THE BOND

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for soprano and piano accompaniment

for Sara Schabas

Text by Miriam Waddington

On Jarvis street the Jewish whore
Smiles and stirs upon the bed.
Sleep is the luxury of the poor
But sweeter sleep awaits the dead.

Sweeter sleep awaits the dead
Than all the living who must rise
To join to march of hunger fed
Under the dawn of city skies.

Under the dawn of city skies
Moves the sun in presaged course
Smoothing out the cunning lies
That hide the evil at the source.

I sense the evil at the source
Now at this golden point of noon,
The misdirected social force
Will grind me also, and too soon.

On Jarvis street the Jewish whore
The Jewish me on Adelaide-
Both of the nameless million poor
Who wear no medals and no braid.

Oh woman you are kin to me,
Your heart beats something like my own
When idiot female ecstasy
Transforms in love the flesh and bone;

And woman, you are kin to me
Those tense moments first or last,
When men deride your ancestry
Whore, Jewess, you are twice outcast.

Whore, Jewess, I acknowledge you
Joint heirs to varied low estate,
No heroes will arise anew
Avenging us twice isolate.

....

I who start from noonday sleep
To cry of triumph, 'aeroplane!'
Hear nothing but the slippered creep
Of famine through the surplus grain.

Exultant females shriek, 'parade!'
And crown a hundred windows high,
From offices on Adelaide
They wave the khaki boys goodbye.
....

The heavy night is closing in,
Signal omens everywhere,
You woman who have lived by sin,
And I who dwelt in office air,

Shall share a common rendezvous,
Arranged by madness, crime, and race.
Sister, my salute to you!
I will recognize your face.

Instrumentation.

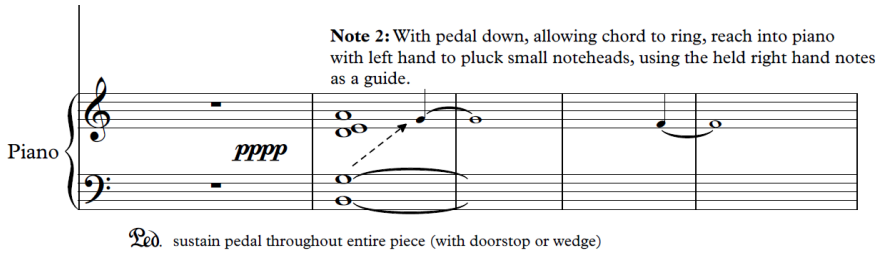
Soprano
Prepared piano (heavy metal plate or bar)

Duration.

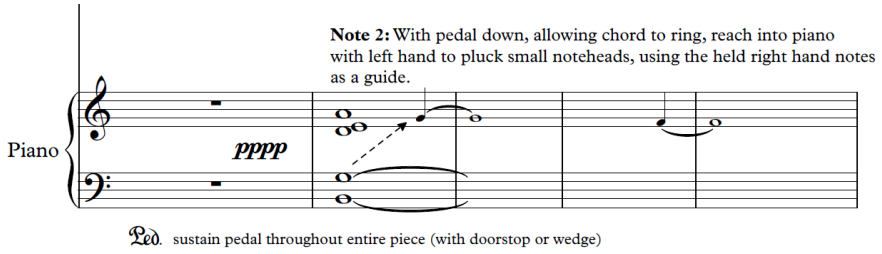
~6min

Notes.

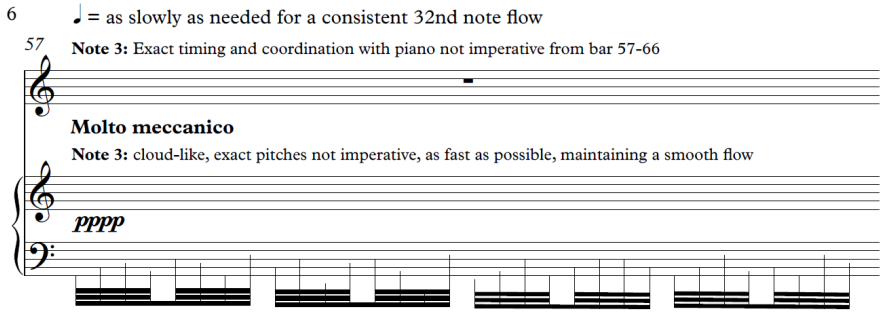
1. Sustain pedal should be depressed thoughout piece, or held with a wedge or doorstop



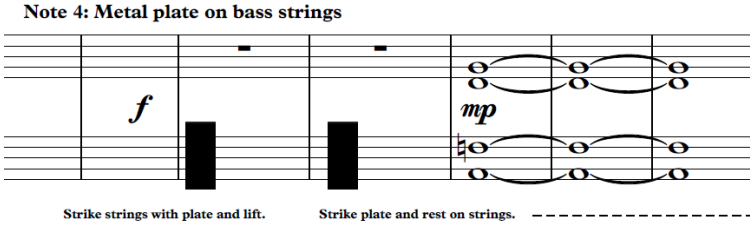
2. While chord is ringing, reach into piano with left hand to pluck strings (indicated by small noteheads at pitch), using the held right hand notes as a guide.



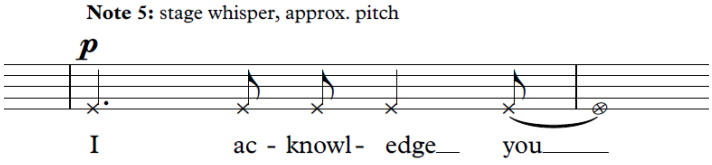
3. A cloud-like texture with pedal held throughout. Exact pitches not imperative, but stay within the very low bass range. Play at a tempo that allows for the fastest, but steadiest, stream of notes.



4. Use a heavy metal plate or bar to first strike the bass strings and then rest on them to create a buzzing, metallic texture.



5. Stage whisper – notated by X noteheads.



Text: MIRIAM WADDINGTON

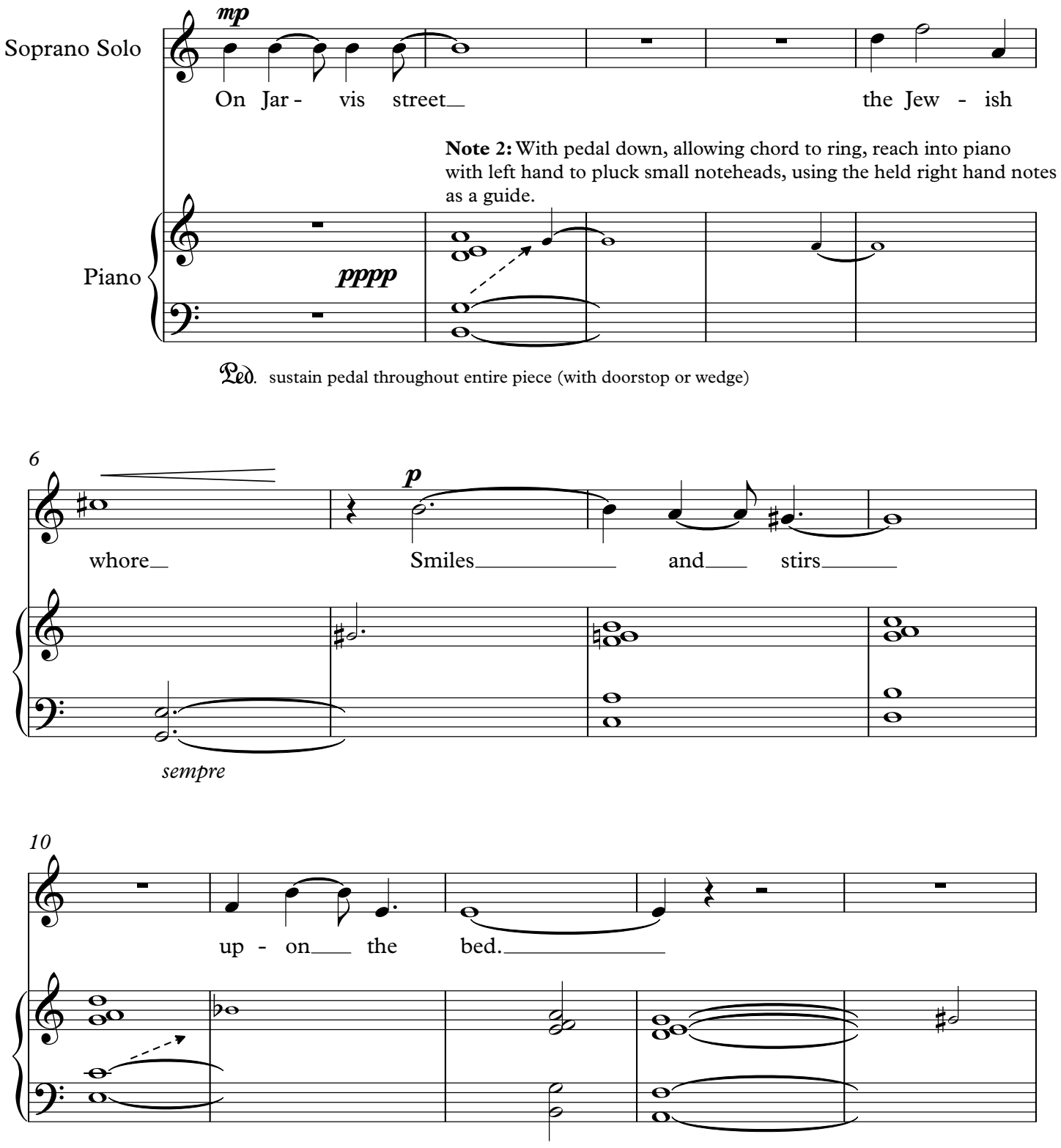
The Bond

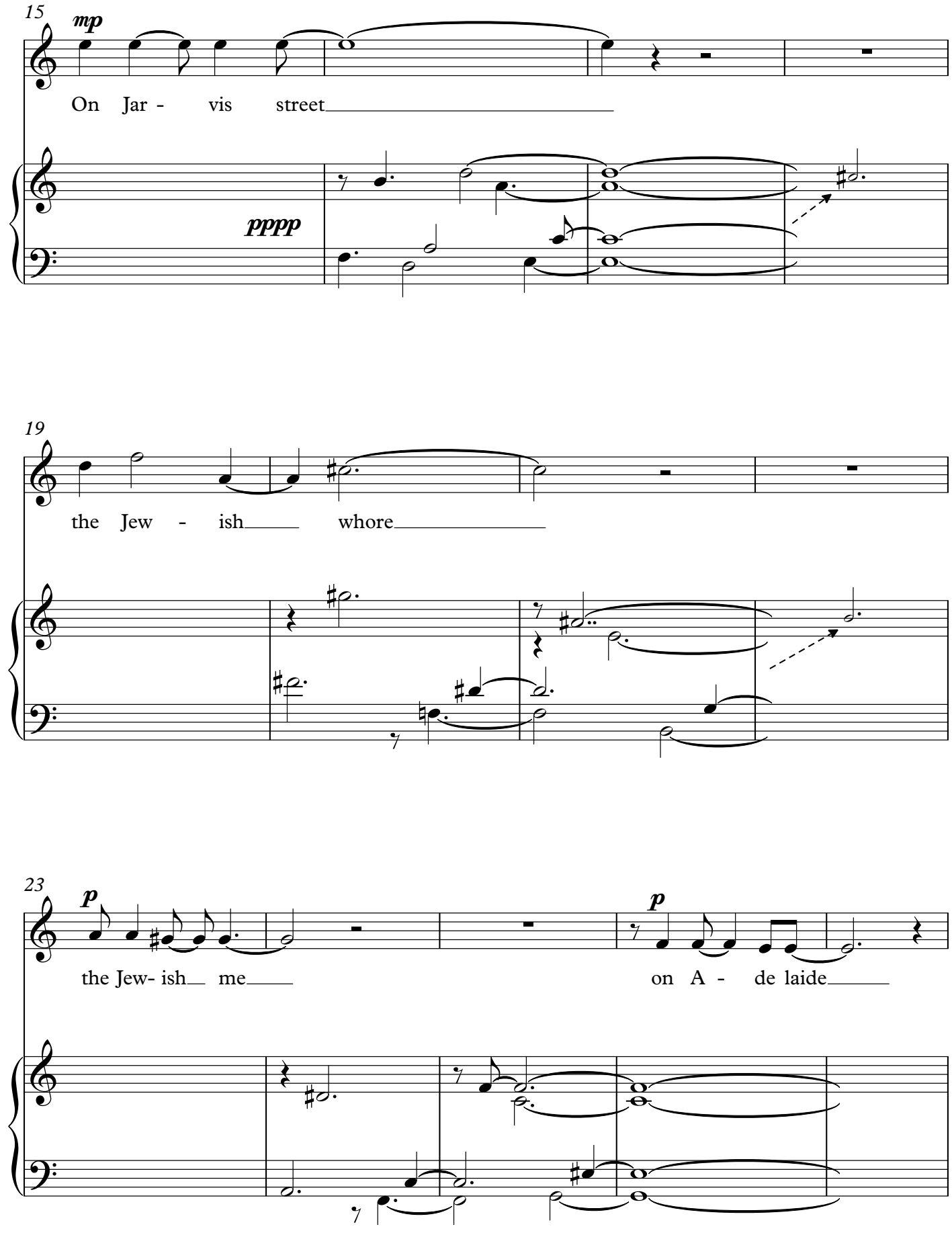
for Sara Schabas

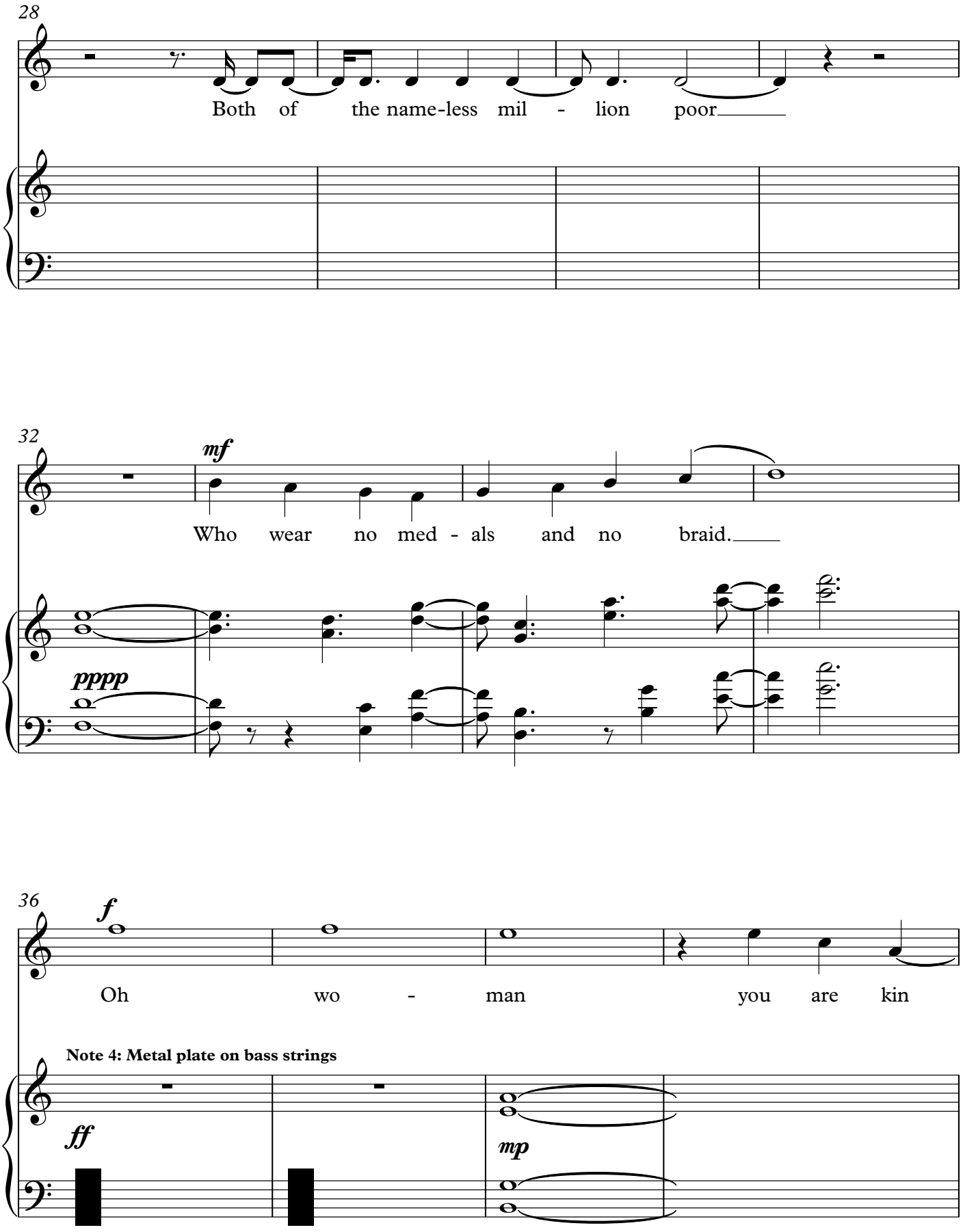
Amy Brandon 2018

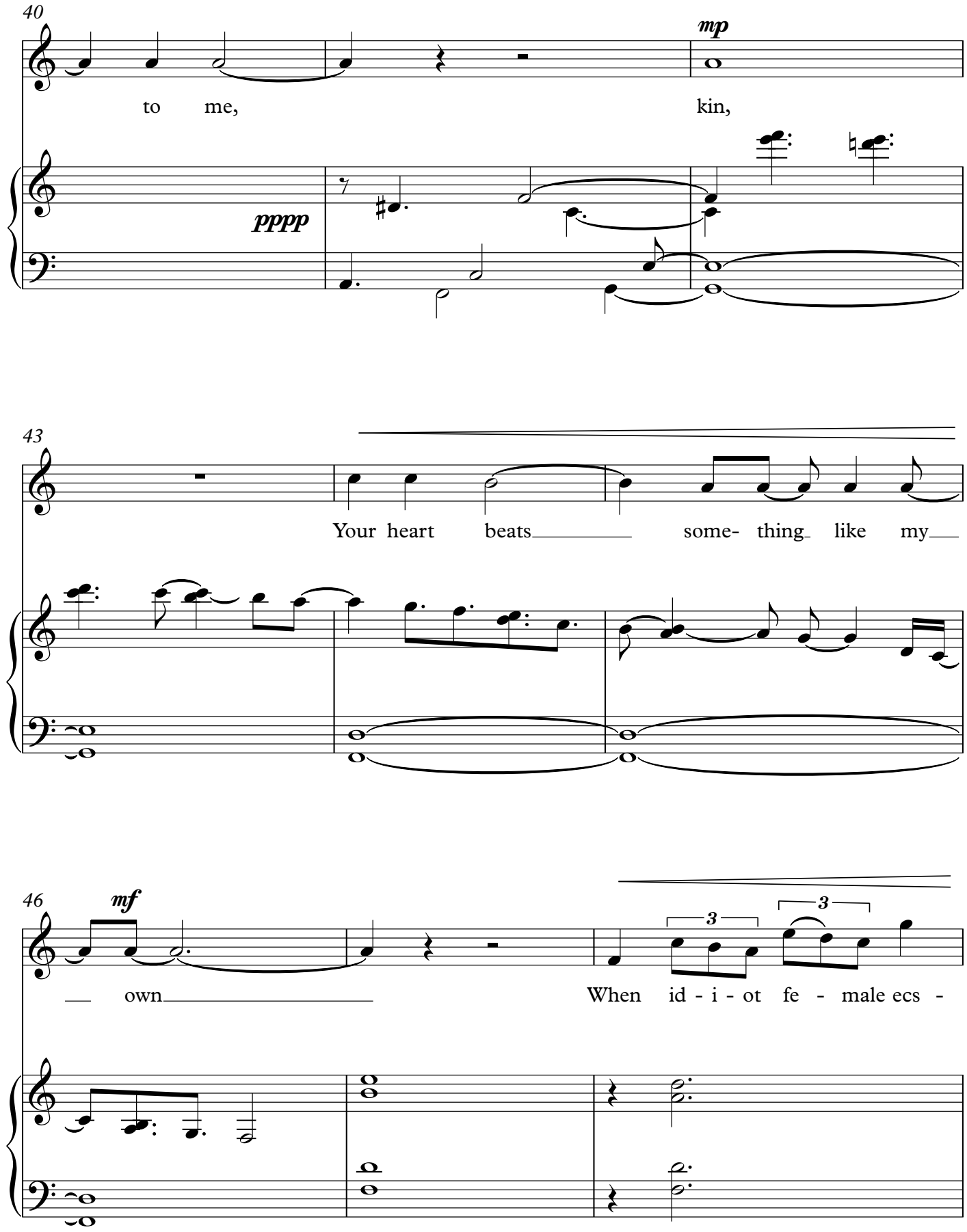
With resignation

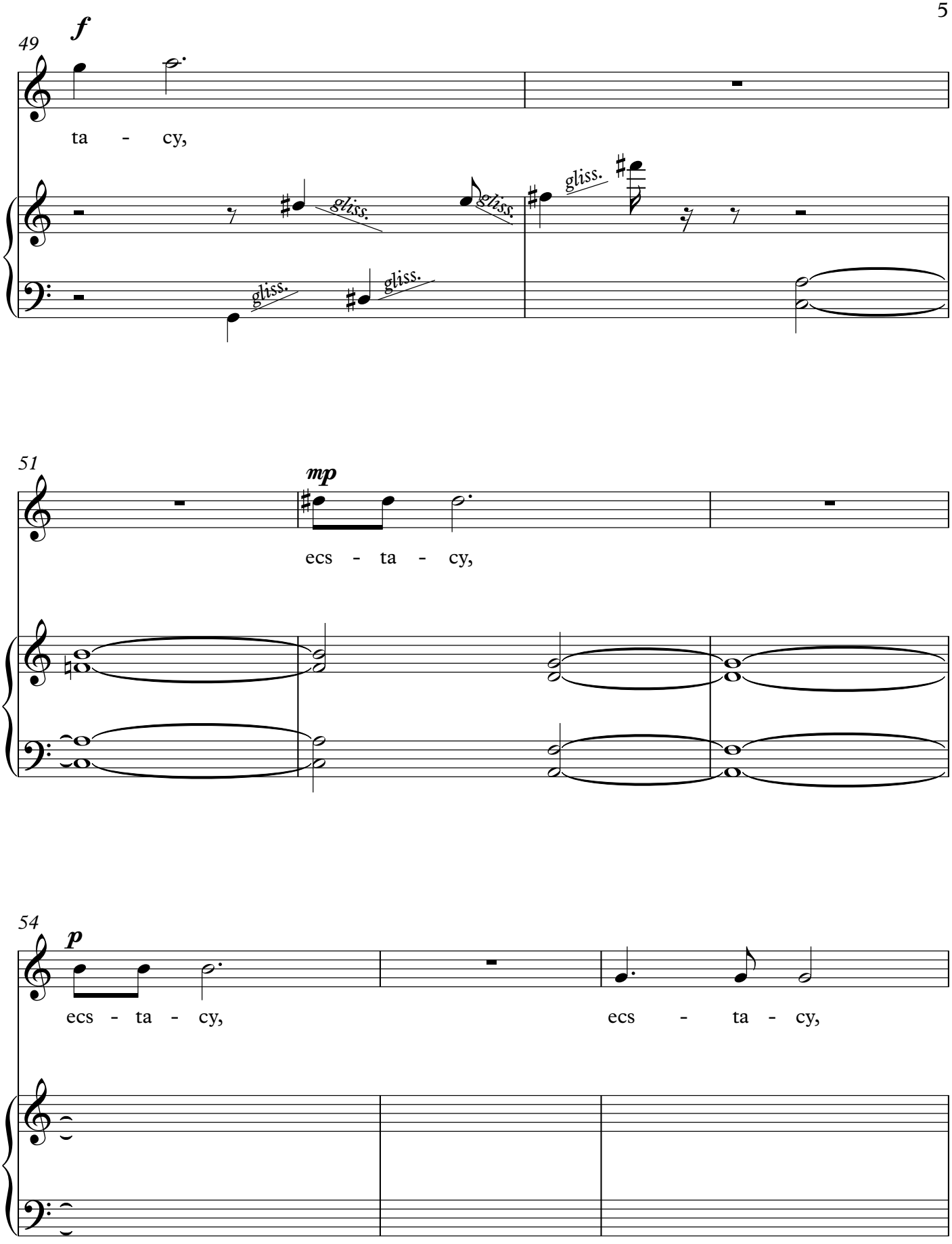
♩=120




15
mp
On Jar - vis street
pppp
19
the Jew - ish whore
23
p
the Jew- ish me
p
on A - de laide


28
Both of the name-less mil - lion poor
32
mf
Who wear no med - als and no braid.
pppp
36
f
Oh wo - man you are kin
Note 4: Metal plate on bass strings
ff
mp
Strike strings with plate and lift.


40
mp
to me,
kin,
pppp
43
Your heart beats some- thing like my
46
mf
own
When id - i - ot fe - male ecs -
3
3


49
f
ta - cy,
gliss.
gliss.
gliss.
gliss.
gliss.
51
mp
ecs - ta - cy,
54
p
ecs - ta - cy,
ecs - ta - cy,

♩ = as slowly as needed for a consistent 32nd note flow

57

Note 3: Exact timing and coordination with piano not imperative from bar 57-66

Molto meccanico

Note 3: cloud-like, exact pitches not imperative, as fast as possible, maintaining a smooth flow

pppp

58

mf

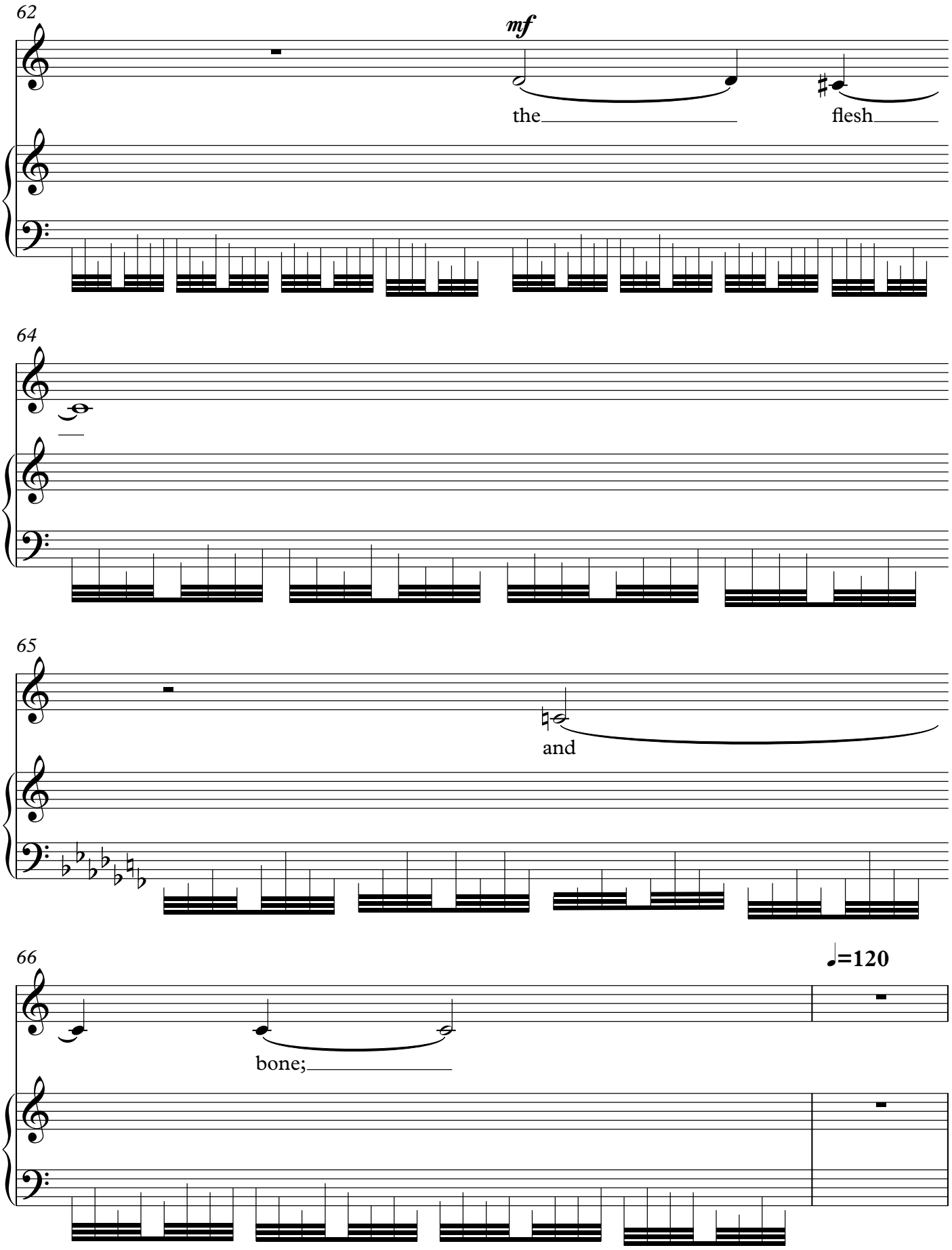
Trans - forms

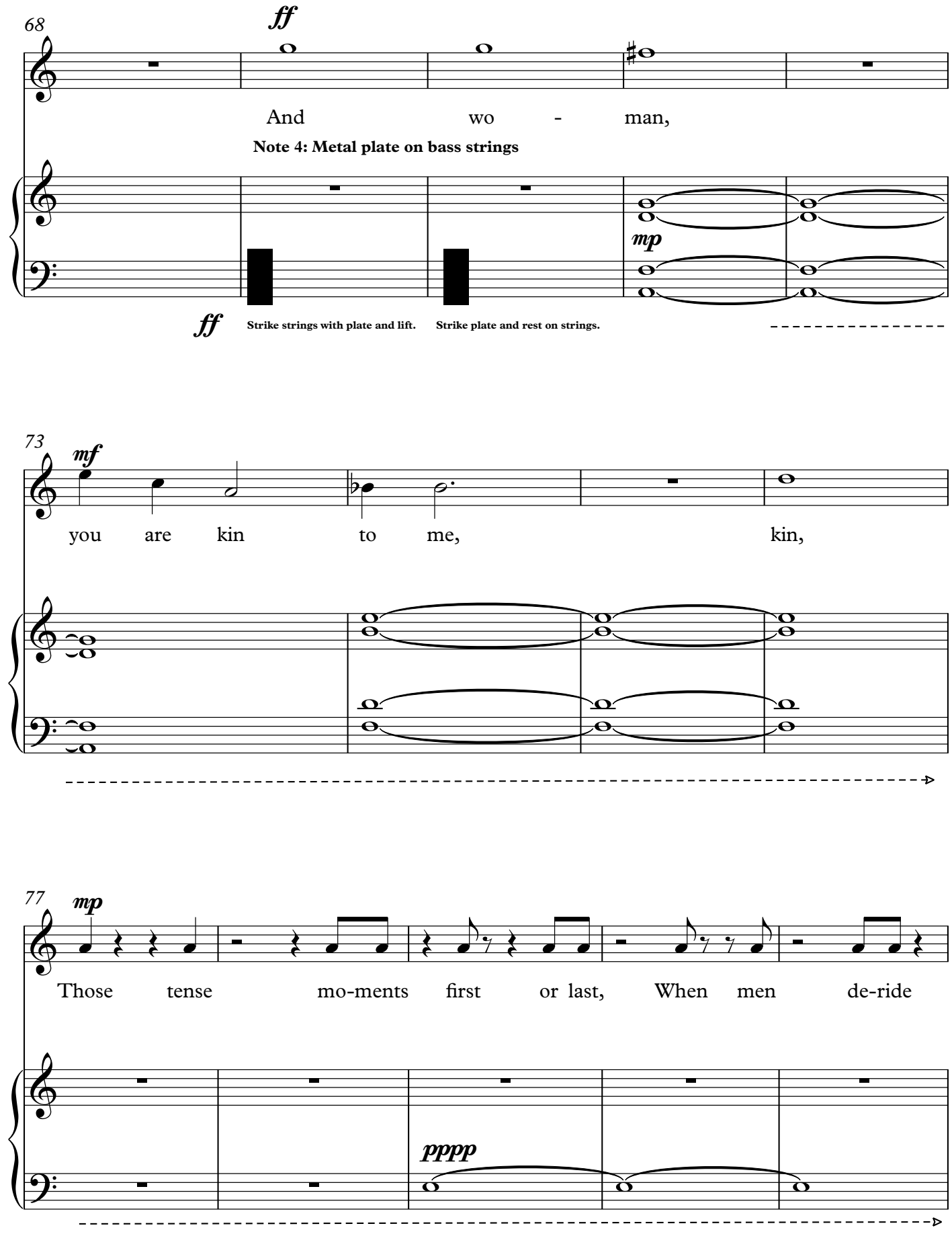
60

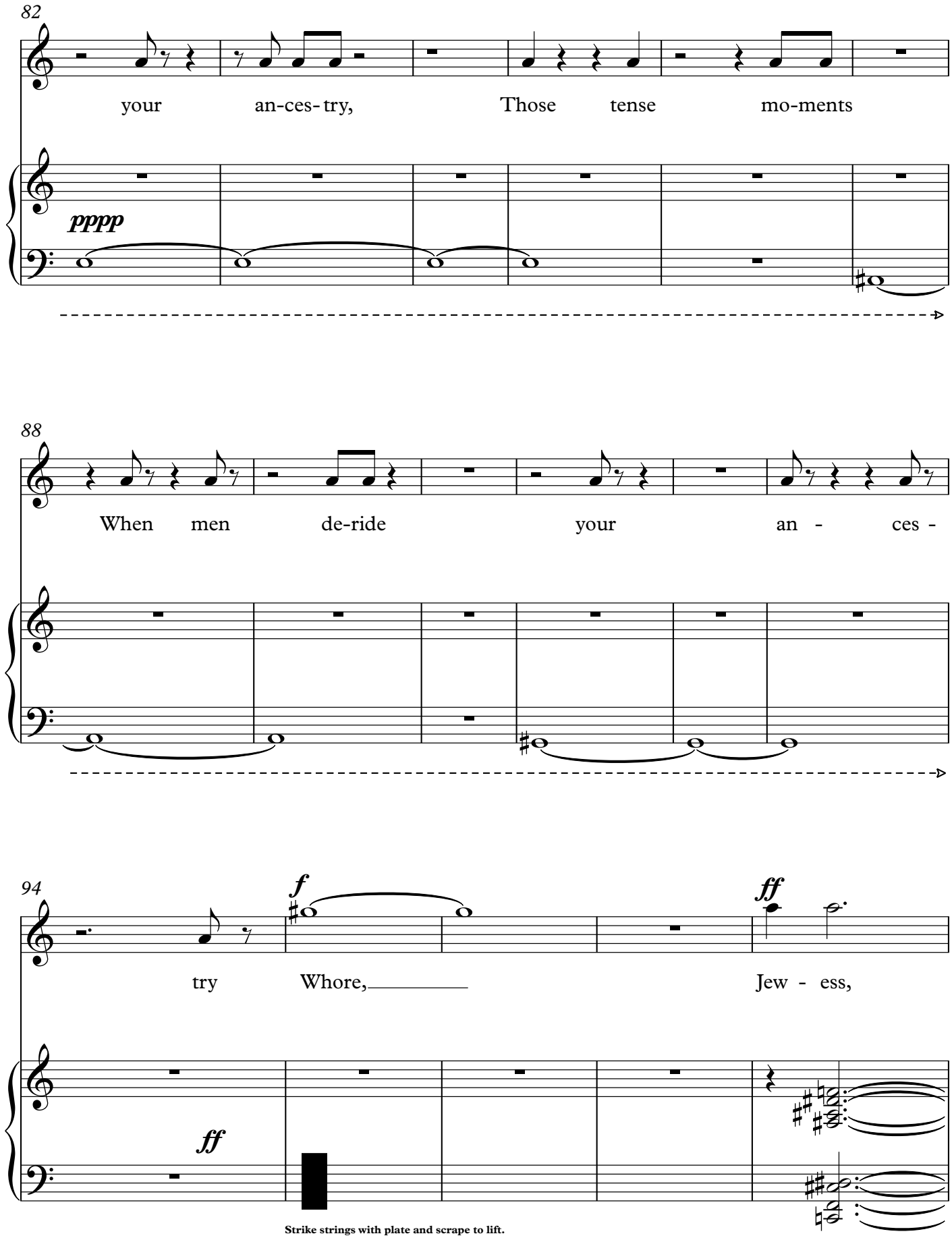
in

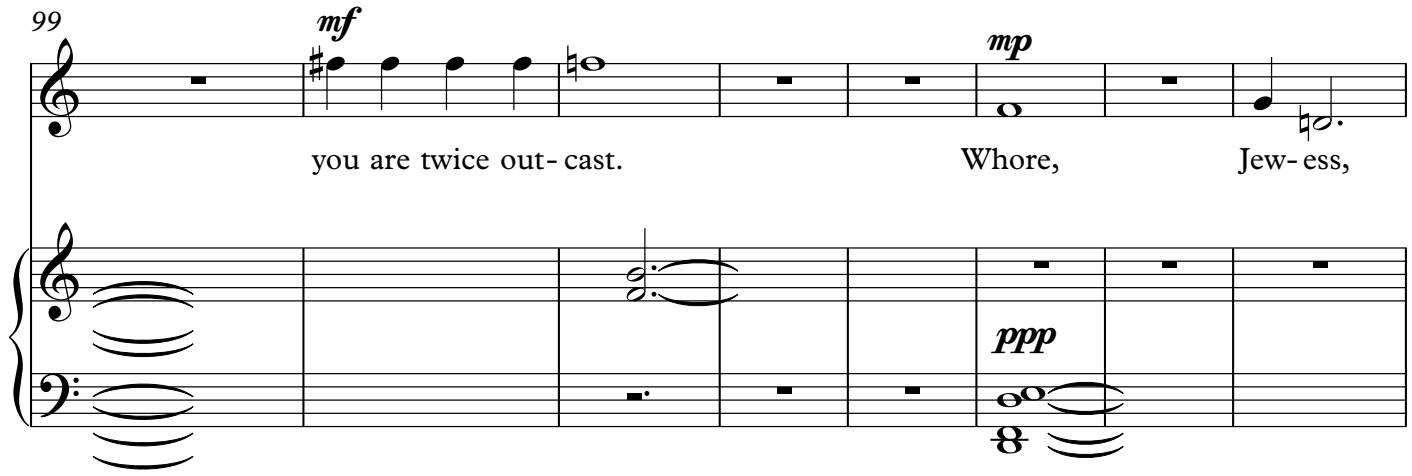
love

61

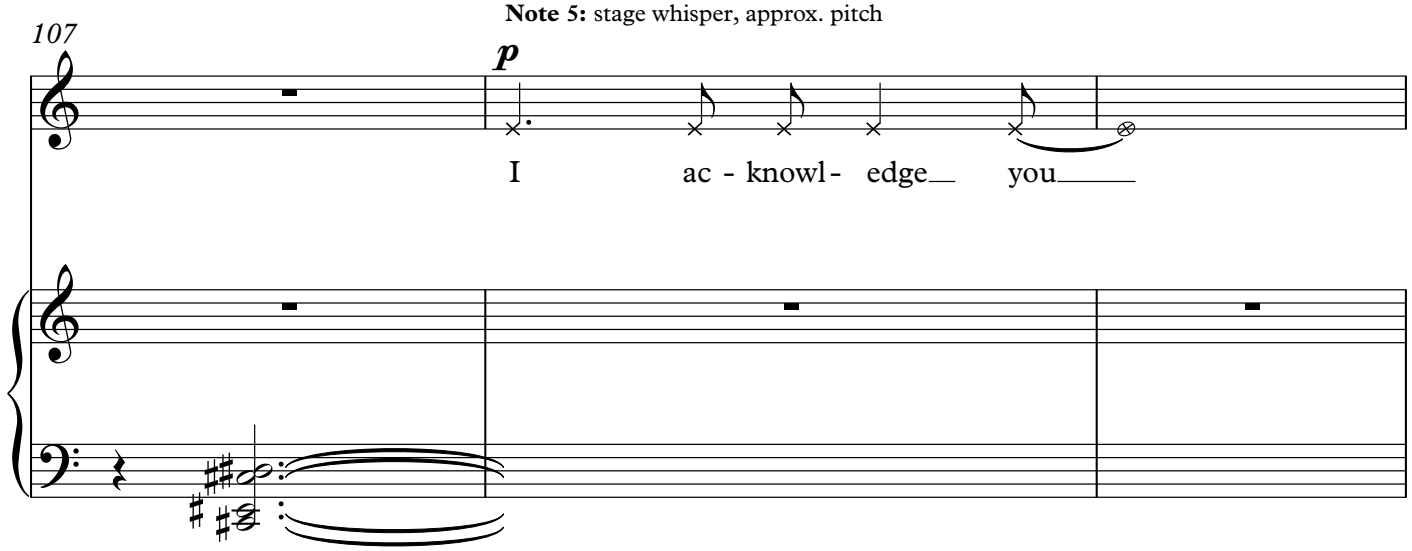

62
mf
the
flesh
64
65
and
66
=120
bone;

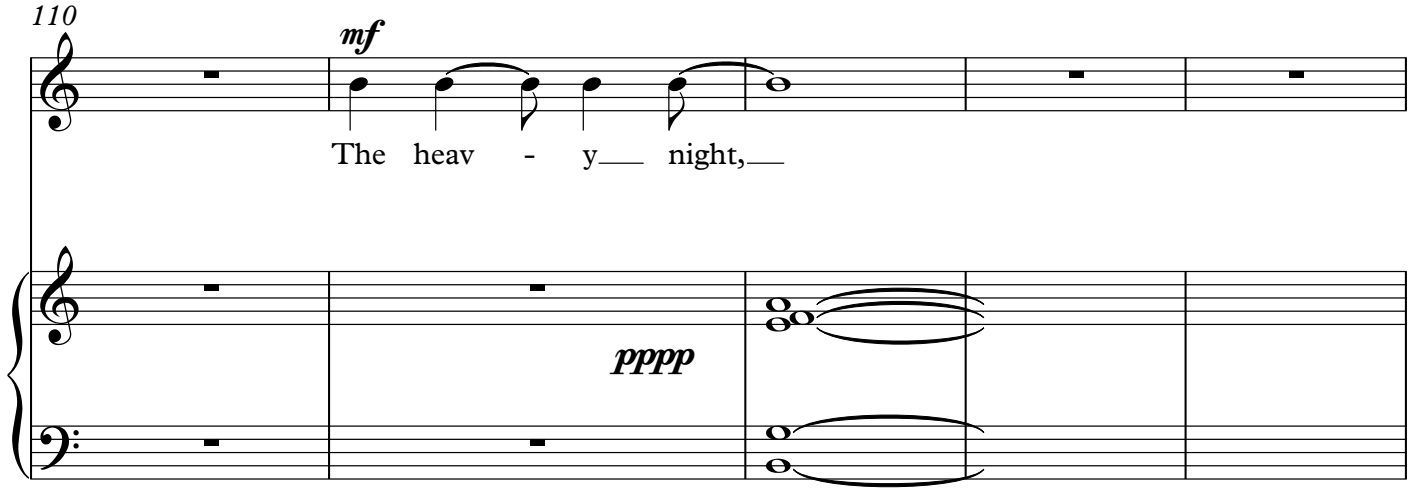

68
ff
And wo - man,
Note 4: Metal plate on bass strings
mp
ff
Strike strings with plate and lift.
Strike plate and rest on strings.
73
mf
you are kin to me, kin,
77
mp
Those tense mo-ments first or last, When men de-ride
pppp

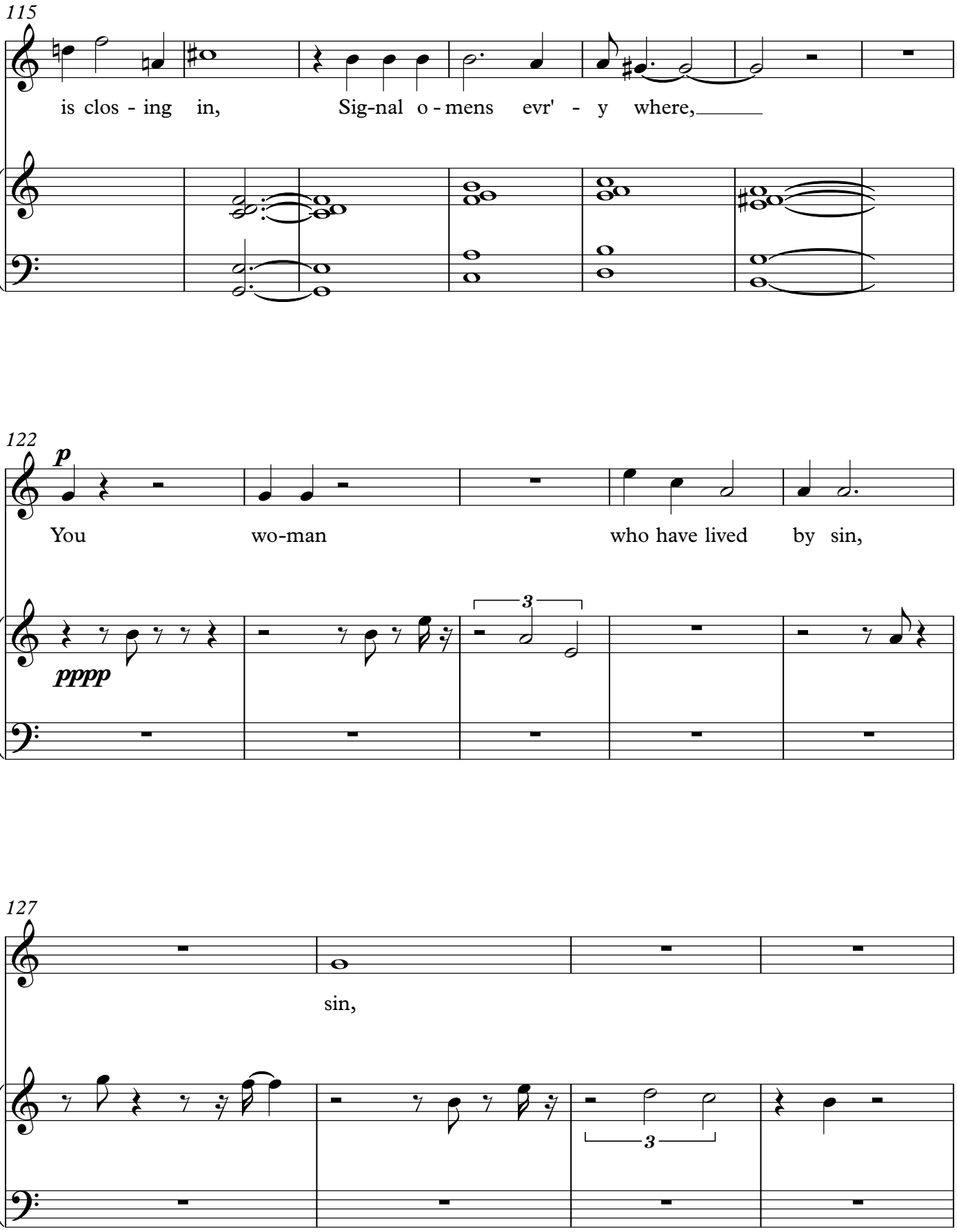

82
your an-ces-try, Those tense mo-ments
pppp
88
When men de-ride your an - ces -
94
try Whore, Jew - ess,
f
ff
ff
Strike strings with plate and scrape to lift.
Remove metal plate.

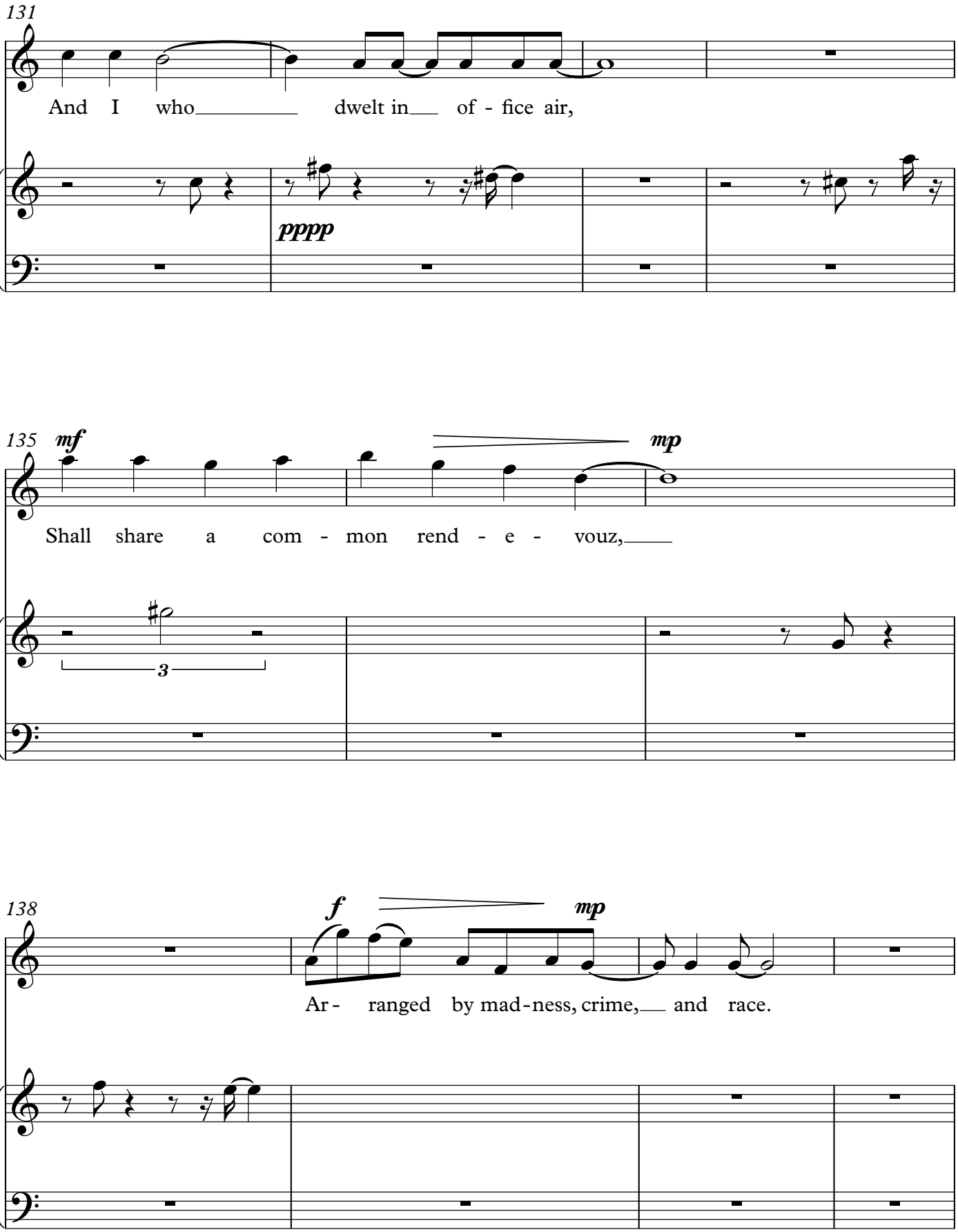


Note 5: stage whisper, approx. pitch






115
is clos - ing in,
Sig-nal o - mens evr' - y where,
122
p
You
wo-man
who have lived
by sin,
pppp
3
127
sin,
3


131
And I who dwelt in of - fice air,
pppp
135
mf
mp
Shall share a com - mon rend - e - vouz,
3
138
f
mp
Ar - ranged by mad - ness, crime, and race.

Note 5: half-whisper, approx. pitch

142

p

(sung)

Sis - ter, my sa -

146

lute to you!_____ I will rec -

Note 5: stage whisper, approx. pitch

149

og - nize your face.