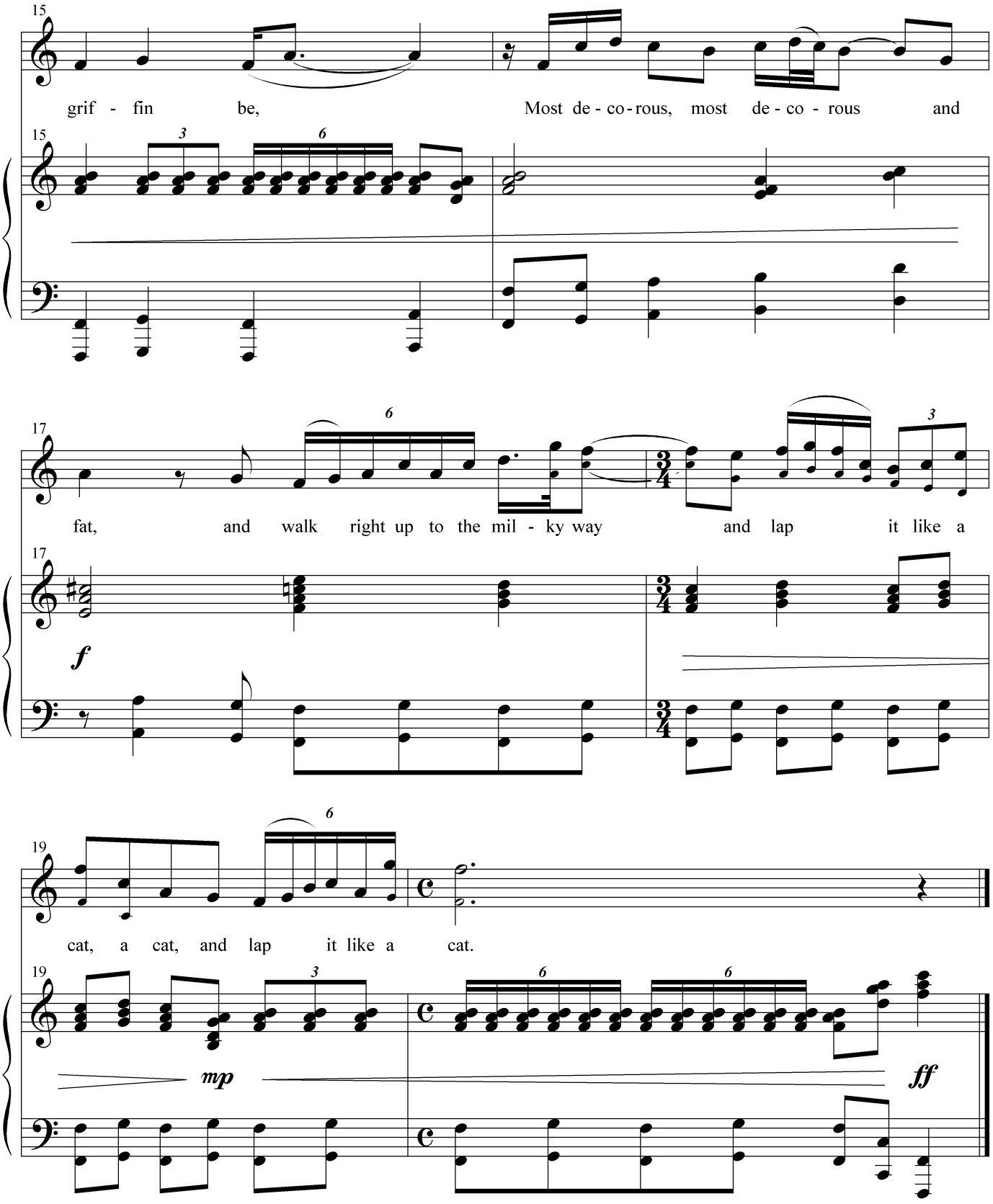
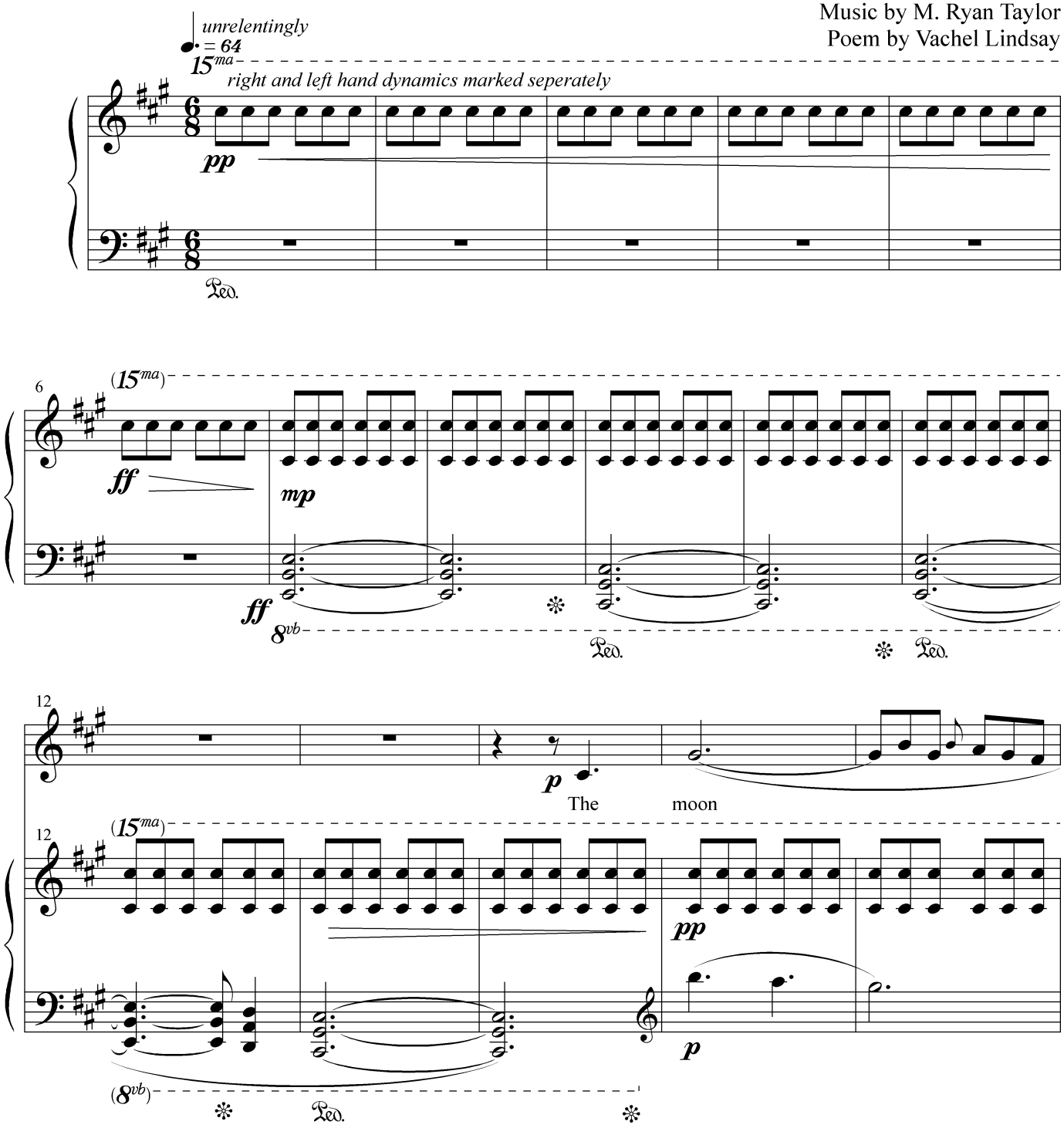

7
shout - ing and de - light! To see him break the shell and stretch and
p
Ped. Ped.
9
creep a - cross the sky: the boys will laugh, the
6
f
Ped. Ped. Ped.
12
lit - tle girls I fear, may hide and cry. Yet gen - tle will the
p
pp
Ped. Ped.


15
grif - fin be,
Most de - co - rous, most de - co - rous and
17
fat, and walk right up to the mil - ky way
and lap it like a
f
19
cat, a cat, and lap it like a cat.
mp
ff

2. What the Hyena Said

Music by M. Ryan Taylor
Poem by Vachel Lindsay



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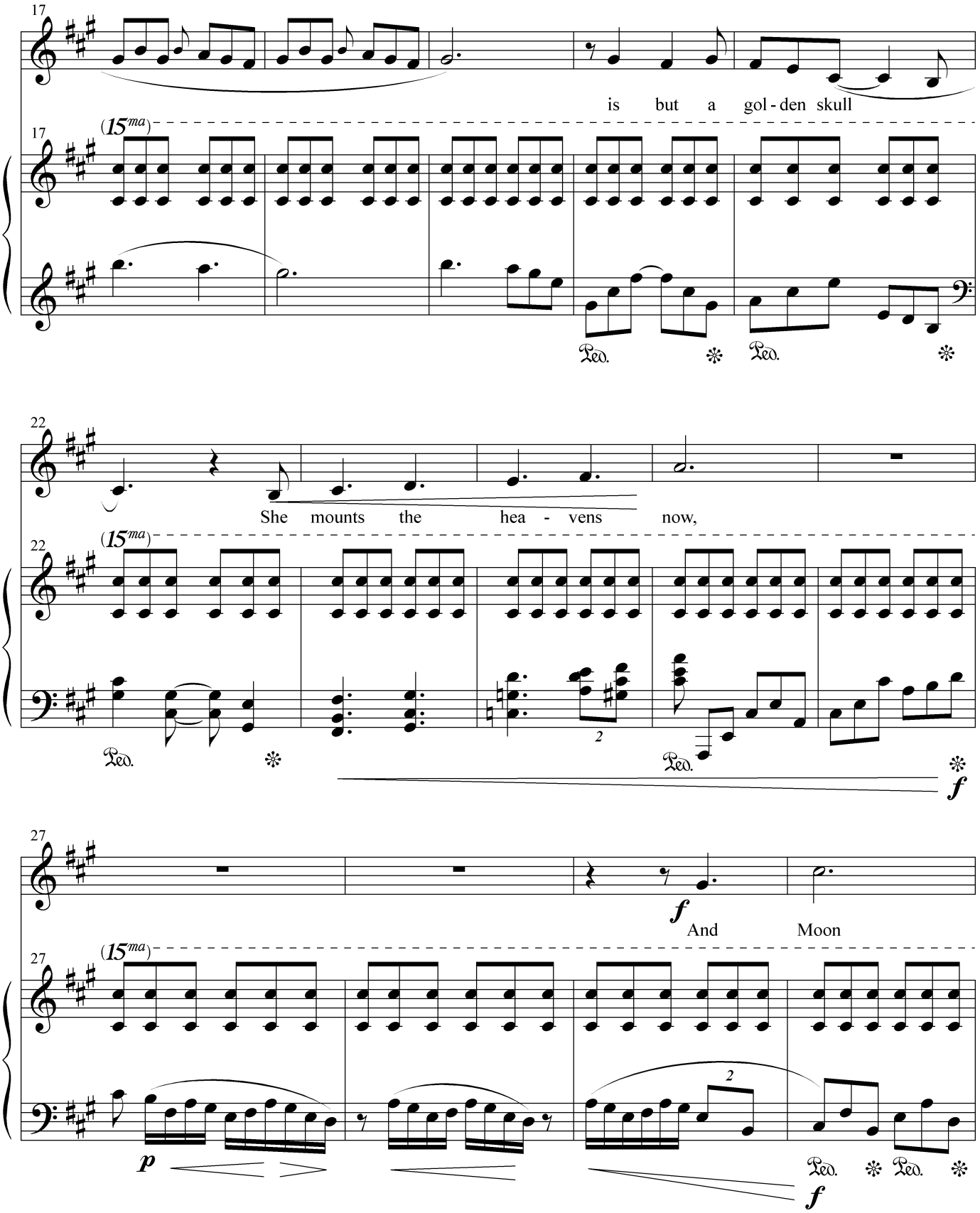
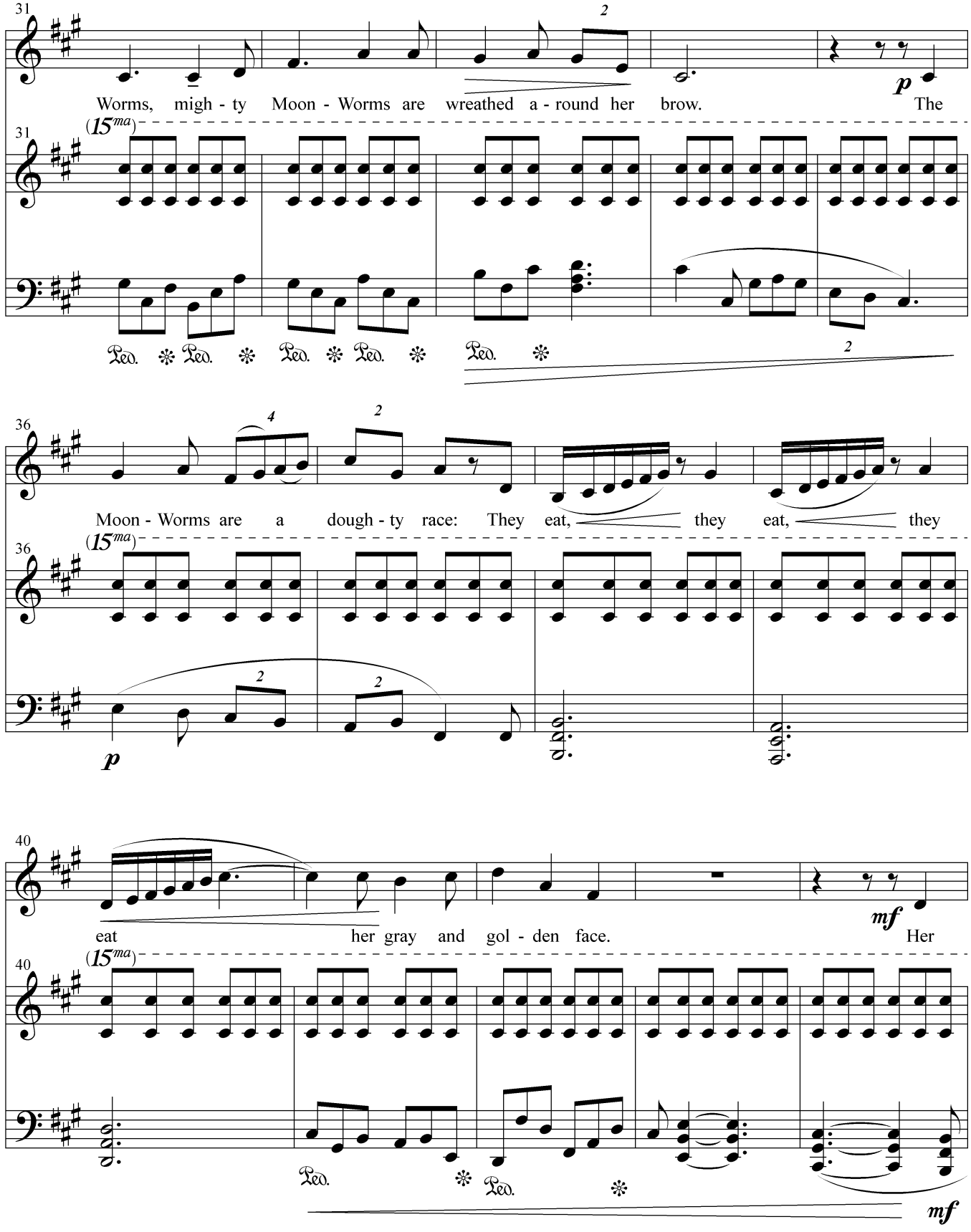
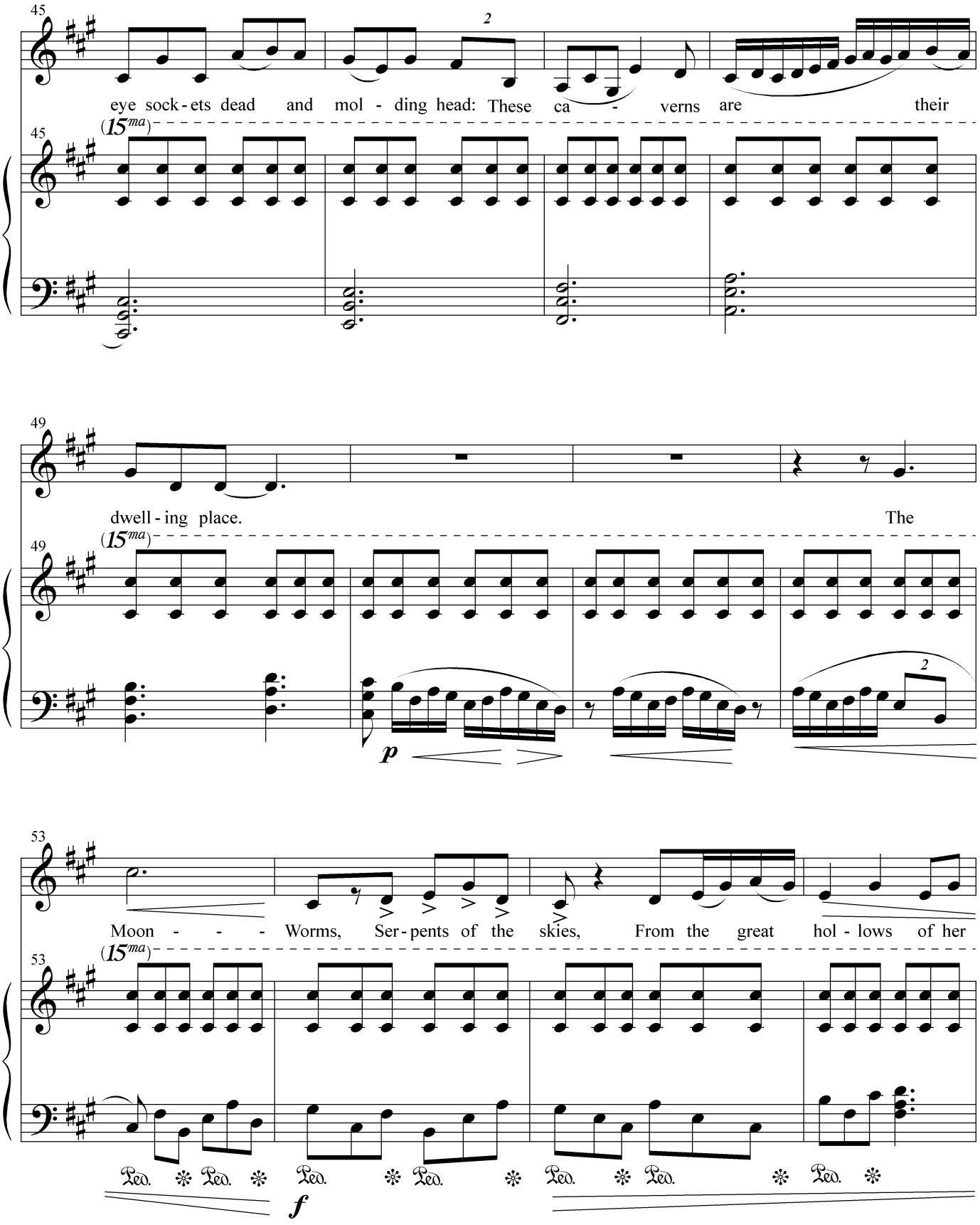
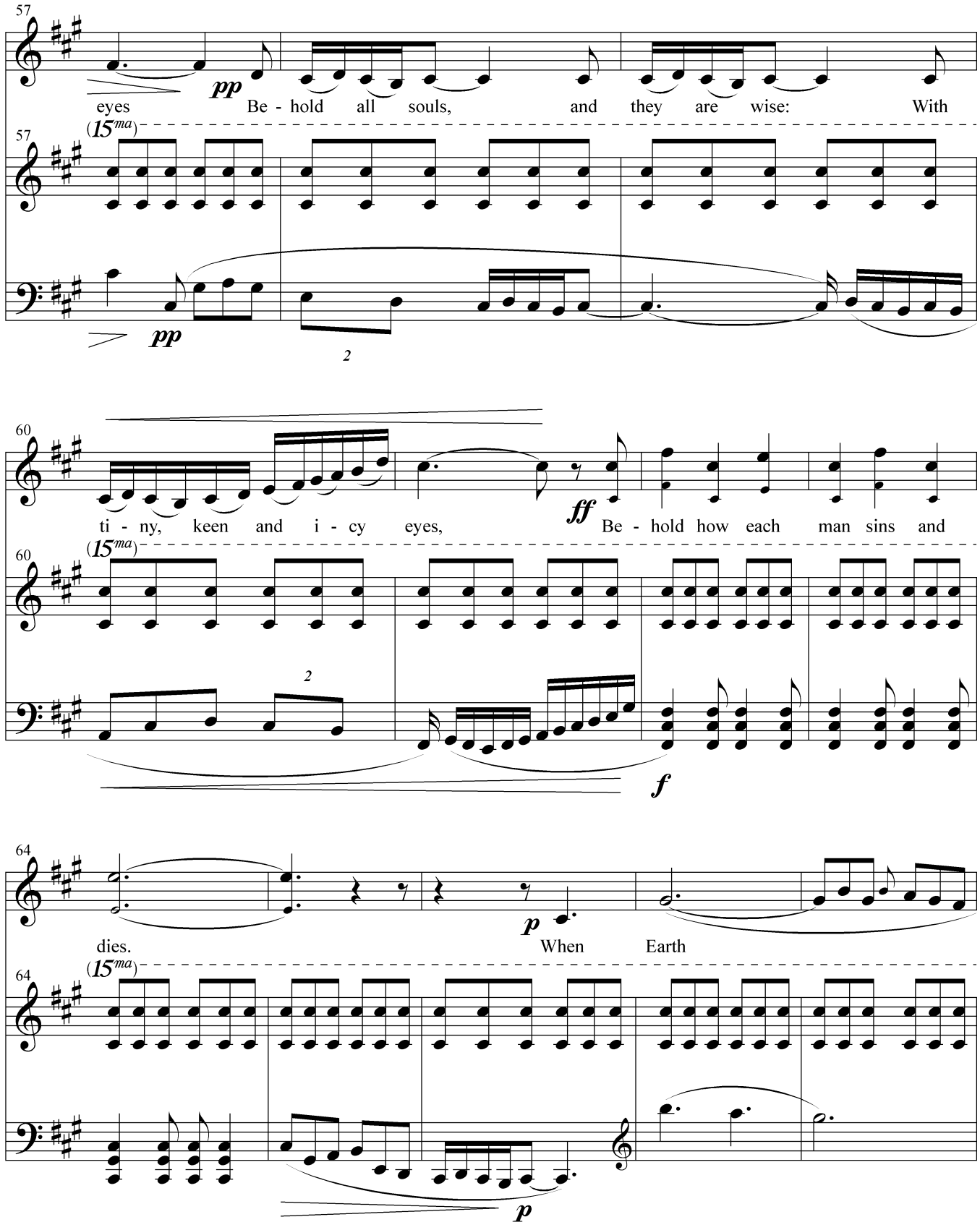
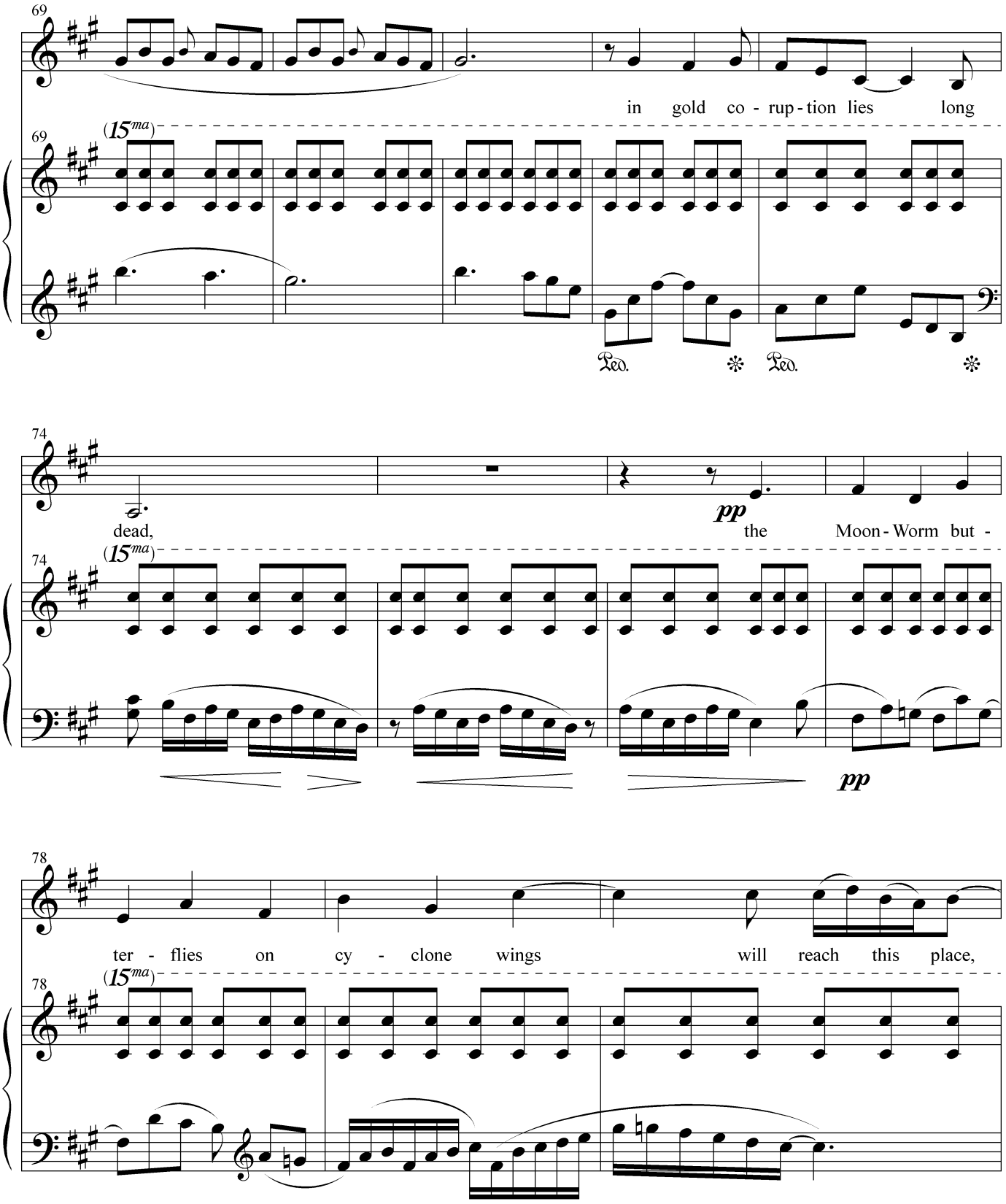
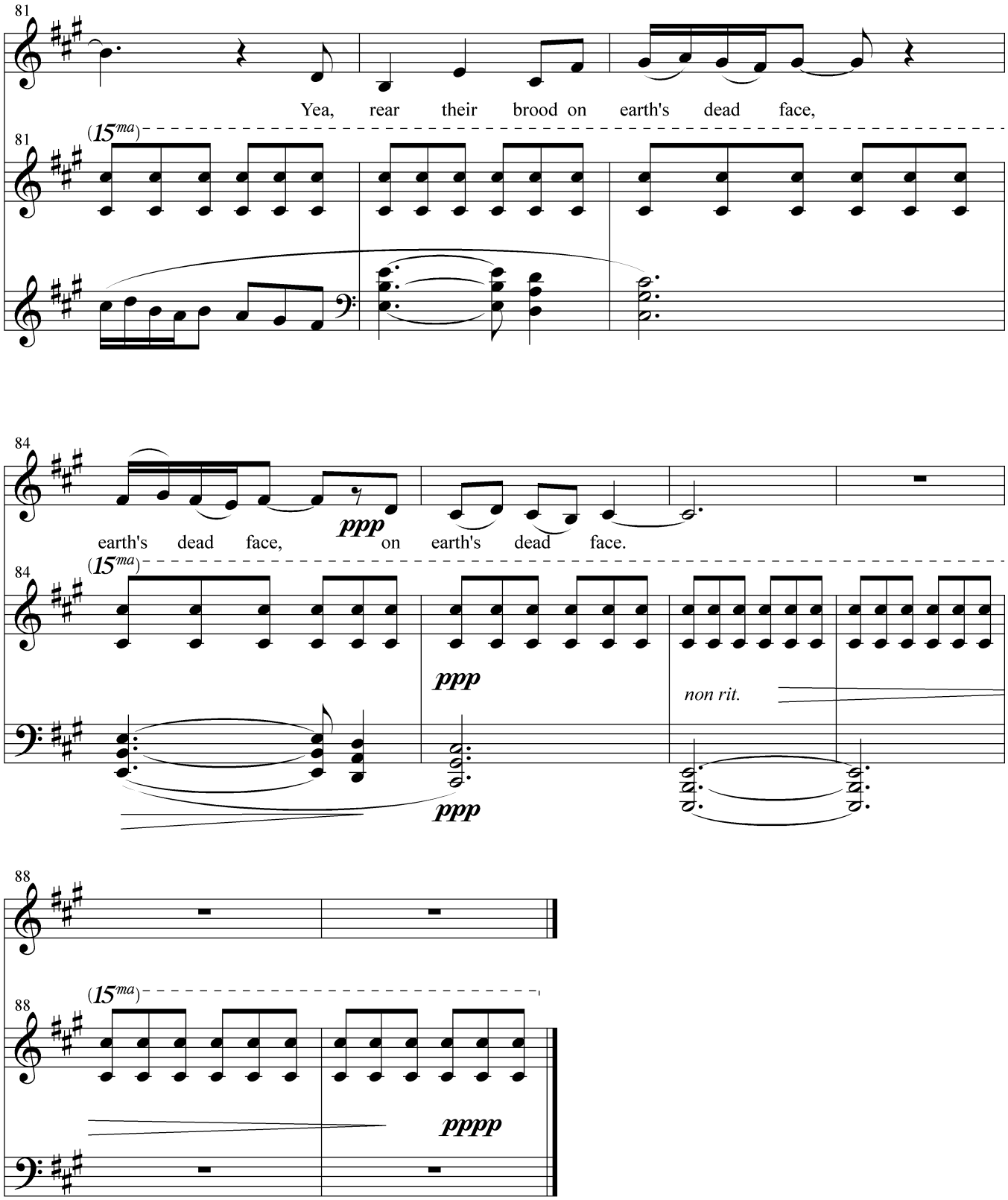

17
is but a gol - den skull
(15ma)
Ped.
Ped.
22
She mounts the hea - vens now,
(15ma)
Ped.
Ped.
f
27
f
And Moon
(15ma)
p
Ped.
Ped.
f


31
Worms, migh - ty Moon - Worms are wreathed a - round her brow. The
(15ma)
Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.
p
36
Moon - Worms are a dough - ty race: They eat, they eat, they
(15ma)
p
40
eat her gray and gol - den face. Her
(15ma)
Ped. Ped.
mf
mf


45
eye sock - ets dead and mol - ding head: These ca - verns are their
(15ma)
49
dwell - ing place. The
(15ma)
p
53
Moon - - - Worms, Ser - pents of the skies, From the great hol - lows of her
(15ma)
Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *
f


57
pp
eyes Be - hold all souls, and they are wise: With
(15ma)
57
pp
2
60
ti - ny, keen and i - cy eyes,
ff
Be - hold how each man sins and
(15ma)
60
2
f
64
dies.
p
When Earth
(15ma)
64
p

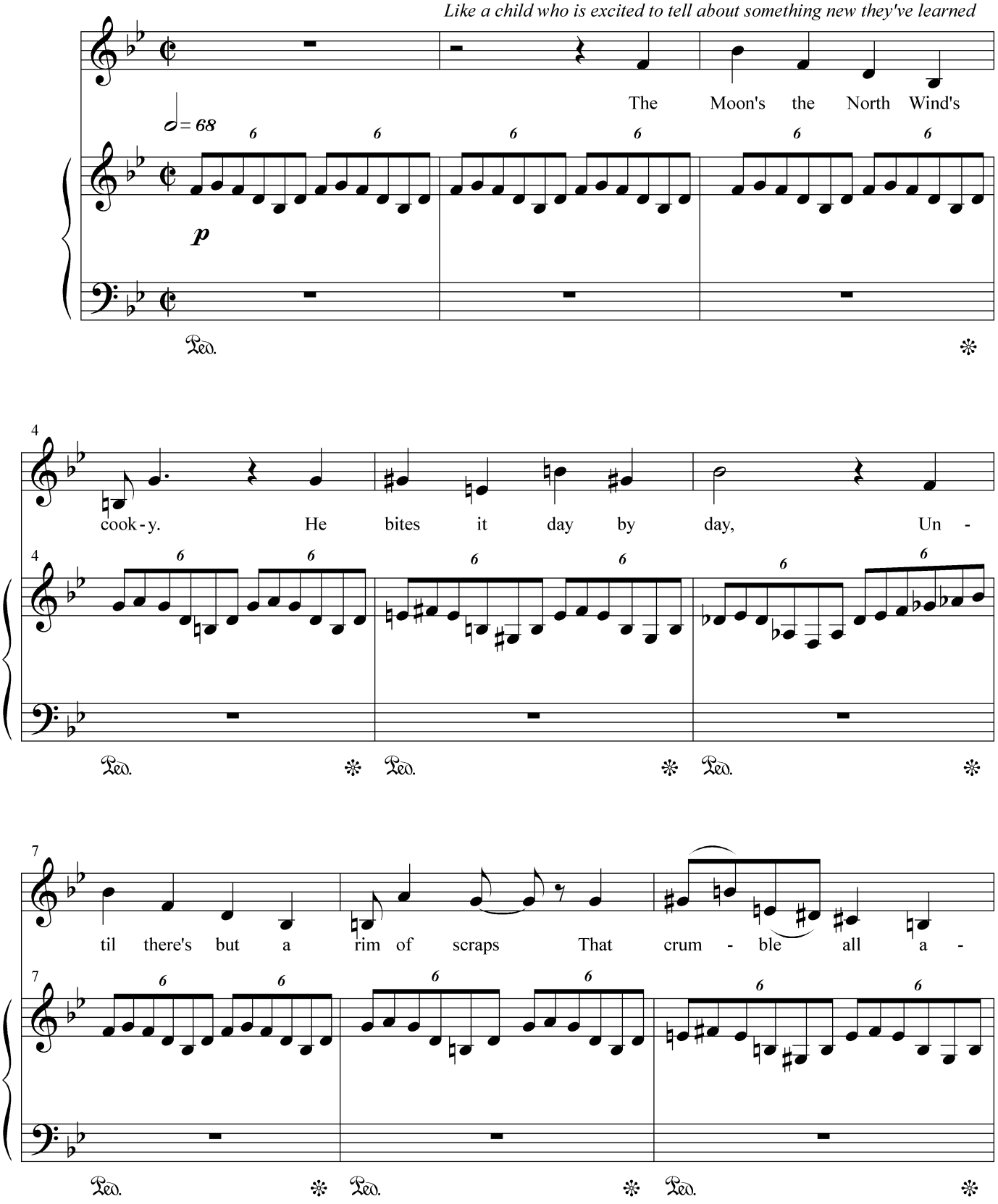

69
in gold co - rup - tion lies long
(15ma)
Ped.
Ped.
74
dead,
pp
the Moon - Worm but -
pp
78
ter - flies on cy - clone wings will reach this place,


81
Yea, rear their brood on earth's dead face,
(15ma)
81
84
earth's dead face,
ppp
on earth's dead face.
(15ma)
84
ppp
non rit.
ppp
88
(15ma)
88
pppp

3. What the Little Girl Said

Music by M. Ryan Taylor
Poem by Vachel Lindsay

Like a child who is excited to tell about something new they've learned



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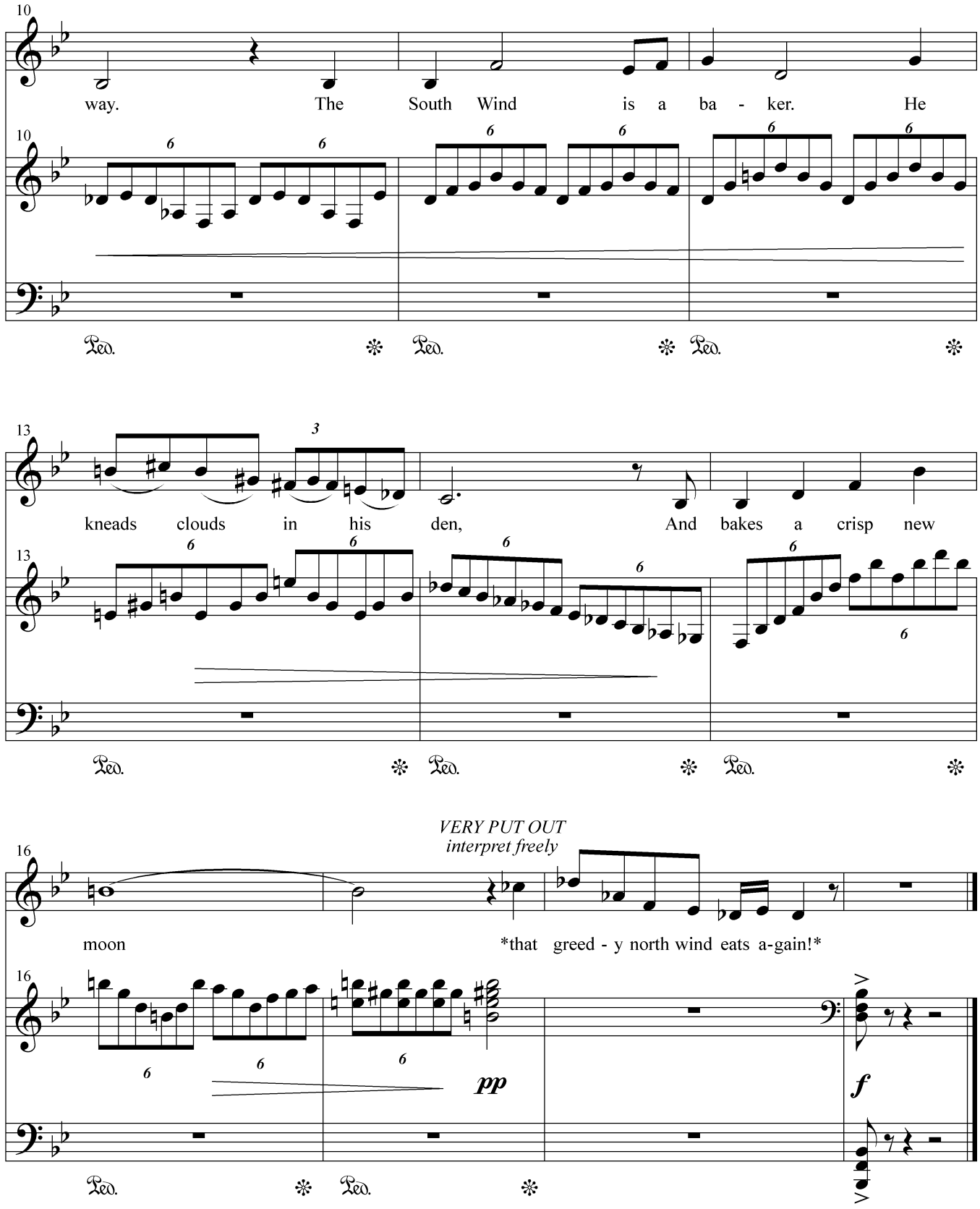
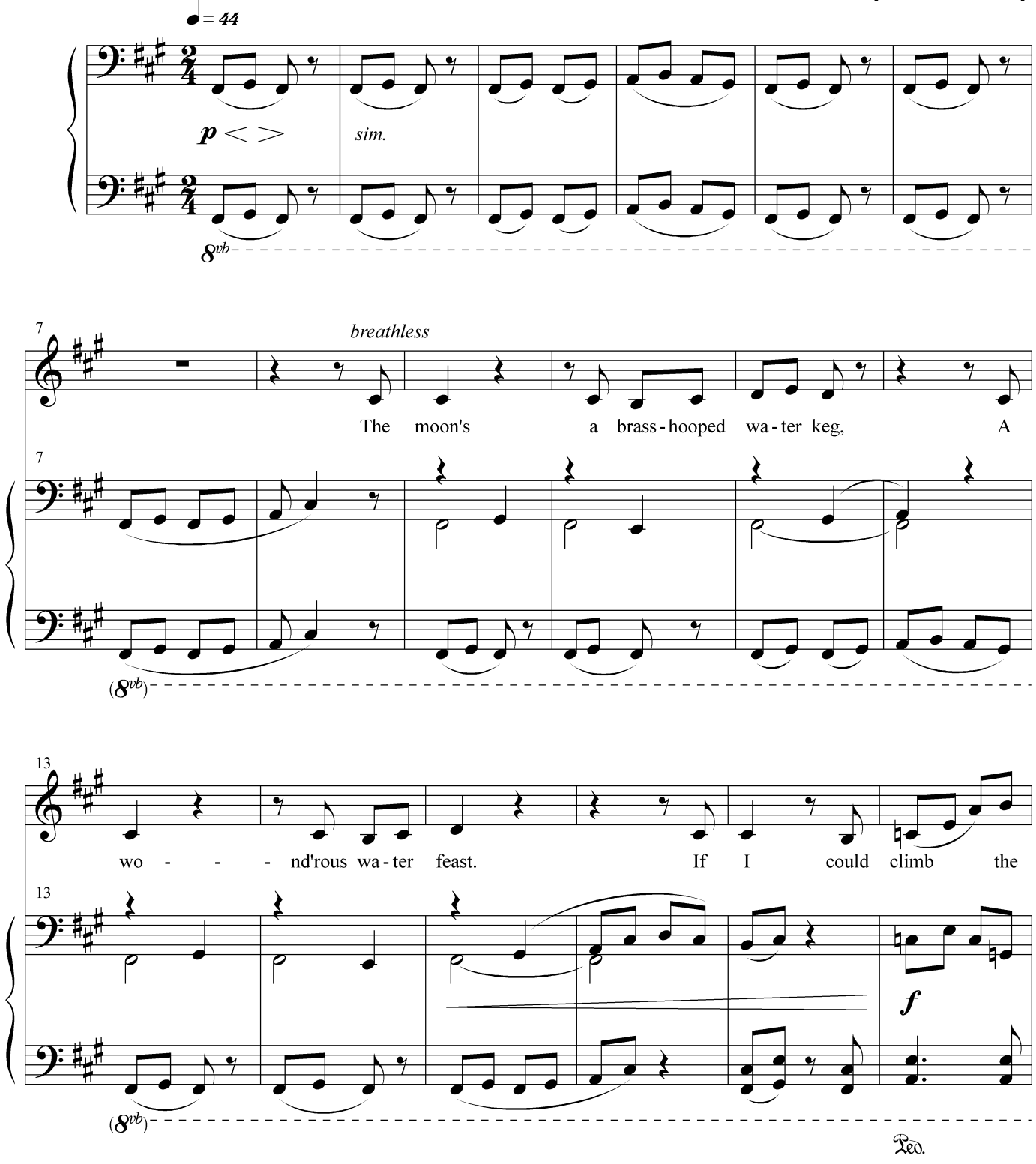

10
way. The South Wind is a ba - ker. He
Ped. Ped. Ped.
13
kneads clouds in his den, And bakes a crisp new
Ped. Ped. Ped.
VERY PUT OUT
interpret freely
16
moon *that greed - y north wind eats a-gain!*
pp
f
Ped. Ped.

4. What the Miner in the Desert Said

Music by M. Ryan Taylor
Poem by Vachel Lindsay



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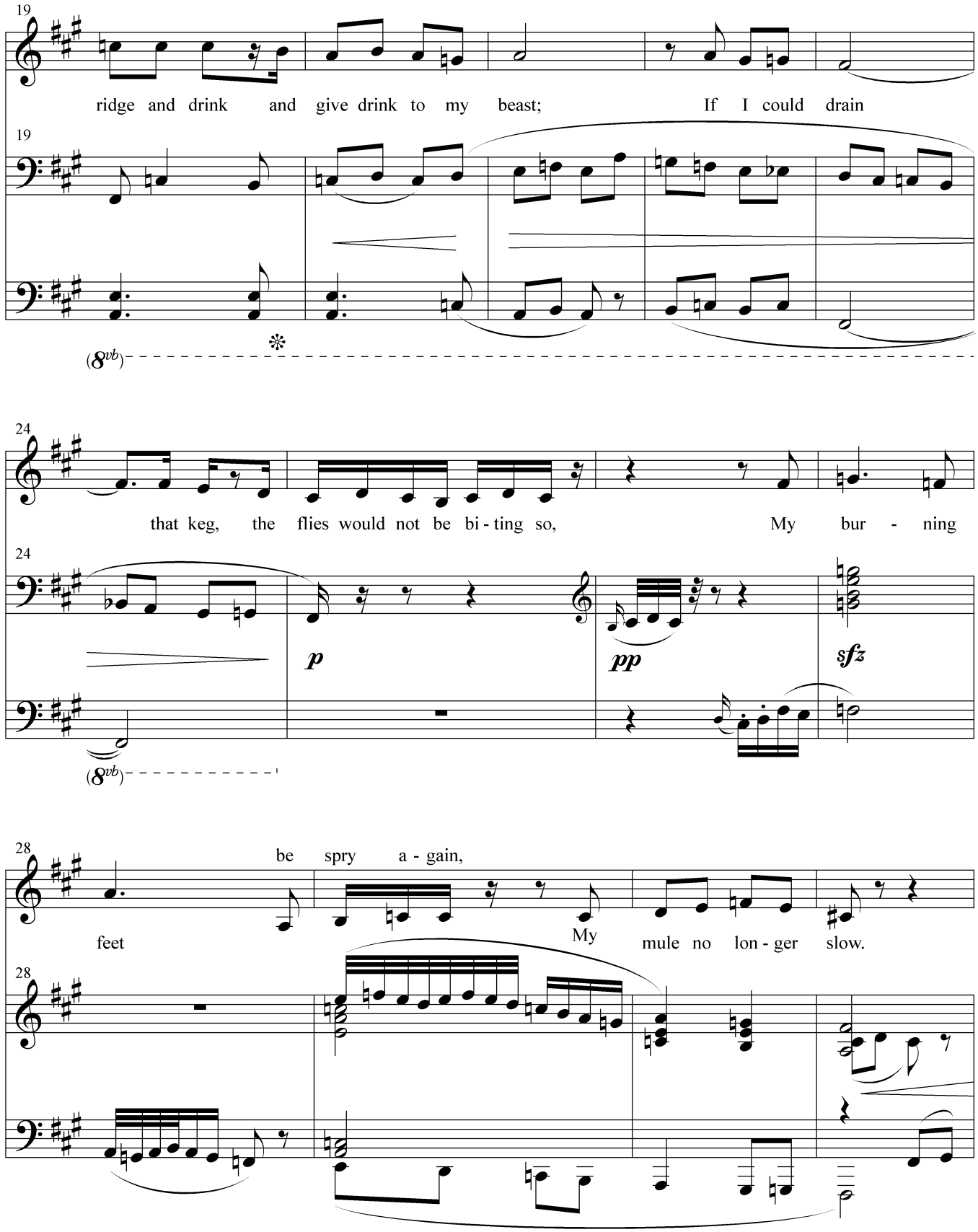
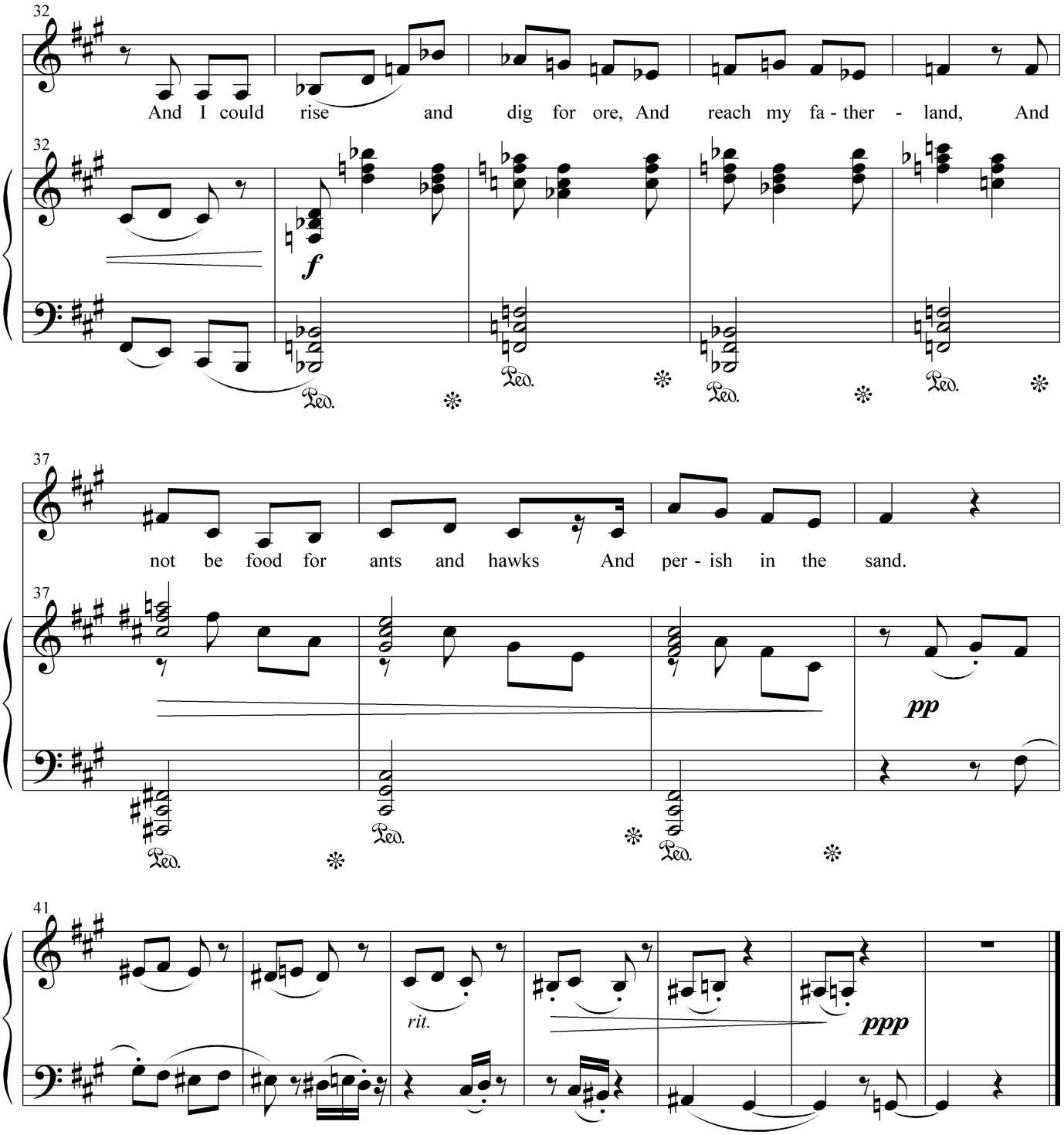
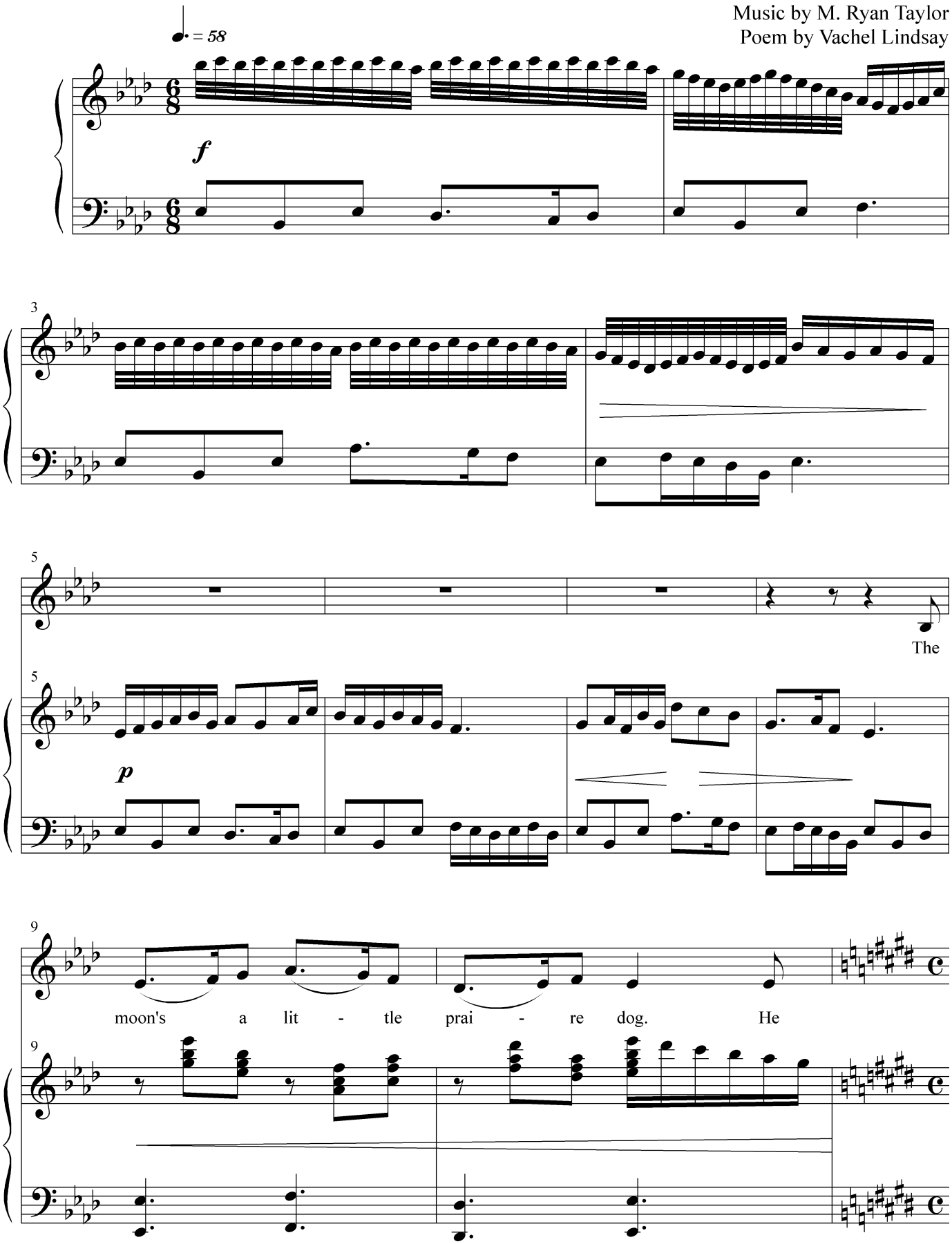

19
ridge and drink and give drink to my beast; If I could drain
19
(8vb)
24
that keg, the flies would not be bi - ting so, My bur - ning
24
p
pp
sfz
(8vb)
28
be spry a - gain,
feet My mule no lon - ger slow.
28


32
And I could rise and dig for ore, And reach my fa - ther - land, And
f
Ped.
37
not be food for ants and hawks And per - ish in the sand.
pp
41
rit.
ppp

5. What the Rattlesnake Said

Music by M. Ryan Taylor
Poem by Vachel Lindsay



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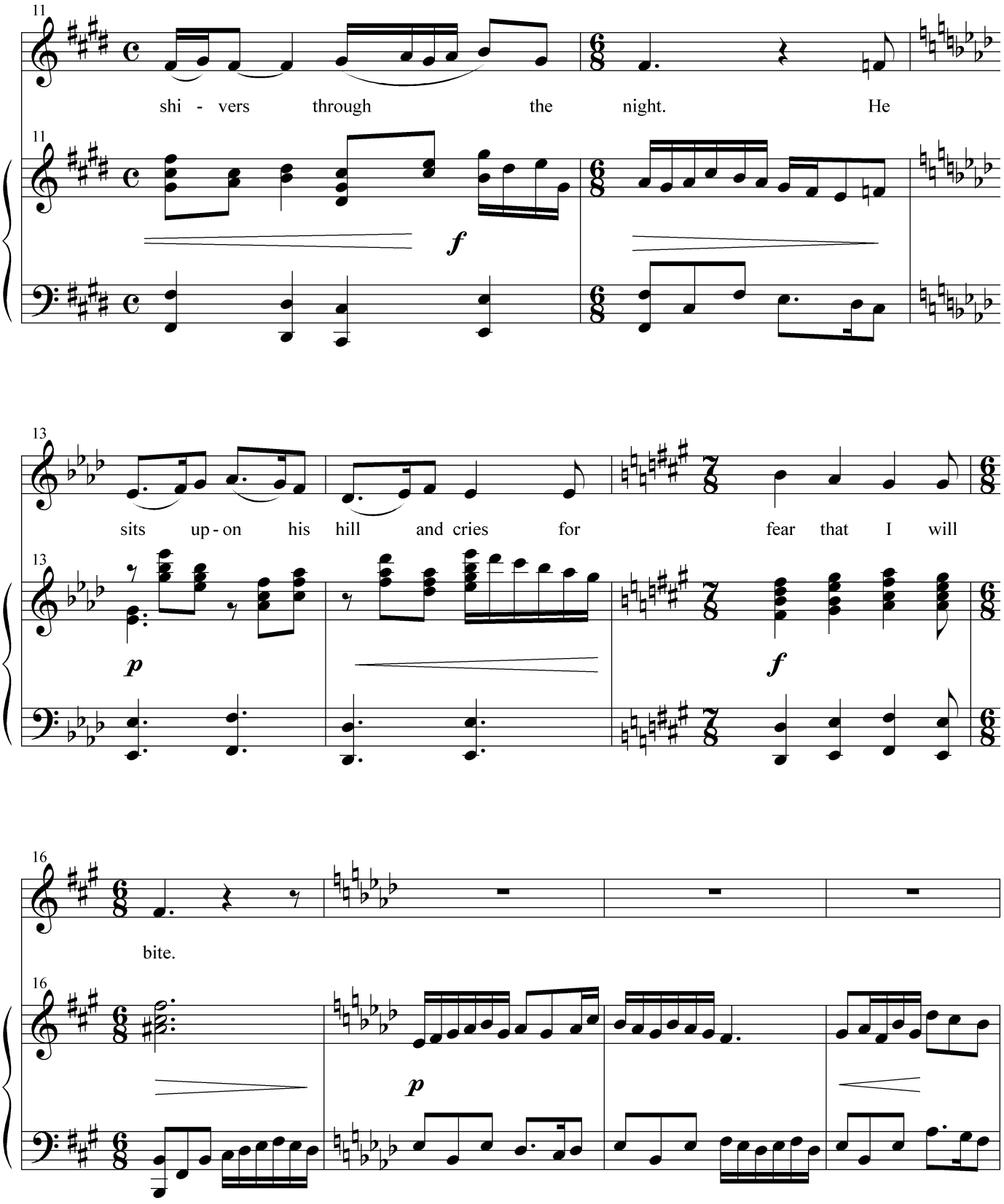
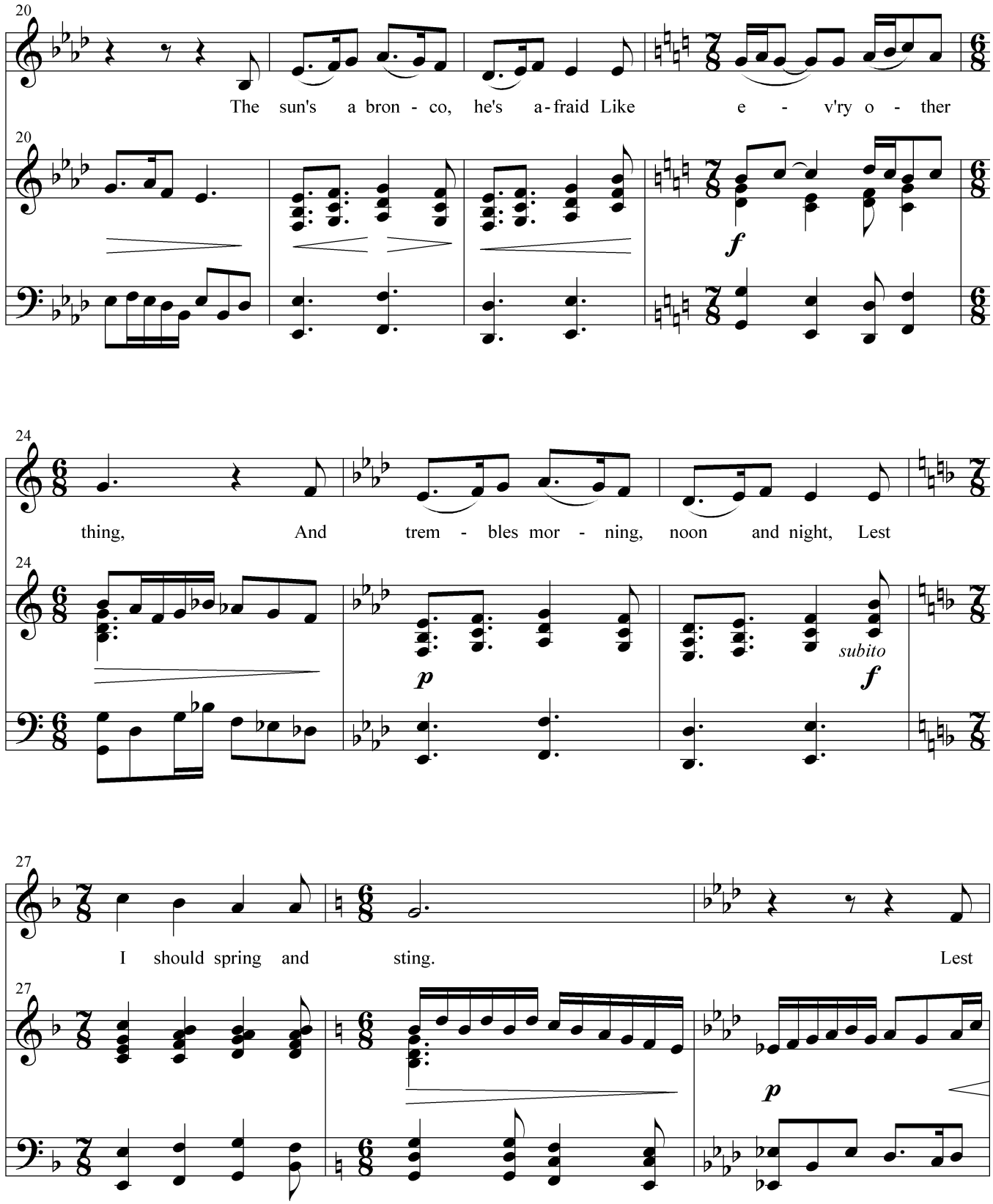
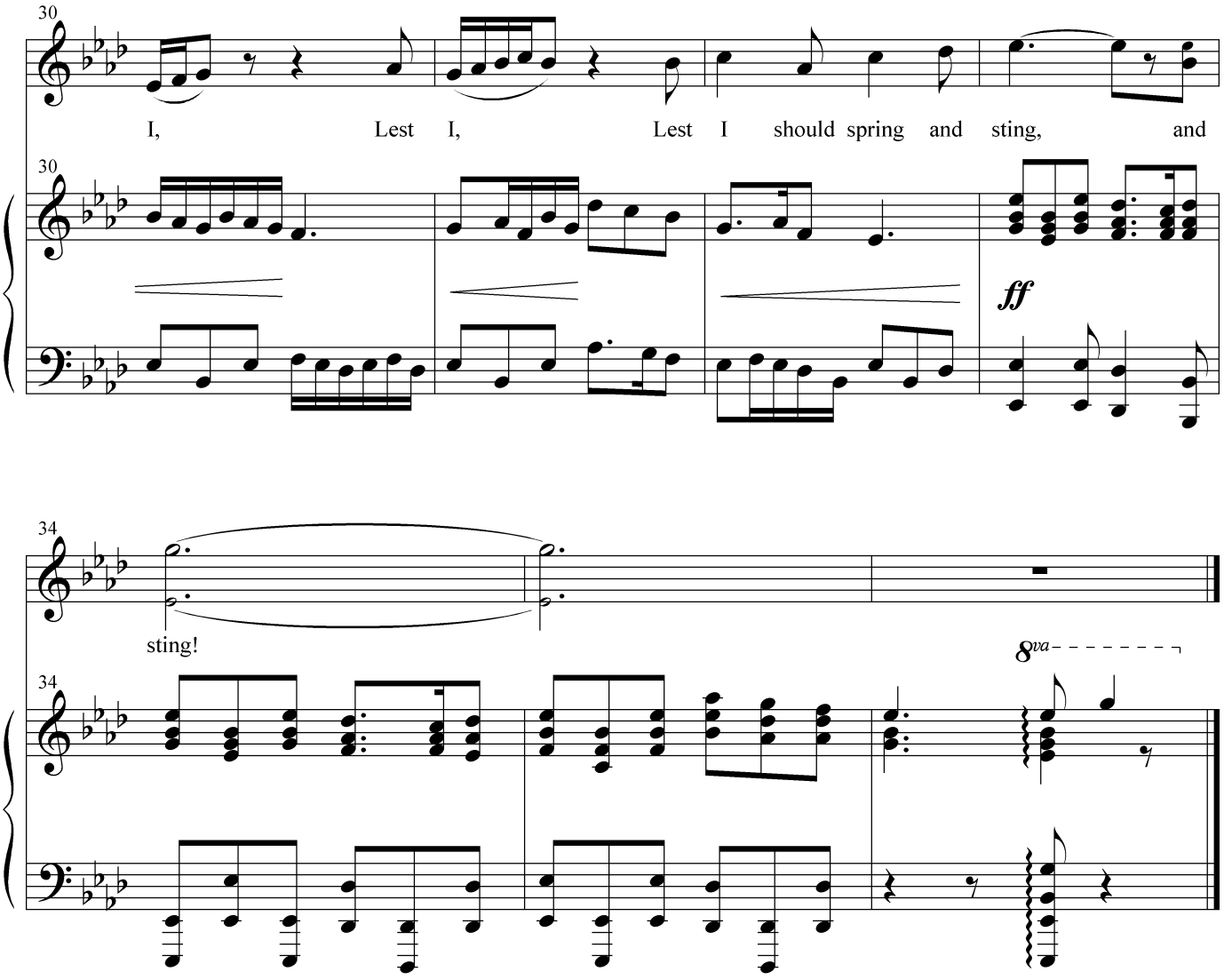
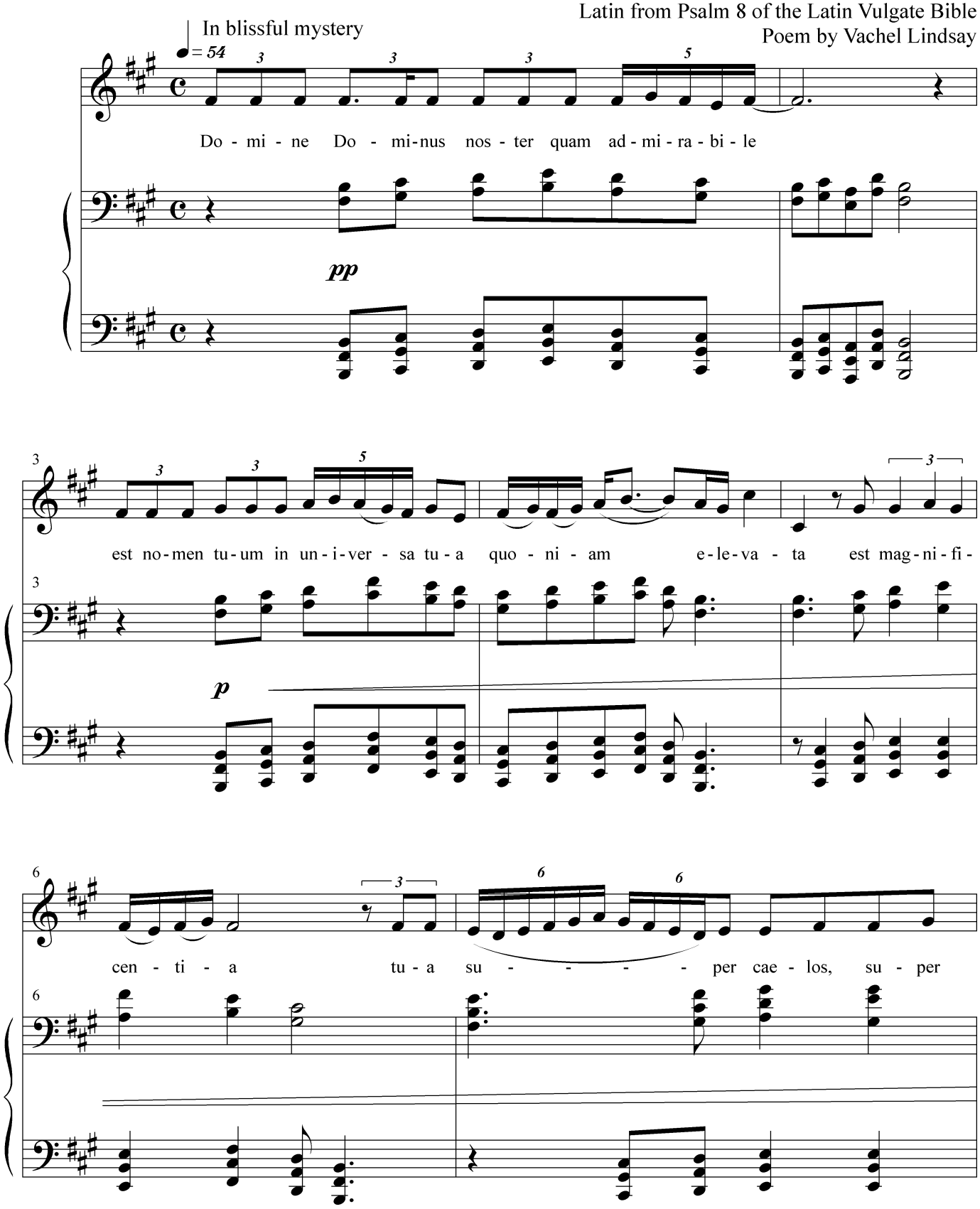

11
shi - vers through the night. He
f
13
sits up - on his hill and cries for fear that I will
p
f
16
bite.
p


20
The sun's a bron - co, he's a-fraid Like e - v'ry o - ther
20
f
24
thing, And trem - bles mor - ning, noon and night, Lest
24
p
subito
f
27
I should spring and sting. Lest
27
p


30
I, Lest I, Lest I should spring and sting, and
30
ff
34
sting!
8va
34

6. The Strength of the Lonely

Music by M. Ryan Taylor
Latin from Psalm 8 of the Latin Vulgate Bible
Poem by Vachel Lindsay



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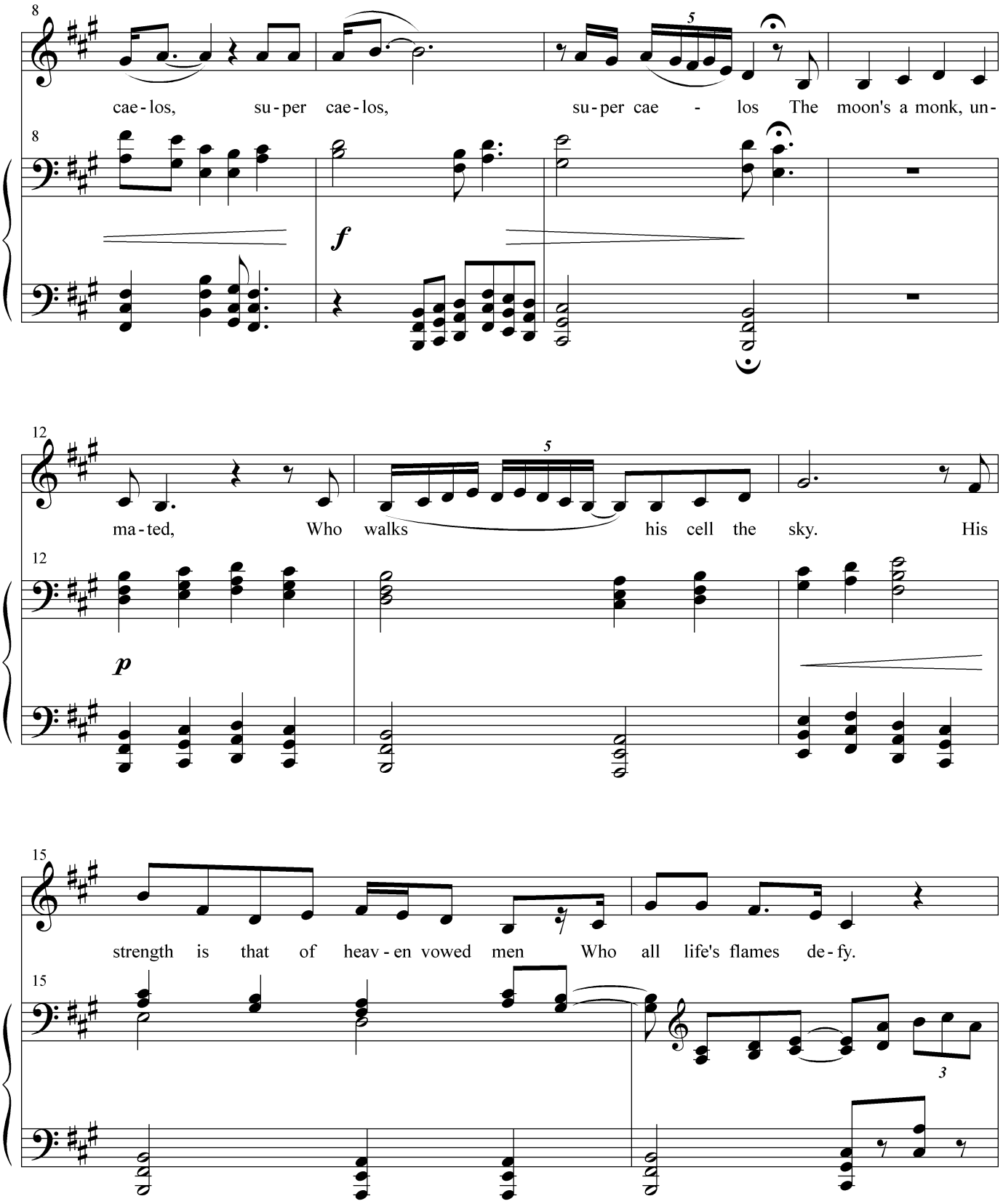
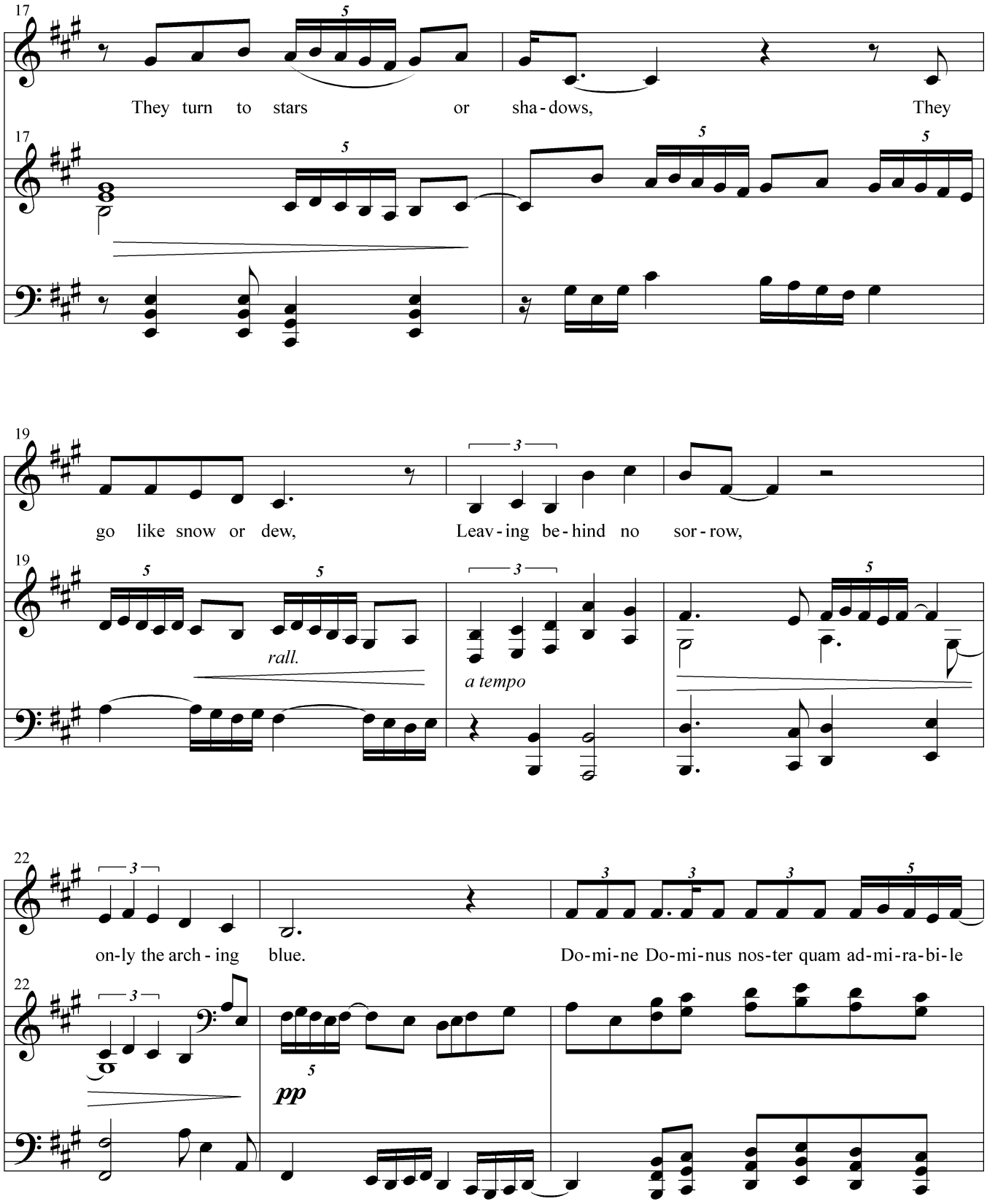
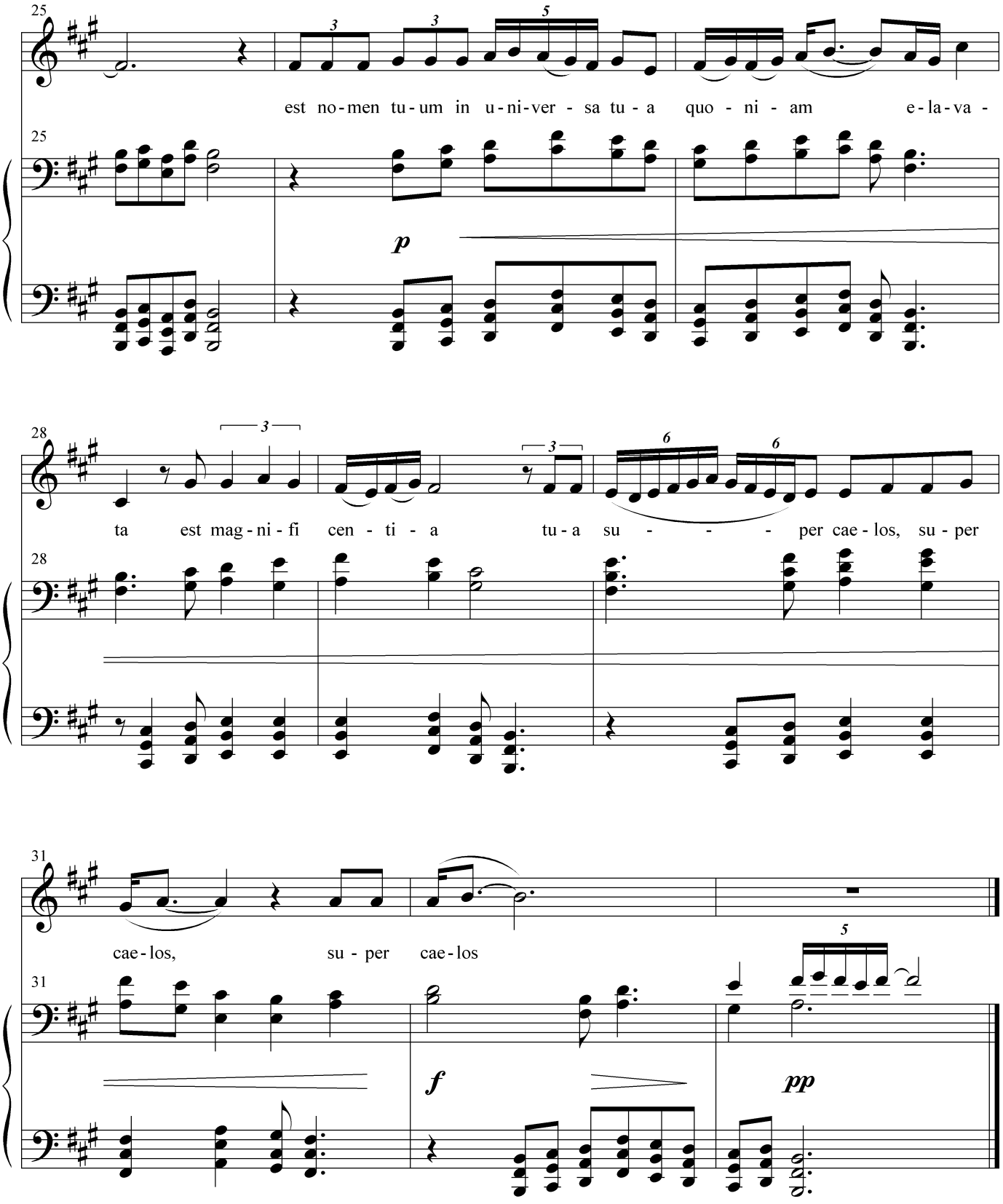
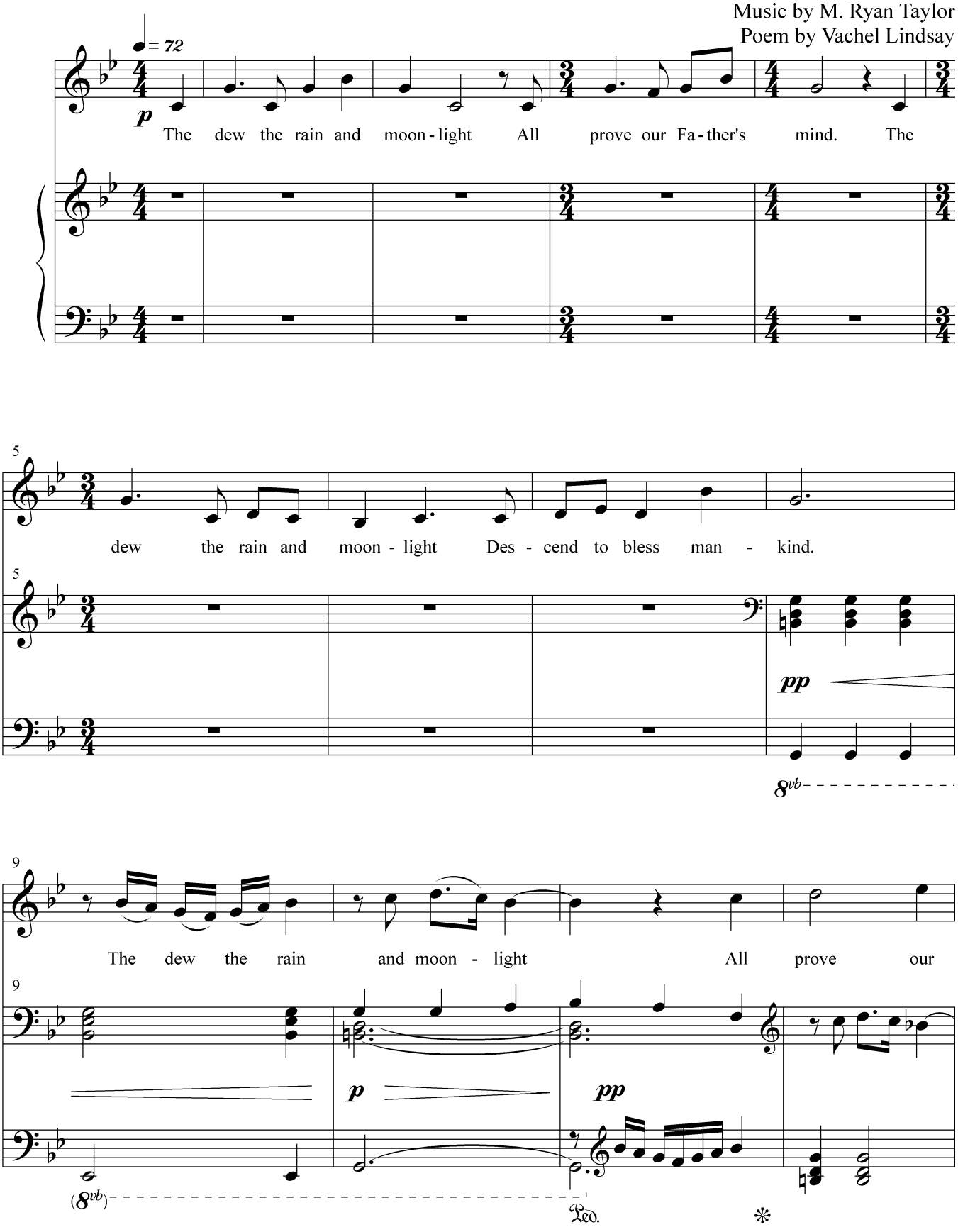

8
cae - los, su - per cae - los, su - per cae - los The moon's a monk, un -
f
12
ma - ted, Who walks his cell the sky. His
p
15
strength is that of heav - en vowed men Who all life's flames de - fy.


17
They turn to stars or sha - dows, They
19
go like snow or dew, Leav - ing be - hind no sor - row,
rall.
a tempo
22
on-ly the arch - ing blue. Do-mi-ne Do-mi-nus nos-ter quam ad-mi-ra-bi-le
pp


25
est no-men tu-um in u-ni-ver - sa tu - a quo - ni - am e-la-va -
p
28
ta est mag-ni-fi cen - ti - a tu-a su - - - per cae-los, su-per
31
cae-los, su - per cae-los
f
pp

7. What the Man of Faith Said

Music by M. Ryan Taylor
Poem by Vachel Lindsay



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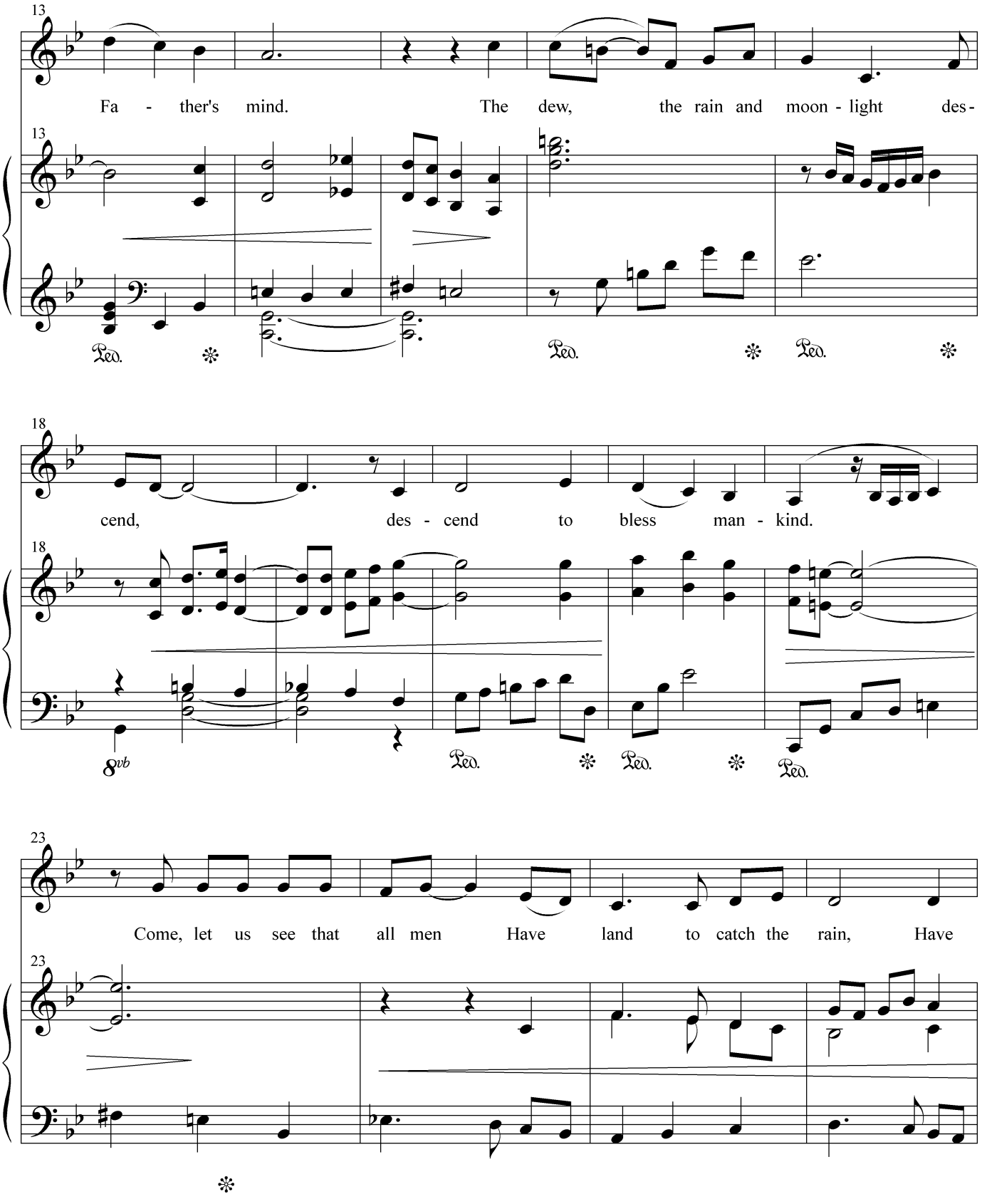
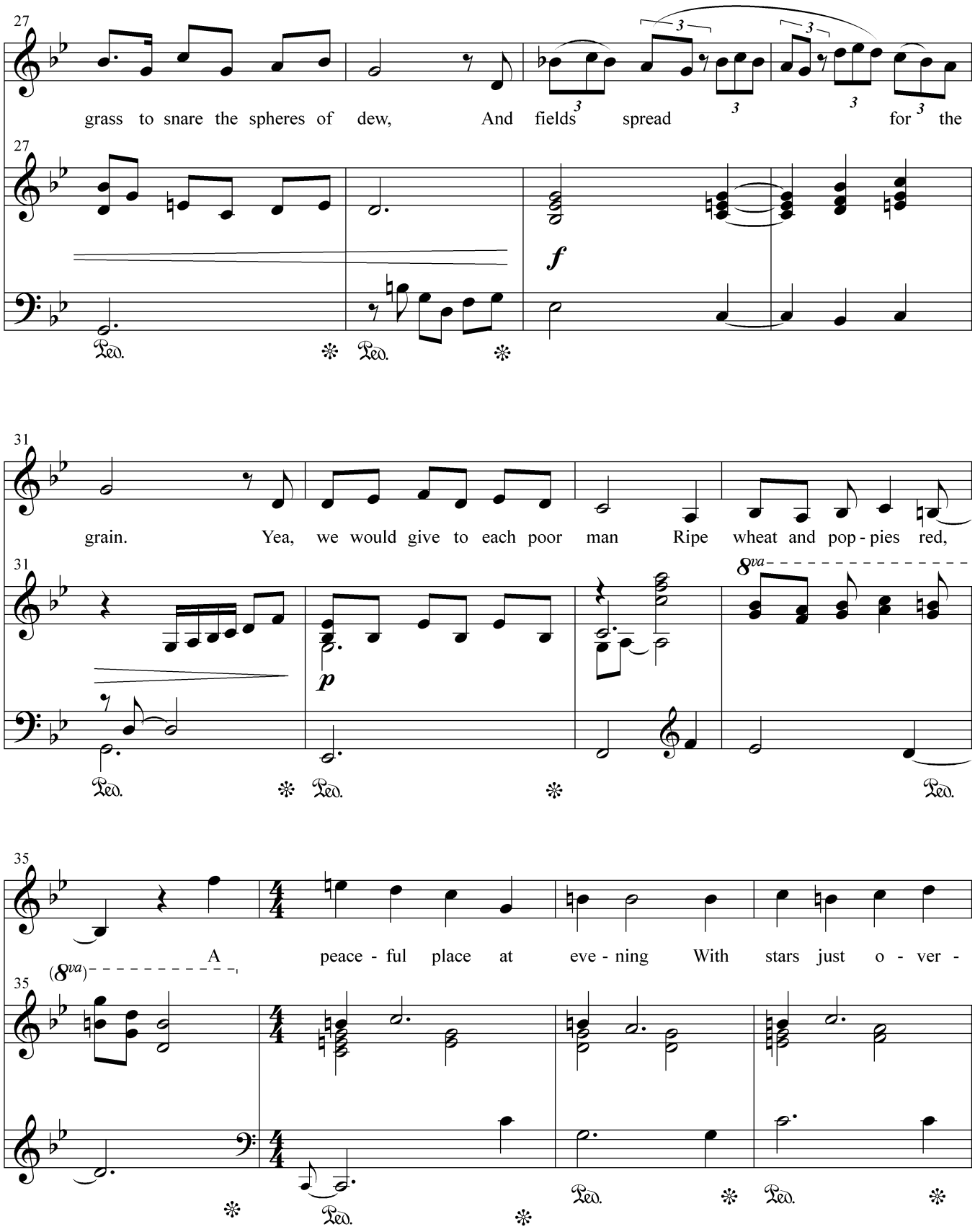
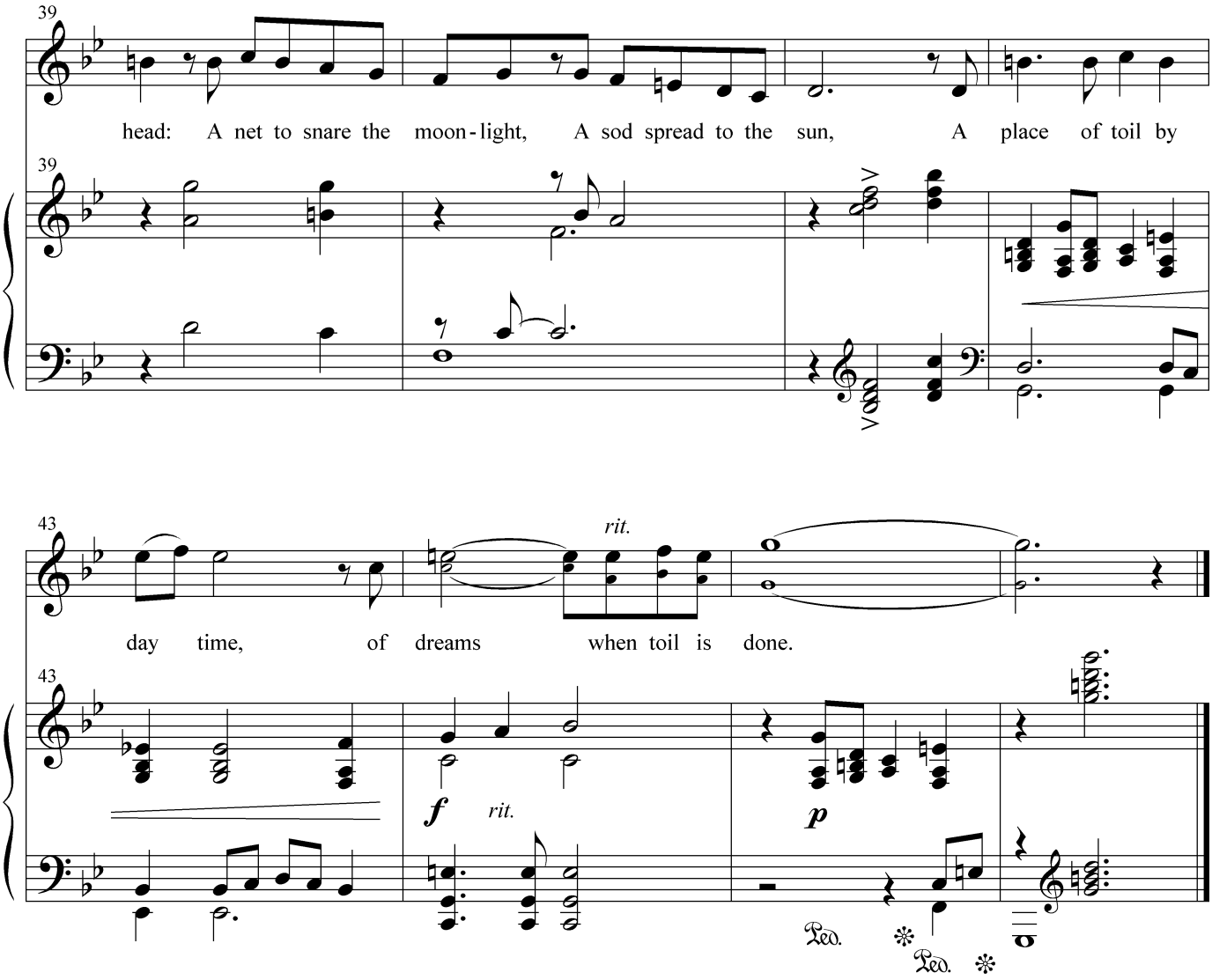

13
Fa - ther's mind. The dew, the rain and moon - light des -
13
Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *
18
cend, des - cend to bless man - kind.
18
8vb
Ped. * Ped. * Ped.
23
Come, let us see that all men Have land to catch the rain, Have
23
*


27
grass to snare the spheres of dew, And fields spread for the
f
31
grain. Yea, we would give to each poor man Ripe wheat and pop - pies red,
p
8va
35
A peace - ful place at eve - ning With stars just o - ver -
(8va)


39
head: A net to snare the moon - light, A sod spread to the sun, A place of toil by
39
43
rit.
day time, of dreams when toil is done.
43
f
rit.
p
Ped.
Ped.

The Last Page

An important message from M. Ryan Taylor . . .

Thank you for downloading one of my original vocal works. You might ask why a professional composer would be allowing you to download and print his original music for free. The truth is that most composers (with a few notable exceptions) do not make a significant portion of their income from the sale of scores. At one time, traditional paper publishing firms were the only way to get scores into the hands of performers like yourselves. The electronic transfer of information over the internet has abolished the need for a middleman between composers and performers, and the traditional costs of printing, storing and shipping of sheet music as well as the vast administrative costs of managing a large publishing firm are no longer a relevant issue. Therefore, you may print as many copies of this music as you need to perform this work, free of charge.

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I ask that you be vigilant in informing me whenever you perform this music. No matter what the performance venue (concert, church, recital, symposium, etc.), your notifying me of each performance ensures that I can keep an up-to-date performance record of the piece as well as receive a performance royalty from my performing rights organization, ASCAP (the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers). This royalty payment, *which costs you nothing*, contributes greatly to my being able to continue to compose new music for you.

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- **Title of the work/s performed**
- **Performing group/individual and contact information**
- **Date and location of the performance/s**

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- Send me an audio or video **recording of your performance** to post on the the site.
- Though the costs of publishing have gone down dramatically, a composer still needs money for food and shelter. Oftentimes these costs are met through the support of Generous patrons of the arts like yourself. Visit MRyanTaylor.com and make a freewill monetary donation to **support the creation of new works**.
- Contact me at mryan@choirworks.com about commissioning a **new work written especially for you**.

My sincere thanks for your support. I look forward to many years of making music together. Please keep in touch.

All the best to you,

M. Ryan Taylor