# CHILDHOOD FABLES FOR GROWNUPS

*Verses by*

GERTRUDE NORMAN

*Music by*

IRVING FINE

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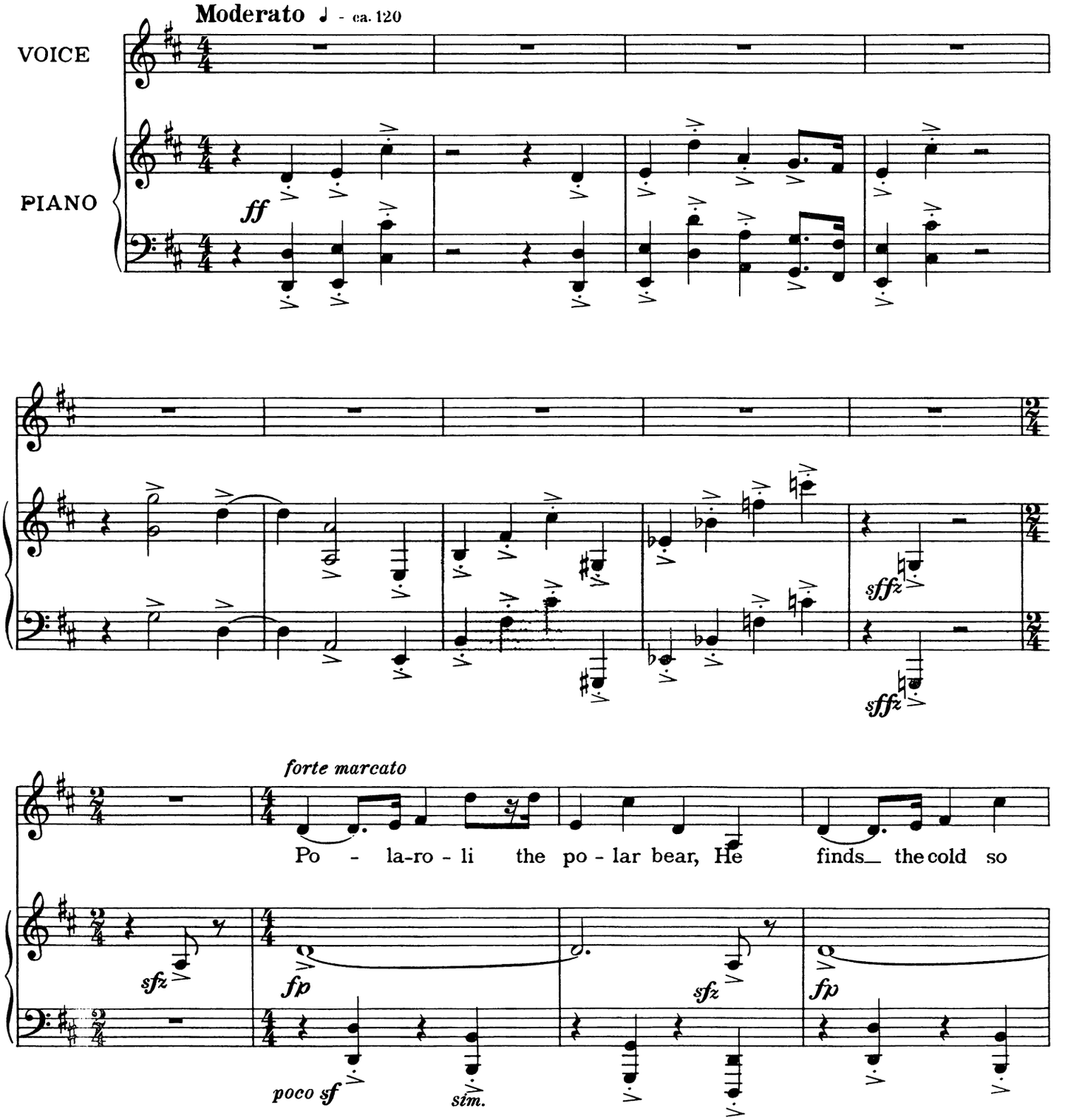
# CHILDHOOD FABLES FOR GROWNUPS

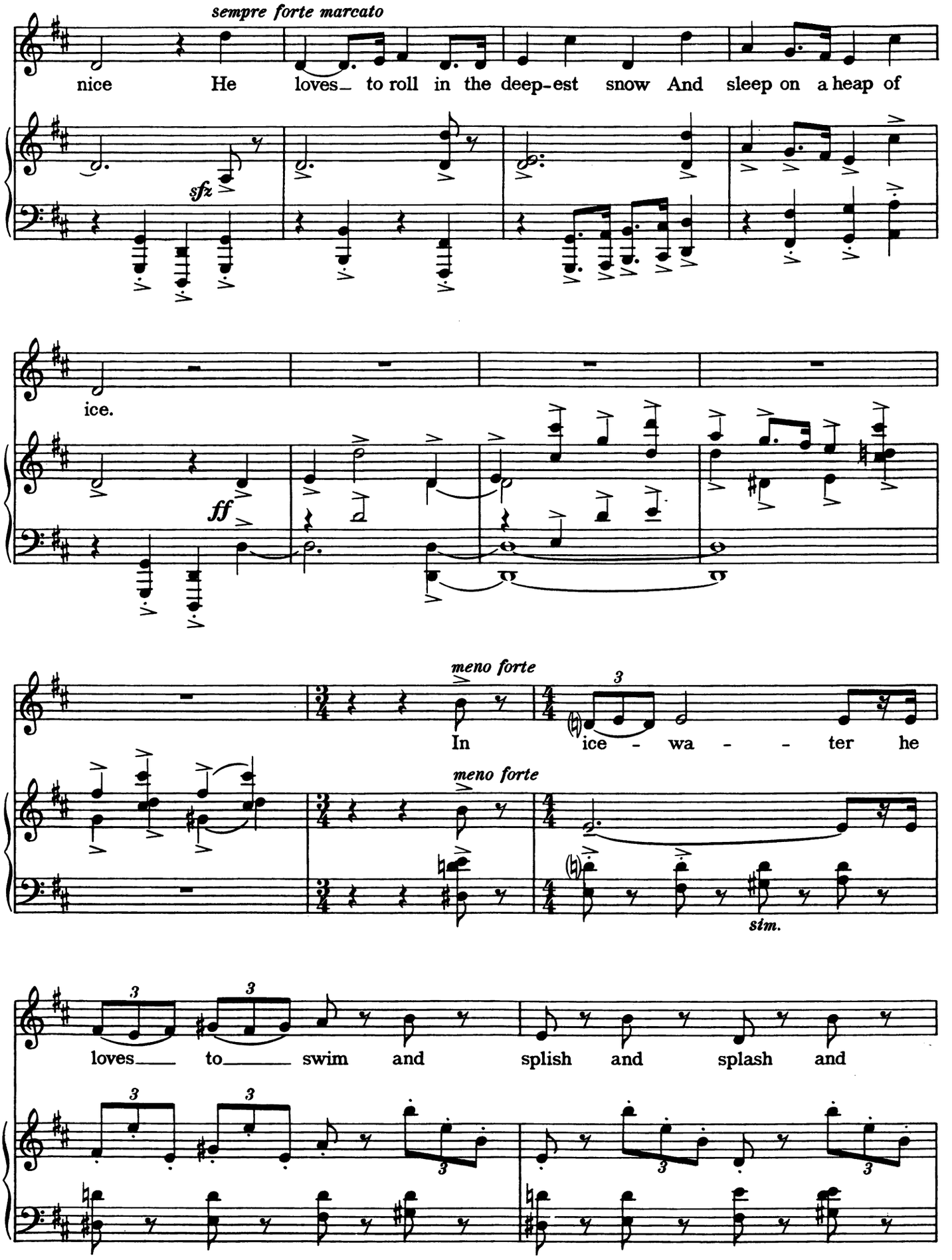
*To Arthur Berger*

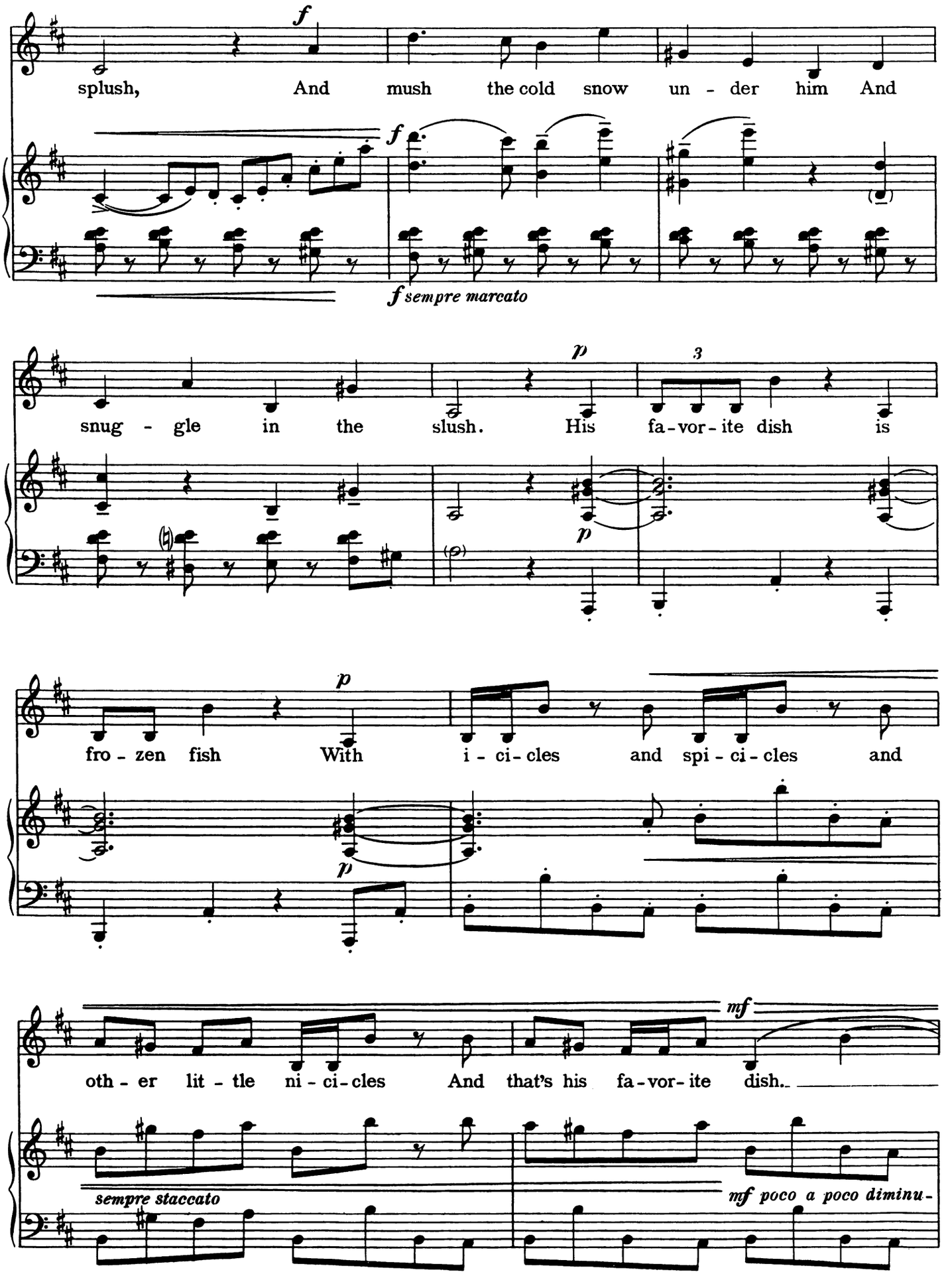
## 1. POLAROLI

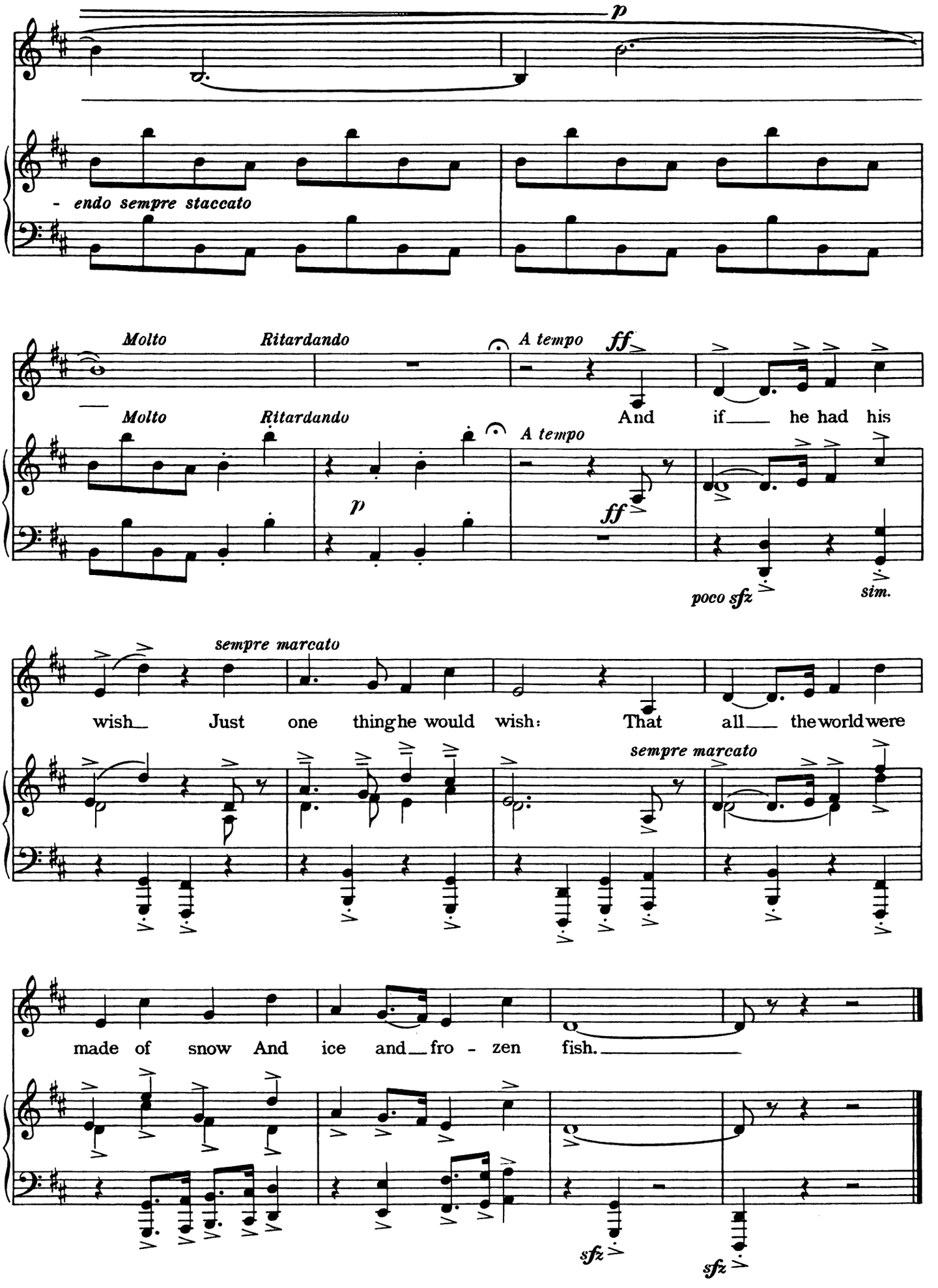
Verse by GERTRUDE NORMAN

Music by IRVING FINE




sempre forte marcato
nice He loves_ to roll in the deep-est snow And sleep on a heap of
sfz
ice.
ff
meno forte
In ice - wa - - ter he
meno forte
sim.
loves_ to_ swim and splish and splash and


f
splush, And mush the cold snow un - der him And
f
f sempre marcato
p
3
snug - gle in the slush. His fa - vor - ite dish is
p
p
fro - zen fish With i - ci - cles and spi - ci - cles and
p
mf
oth - er lit - tle ni - ci - cles And that's his fa - vor - ite dish..
sempre staccato
mf poco a poco diminu -

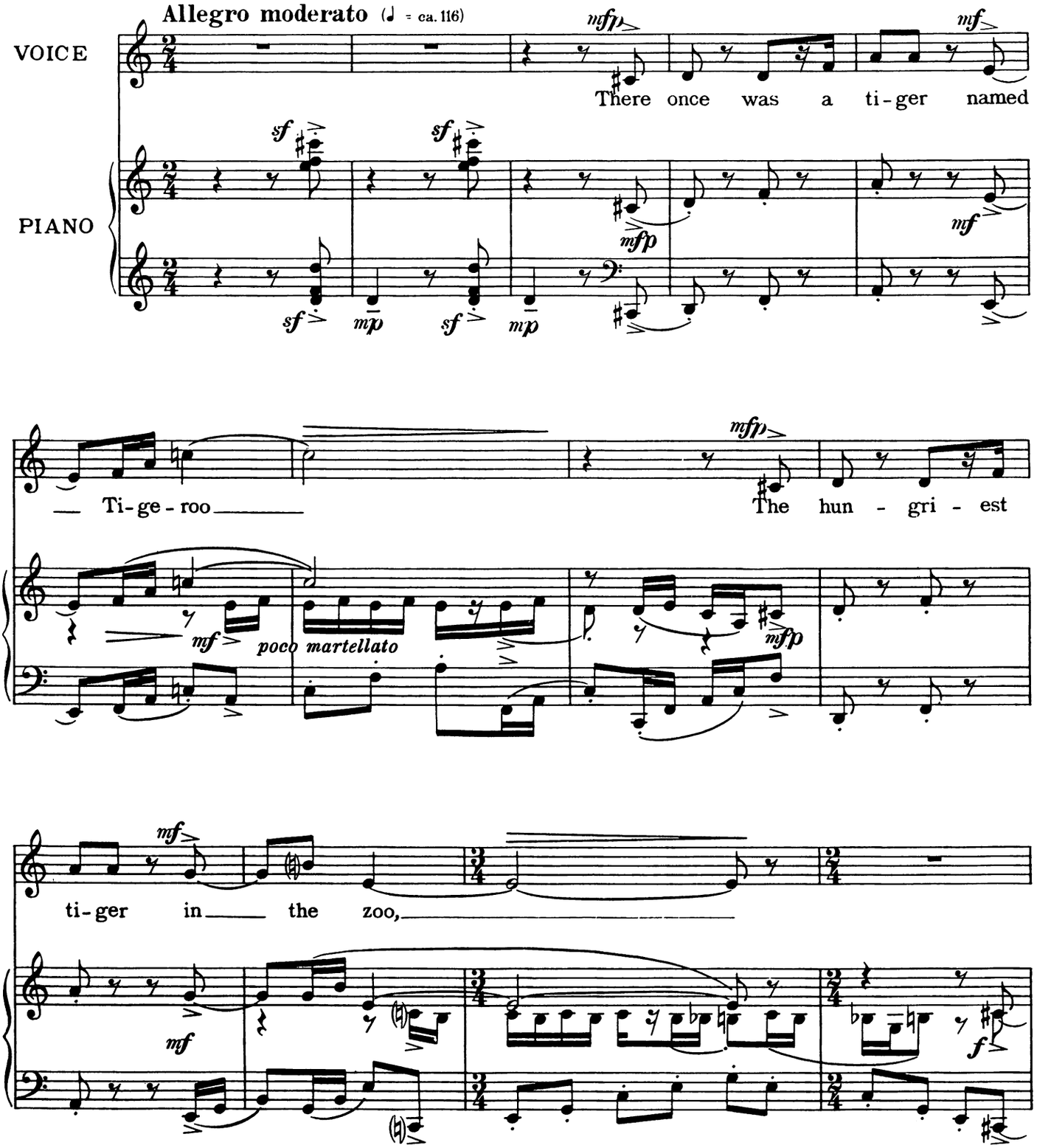

p
- endo sempre staccato
Molto
Ritardando
A tempo
ff
And if he had his
Molto
Ritardando
A tempo
p
ff
poco sfz
sim.
sempre marcato
wish Just one thing he would wish: That all the world were
sempre marcato
made of snow And ice and fro - zen fish.
sfz
sfz

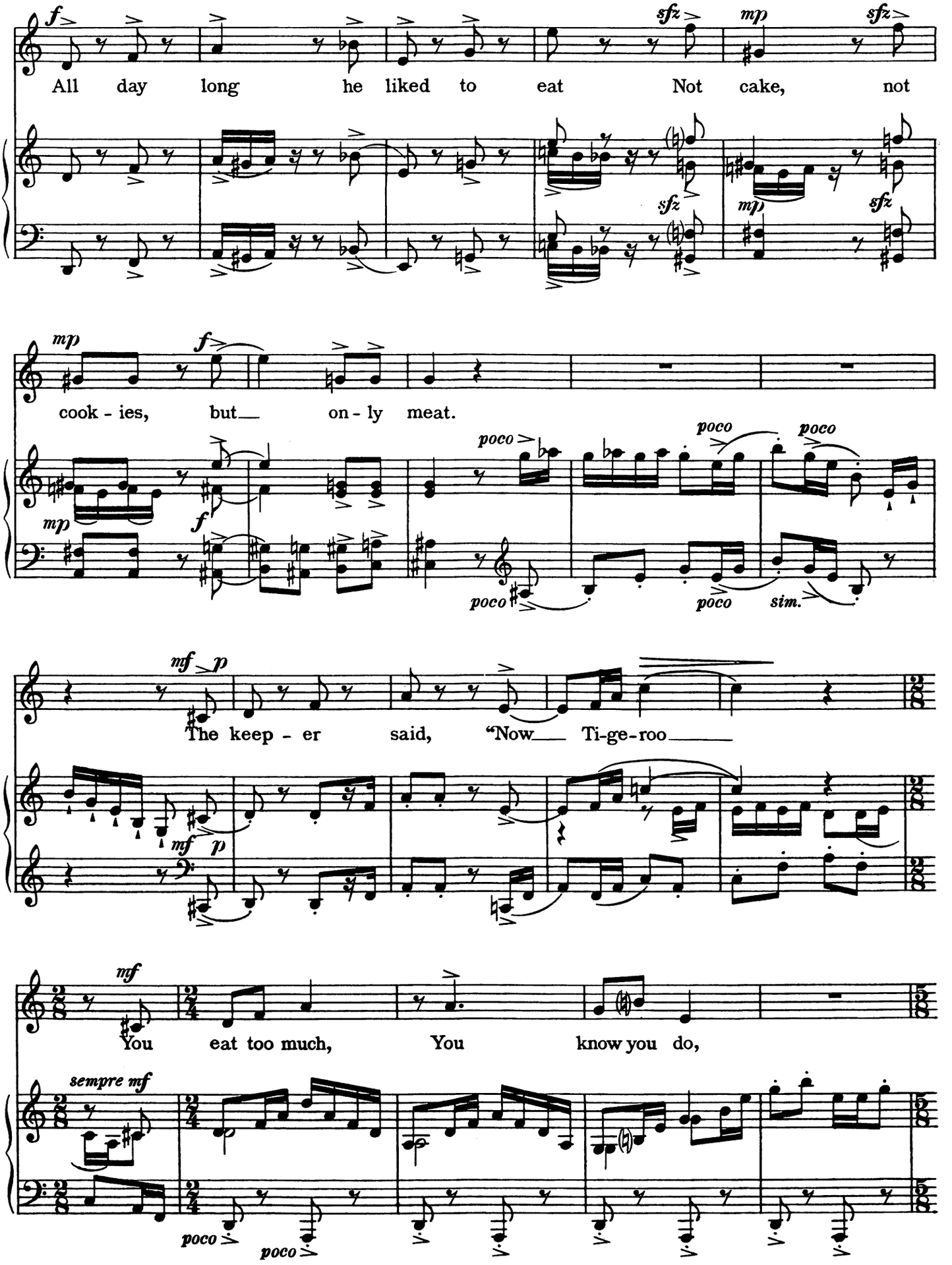
*To Harold Shapero*

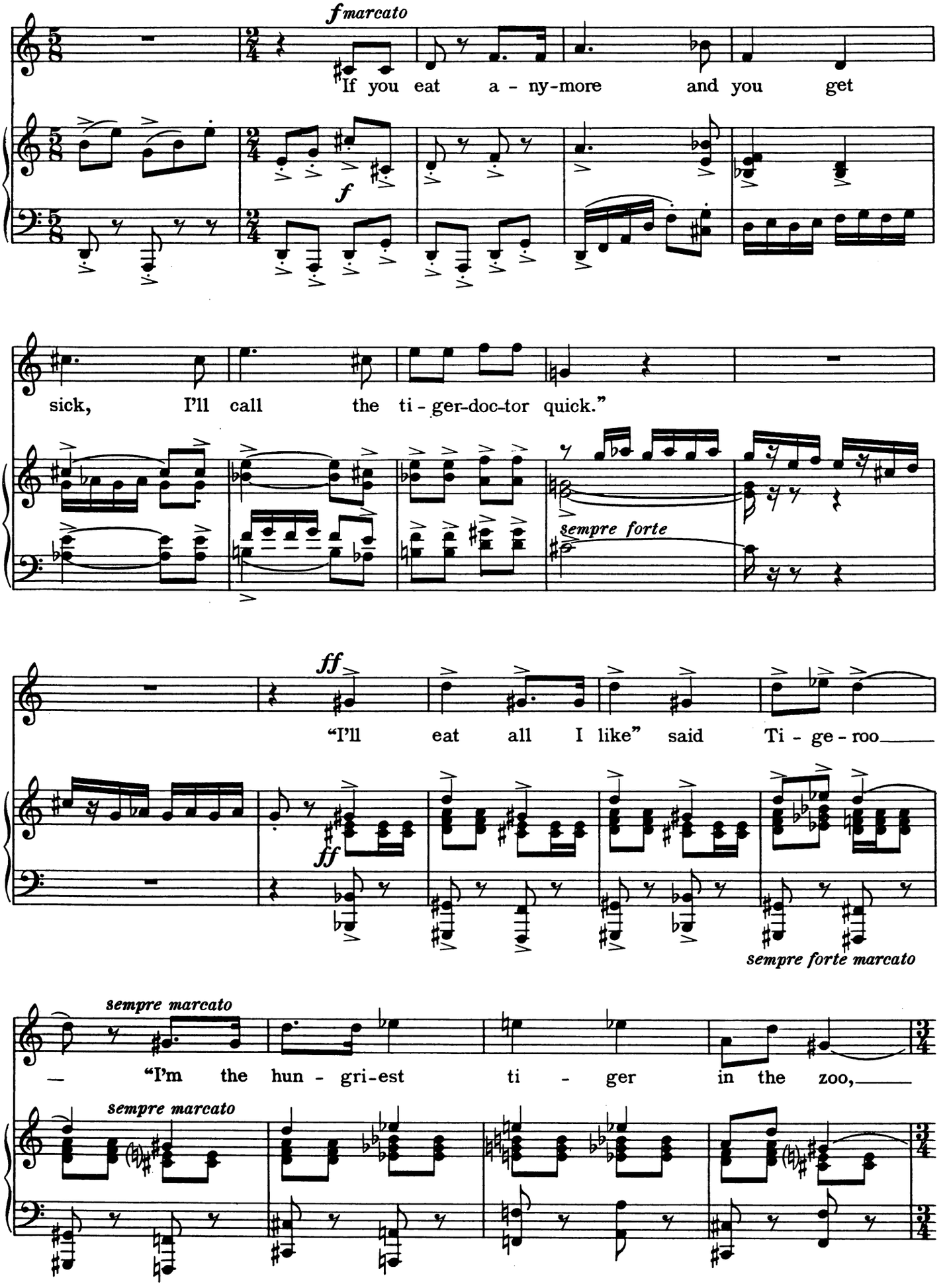
# 2. TIGEROO

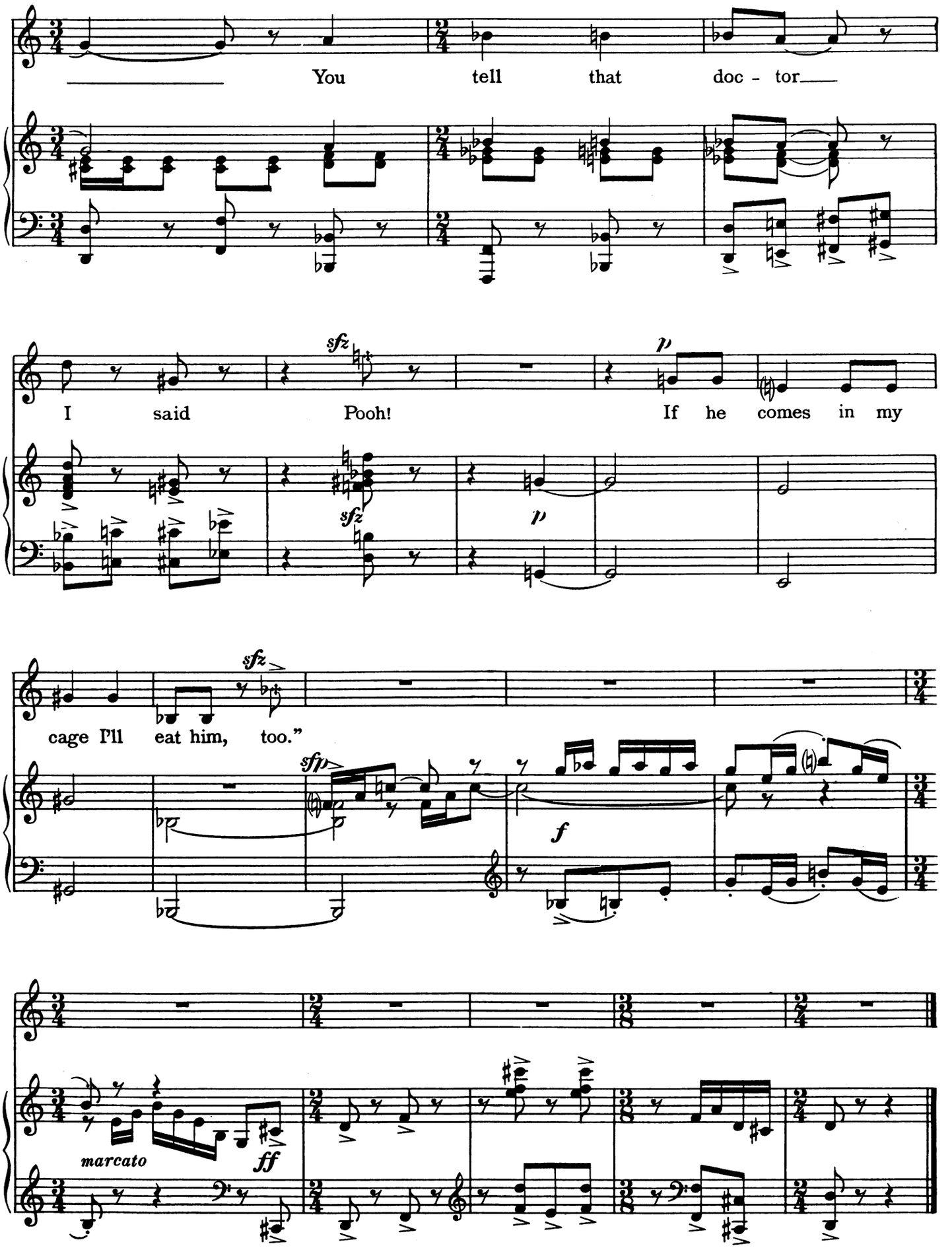
Verse by GERTRUDE NORMAN

Music by IRVING FINE




All day long he liked to eat Not cake, not
cook - ies, but on - ly meat.
The keep - er said, "Now Ti-ge-roo
You eat too much, You know you do,


f marcato
If you eat a - ny-more and you get
f
sick, I'll call the ti - ger-doc-tor quick."
sempre forte
ff
"I'll eat all I like" said Ti - ge - roo
ff
sempre forte marcato
sempre marcato
— "I'm the hun - gri-est ti - ger in the zoo,
sempre marcato

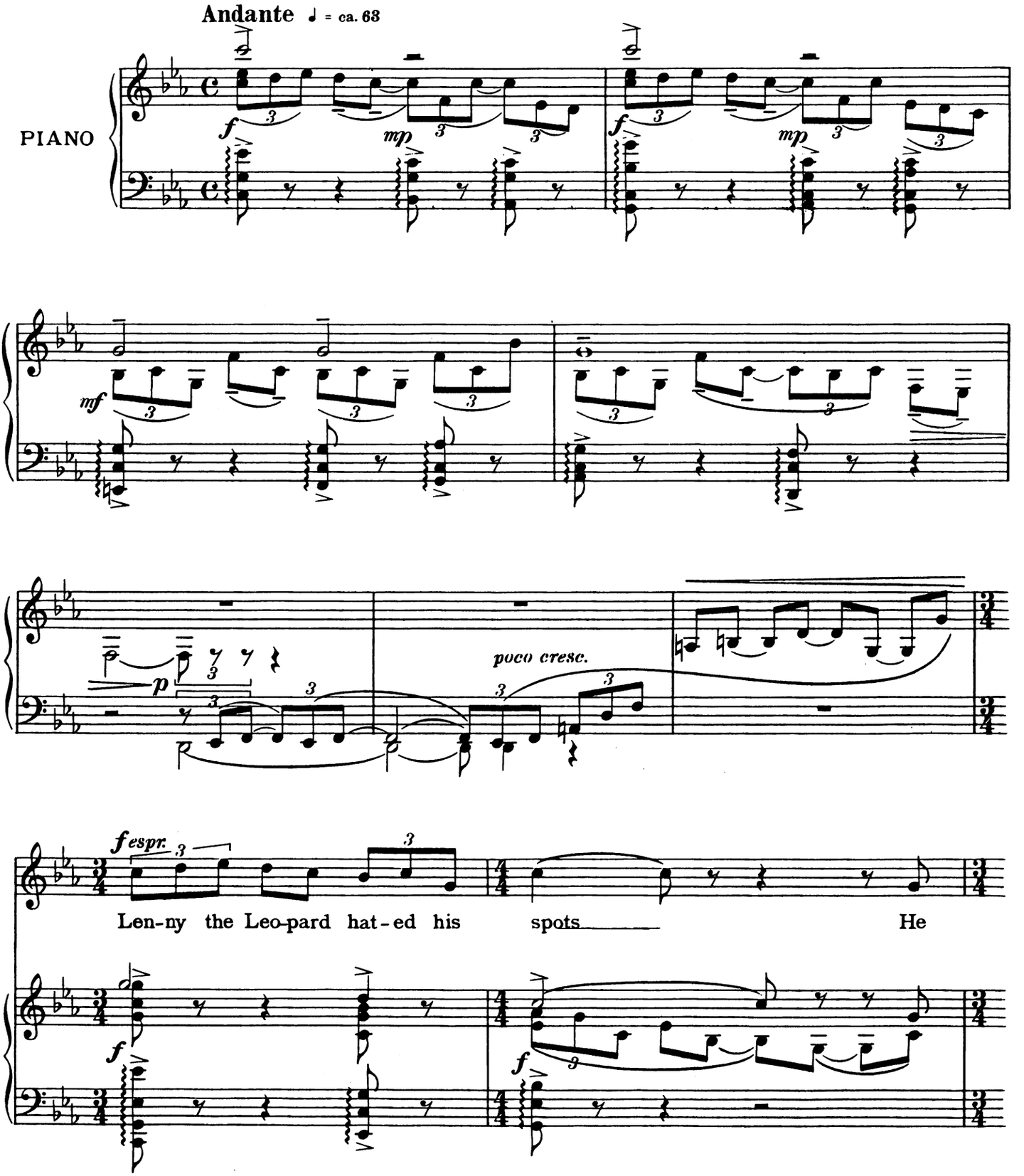

You tell that doc - tor
I said Pooh! If he comes in my
cage I'll eat him, too."
marcato

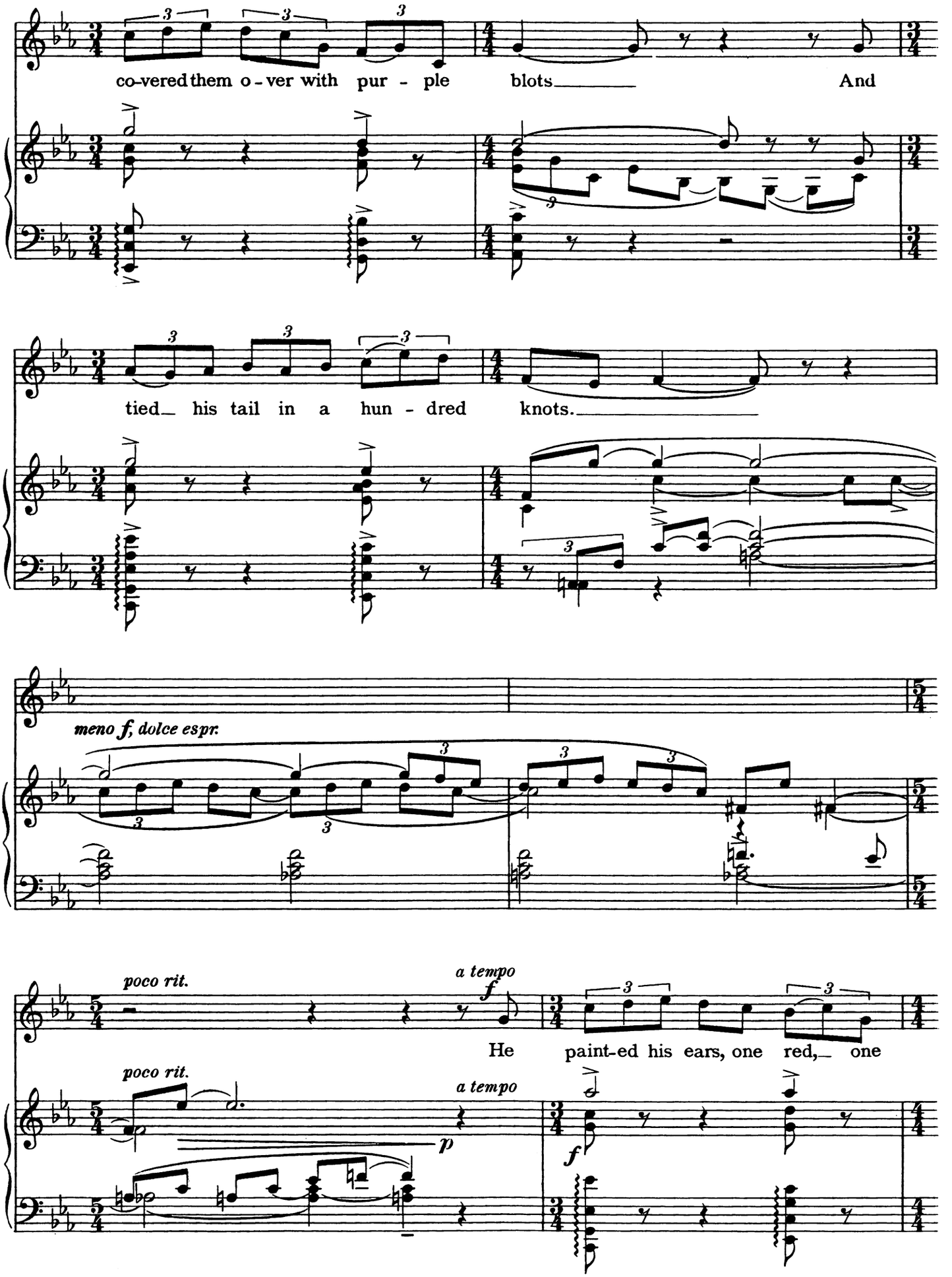
*To Leonard Bernstein*

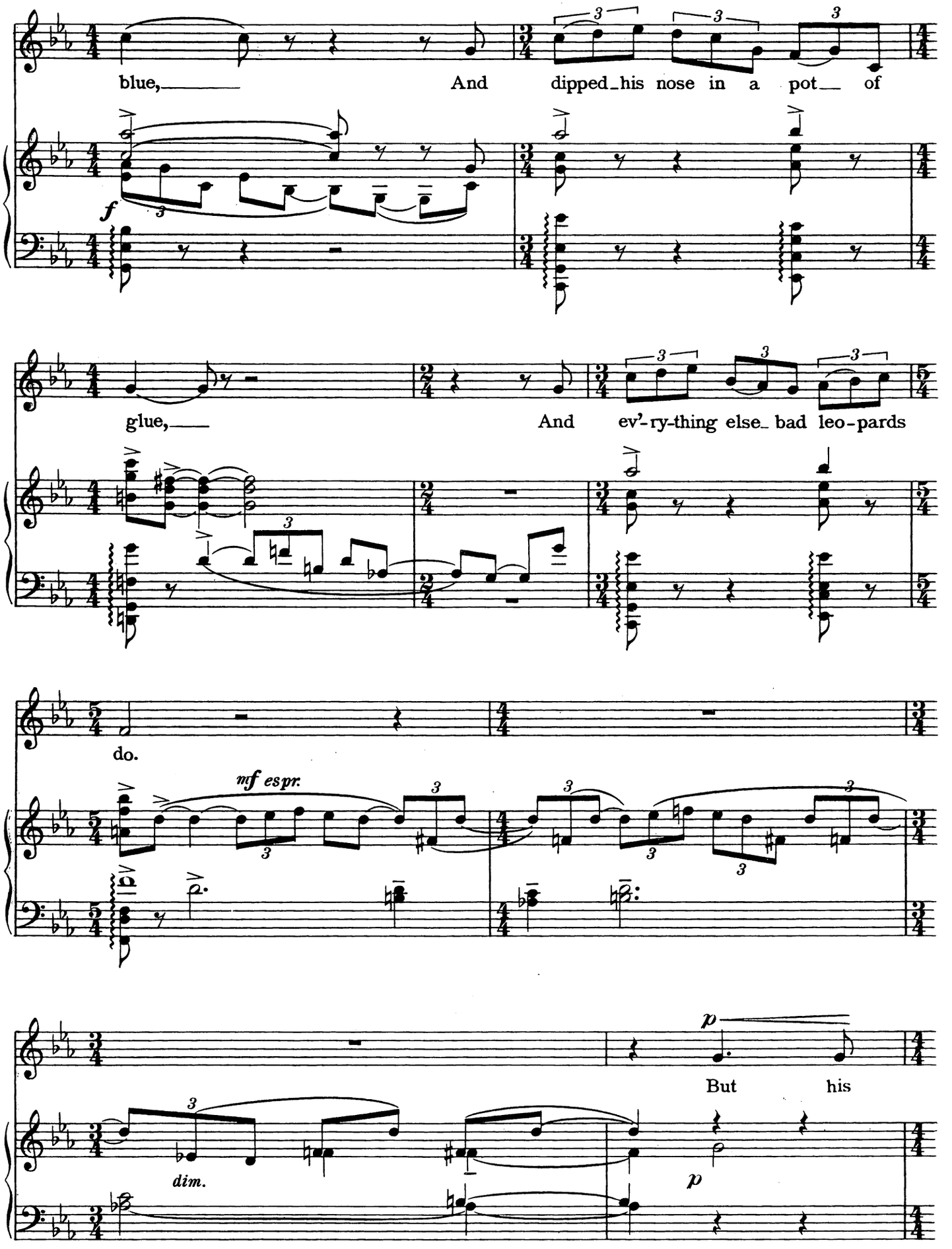
# 3. LENNY THE LEOPARD

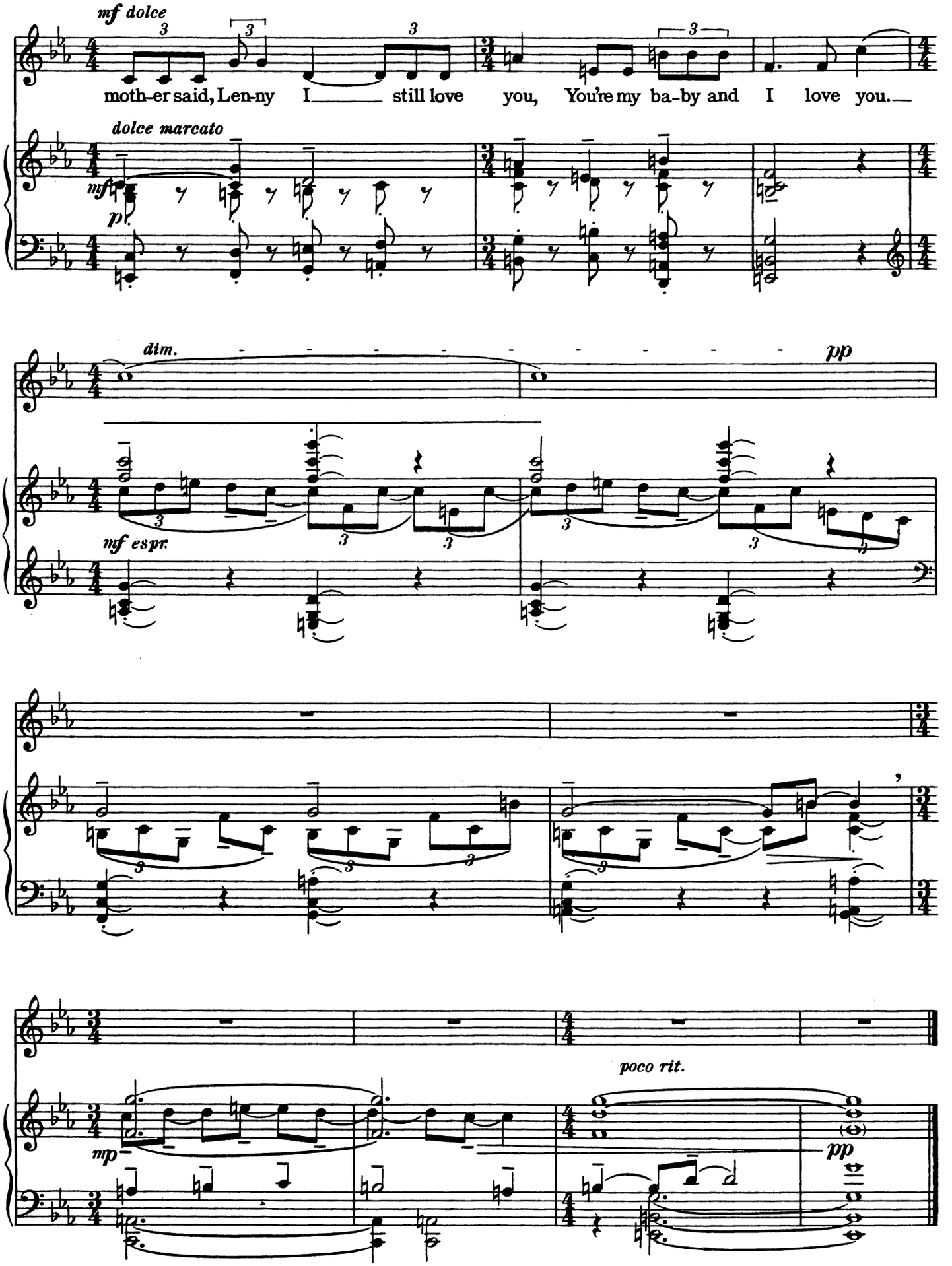
Verse by GERTRUDE NORMAN

Music by IRVING FINE




co-vered them o - ver with pur - ple blots And
tied his tail in a hun - dred knots.
meno f, dolce espr.
poco rit.
a tempo
f
He paint-ed his ears, one red, one
poco rit.
a tempo
p
f


blue, And dipped his nose in a pot of
f
glue, And ev'-ry-thing else bad leo-pards
do.
mf espr.
But his
p
dim.
p

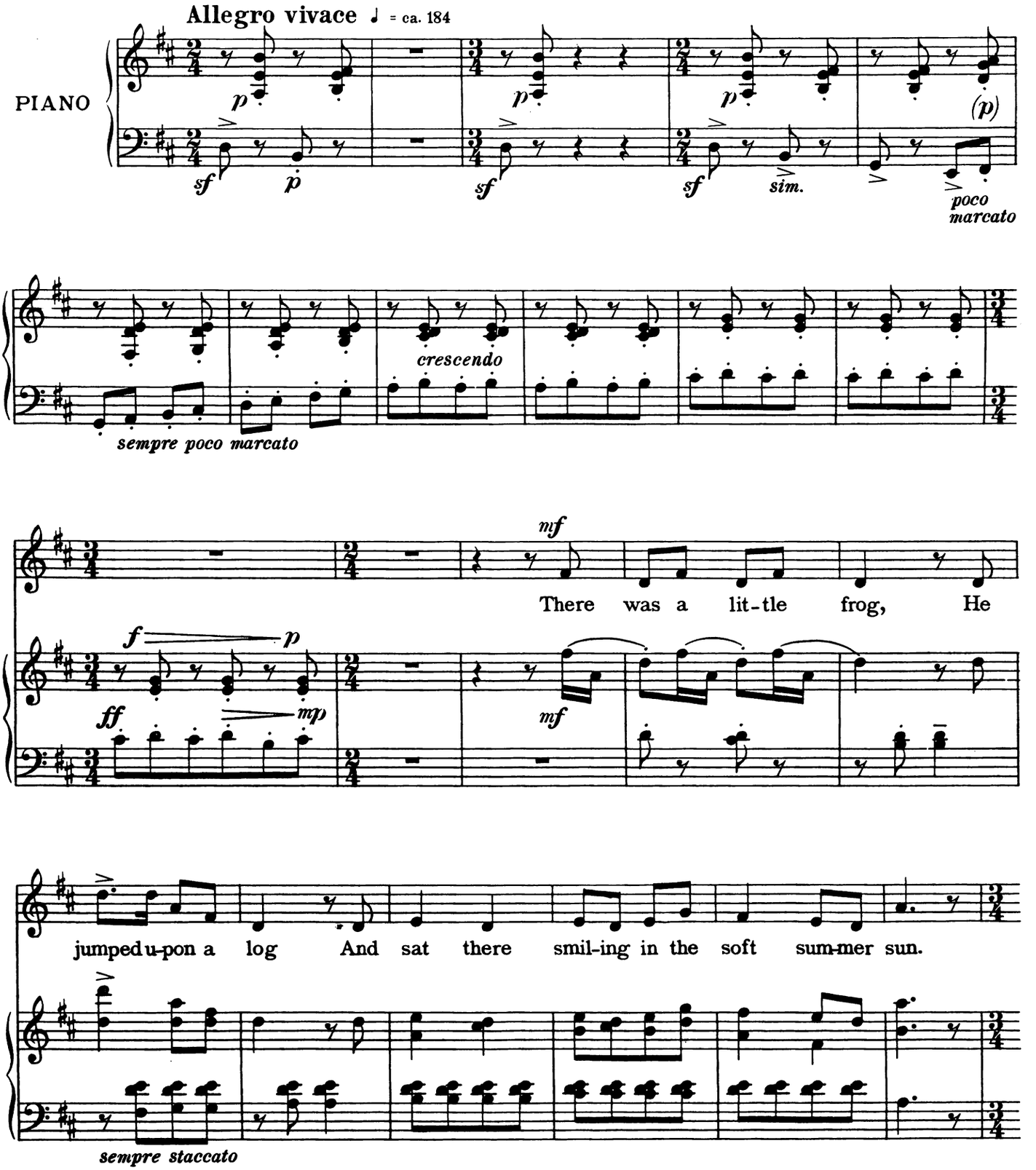

mf dolce
moth-er said, Len-ny I still love you, You're my ba-by and I love you.
dolce marcato
mf
p
dim.
pp
mf espr.
poco rit.
mp
pp

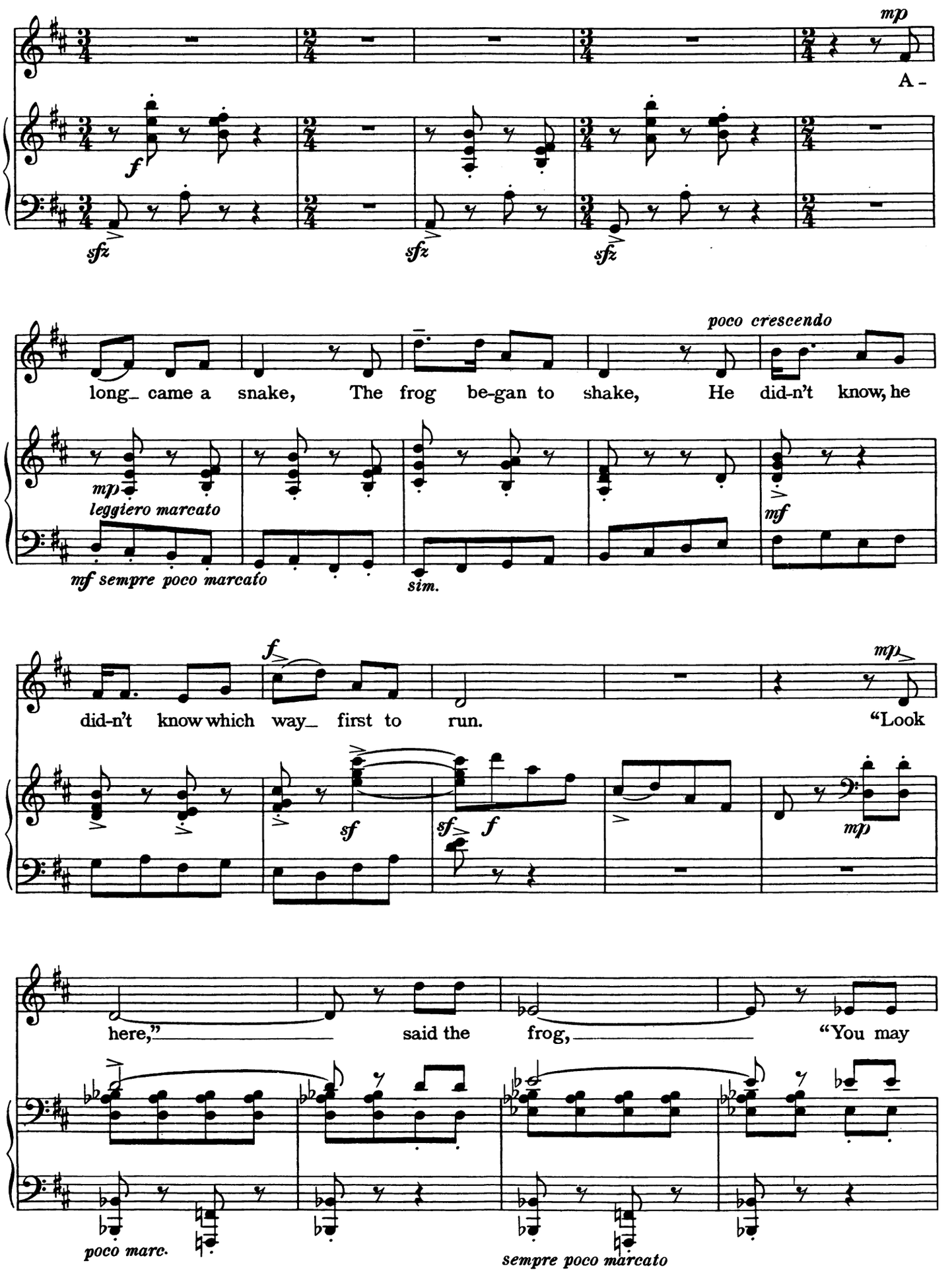
*To Lukas Foss*

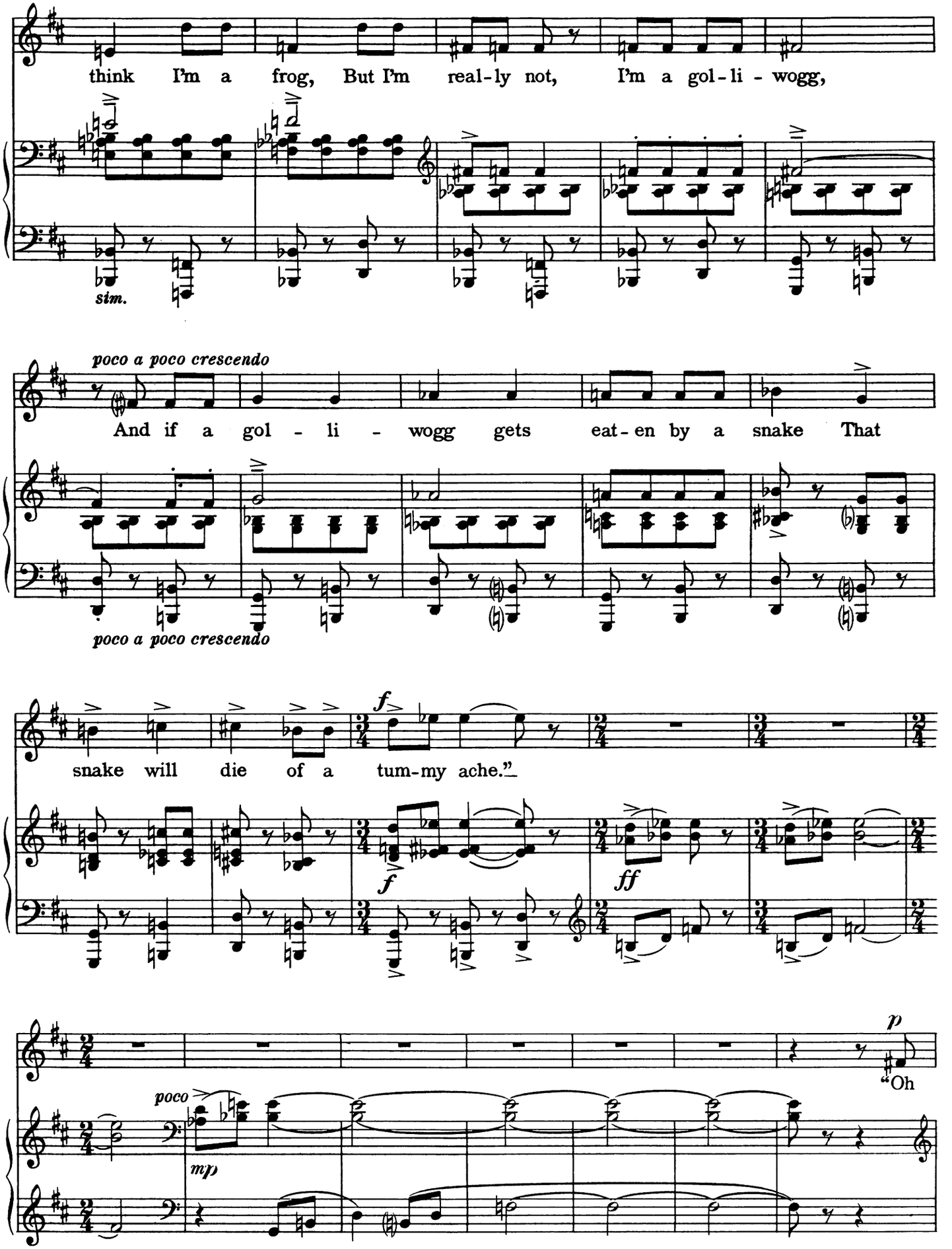
# 4. THE FROG AND THE SNAKE

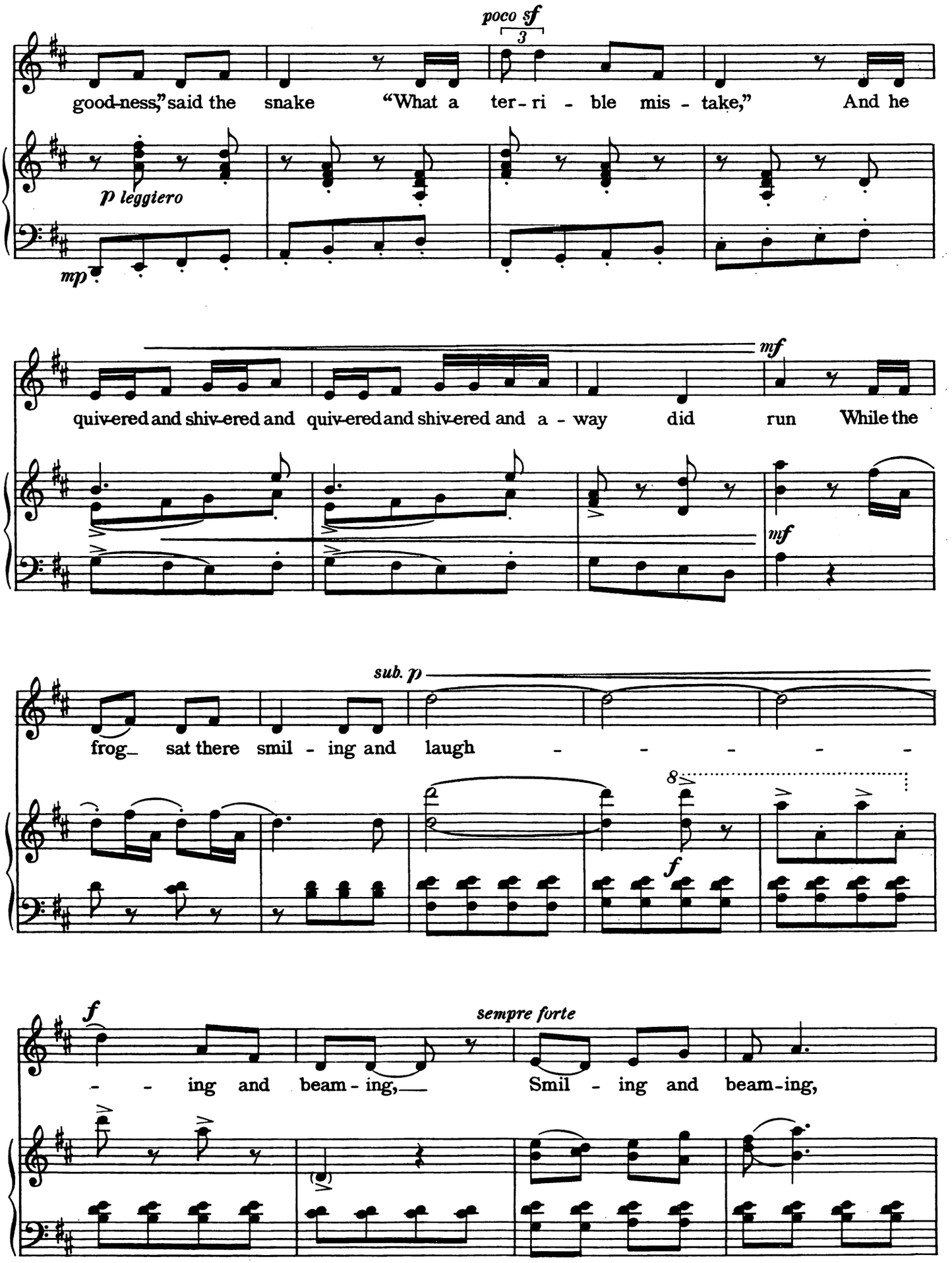
Verse by GERTRUDE NORMAN

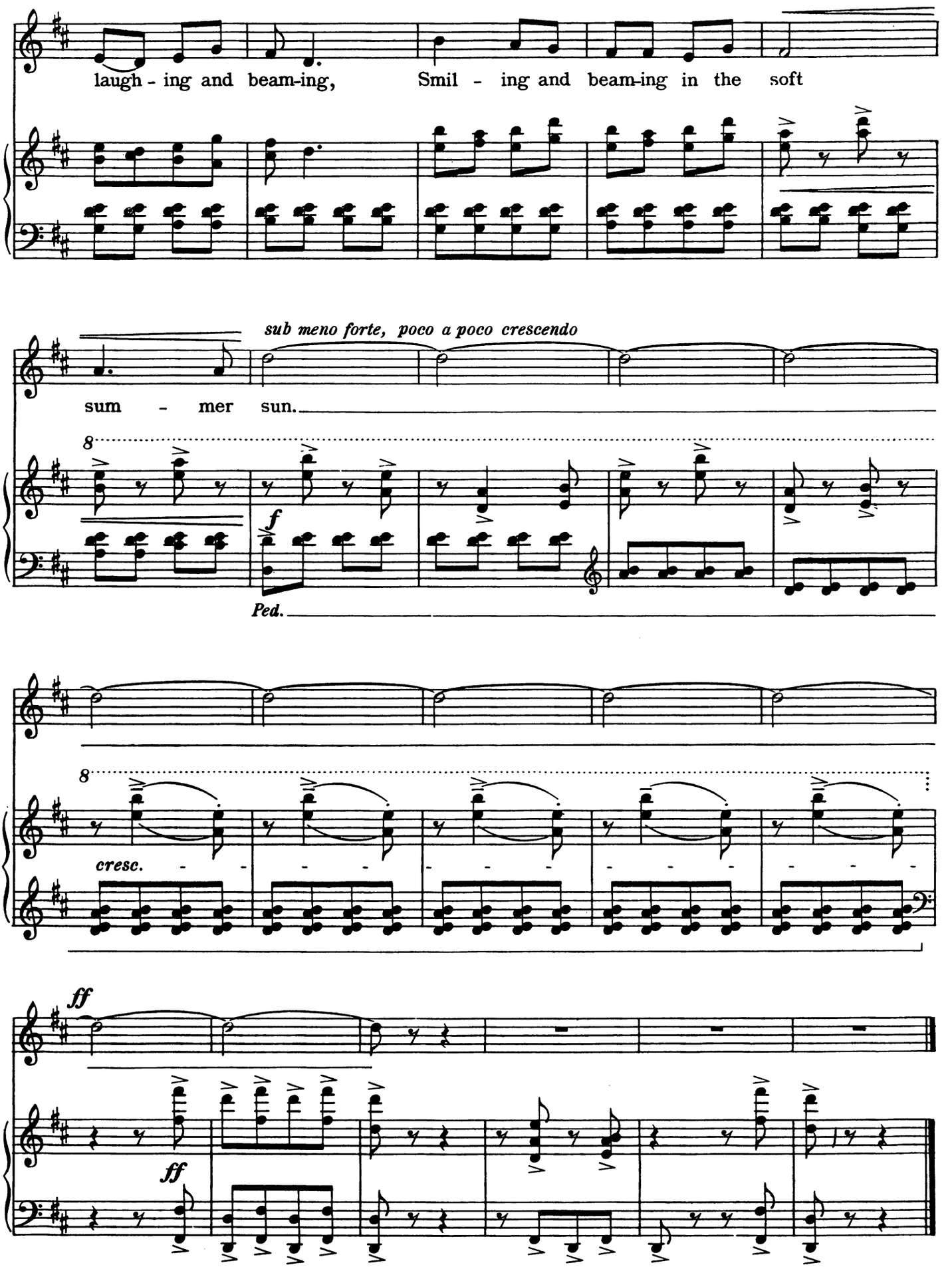
Music by IRVING FINE




mp
A -
f
sfz
sfz
sfz
poco crescendo
long_ came a snake, The frog be-gan to shake, He did-n't know, he
mp
leggiero marcato
mf sempre poco marcato
sim.
mf
f
did-n't know which way_ first to run.
mp
"Look
sf
sf
f
mp
here," said the frog, "You may
poco marc.
sempre poco marcato


think I'm a frog, But I'm real-ly not, I'm a gol-li - wogg,
sim.
poco a poco crescendo
And if a gol - li - wogg gets eat-en by a snake That
poco a poco crescendo
snake will die of a tum-my ache."
f
f
ff
p
"Oh
poco
mp


poco sf
3
good-ness," said the snake "What a ter - ri - ble mis - take," And he
p leggiero
mp
mf
quiv-ered and shiv-ered and quiv-ered and shiv-ered and a - way did run While the
mf
sub. p
frog_ sat there smil - ing and laugh - - - - -
8
f
f
- - ing and beam - ing,_ Smil - ing and beam-ing,
sempre forte

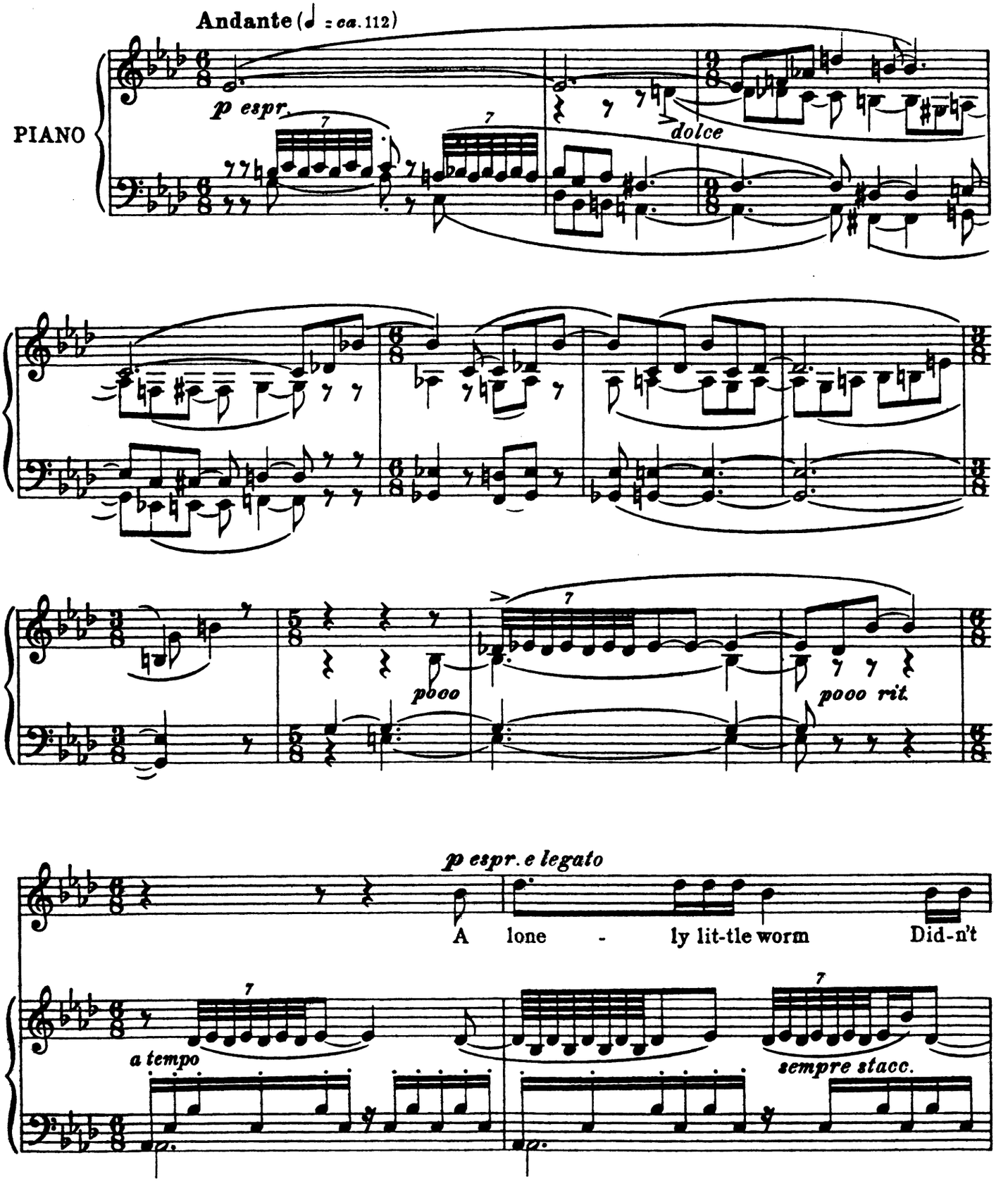

laugh - ing and beam-ing, Smil - ing and beam-ing in the soft
sub meno forte, poco a poco crescendo
sum - mer sun.
8
f
Ped.
8
cresc.
ff
ff

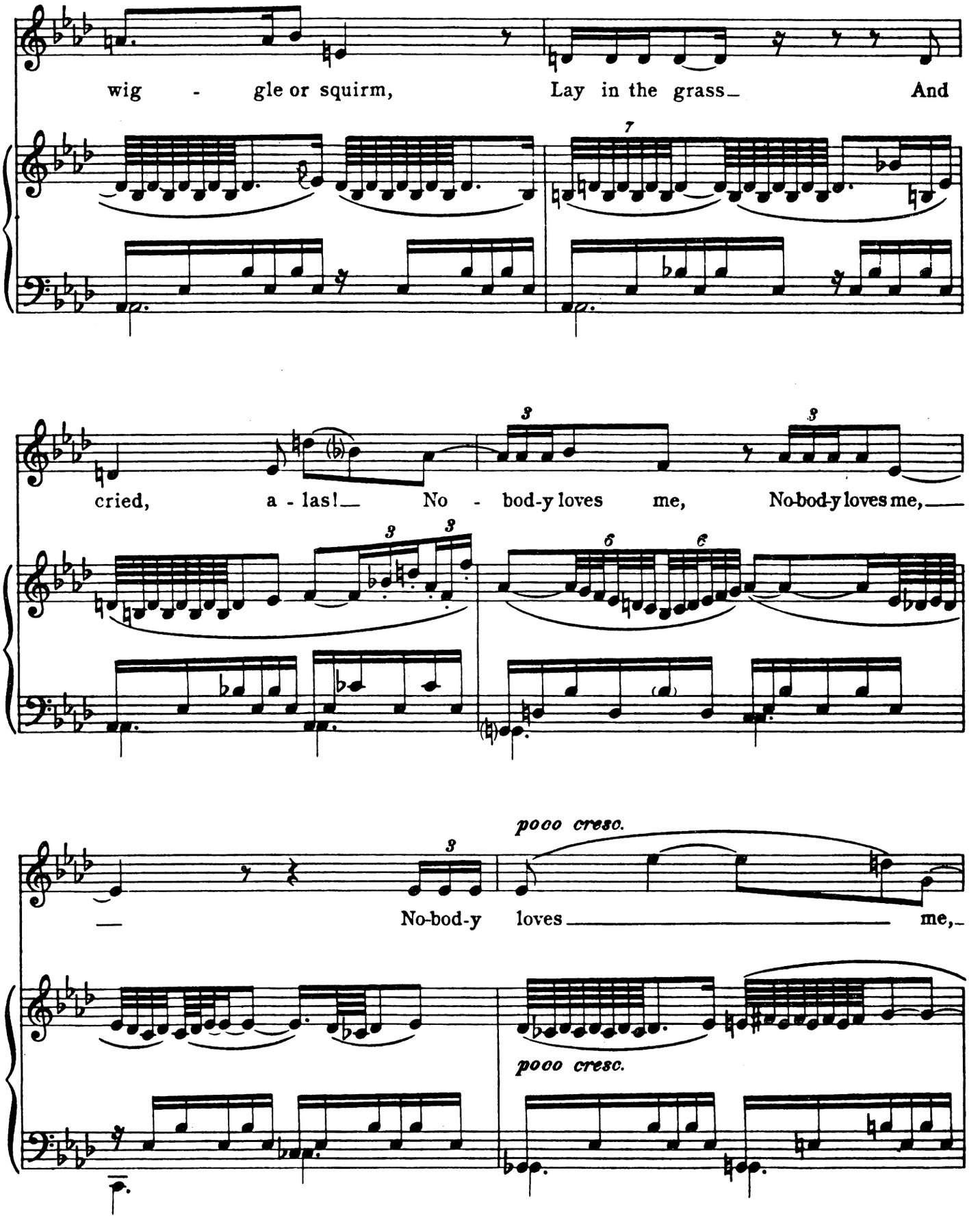
*To Arthur Cohn*

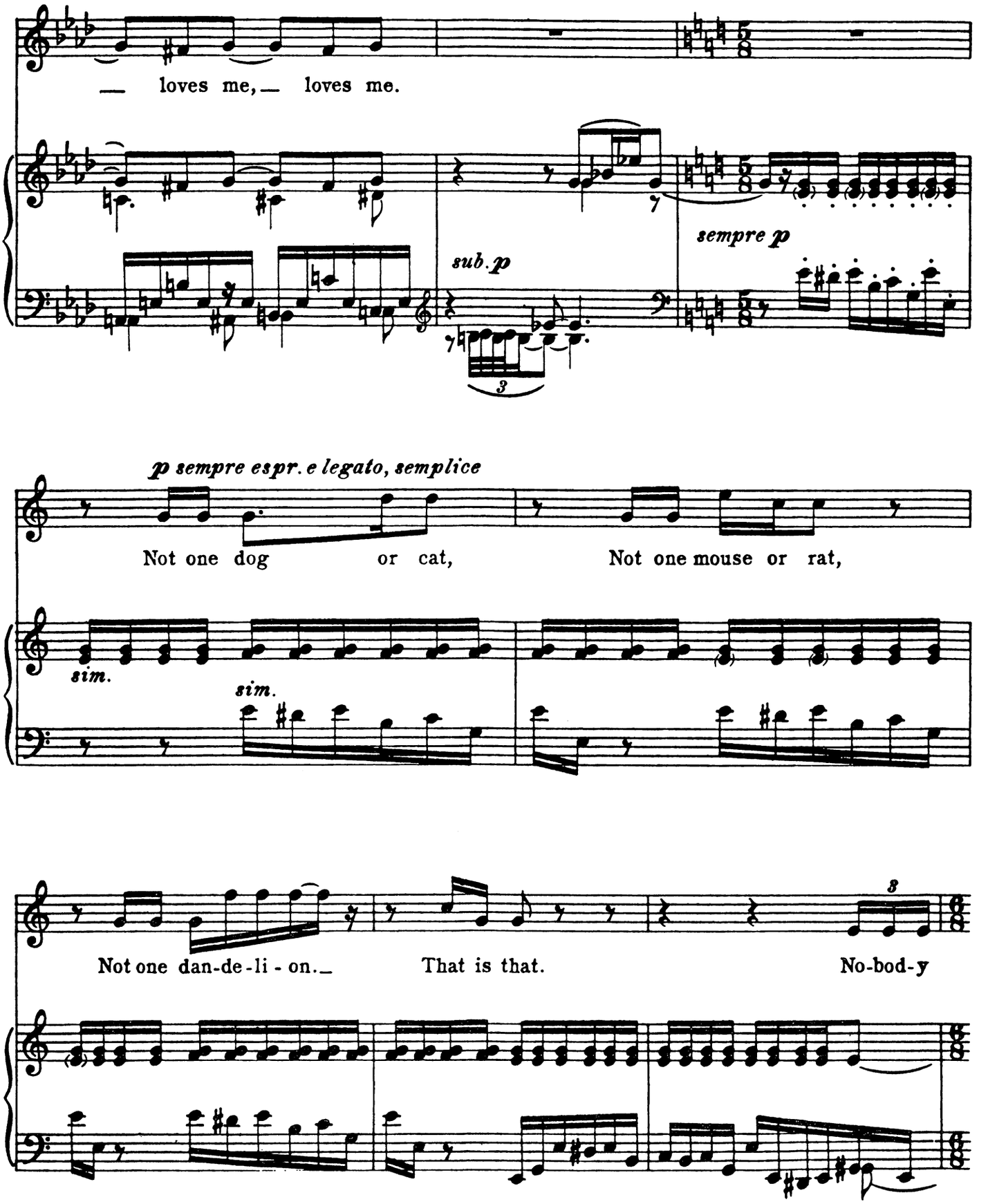
# 5. TWO WORMS

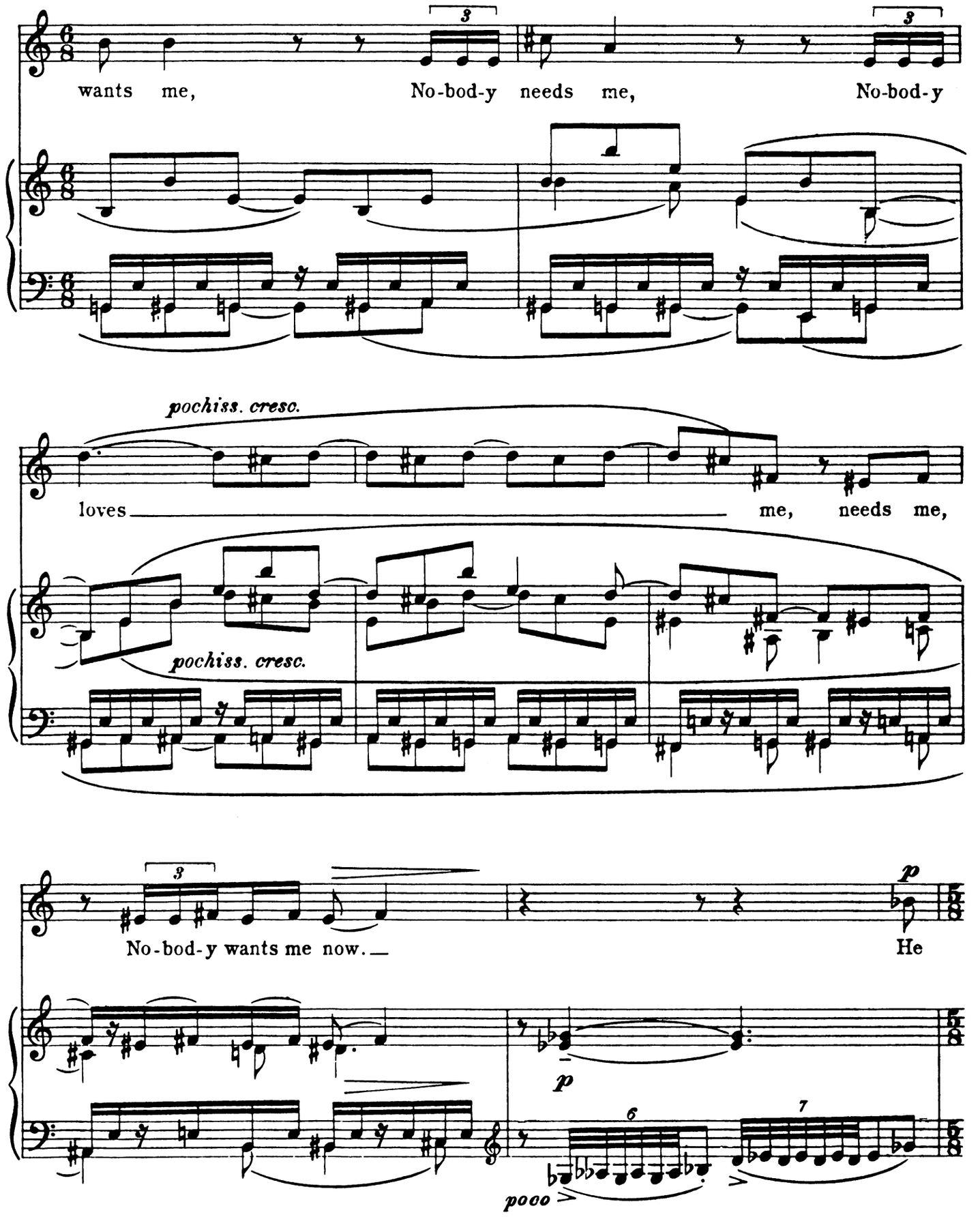
Verse by GERTRUDE NORMAN

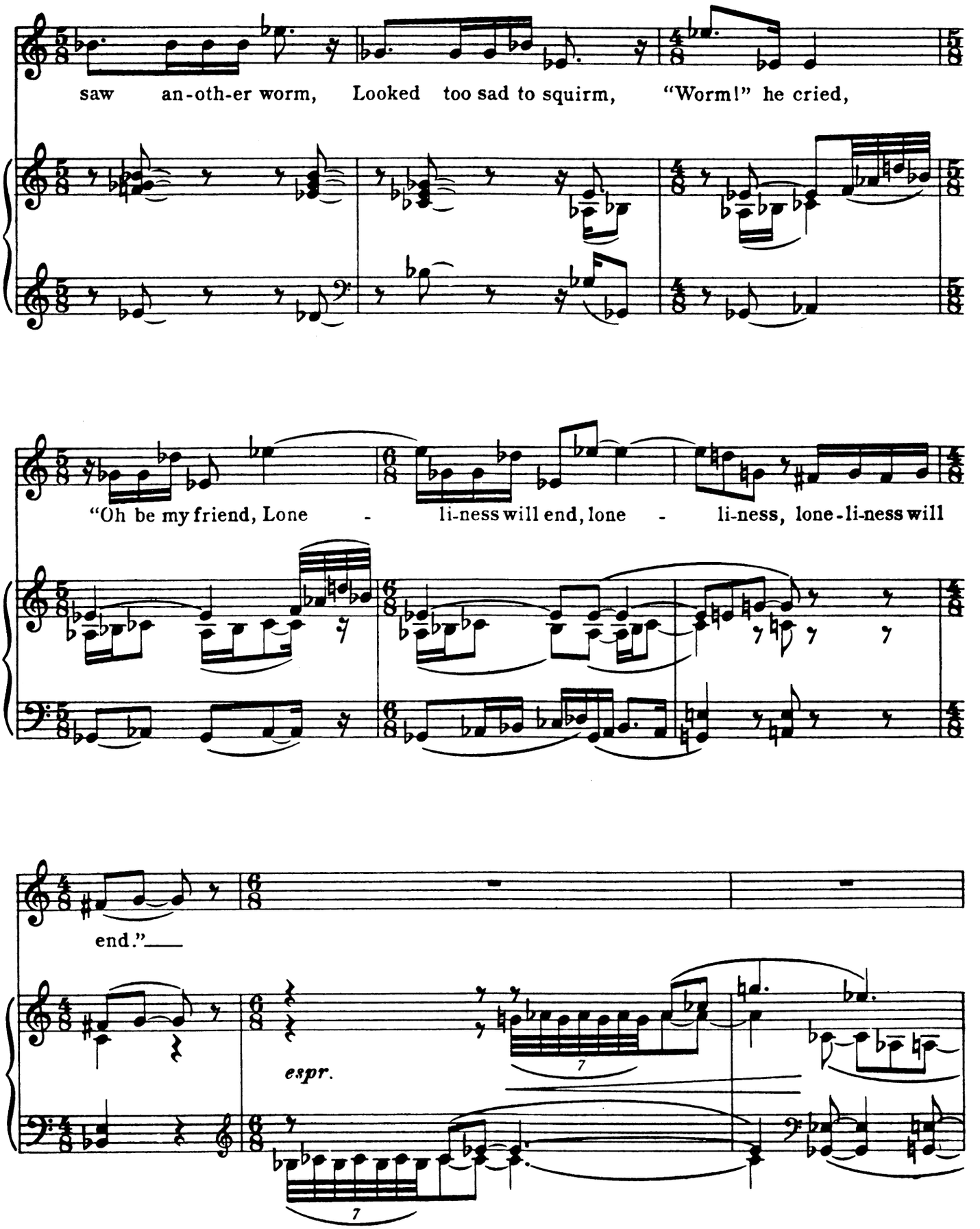
Music by IRVING FINE

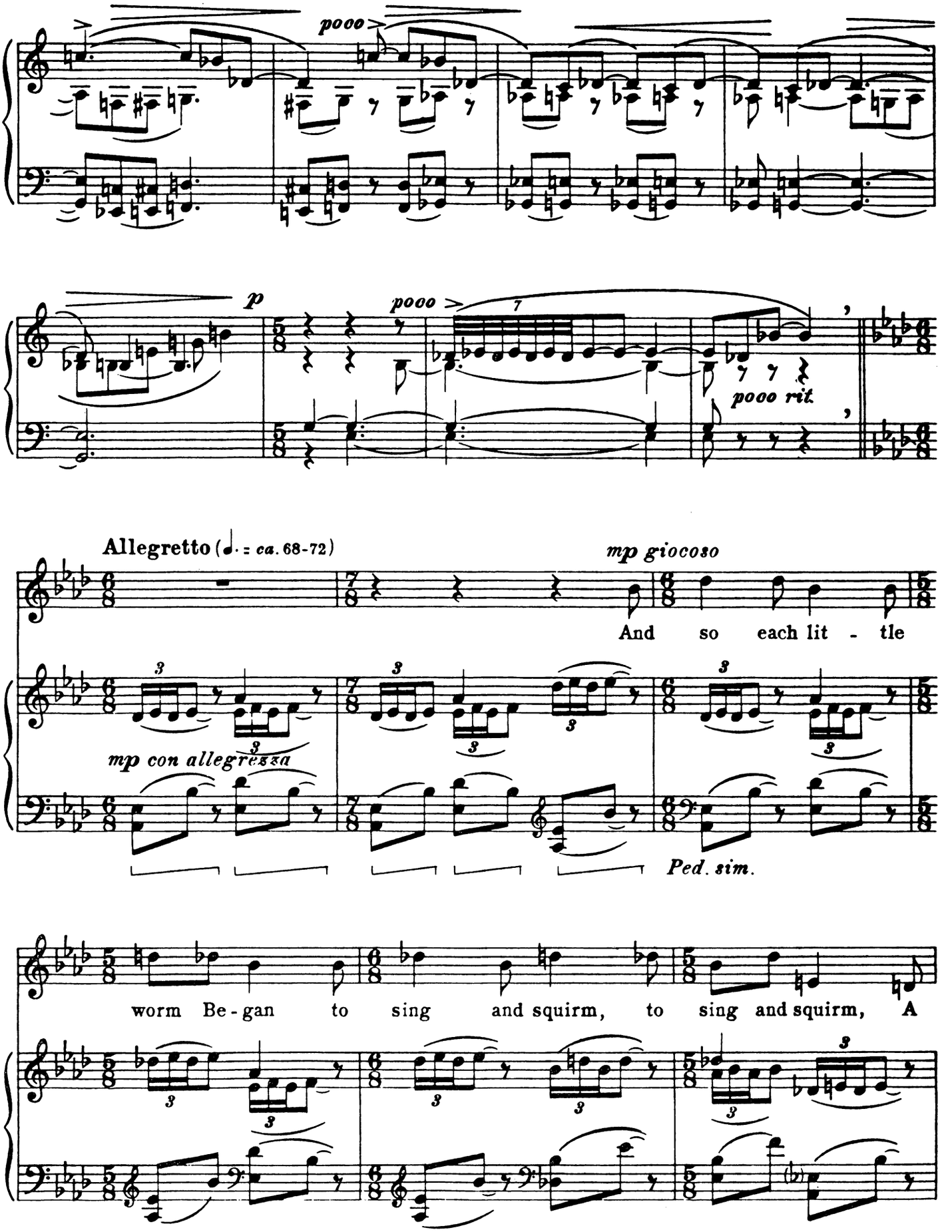


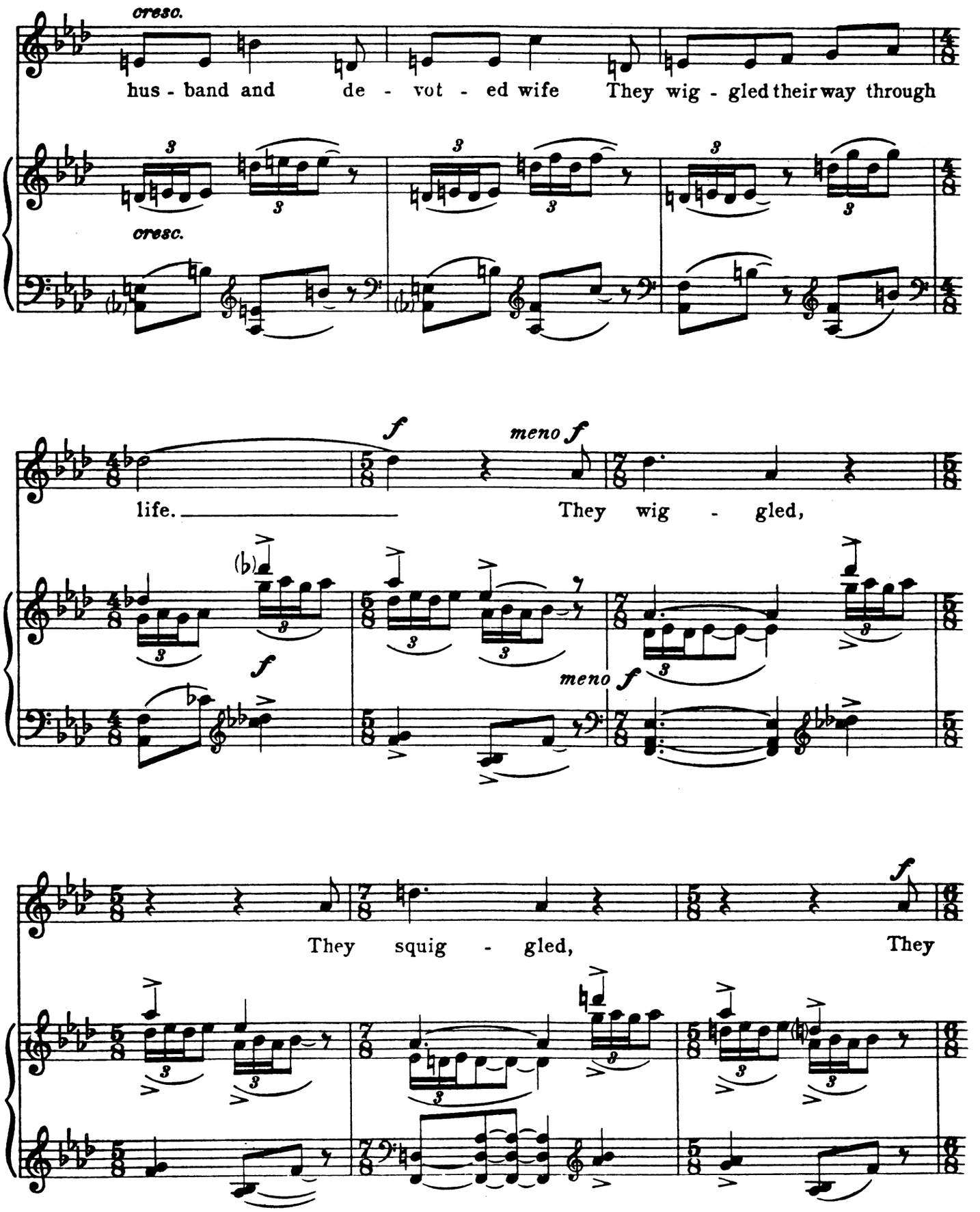

wig - gle or squirm, Lay in the grass And
cried, a - las! No - bod-y loves me, No-bod-y loves me,
No-bod-y loves
pooo cresc.
me,
pooo cresc.

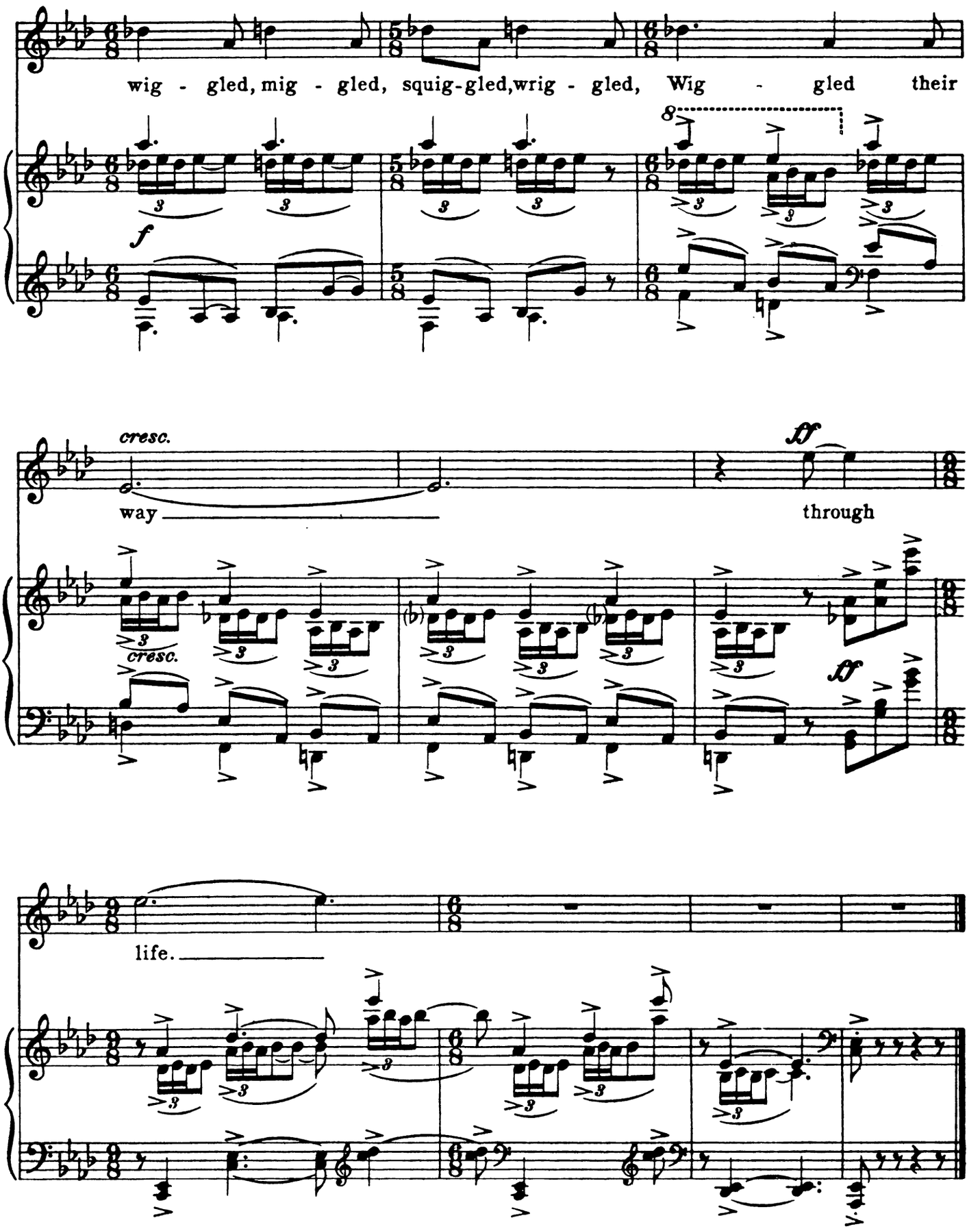

— loves me, — loves me.
sub. p
sempre p
p sempre espr. e legato, semplice
Not one dog or cat, Not one mouse or rat,
sim.
sim.
Not one dan-de-li - on. — That is that. No-bod-y


wants me, No-bod-y needs me, No-bod-y
pochiss. cresc.
loves me, needs me,
pochiss. cresc.
No-bod-y wants me now.
He
p
p
pooo
6
7


saw an-oth-er worm, Looked too sad to squirm, "Worm!" he cried,
"Oh be my friend, Lone - li-ness will end, lone - li-ness, lone-li-ness will
end."
espr.
7
7


pooo
p
pooo
pooo rit.
Allegretto (♩. = ca. 68-72)
mp giocoso
And so each lit - tle
mp con allegrezza
Ped. sim.
worm Be - gan to sing and squirm, to sing and squirm, A


cresc.
hus - band and de - vot - ed wife They wig - gled their way through
cresc.
f
meno f
life.
They wig - gled,
f
meno f
They squig - gled,
f
They

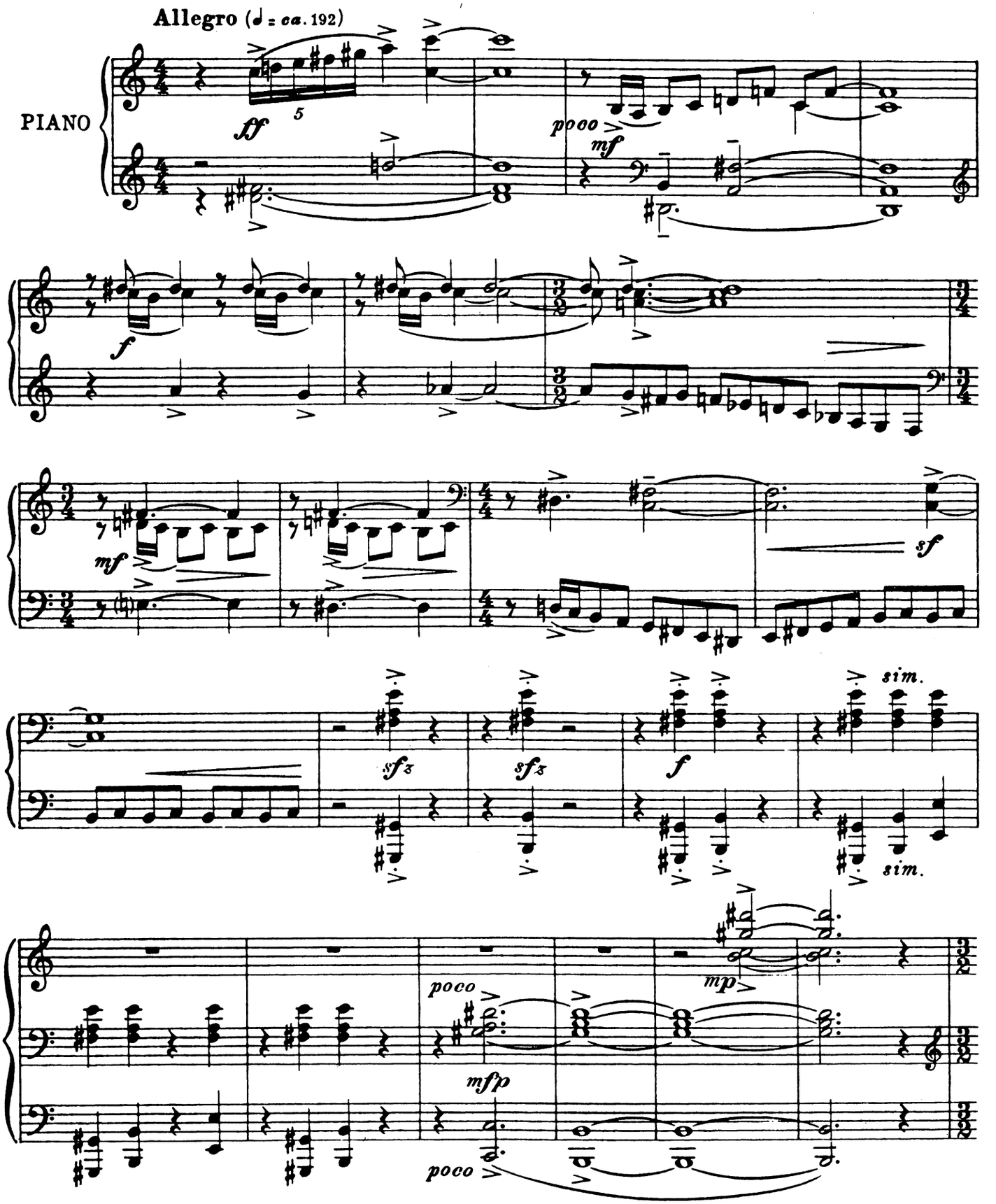

wig - gled, mig - gled, squig-gled, wrig - gled, Wig - gled their
f
cresc.
way
through
ff
cresc.
ff
life.

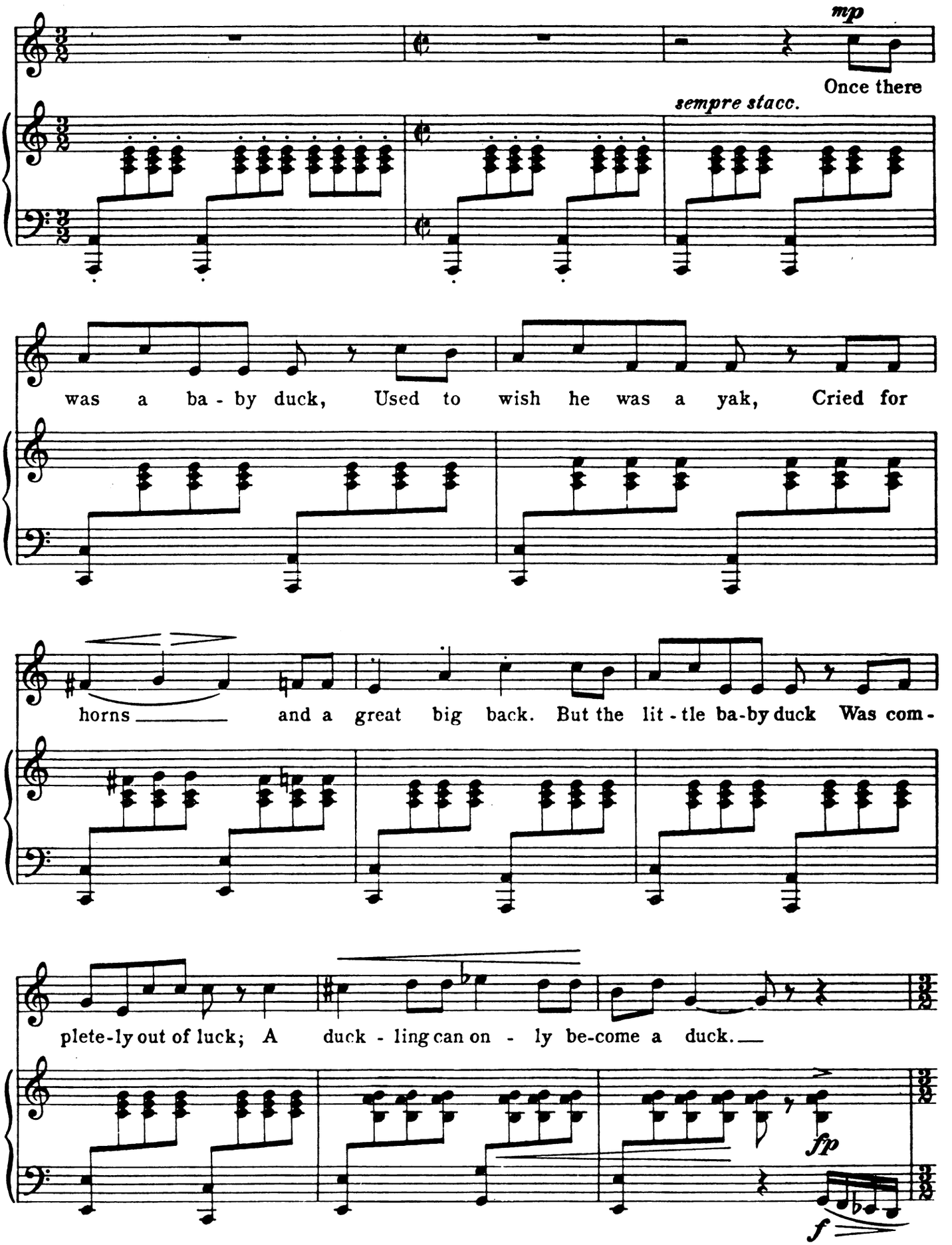
*To Alexei Haieff*

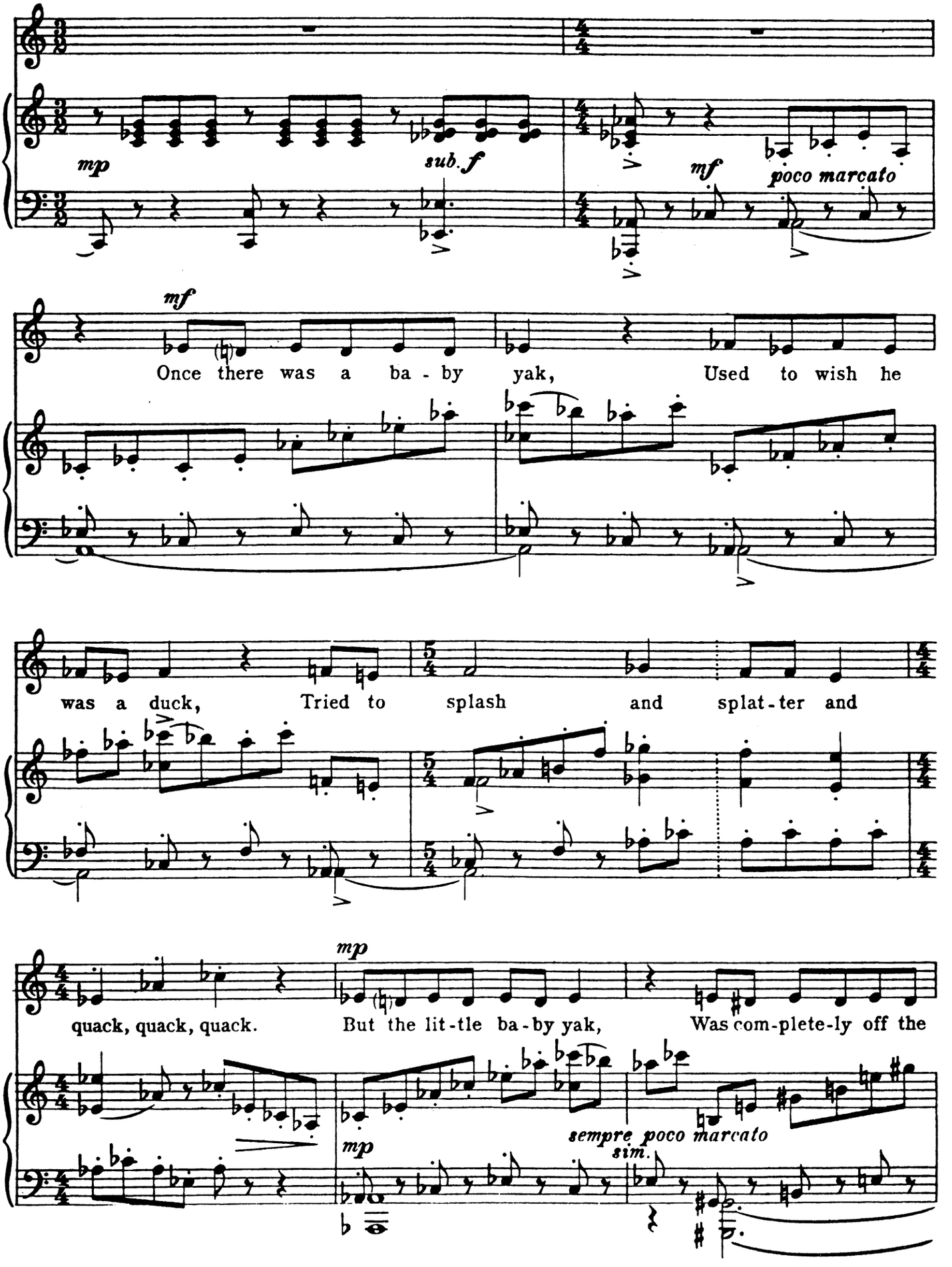
# 6. THE DUCK AND THE YAK

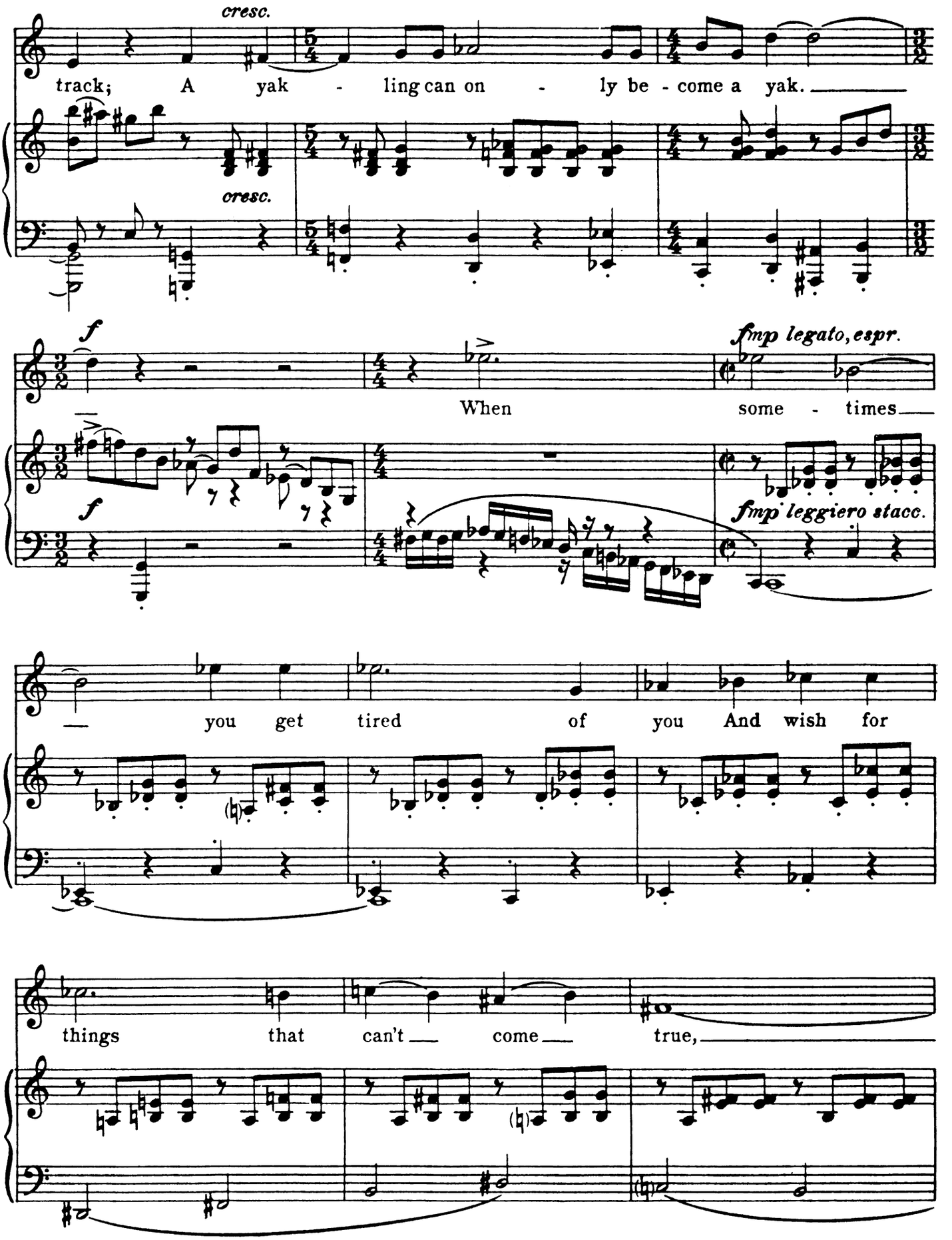
Verse by GERTRUDE NORMAN

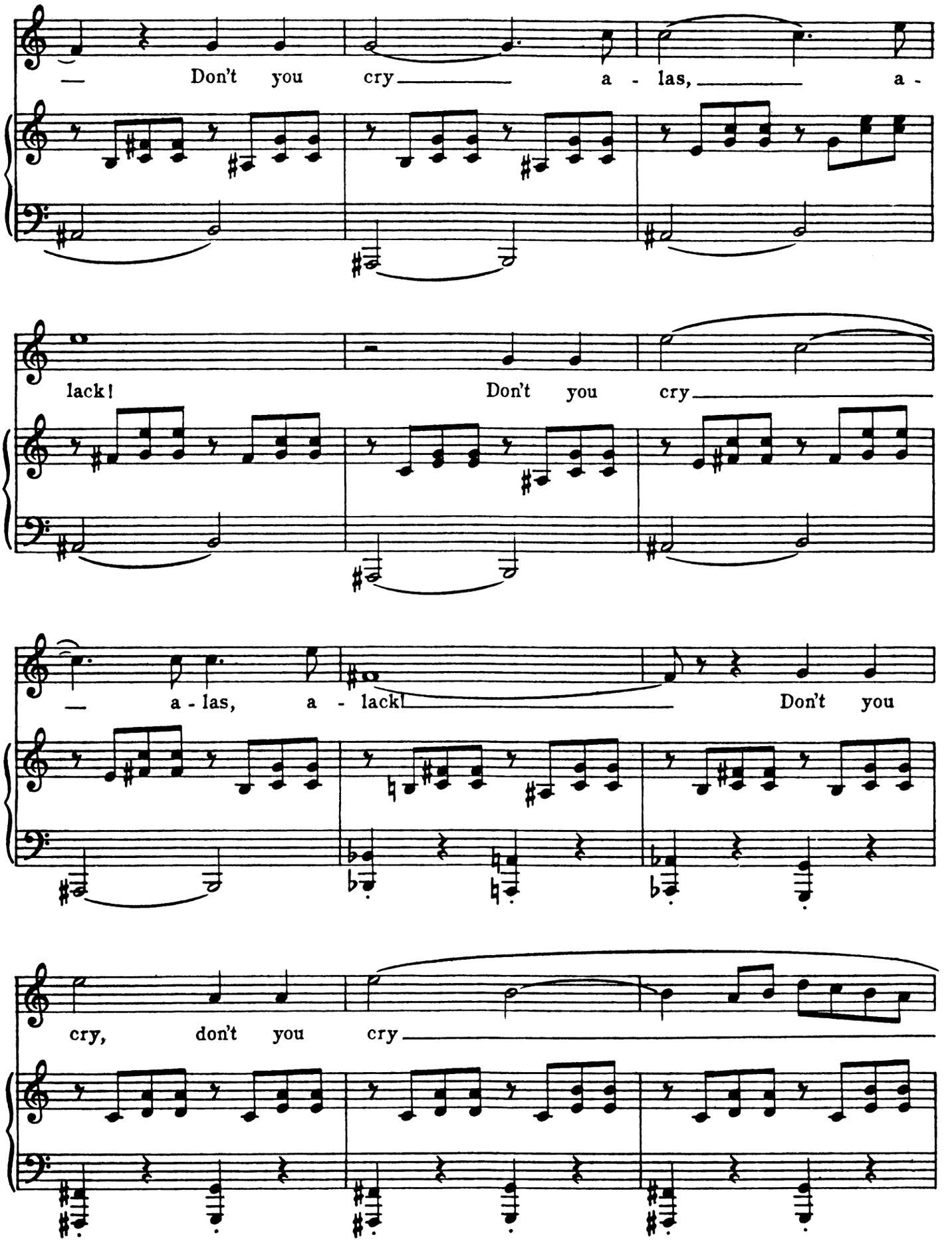
Music by IRVING FINE

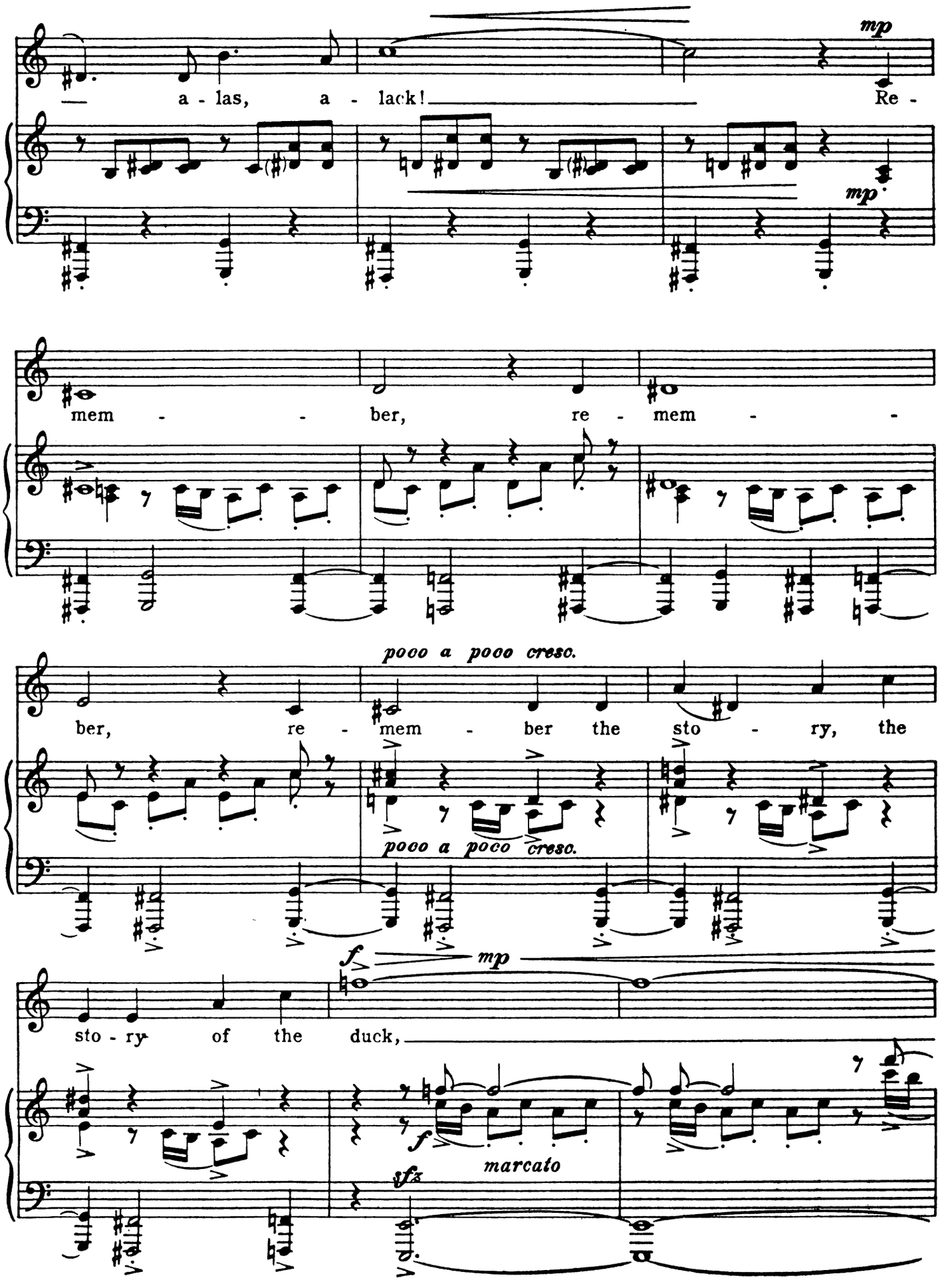


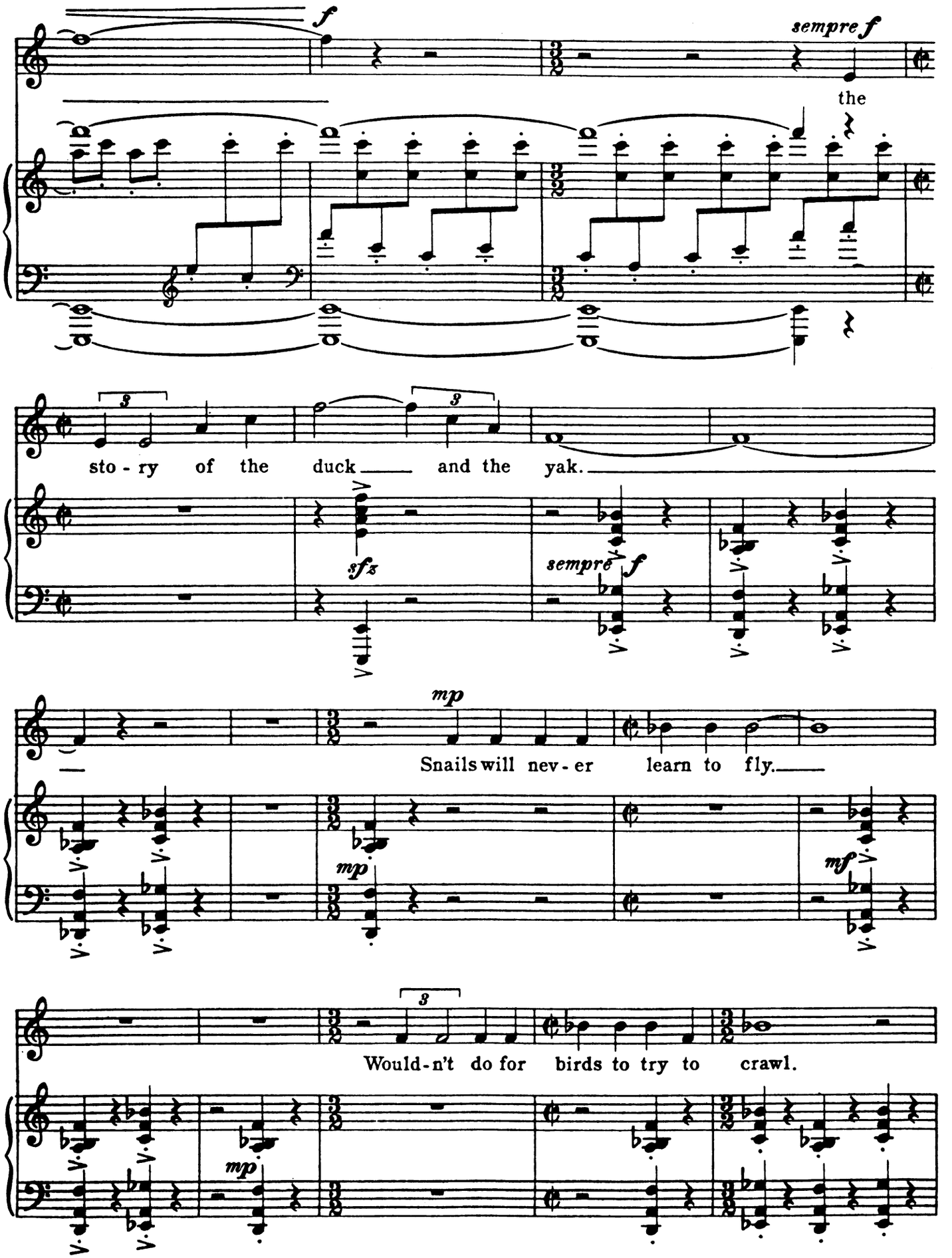

mp
Once there
sempre stacc.
was a ba - by duck, Used to wish he was a yak, Cried for
horns and a great big back. But the lit - tle ba-by duck Was com -
plete-ly out of luck; A duck - ling can on - ly be-come a duck.
fp
f

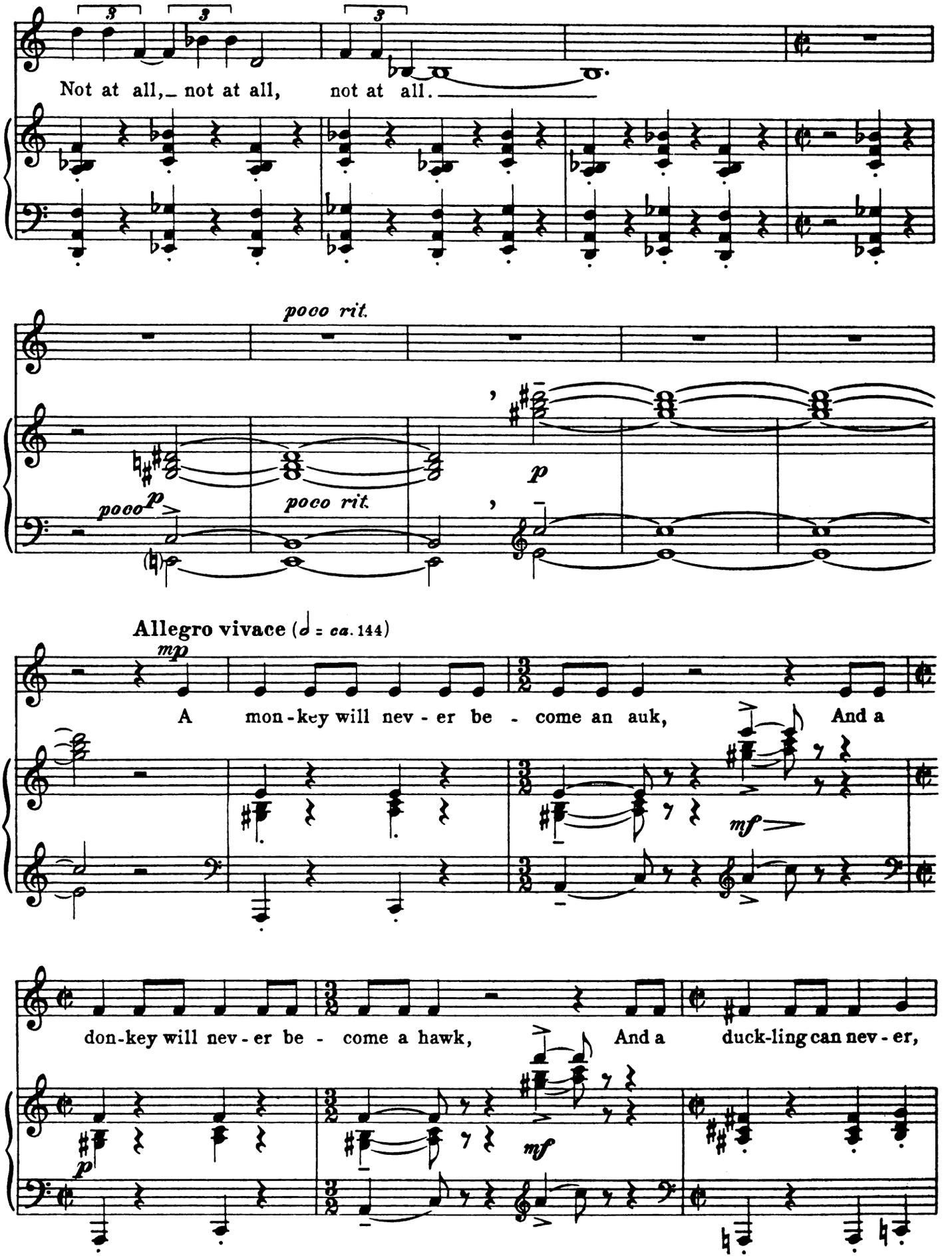

mp
sub. f
mf
poco marcato
mf
Once there was a ba - by yak, Used to wish he
was a duck, Tried to splash and splat - ter and
mp
quack, quack, quack. But the lit - tle ba - by yak, Was com - plete - ly off the
mp
sempre poco marcato
sim.

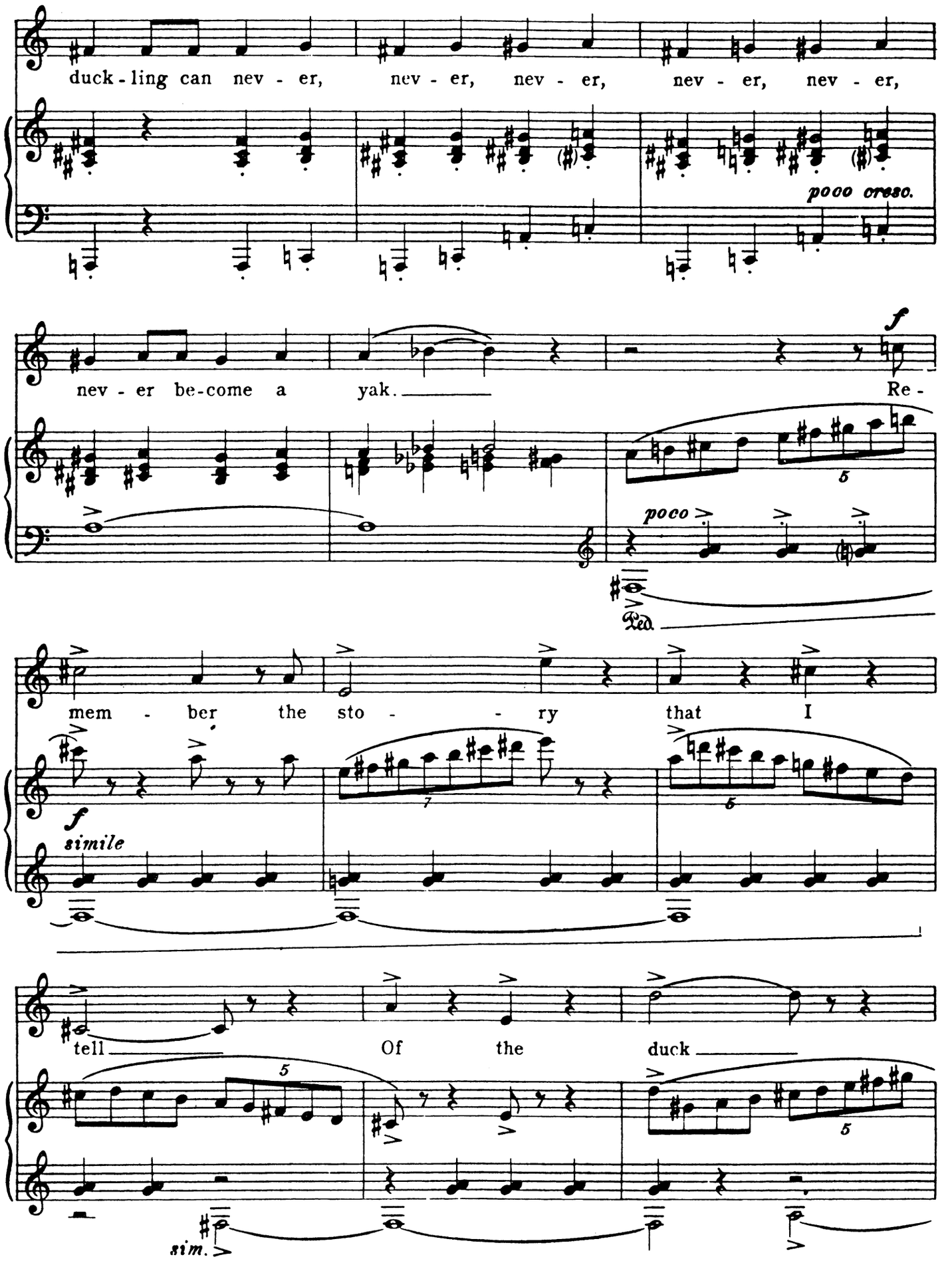

cresc.
track; A yak - ling can on - ly be - come a yak.
cresc.
f
fmp legato, espr.
When some - times
f
fmp leggiero stacc.
you get tired of you And wish for
things that can't come true,

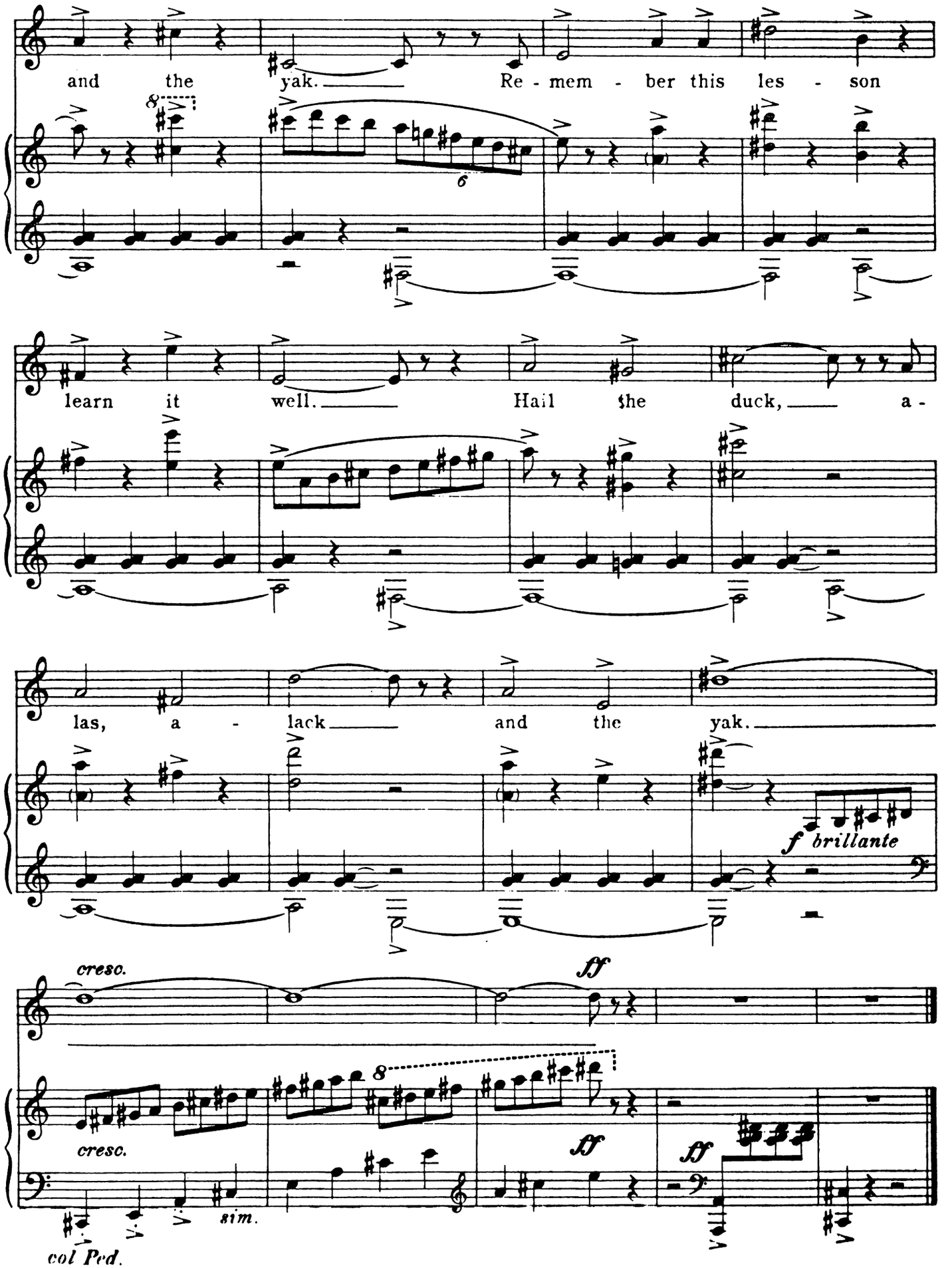

— Don't you cry — a - las, — a -
lack! Don't you cry —
— a - las, a - lack! — Don't you
cry, don't you cry —


mp
— a - las, a - lack! Re -
mp
mem - - ber, re - mem - -
pooo a pooo creso.
ber, re - mem - ber the sto - ry, the
pooo a poco creso.
f
mp
sto - ry of the duck,
f
marcato
sfz


f
sempre f
the
sto - ry of the duck and the yak.
sfz
sempre f
mp
Snails will nev - er learn to fly.
mp
mf
Would - n't do for birds to try to crawl.
mp


Not at all, not at all, not at all.
poco rit.
poco p
poco rit.
p
Allegro vivace (𝅗𝅥 = ca. 144)
mp
A mon-key will nev-er be-come an auk, And a
mf
don-key will nev-er be-come a hawk, And a duck-ling can nev-er,
p
mf


duck - ling can nev - er, nev - er, nev - er, nev - er, nev - er,
pooo cresc.
nev - er be-come a yak.
Re -
poco
mem - ber the sto - - ry that I
simile
tell
Of the duck
sim.


and the yak. Re - mem - ber this les - son
learn it well. Hail the duck, a -
las, a - lack and the yak.
f brillante
cresc.
ff
cresc.
ff
ff
sim.
col Ped.