It Gets Easier Further On
(new version, 2025)

Lewis Carroll
(Through the Looking-Glass)

Duration 4:30

Julian Dale

The Alice lines may be spoken by a 2nd speaker of any age/sex, or the main speaker in a different tone, or one of the players.

Humpty & Alice

♩ = 126

Humpty (pompous):

Humpty has a tam-tam, preferably large, or clash cymbals, nearby.

Alto fl.

(actual sounds)

(piccolo needed later)

Marim.

Perc.

sus. cym.

(snare drum, low tom, (pedal) bass drum, hi-hat, sus. cymbal, cowbell)

low tom

l.v. sempre

Piano

5

♩ = 96

As to poetry, you know, I can repeat poetry as well as other folk, if it comes to that.

non troppo vib.

♩ = 126

Alice: Oh, it needn't come to that!

snare dr.

b. d.

juliandale@outlook.com

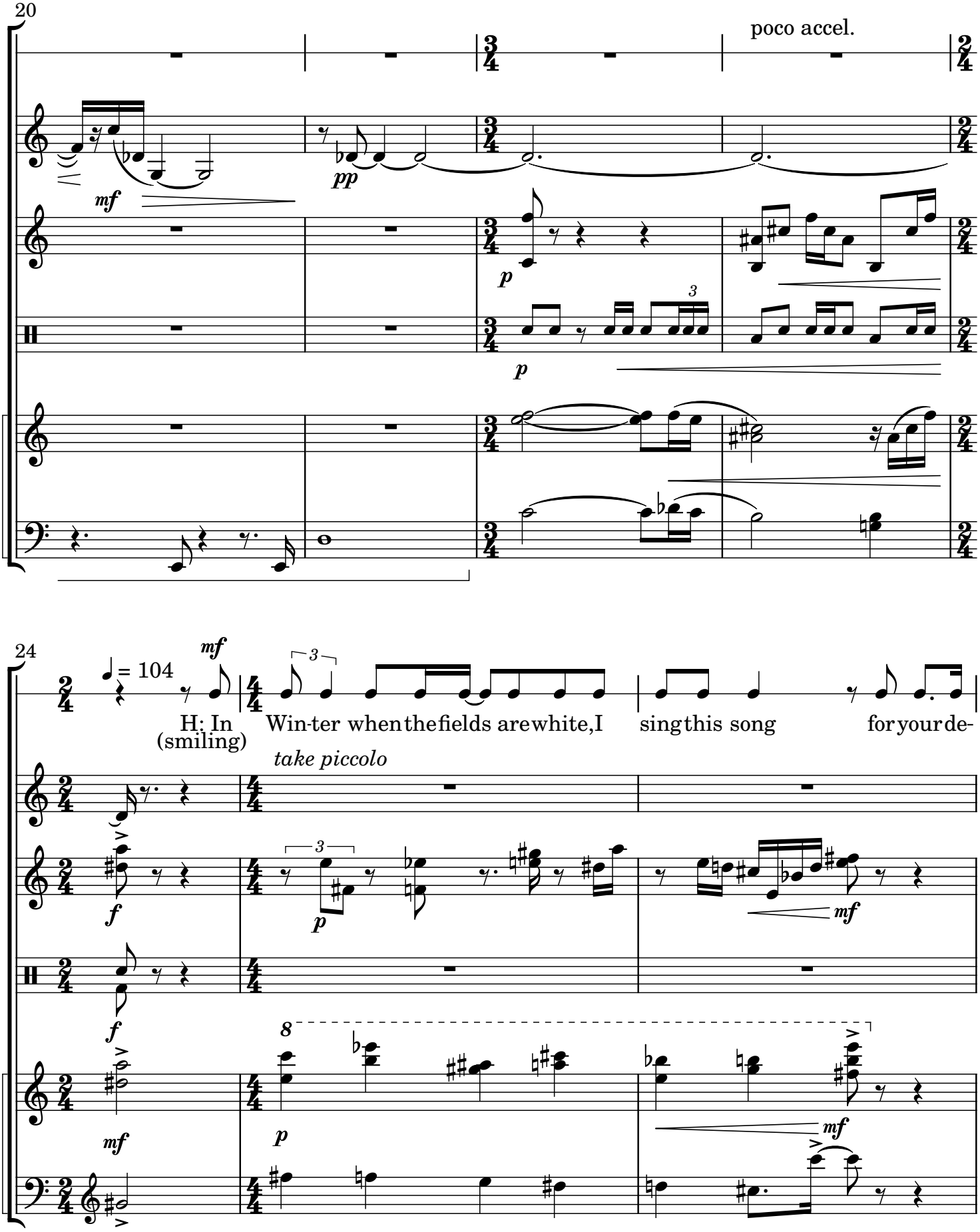
11

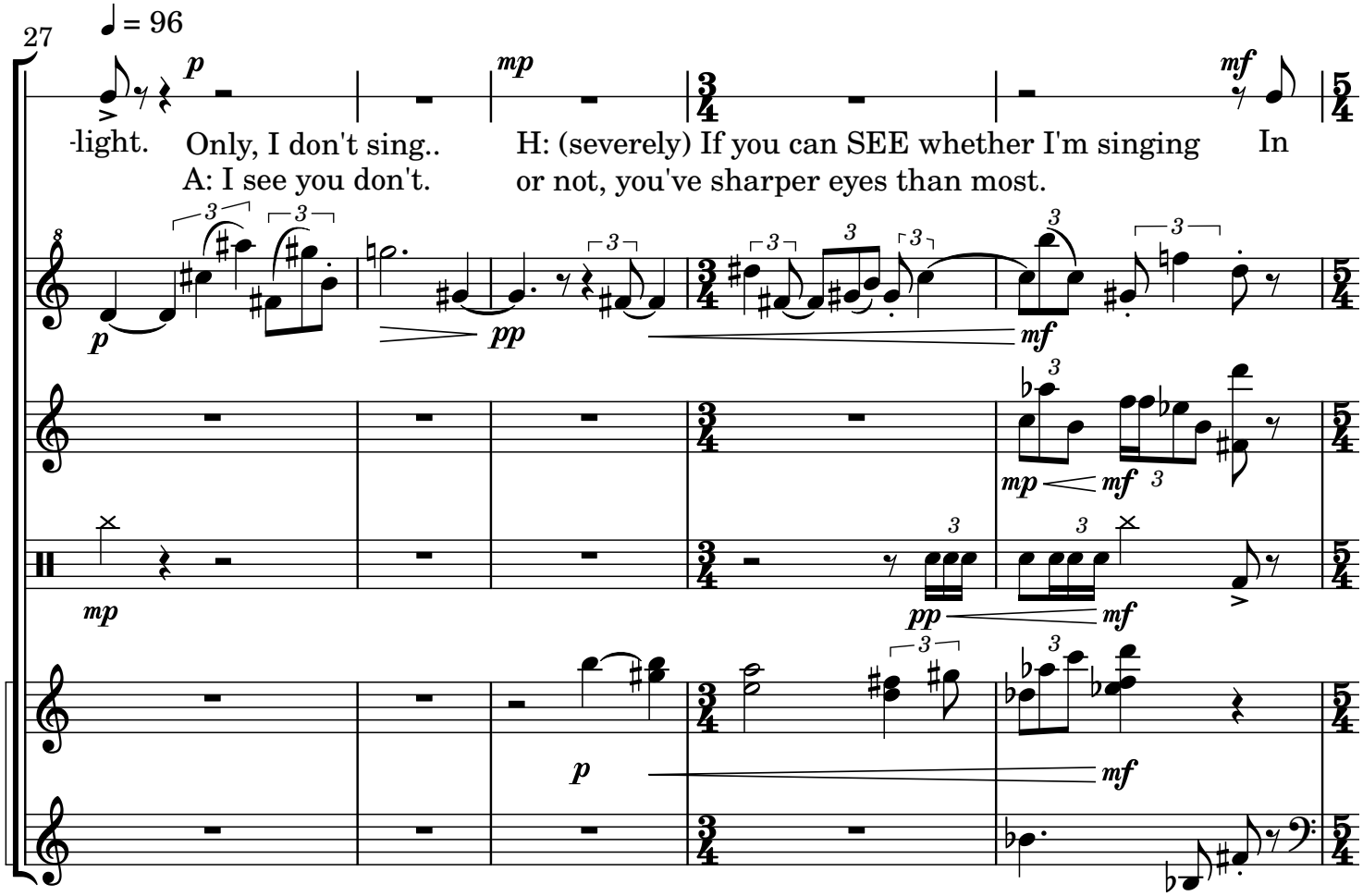
♩ = 96

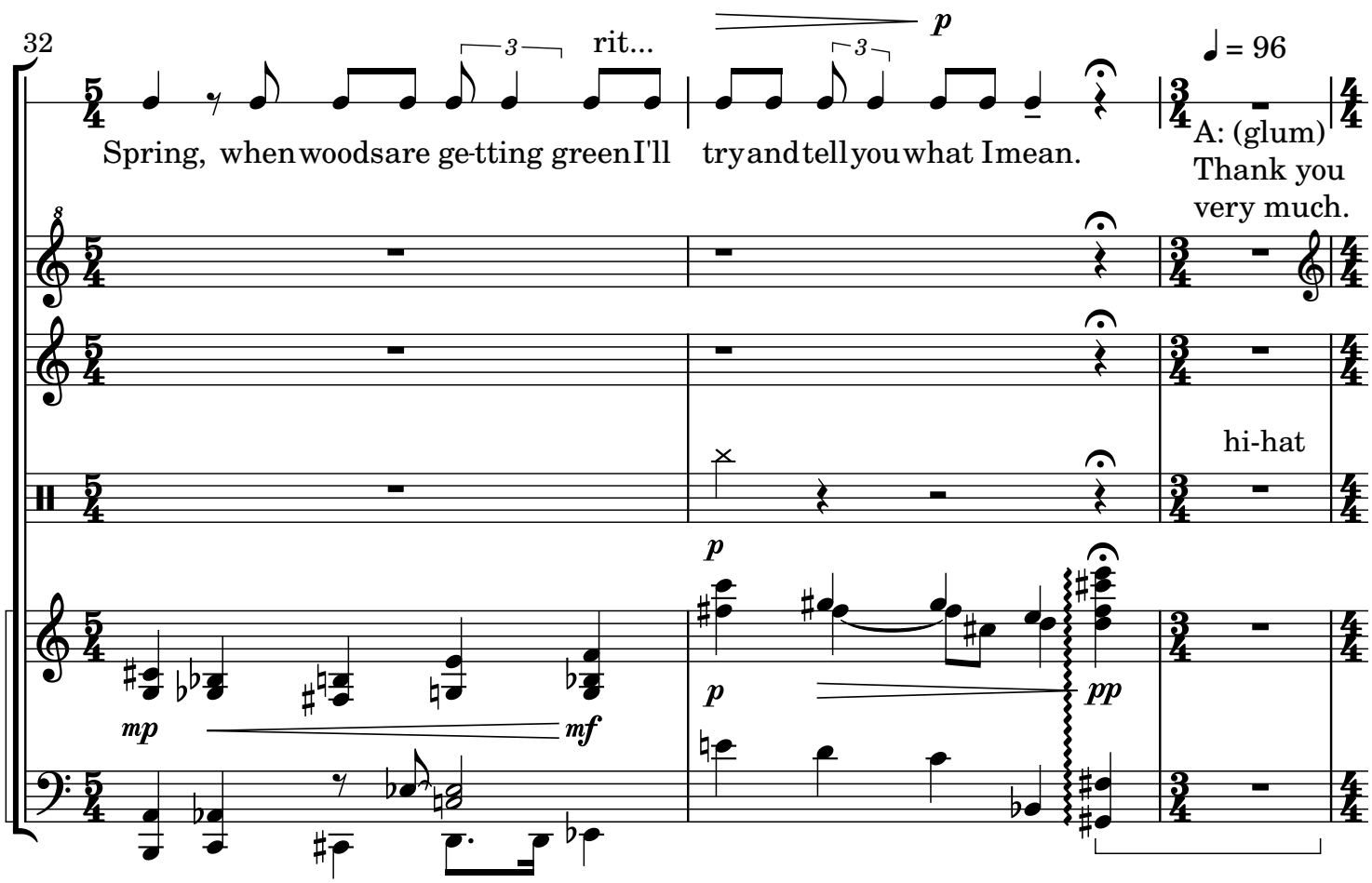
15

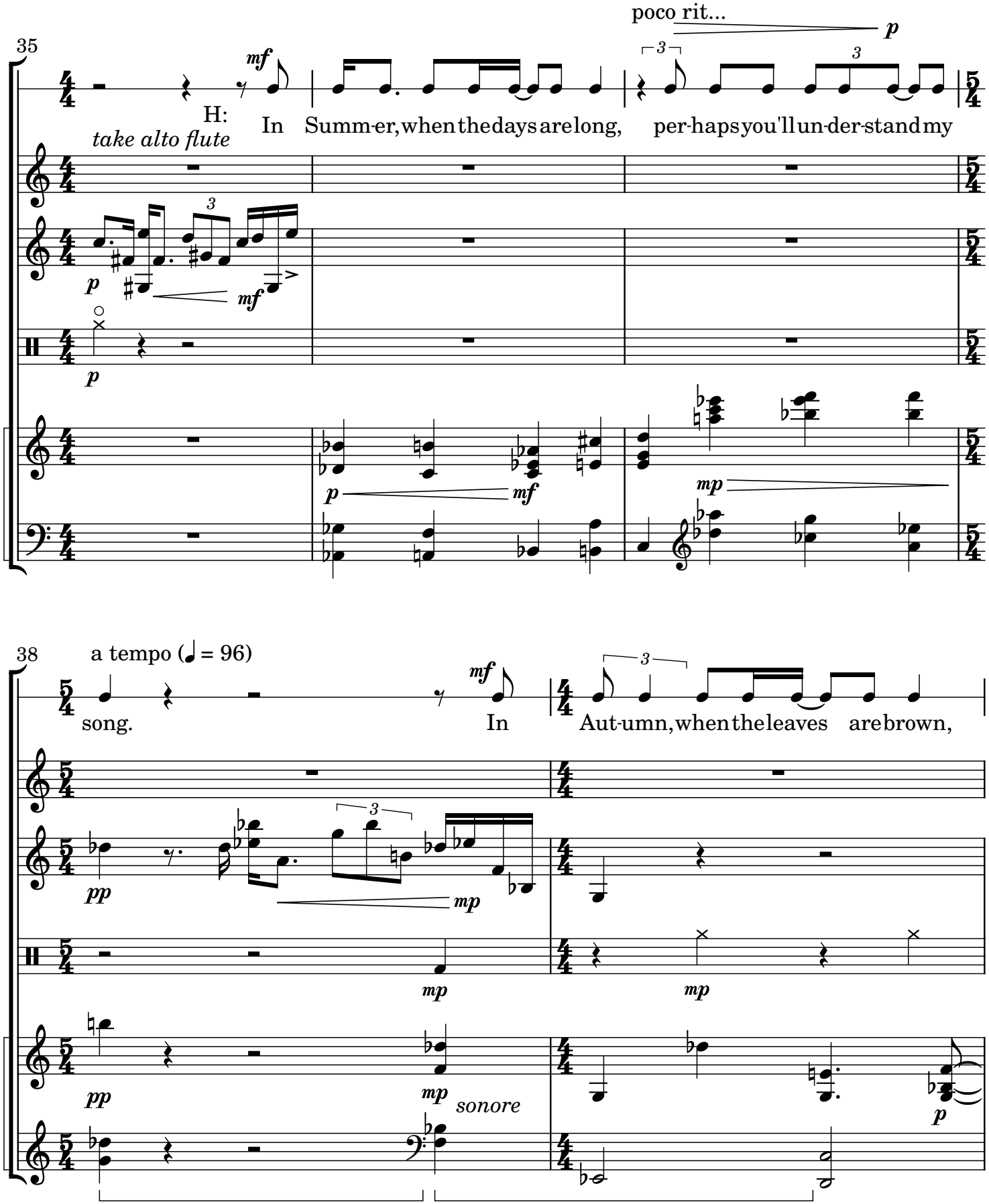
H: The piece I'm going to repeat was written entirely for your amusement.

A: (glum) Thank you.


20
poco accel.
mf
pp
p
3
24
♩ = 104
mf
H: In
(smiling)
Win-ter when the fields are white, I sing this song for your de-
take piccolo
f
p
mf
8


27
♩ = 96
-light.
Only, I don't sing..
A: I see you don't.
H: (severely) If you can SEE whether I'm singing
or not, you've sharper eyes than most.
In


32
rit...
Spring, when woods are ge-tting green I'll try and tell you what I mean.
♩ = 96
A: (glum)
Thank you
very much.
hi-hat


35
poco rit...
H:
In Summ-er, when the days are long, per-haps you'll un-der-stand my
take alto flute
38
a tempo (♩ = 96)
song.
In Aut-umn, when the leaves are brown,
sonore

40

take pen and ink and write it down.

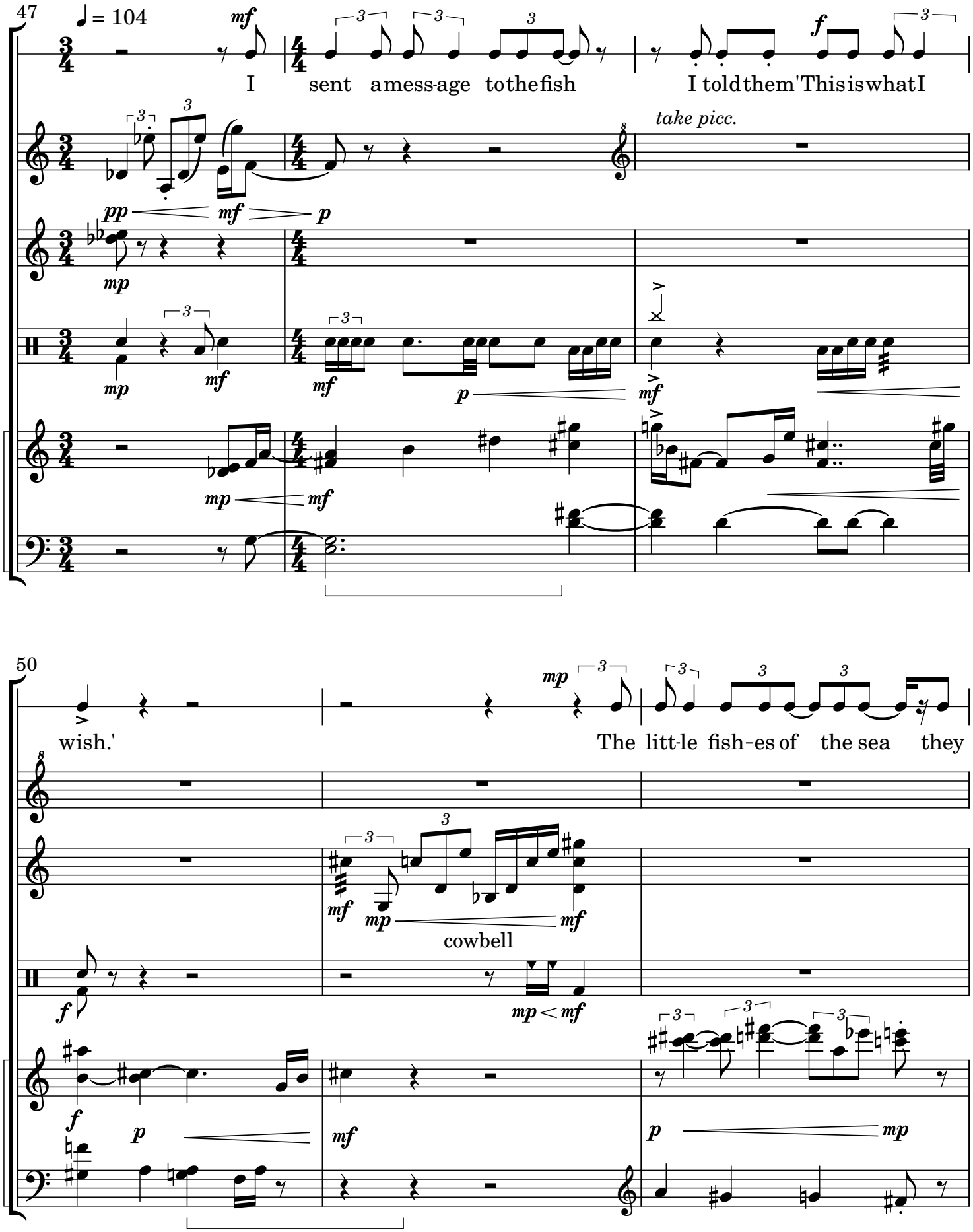
A: I will, if I can remember it.

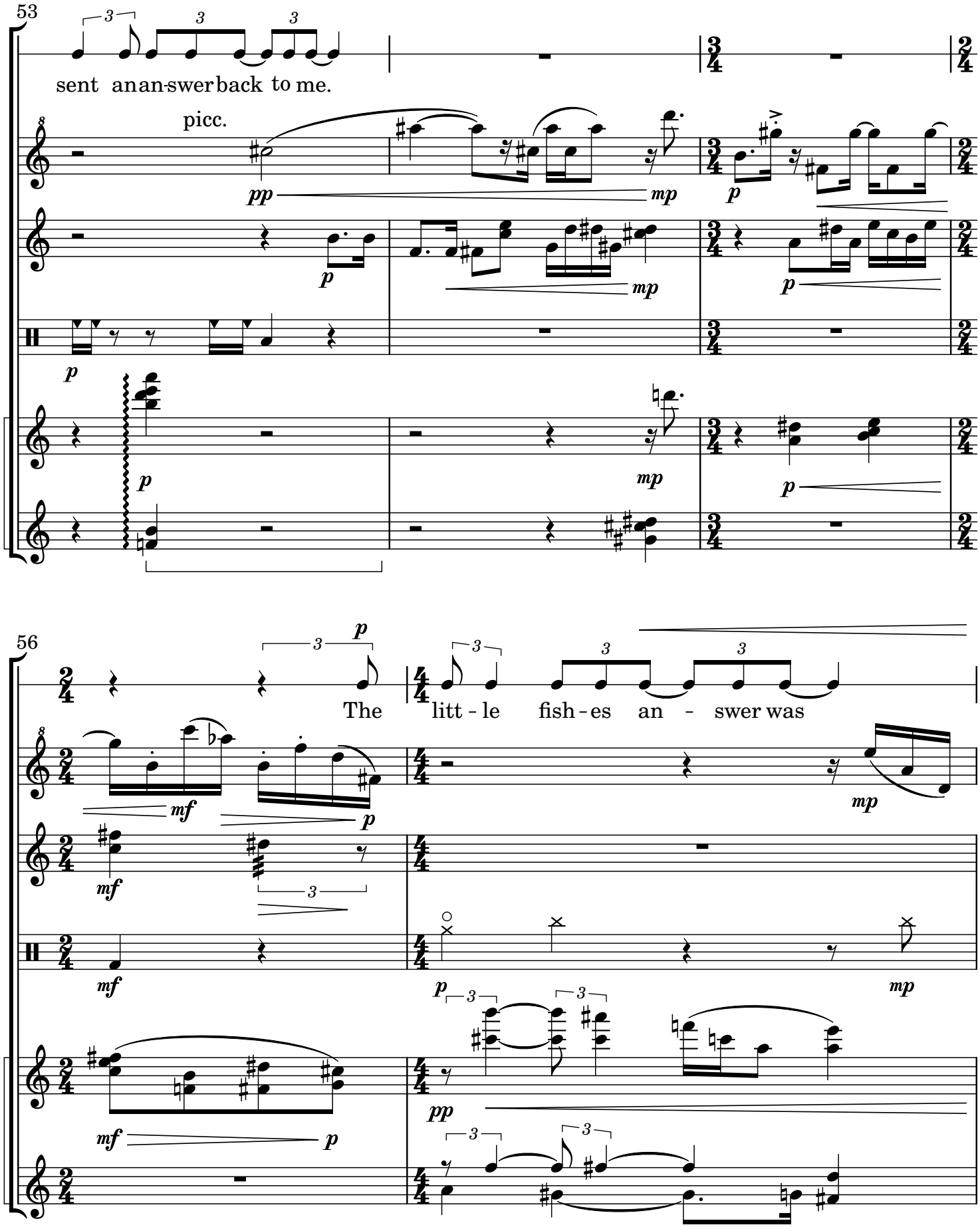
H: You needn't go on making remarks like that.

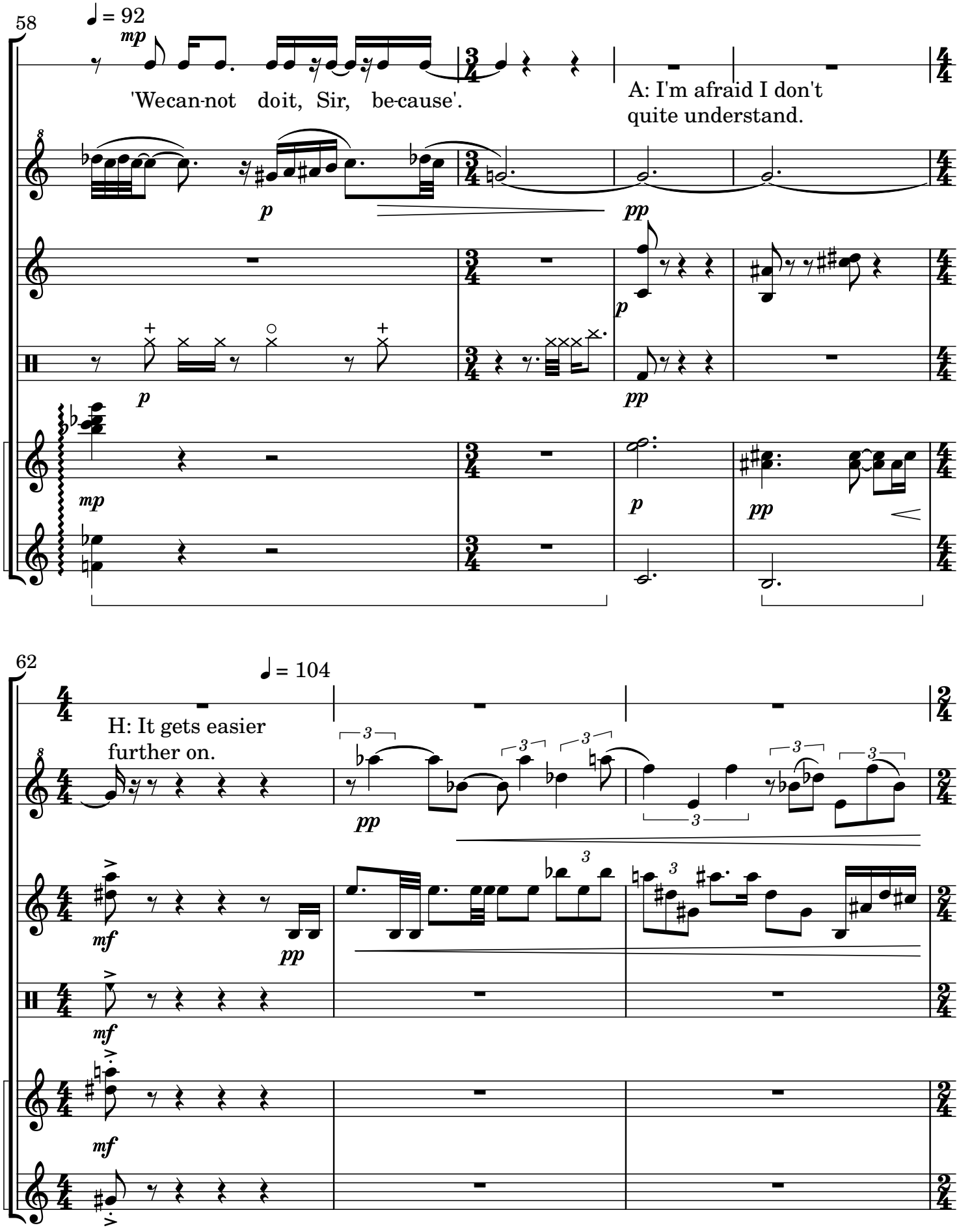
alto

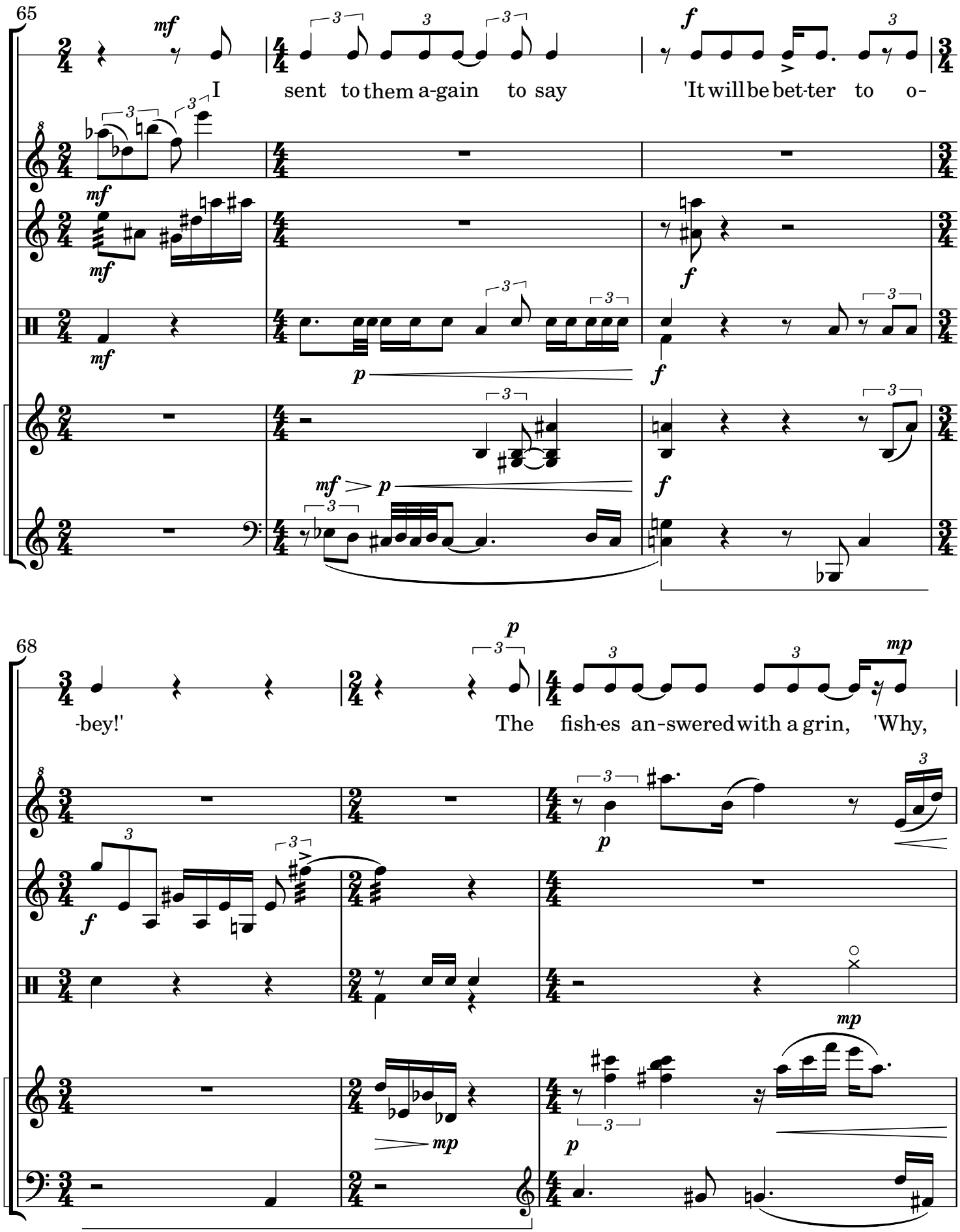
44

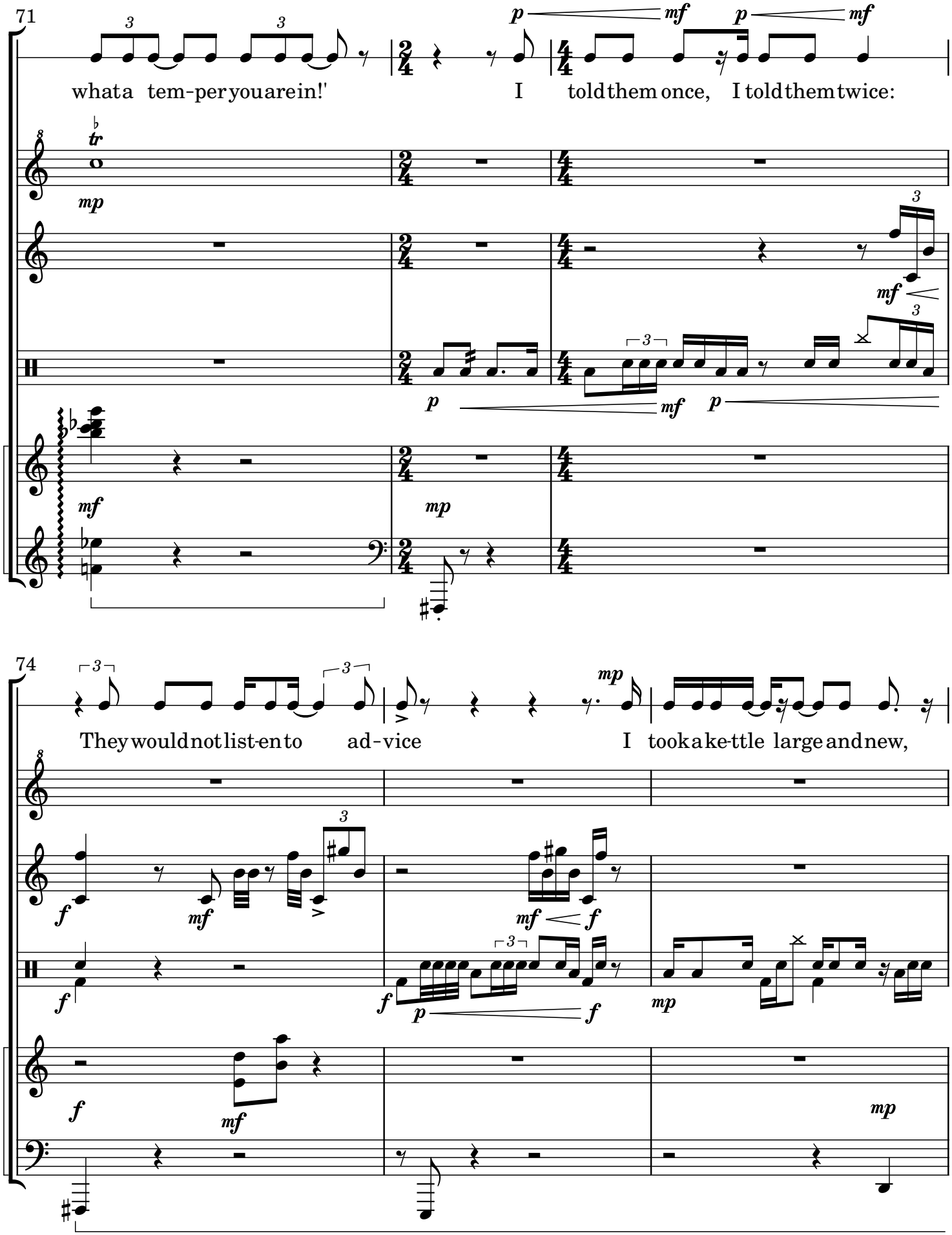
They're not sensible, and they put me out.

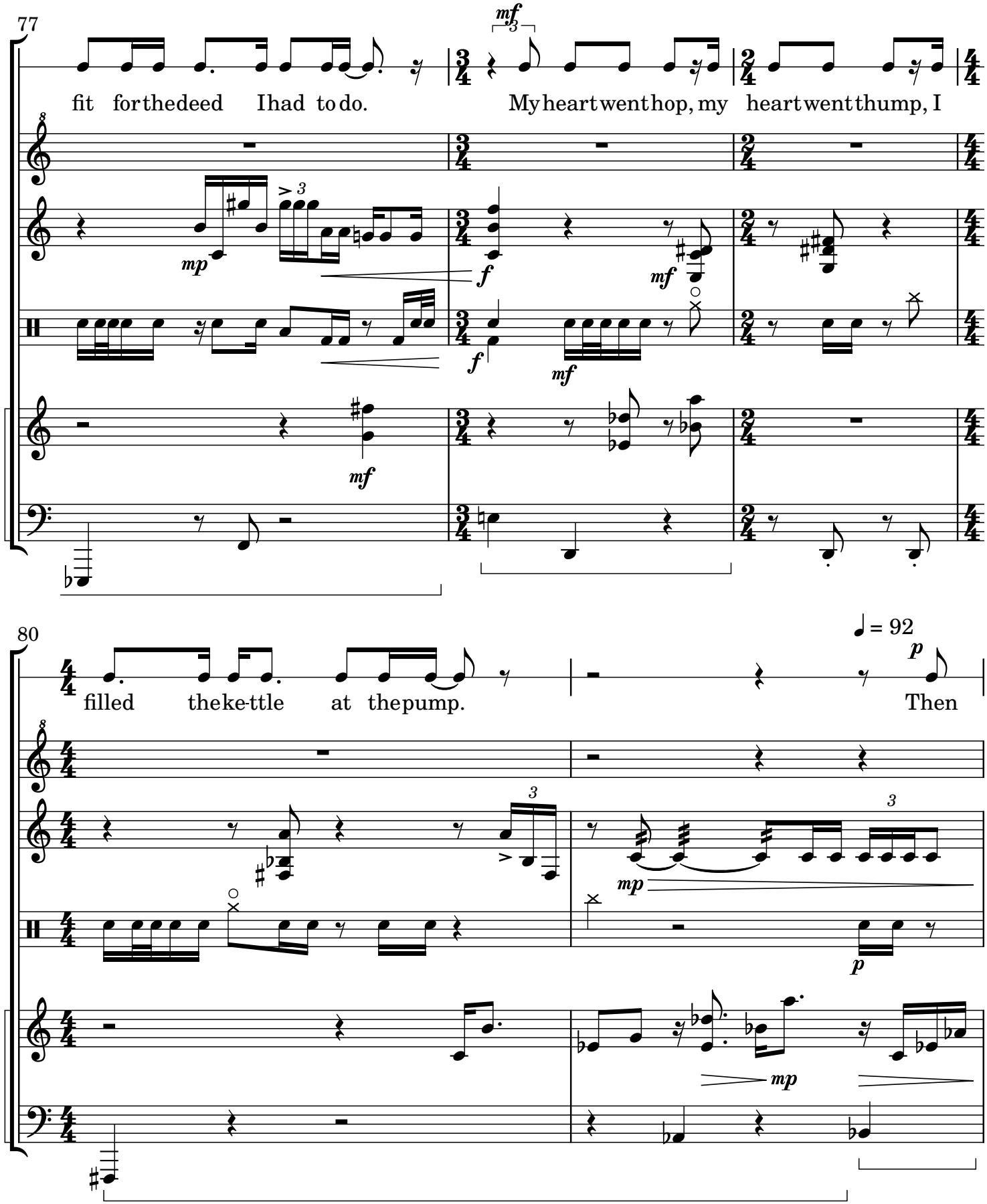

47
♩ = 104
I sent a mess-age to the fish
I told them 'This is what I
take picc.
wish.'
The litt-le fish-es of the sea they
cowbell

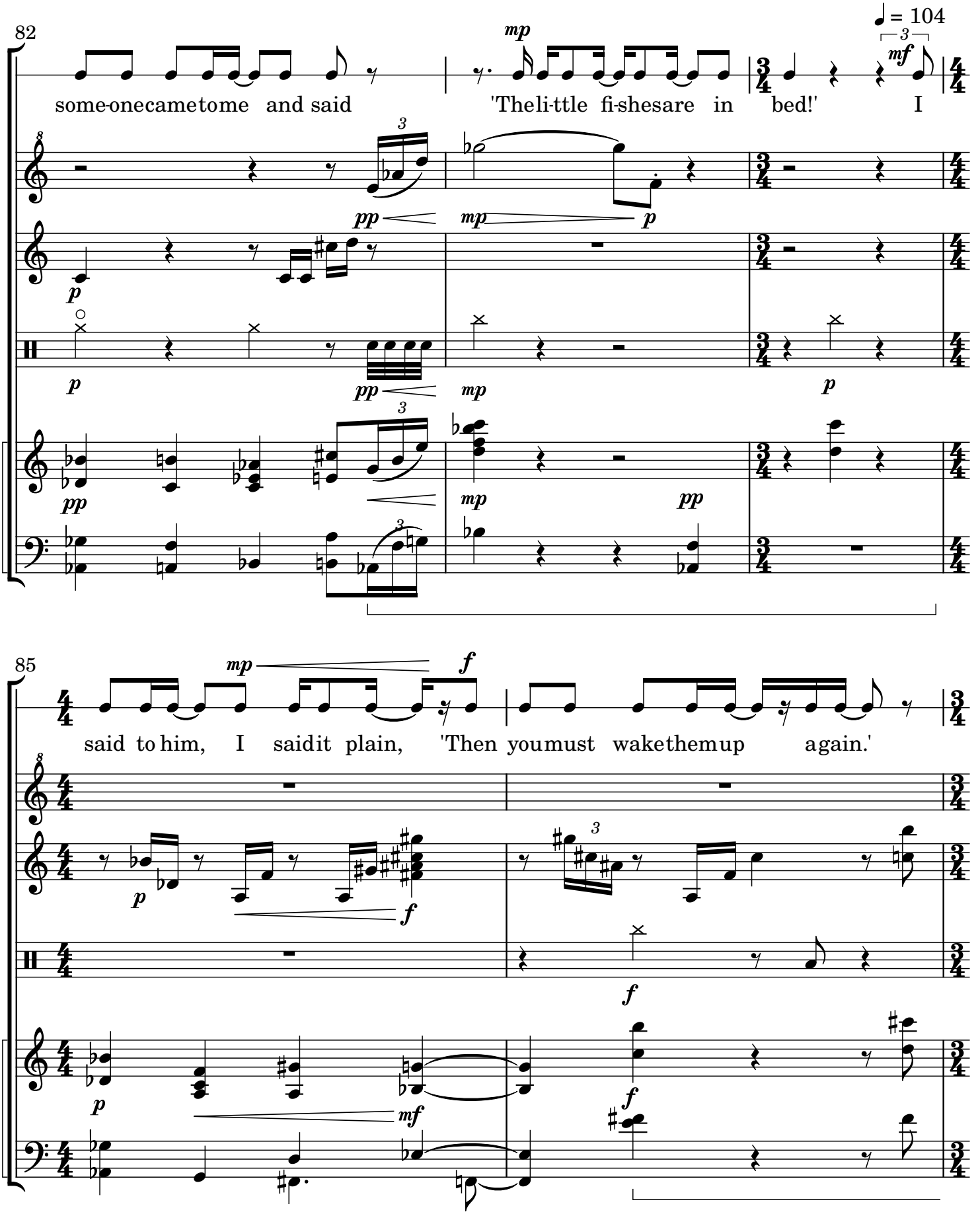

53
sent an an-swer back to me.
picc.
56
The litt - le fish - es an - swer was


58
♩ = 92
mp
'Wecan-not doit, Sir, be-cause'.
A: I'm afraid I don't quite understand.
p
pp
62
♩ = 104
H: It gets easier further on.
mf


65
mf
I sent to them a-gain to say
f
'It will be bet-ter to o-
mf
mf
p
f
mf > p
f
68
p
-bey!'
The fish-es an-swered with a grin, 'Why,
mp
f
p
mp
mp
p
mp


71
what a tem-per you are in!'
I told them once, I told them twice:
74
They would not list-en to ad-vice
I took a ke-ttle large and new,


77
fit for the deed I had to do.
My heart went hop, my heart went thump, I
80
filled the ke-ttle at the pump.
Then
♩ = 92


82
♩ = 104
some-one came to me and said
'The li-ttle fi-shes are in bed!'
I
said to him, I said it plain,
'Then you must wake them up again.'
85

87

Pick up tam-tam beater or cyms.

mf *f*

I said it ve-ry loud and clear; I

mf *f*

89

ff

went and shou - ted in hisear!

♩ = 168

tamtam

fff *let ring*

The players may add improvisation in this section.

mf *ff*

ff

fff

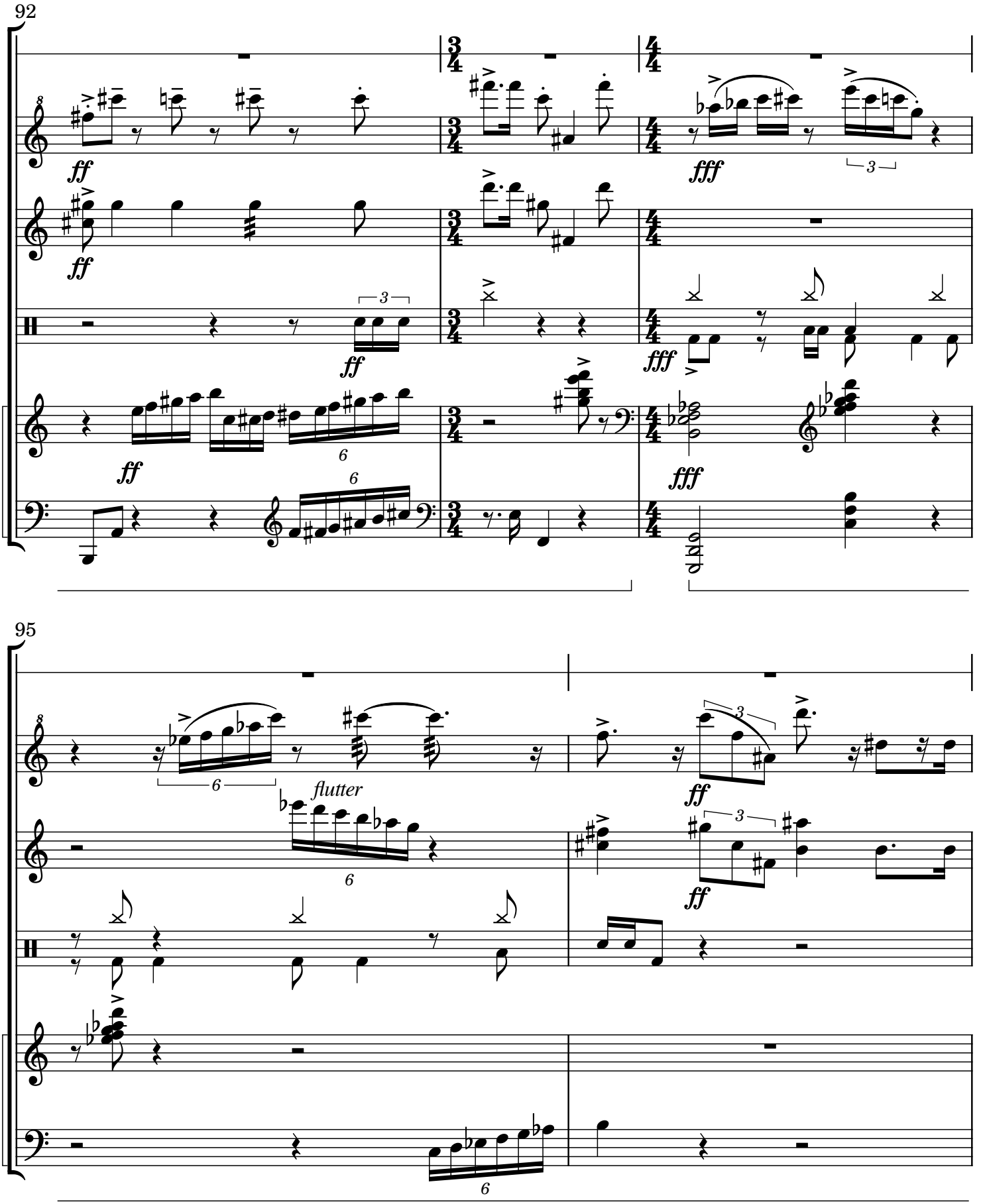
notes

ff

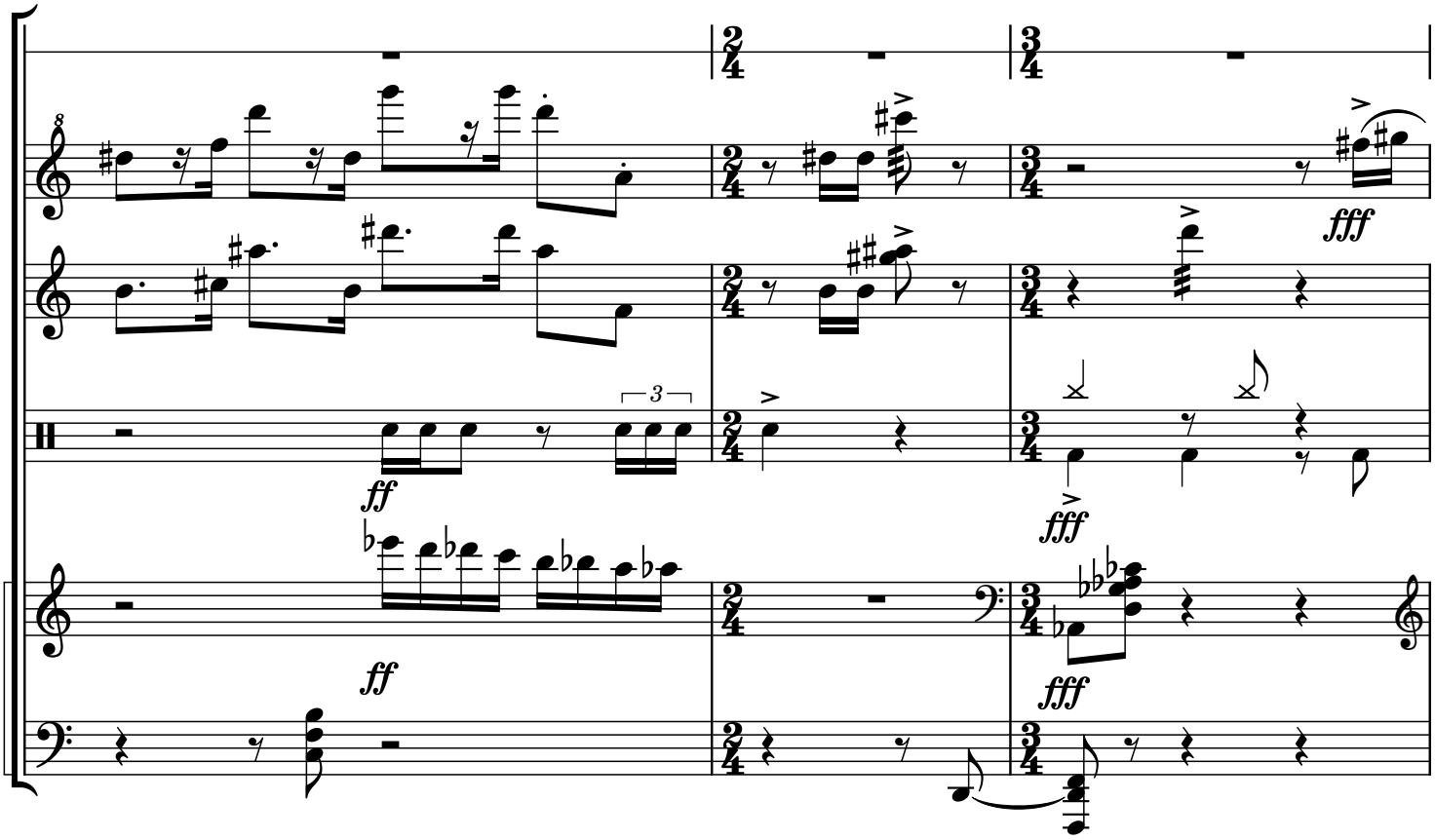
ff

fff

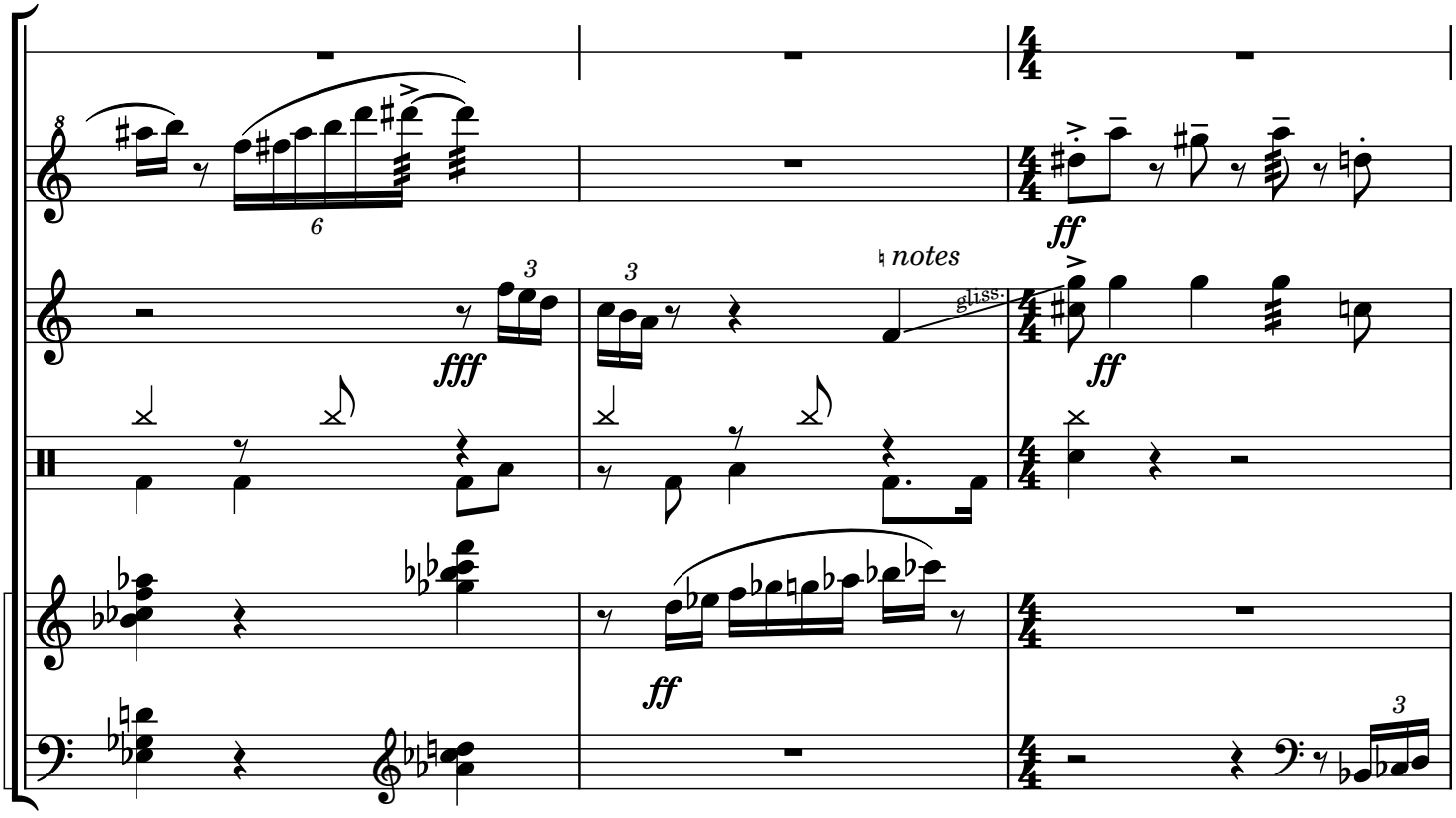
fff

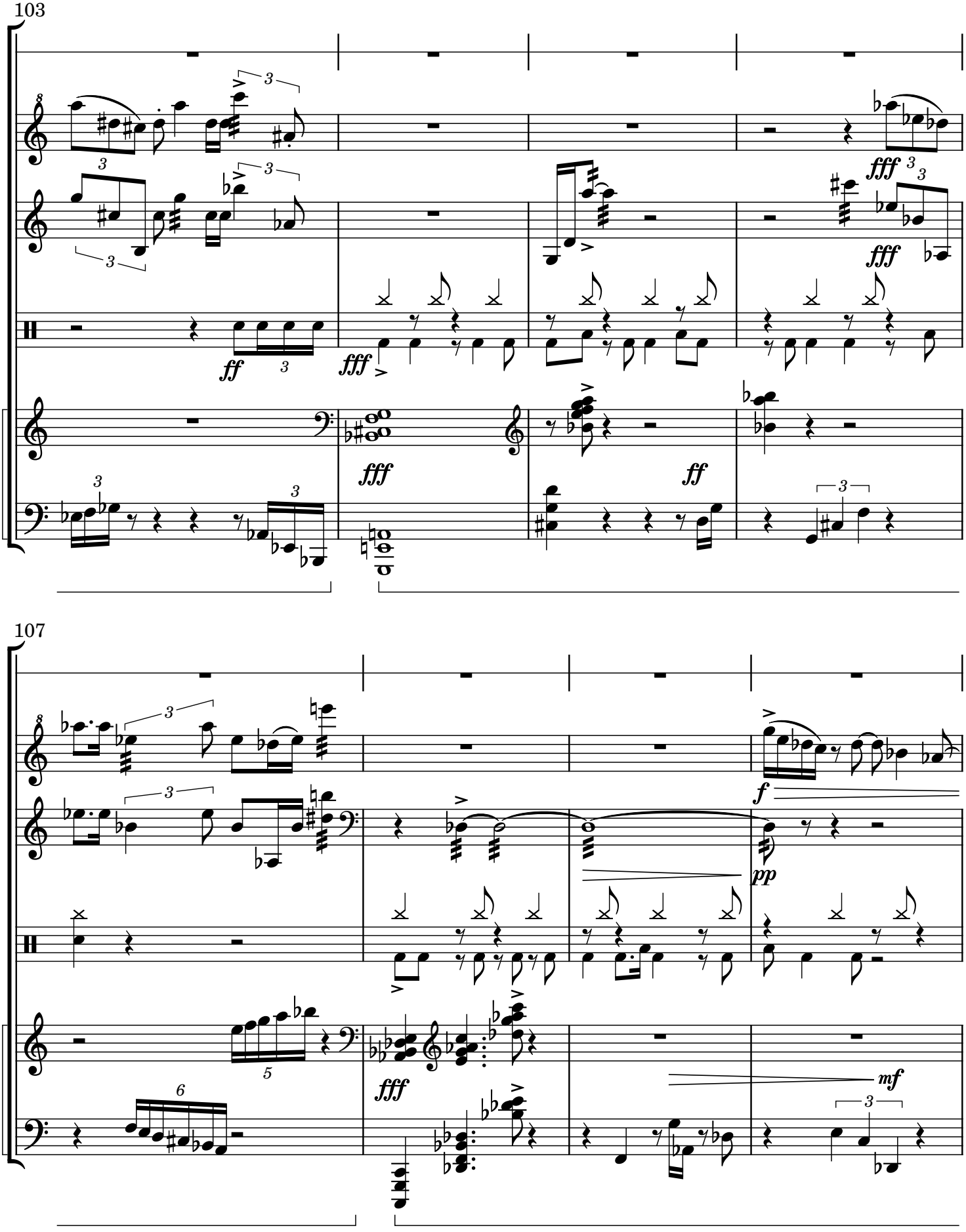

92
ff
fff
3
6
95
flutter

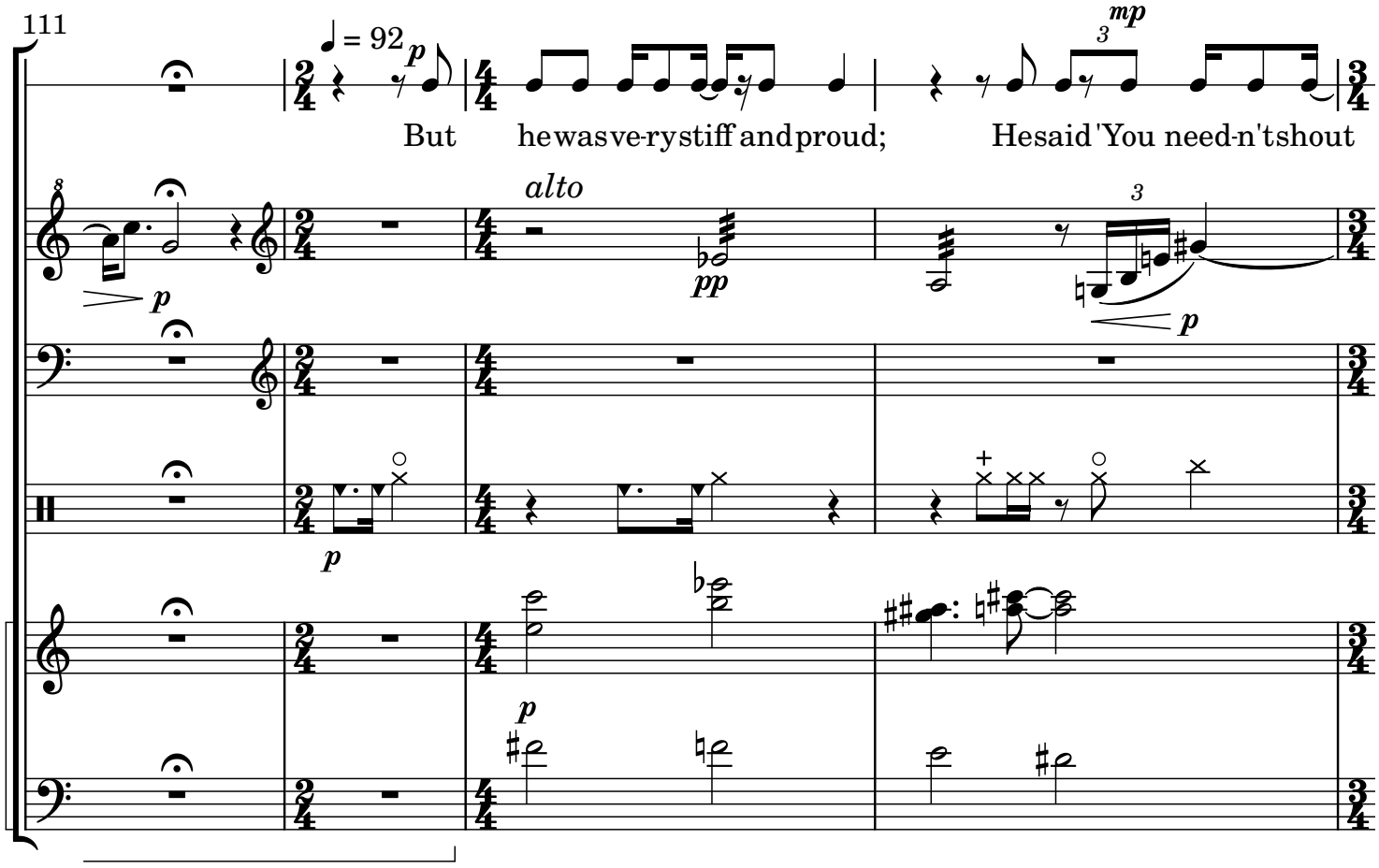
97

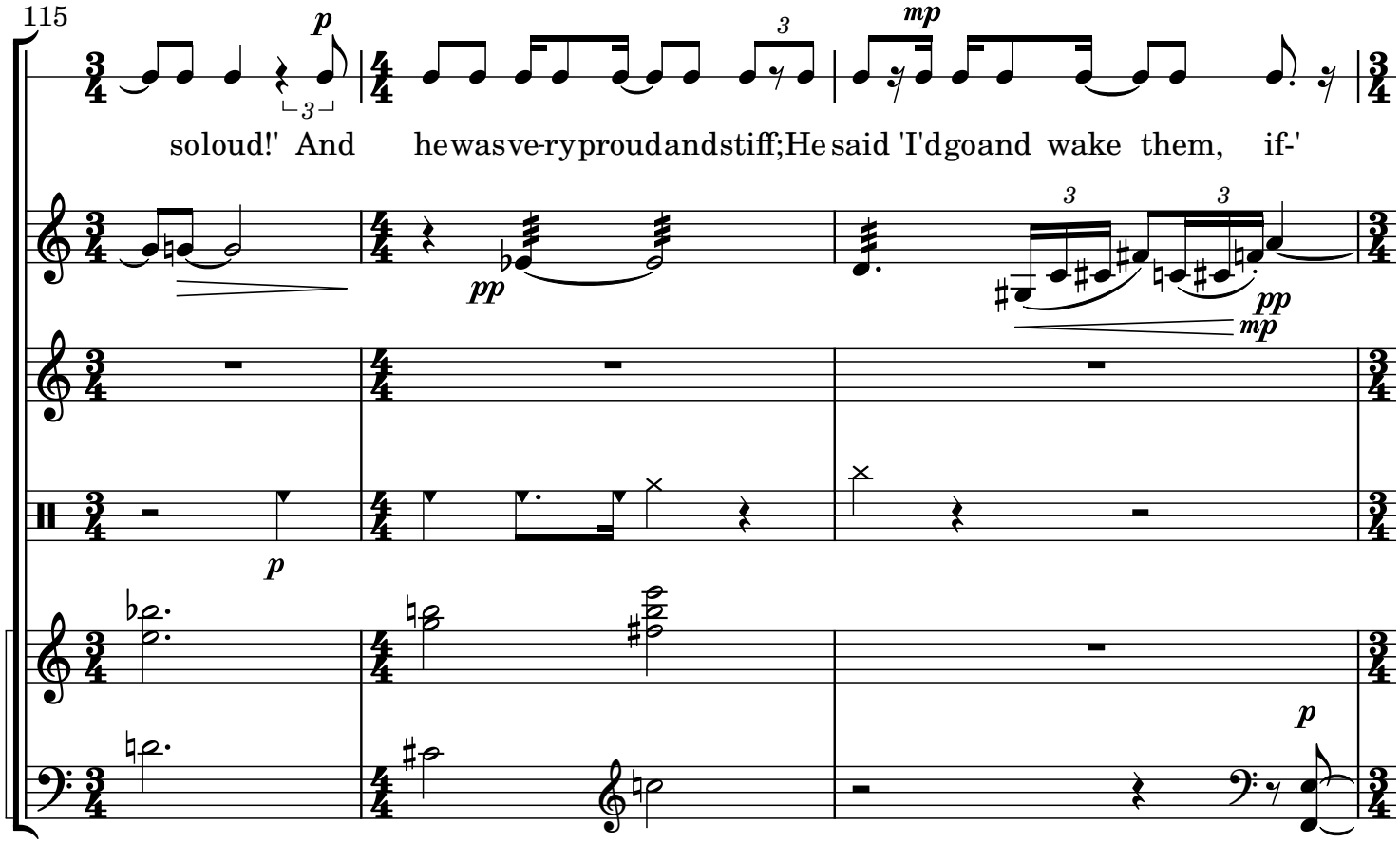


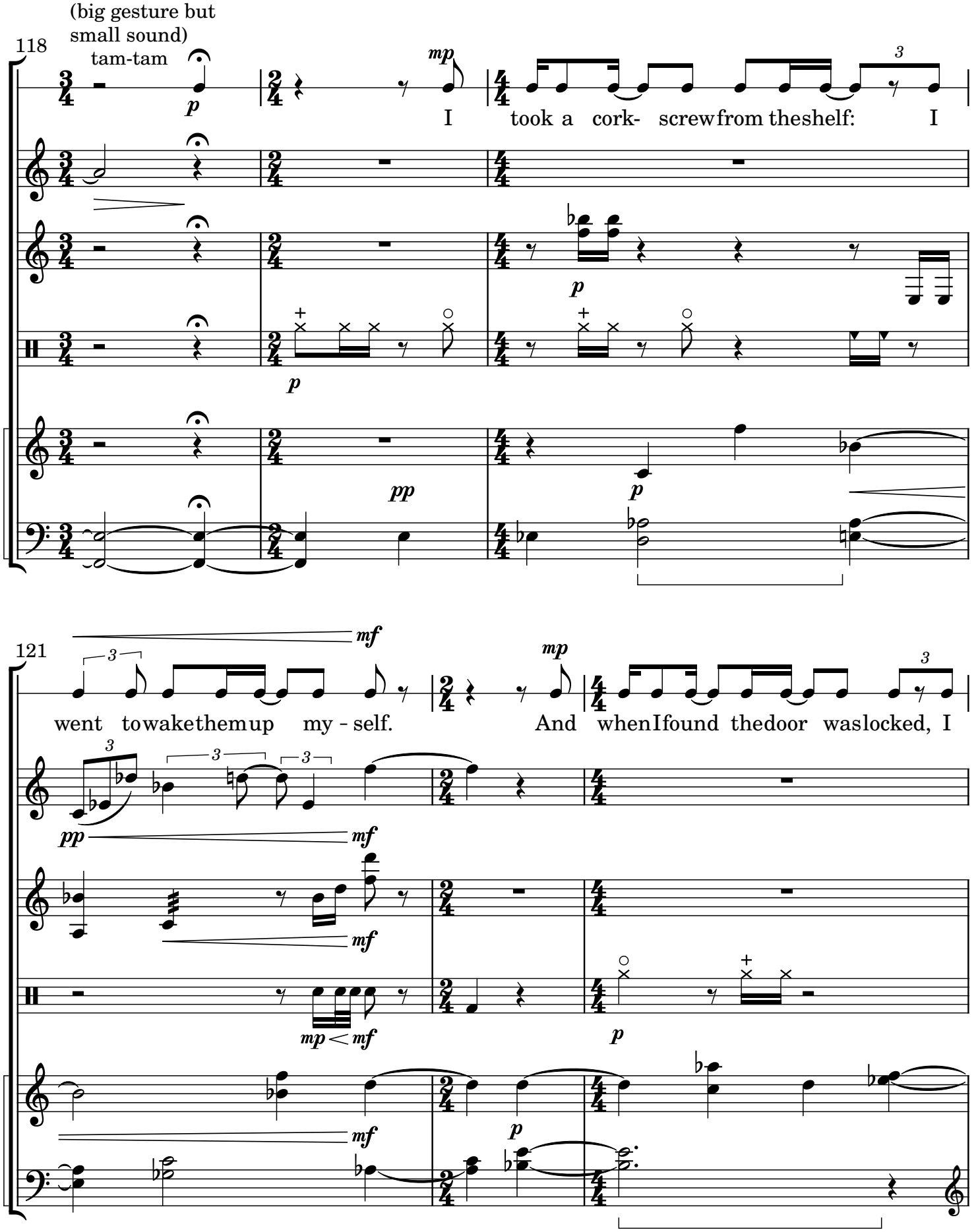
100




103
ff
fff
fff
ff
fff
fff
107
f
pp
fff
mf


111
♩ = 92
But he was ve-ry stiff and proud; He said 'You need-n't shout
alto


115
so loud!' And he was ve-ry proud and stiff; He said 'I'd go and wake them, if-'


(big gesture but
small sound)
tam-tam
118
I took a cork- screw from the shelf: I
121
went to wake them up my - self. And when I found the door was locked, I

poco accel...

124

pulled and pushed and kicked and knocked and when I found the door was shut I

126

p *f*

tried to turn the han-dle, but-

lunga

A: (timidly)
Is that all?

H: That's all.
Goodbye.