THE PASSION OF BRUNO

ON THE COUNTLESS WORLDS OF
GIORDANO BRUNO

JORDAN ALEXANDER KEY

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THE PASSION OF GIORDANO BRUNO

FOR

LOADBANG ENSEMBLE

Baritone Voice – Trumpet in B-flat – Trombone – Bass Clarinet

Fall, 2020

1. Glory to Curiosity (c. 2’30”) 1
2. Invocation of Truth (c. 3’00”) 5
3. The Fools of the World (c. 6’00”) 22
4. Countless Earths, “The Cosmic Visions of Bruno” (c. 13’00”) 30

THE PASSION OF GIORDANO BRUNO

PART 1: (text based on excerpts of *Cabal of the Cheval Pegasus*, 1585)

Glory to impious curiosity
… seek the secrets of nature,
… and reckon the courses of the stars.

The fools of the world have been those
who have established ceremonies,
laws, faith, rule of life,
and religions.

Impart to us the knowledge
of the universality of terrestrial laws
throughout all worlds!
Destroy the theories that the earth
is the center of the universe!
Crush the supernatural powers
said to animate the world!
Open the door out into the limitless,
the unified firmament composed of similar elements!
Make it plain to us
that the motions of all the worlds
proceed from inner forces.
Teach us in the light of such attitudes
to go forward with surer tread
in the investigation and discovery of nature!

PART 2: (text based on excerpts of *On the Infinite Universe and Worlds,* 1584)

[BRUNO]
There are countless suns and countless earths
all rotating round their suns
in exactly the same way
as the seven planets of our system.

[ENSEMBLE]
Heresy!

[BRUNO]
We see only the suns
because they are the largest bodies
and are luminous,
but their planets remain invisible to us
because they are smaller and non-luminous.

[ENSEMBLE]
Heresy!

[BRUNO]
The countless worlds in the universe
are no worse and no less inhabited
than our earth.
For it is utterly unreasonable to suppose
that those teeming worlds
which are as magnificent as our own,
perhaps more so, …
should be uninhabited
and should not bear similar
or even more perfect inhabitants
than our earth.

[ENSEMBLE]
Heresy!

[BRUNO]
The unnumbered worlds in the universe
are all similar in form and rank
subject to the same forces
and the same laws.

[ENSEMBLE]
Heresy!

Score in C (Untransposed)

- THE PASSION OF BRUNO -

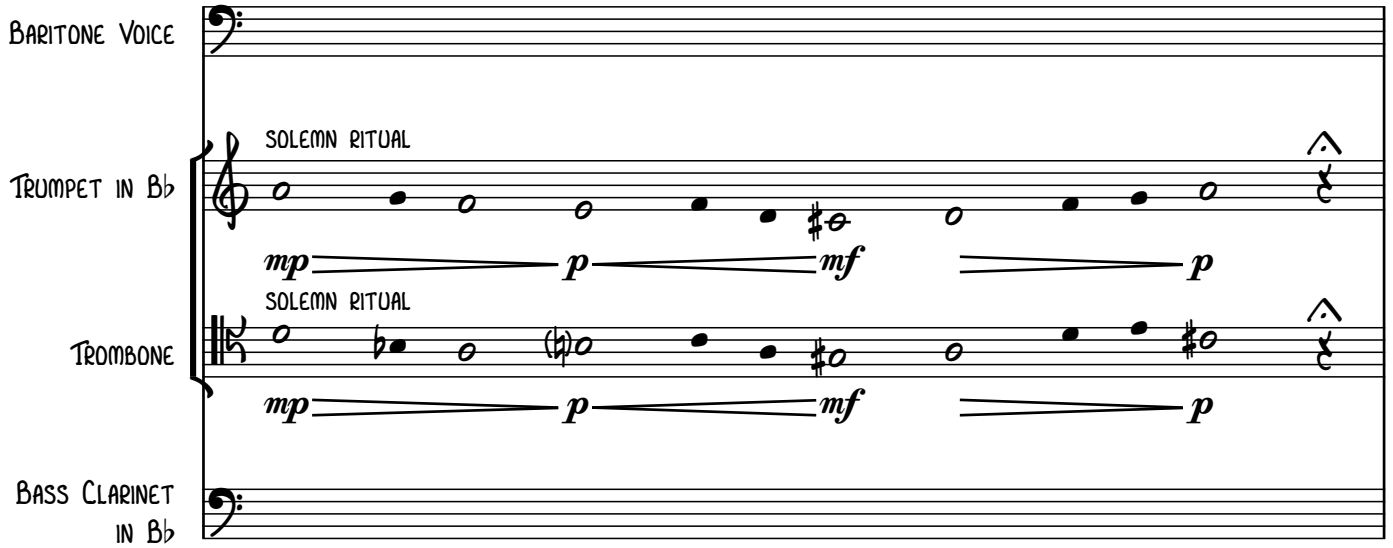
- GLORY TO CURIOSITY -

Giordano Bruno, "Cabal of the Cheval Pegasus" (1585)

Jordan Alexander Key
Fall 2020

Introitus: Grand Recitation (♩ = 60)

*FOR FIRST MOVEMENT, ACCIDENTALS APPLY ONLY TO NOTE GIVEN



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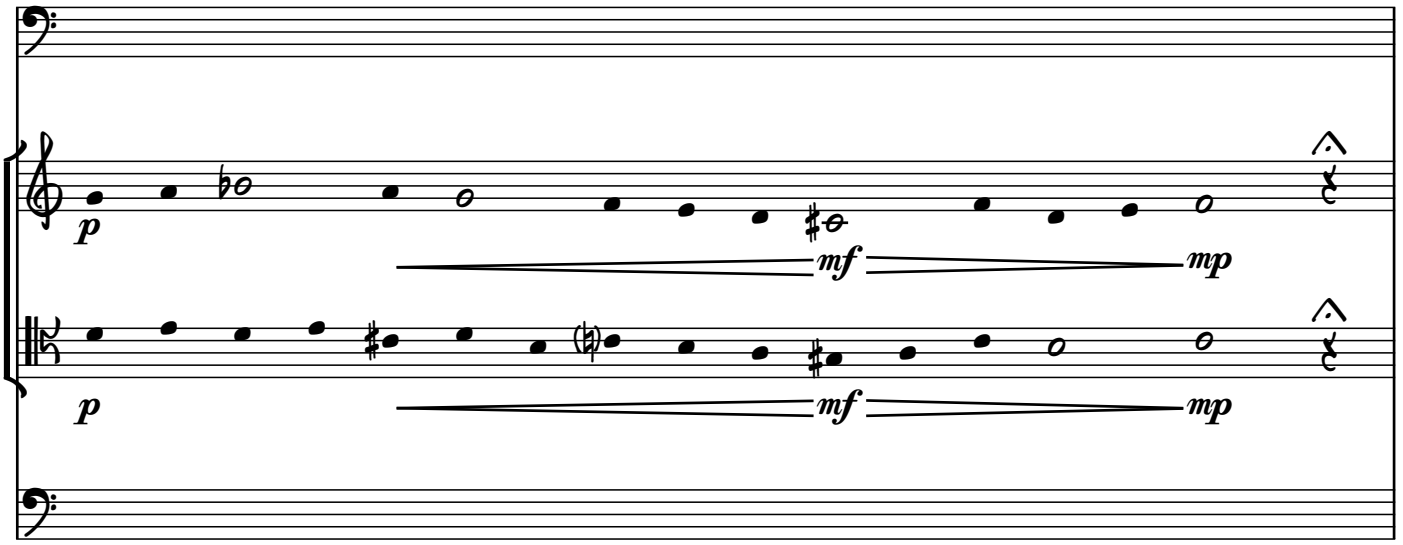

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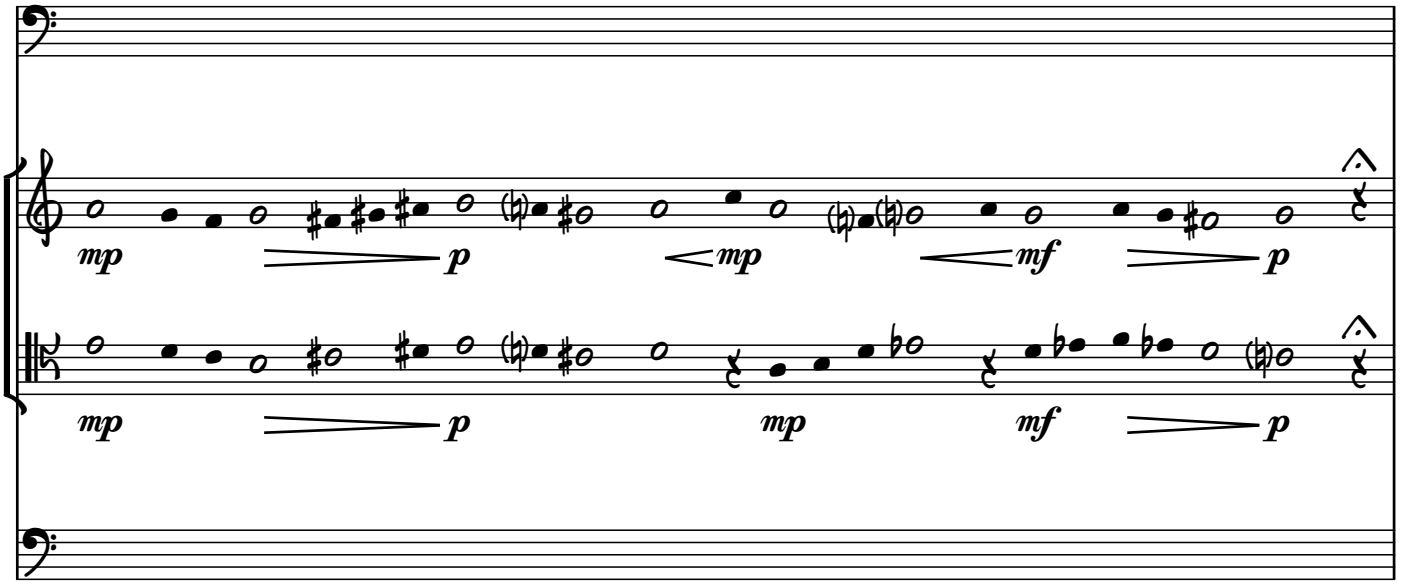
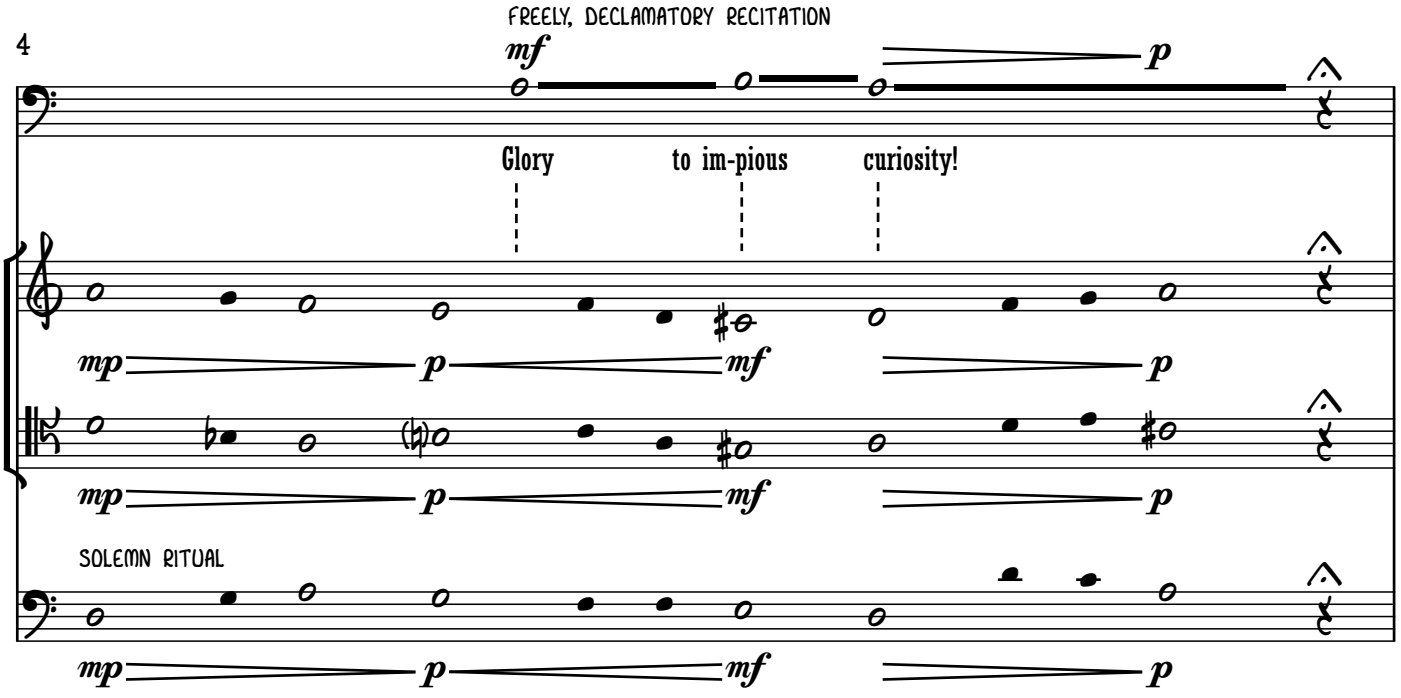
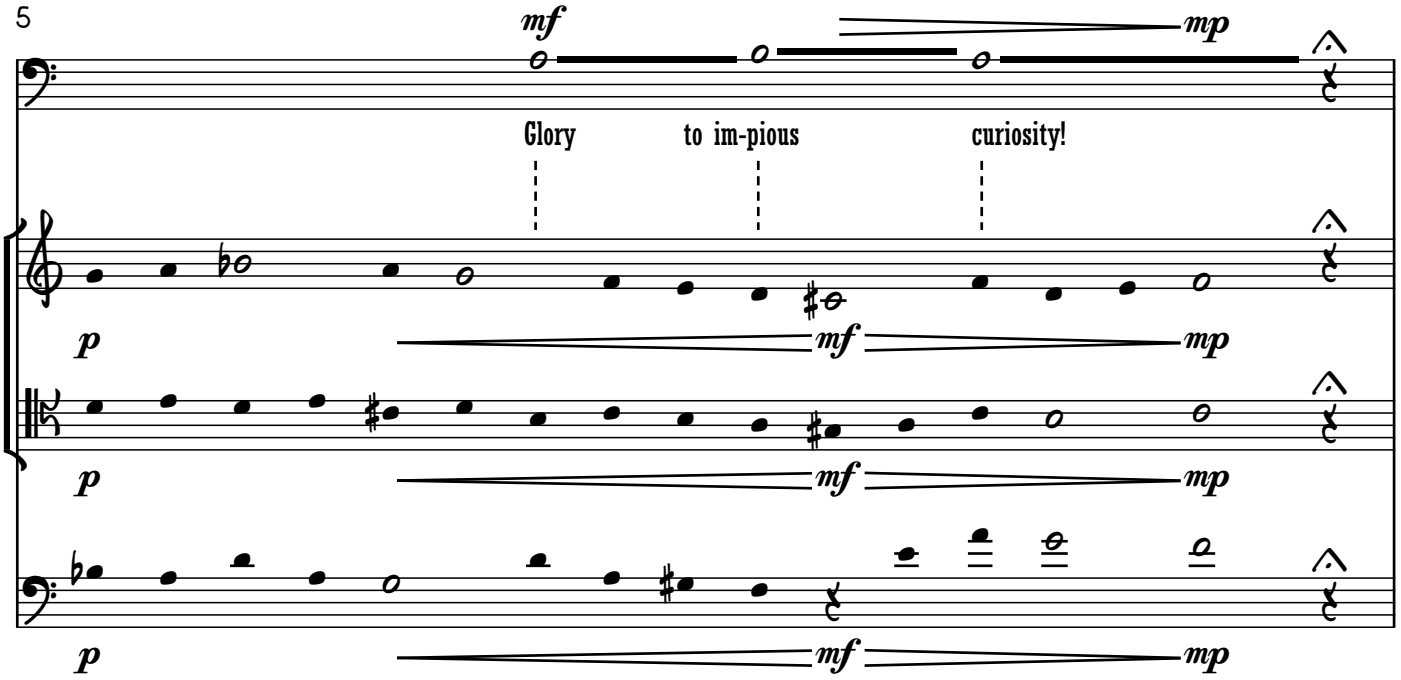
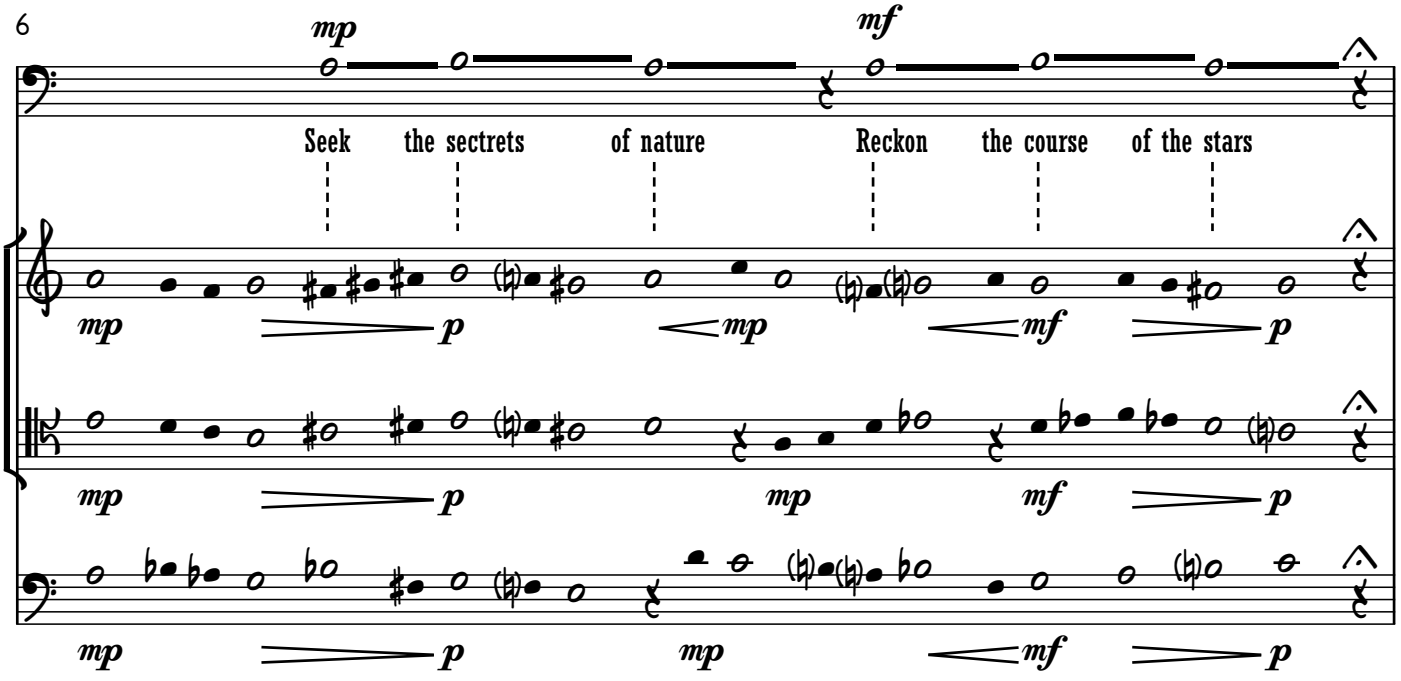
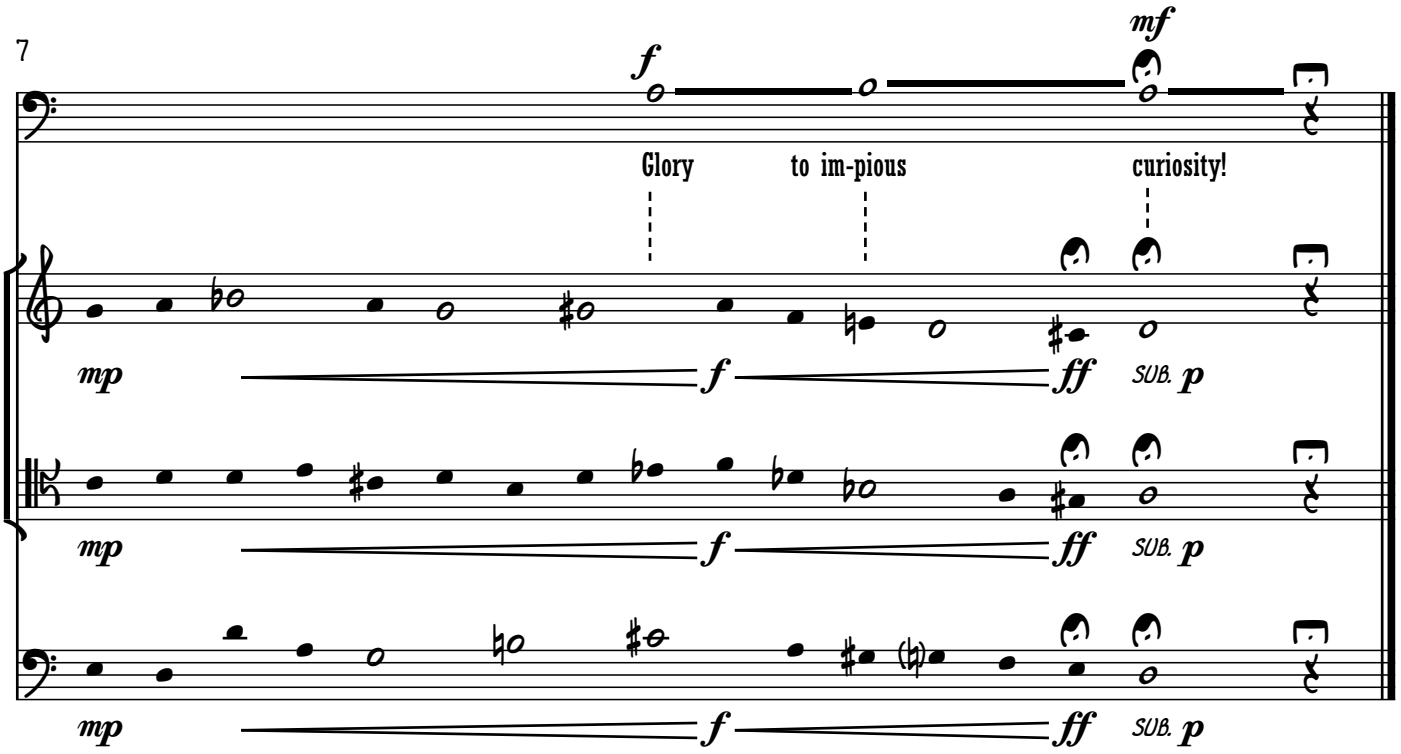

mp
p
mp
mf
p
mp
p
mp
mf
p

4


FREELY, DECLAMATORY RECITATION
mf
p
Glory
to im-pious
curiosity!
mp
p
mf
p
mp
p
mf
p
SOLEMN RITUAL
mp
p
mf
p


5
mf
mp
Glory
to im-pious
curiosity!
p
mf
mp

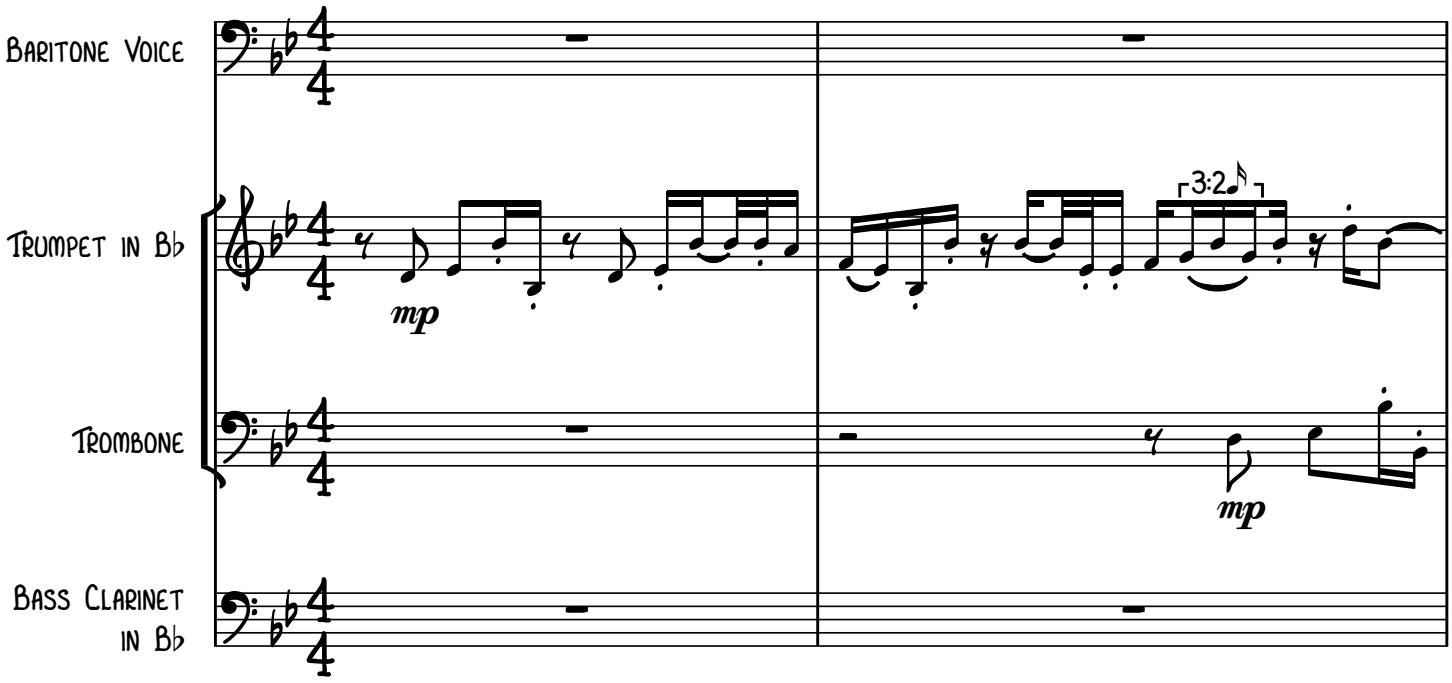

6
mp
mf
Seek
the sectrets
of nature
Reckon
the course
of the stars
p
mf


7
mf
f
Glory
to im-pious
curiosity!
mp
f
ff
SUB.
p
mp
f
ff
SUB.
p
mp
f
ff
SUB.
p

- PRAYER TO UNIVERSAL TRUTH -

Giordano Bruno, "Cabal of the Cheval Pegasus" (1585)

Joyous Fanfare (♩ = 50)



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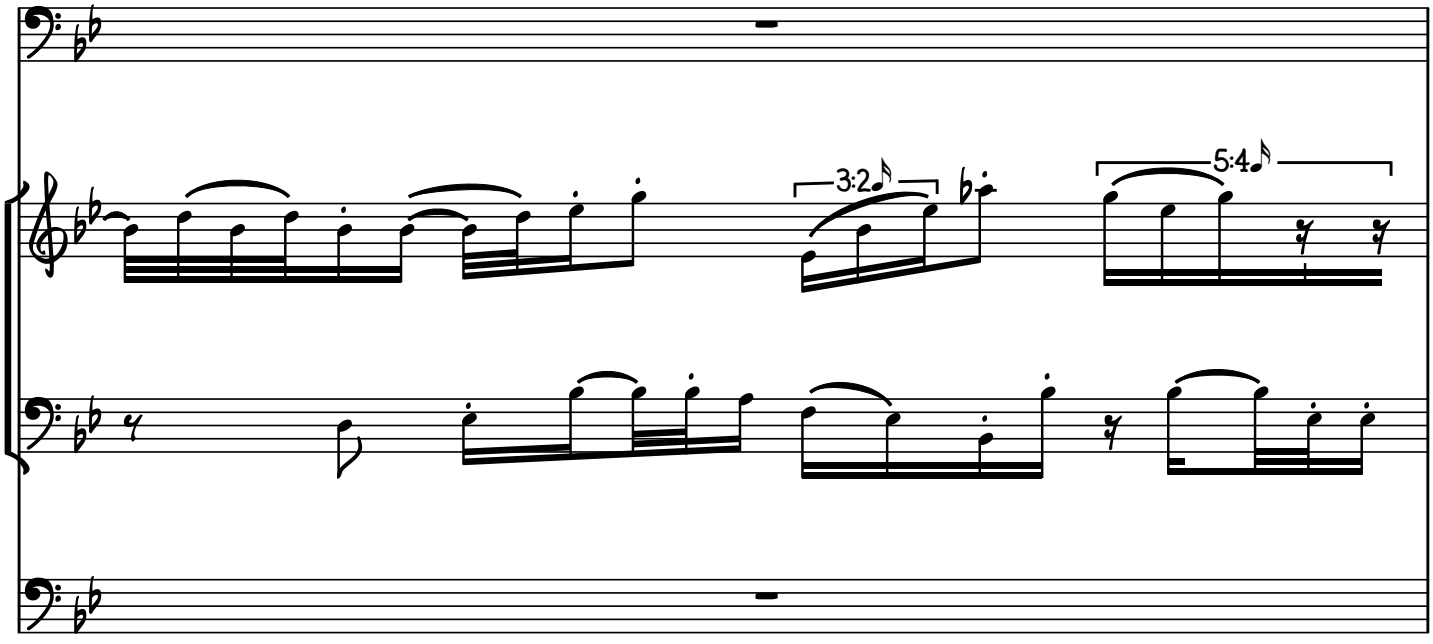

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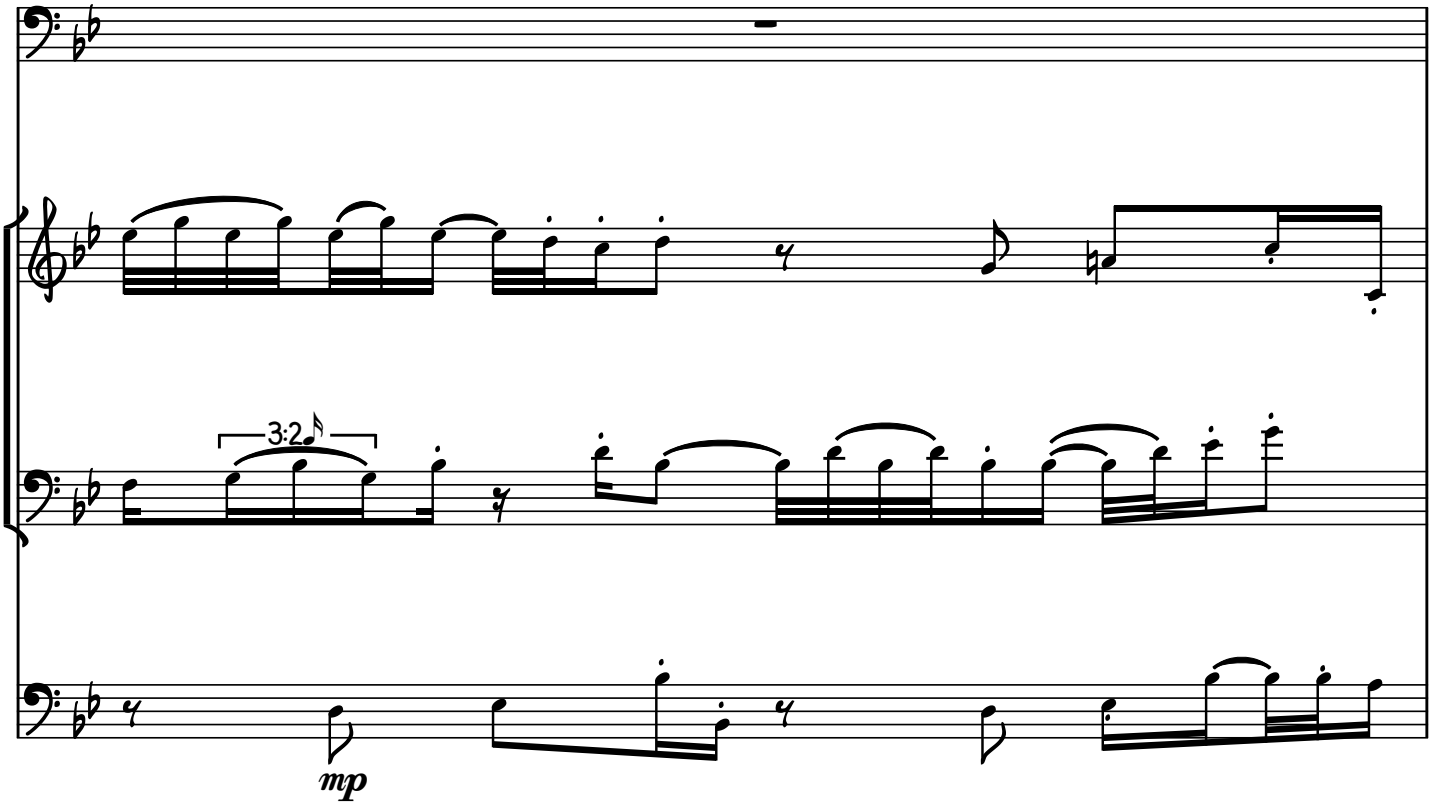

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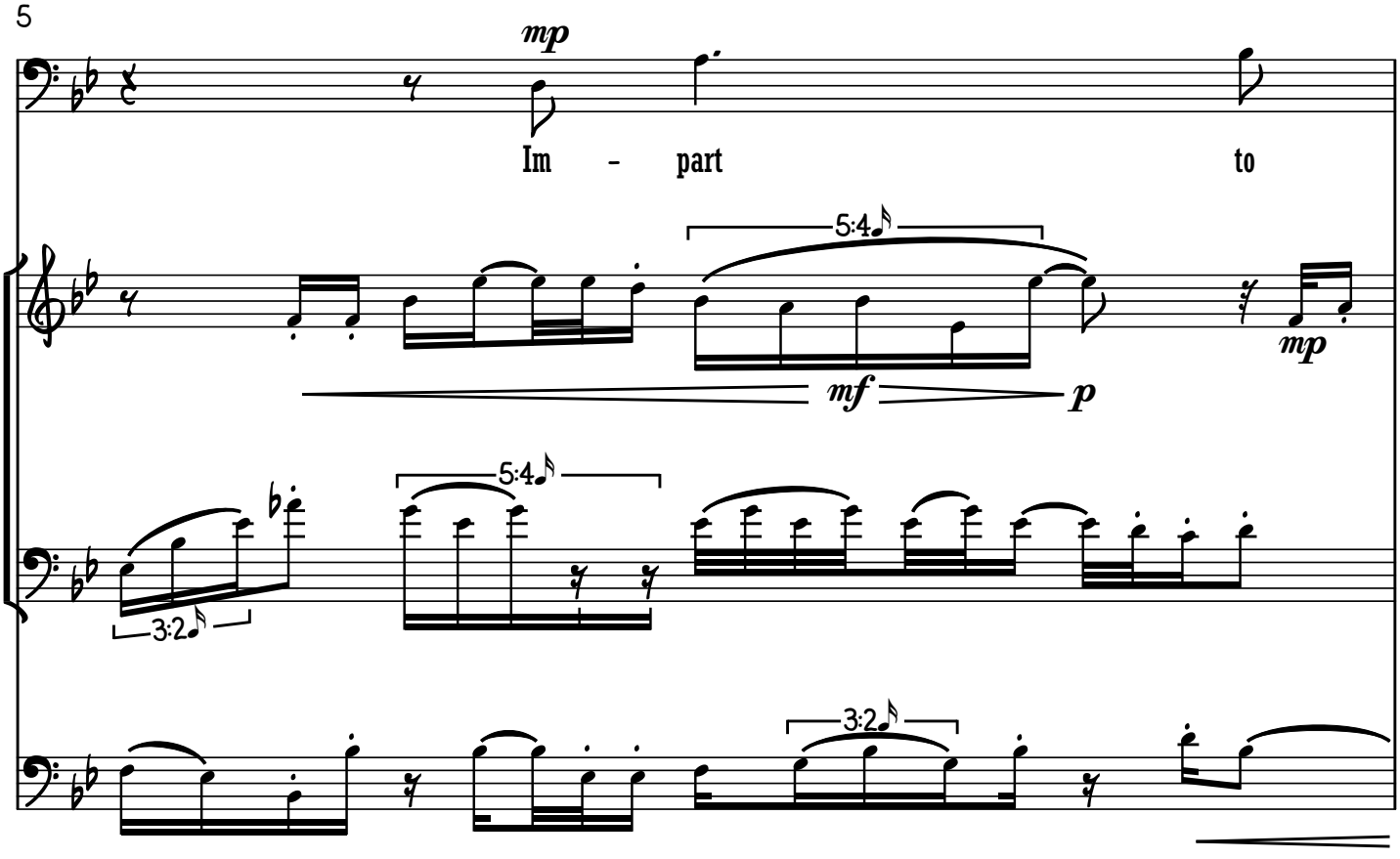

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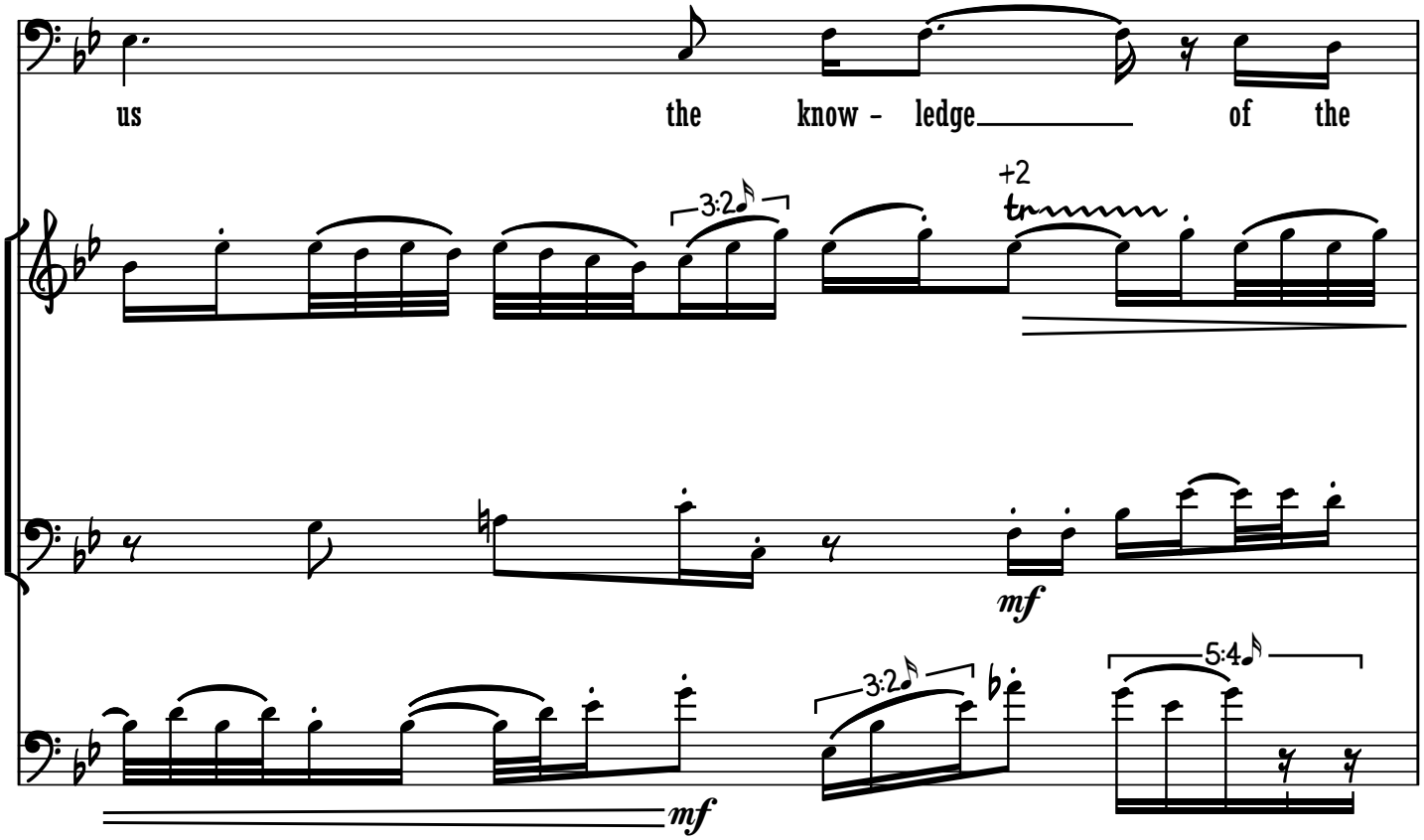
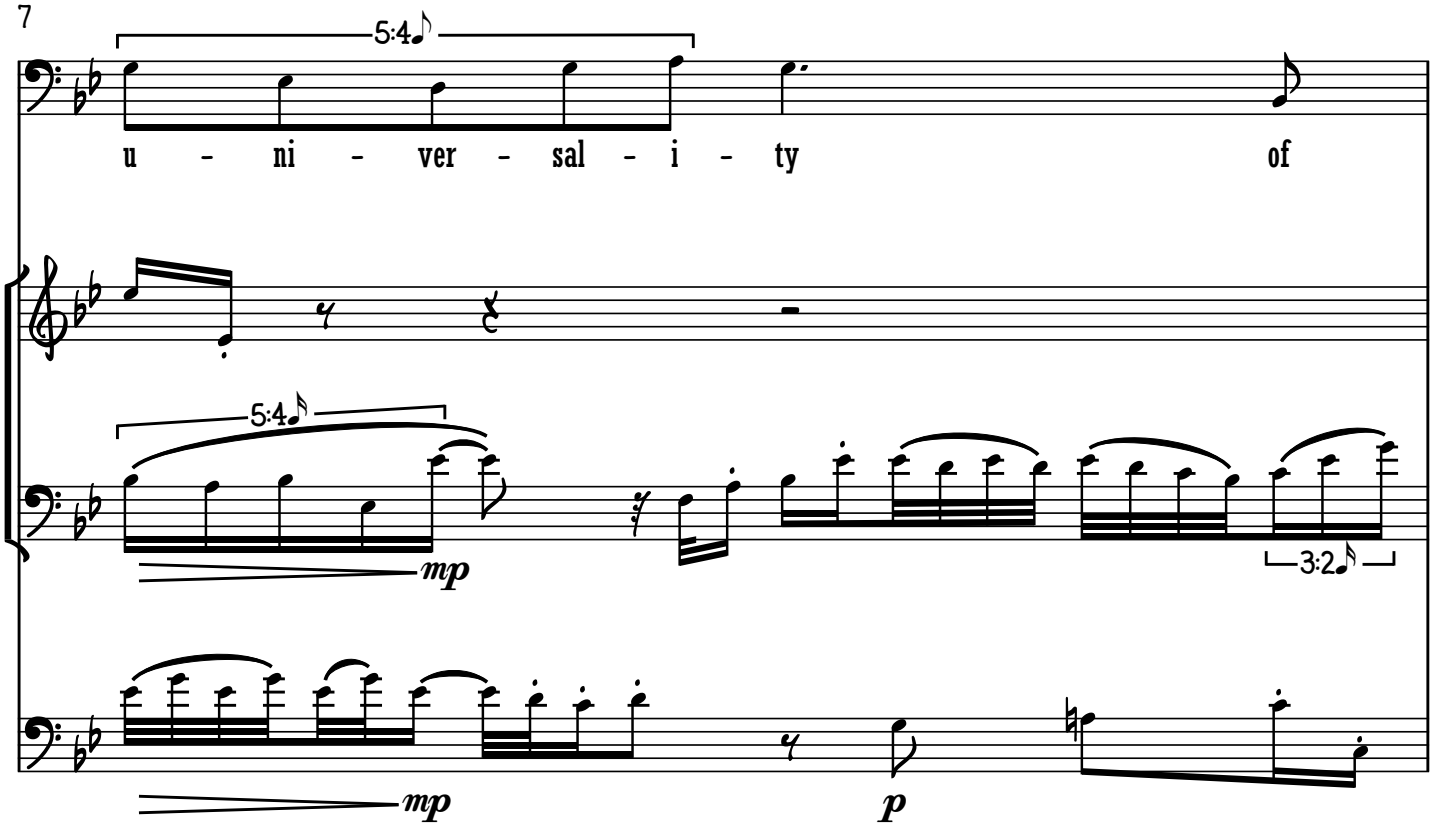
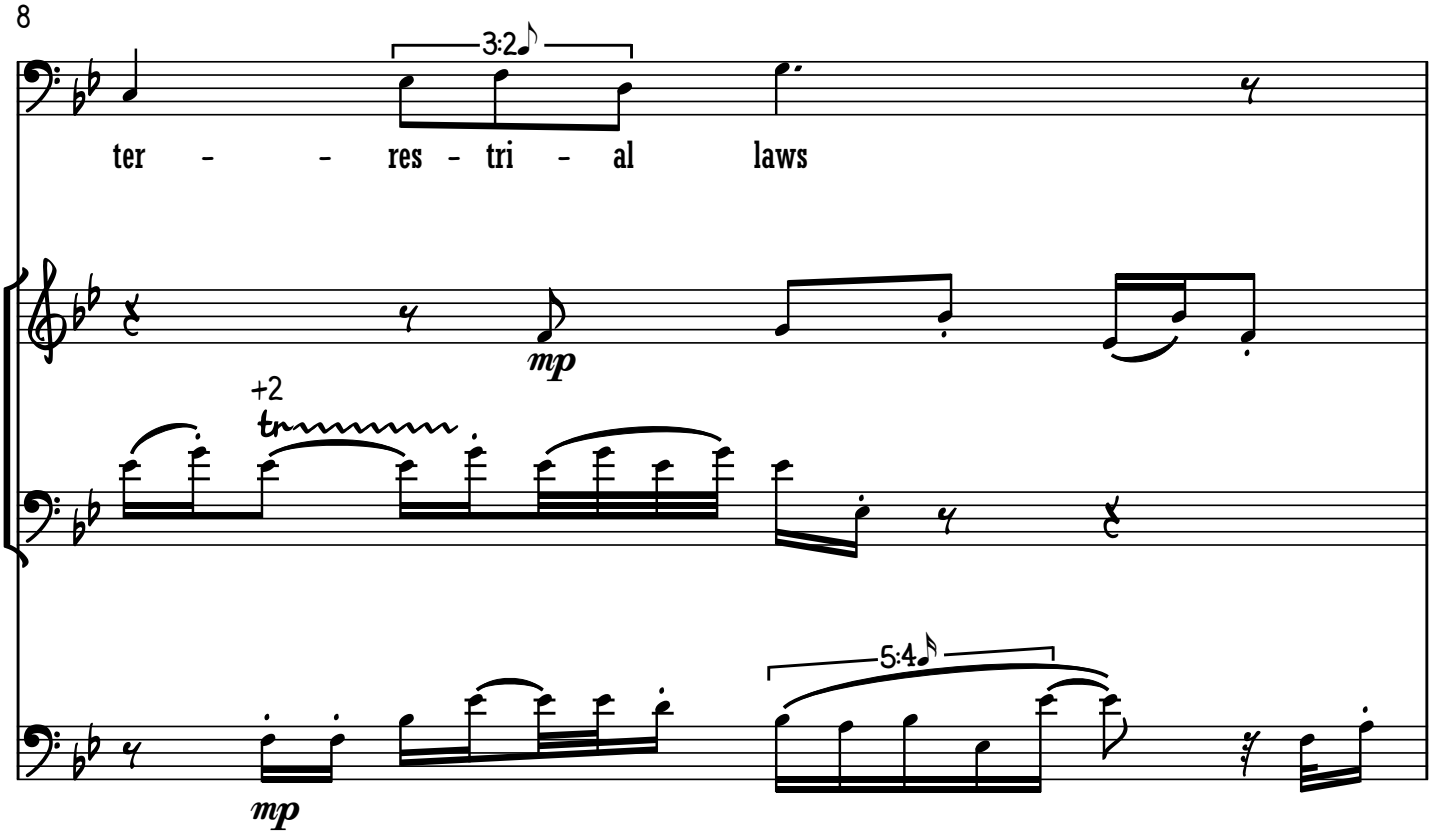

us the know - ledge of the
3:2
+2
mf
mf
3:2
5:4

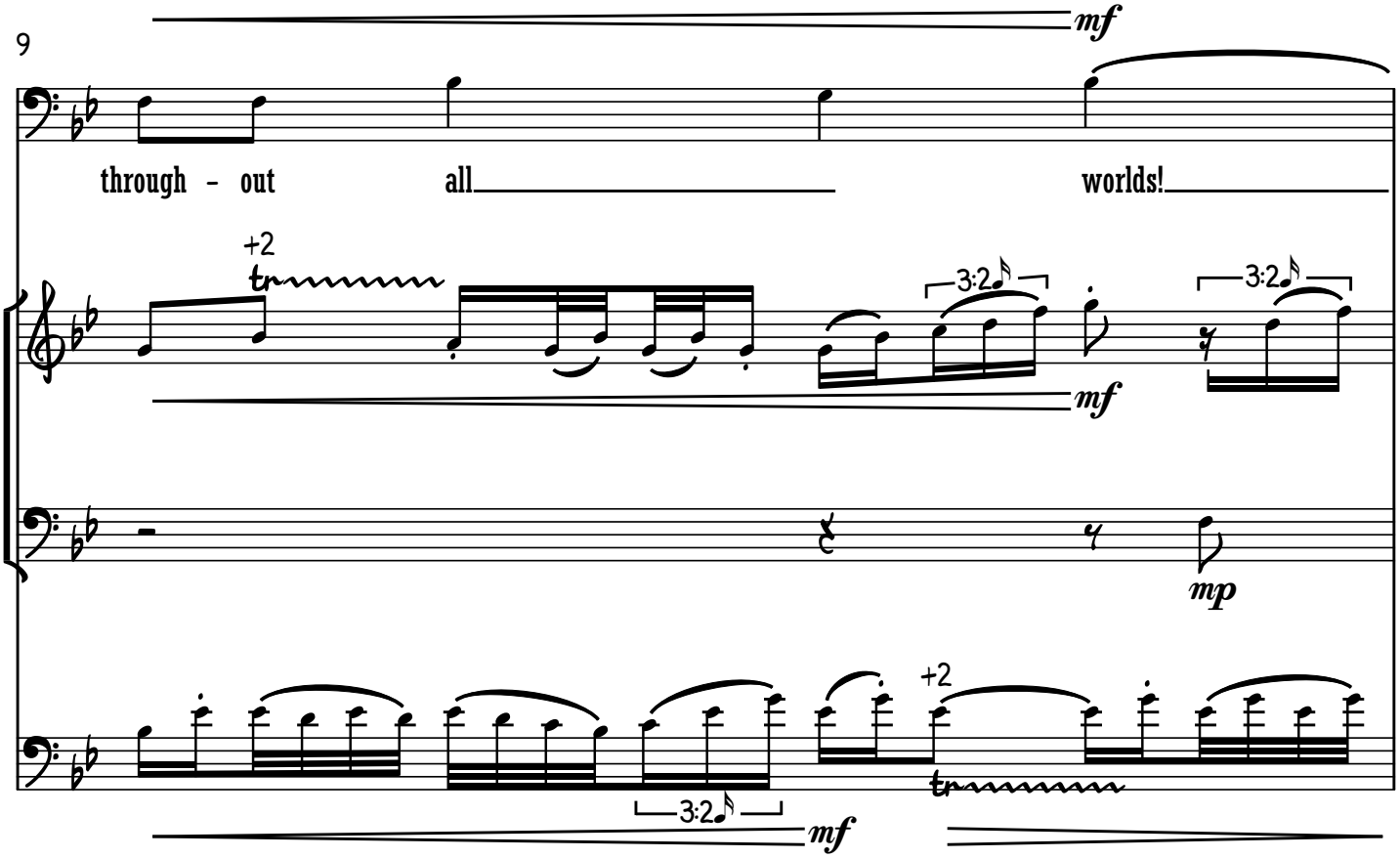
7

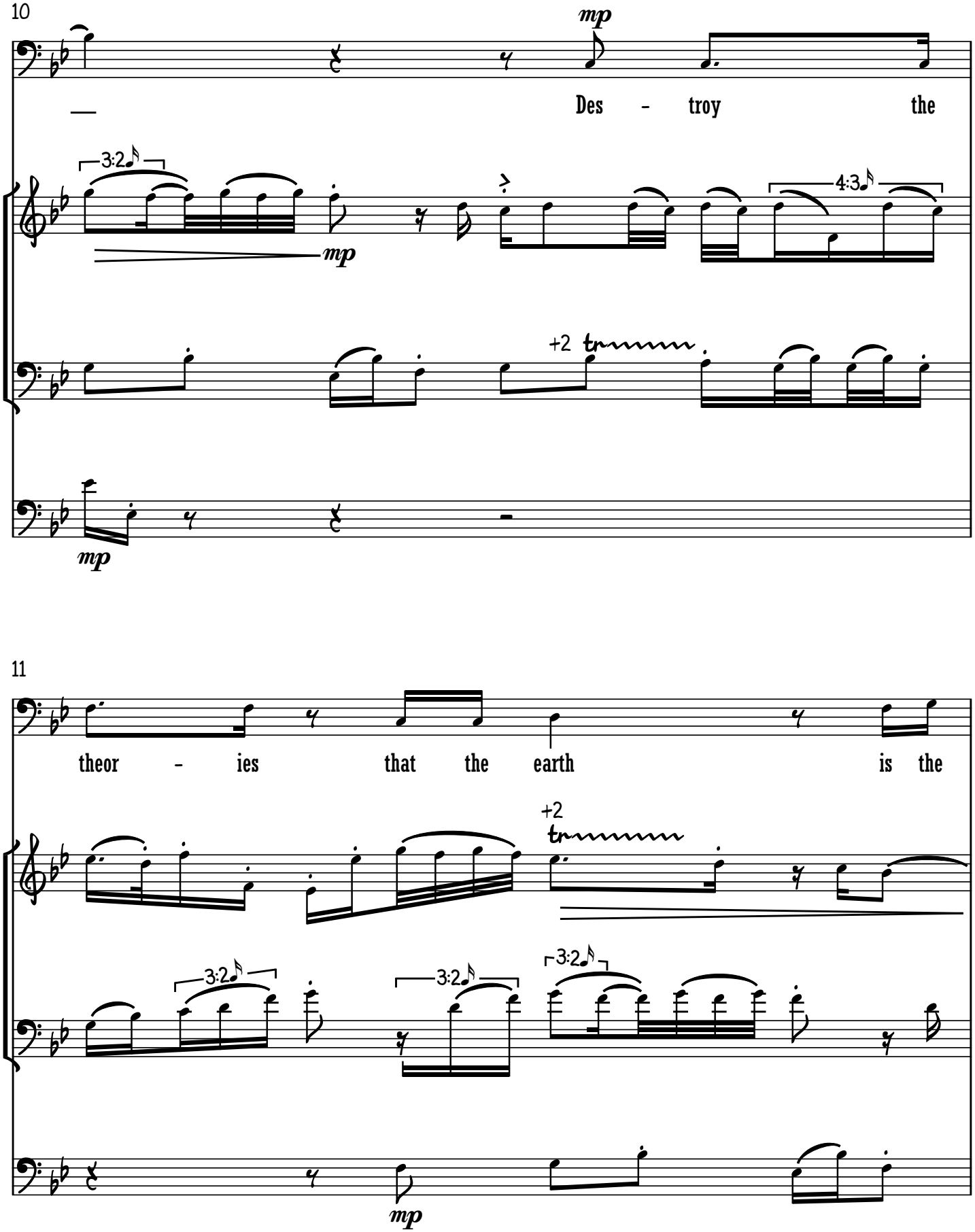

5:4
u - ni - ver - sal - i - ty of
5:4
mp
3:2
mp
p

8

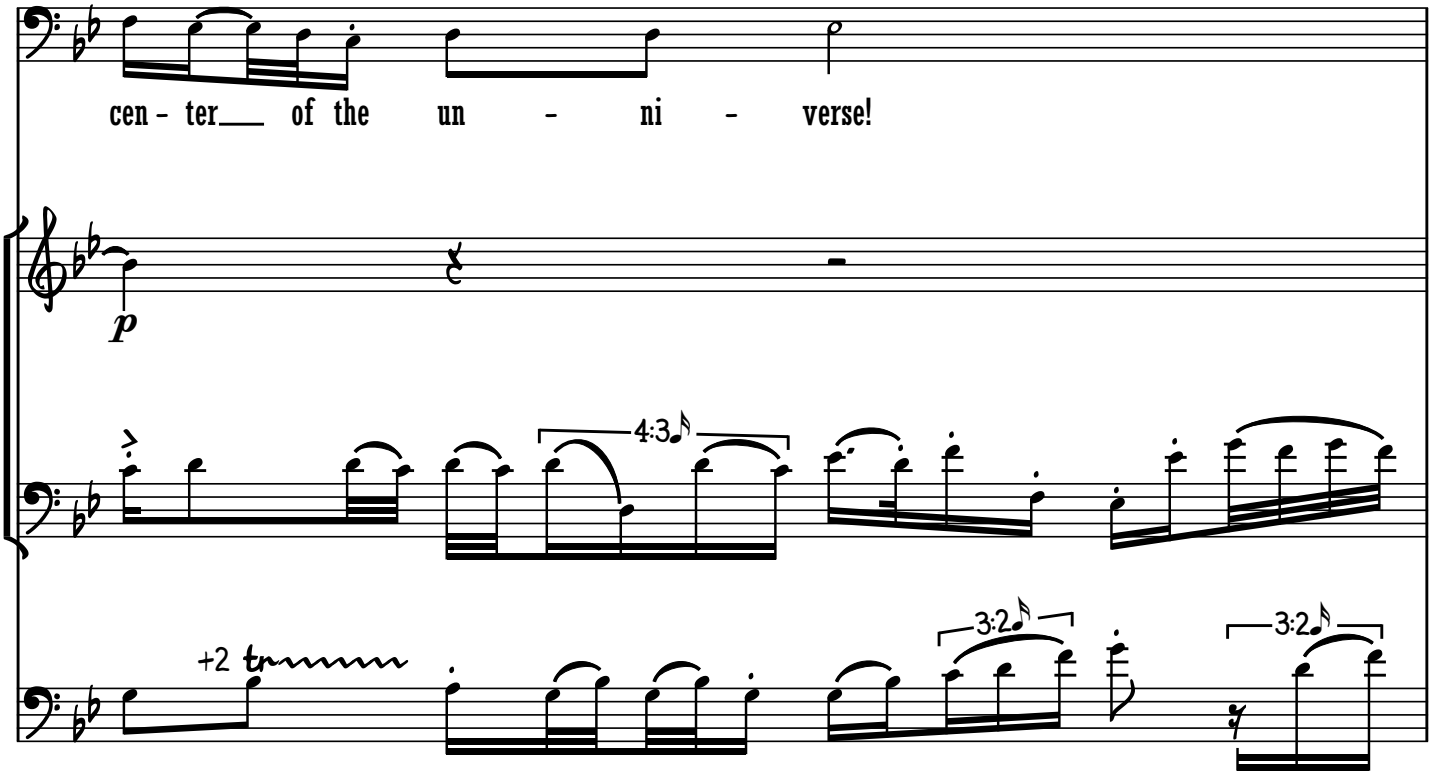

3:2
ter - - res - tri - al laws
mp
+2
tr
5:4
mp

9


mf
through - out all worlds!
+2
tr
3:2
3:2
mf
mp
+2
tr
3:2
mf


10
mp
Des - troy the
3:2
mp
4:3
+2
mp
11
theor - ies that the earth is the
+2
3:2
3:2
3:2
mp

12



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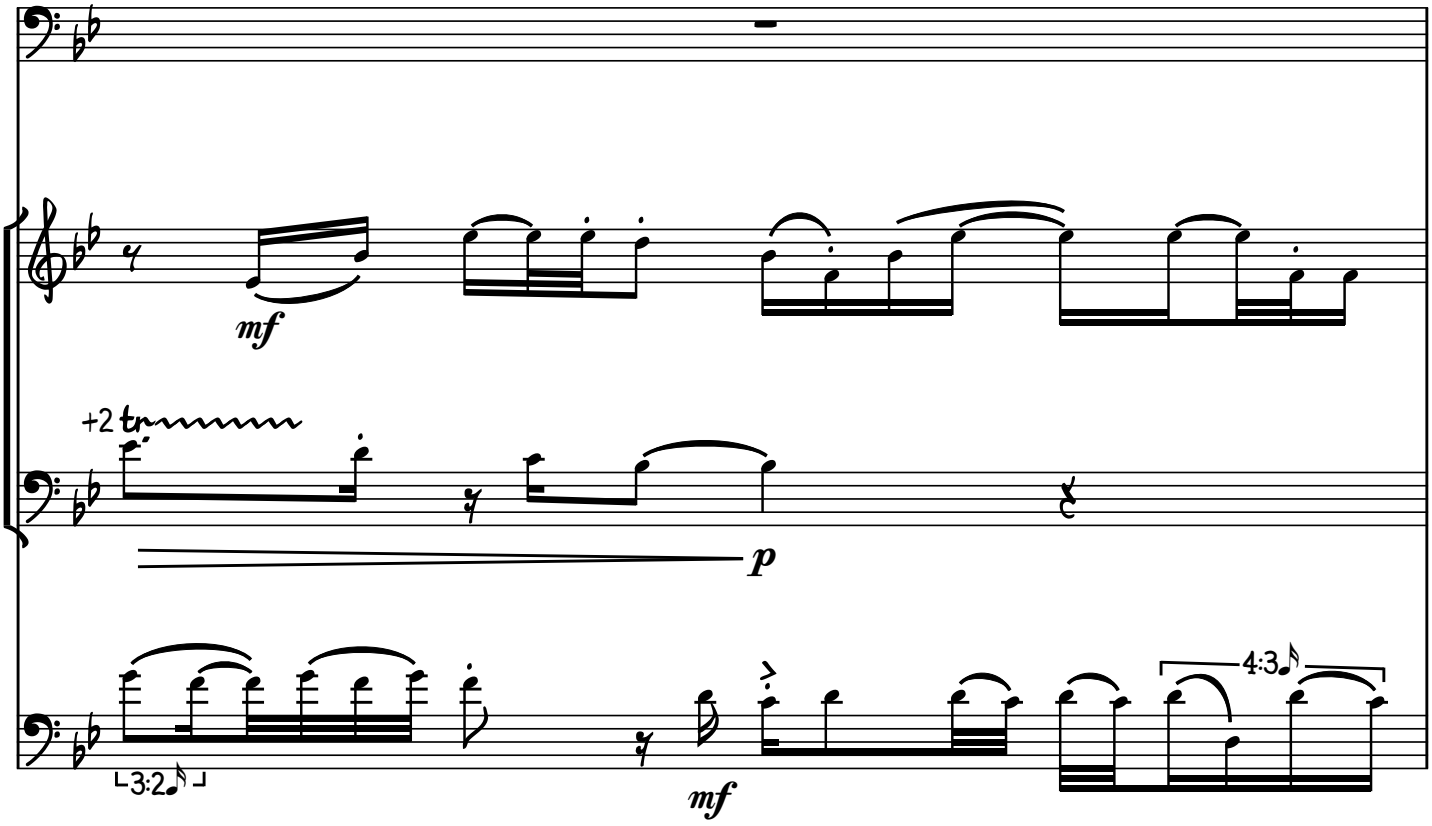
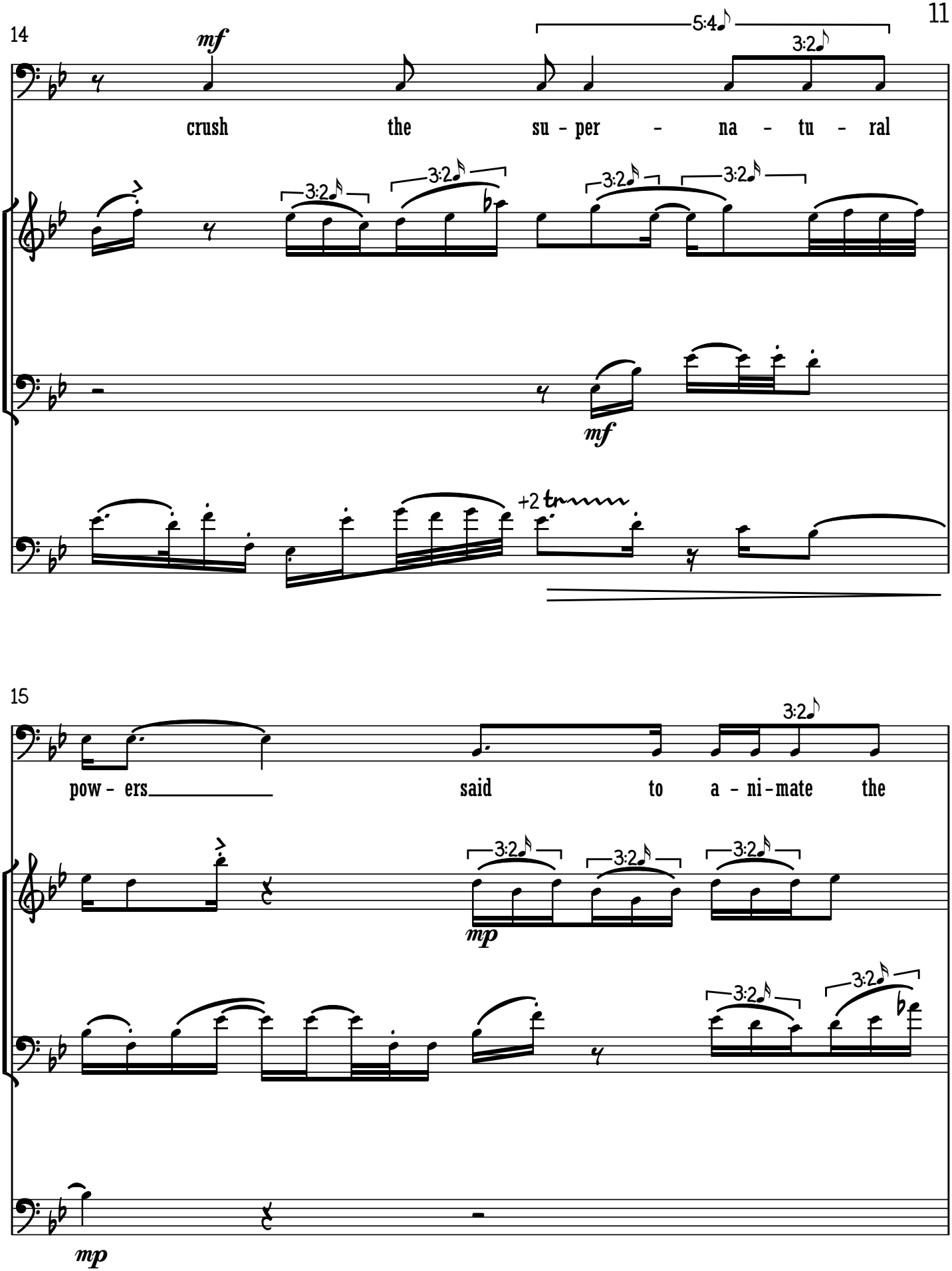



14
mf
5:4
3:2
crush the su - per - na - tu - ral
3:2
3:2
3:2
3:2
mf
+2
15
3:2
pow - ers said to a - ni - mate the
mp
3:2
3:2
3:2
3:2
3:2
mp

16

mp

world! O - pen the

+1

p

3:2 3:2

mf

17

mf

door out in - to the

3

mp

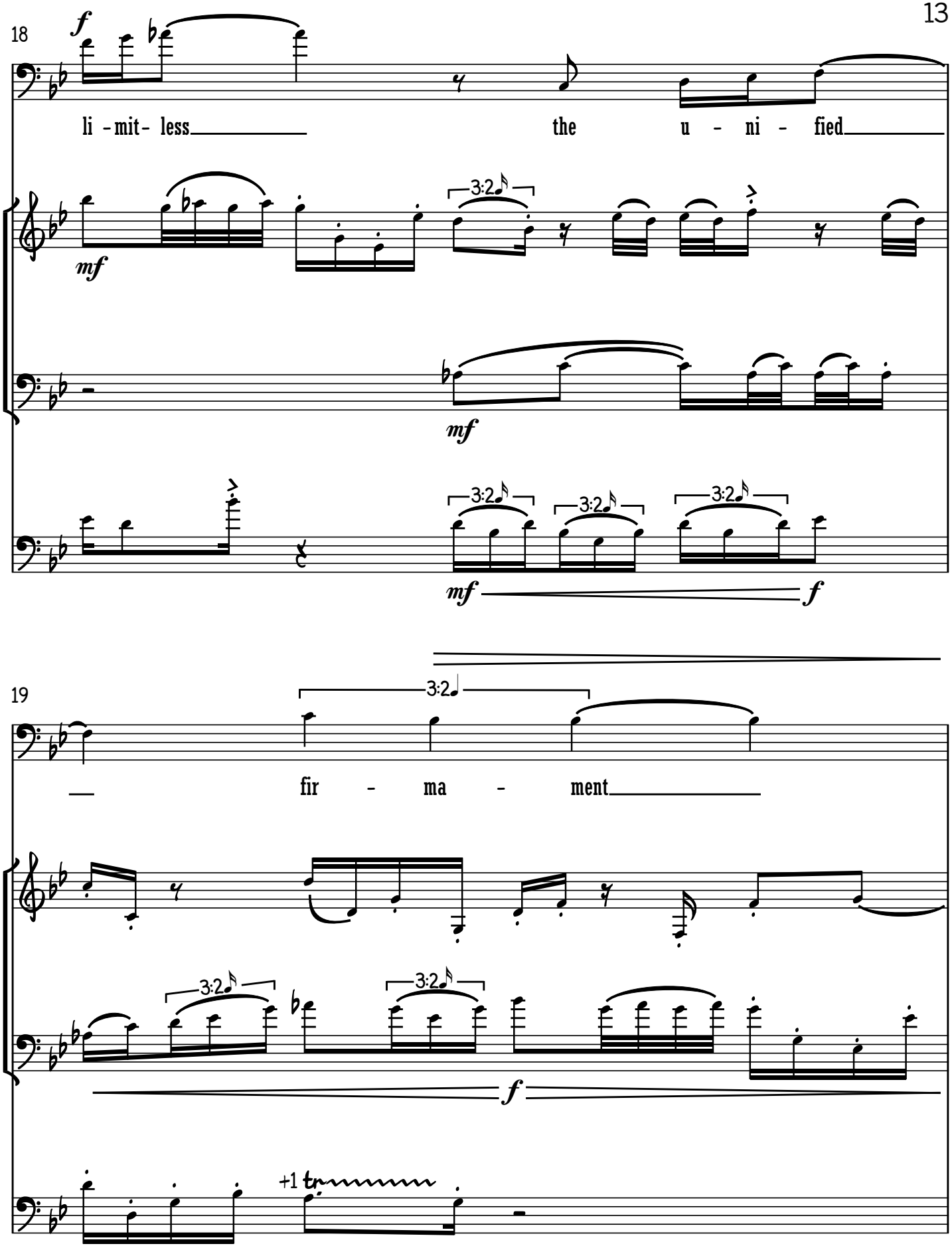
3:2 3:2

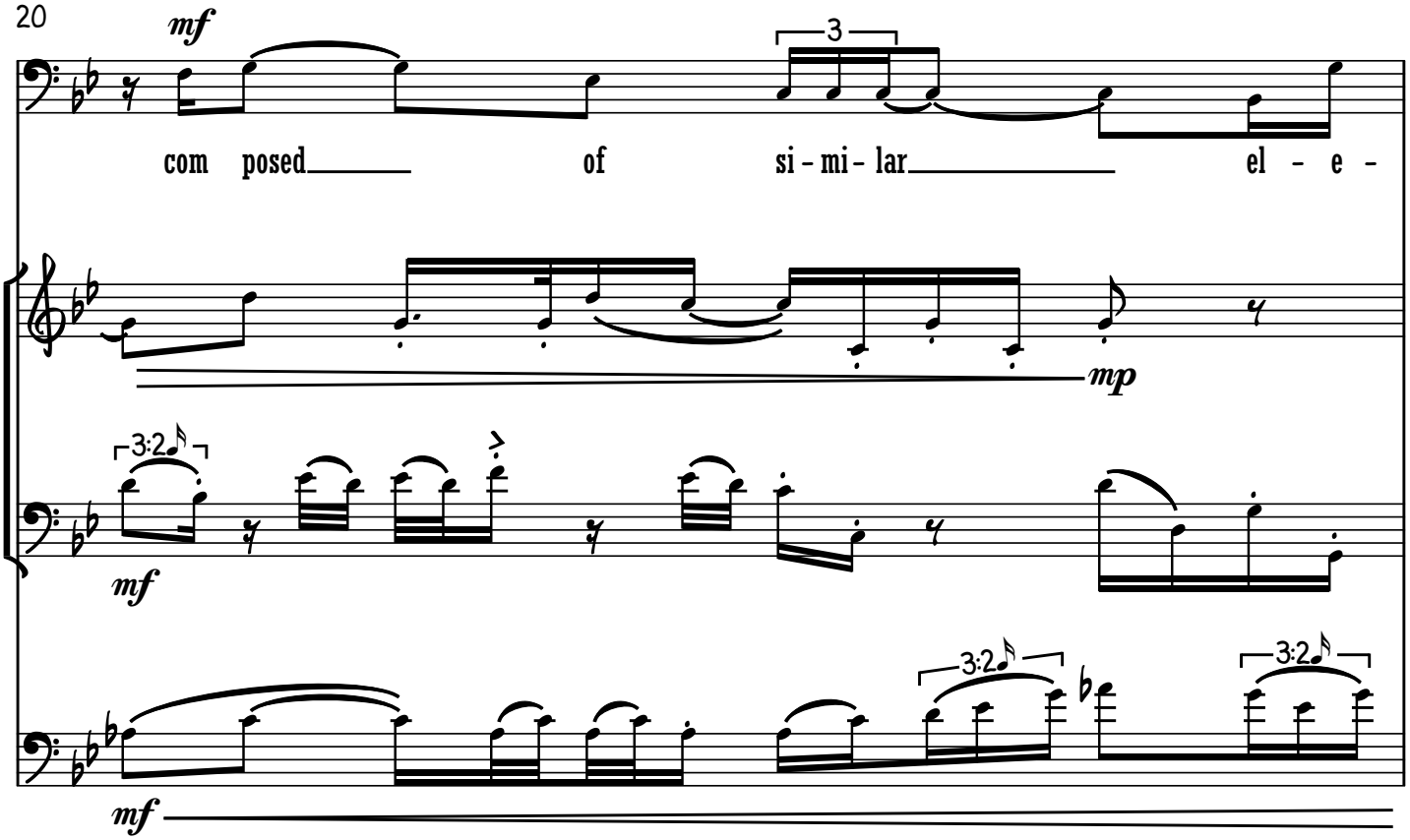
3:2 3:2 3:2

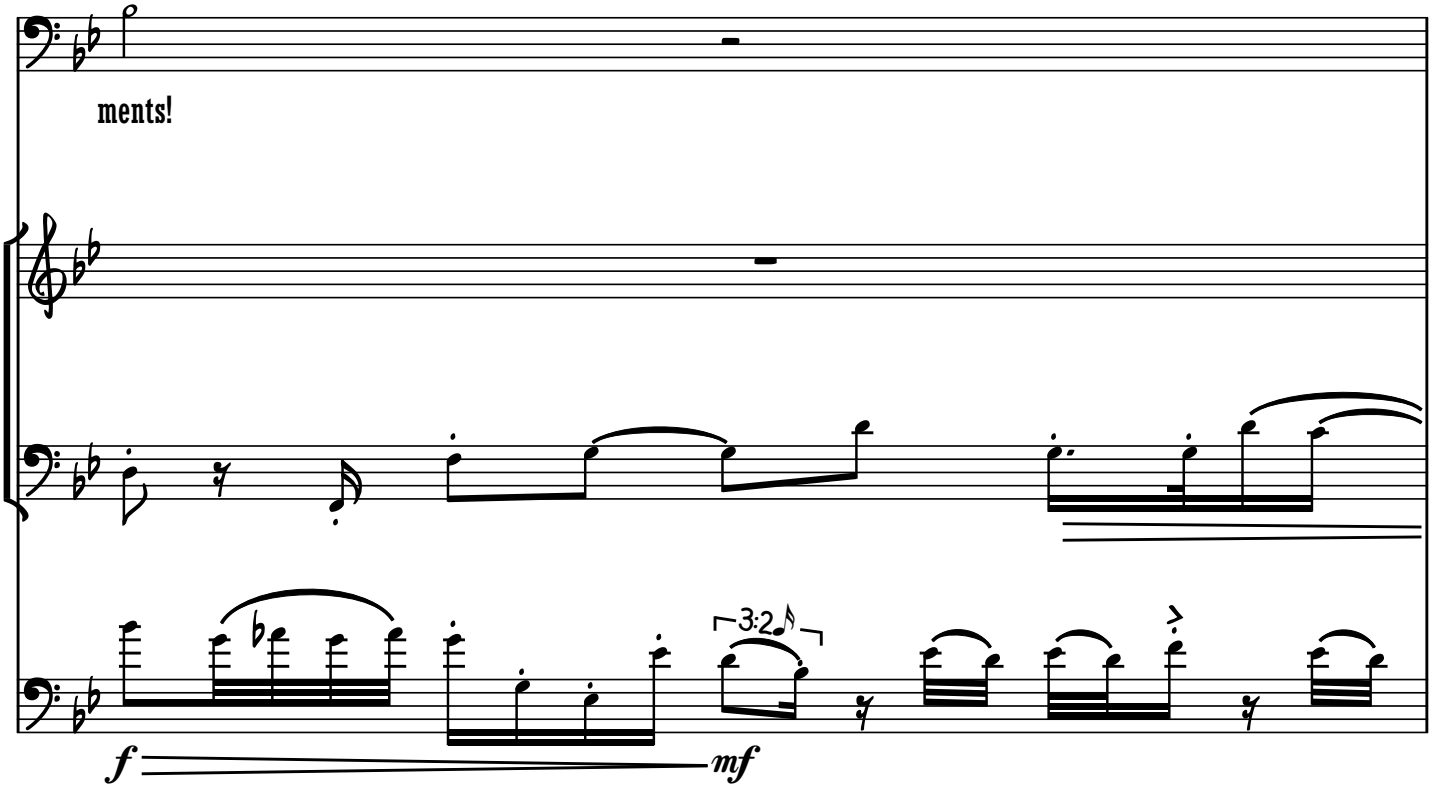
mp *mf*

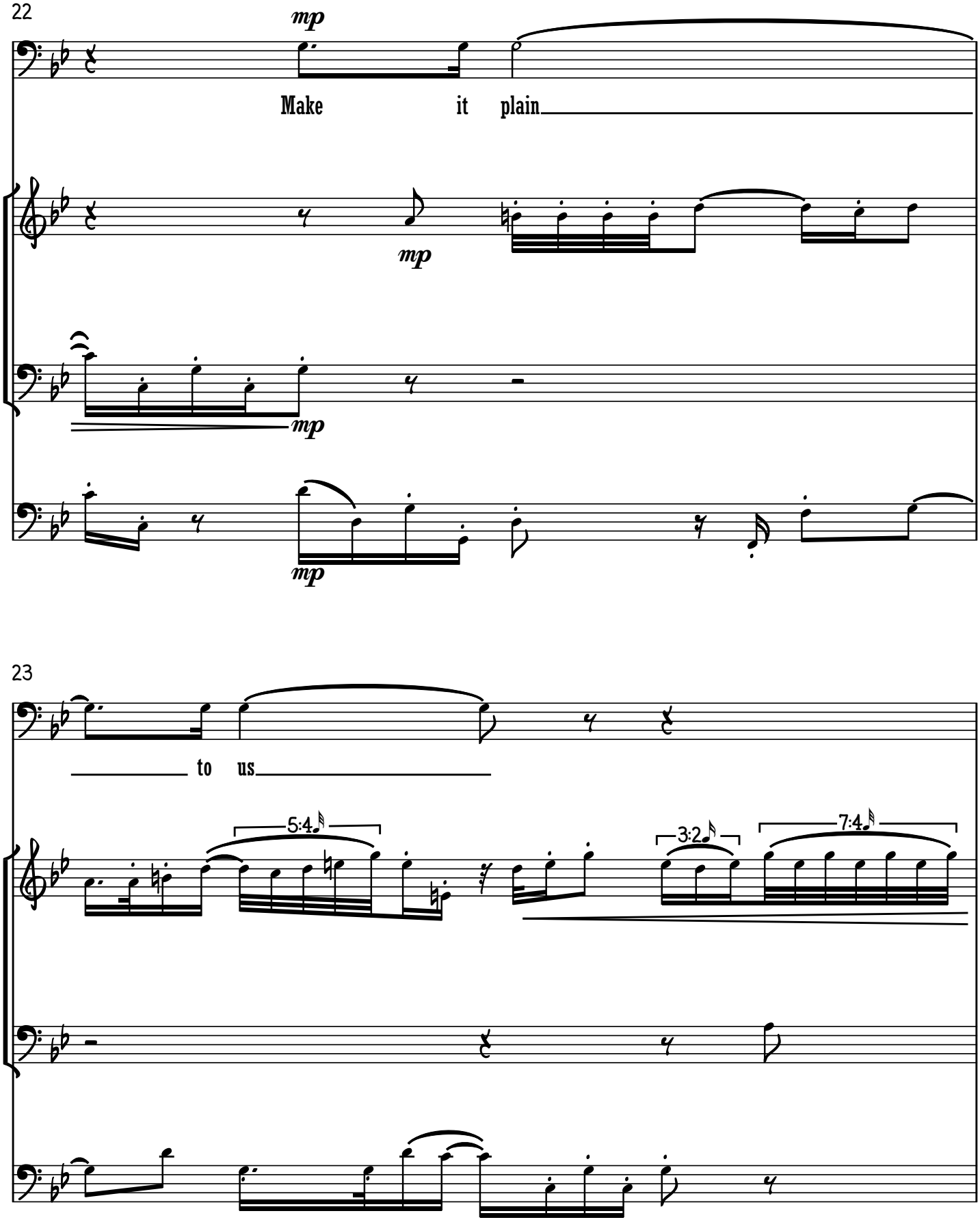
+1

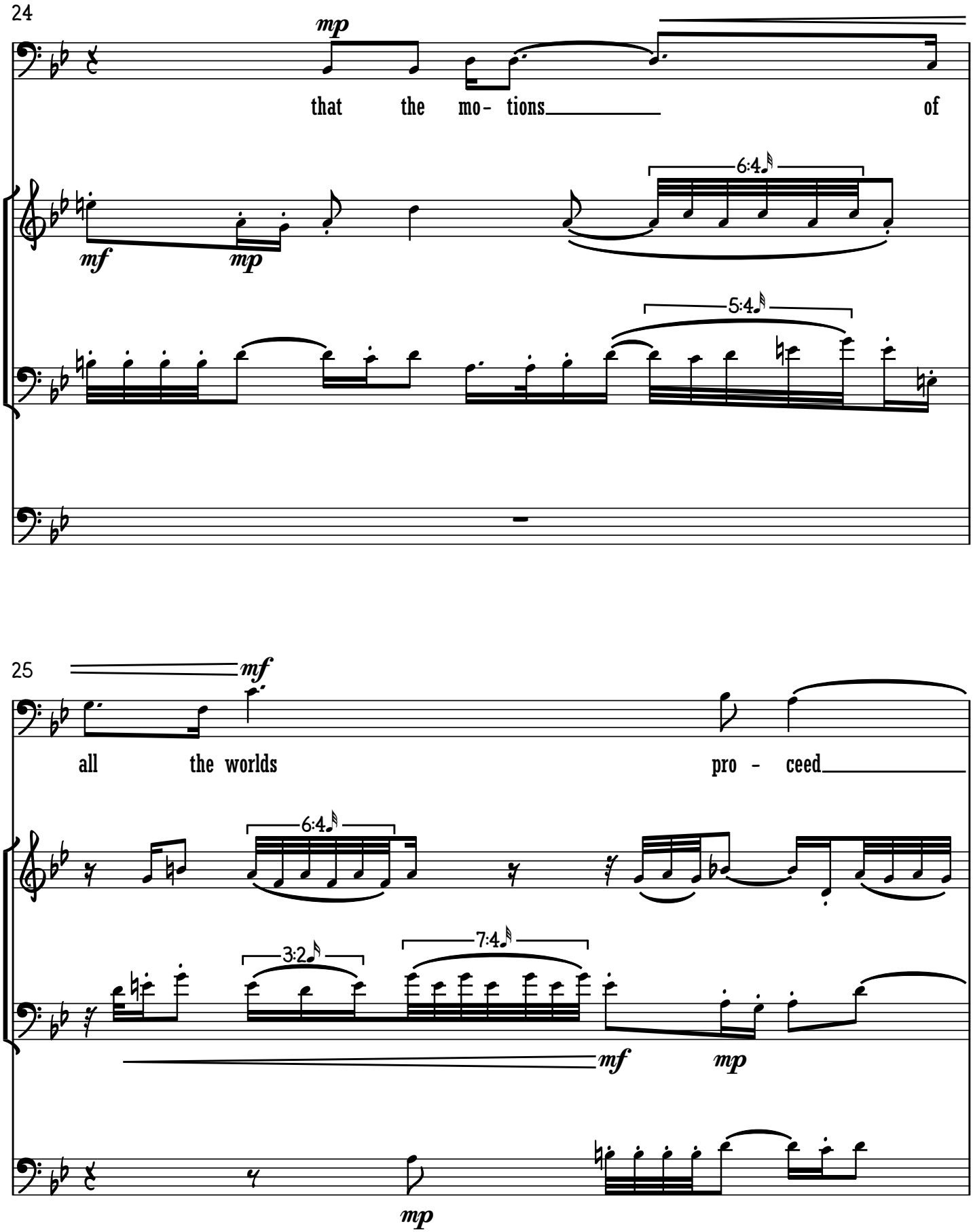
3:2 3:2 3:2 3:2


18
f
li - mit - less
the u - ni - fied
mf
3:2
mf
mf
f
19
3:2
fir - ma - ment
3:2
3:2
f
+1


20
mf
3
com posed of si - mi - lar el - e -
mp
3:2
mf
3:2
3:2
mf


21
ments!
3:2
f
mf


22
mp
Make it plain
mp
mp
mp
23
to us
5:4
3:2
7:4


24
mp
that the mo- tions of
6:4
mf
mp
5:4
25
mf
all the worlds pro - ceed
6:4
3:2
7:4
mf
mp
mp

26

__ from in - ner for - - - - -

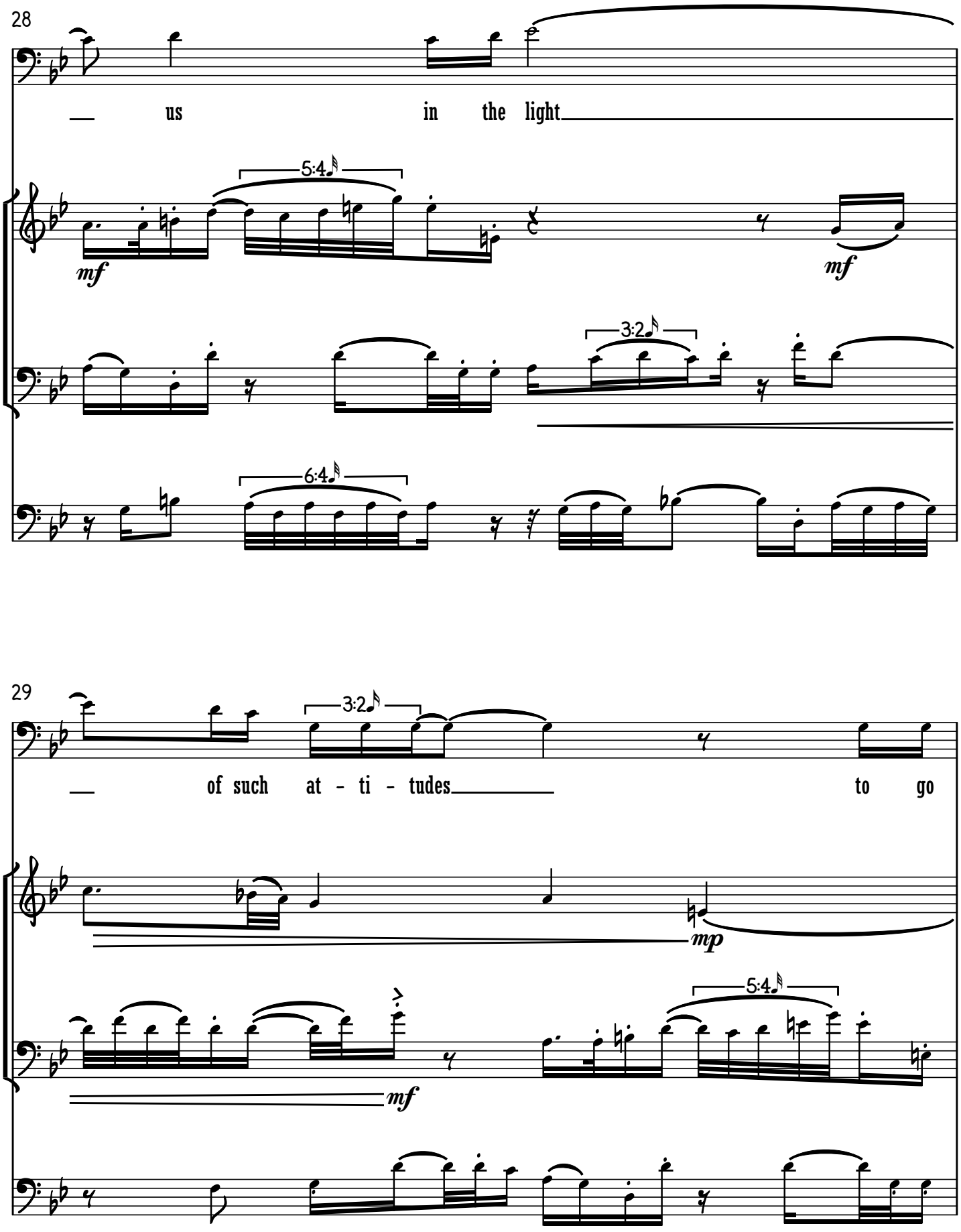
6:4 6:4 5:4 3:2 7:4

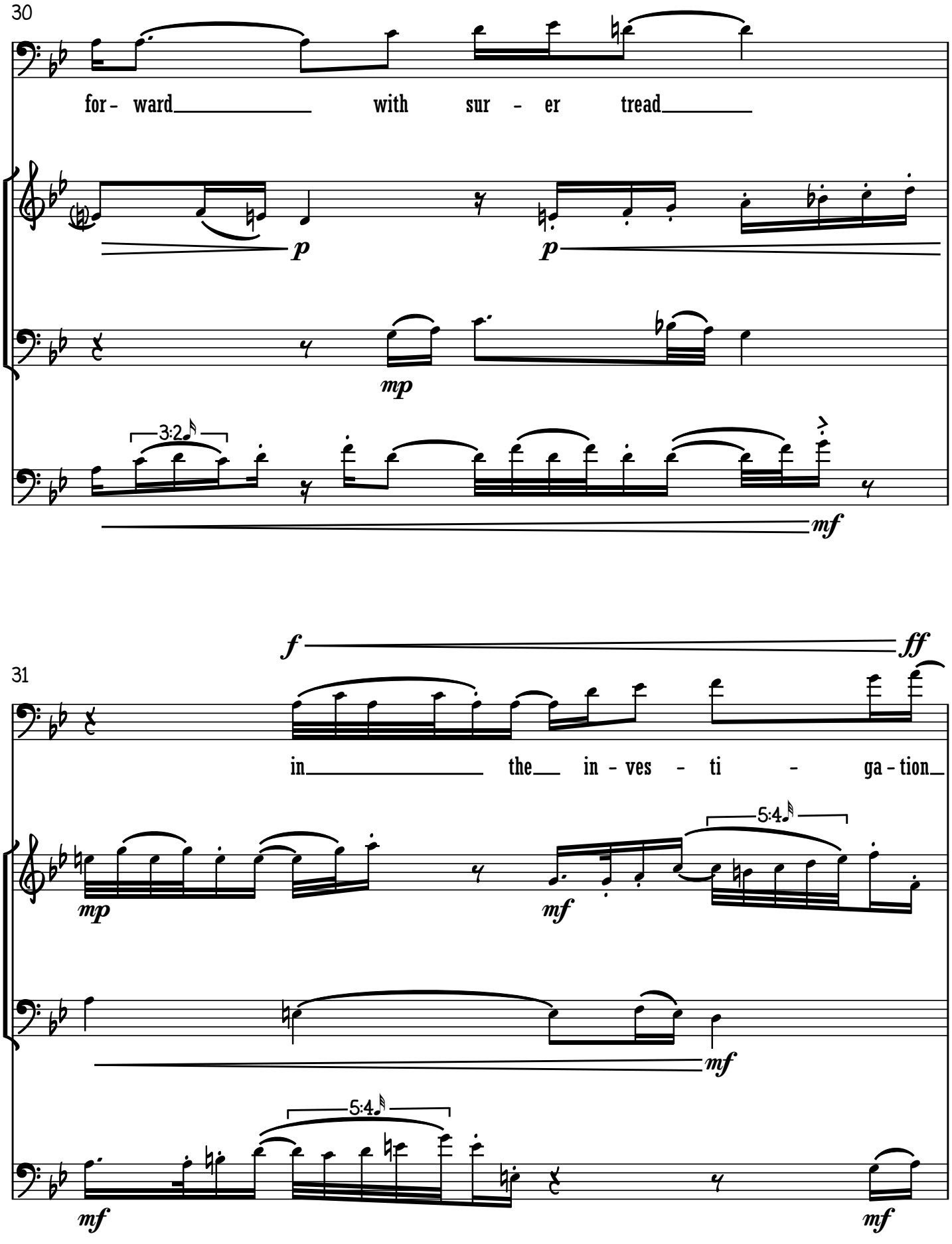
27

ces. Teach

3:2 *mf*

mf *mp* 6:4


28
us in the light
5:4
mf
mf
3:2
6:4
29
3:2
of such at - ti - tudes to go
mp
5:4
mf


30
for - ward with sur - er tread
p
p
mp
3:2
mf
f
ff
31
in the in - ves - ti - ga - tion
mp
mf
5:4
mf
5:4
mf
mf

32

mf

and dis - cov - er -

mf

mf *mp*

mp

33

- y of

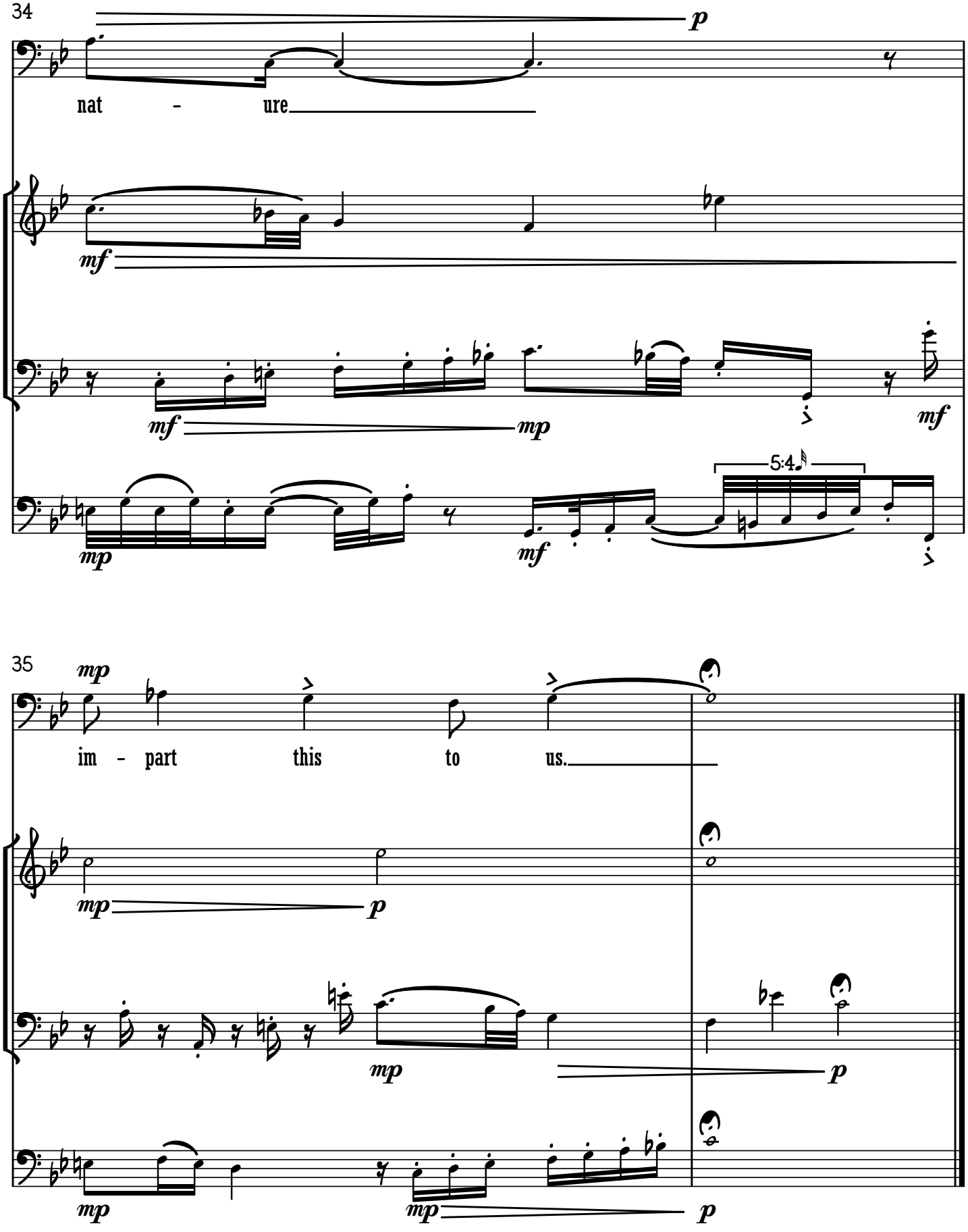
mp

mf

5:4

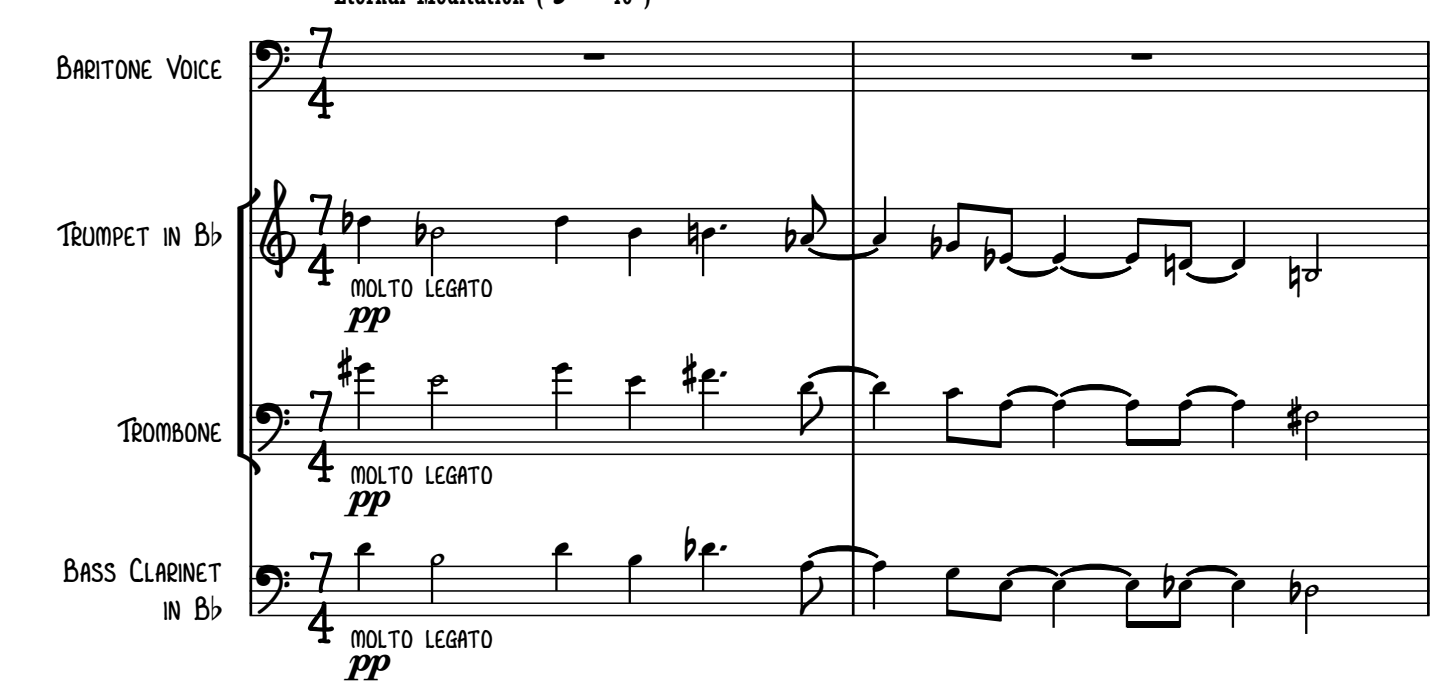
p

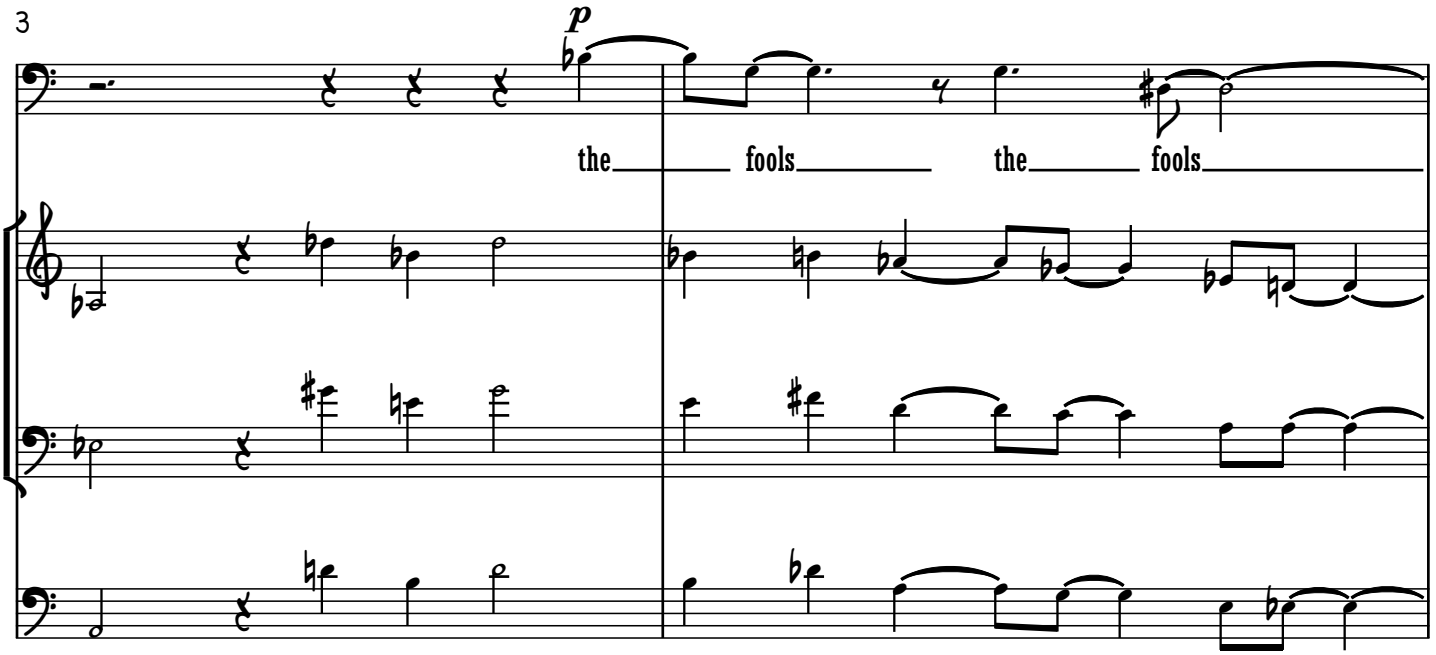
p

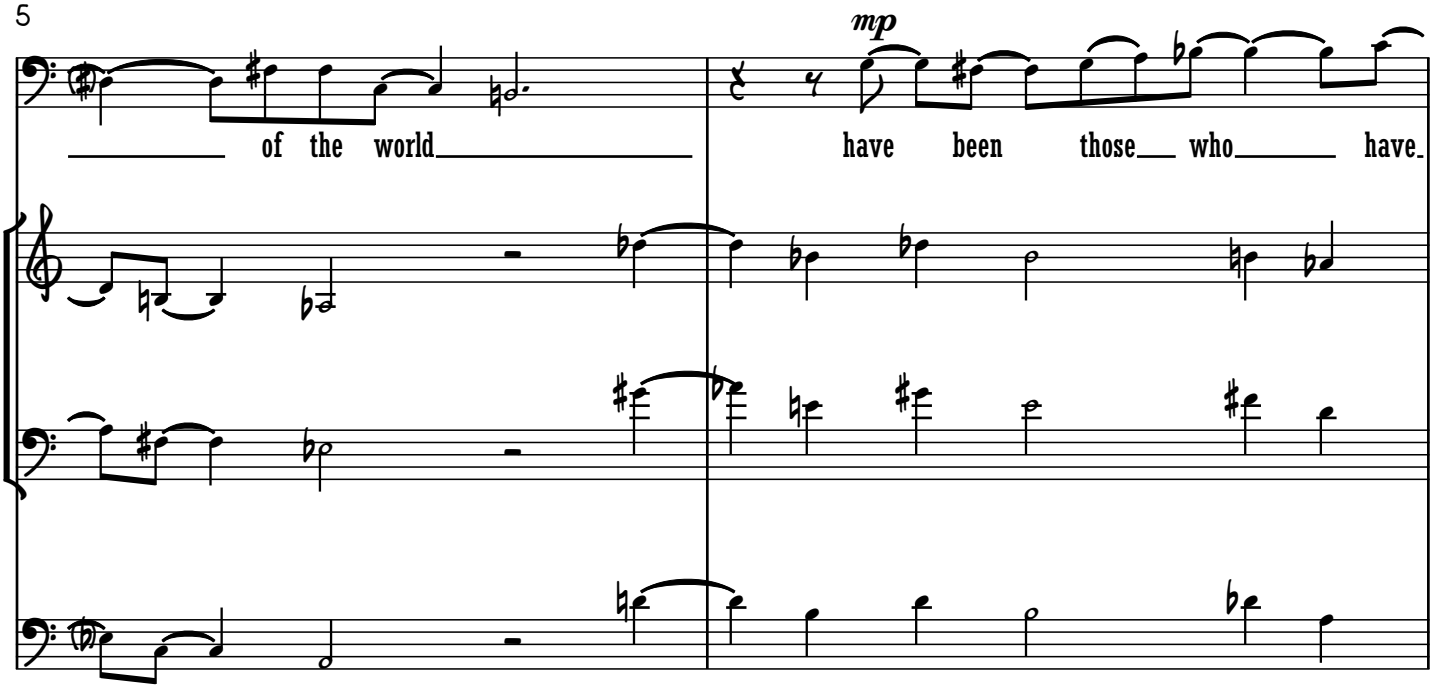

34
p
nat - ure
mf
mf
mp
mp
mf
5:4
35
mp
im - part this to us.
mp
p
mp
p
mp
mp
p

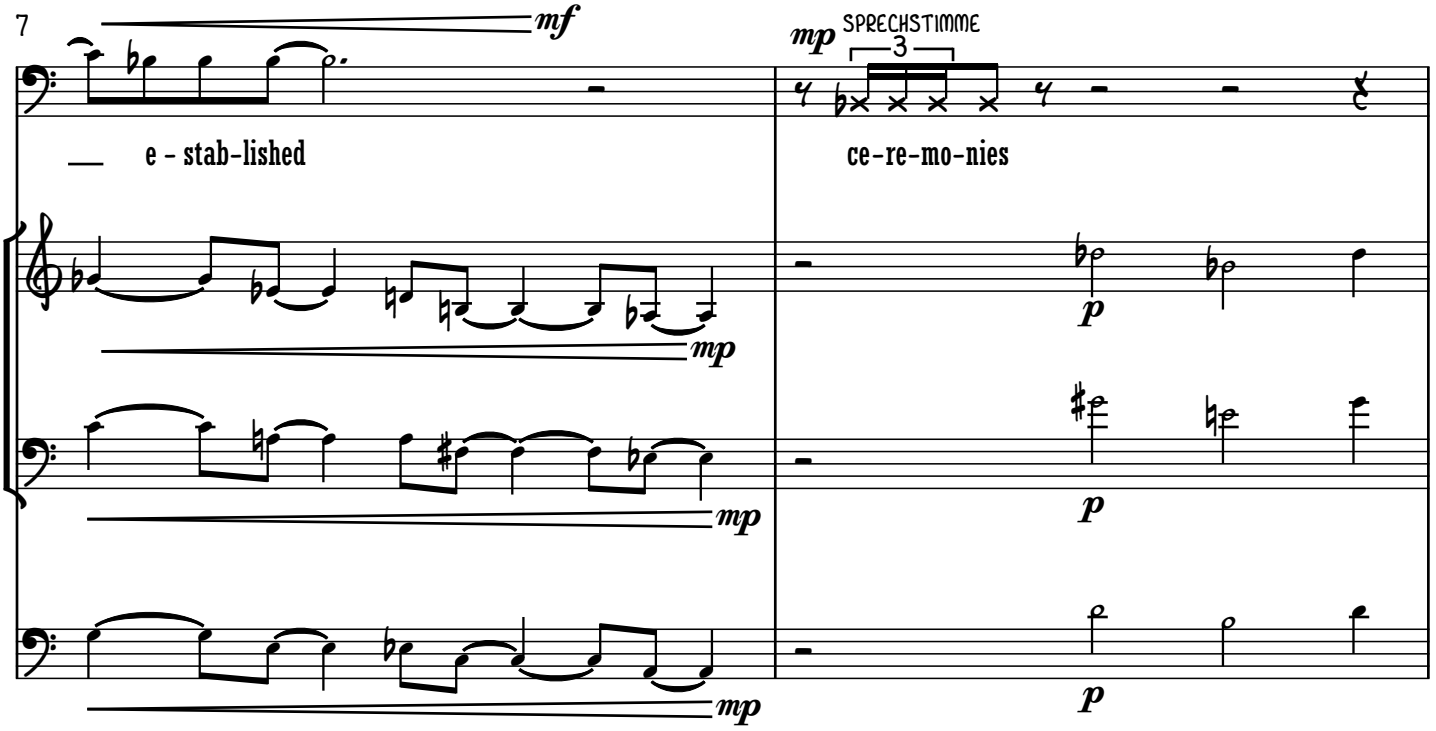
- THE FOOLS OF THE WORLD -

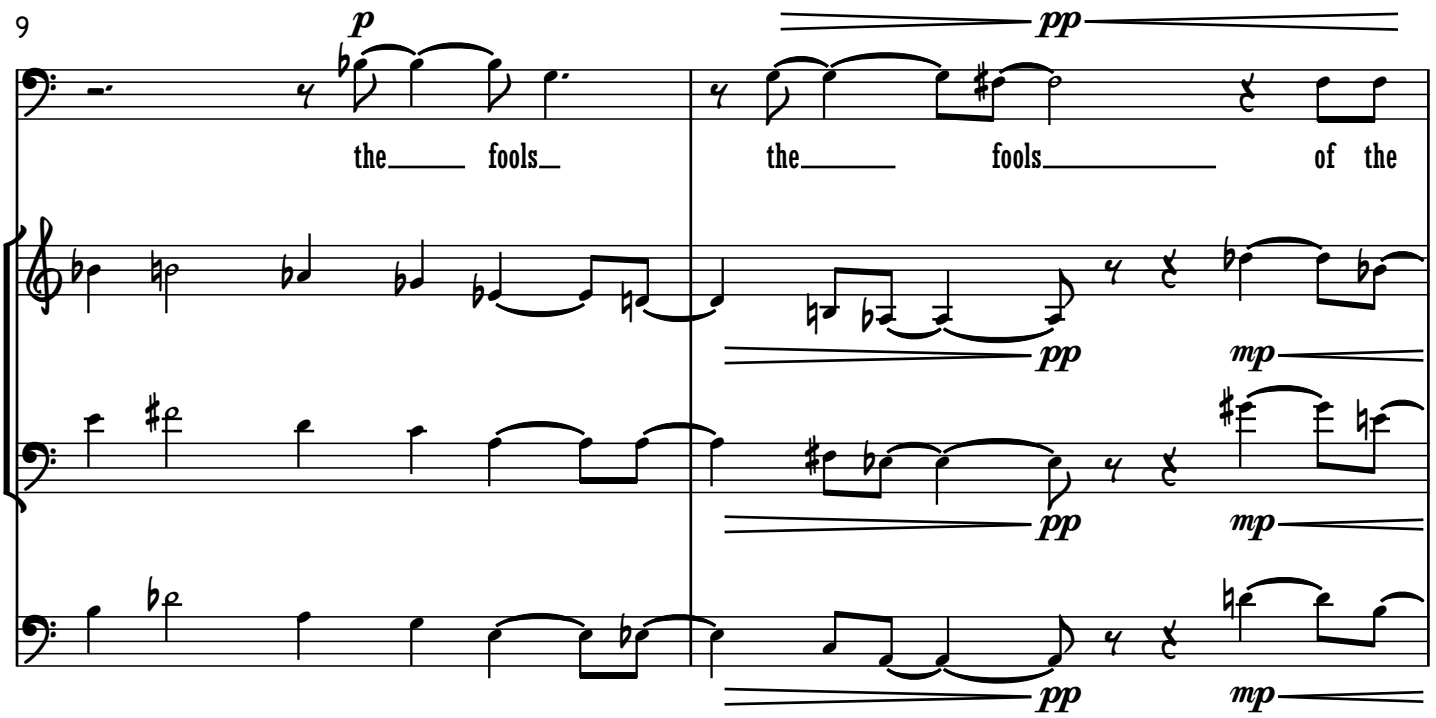
Giordano Bruno, "Cabal of the Cheval Pegasus" (1585)

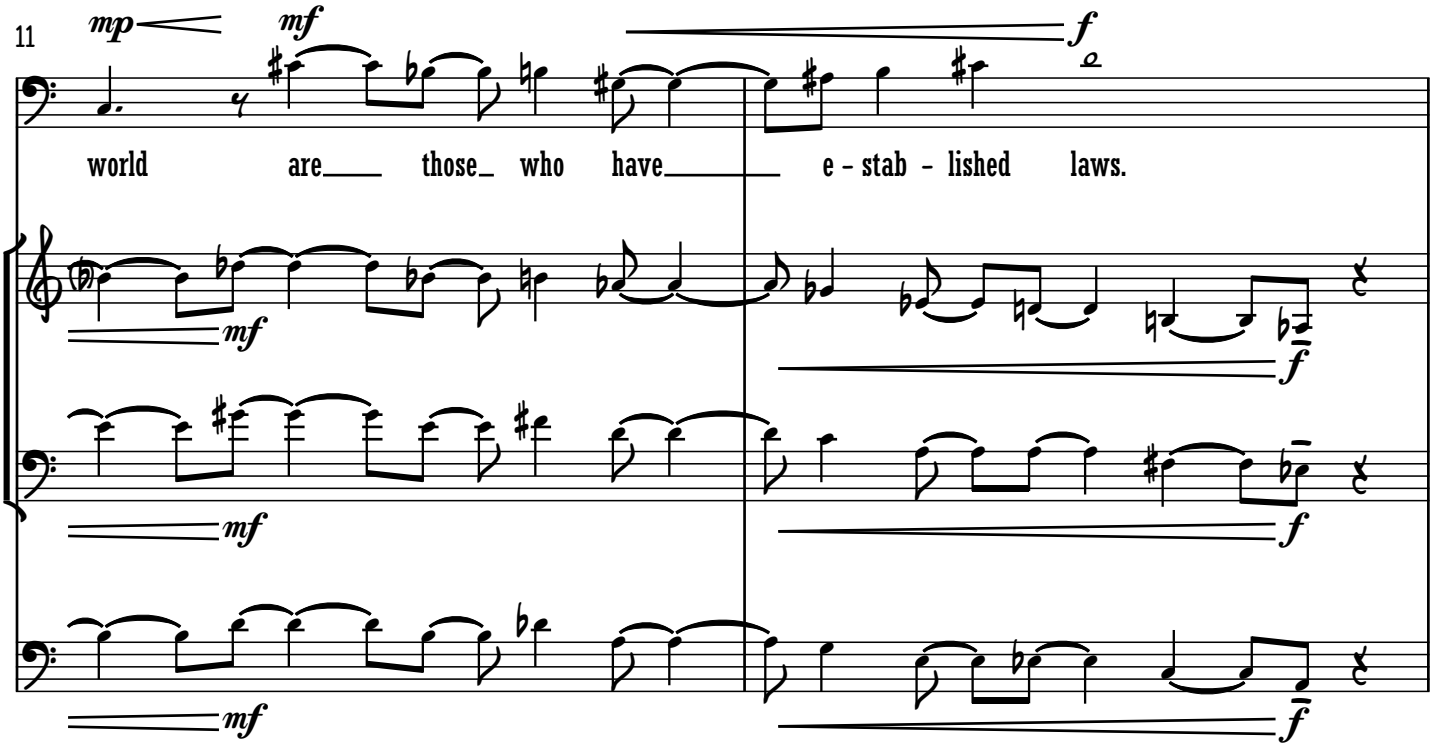





5
mp
of the world
have been those who have


7
mf
mp
SPRECHSTIMME
3
e - stab-lished
ce-re-mo-nies
p


9
p
pp
the fools
the fools of the
pp
mp
pp
mp
pp
mp


11
mp
mf
f
world are those who have e - stab - lished laws.
mf
f
mf
f
mf
f

13

(SPOKEN, SLOWLY, DELIBERATELY)

mf

the fools of the world are those who established ceremonies

p

p

p

15

laws, faith,

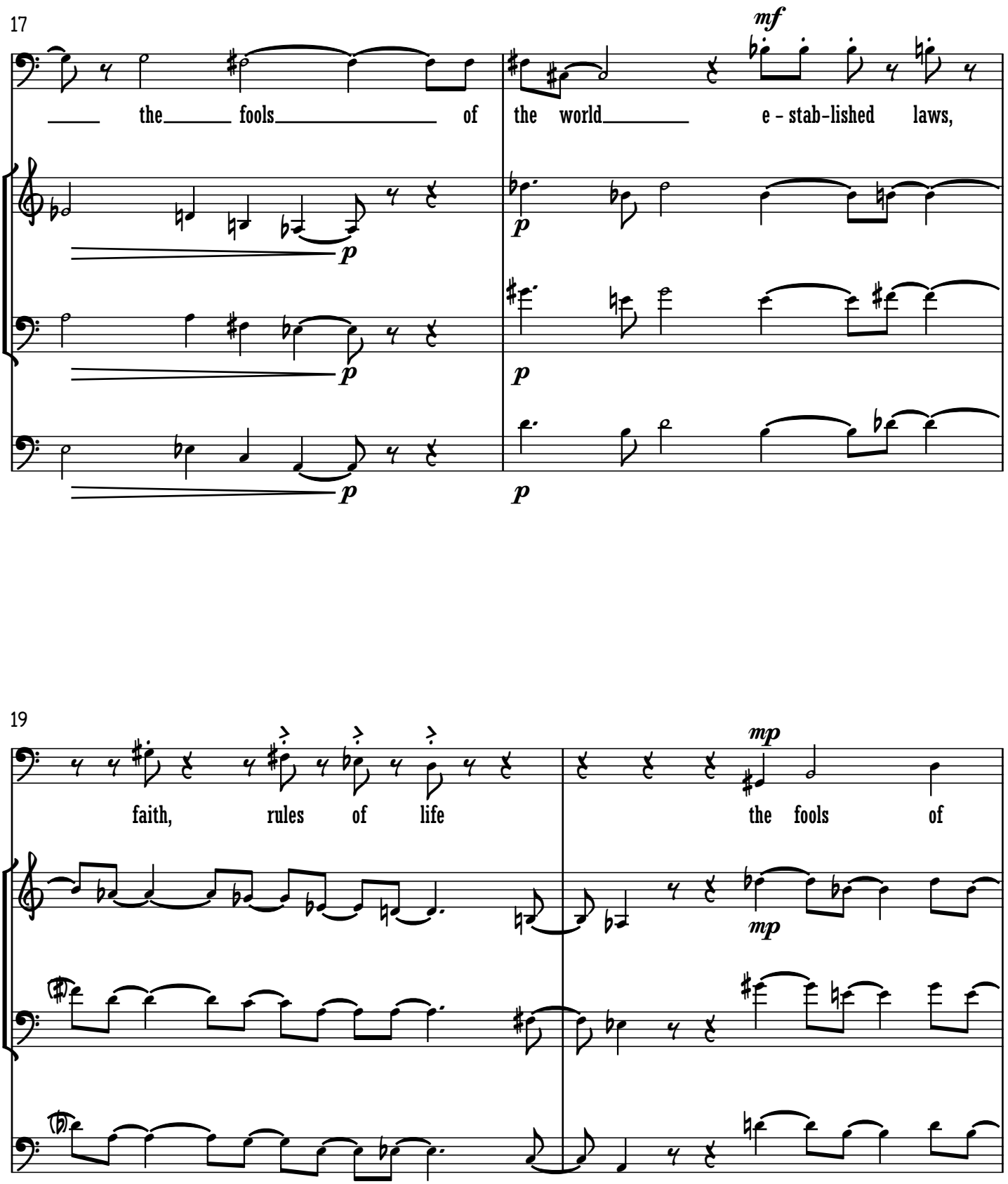
mp

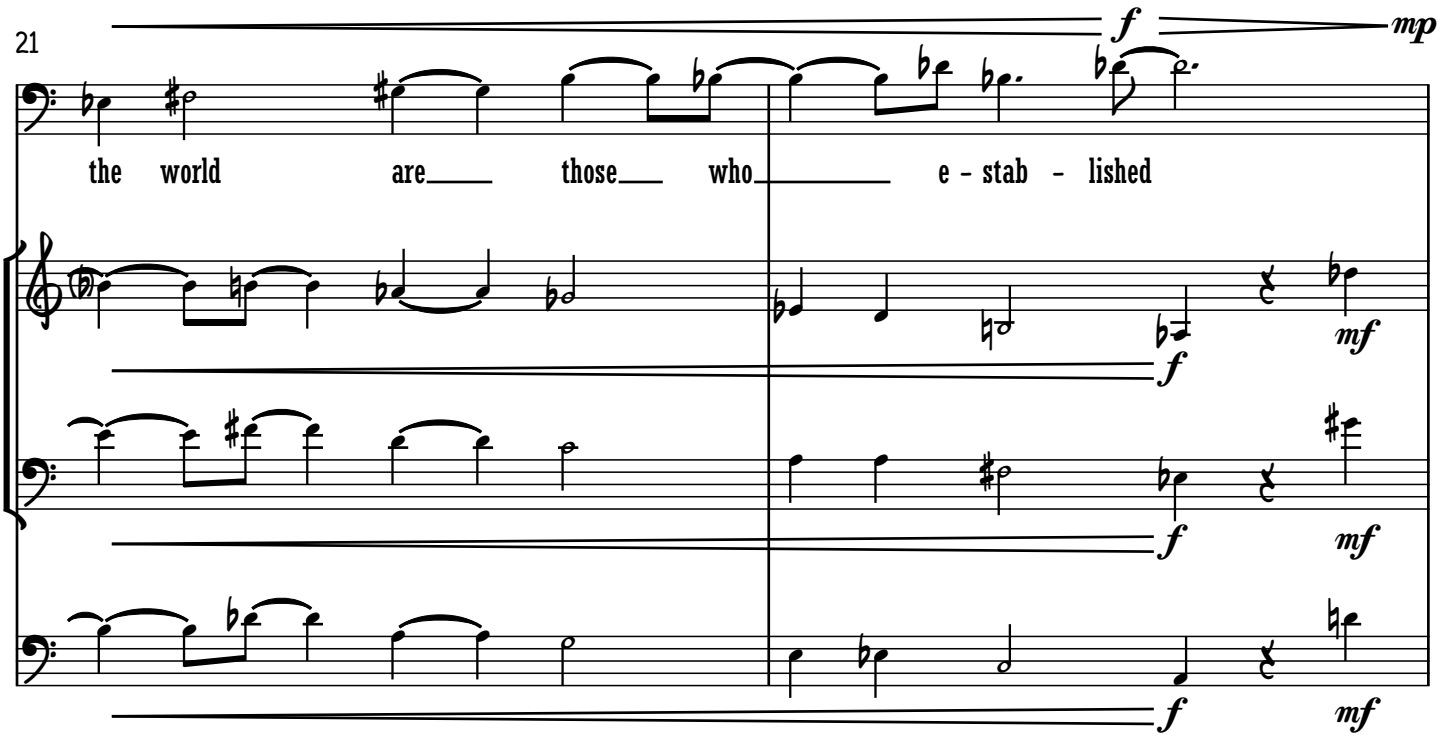
the fools

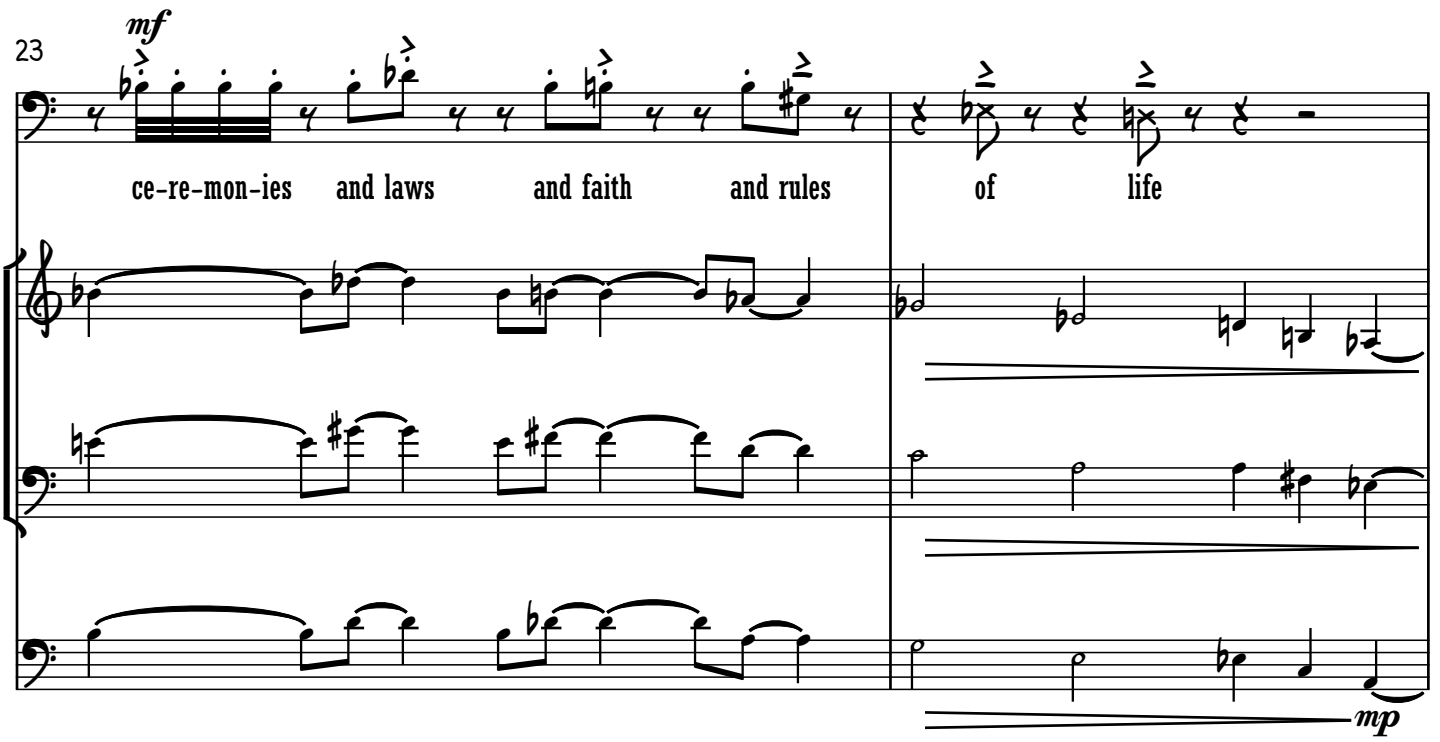
mp

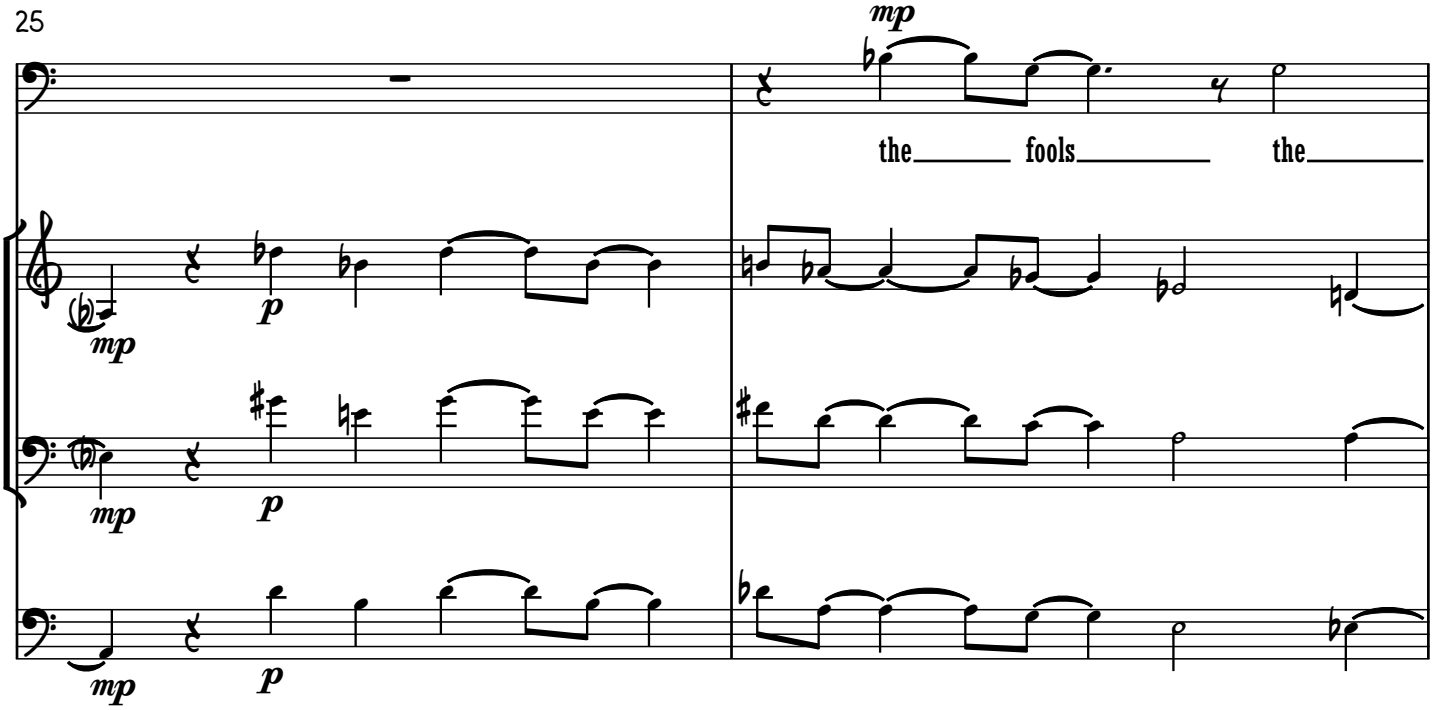
mp

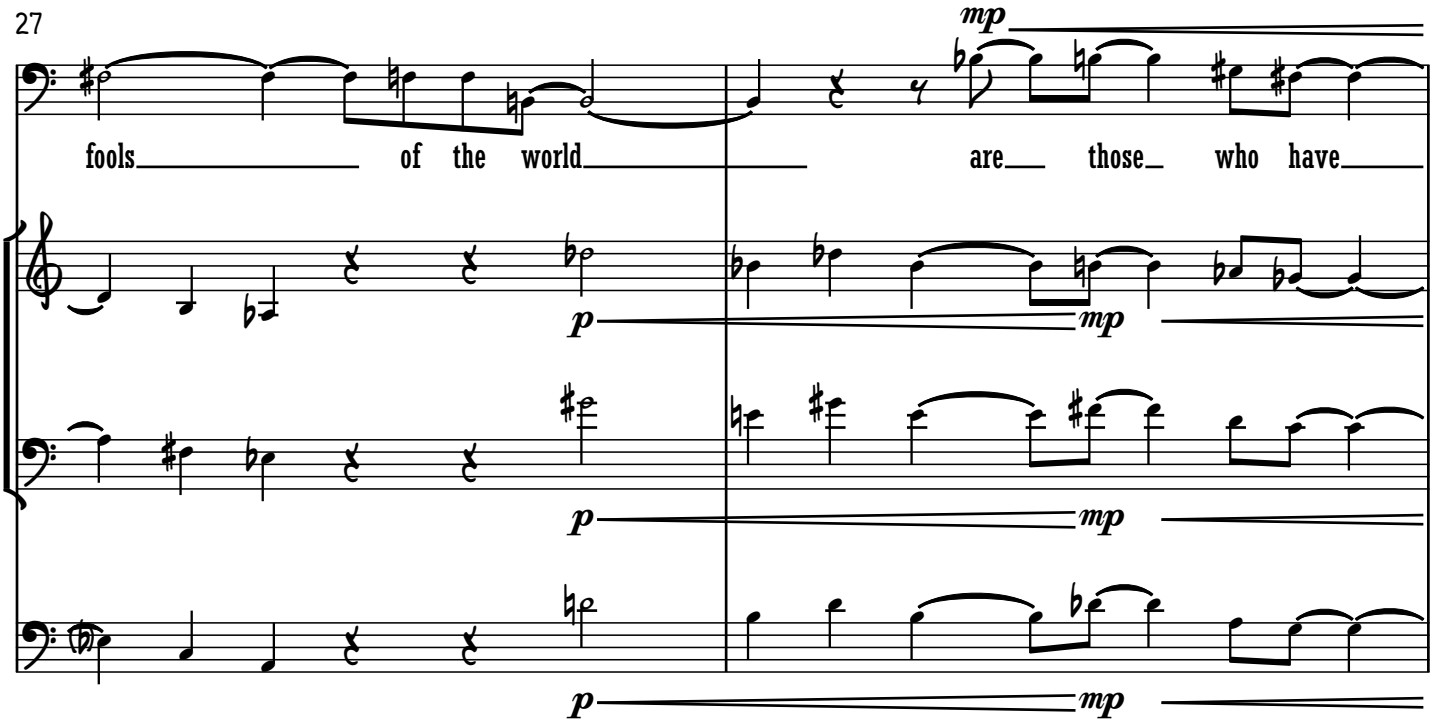
mp

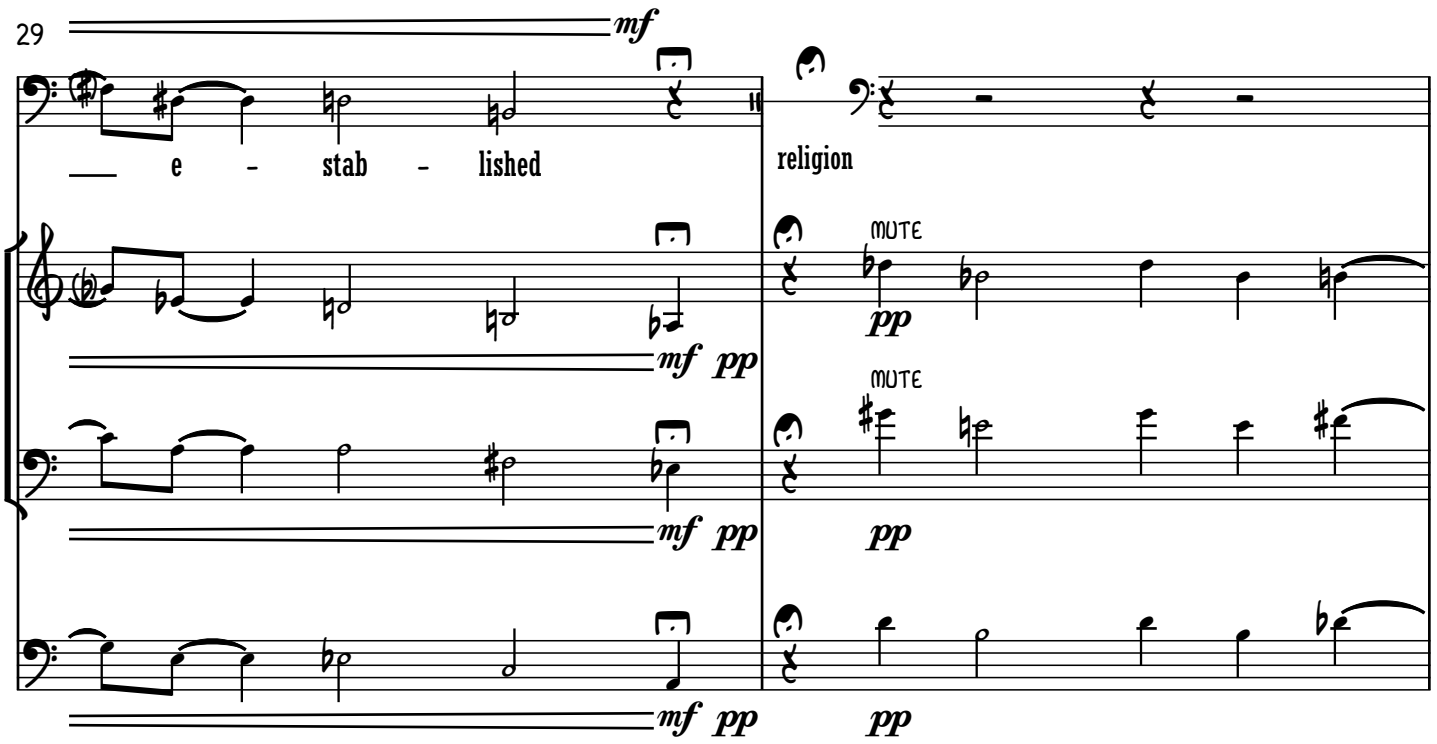

17
mf
the fools of
the world e - stab-lished laws,
p
p
p
p
19
faith, rules of life
the fools of
mp
mp

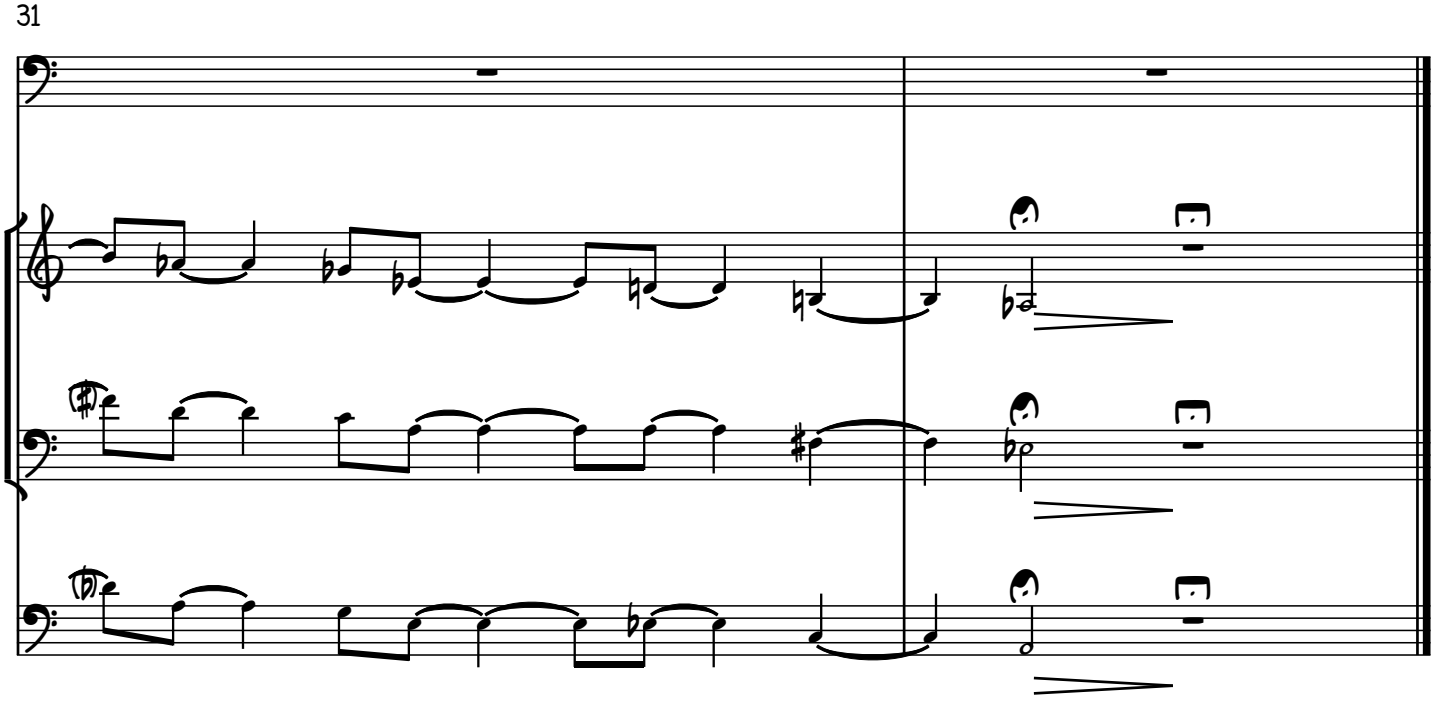

21
f
mp
the world are those who e - stab - lished
mf
f
mf
f
mf
f
mf


23
mf
ce-re-mon-ies and laws and faith and rules of life
mp


25
mp
the fools the
mp
p
mp
p
mp
p

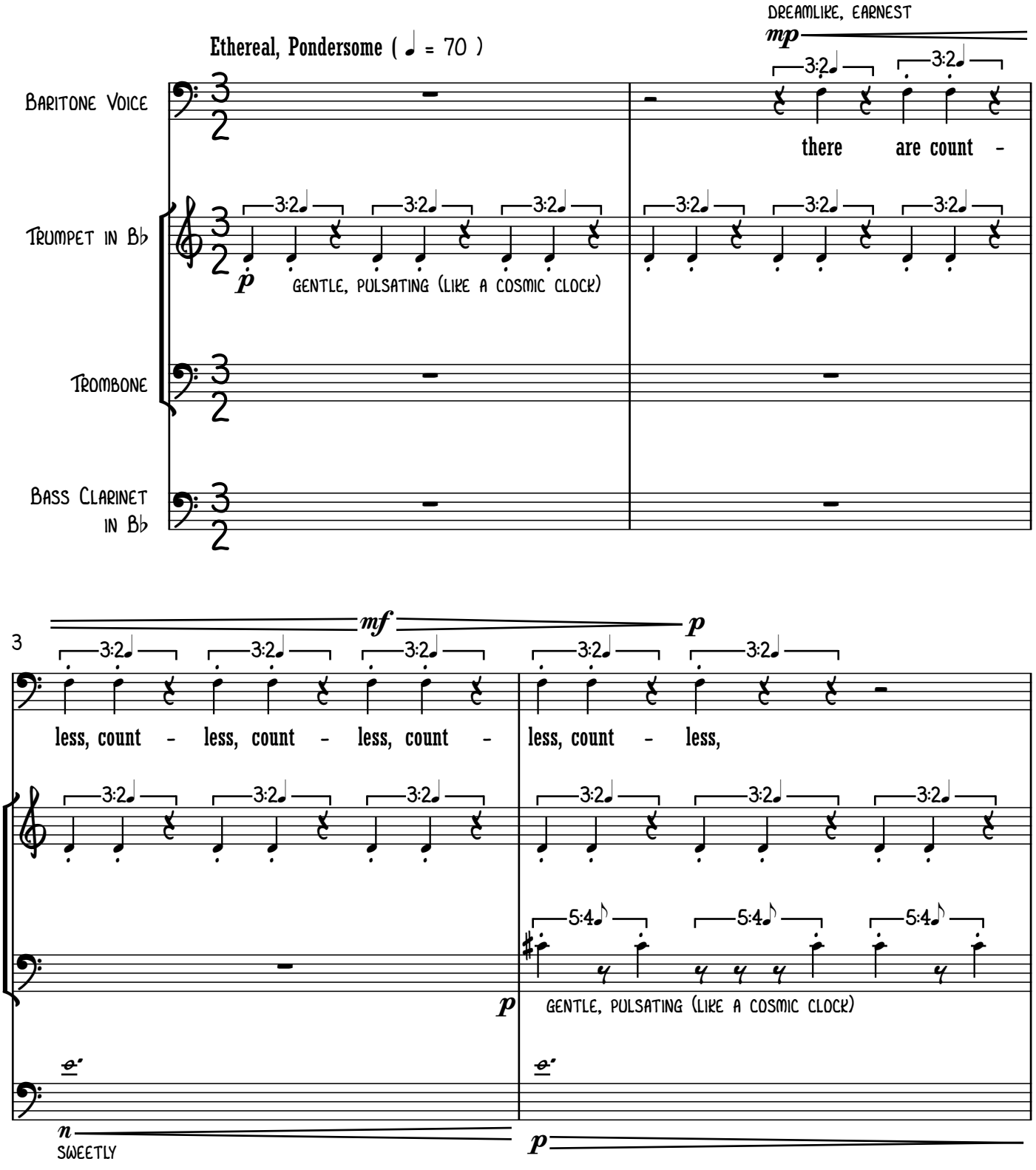

27
mp
fools of the world
are those who have
p
mp
p
mp
p
mp

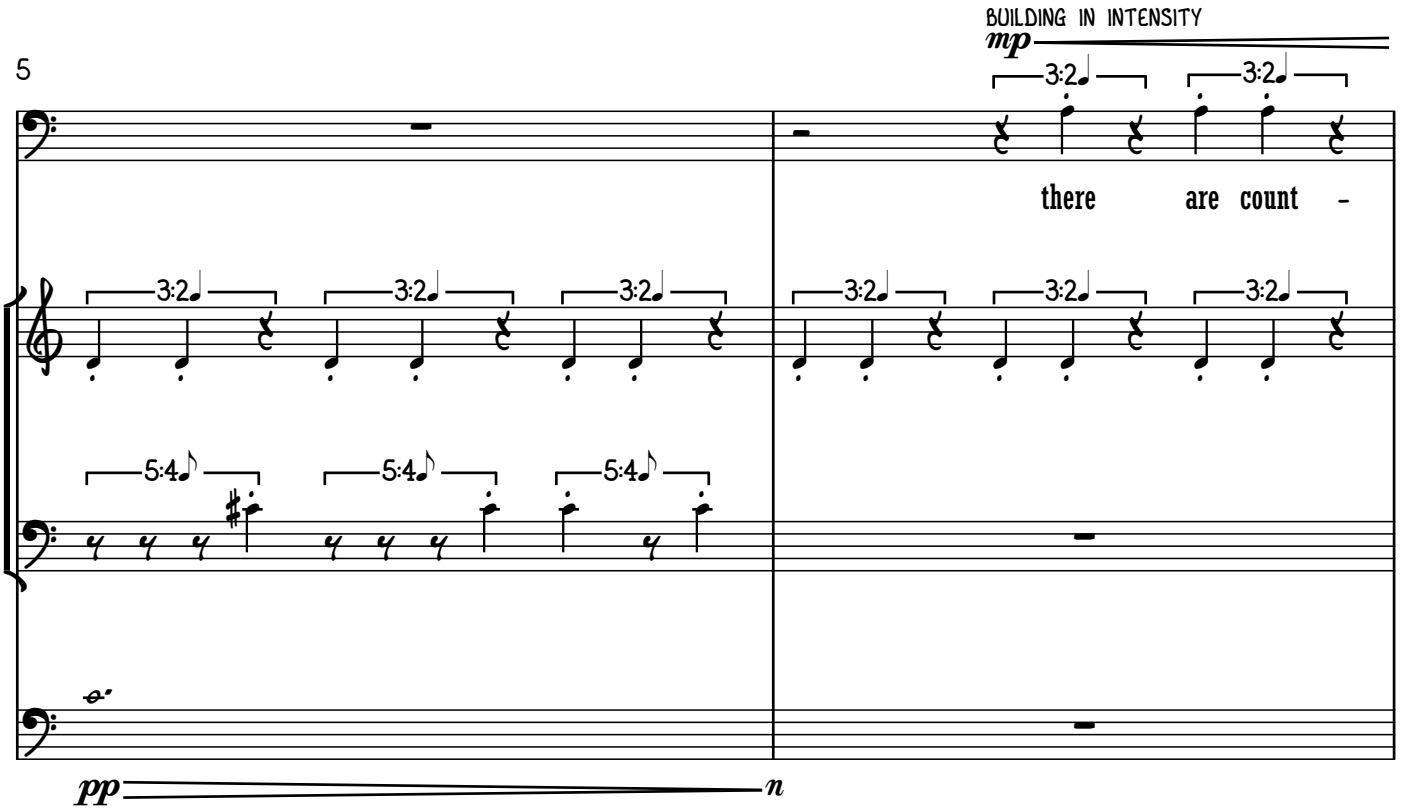

29
mf
e - stab - lished
religion
MUTE
pp
mf pp
MUTE
pp
mf pp
pp
mf pp
pp

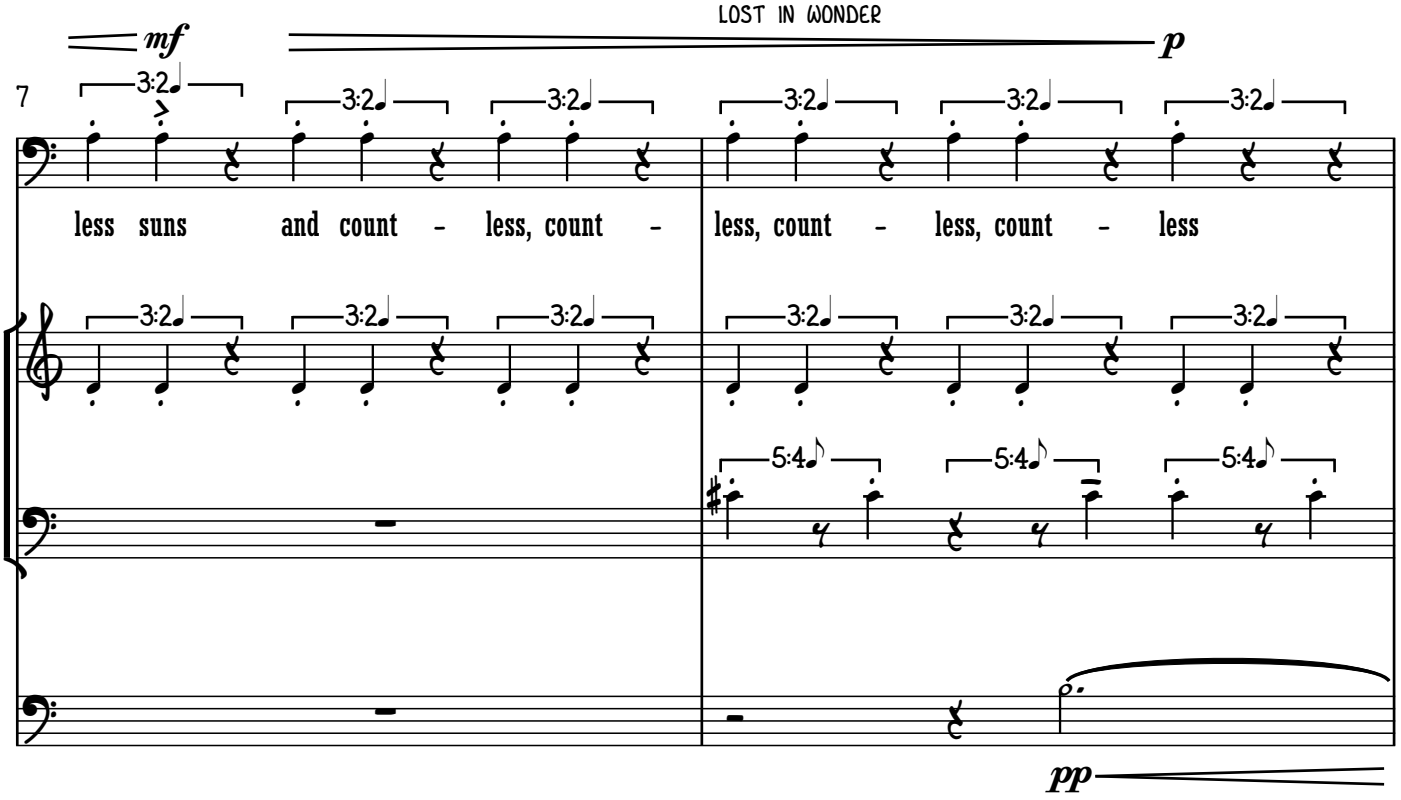

31

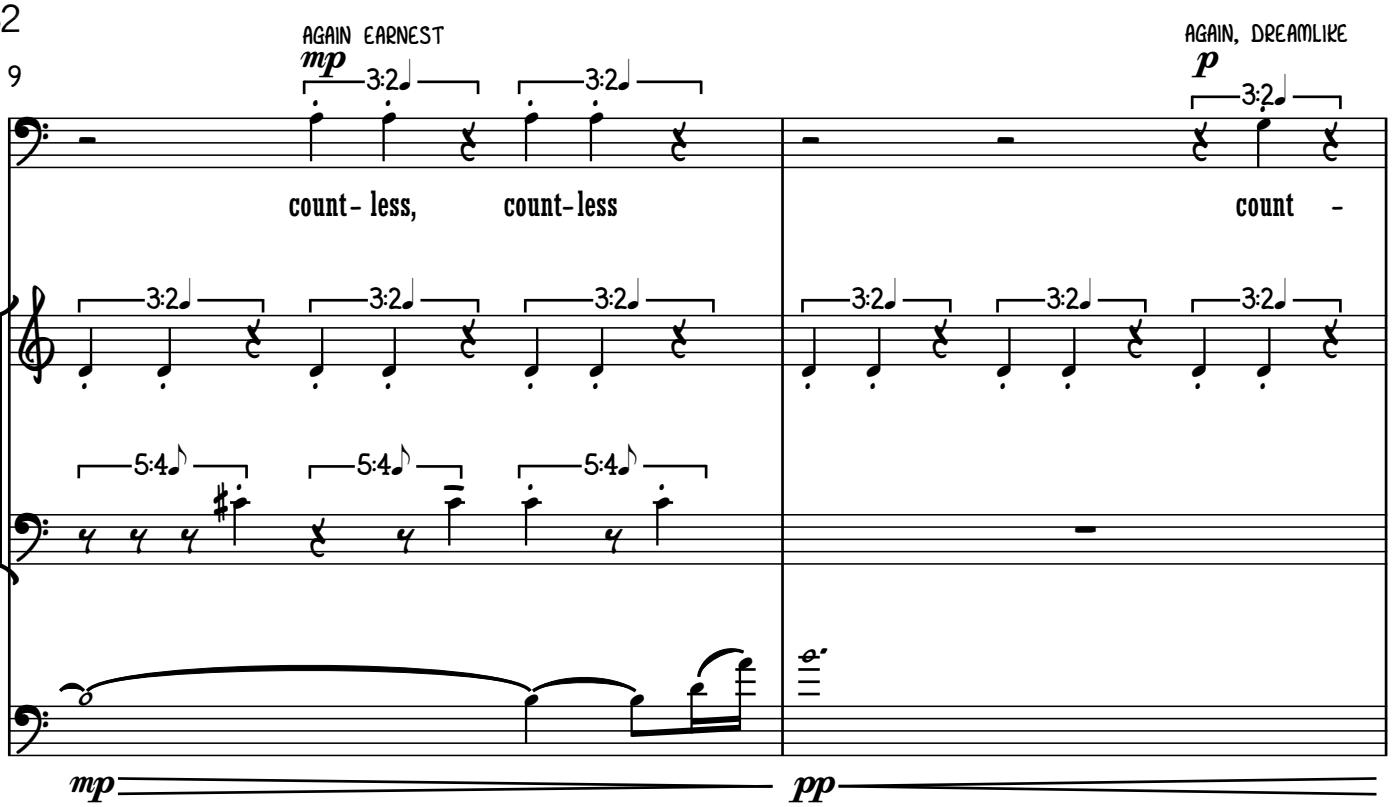
- THERE ARE COUNTLESS EARTHS -

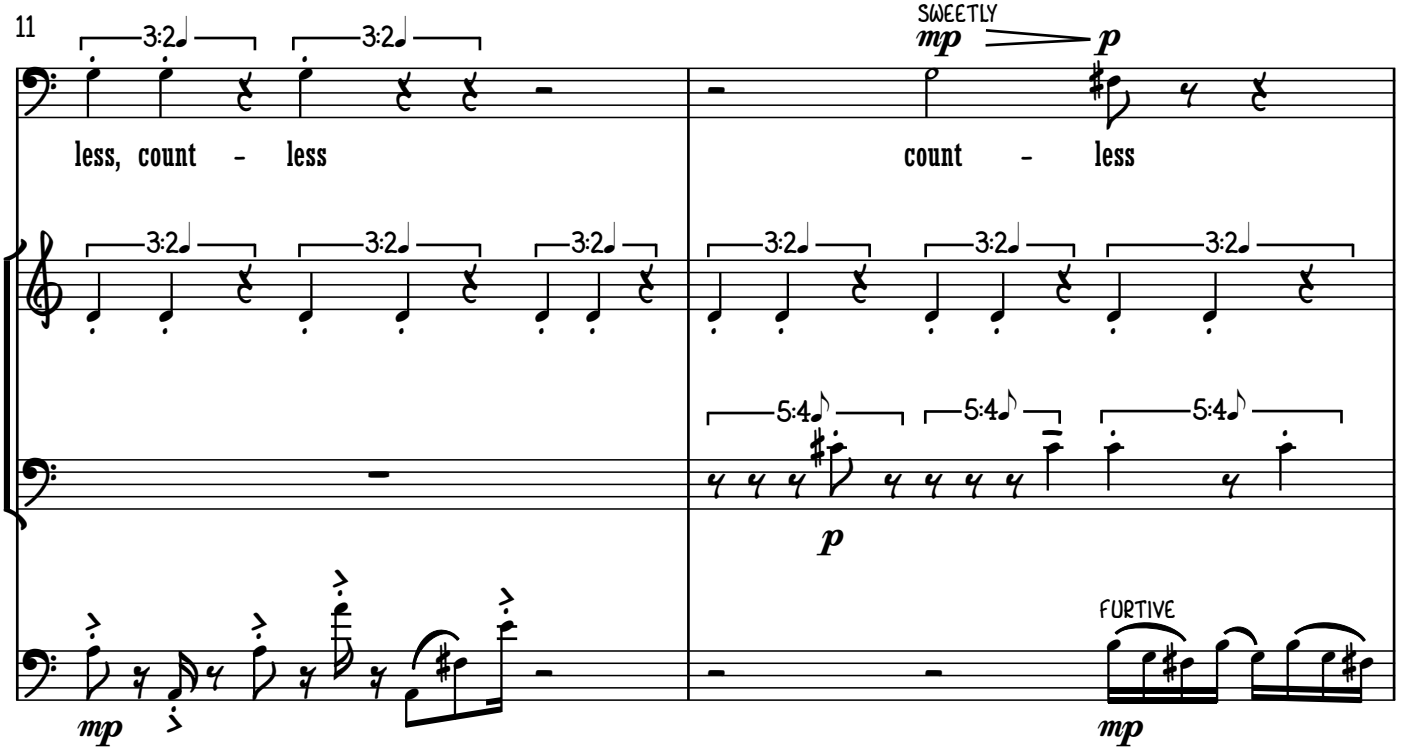
Giordano Bruno, "On the Infinite Universe and Worlds" (1584)

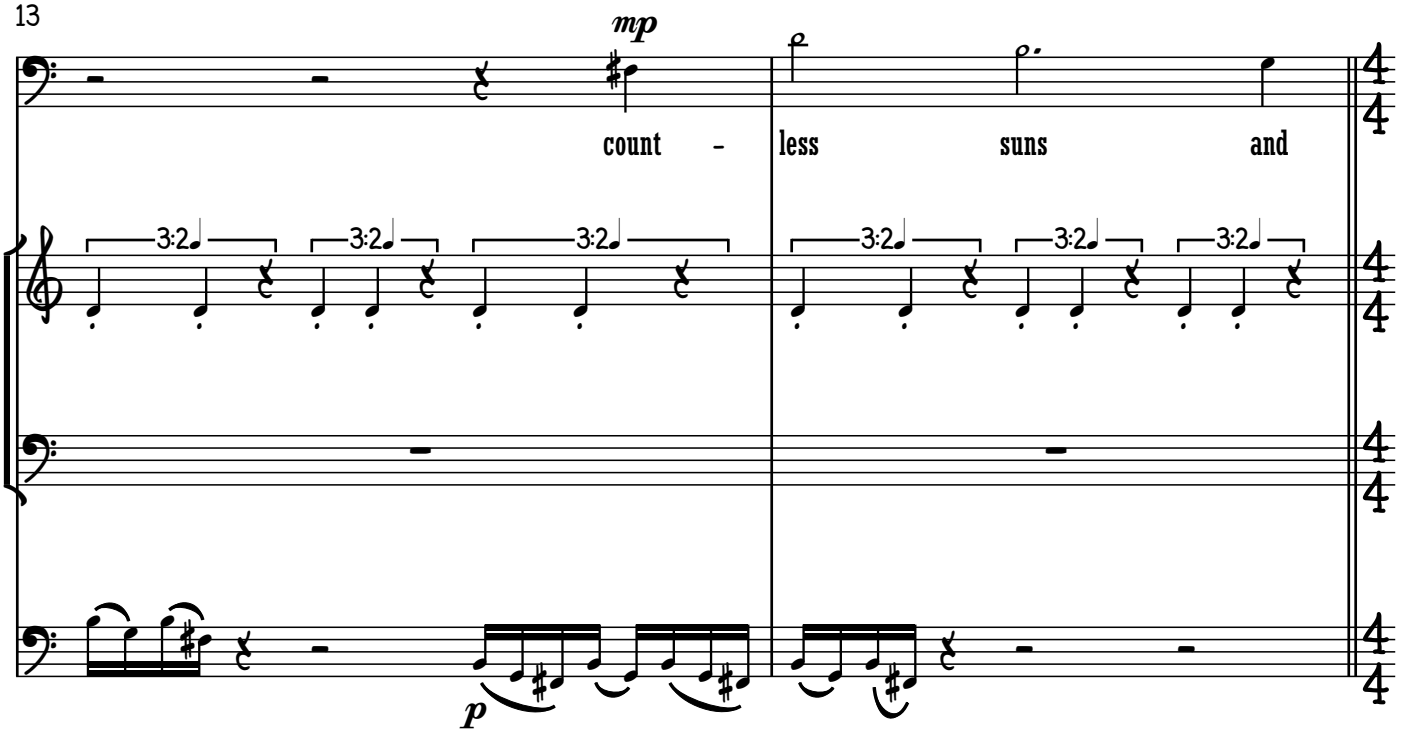


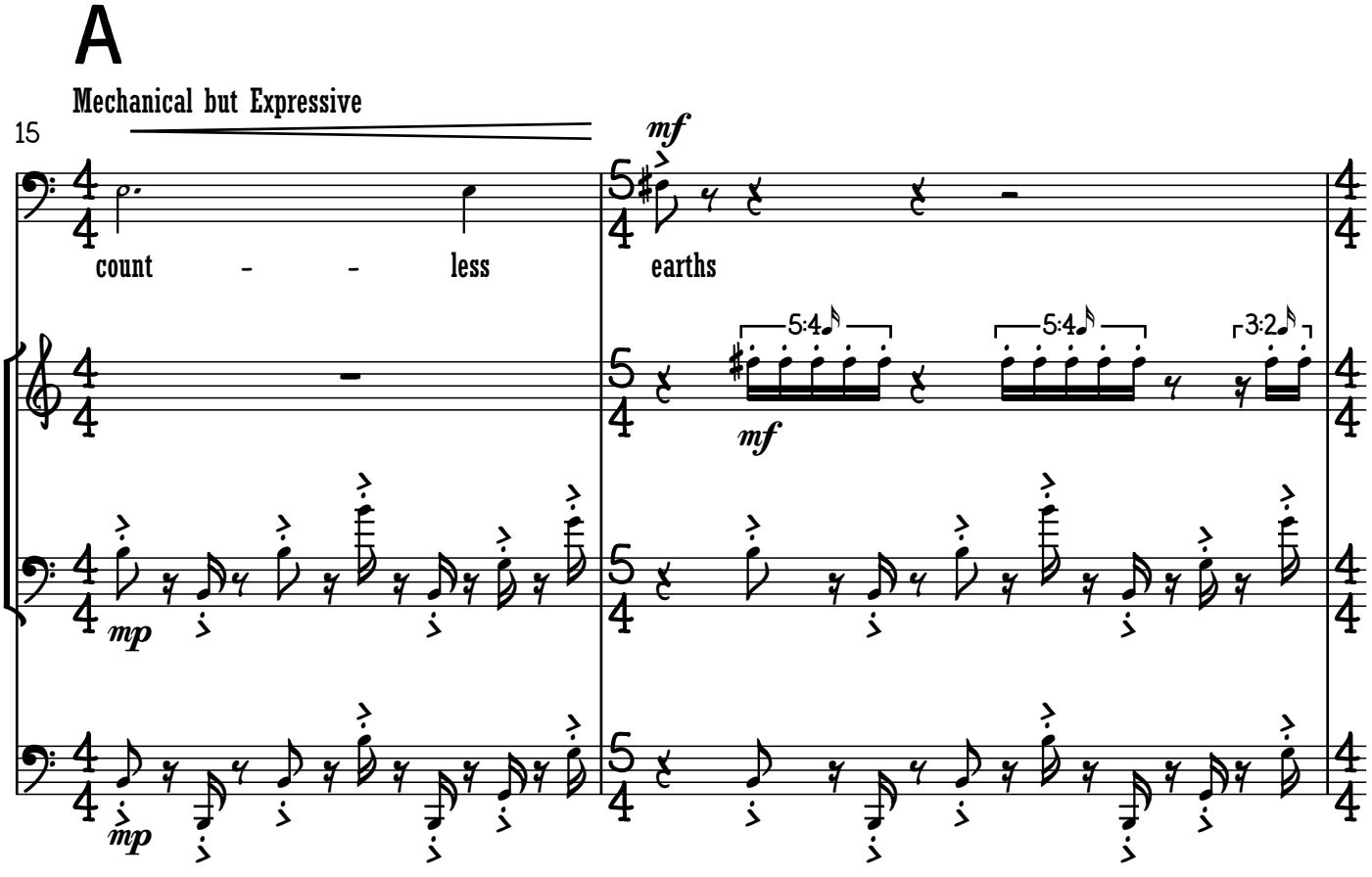

BUILDING IN INTENSITY
mp
5
there are count -
pp
n

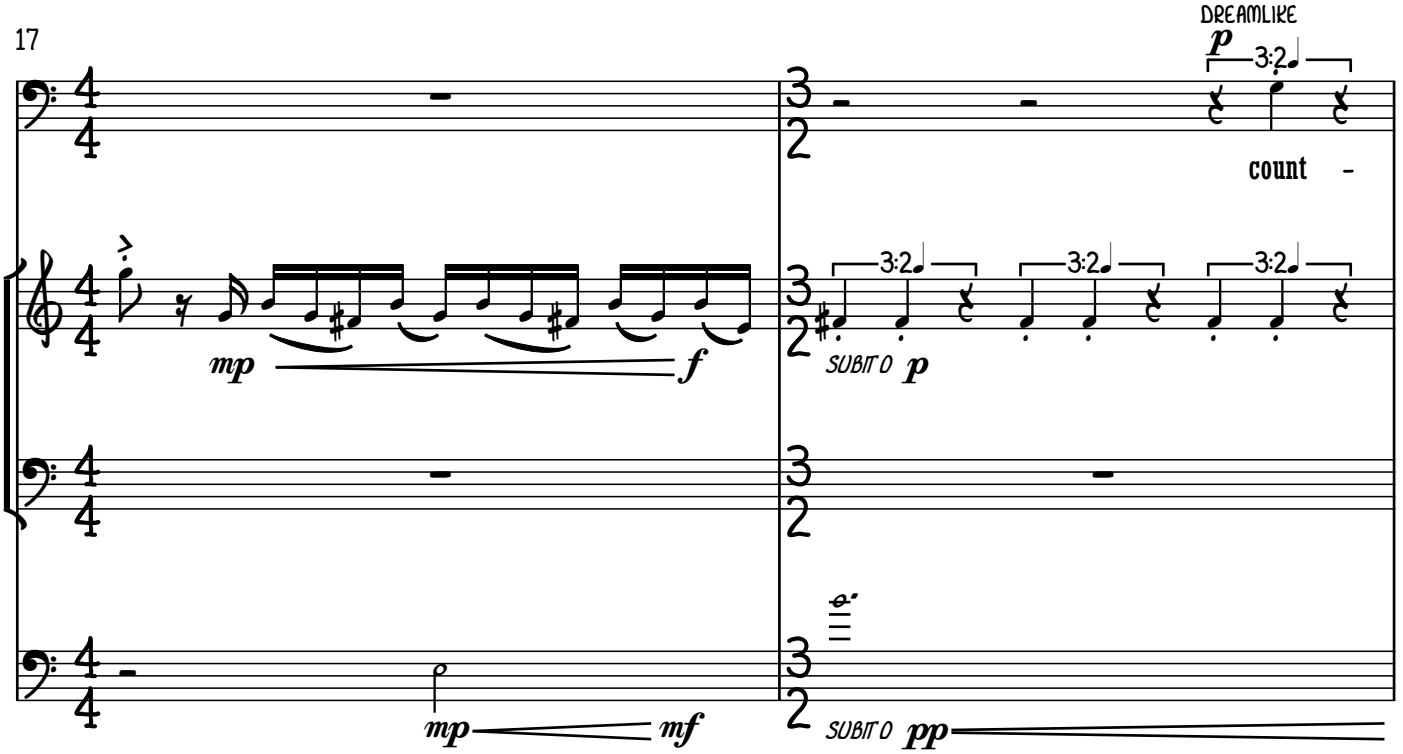

LOST IN WONDER
mf
p
7
less suns and count - less, count -
less, count - less, count - less
pp

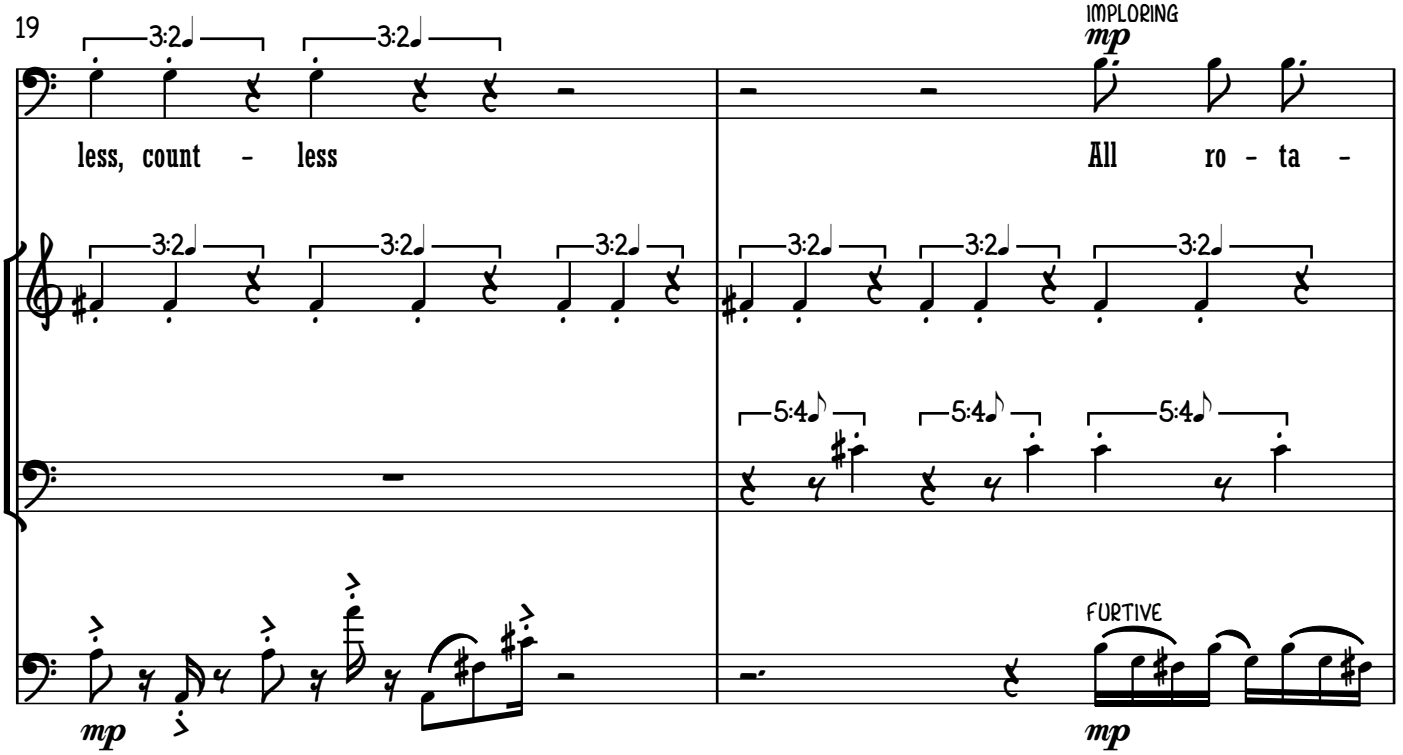

9
AGAIN EARNEST
mp
3:2
count- less, count-less
AGAIN, DREAMLIKE
p
count -
5:4
mp
pp

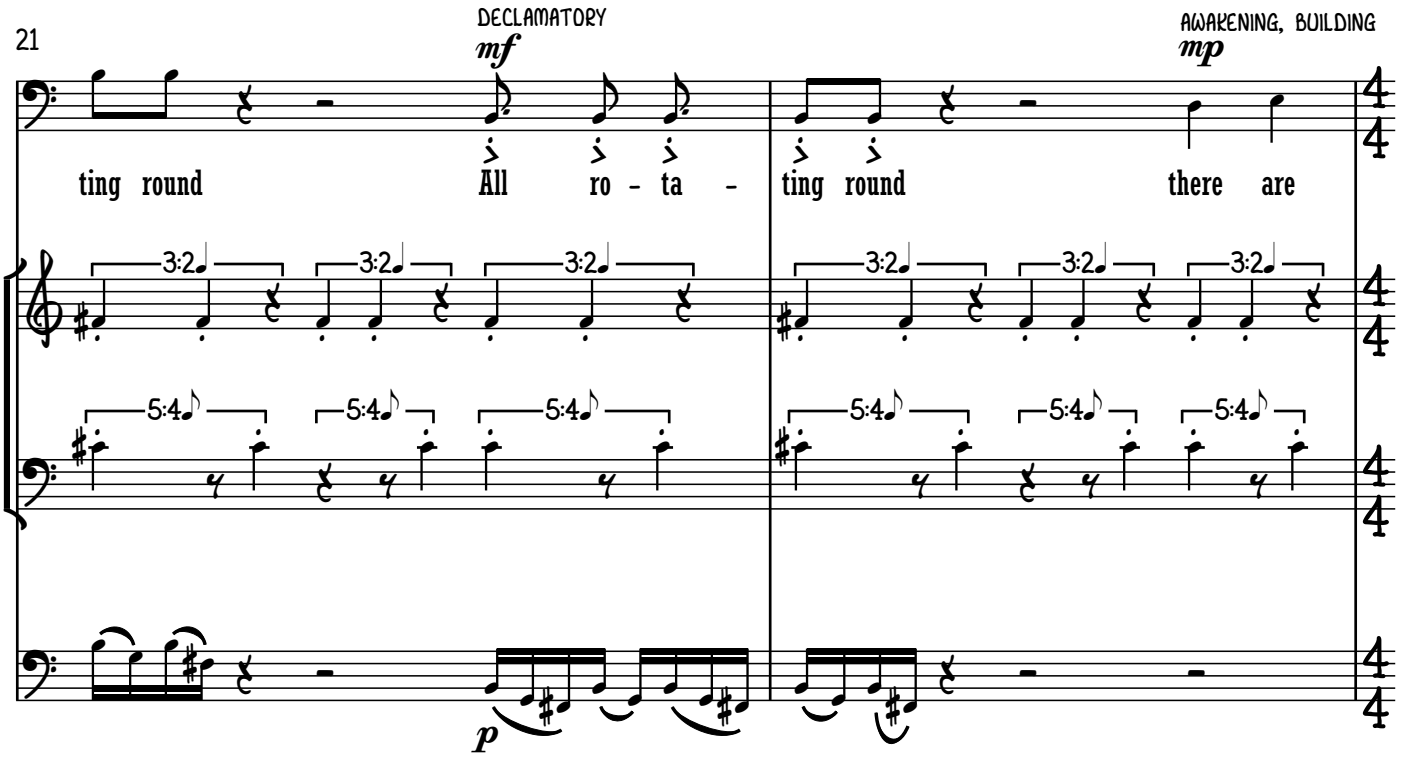

11
less, count - less
SWEETLY
mp
p
count - less
5:4
p
FURTIVE
mp
mp

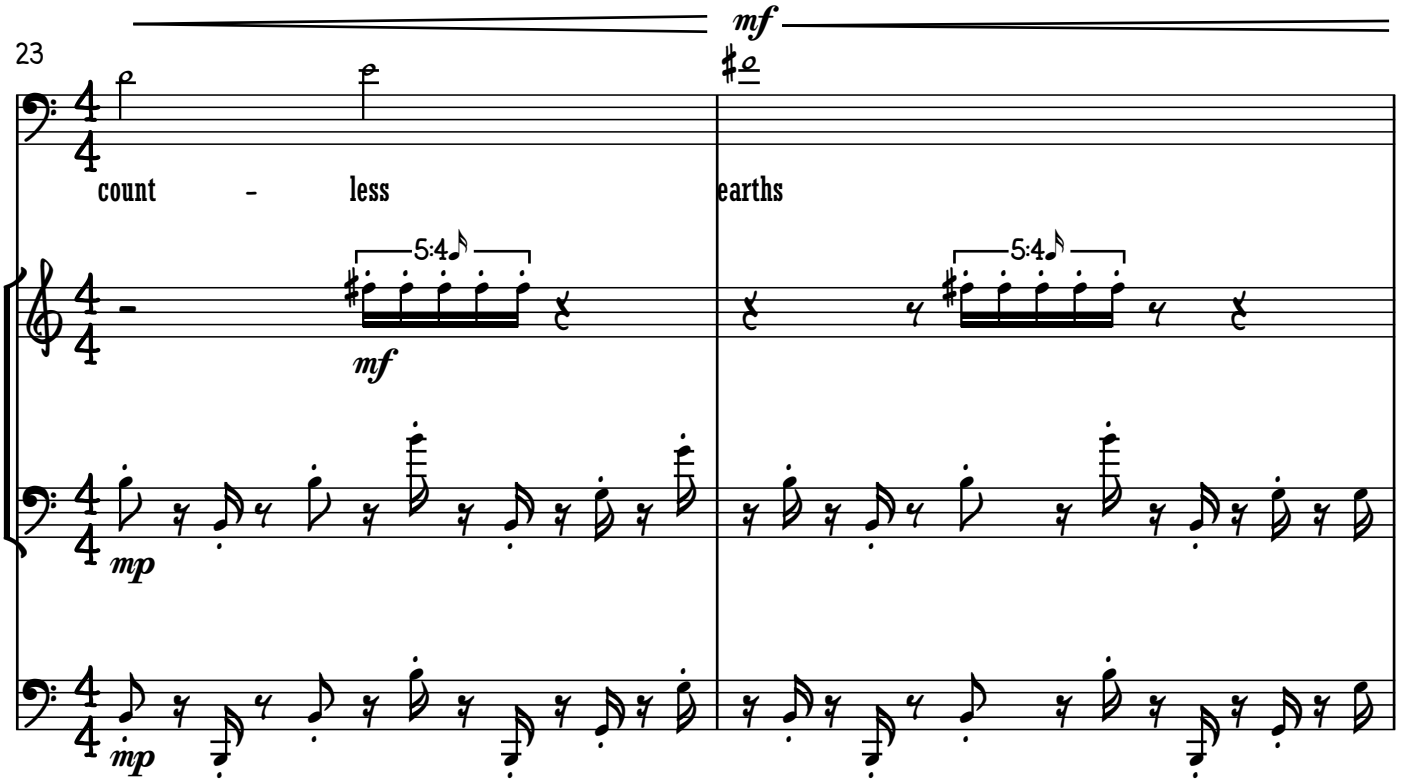

13
mp
count - less suns and
3:2
p


A
Mechanical but Expressive
15
mf
count - - less
earths
5:4
3:2
mf
mp
mp


17
DREAMLIKE
p
3:2
count -
mp
f
SUBITO p
mp
mf
SUBITO pp


19
3:2
less, count - less
IMPLORING
mp
All ro - ta -
5:4
FURTIVE
mp
mp


21
DECLAMATORY
mf
AWAKENING, BUILDING
mp
ting round All ro - ta - ting round there are
3:2
5:4
p


23
mf
count - less earths
5:4
mf
mp
mp

25

f

all ro - ta - ting round their suns!

(WHISPER CONSPIRATORIALLY)

"HERESY"

p

(WHISPER CONSPIRATORIALLY)

"HERESY"

p

(WHISPER CONSPIRATORIALLY)

"HERESY"

p

27

B

mf FURTIVE

count -

GENTLE

p

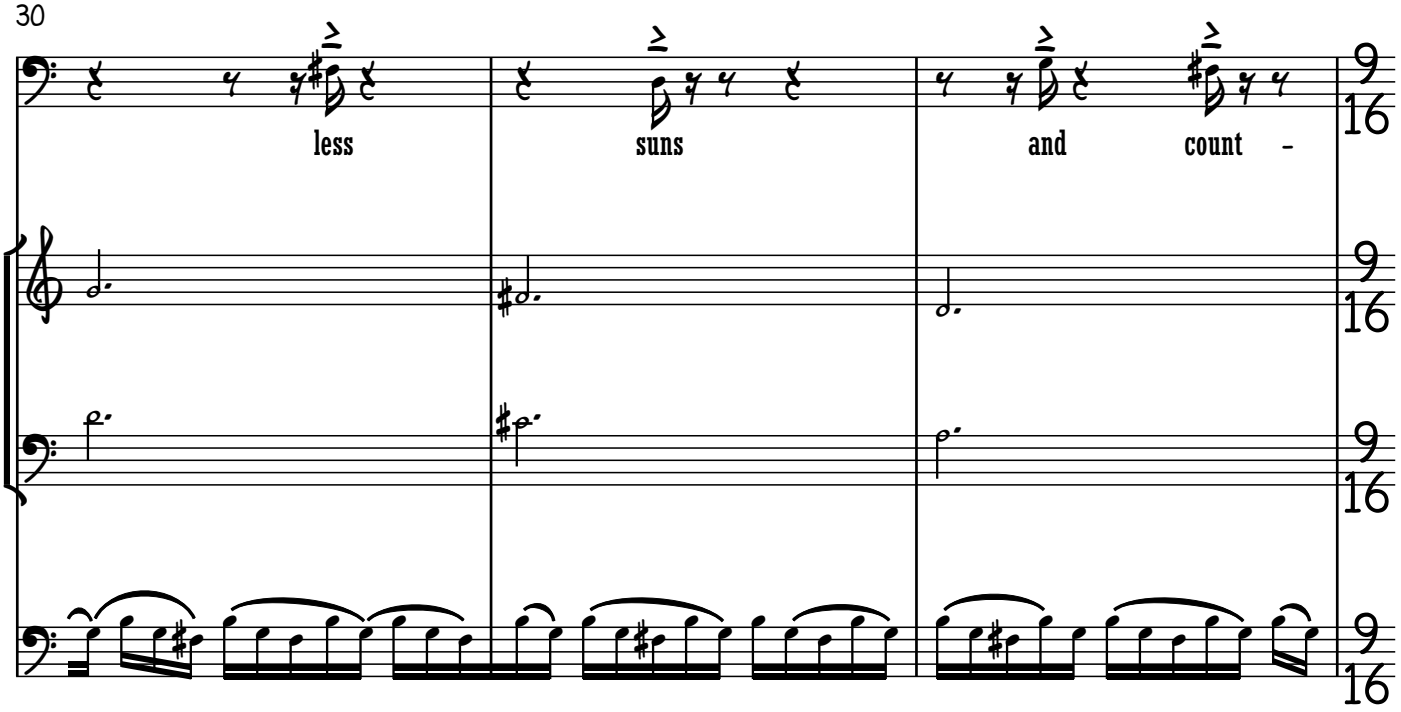
GENTLE

p

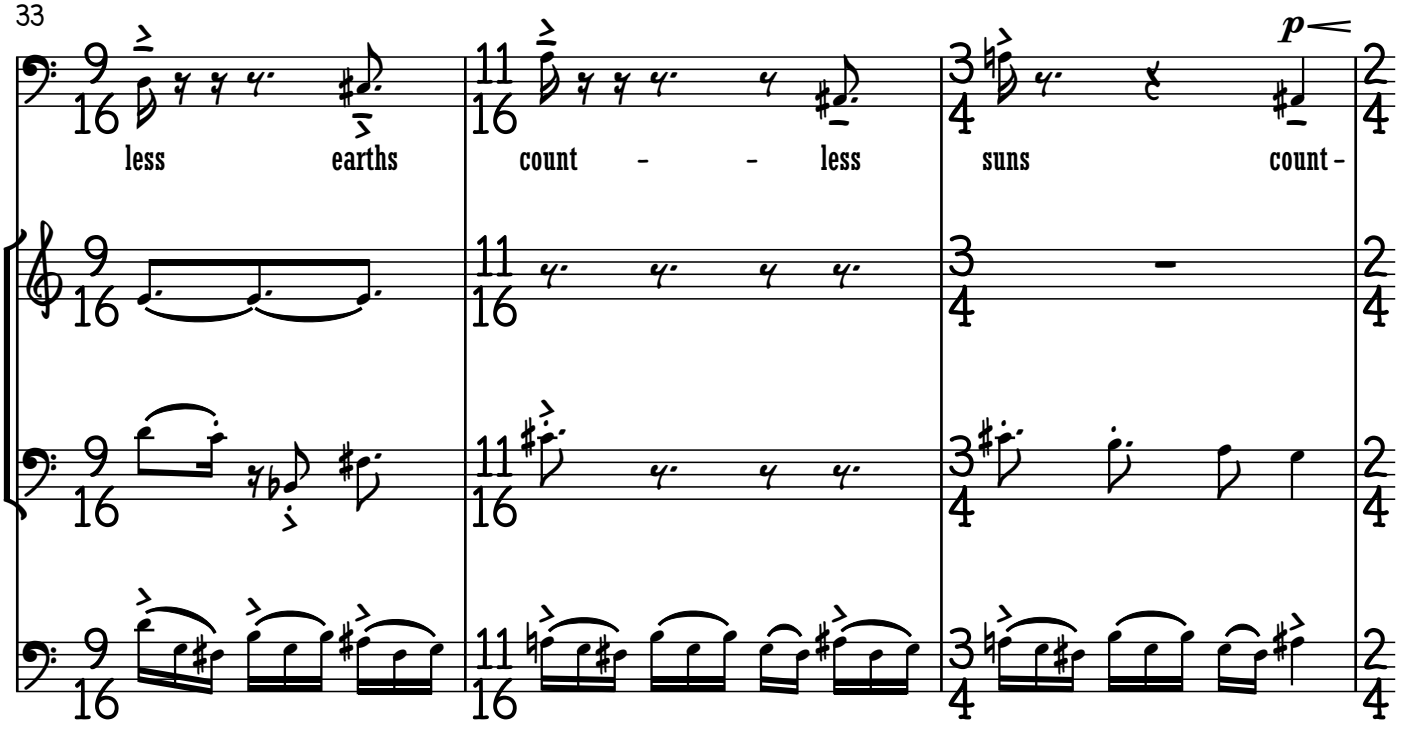
MECHANICAL, UNDULATING

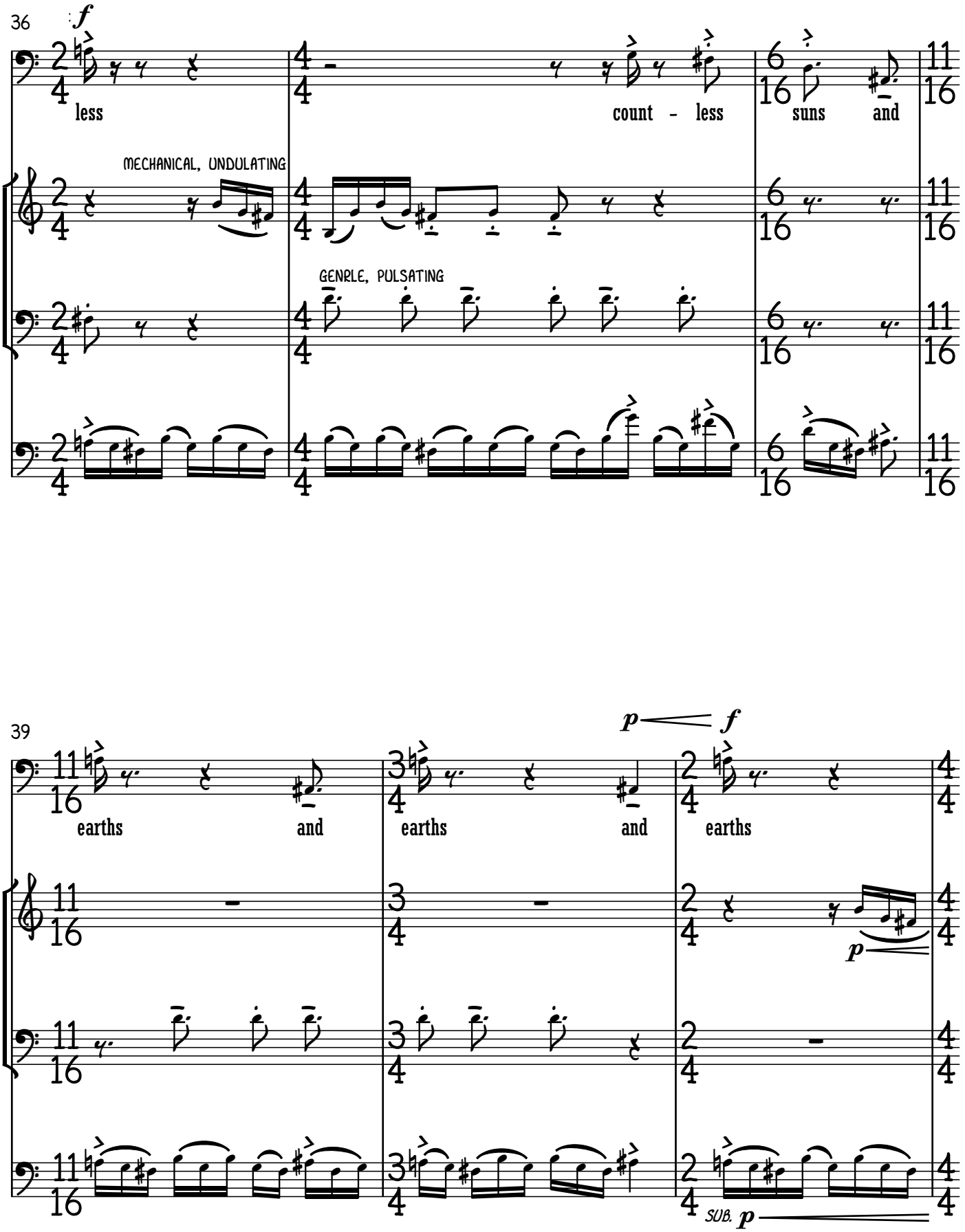
p

30

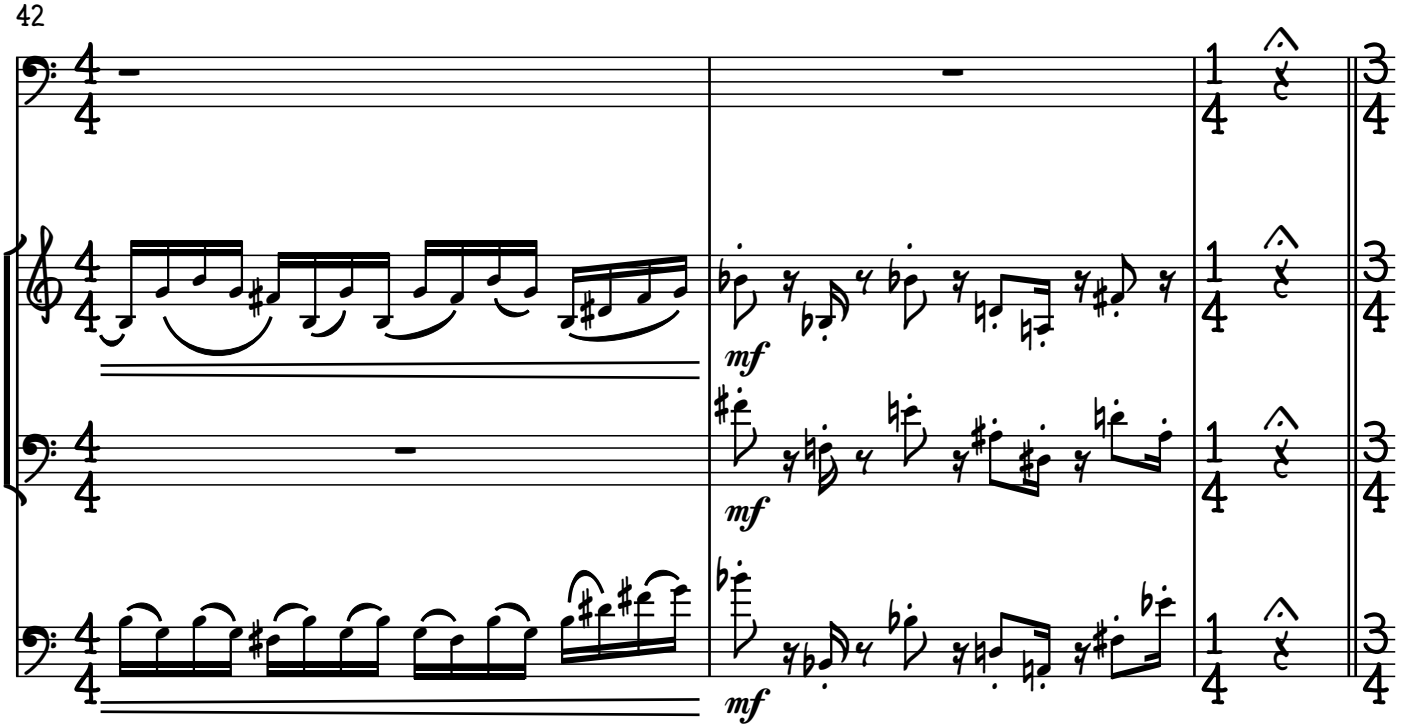


33



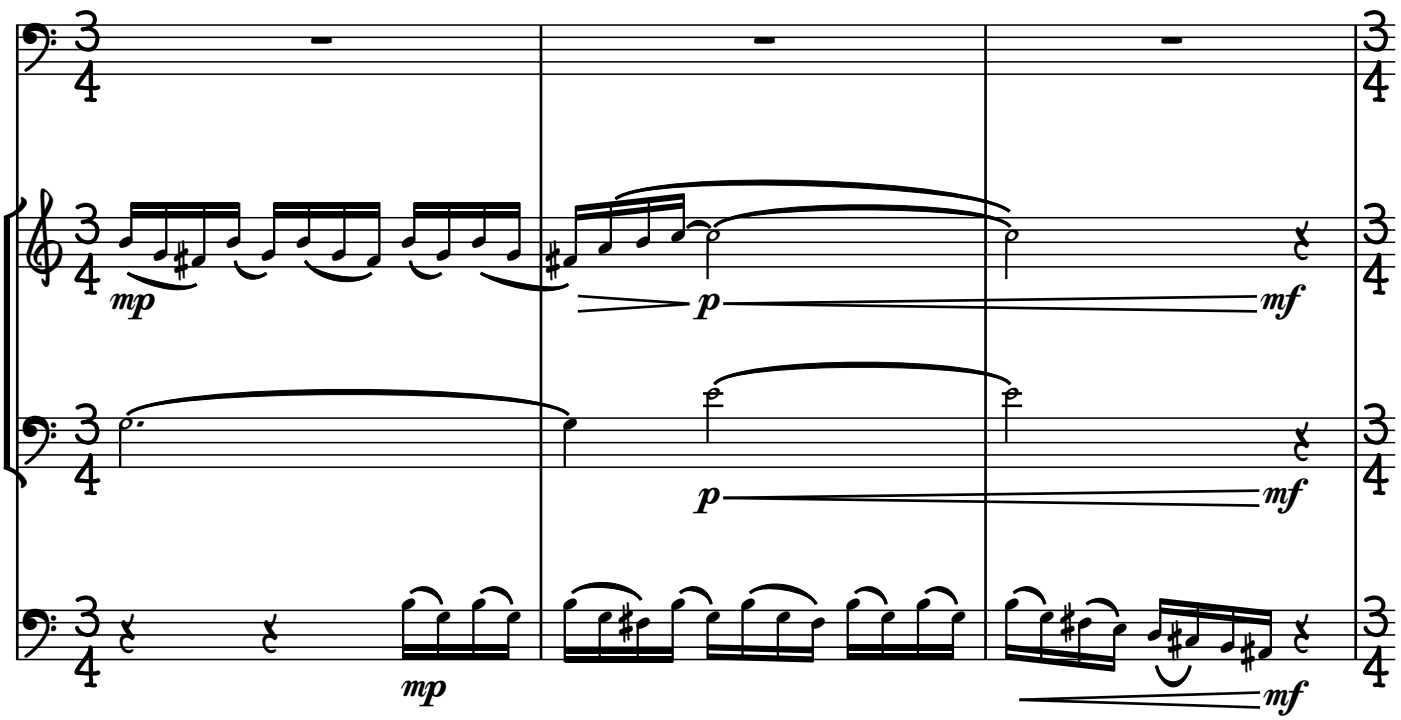

36
f
less
count - less
suns and
MECHANICAL, UNDULATING
GENRLE, PULSATING
39
p
f
earths
and
earths
and
earths
p
SUB. p

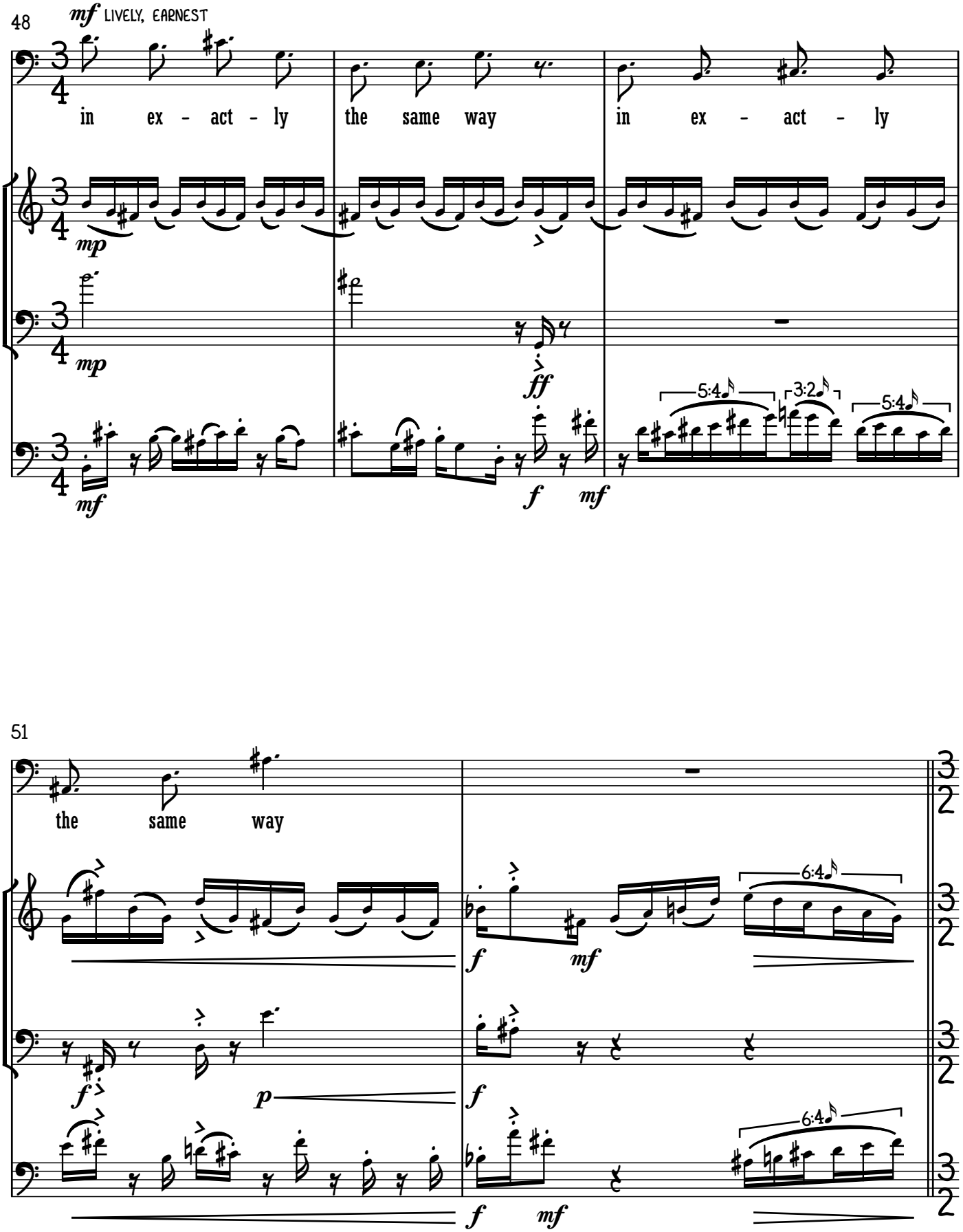
42

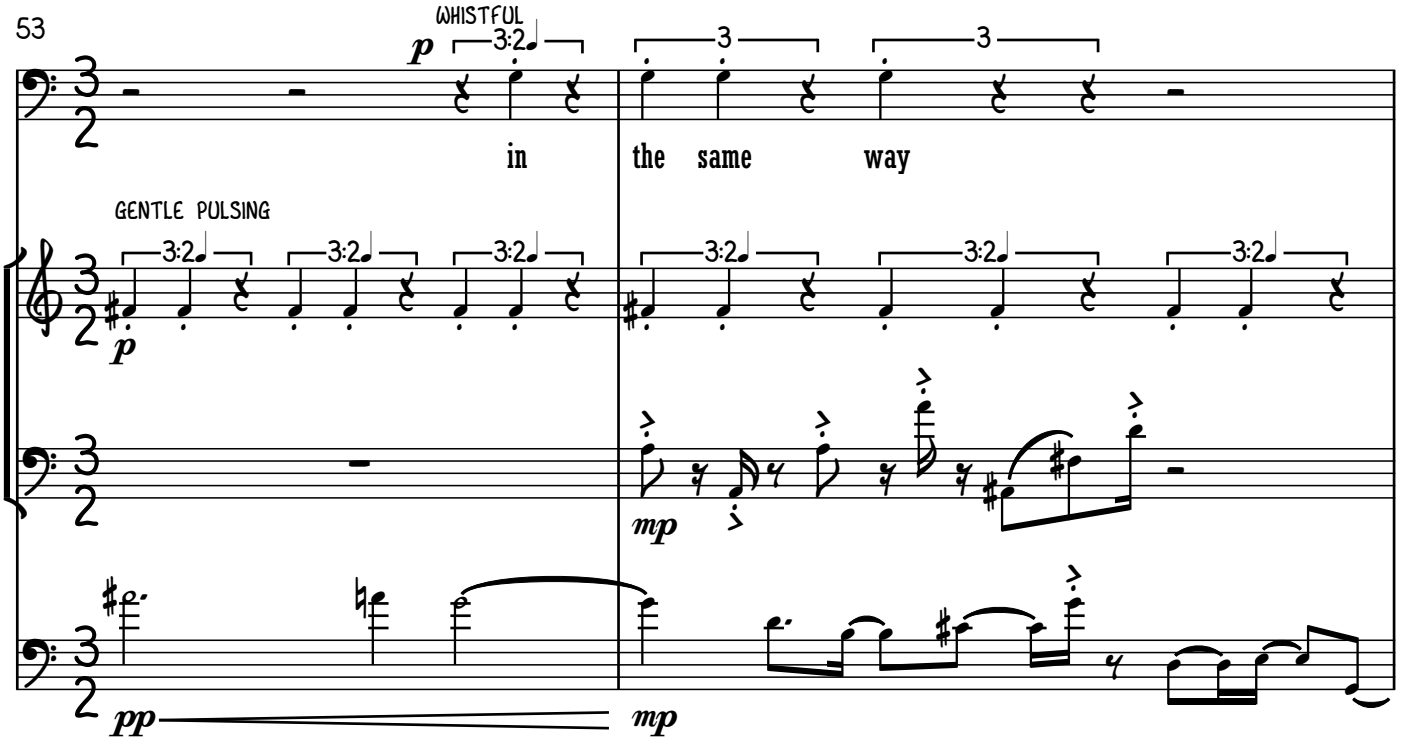


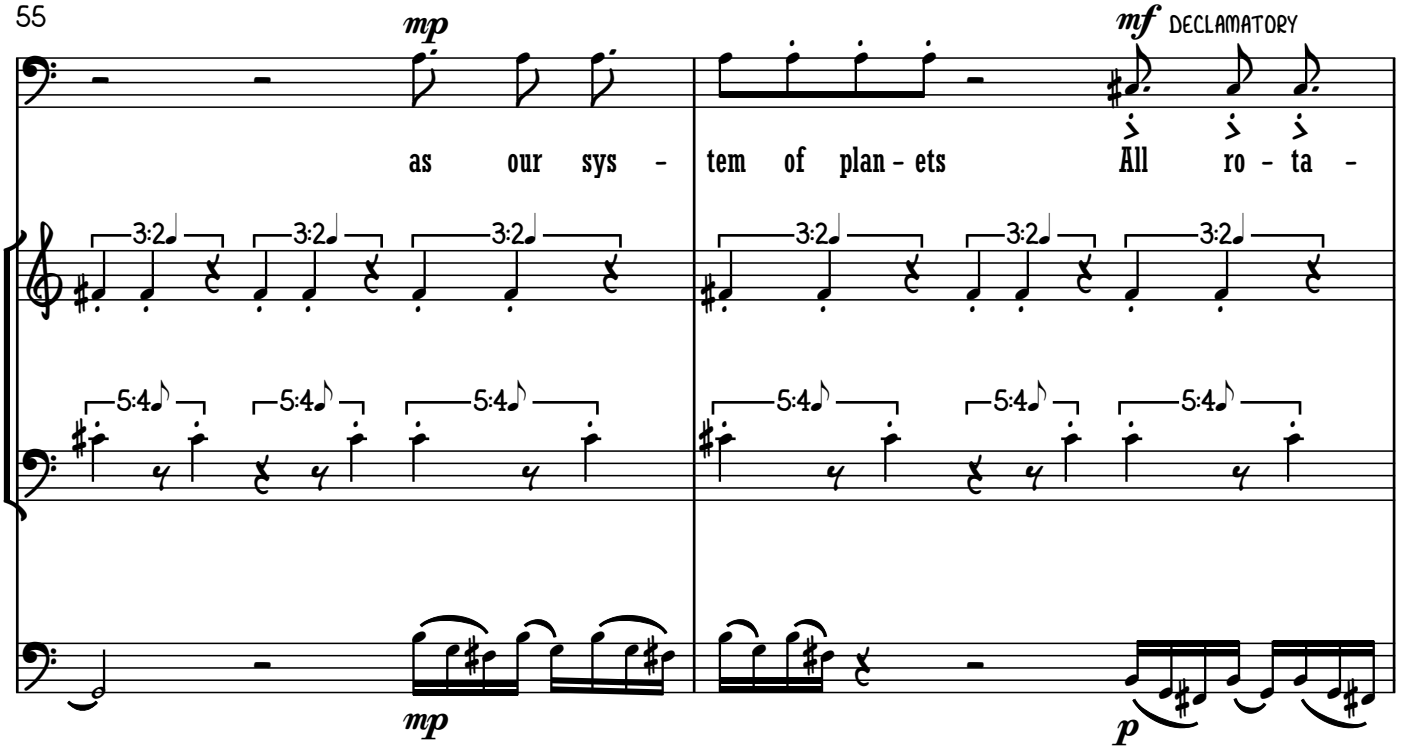
C

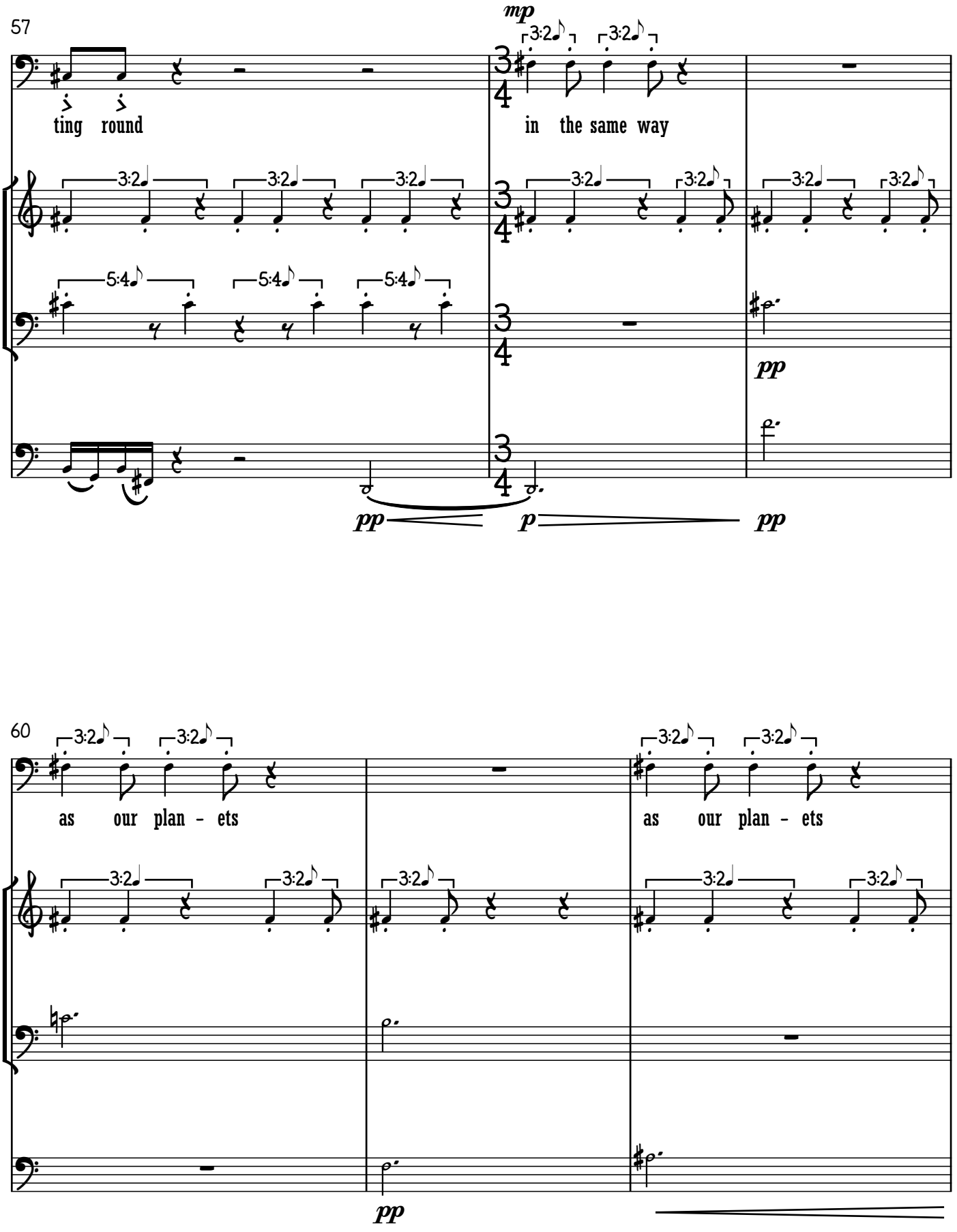
45

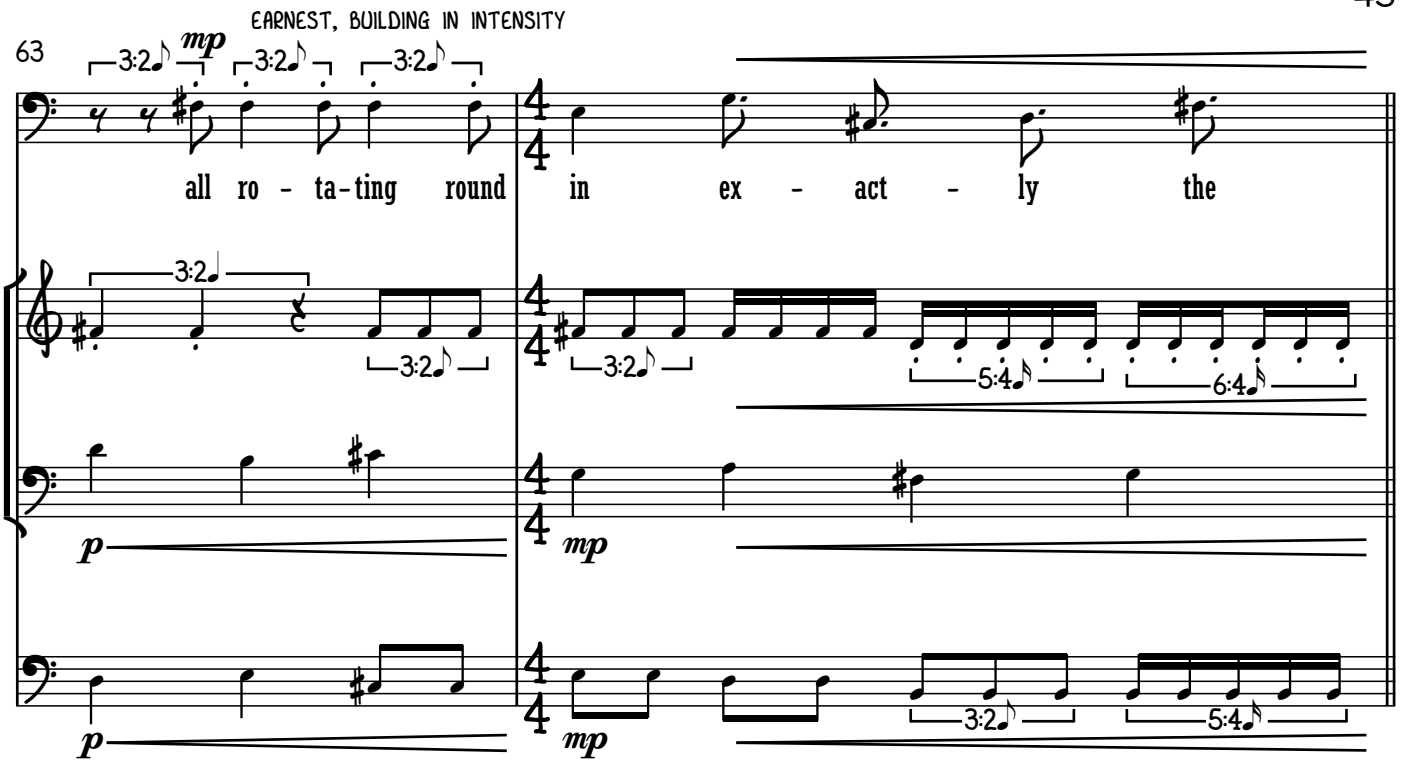



48
mf LIVELY, EARNEST
in ex - act - ly
the same way
in ex - act - ly
mp
mp
ff
mf
f
mf
5:4
3:2
5:4
51
the same way
f
mf
6:4
f
p
f
f
mf
6:4


53
WHISTFUL
p
in
the same way
GENTLE PULSING
p
mp
pp
mp

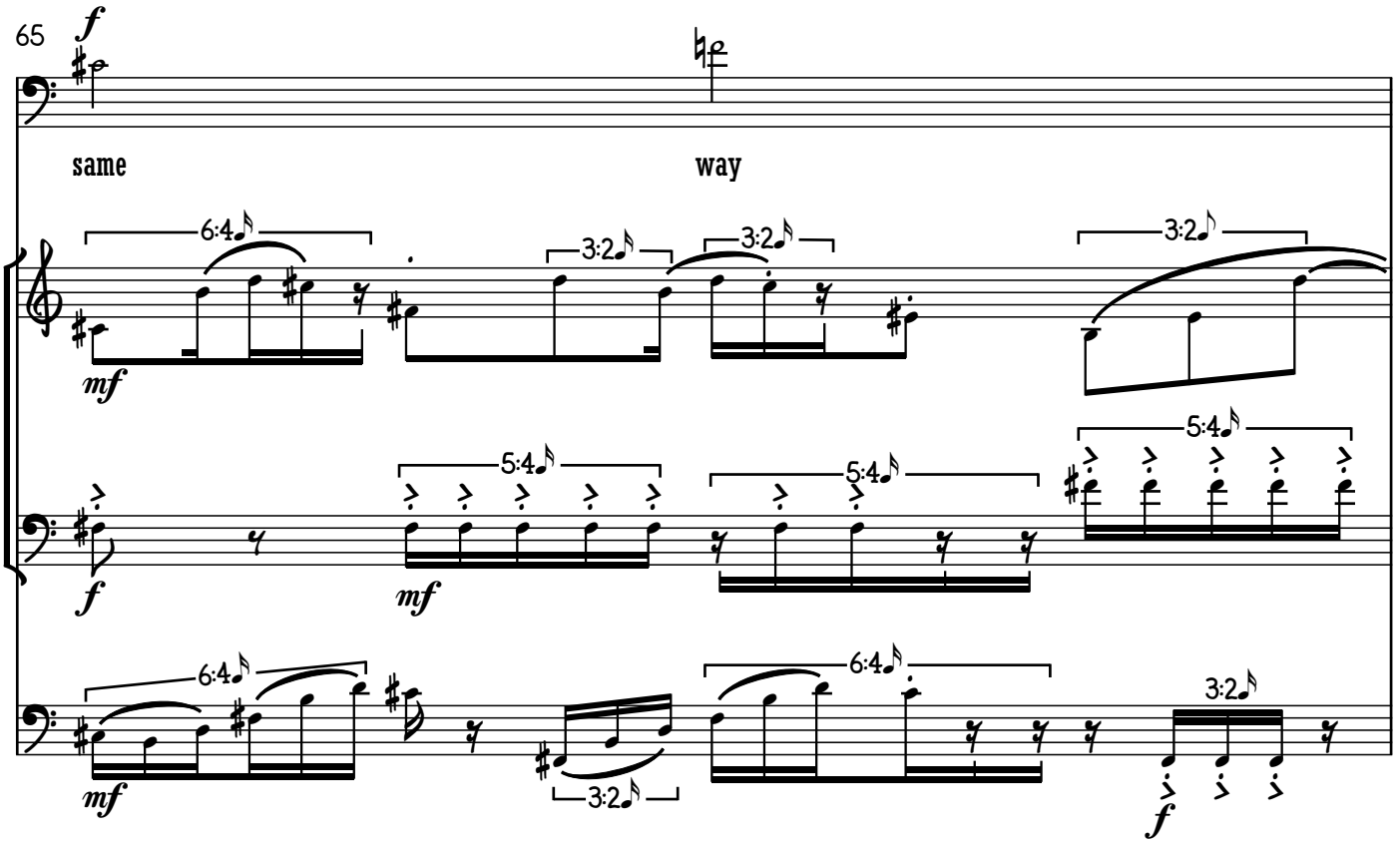

55
mp
as our sys -
tem of plan - ets
mf
DECLAMATORY
All ro - ta -
mp
p


57
mp
ting round
in the same way
pp
pp
p
pp
60
as our plan - ets
as our plan - ets
pp



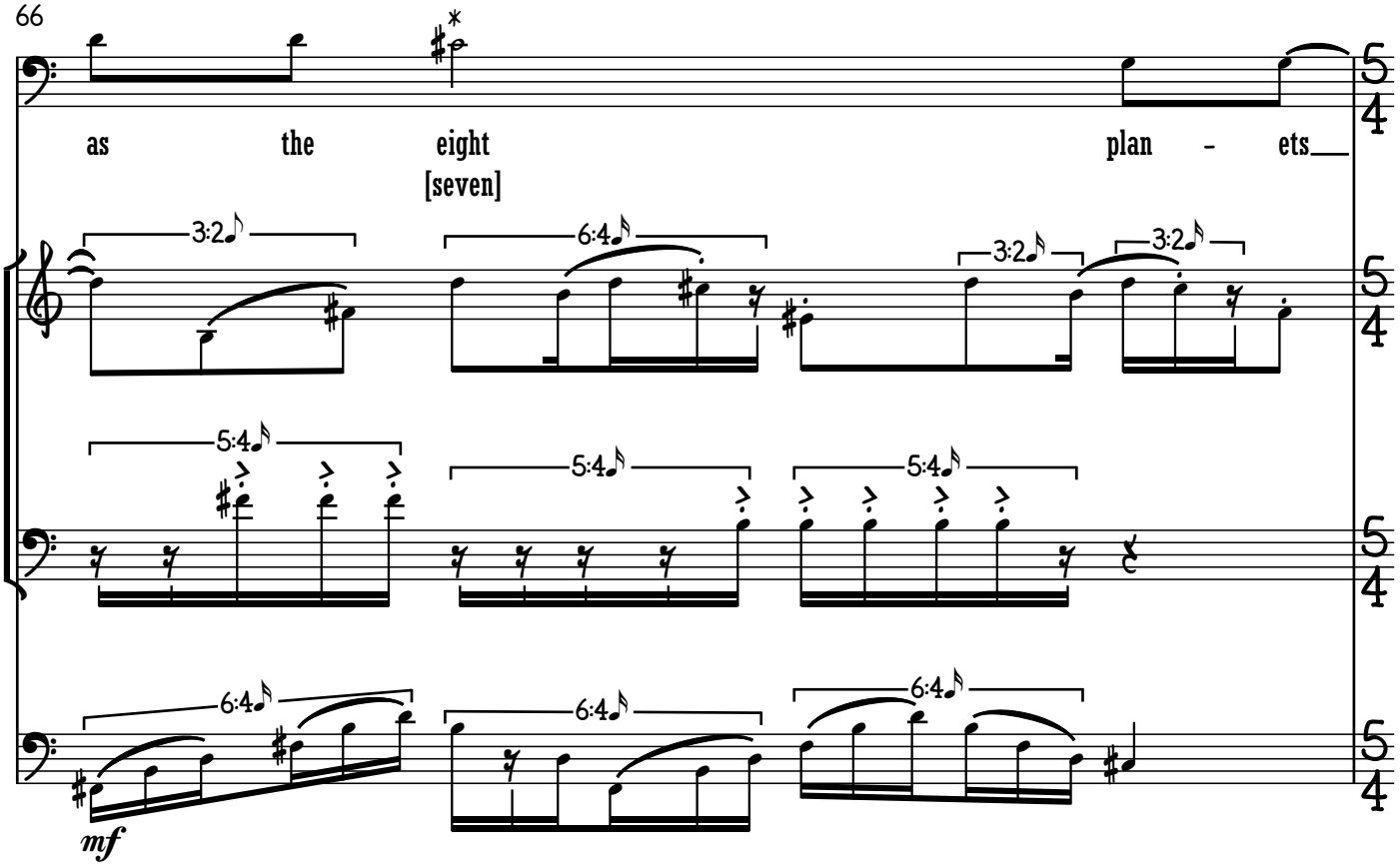
E

Undulating and Spiraling

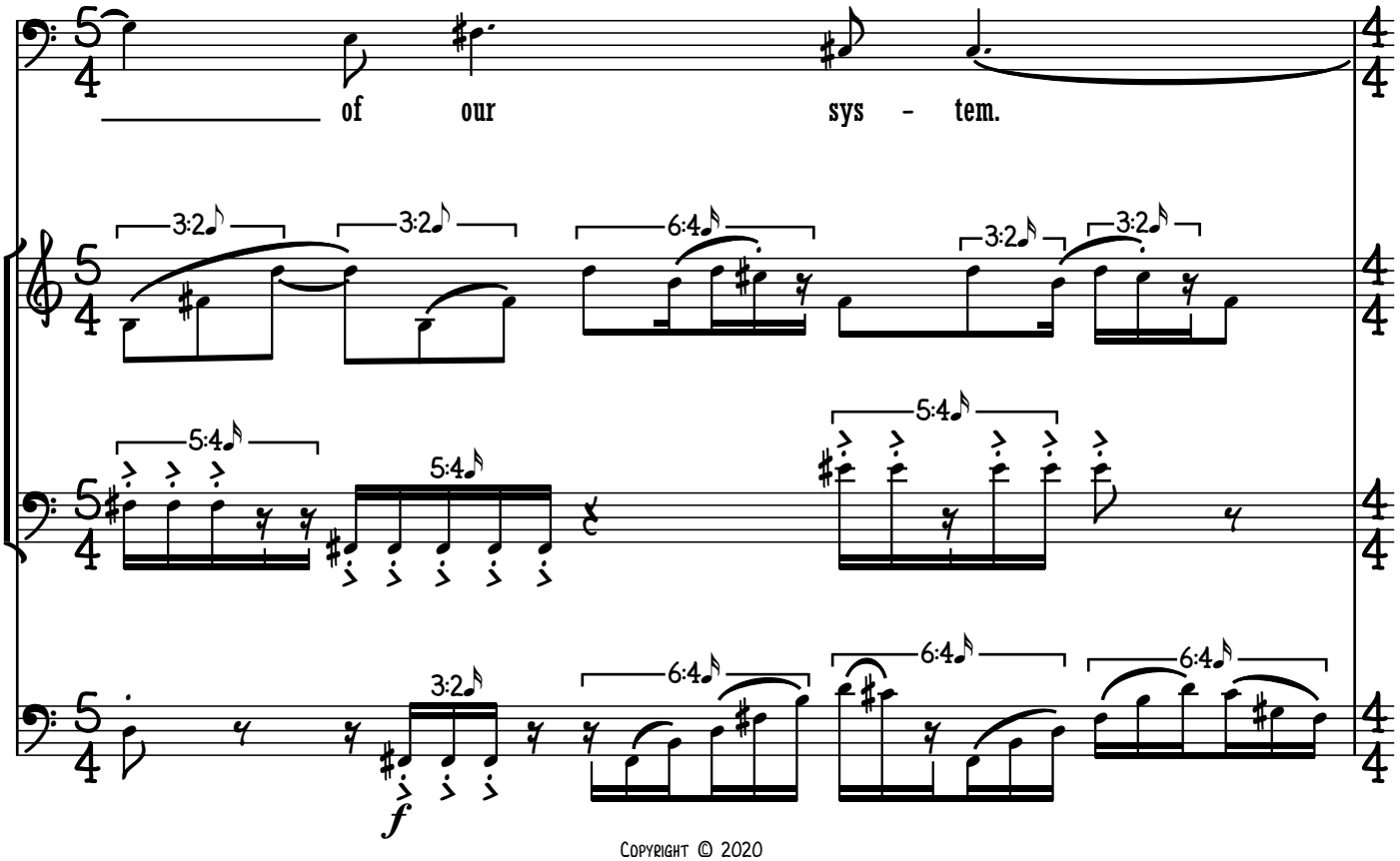


Note that here, Bruno specified only seven planets, since at that time Neptune has not been discovered. If the vocalist so chooses, you may sing seven, rather than eight, or nine if you wish to consider Pluto a planet still.

66



67



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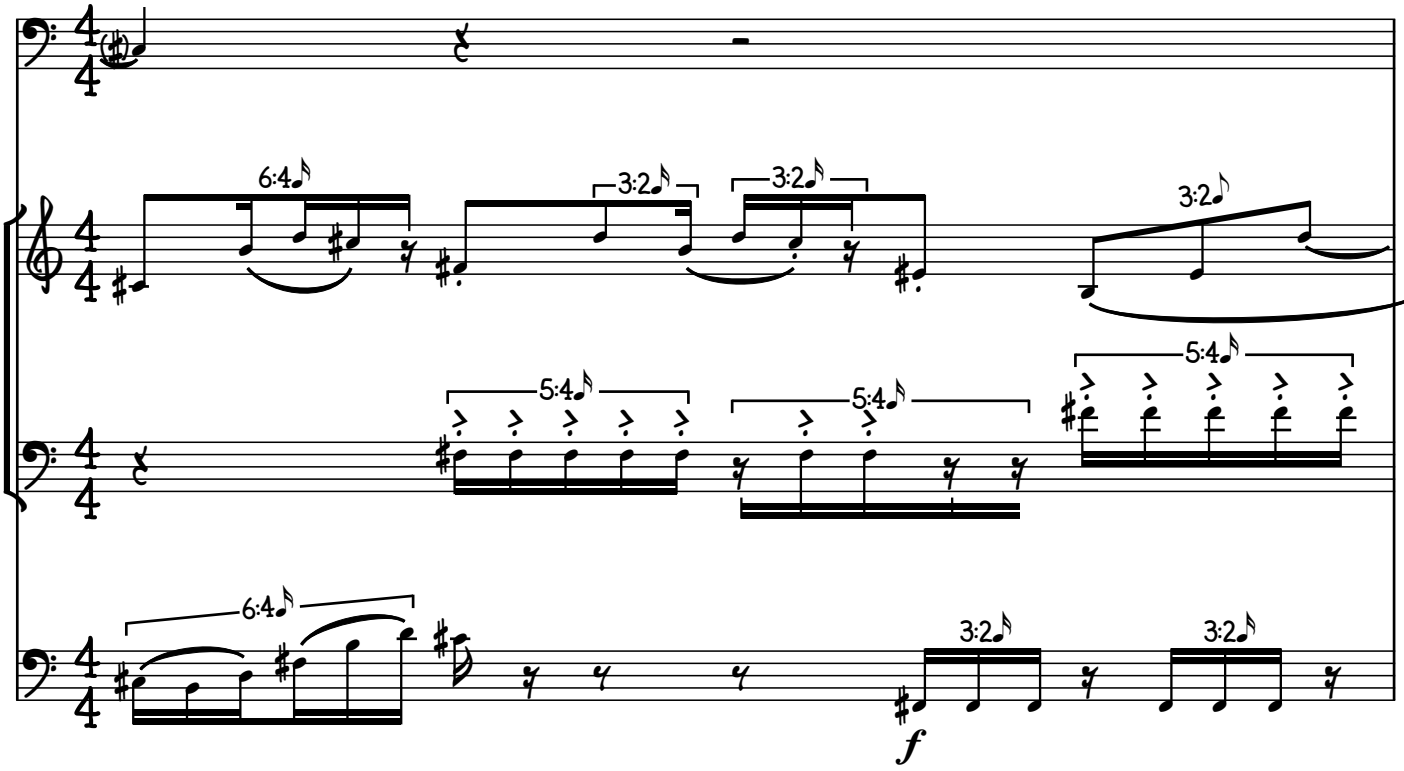
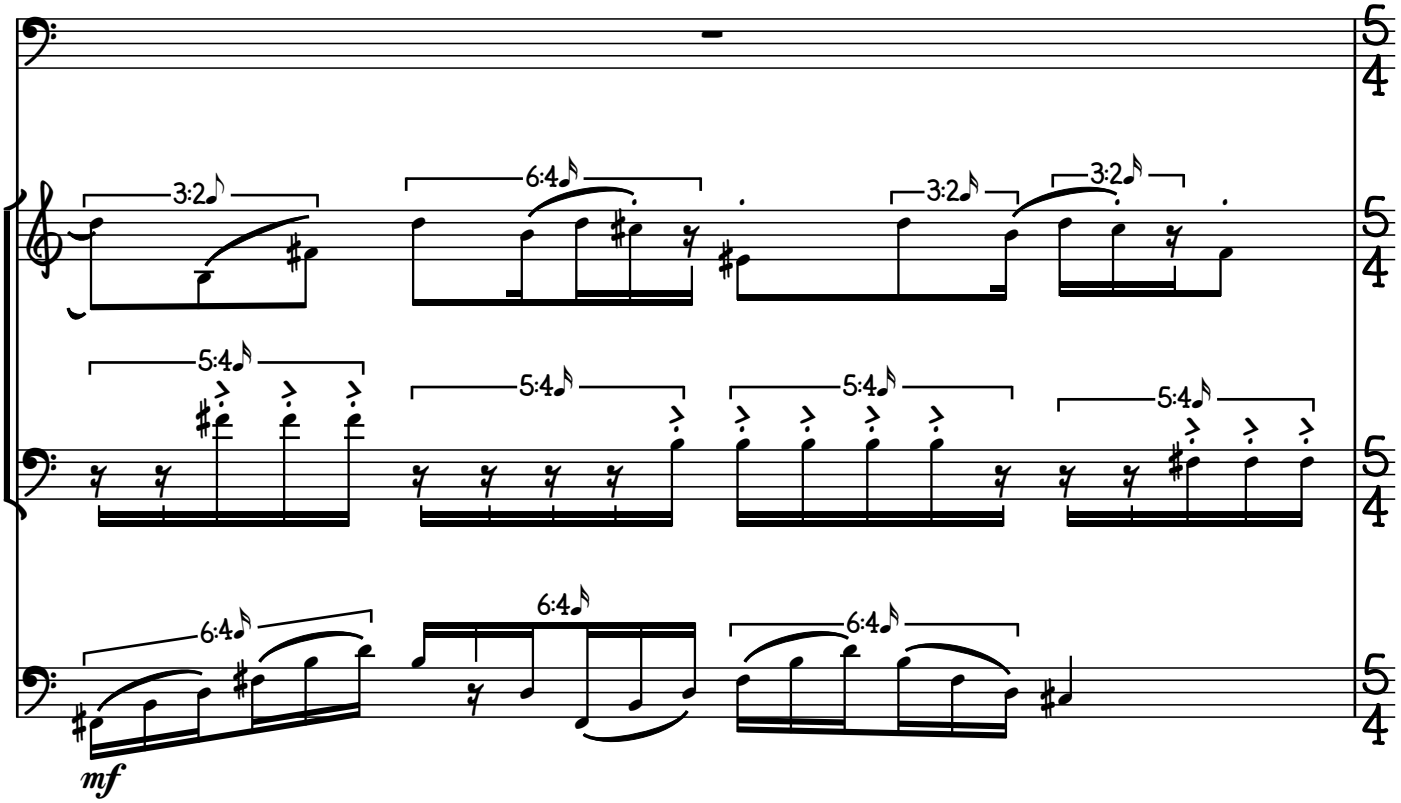
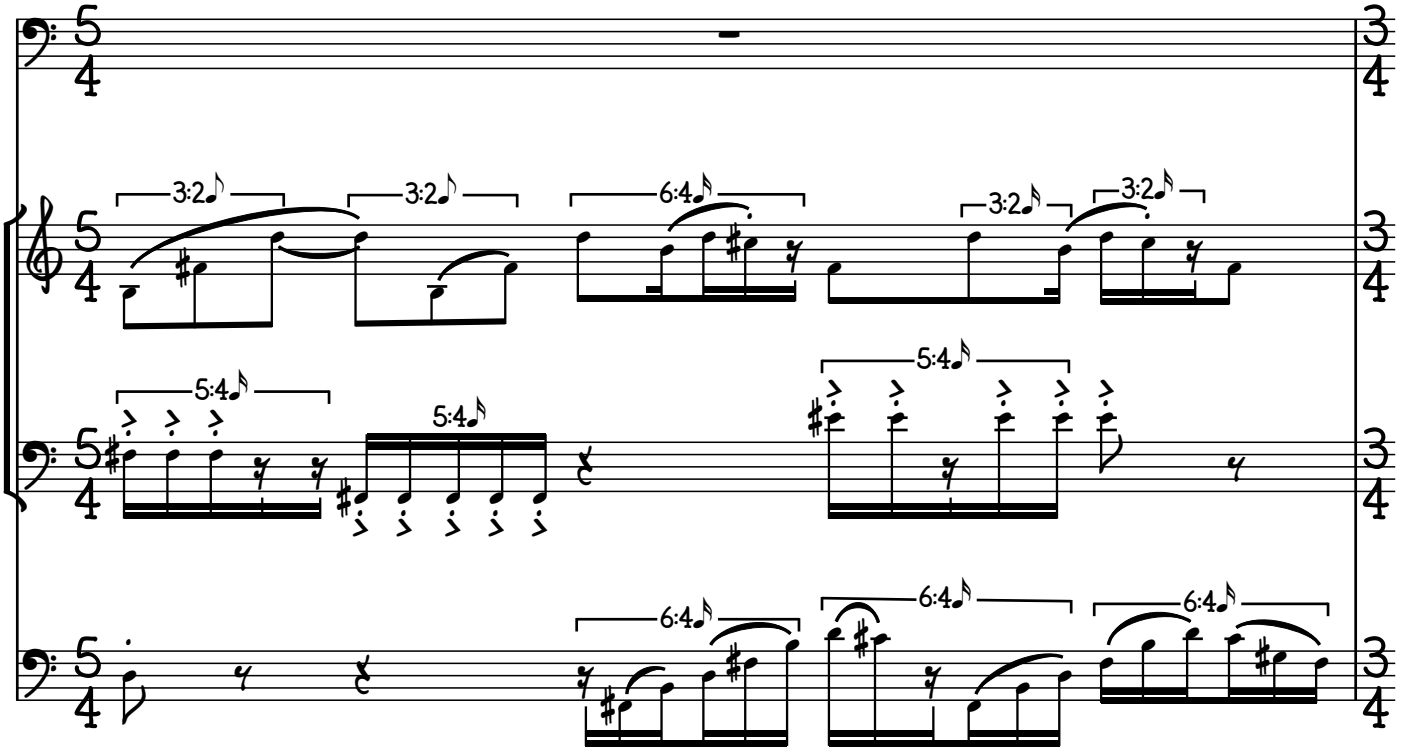
68



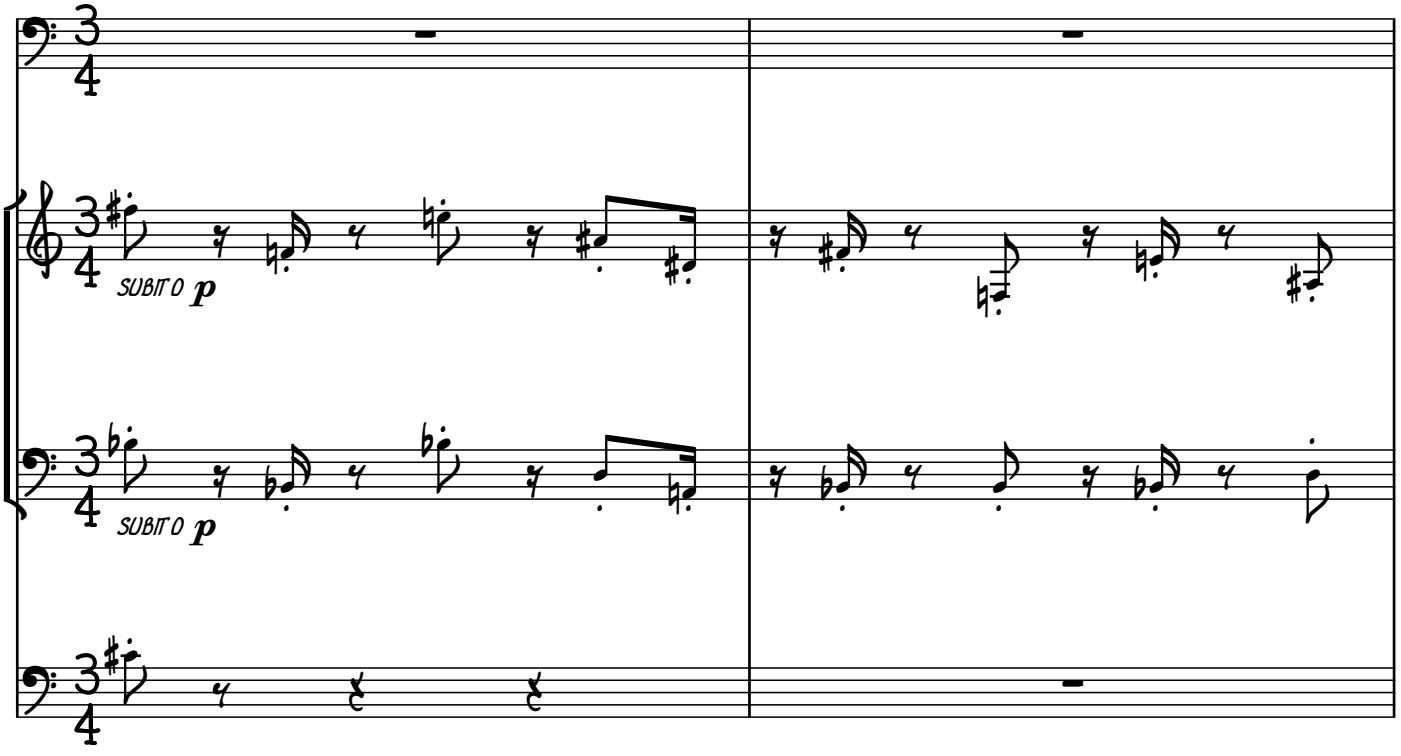
69

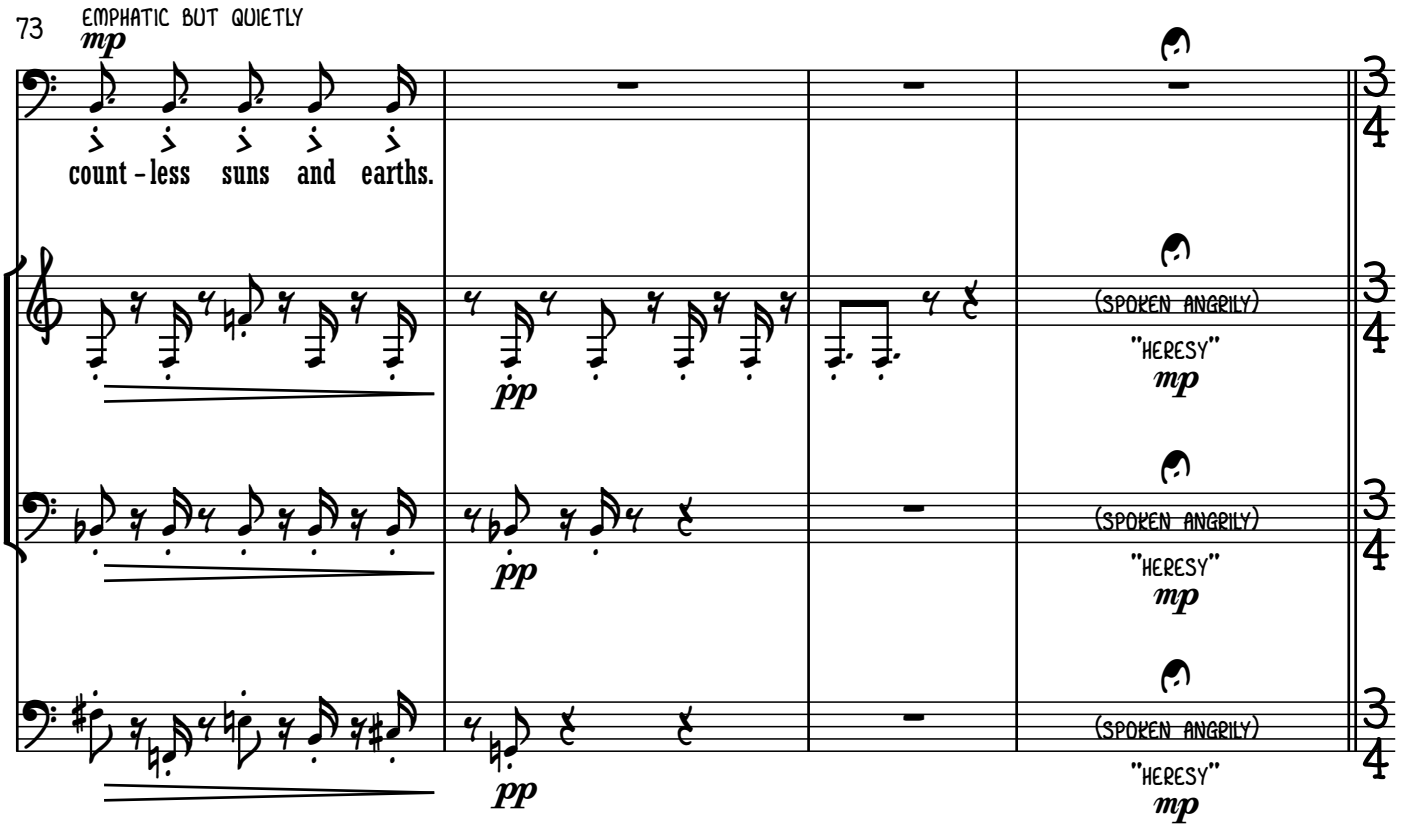


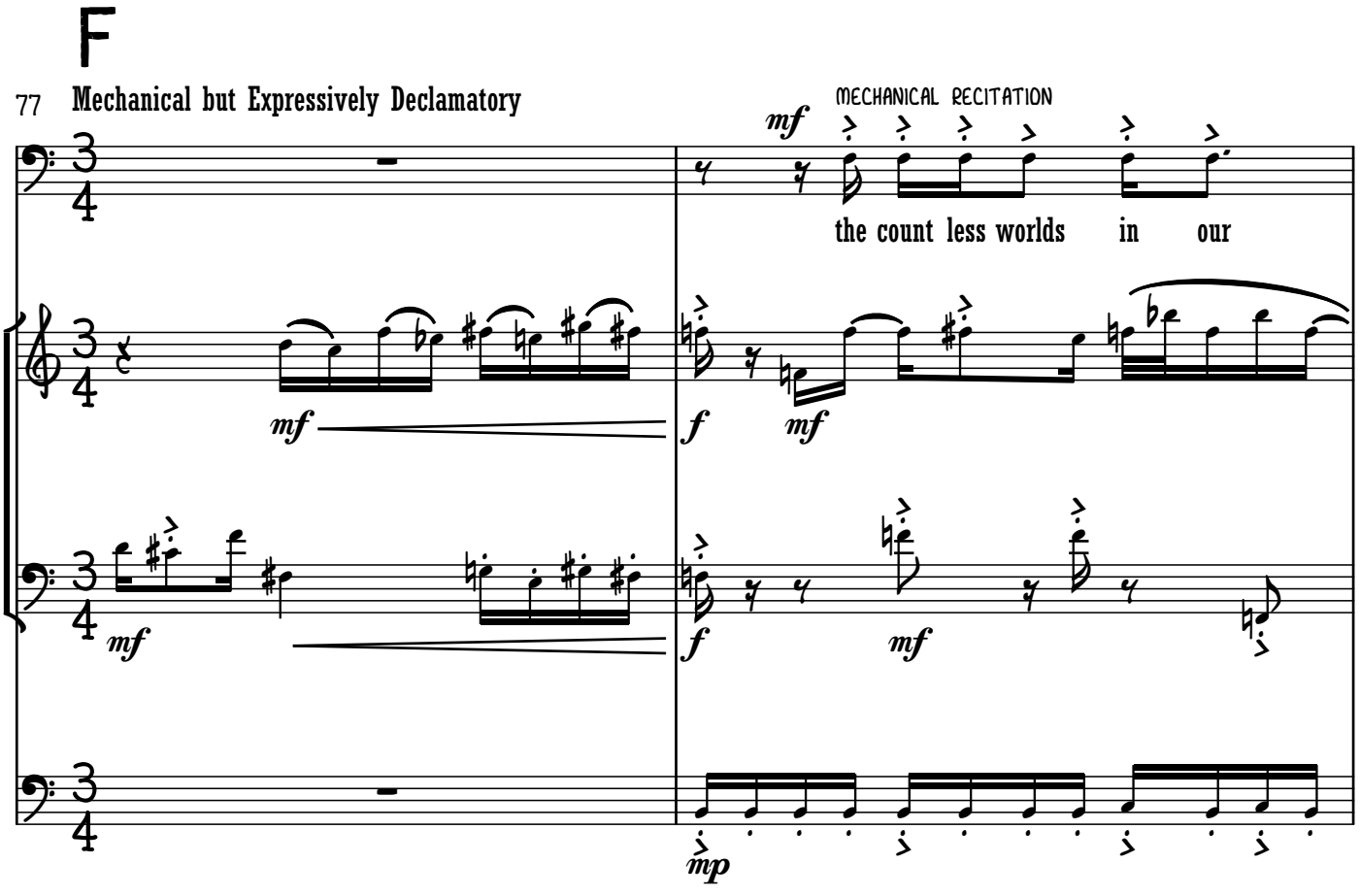
70

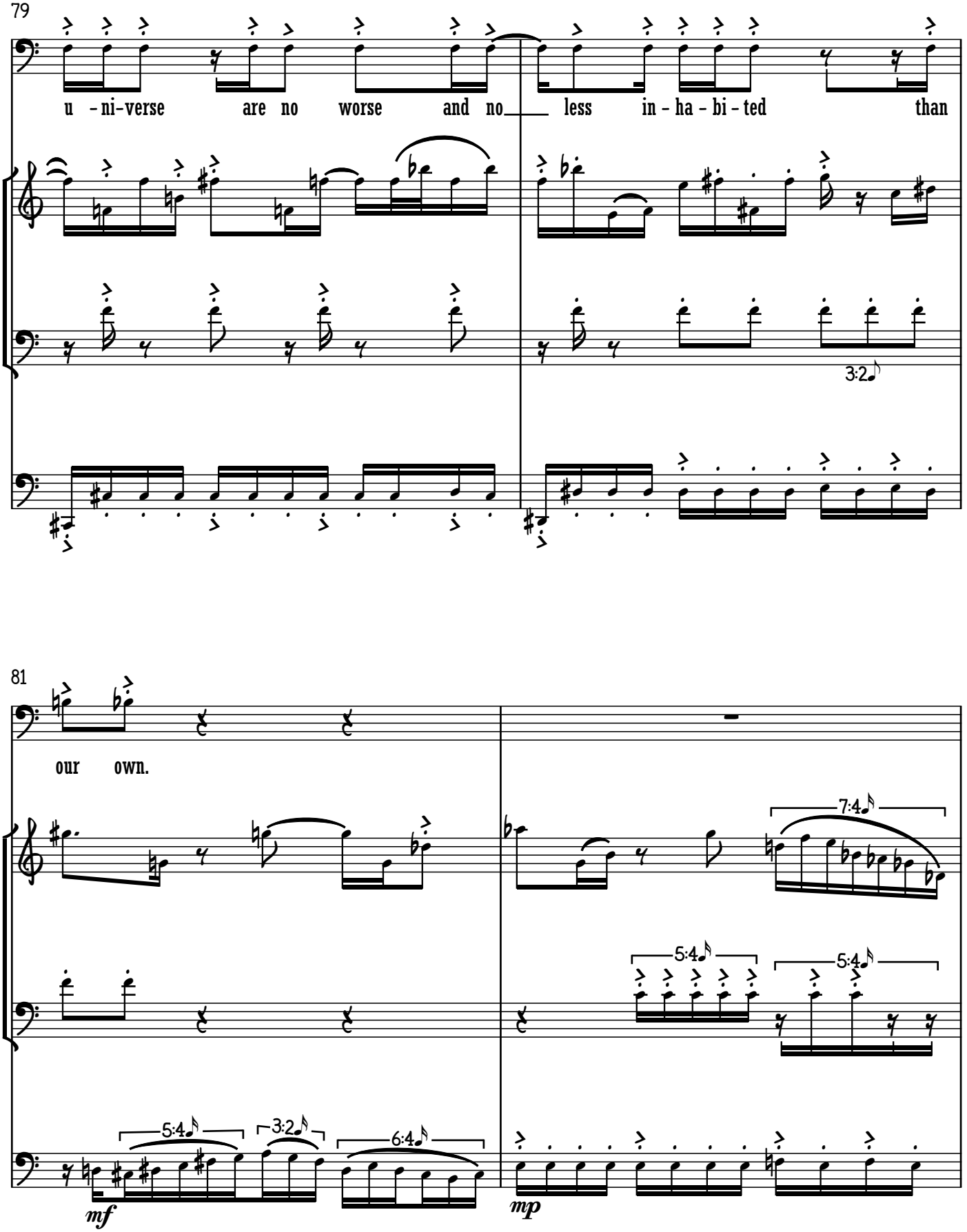


71

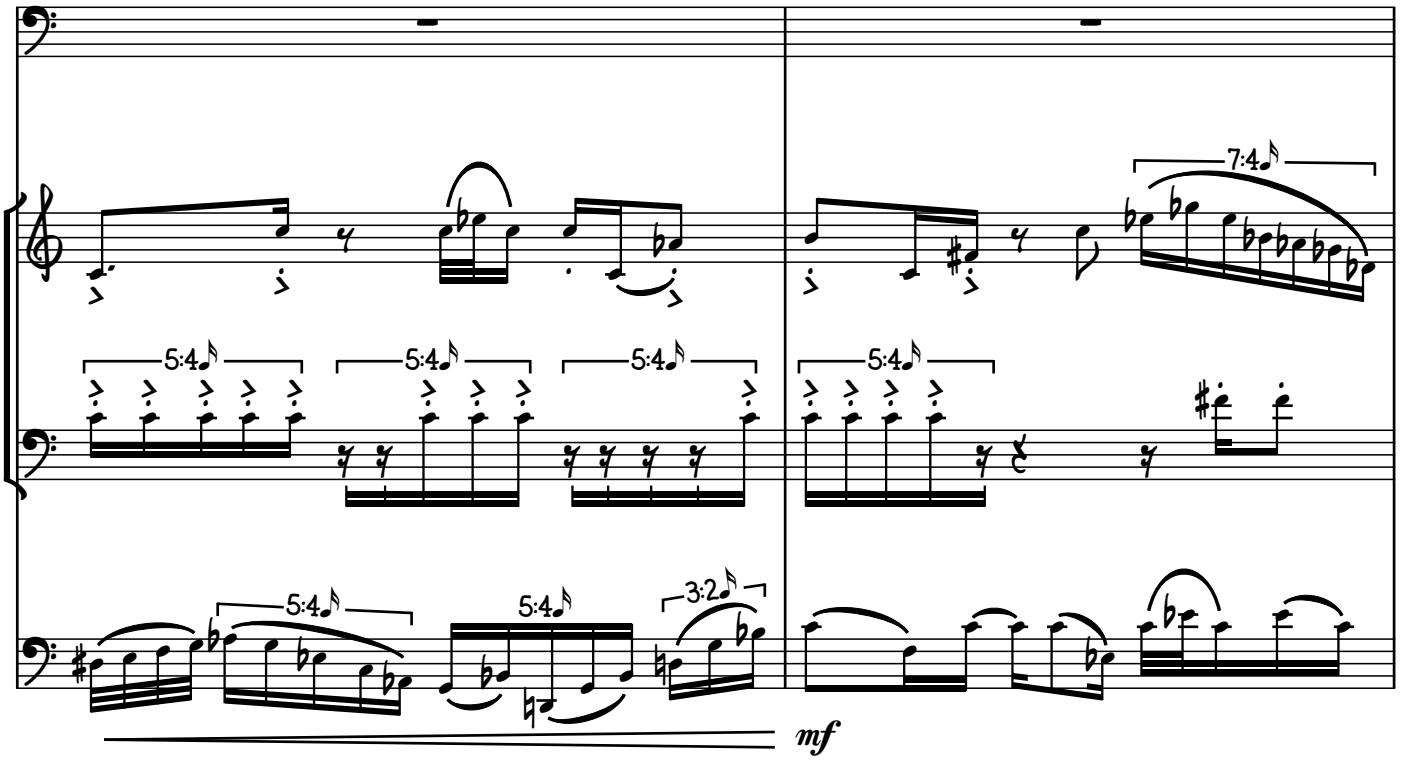



73
EMPHATIC BUT QUIETLY
mp
count - less suns and earths.
pp
(SPOKEN ANGRILY)
"HERESY"
mp
(SPOKEN ANGRILY)
"HERESY"
mp
(SPOKEN ANGRILY)
"HERESY"
mp

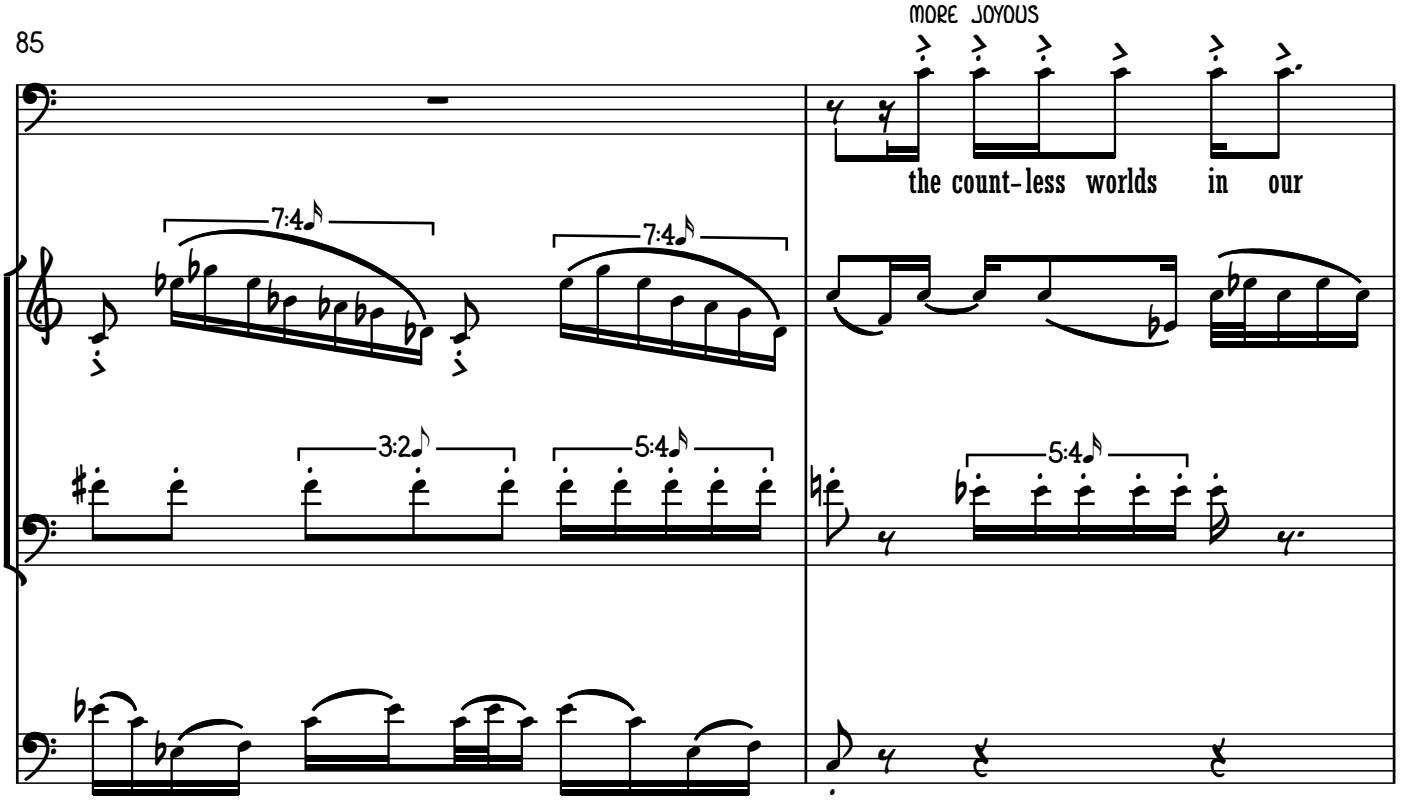

F
77
Mechanical but Expressively Declamatory
MECHANICAL RECITATION
mf
the count less worlds in our
mf
f
mf
mf
f
mf
mp

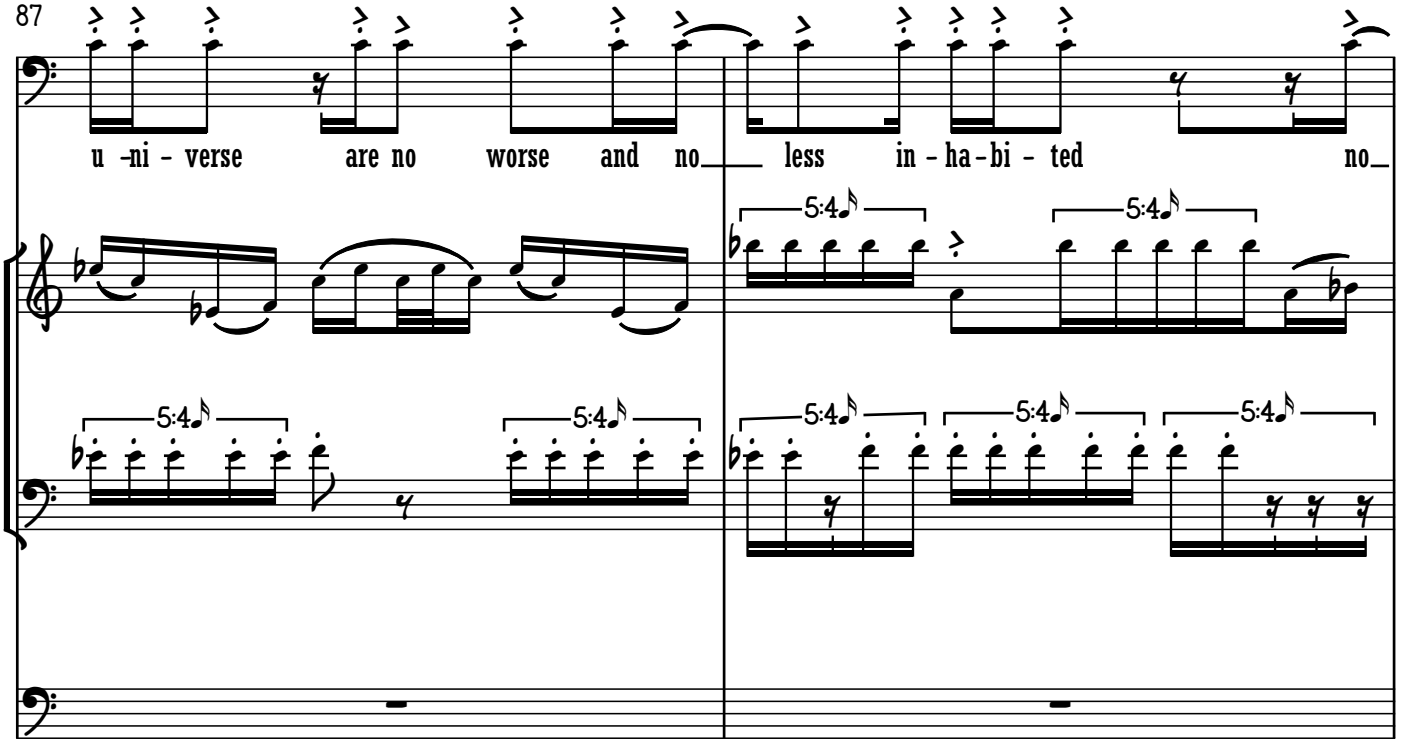

79
u - ni-verse are no worse and no less in - ha - bi - ted than
3:2
81
our own.
7:4
5:4
5:4
5:4
3:2
6:4
mf
mp

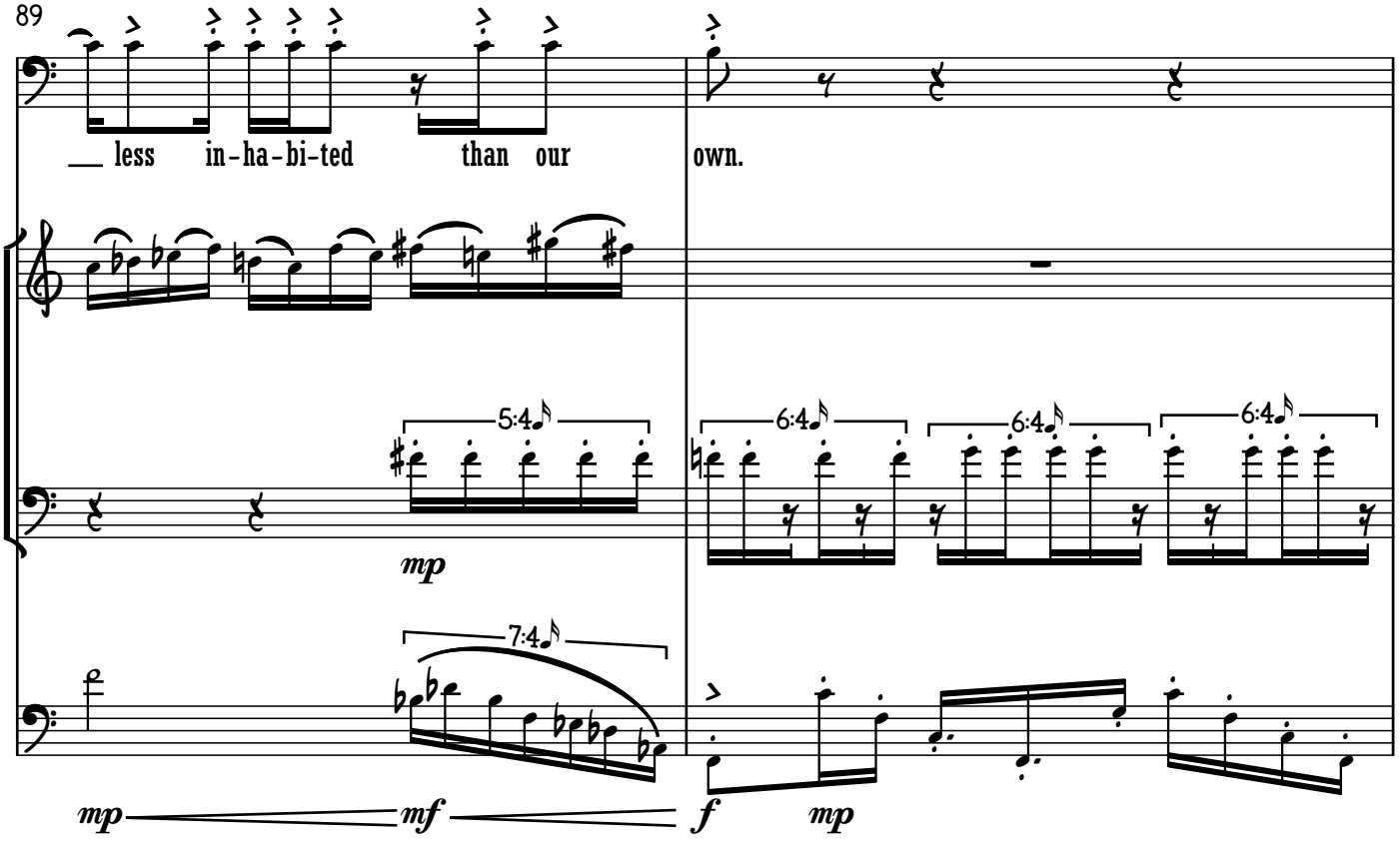
83

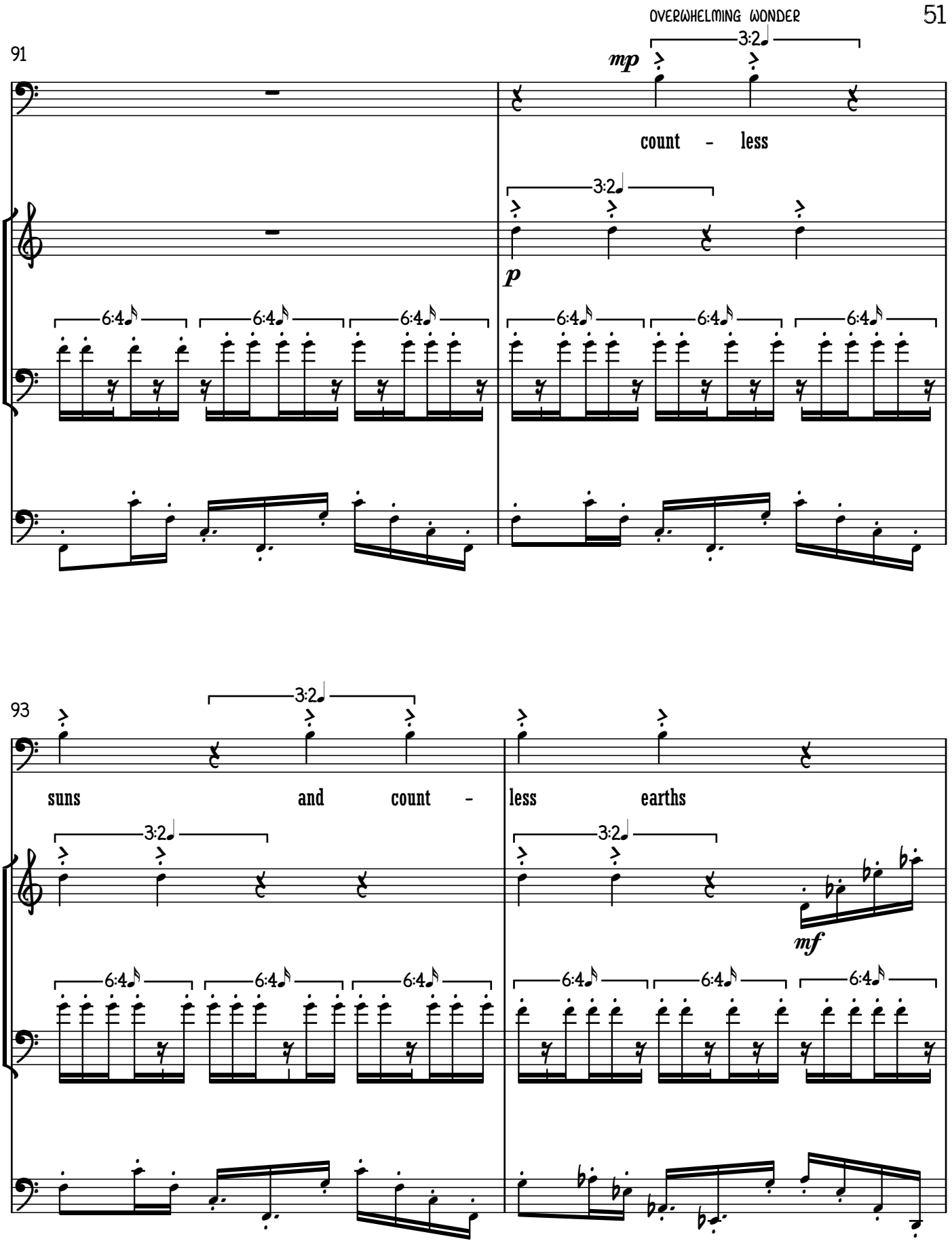

7:4
5:4
5:4
5:4
5:4
5:4
5:4
3:2
mf

85


MORE JOYOUS
the count-less worlds in our
7:4
7:4
3:2
5:4
5:4


87
u - ni - verse are no worse and no less in - ha - bi - ted no
5:4
5:4
5:4
5:4
5:4
5:4


89
less in - ha - bi - ted than our own.
5:4
6:4
6:4
6:4
7:4
mp
mp
mf
f
mp


91
3:2
mp
count - less
3:2
p
6:4
6:4
6:4
6:4
6:4
6:4
93
3:2
suns and count -
less earths
3:2
3:2
mf
6:4
6:4
6:4
6:4
6:4
6:4

95

URGENTLY

mf

the count - less worlds in our

3:2

mp

6:4

3:2

6:4

6:4

mf

mf

G

97

u - ni - verse are no worse and no less in - ha - bi - ted no

3:2

3:2

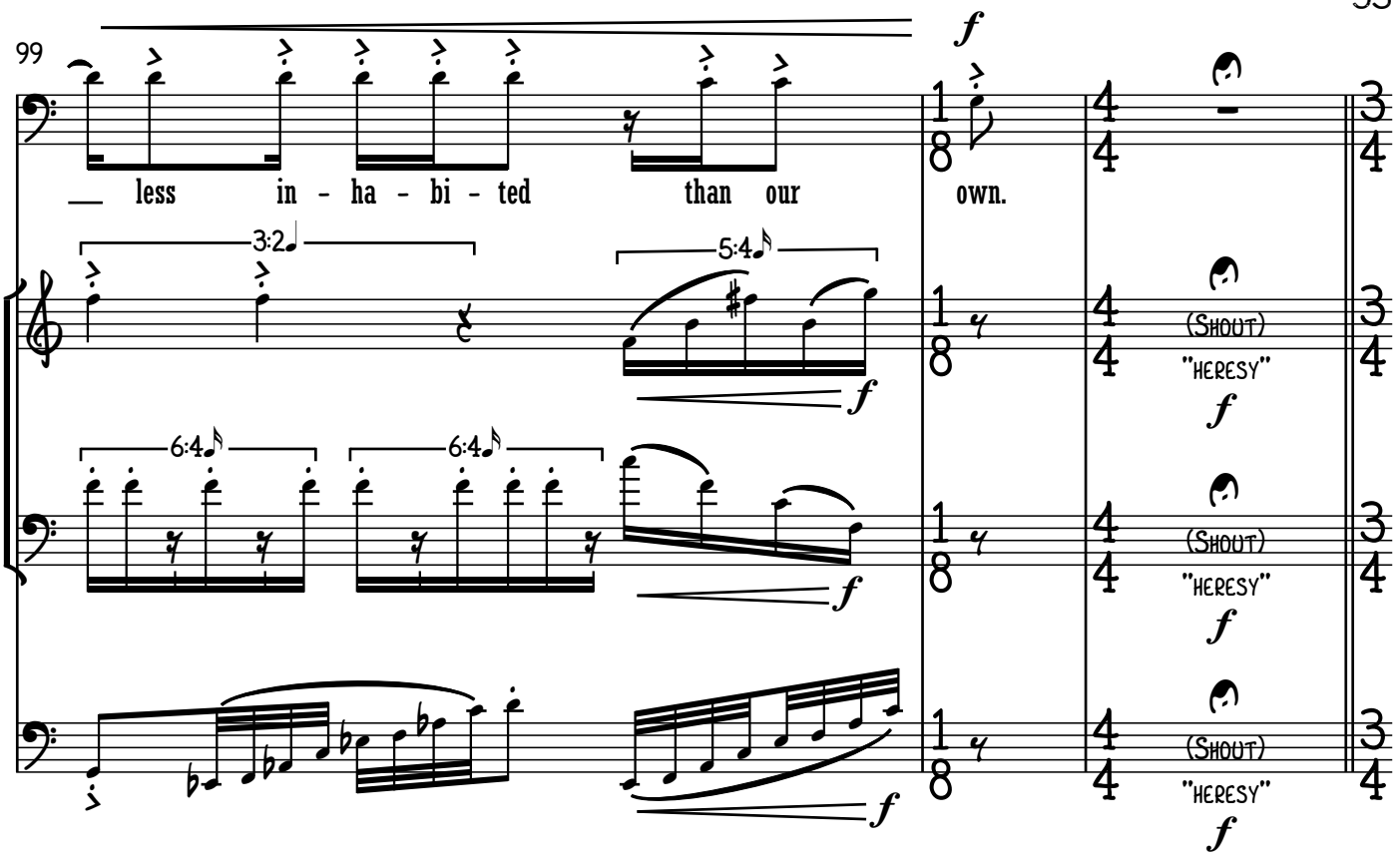
6:4

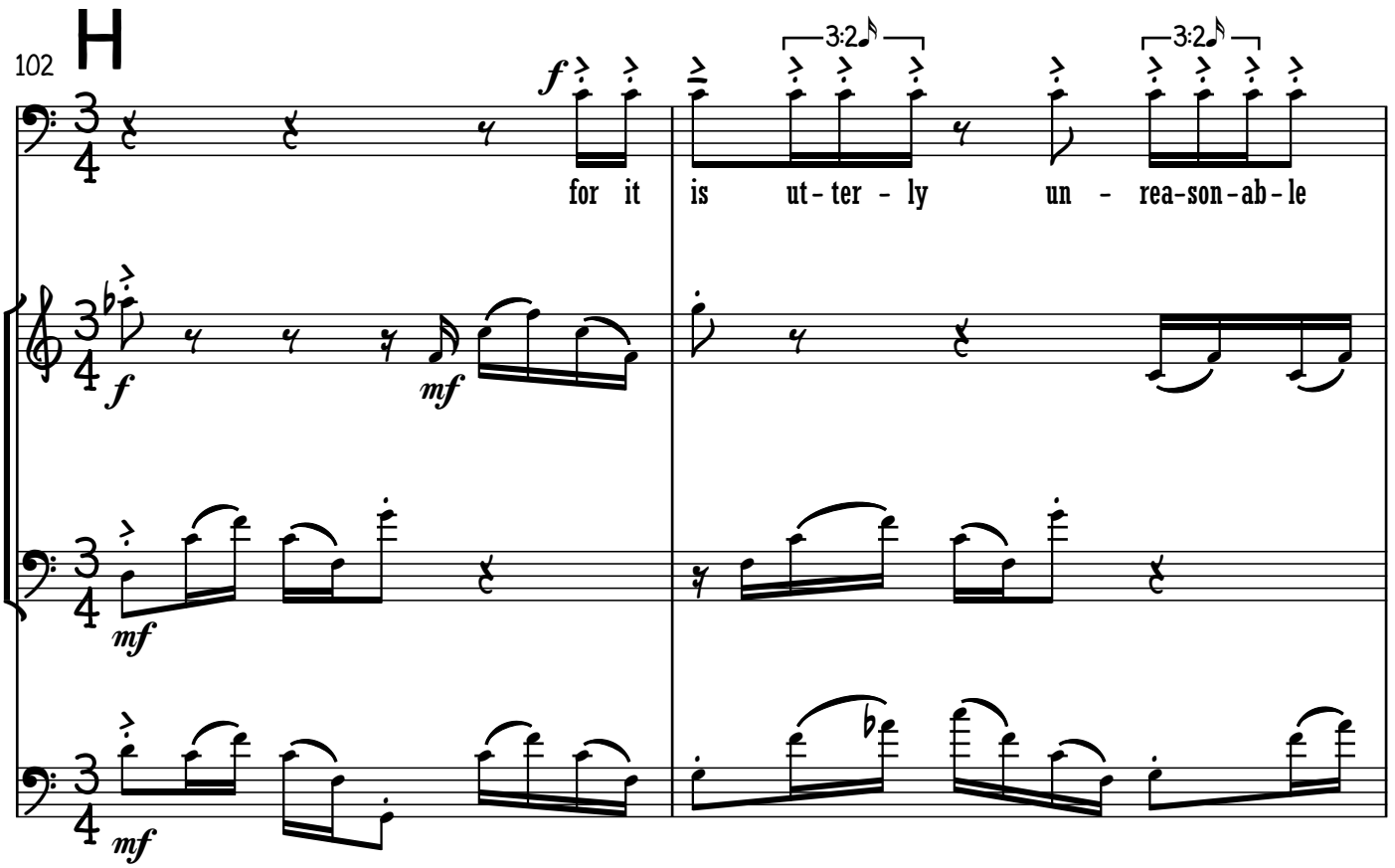
6:4

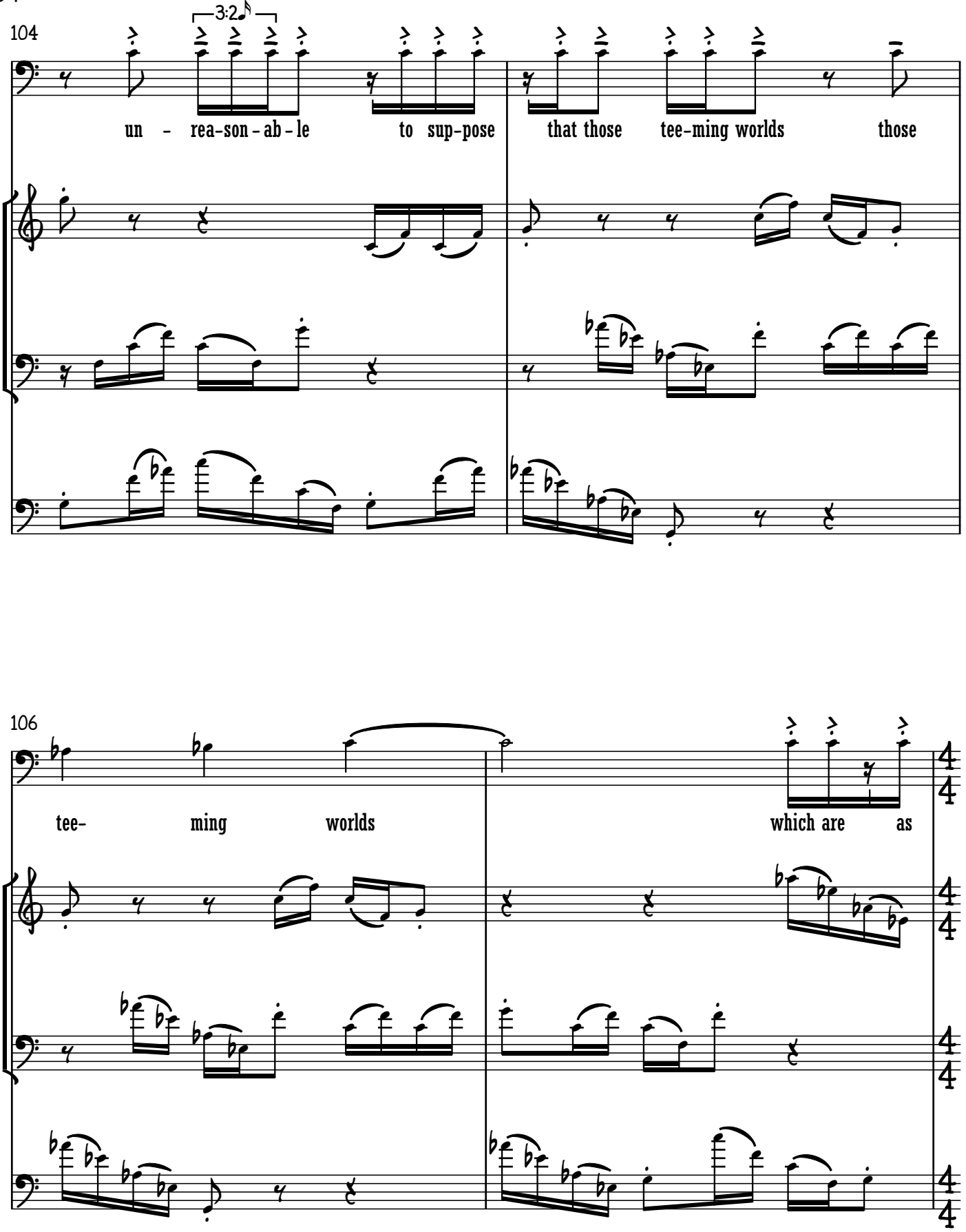
6:4

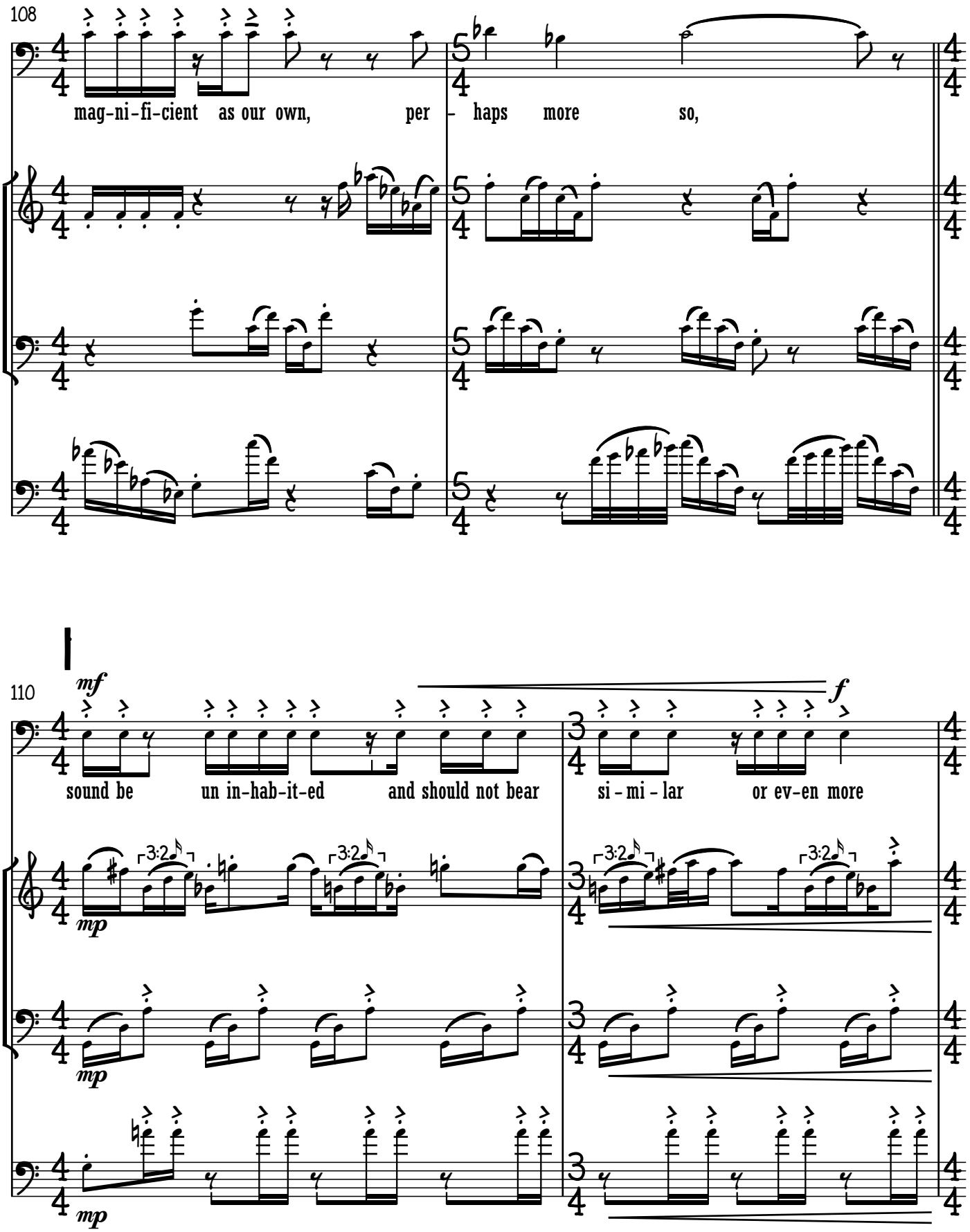
6:4

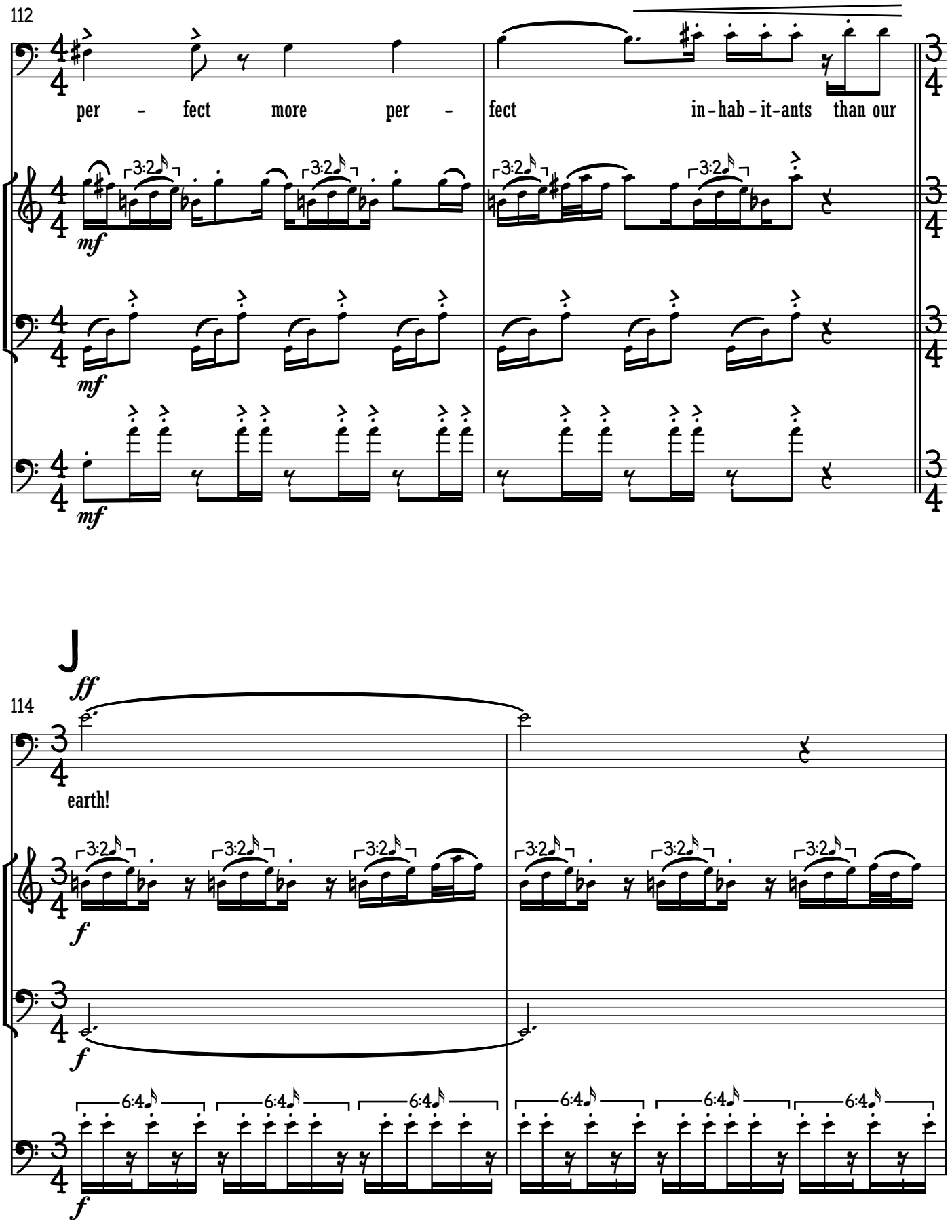
6:4


99
less in - ha - bi - ted than our
own.
3:2
5:4
6:4
6:4
(Shout)
"heresy"
(Shout)
"heresy"
(Shout)
"heresy"

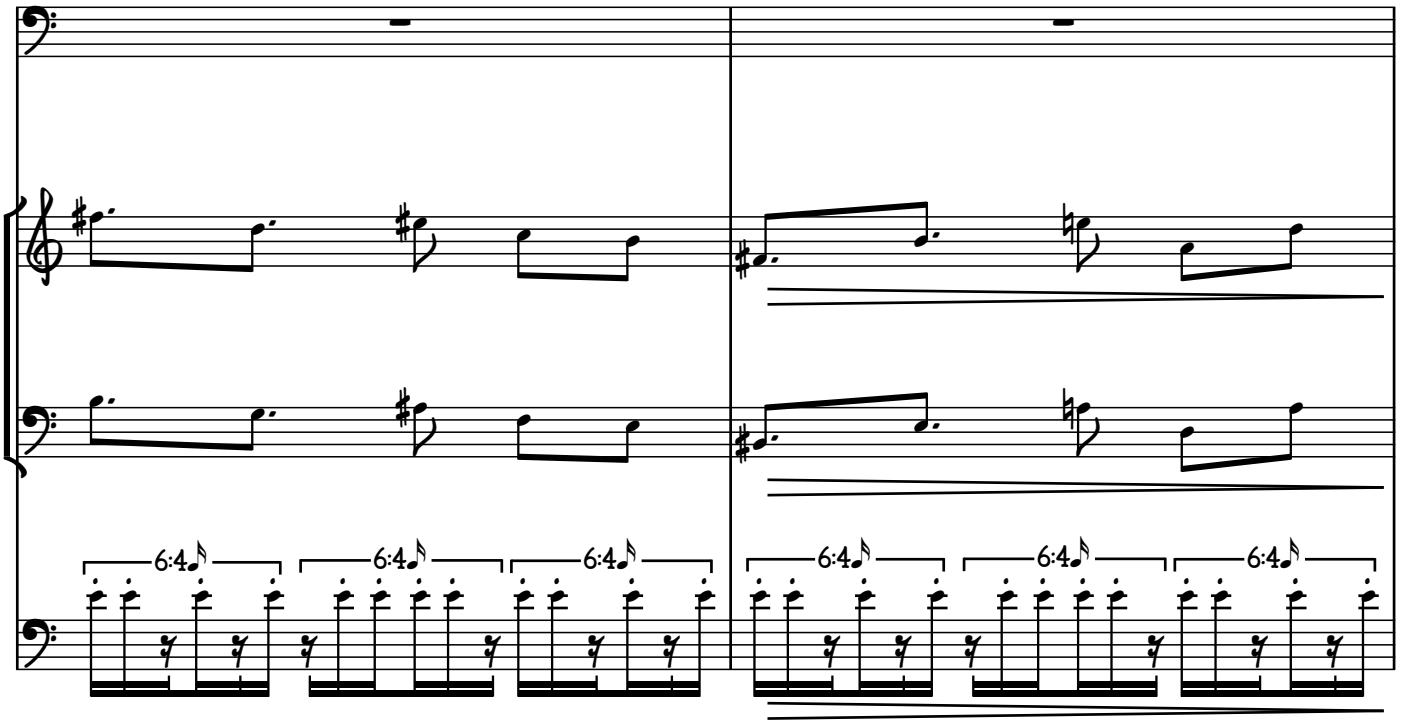

H
102
for it is ut - ter - ly un - rea - son - ab - le
3:2
3:2


104
3:2
un - rea-son - ab - le to sup-pose that those tee-ming worlds those
106
tee- ming worlds which are as

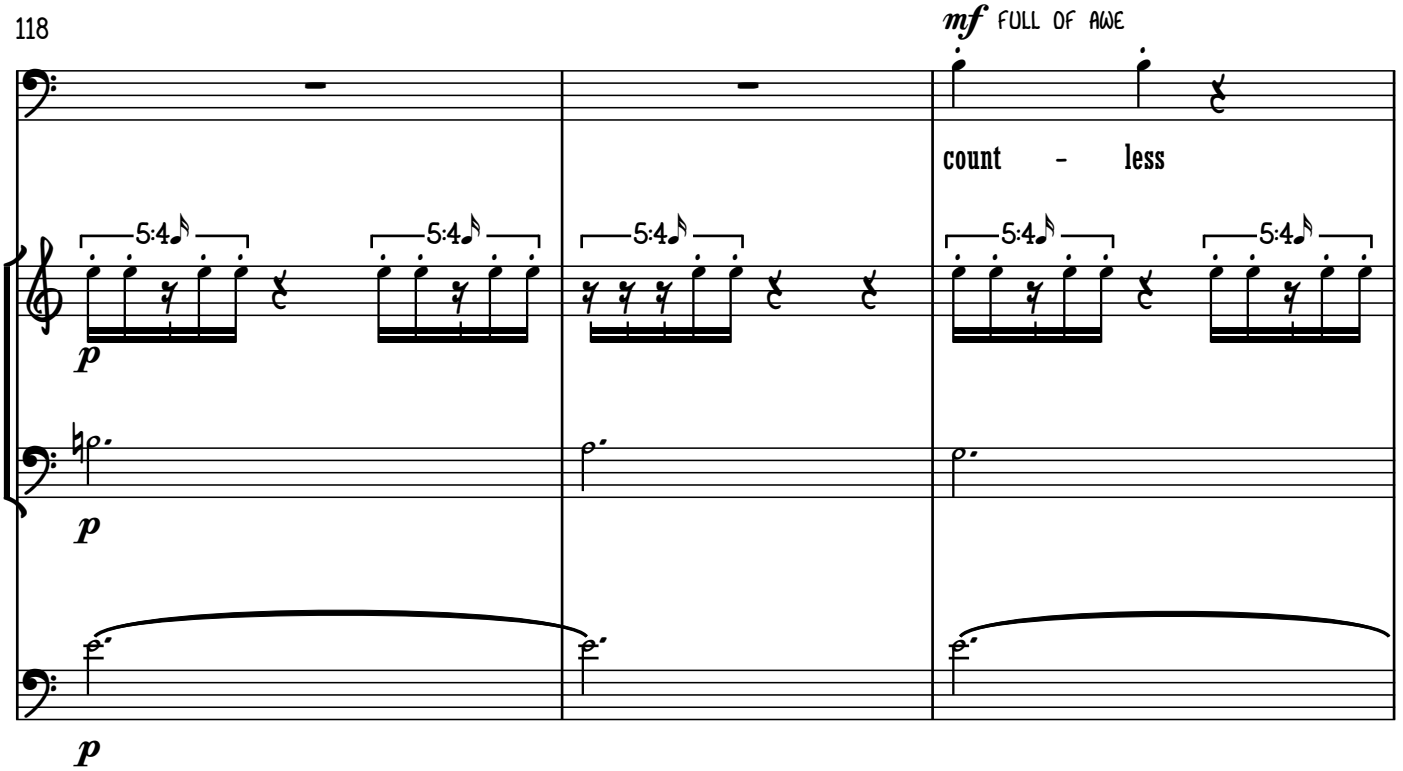

108
mag-ni-fi-cient as our own, per - haps more so,
110
mf
f
sound be un in-hab-it-ed and should not bear si - mi - lar or ev-en more
mp
mp
mp
3:2
3:2
3:2
3:2

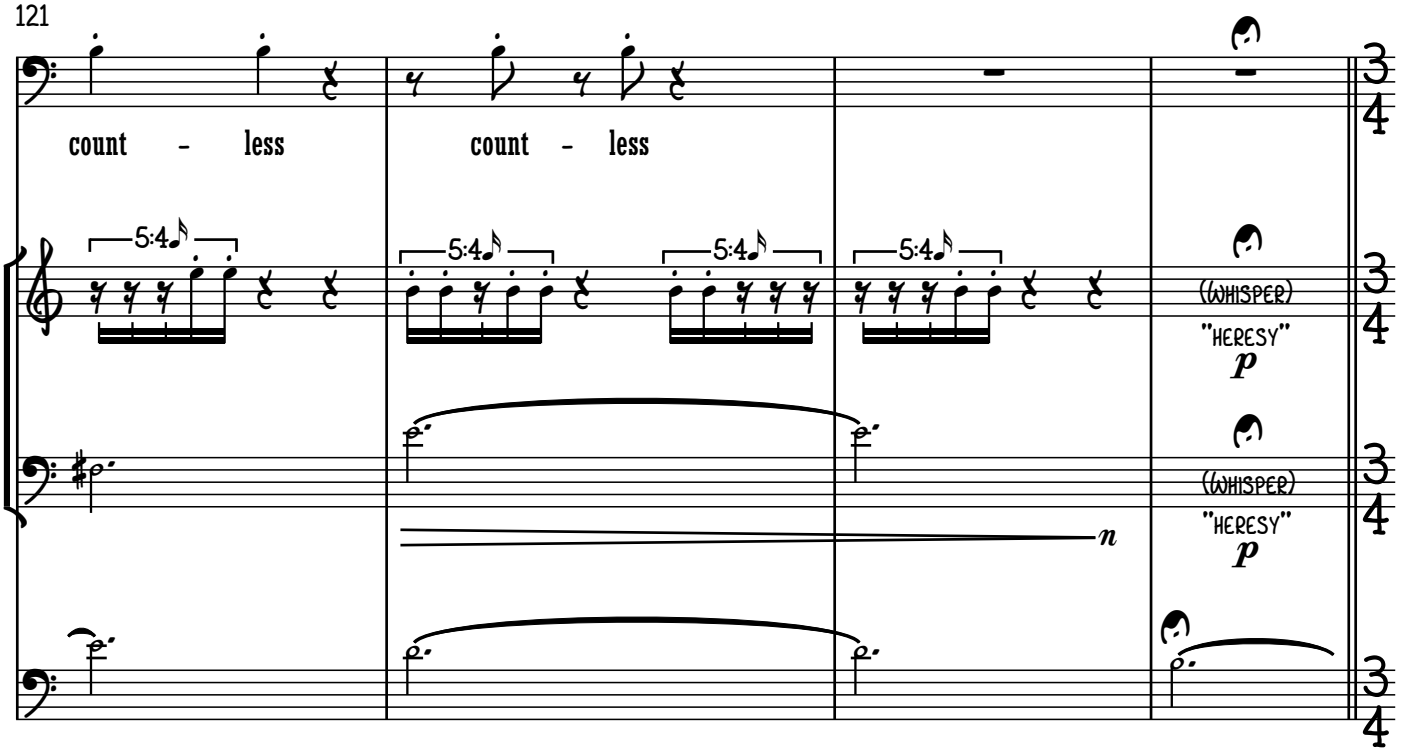

112
per - fect more per -
fect in-hab-it-ants than our
mf
mf
mf
114
earth!
ff
f
f
f
3:2
6:4

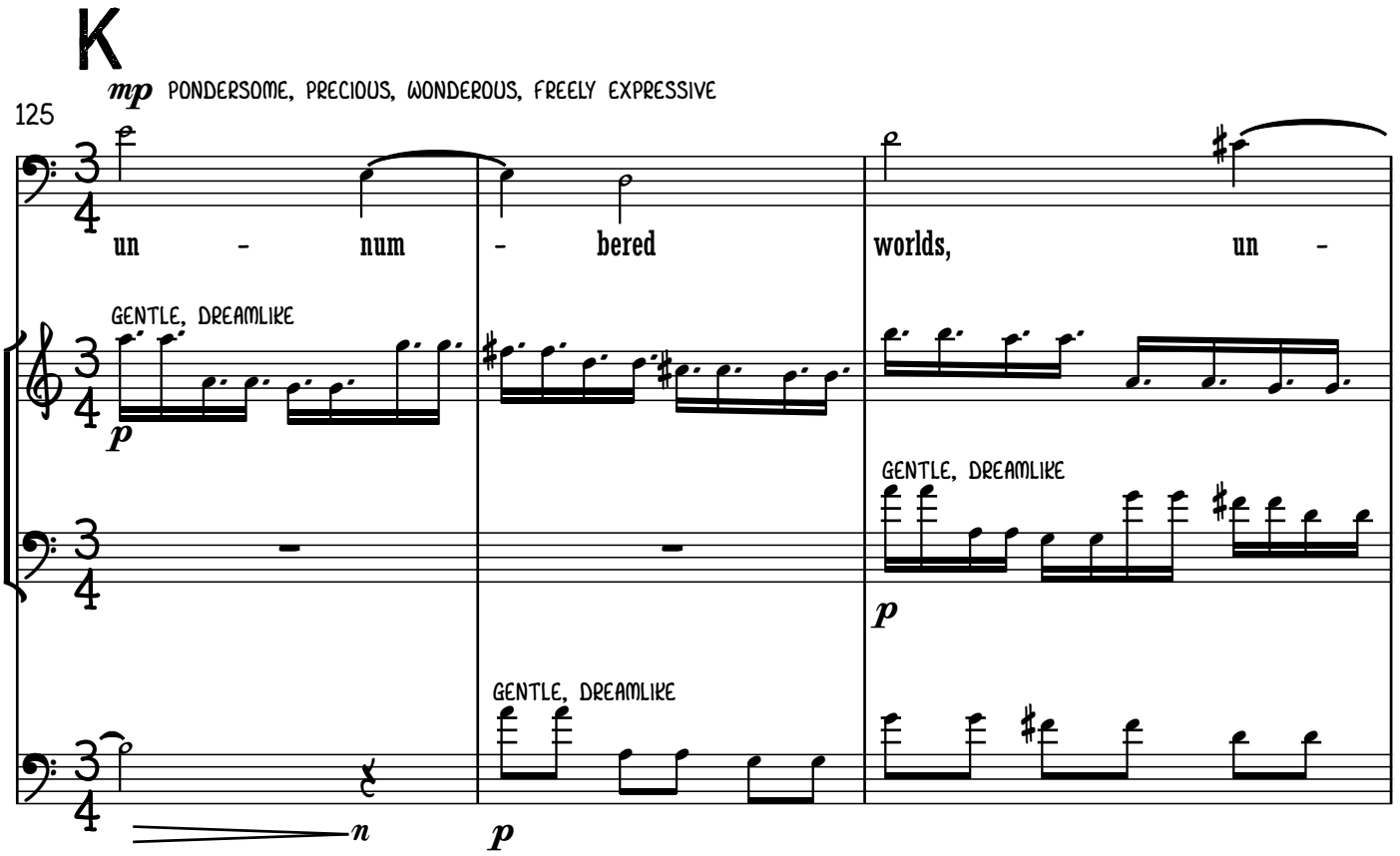
116

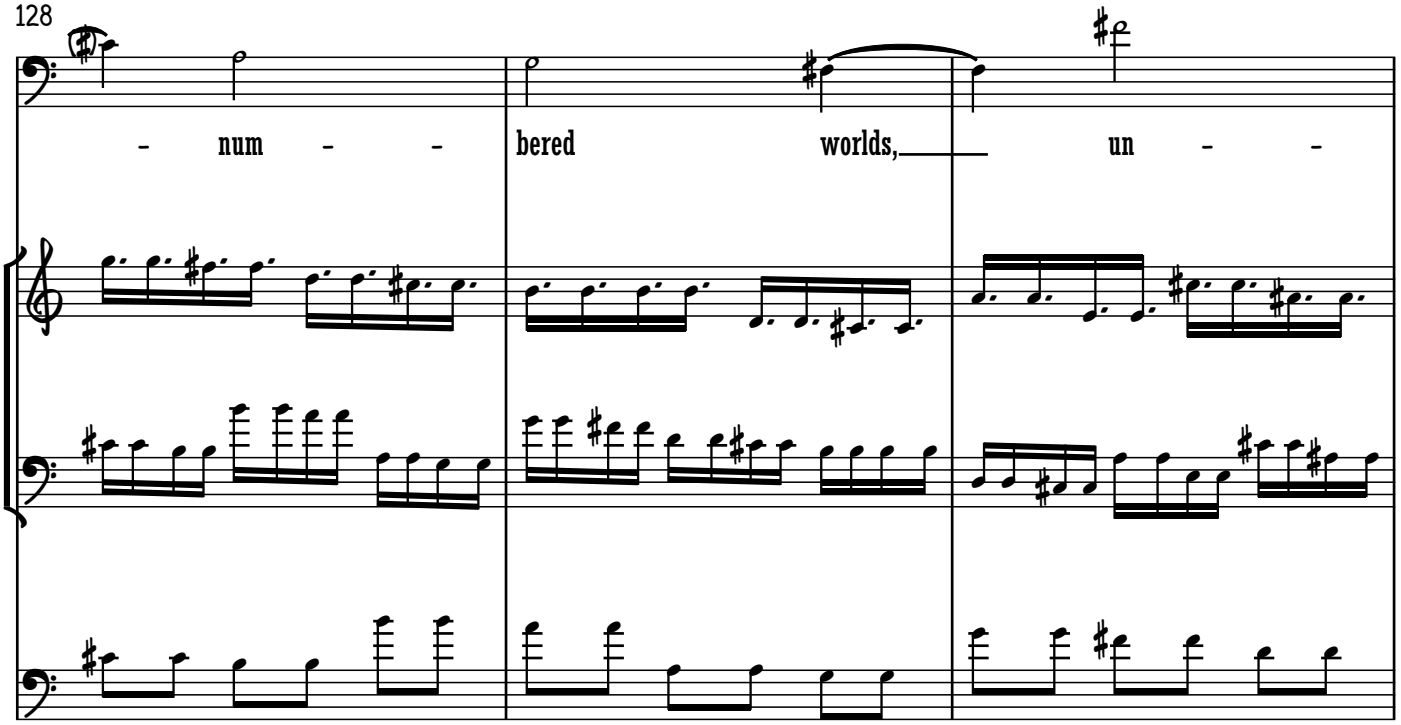


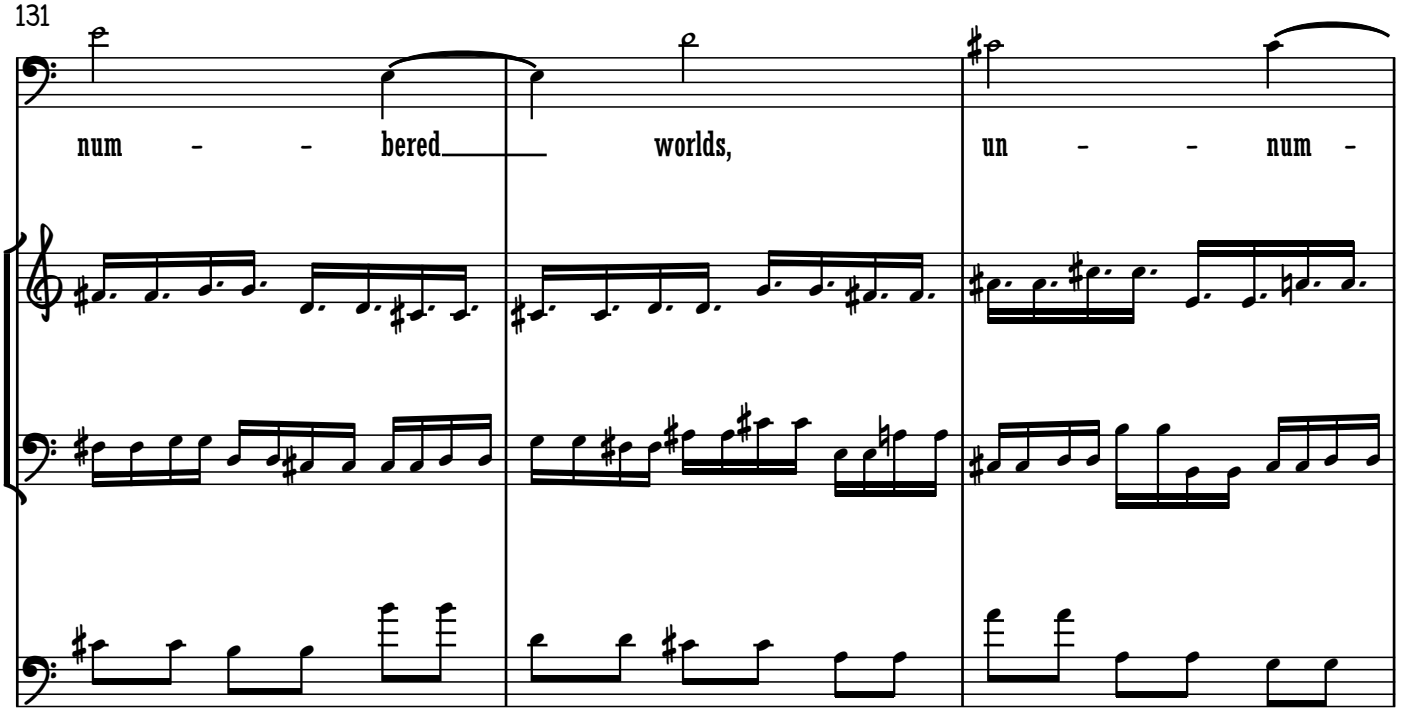
118



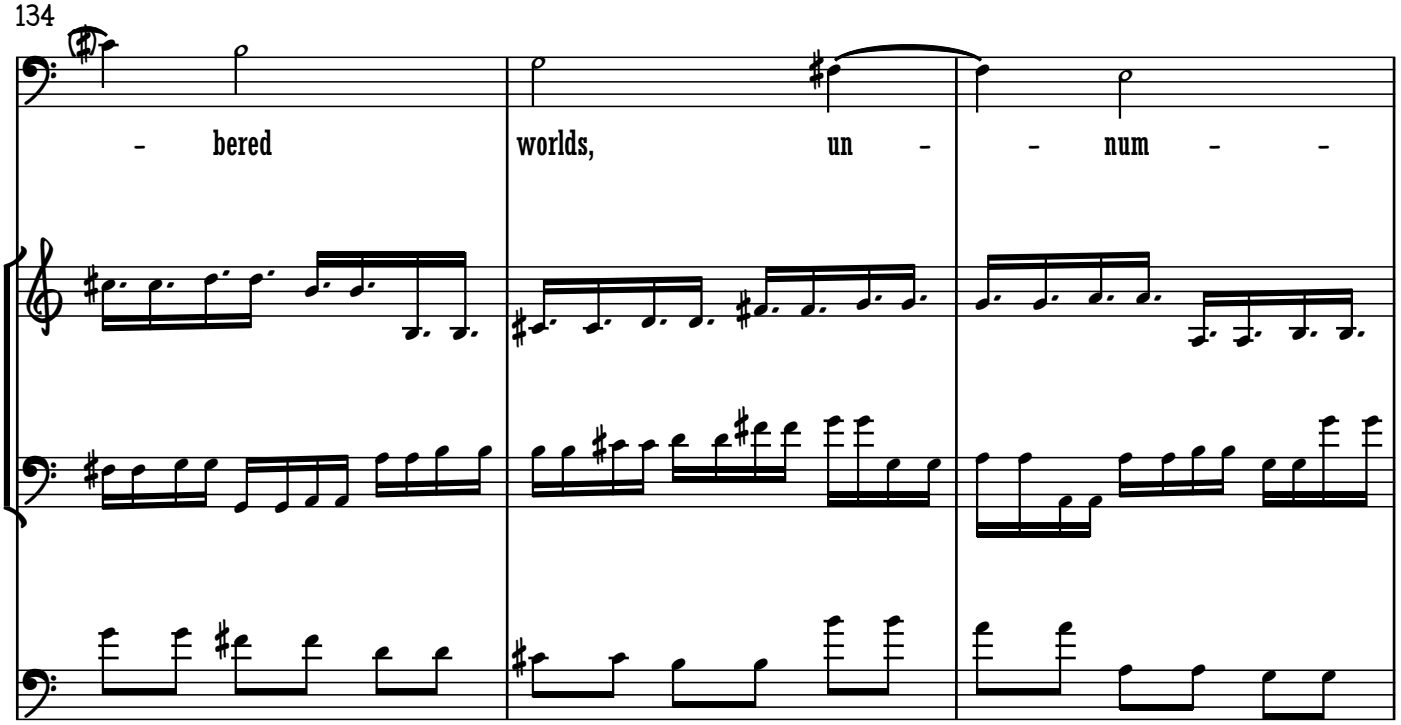

121
count - less
count - less
5:4
5:4
5:4
5:4
(WHISPER)
"HERESY"
p
(WHISPER)
"HERESY"
p
n


K
mp PONDERSOME, PRECIOUS, WONDEROUS, FREELY EXPRESSIVE
125
un - num - bered
worlds, un -
GENTLE, DREAMLIKE
p
GENTLE, DREAMLIKE
p
GENTLE, DREAMLIKE
p
n
p

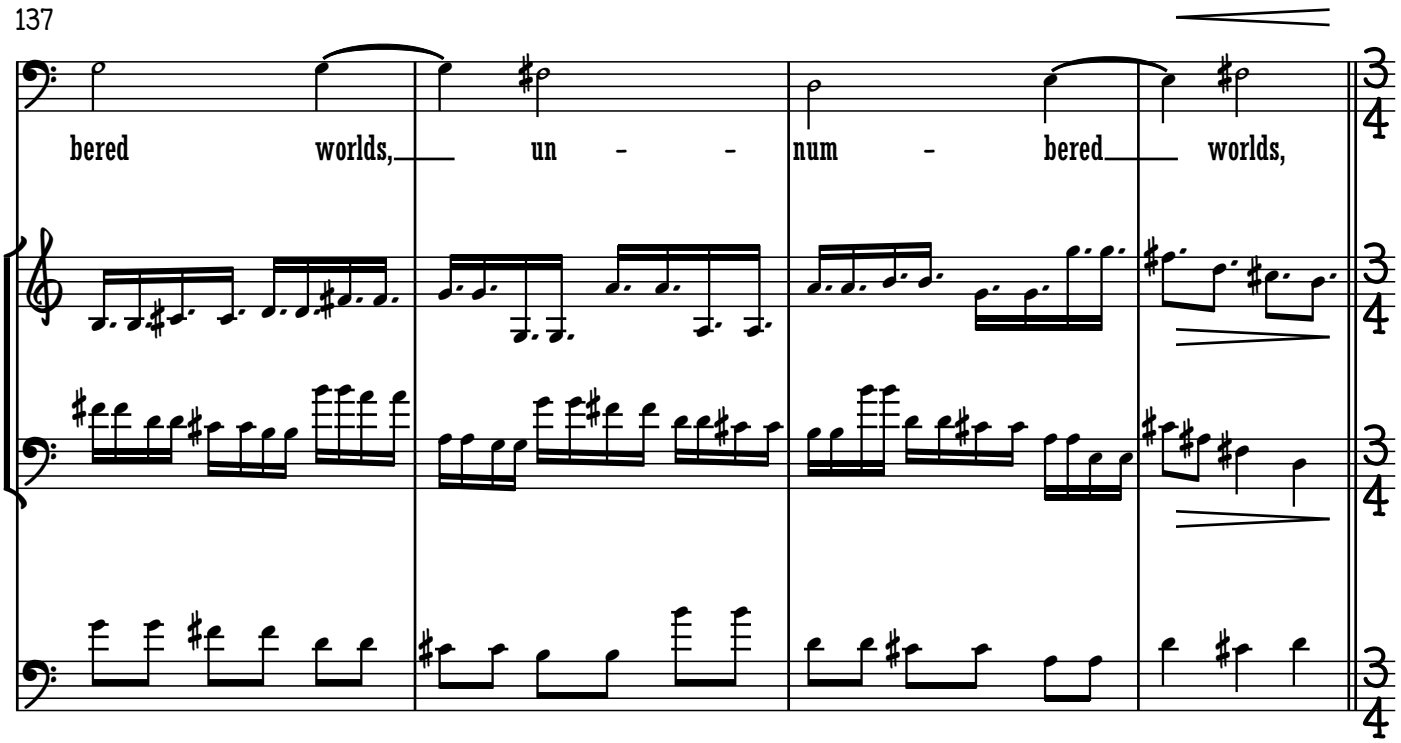

128
- num - -
bered worlds, un - -


131
num - - bered worlds, un - - num -

134



137



L

141

mf SUDDENLY AWAKE

in the u - ni-verse

p

count less, count - less

pp

145

mp URGENT, ESTATIC, BUILDING

ro-ta-ting round in

ex - act - ly the

same way as our

M

148

f

own earth!

mf 6:4 3:2 3:2 3:2

mf 5:4 5:4 5:4

mf 6:4 3:2 6:4 3:2

149

count - - - -

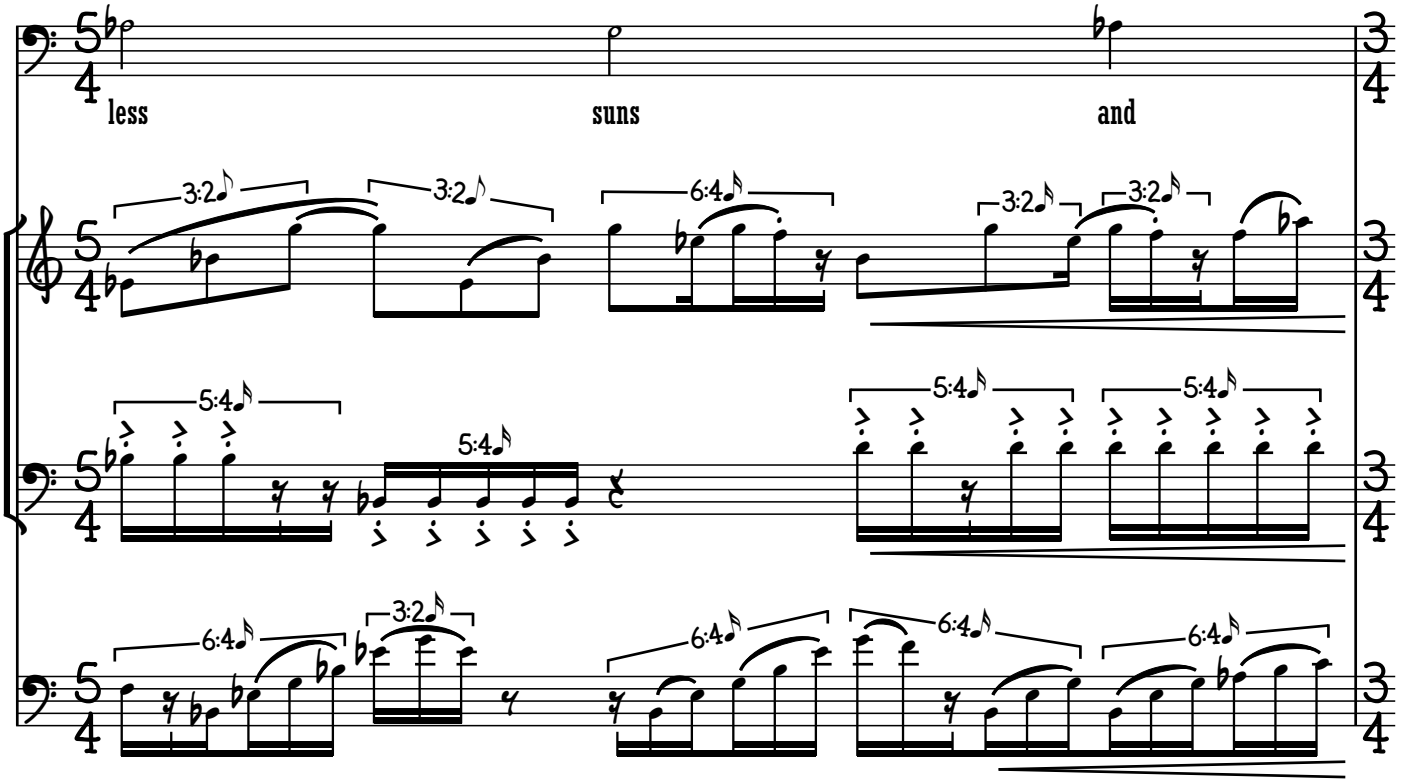
3:2 6:4 3:2 3:2

5:4 5:4 5:4

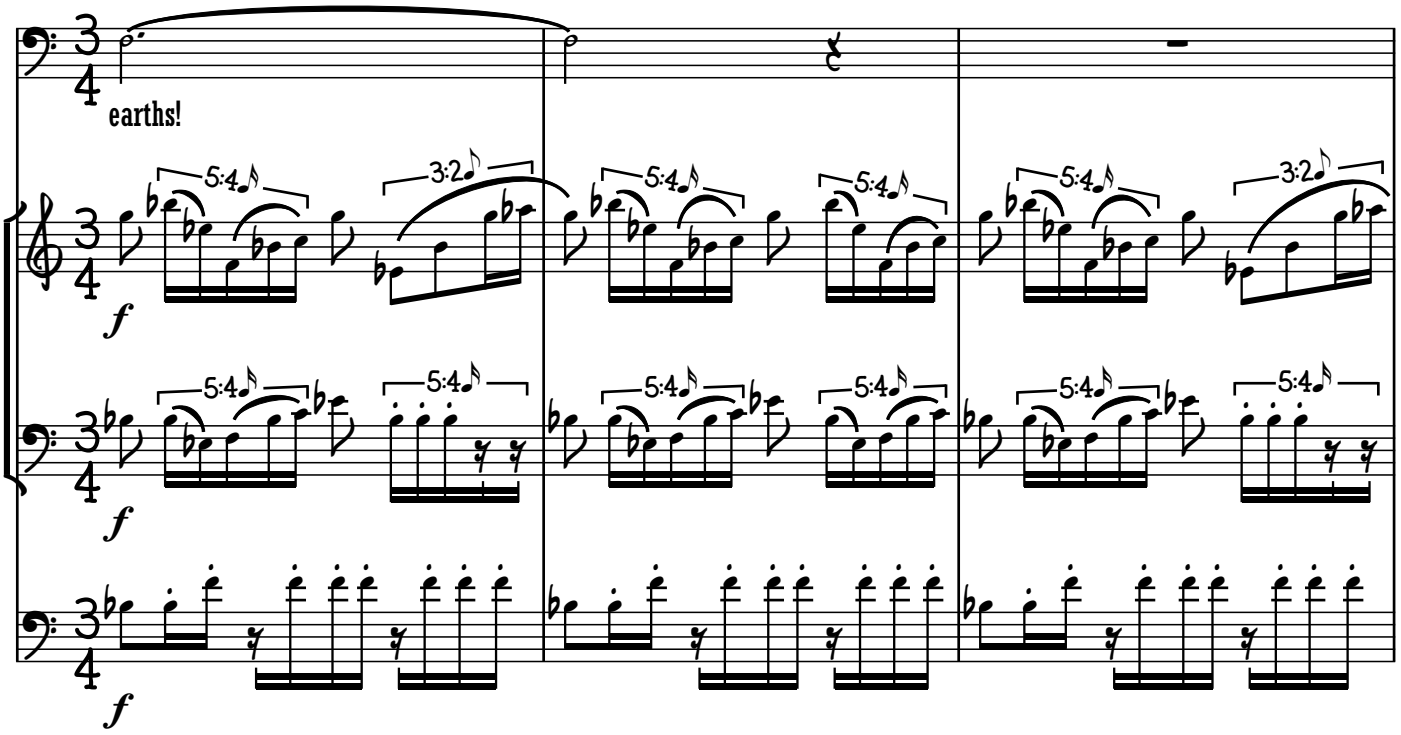
6:4 6:4 6:4

Copyright © 2020

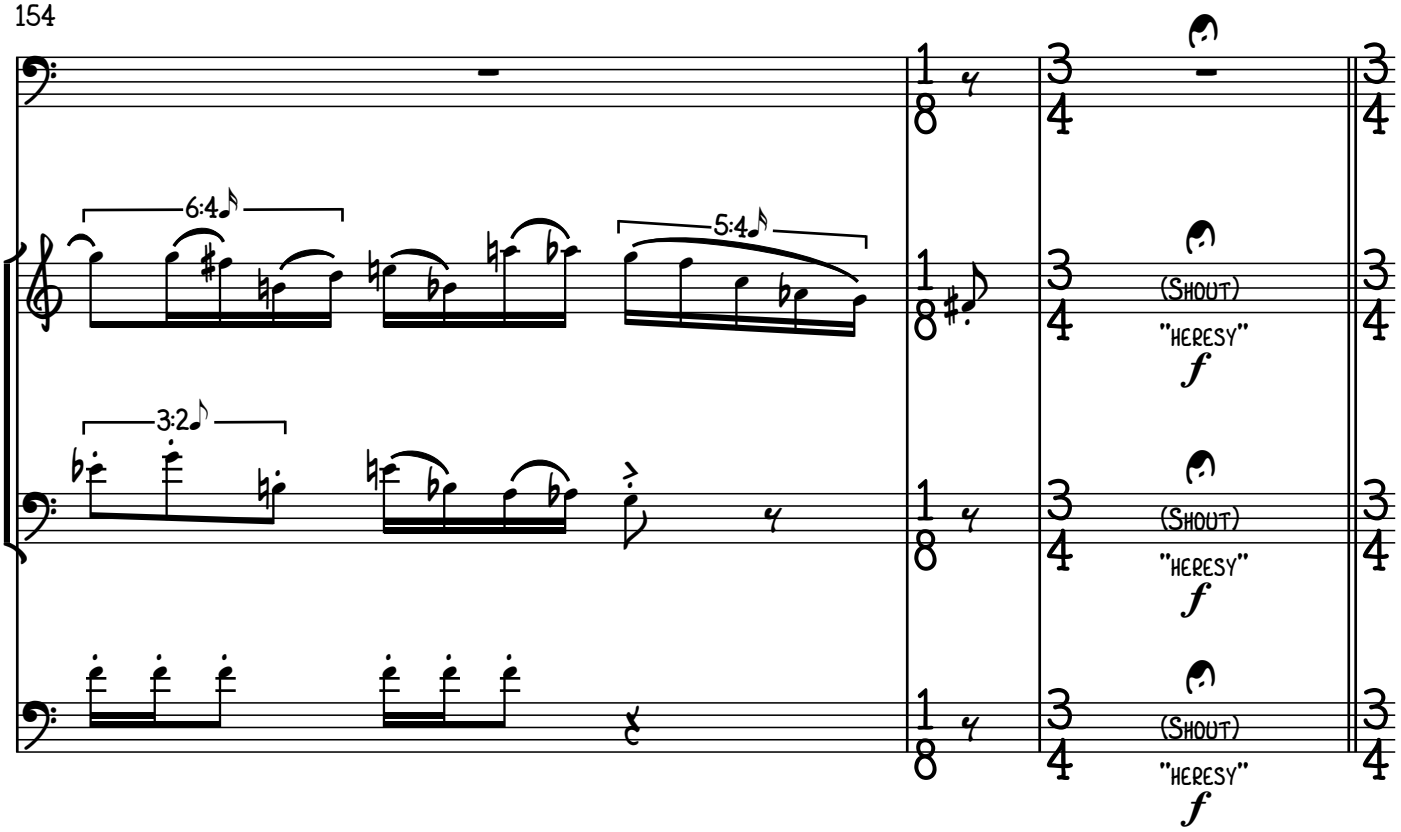
150



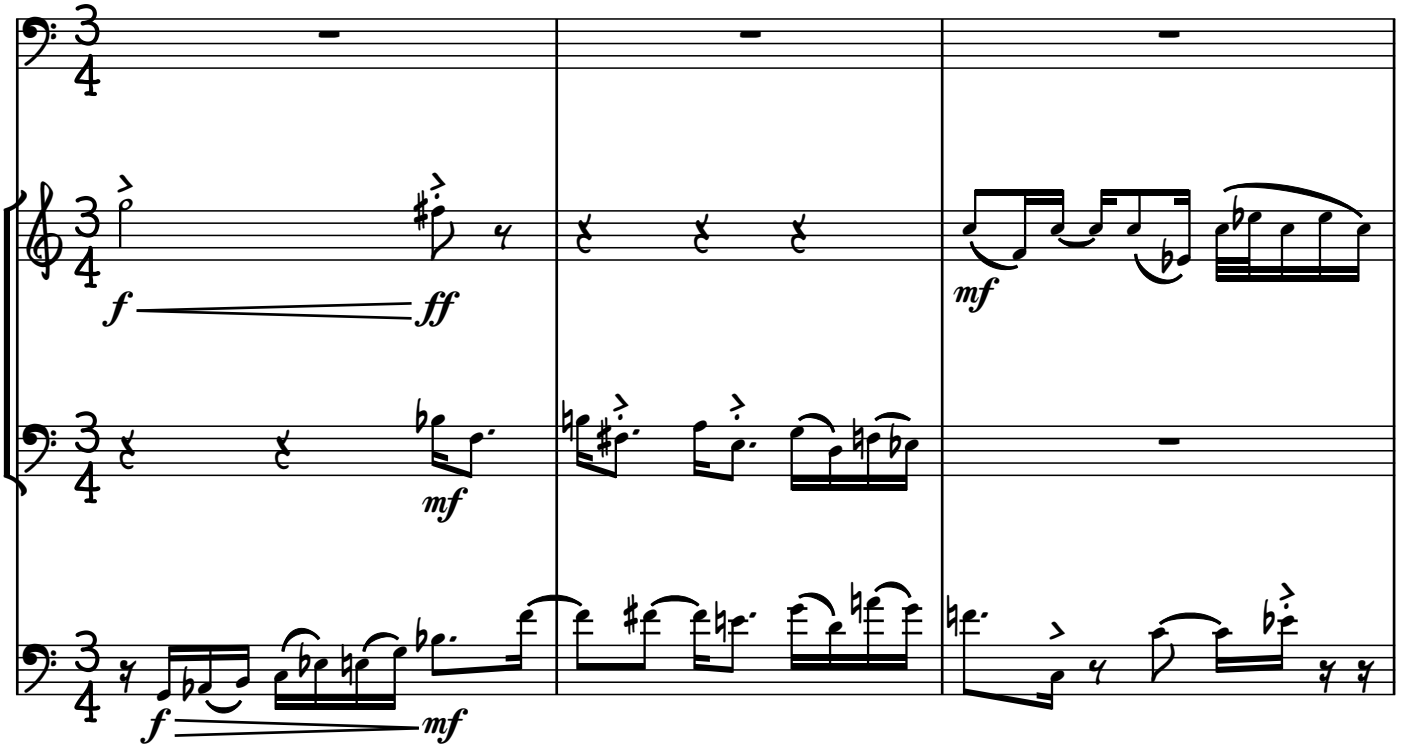
151



154



157 N



160 *mf*

we on - ly see the suns be - cause they are the lar - gest bo - dies and are

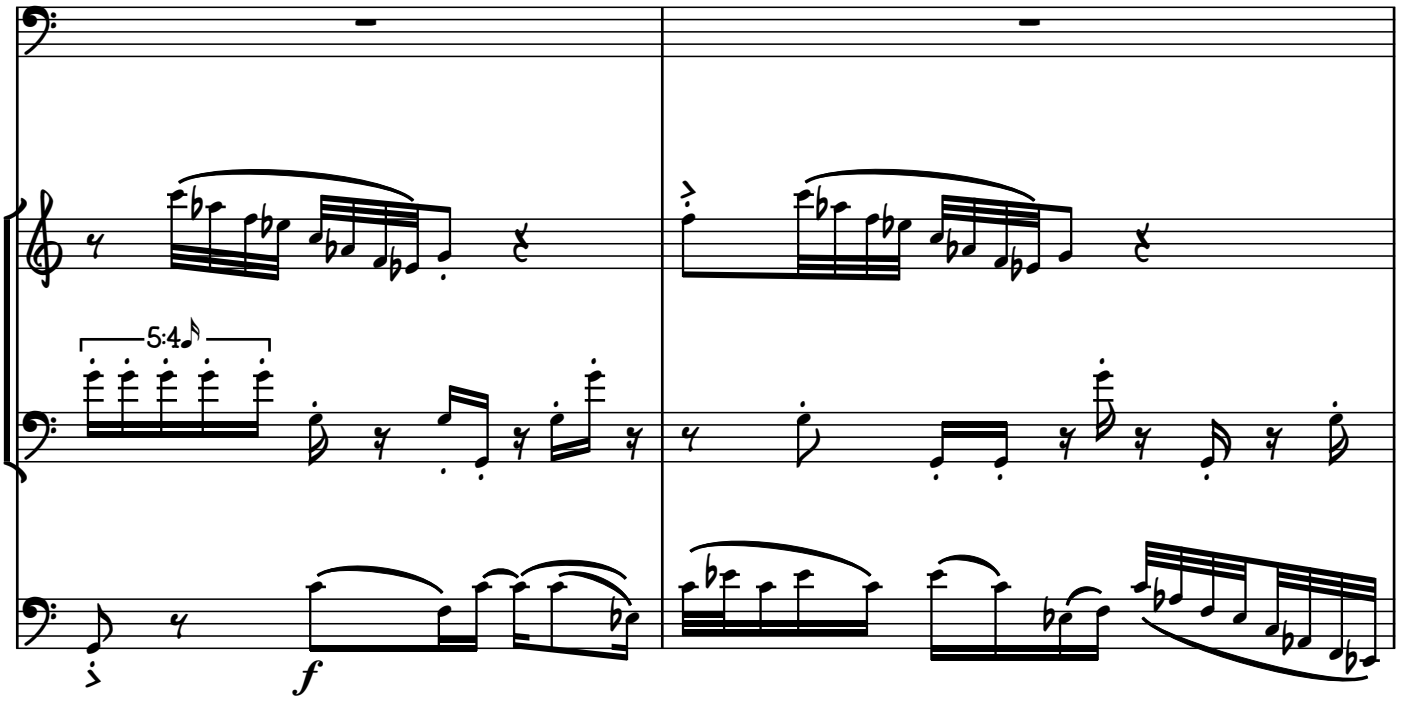
5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4

162

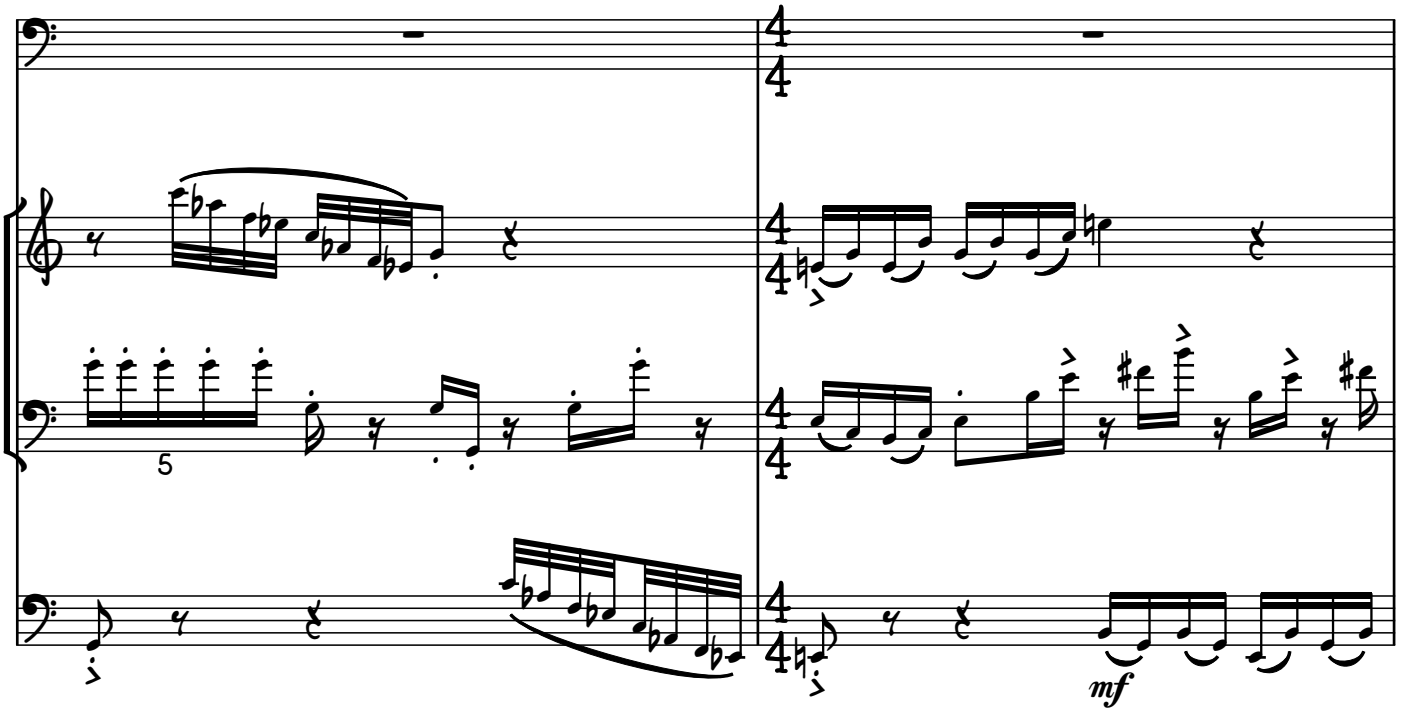
lu - - mi nous

5:4 5:4 5:4

164



166



168

mf

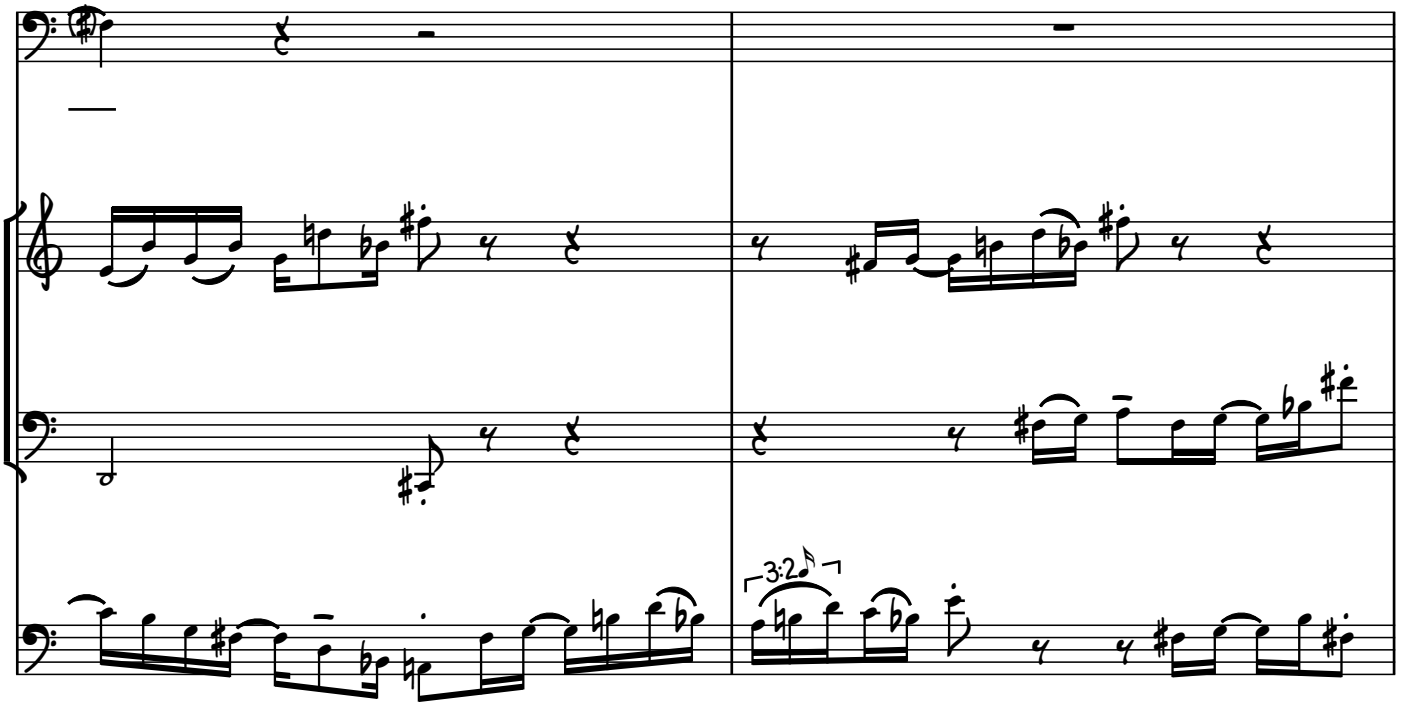
but their pla nets re -

170

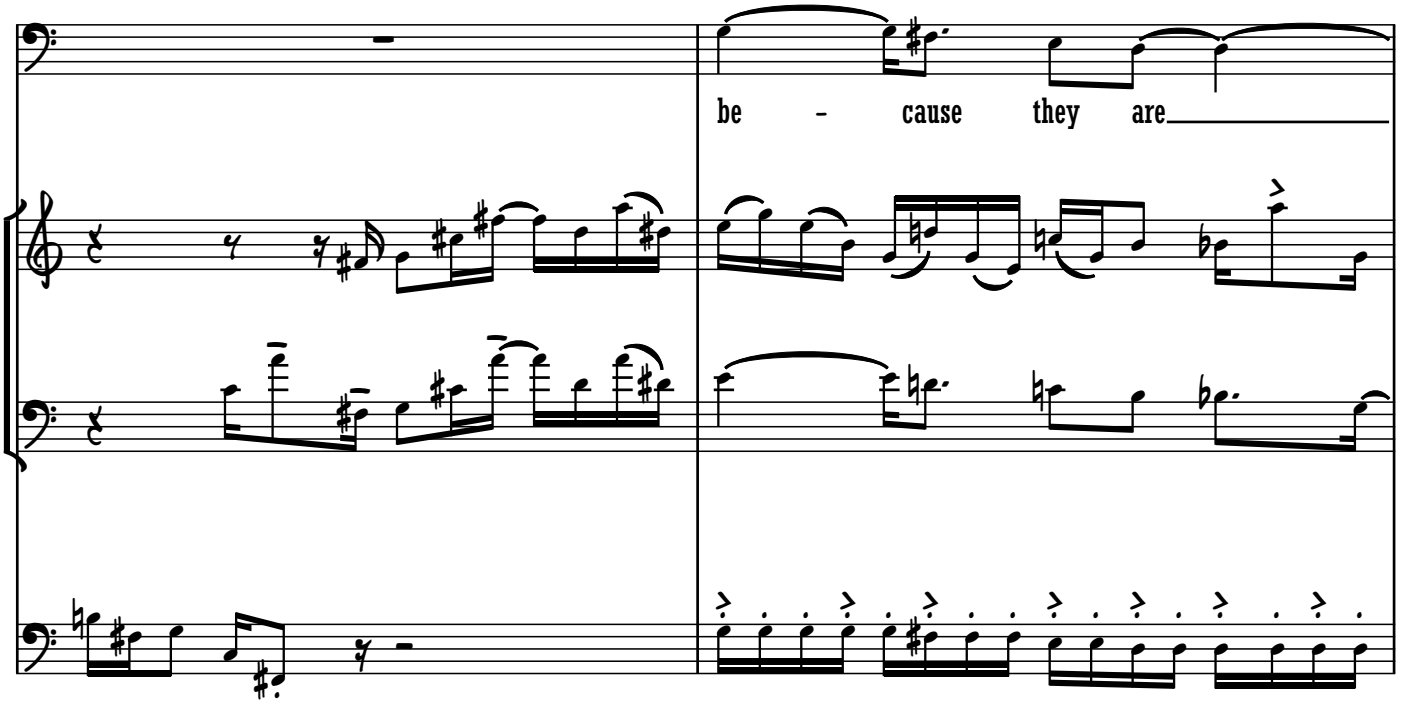
3:2

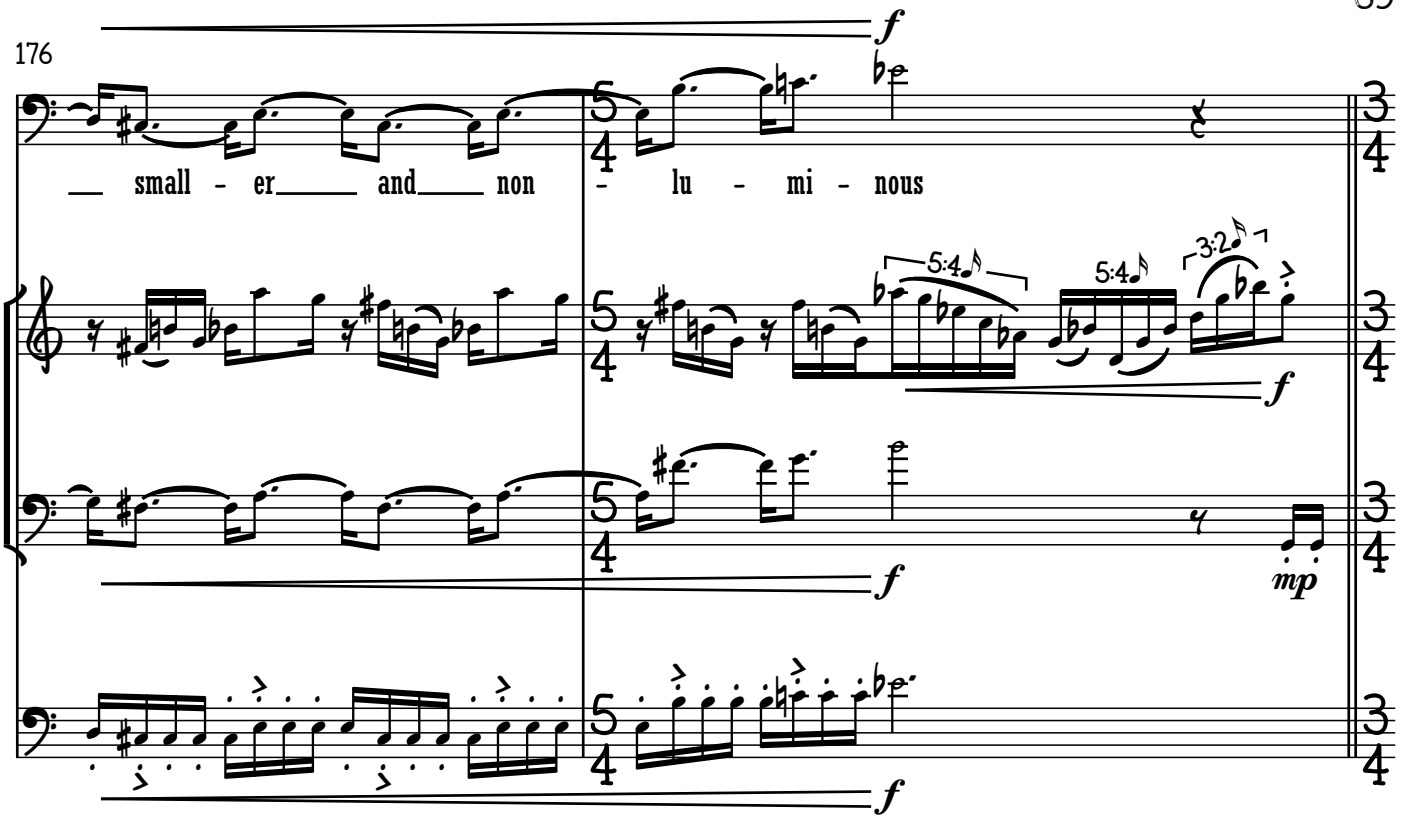
main in - vis - i - ble to us.

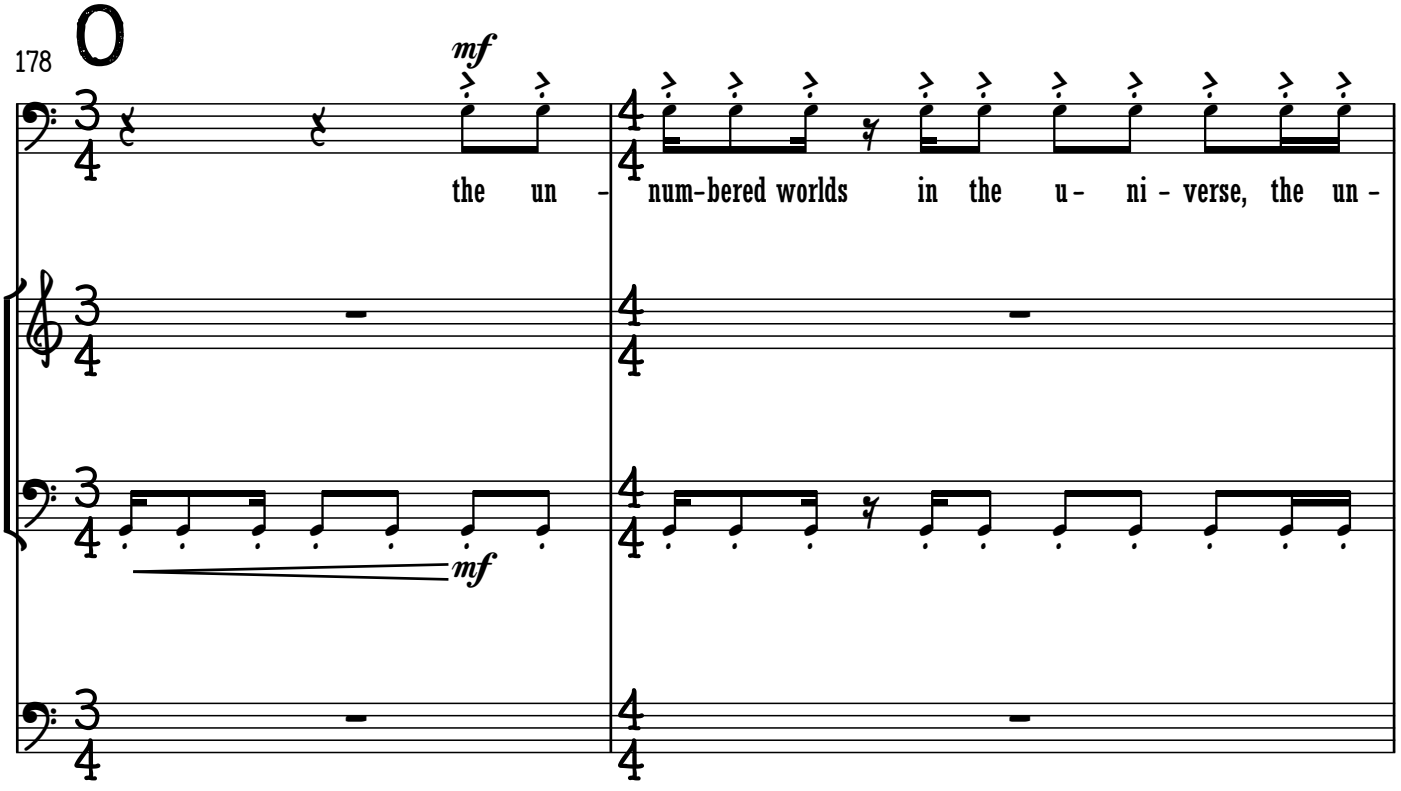
172

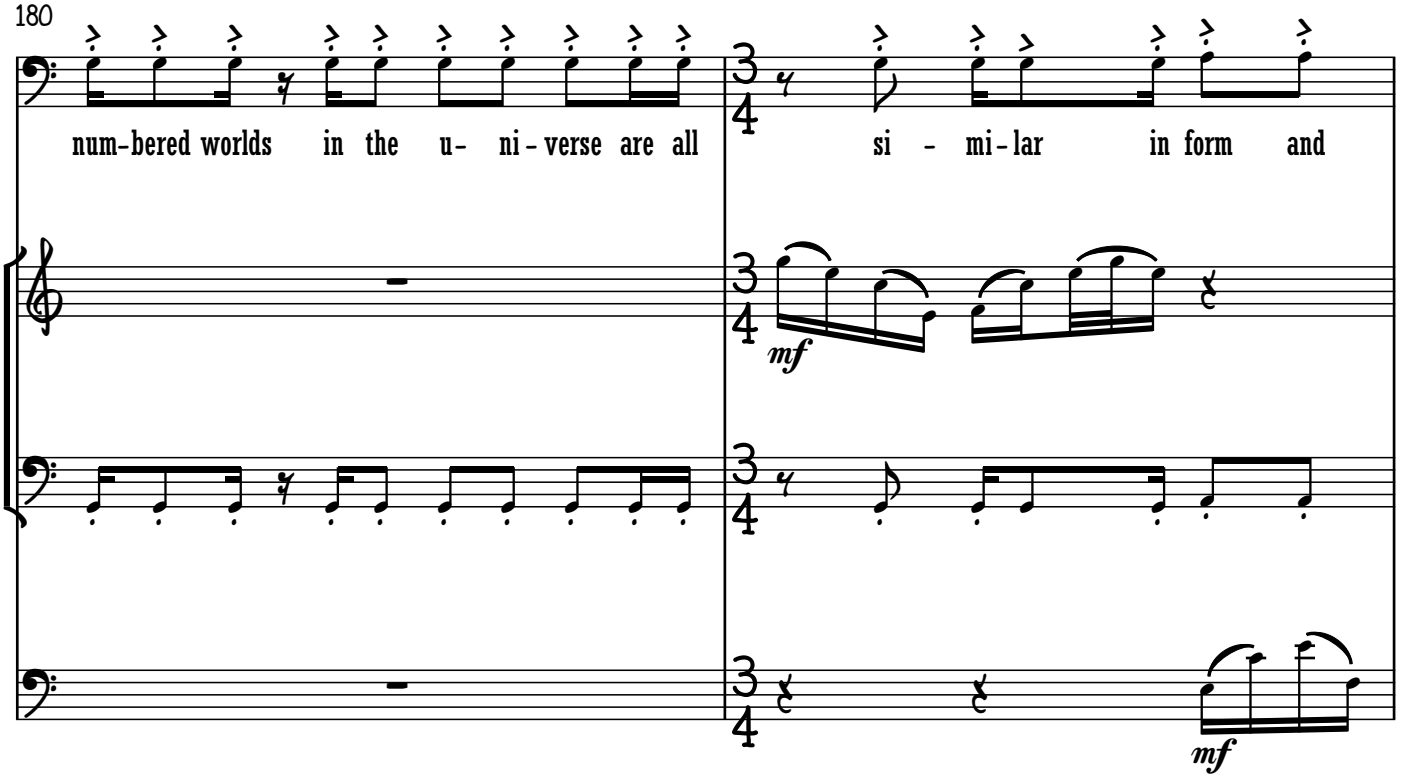


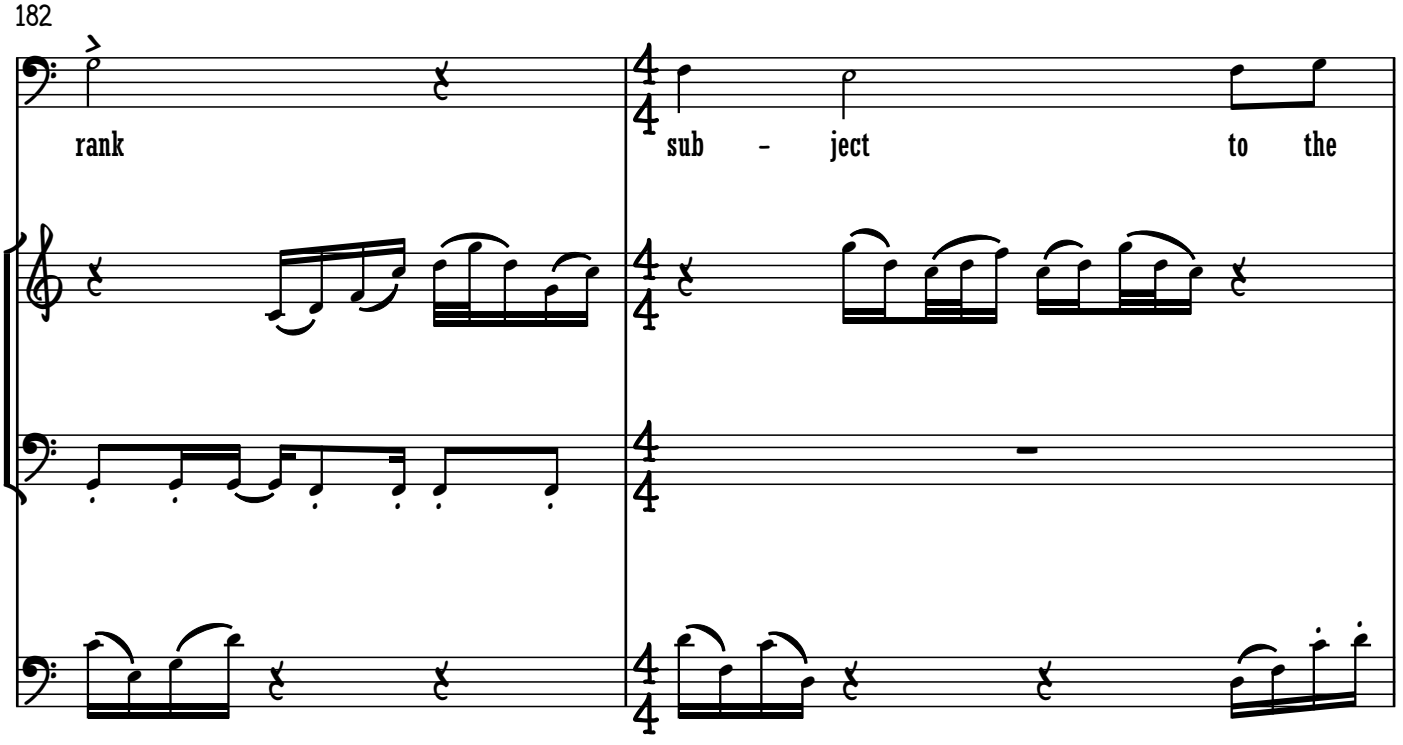
174



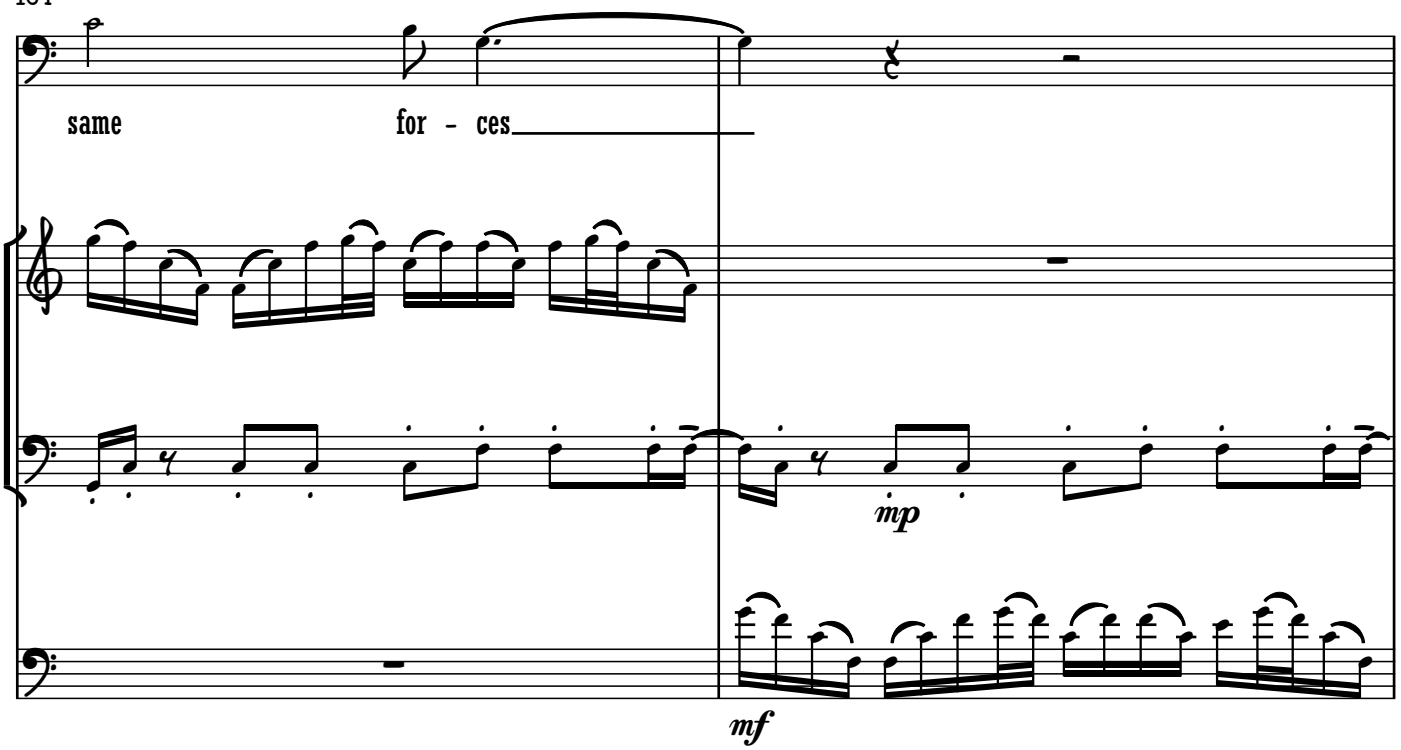

176
f
small - er and non - lu - mi - nous
5:4
5:4
3:2
f
f
mp
f


178
0
mf
the un - num-bered worlds in the u- ni - verse, the un -
mf

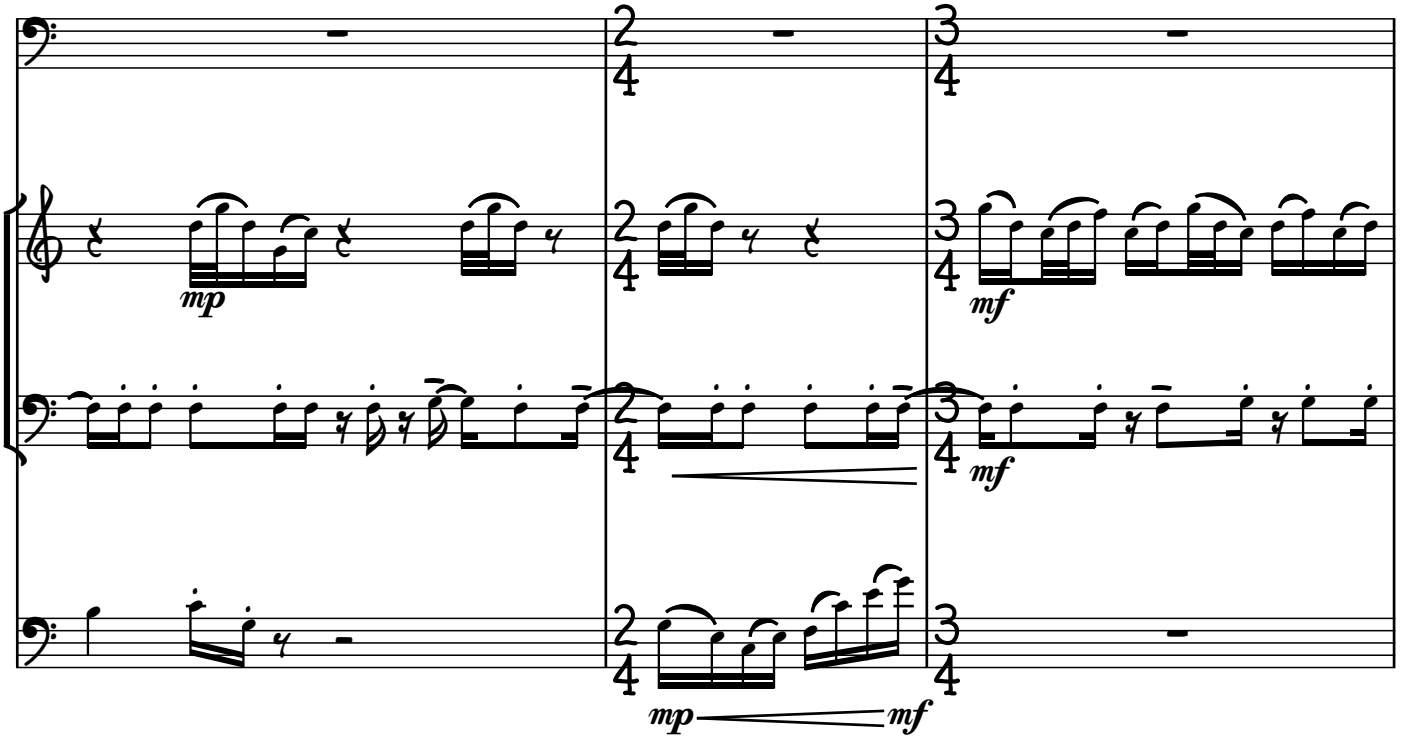

180
num-bered worlds in the u- ni-verse are all si - mi-lar in form and
mf
mf


182
rank sub - ject to the

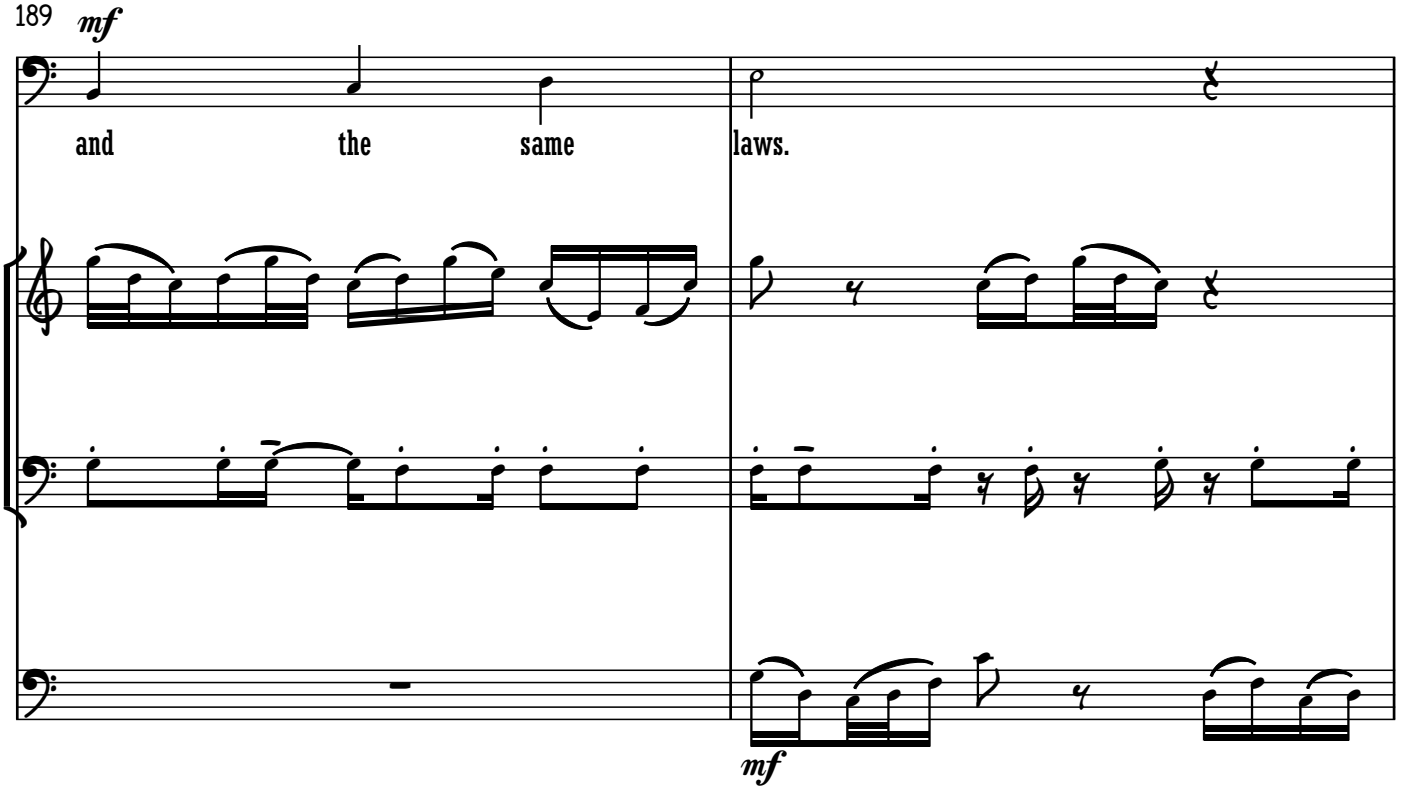
184



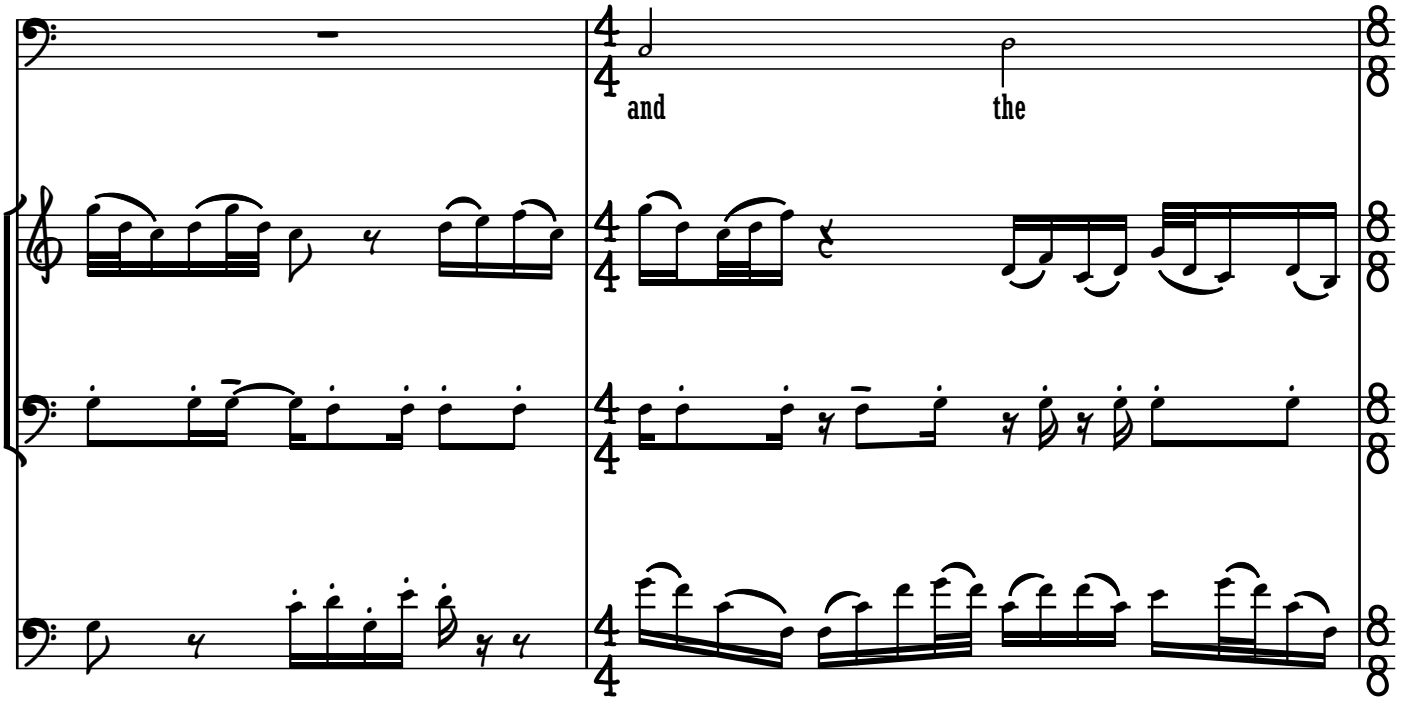
186



189



191



193

f

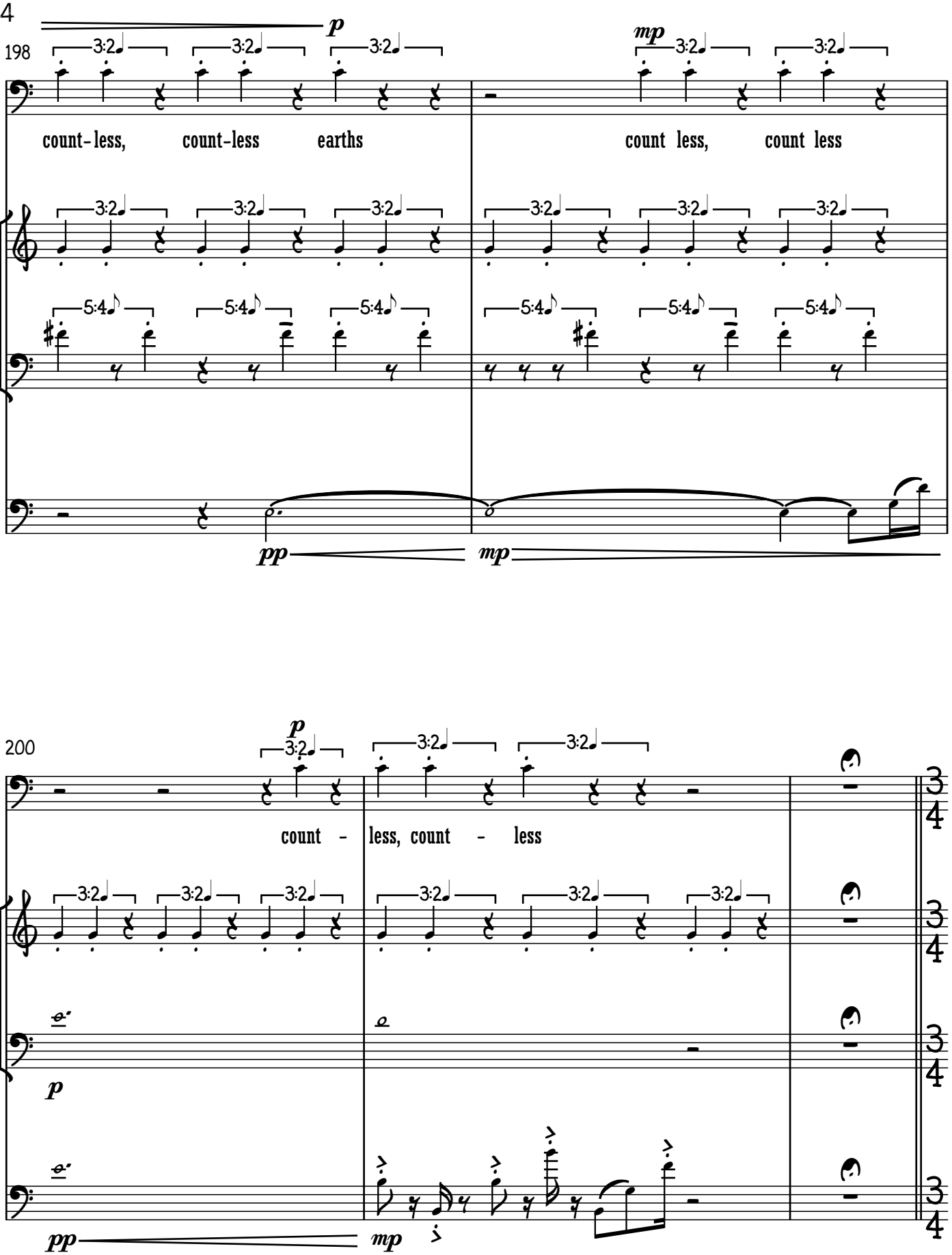
same, all the same laws.

196 P

AWE AND WONDER

mp *mf*

there are count - less suns and count - less earths,


198
p
mp
count-less, count-less earths
count less, count less
pp
mp
200
p
count - less, count - less
p
pp
mp

203 **Q**

mf

mf

mf

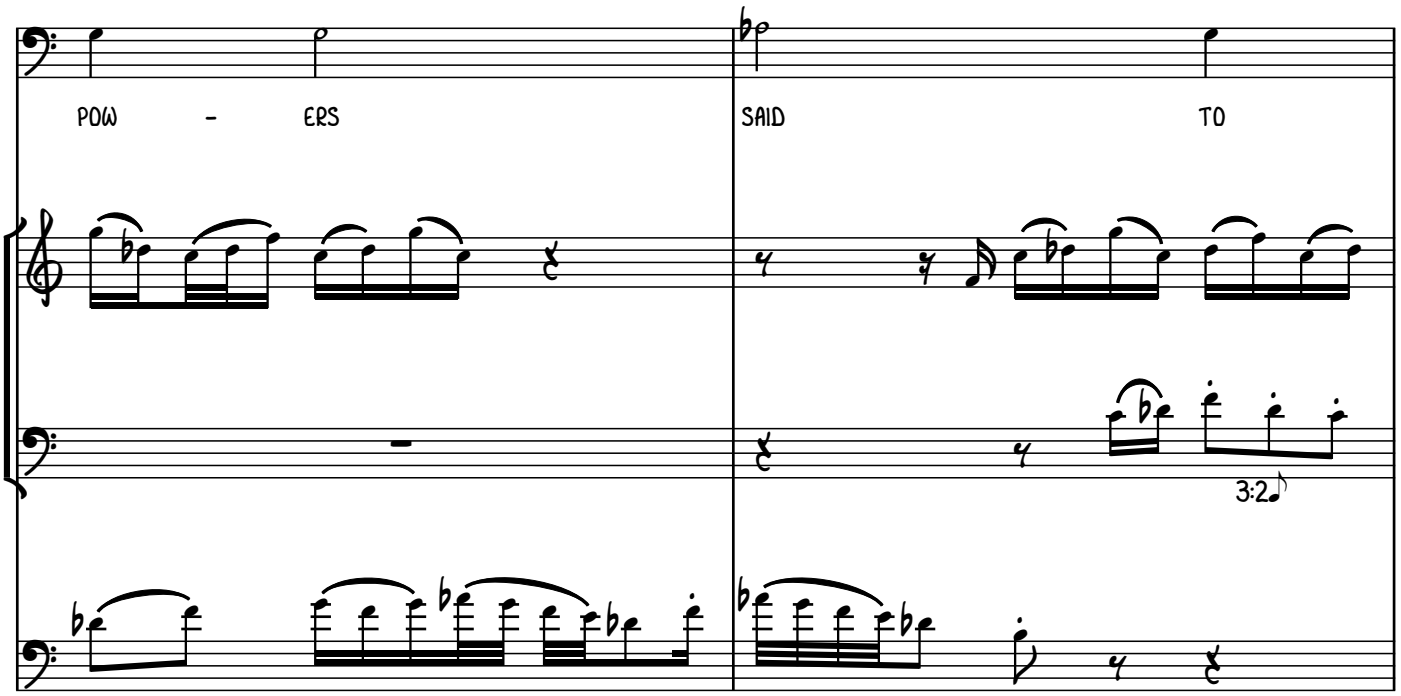
205

mf

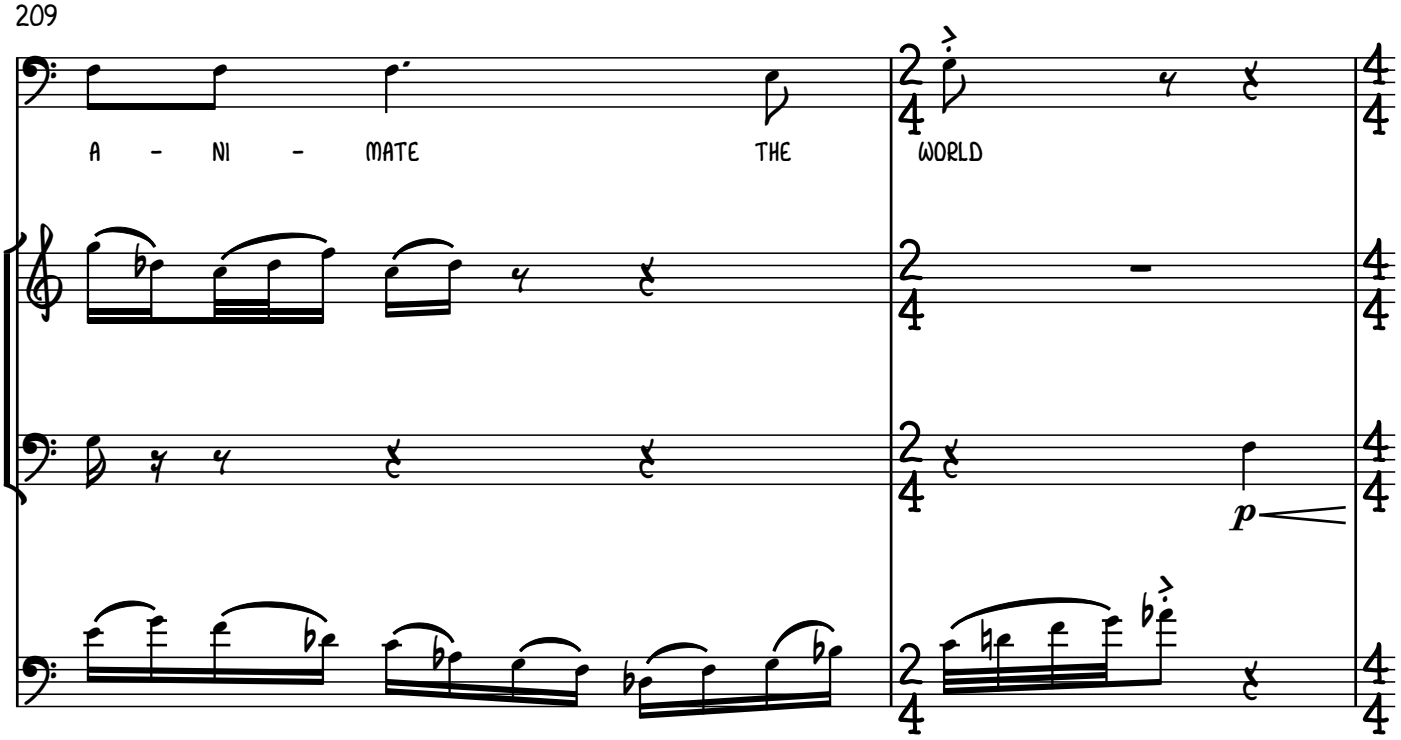
NO MORE

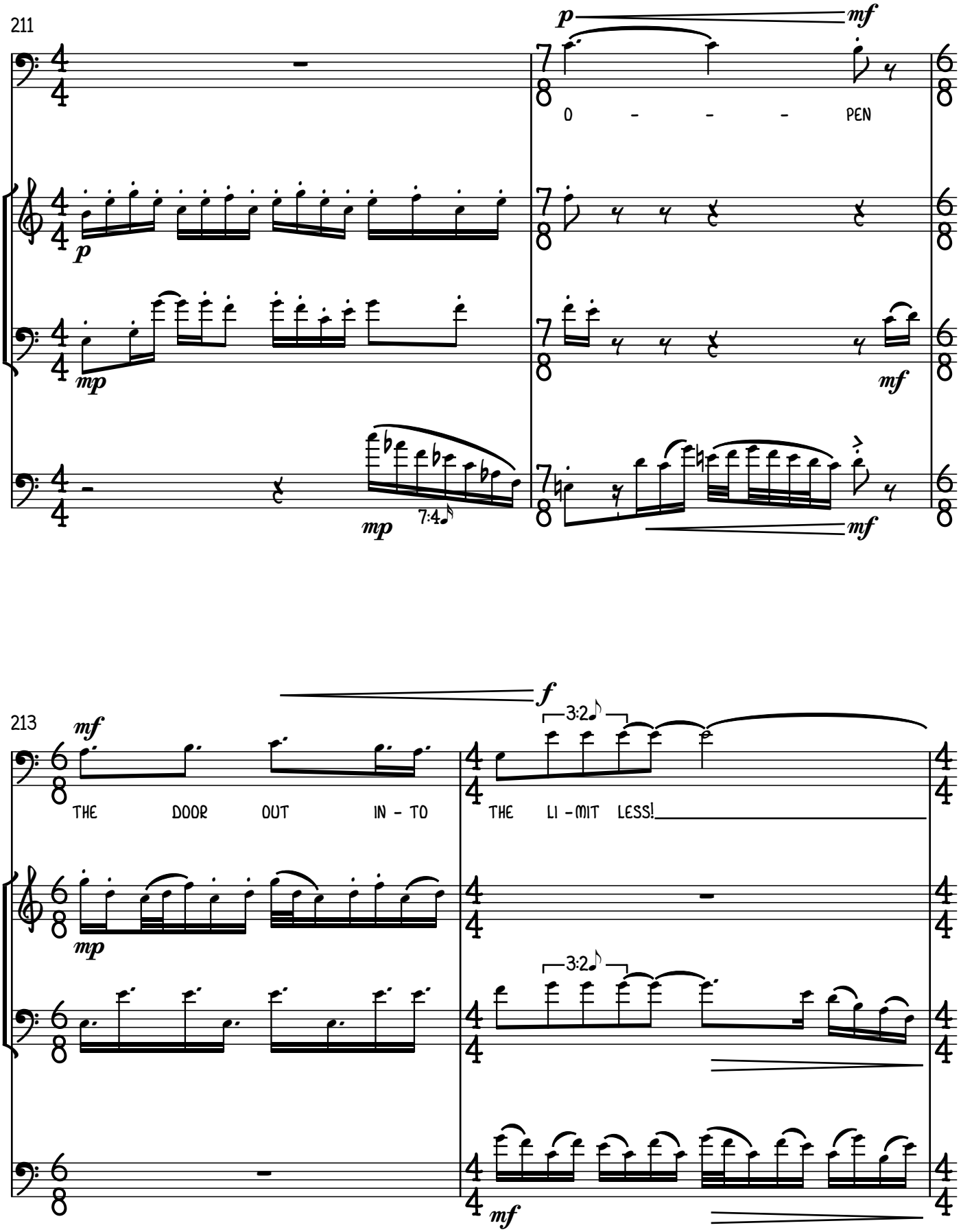
SU - PER NA - TUR - AL

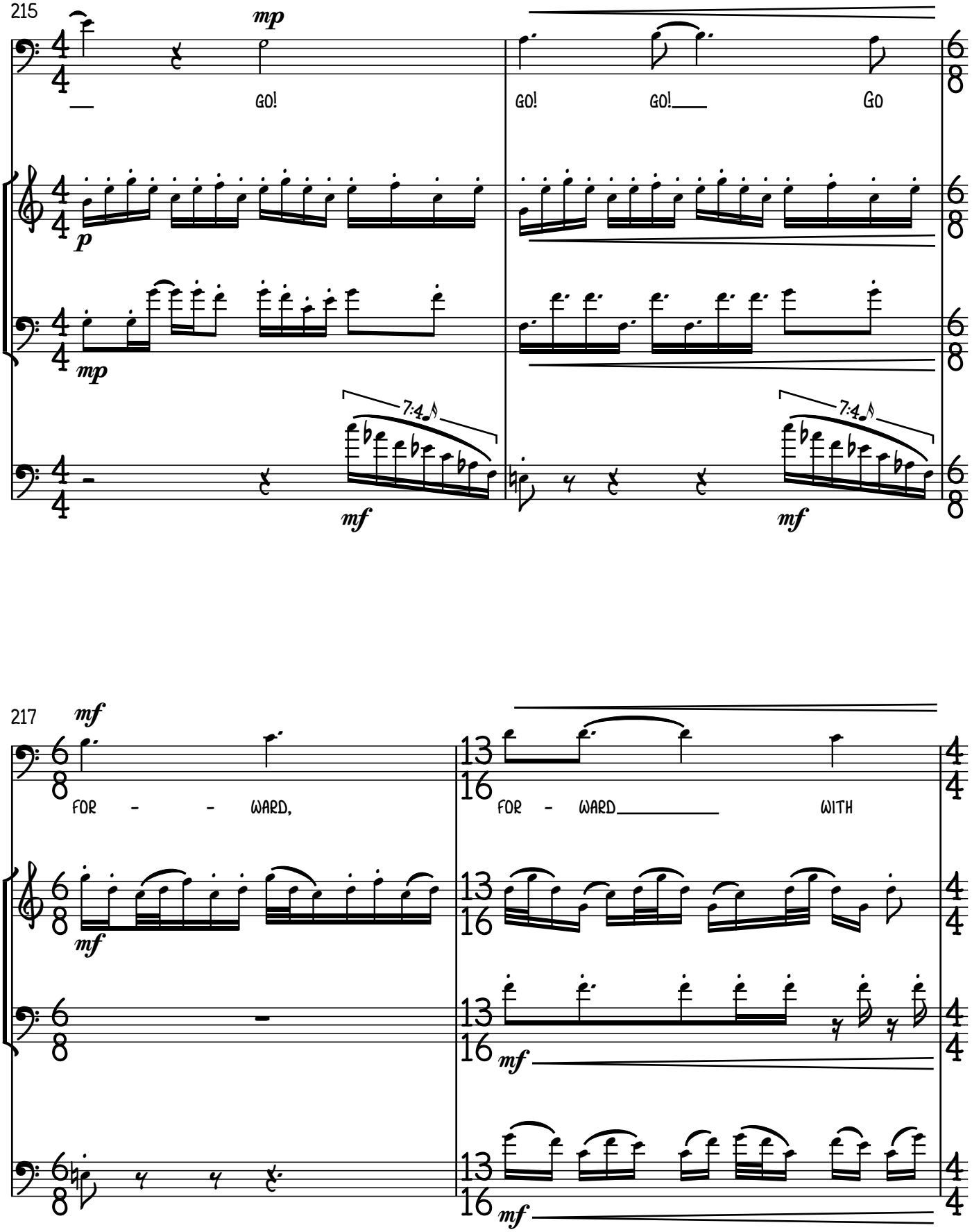
207

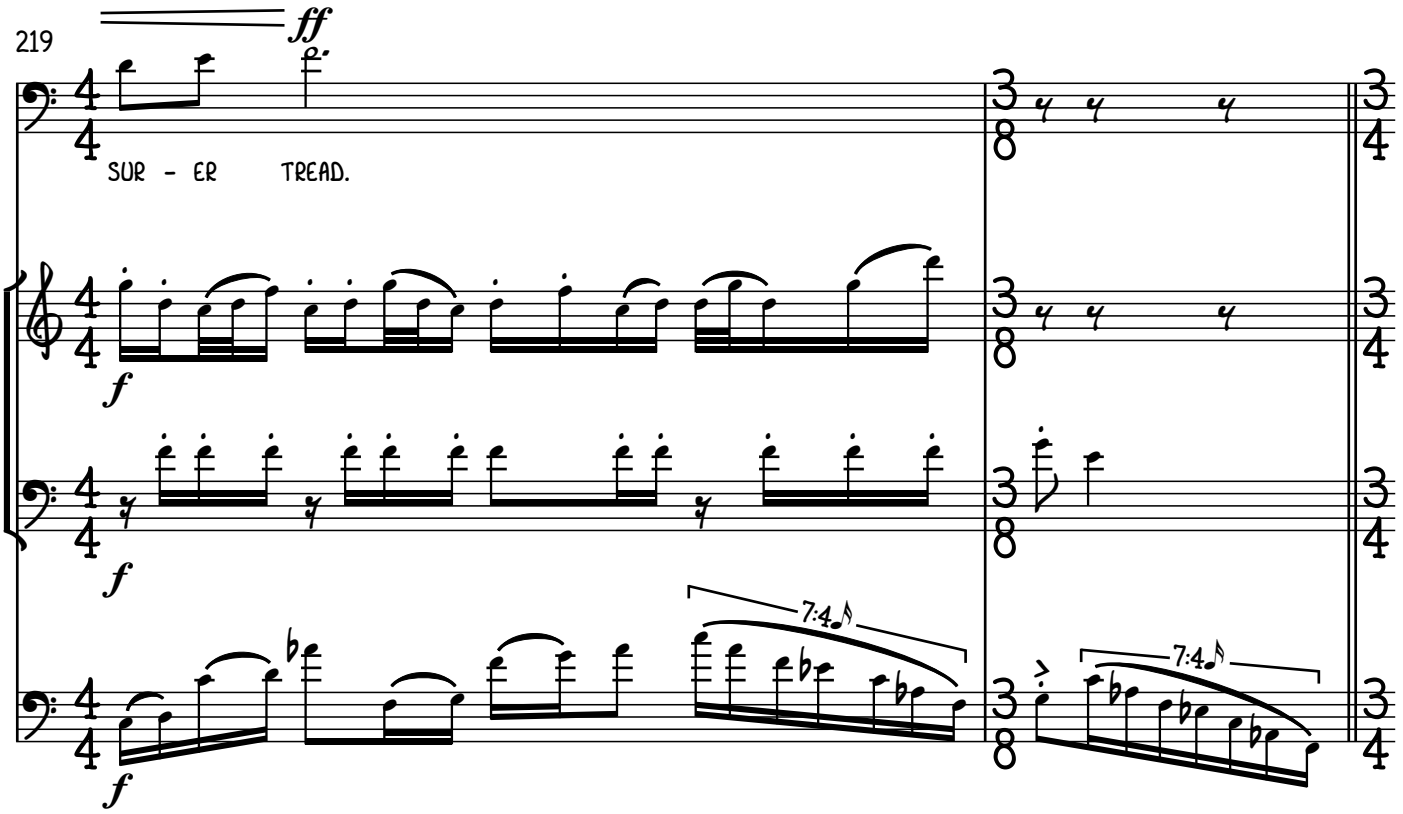


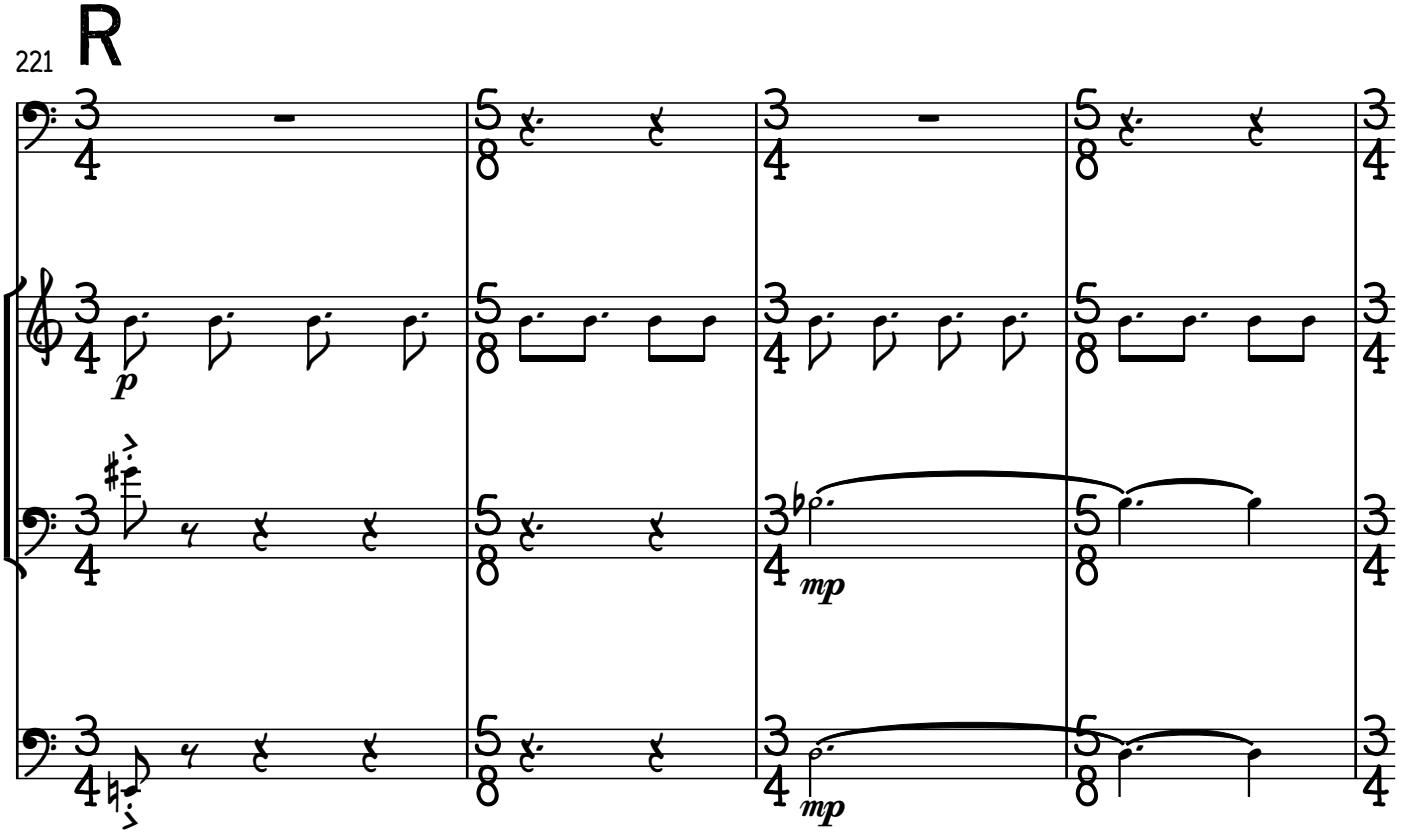
209

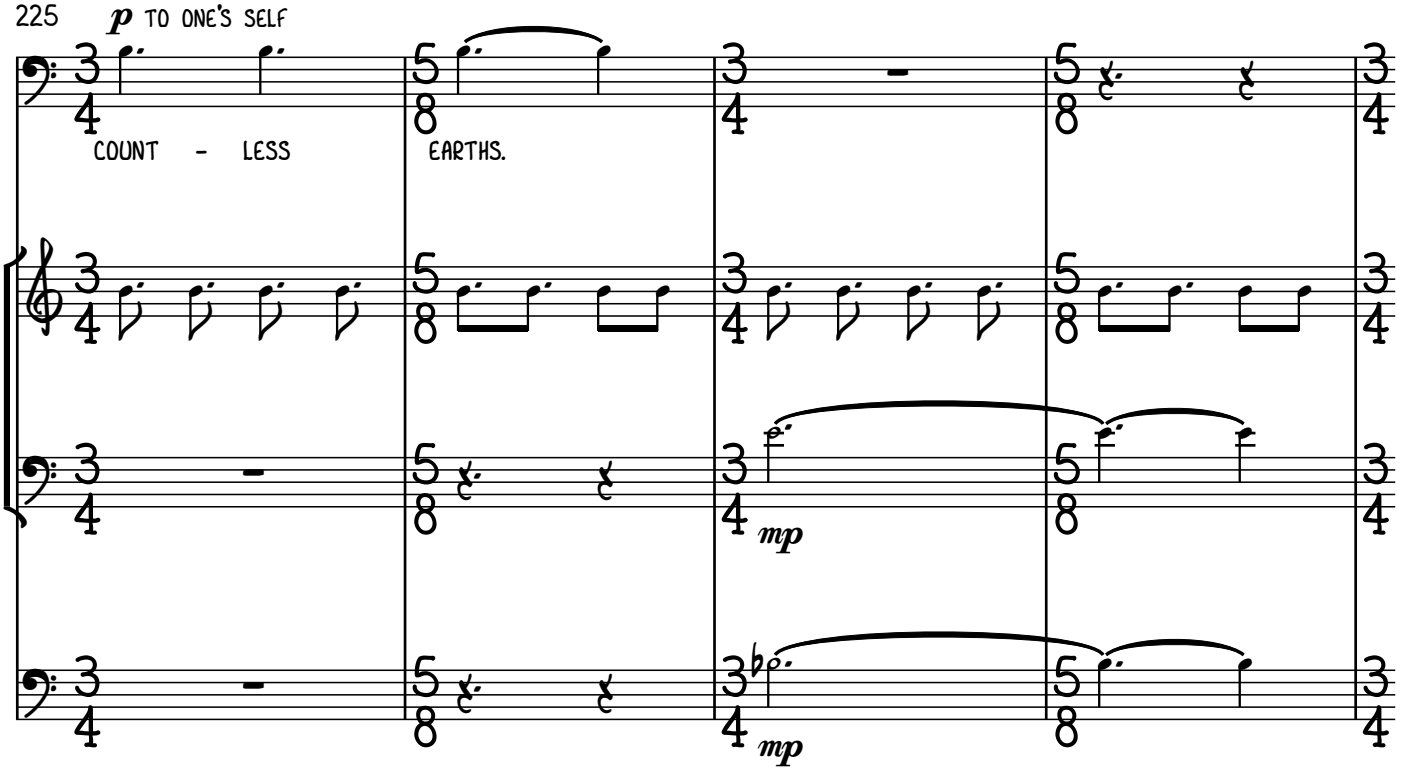


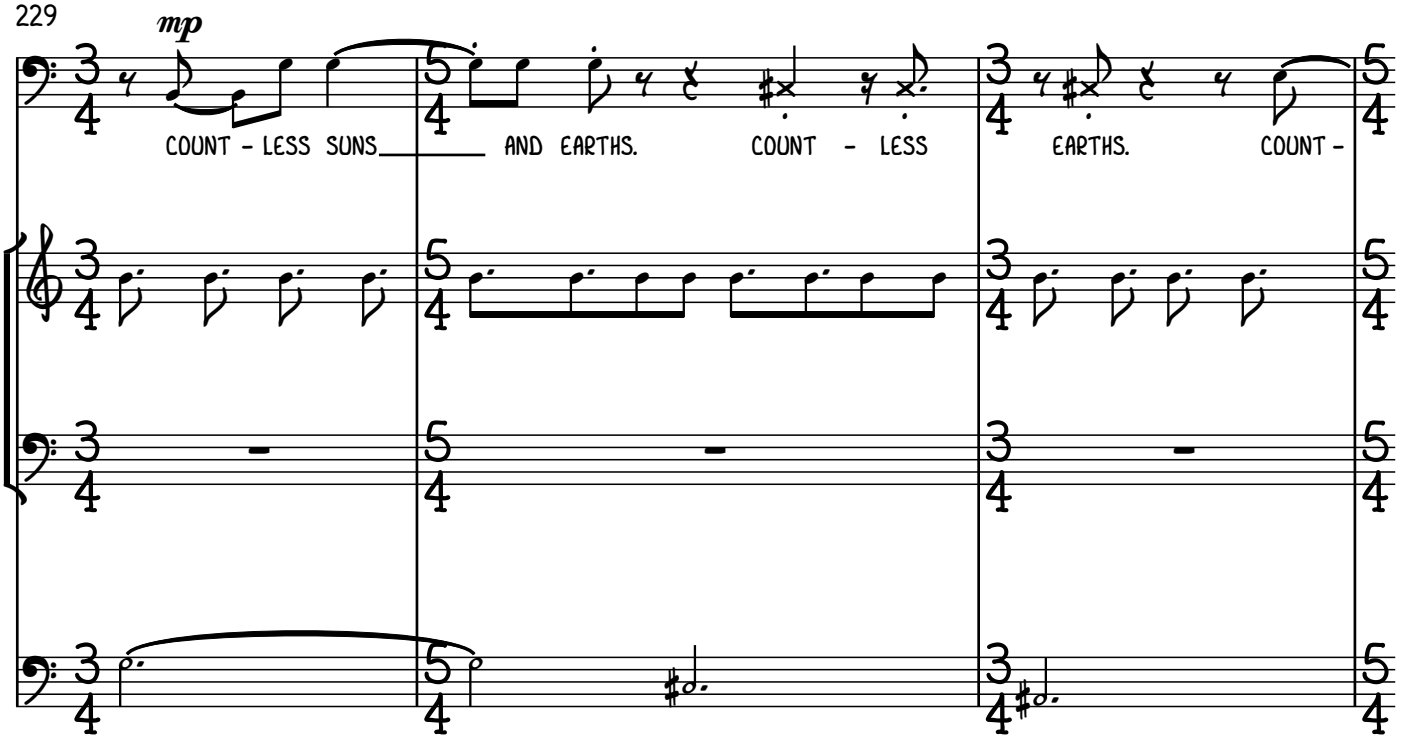

211
p
mf
O - - - PEN
p
mp
mf
mp
7:4
mf
213
f
mf
3:2
THE DOOR OUT IN - TO
THE LI - MIT LESS!
mp
3:2
mf


215
mp
GO!
GO! GO! GO
p
mp
7:4
mf
7:4
mf
217
mf
FOR - - WARD,
FOR - WARD WITH
mf
mf
mf

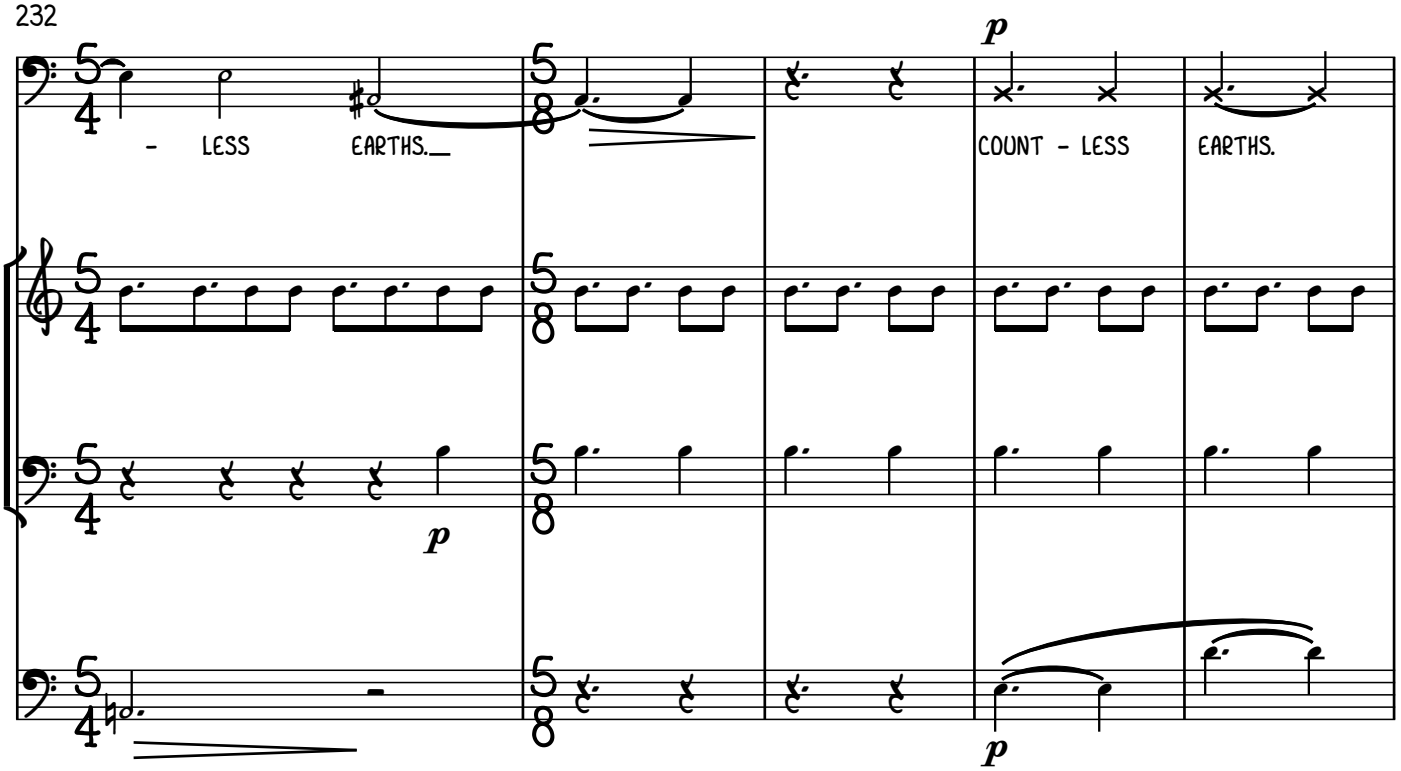

219
ff
SUR - ER TREAD.
f
f
f
7:4
7:4


221
R
p
mp
mp

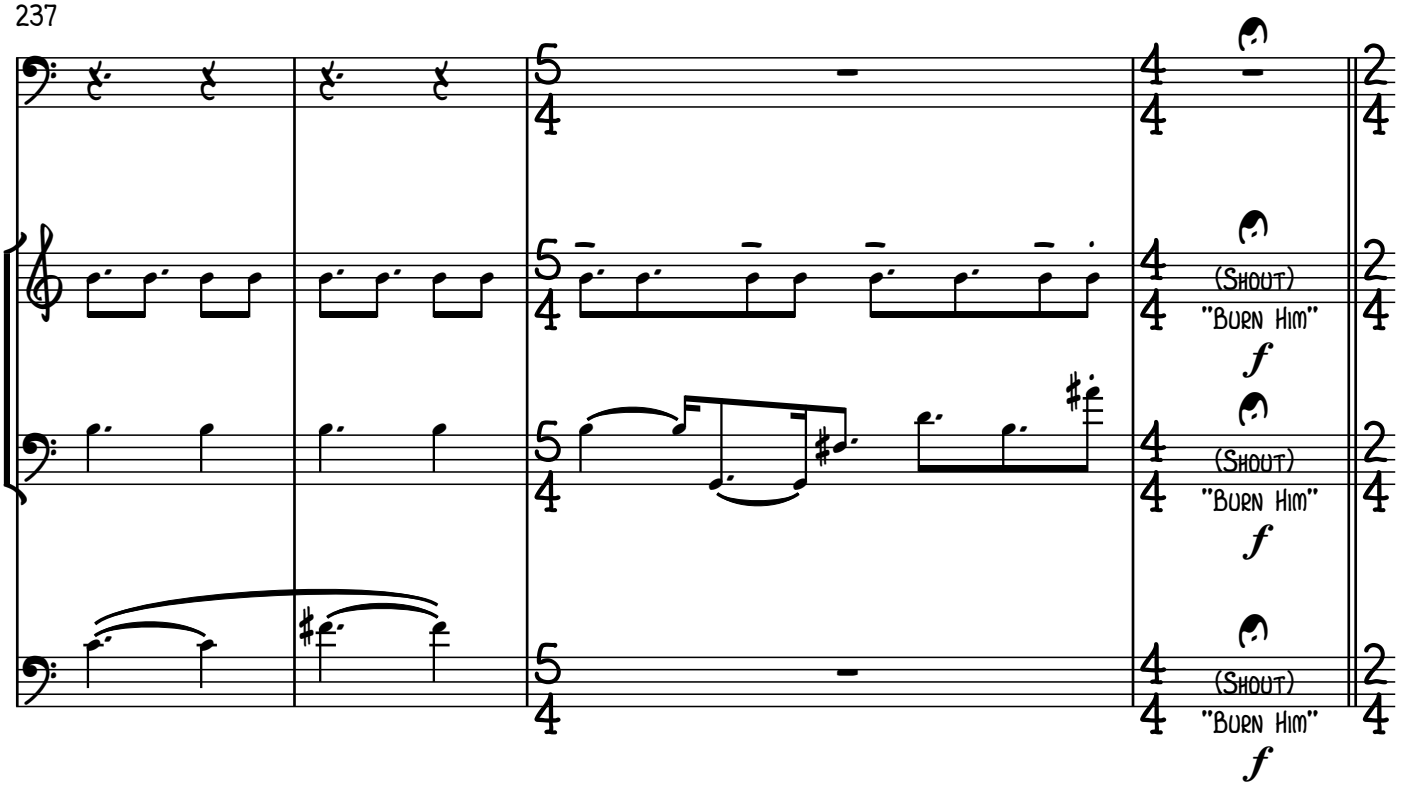

225
p TO ONE'S SELF
COUNT - LESS
EARTHS.
mp
mp


229
mp
COUNT - LESS SUNS
AND EARTHS.
COUNT - LESS
EARTHS.
COUNT -

232

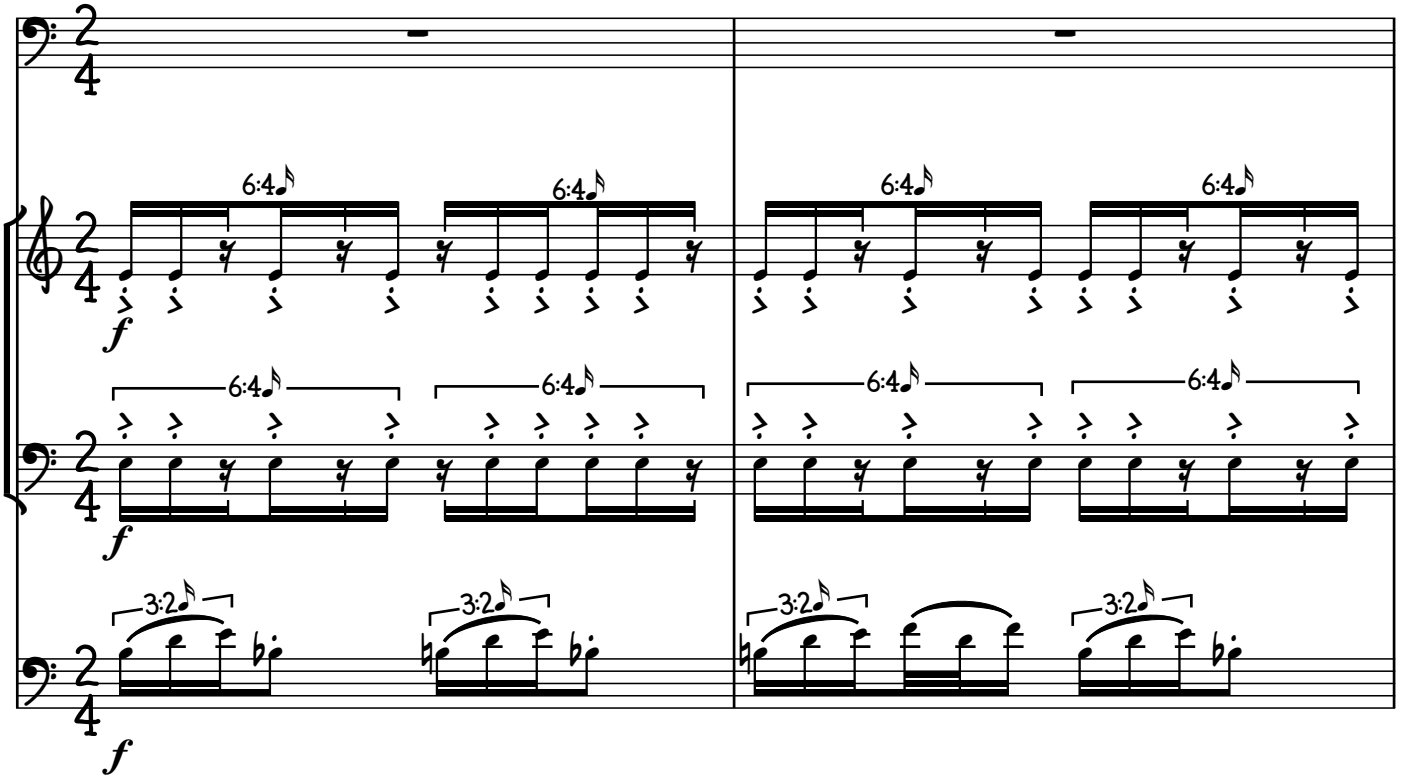

- LESS EARTHS.
p
p
COUNT - LESS
EARTHS.
p

237

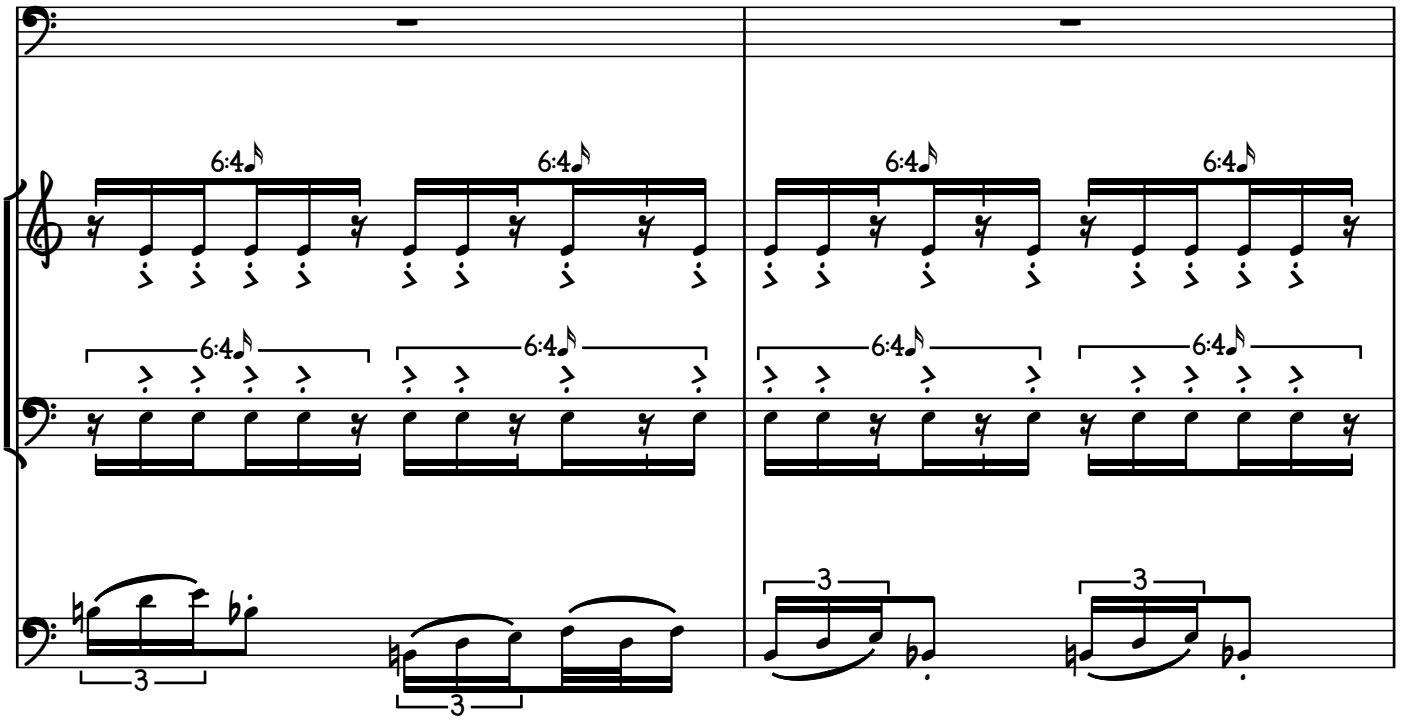

(Shout)
"Burn Him"
f
(Shout)
"Burn Him"
f
(Shout)
"Burn Him"
f

241

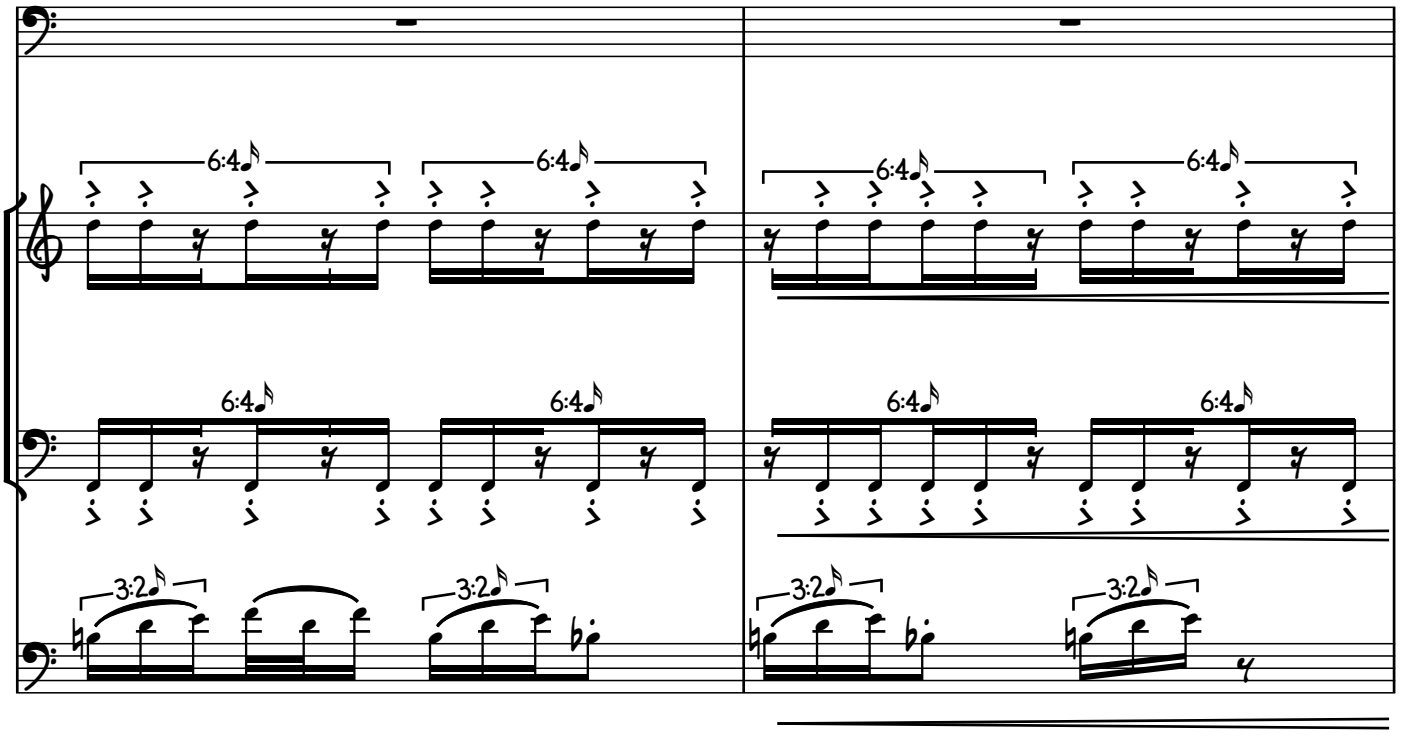
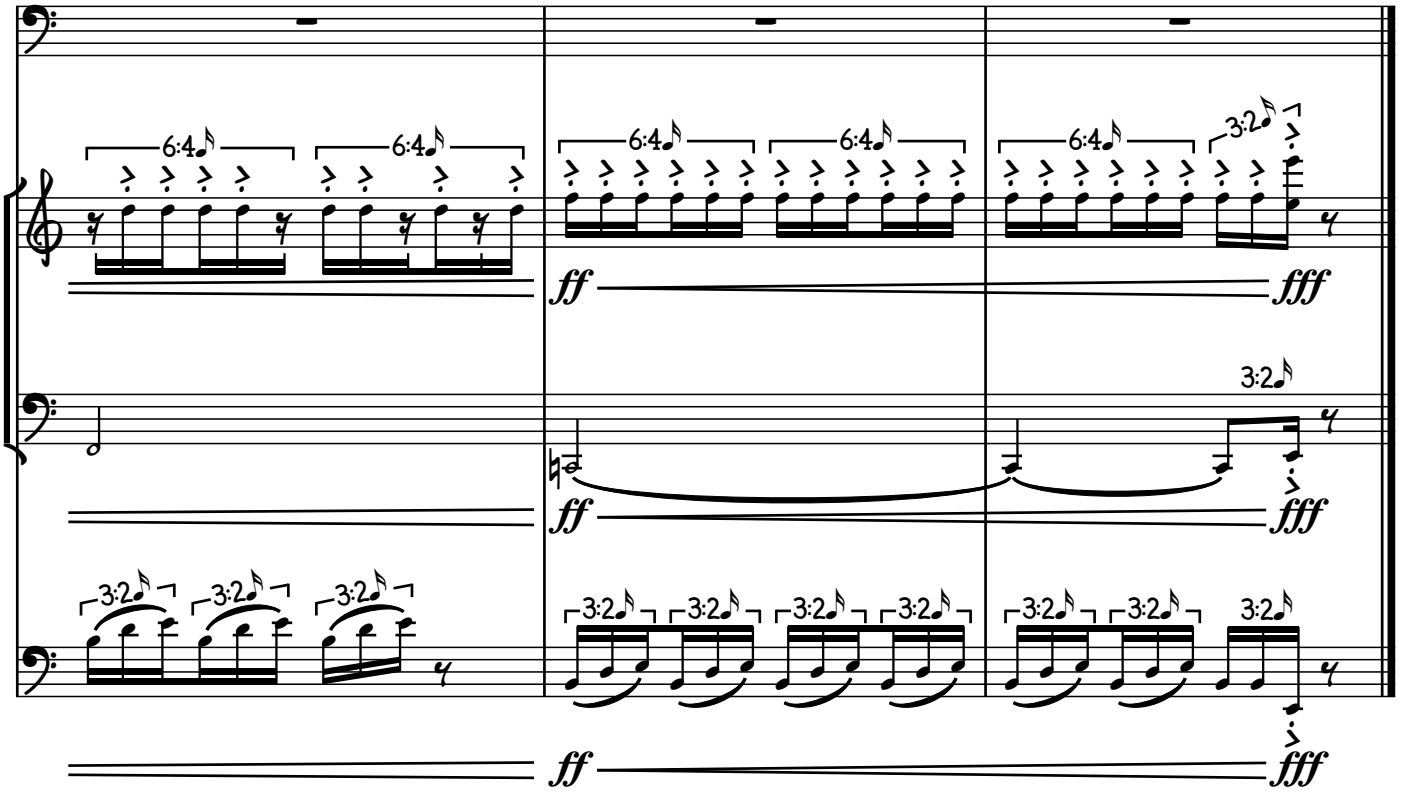
S



243



245



247