TO ALVIN SMITH

TWENTY POEMS
AND
A LETTER
BY
EMILY DICKINSON

FOR
VOICE AND PIANO

MUSIC BY
JOHN MITCHELL
OP. 133 (2004)

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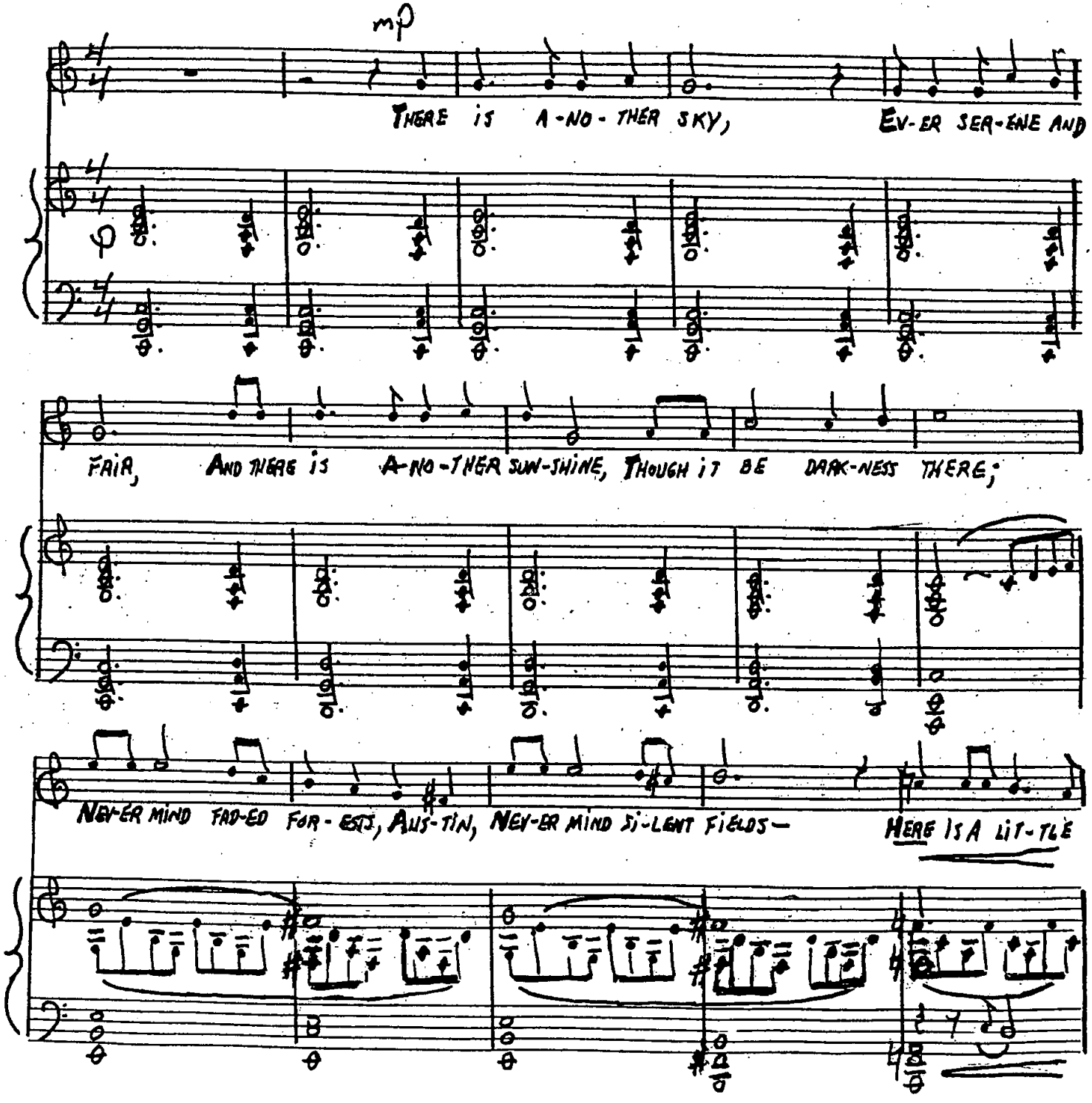
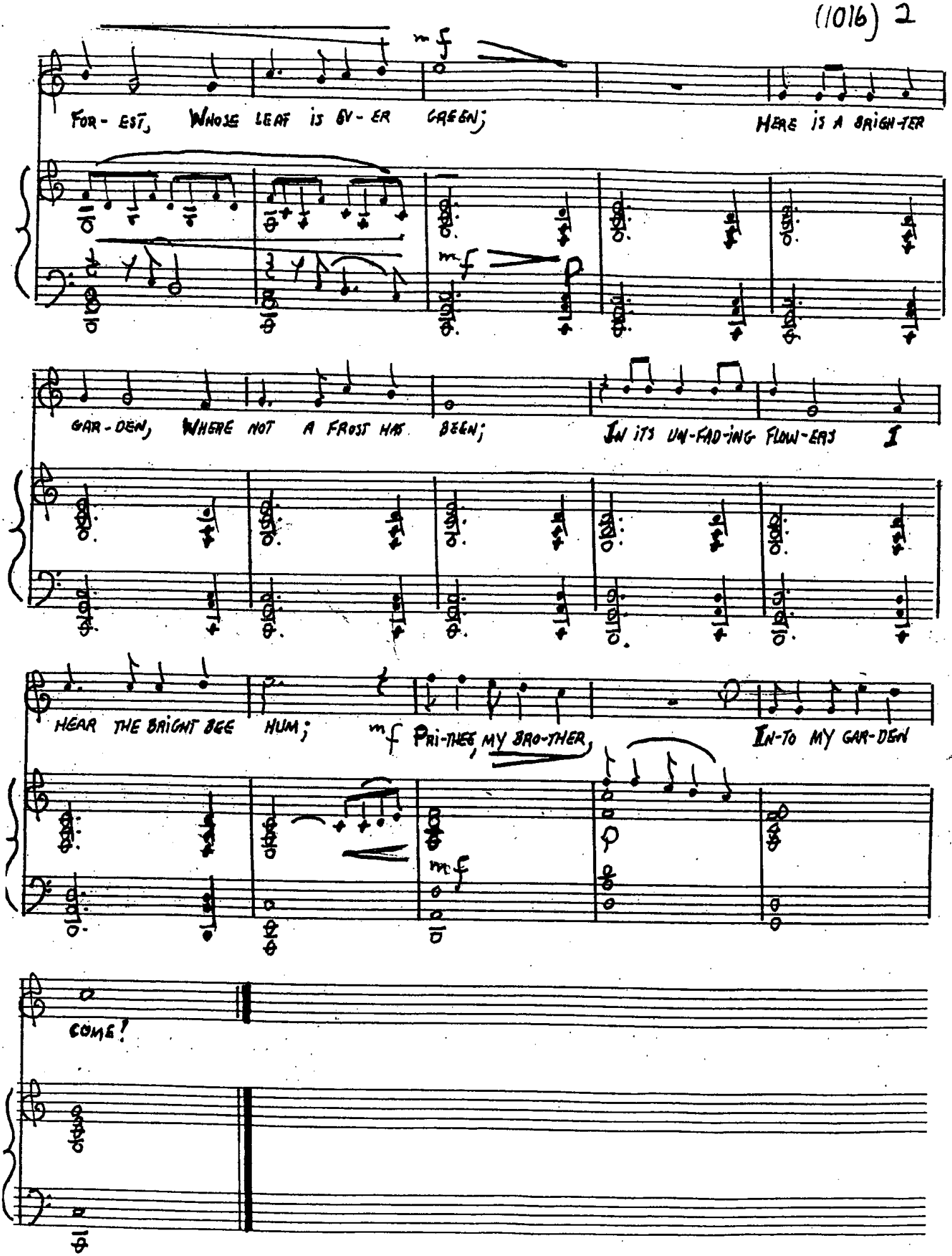
1. THERE IS ANOTHER SKY

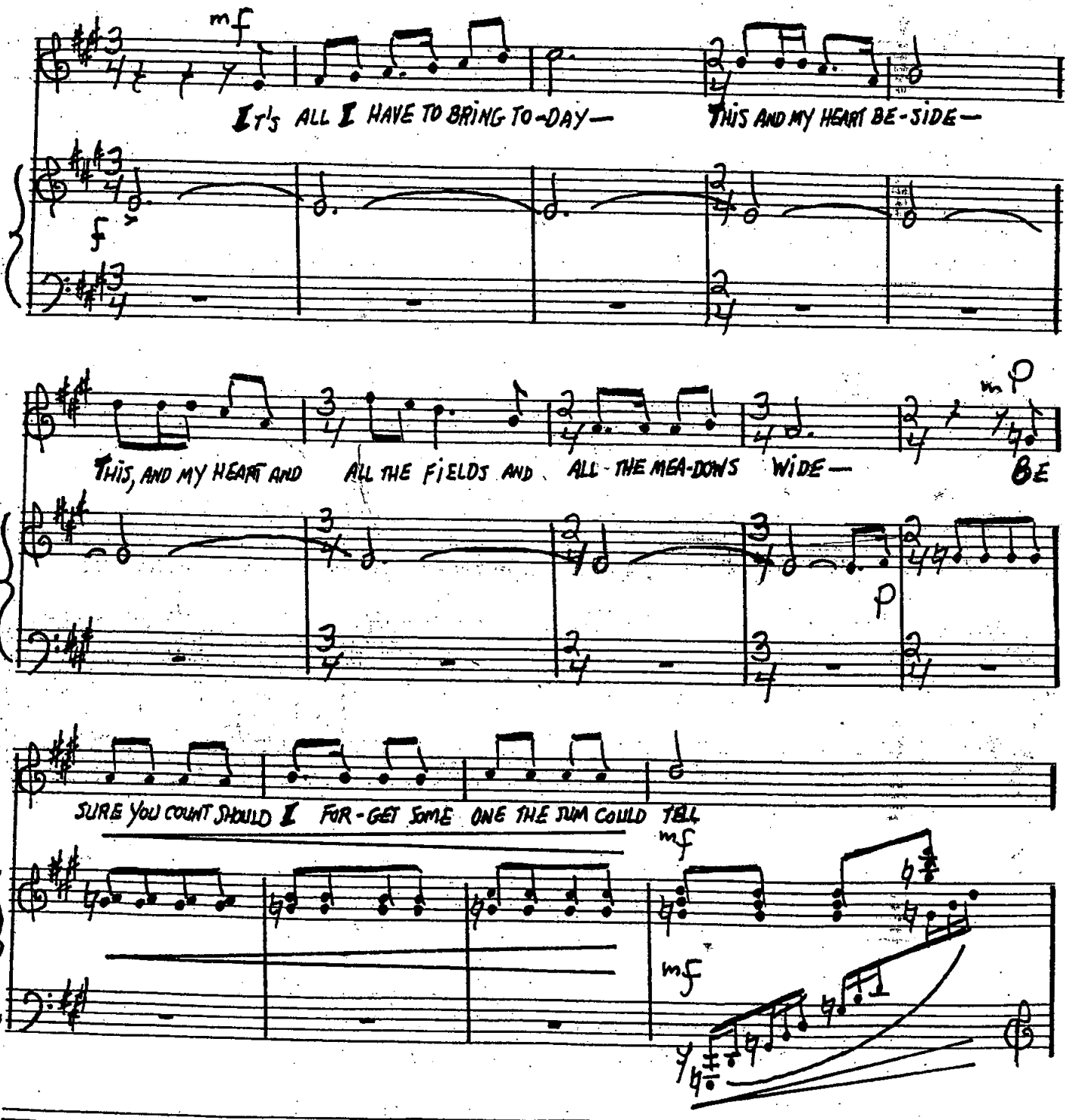
SLOW

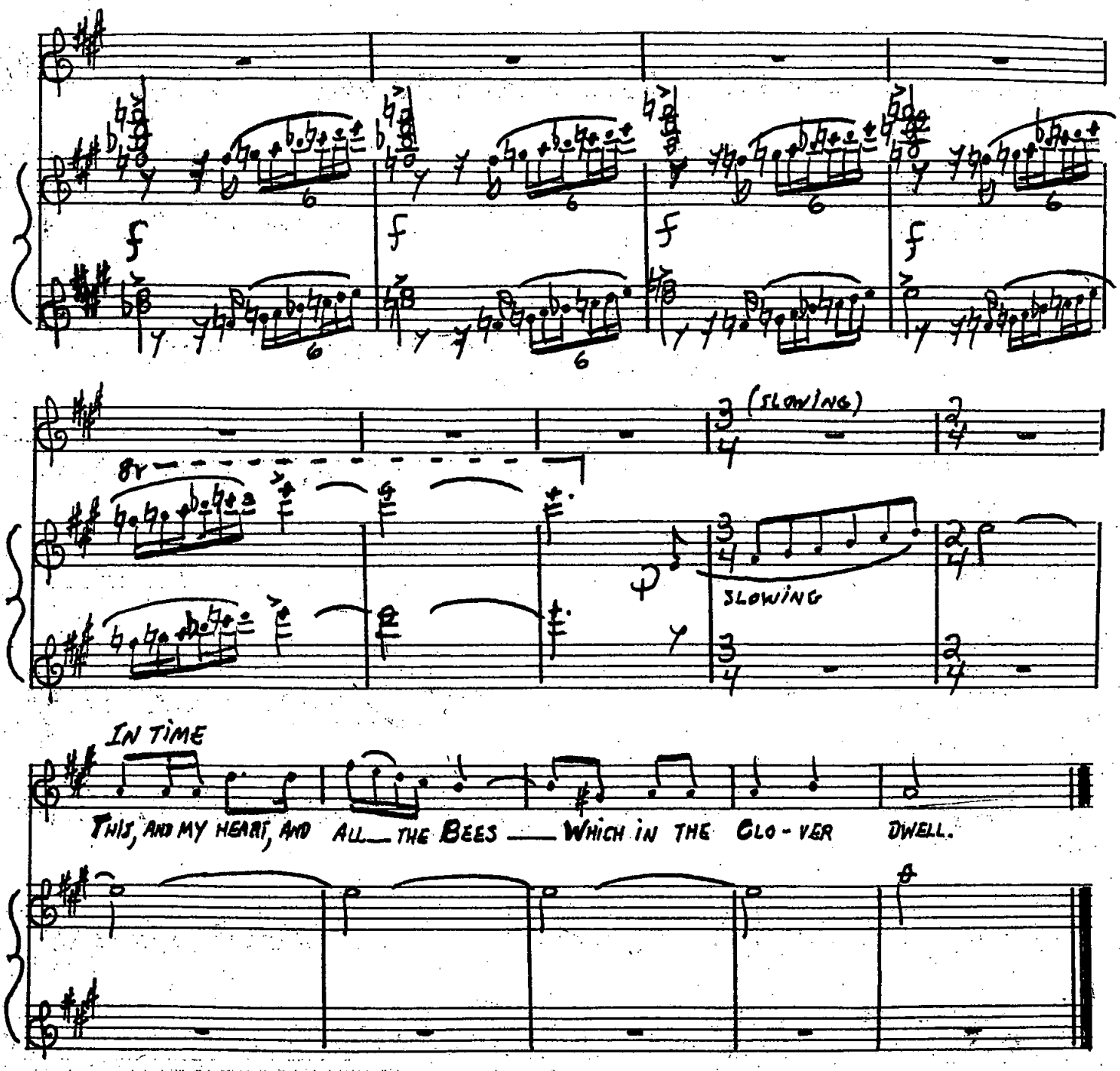



mf
FOR-EST, WHOSE LEAF IS EV-ER GREEN;
HERE IS A BRIGH-TER
mf
GAR-DEN, WHERE NOT A FROST HAS BEEN;
IN ITS UN-FAD-ING FLOW-ERS I
HEAR THE BRIGHT BEE HUM;
mf PRI-THEE, MY BRO-THER,
IN-TO MY GAR-DEN
mf
COME!

2. IT'S ALL I HAVE TO BRING TODAY

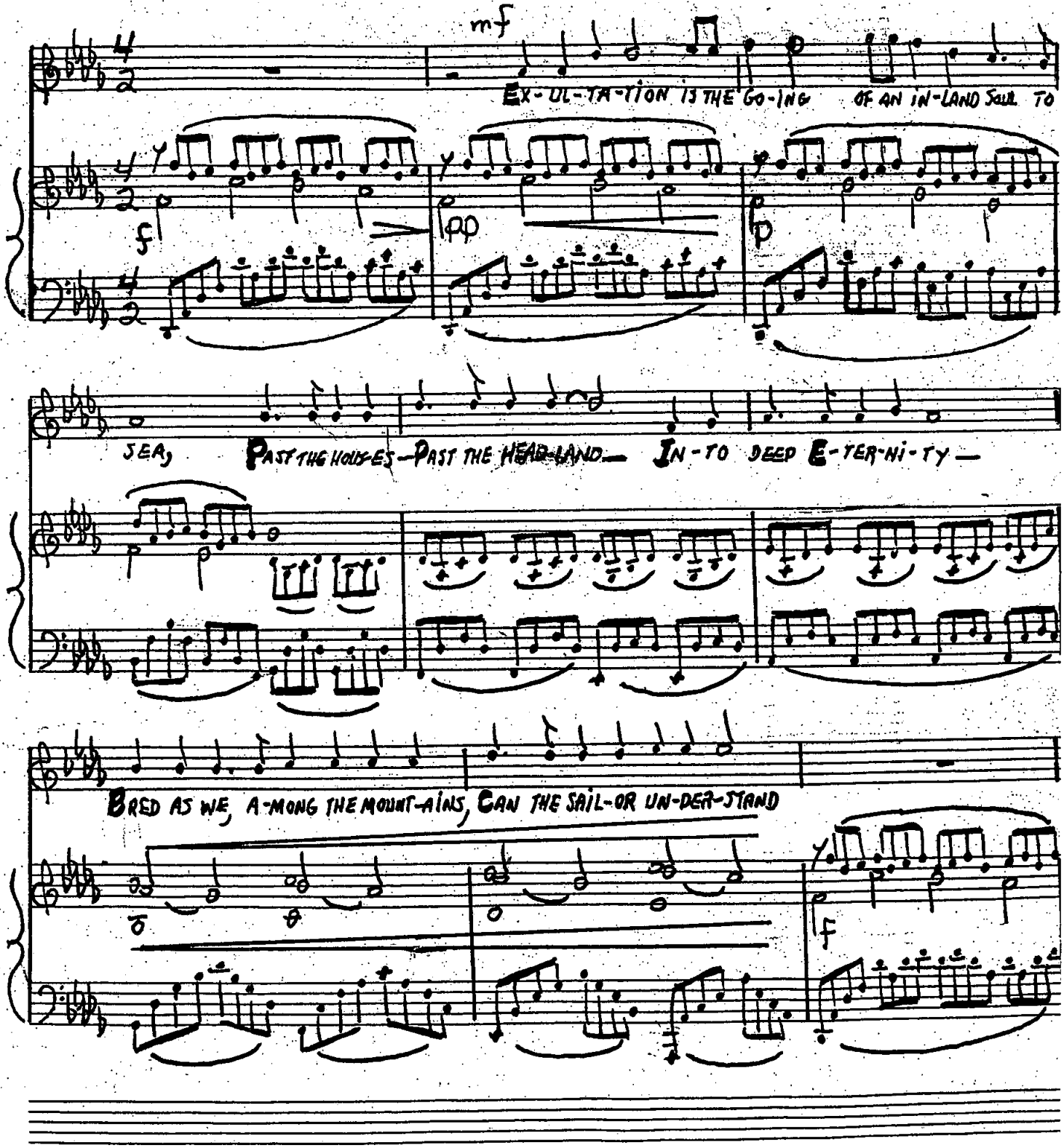
MEDIUM

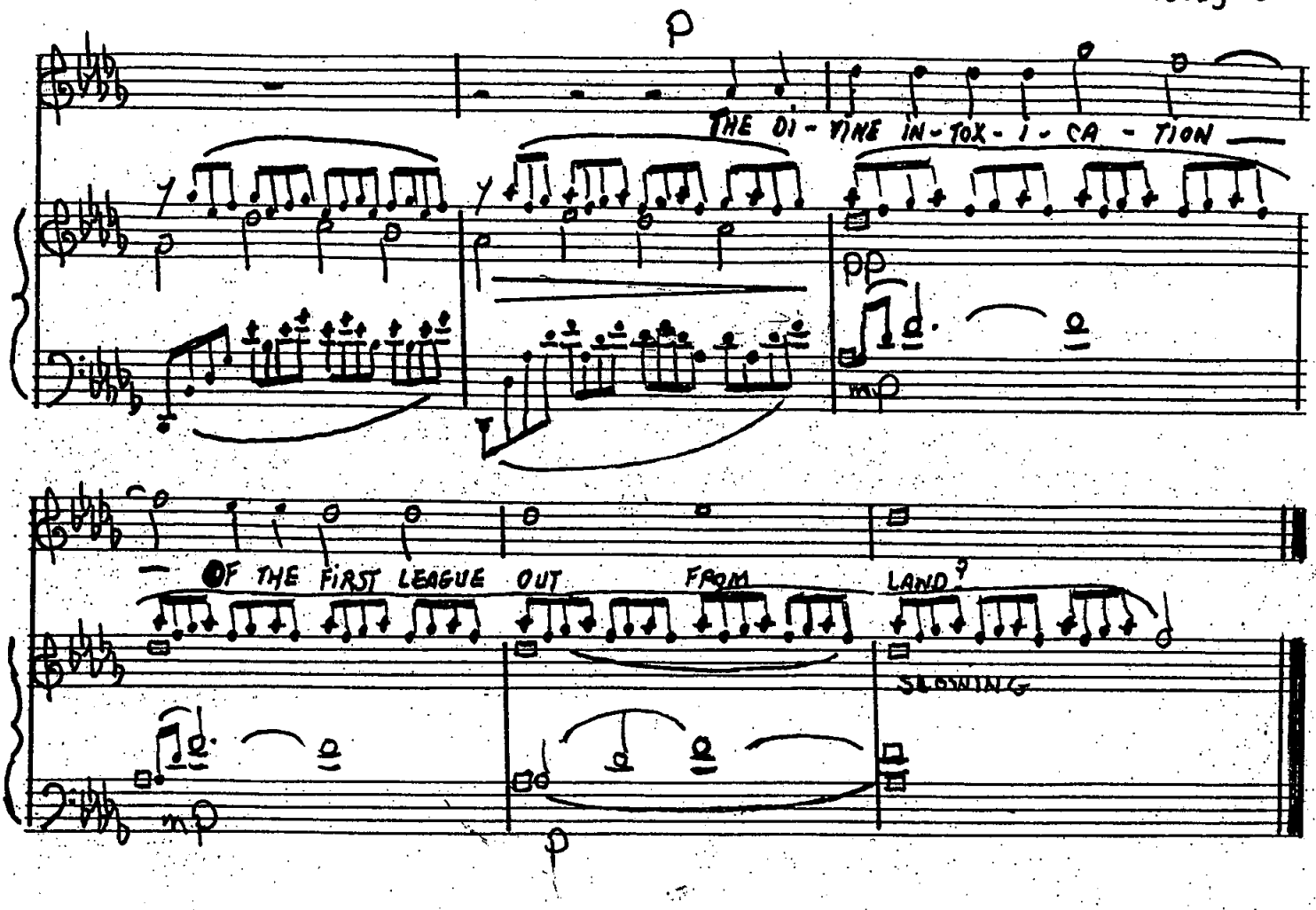



(SLOWING)
SLOWING
IN TIME
THIS, AND MY HEART, AND ALL THE BEES WHICH IN THE CLO-VER DWELL.

3. EXULTATION

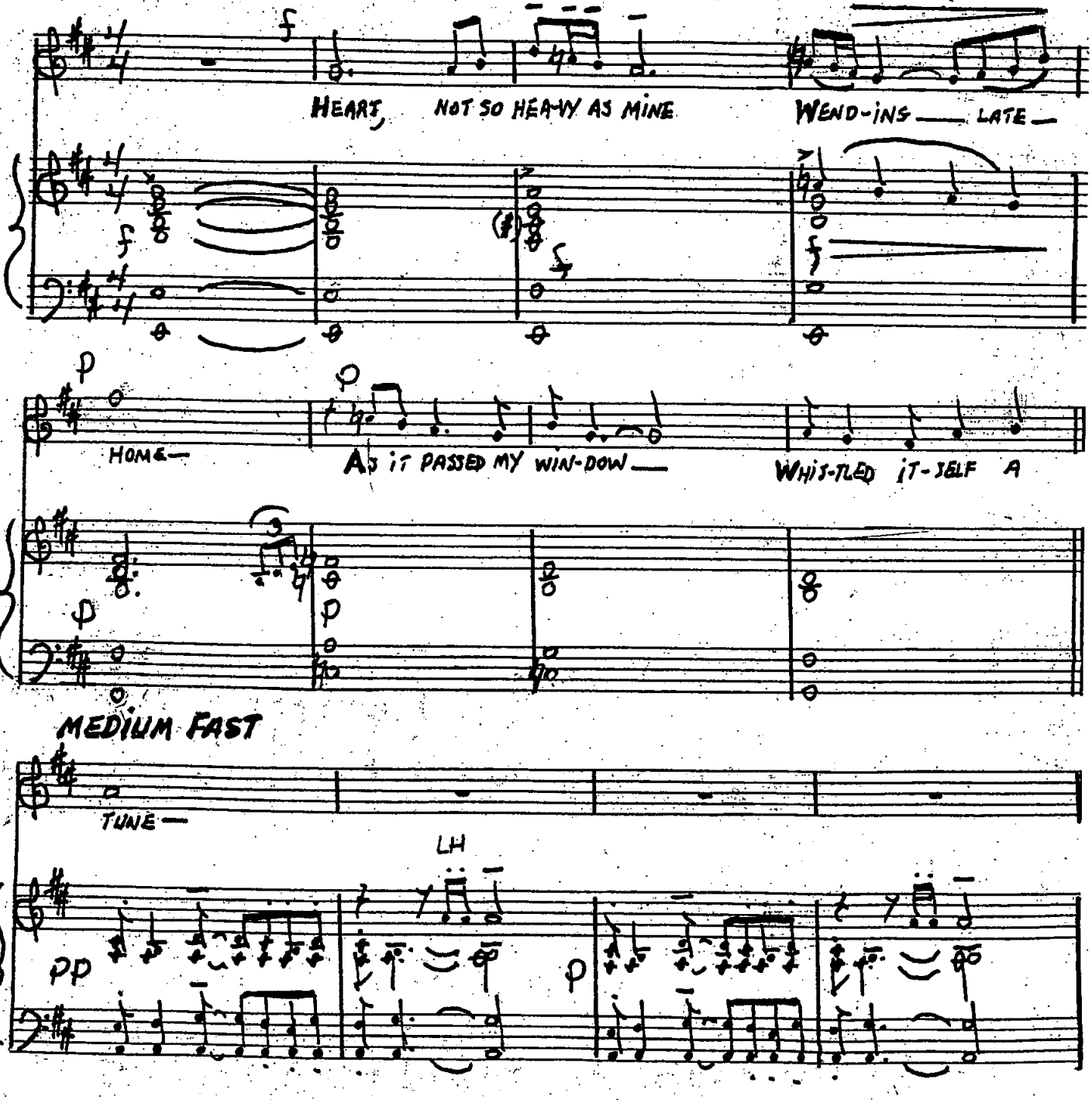
FAST MEDIUM

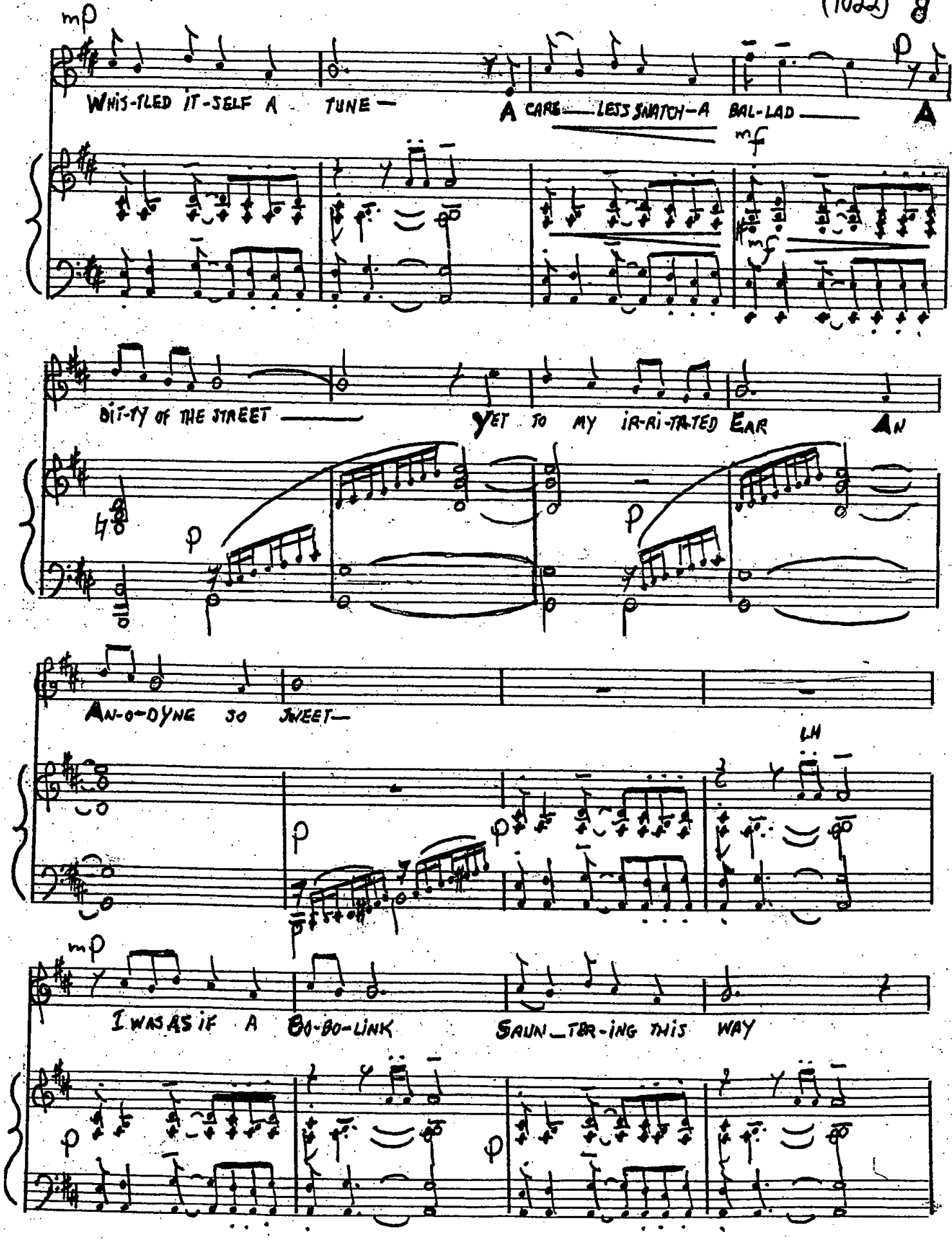


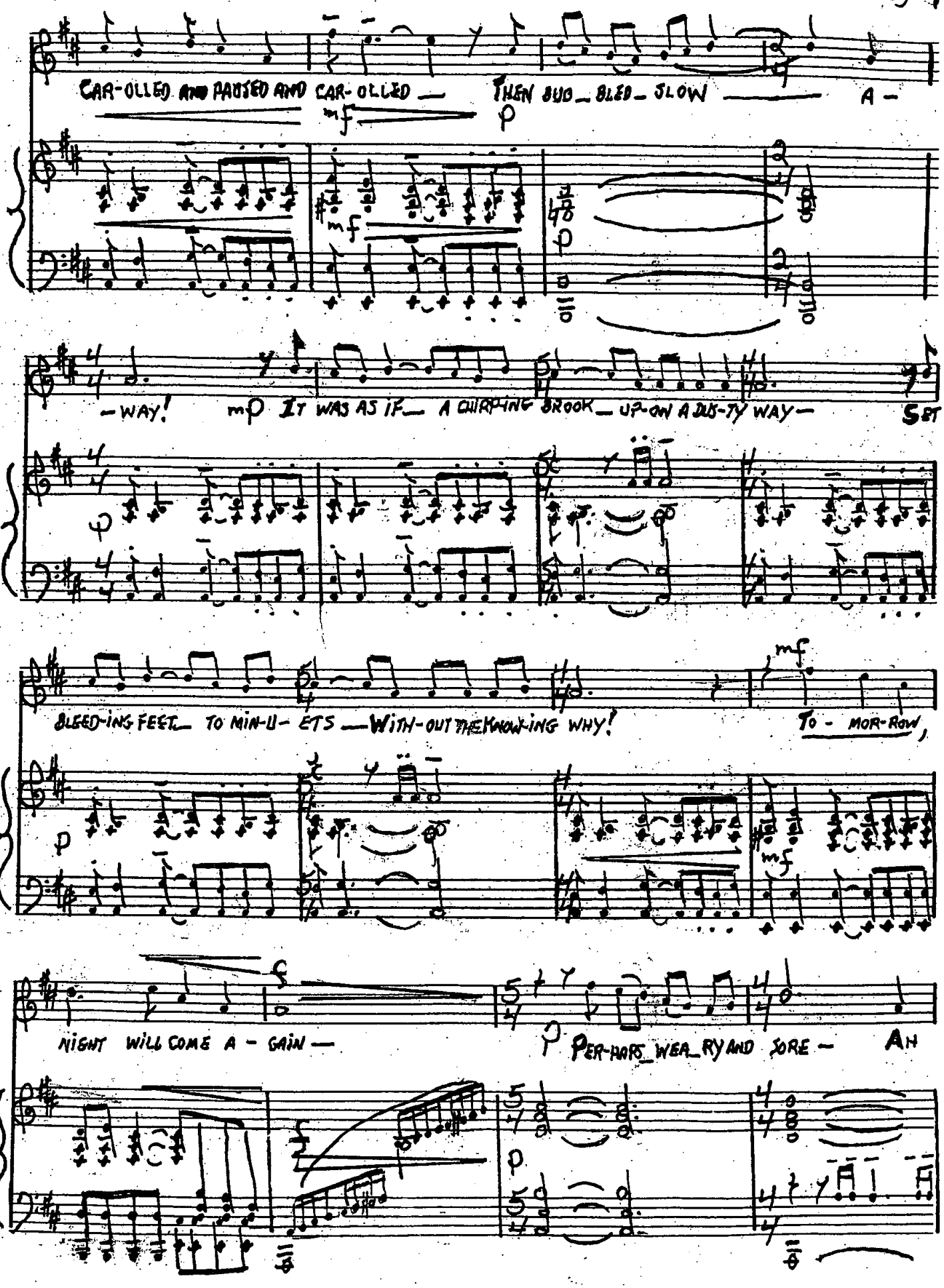

p
THE DI - VINE IN - TOX - I - CA - TION
pp
mp
OF THE FIRST LEAGUE OUT FROM LAND
SLOWING
mp
p

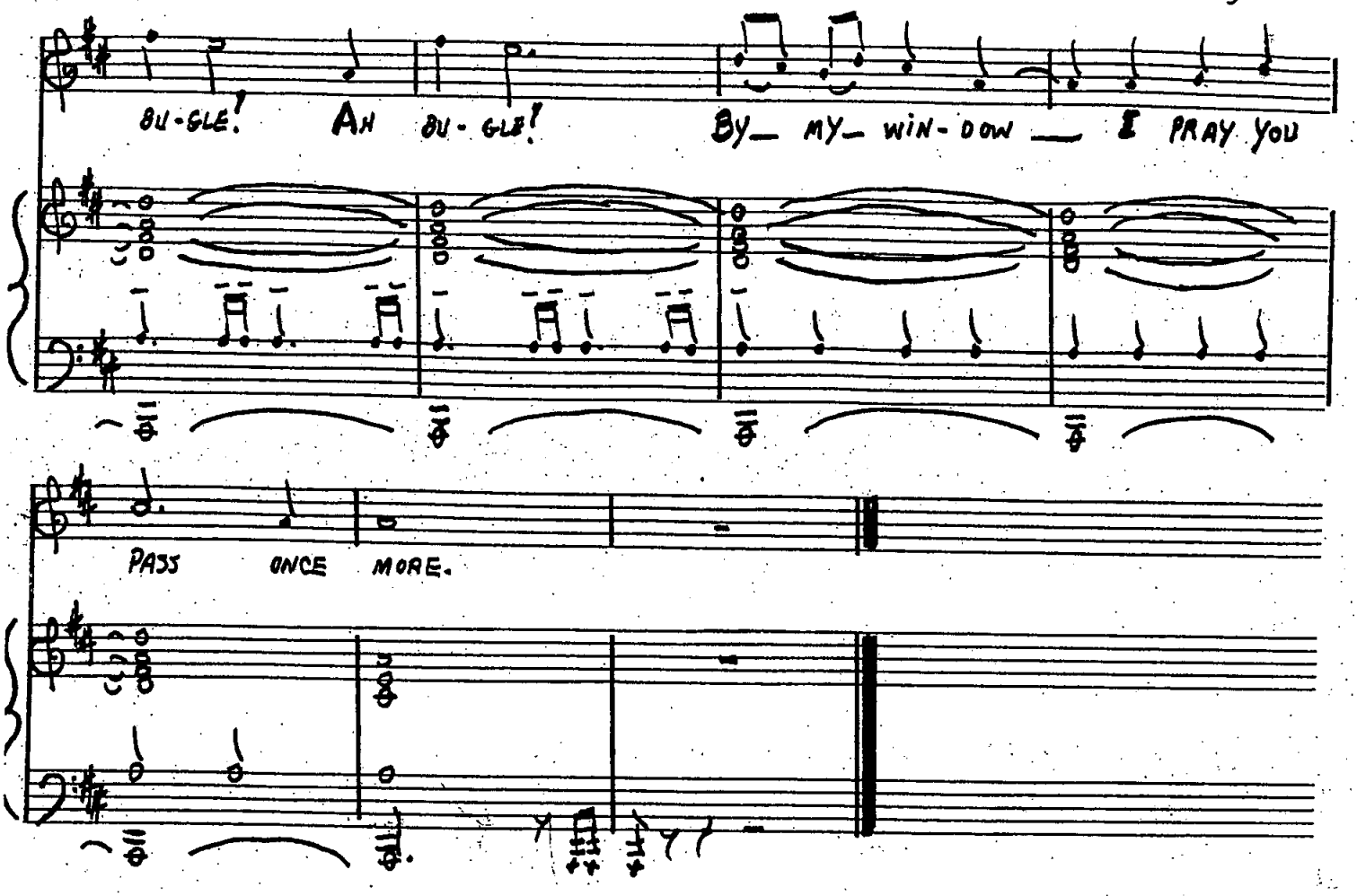
4. HEART, NOT SO HEAVY AS MINE

BROADLY



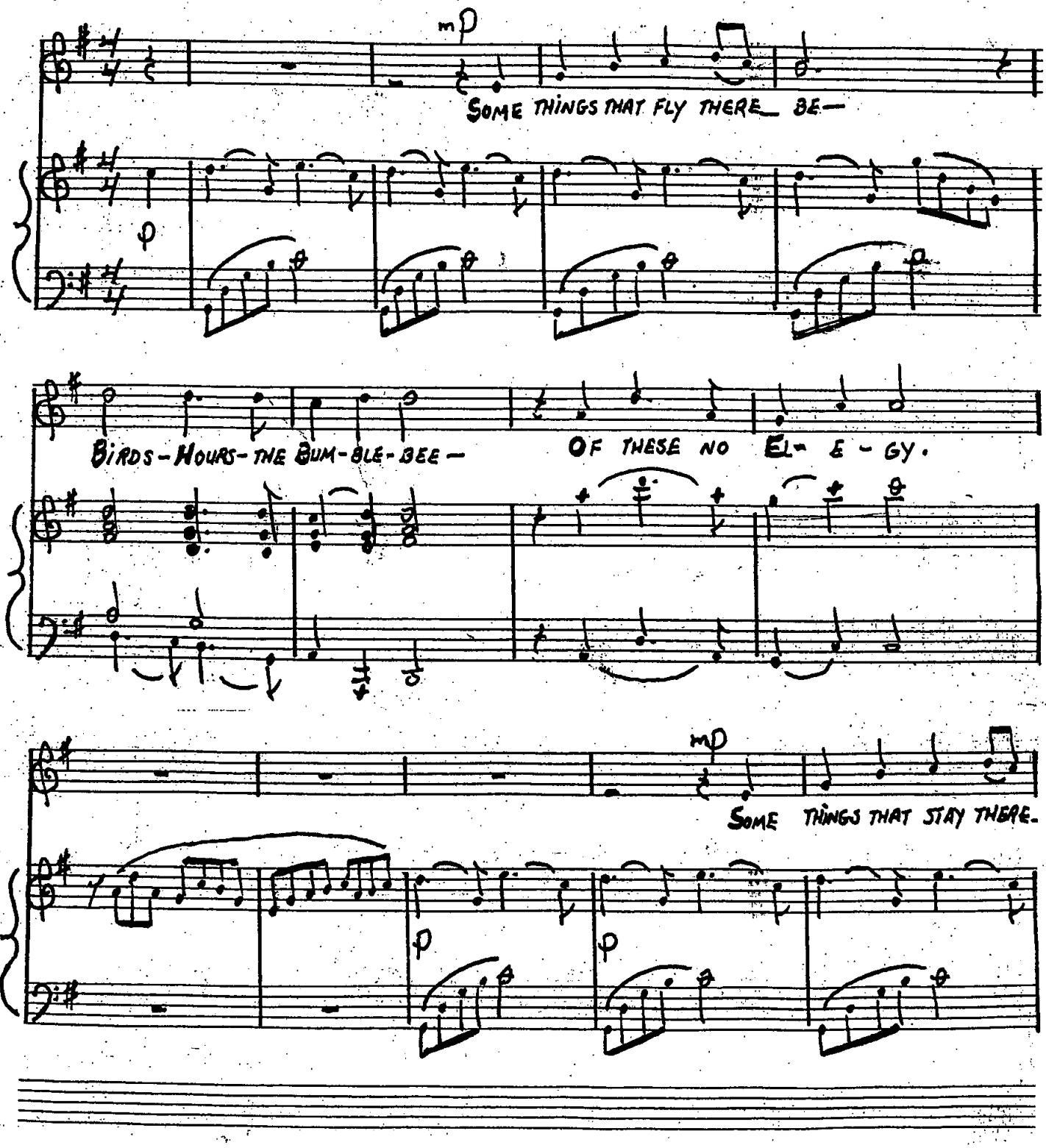

mp
WHIS-TLED IT-SELF A TUNE —
A CARE — LESS SNATCH-A BAL-LAD —
A
mf
DIT-TY OF THE STREET —
YET TO MY IR-RI-TA-TED EAR
AN
p
AN-O-DYNE SO SWEET —
LH
mp
I WAS AS IF A BO-BO-LINK
SAUN_TER-ING THIS WAY

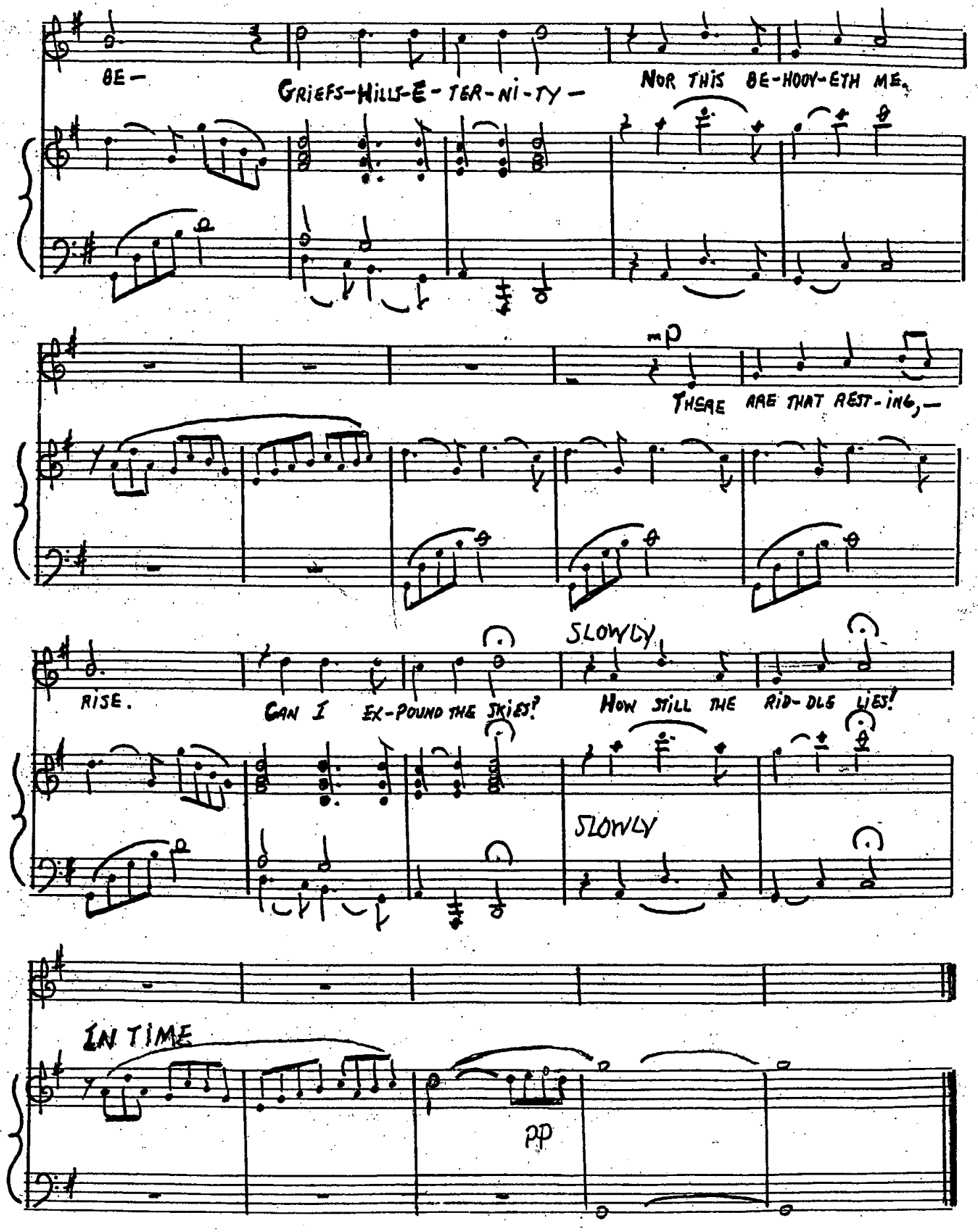

CAR-OLLED AND PAUSED AND CAR-OLLED — THEN BUB-BLED-SLOW — A-
-WAY! mp IT WAS AS IF— A CHIRPING BROOK— UP-ON A DUS-TY WAY— SET
BLEED-ING FEET— TO MIN-U-ETS —WITH-OUT THE KNOW-ING WHY!
TO-MOR-ROW,
NIGHT WILL COME A-GAIN —
PER-HAPS— WEA-RY AND SORE — AH


BU-GLE! AH BU-GLE! BY_ MY_ WIN-DOW __ I PRAY YOU
PASS ONCE MORE.

5. SOME THINGS THAT FLY

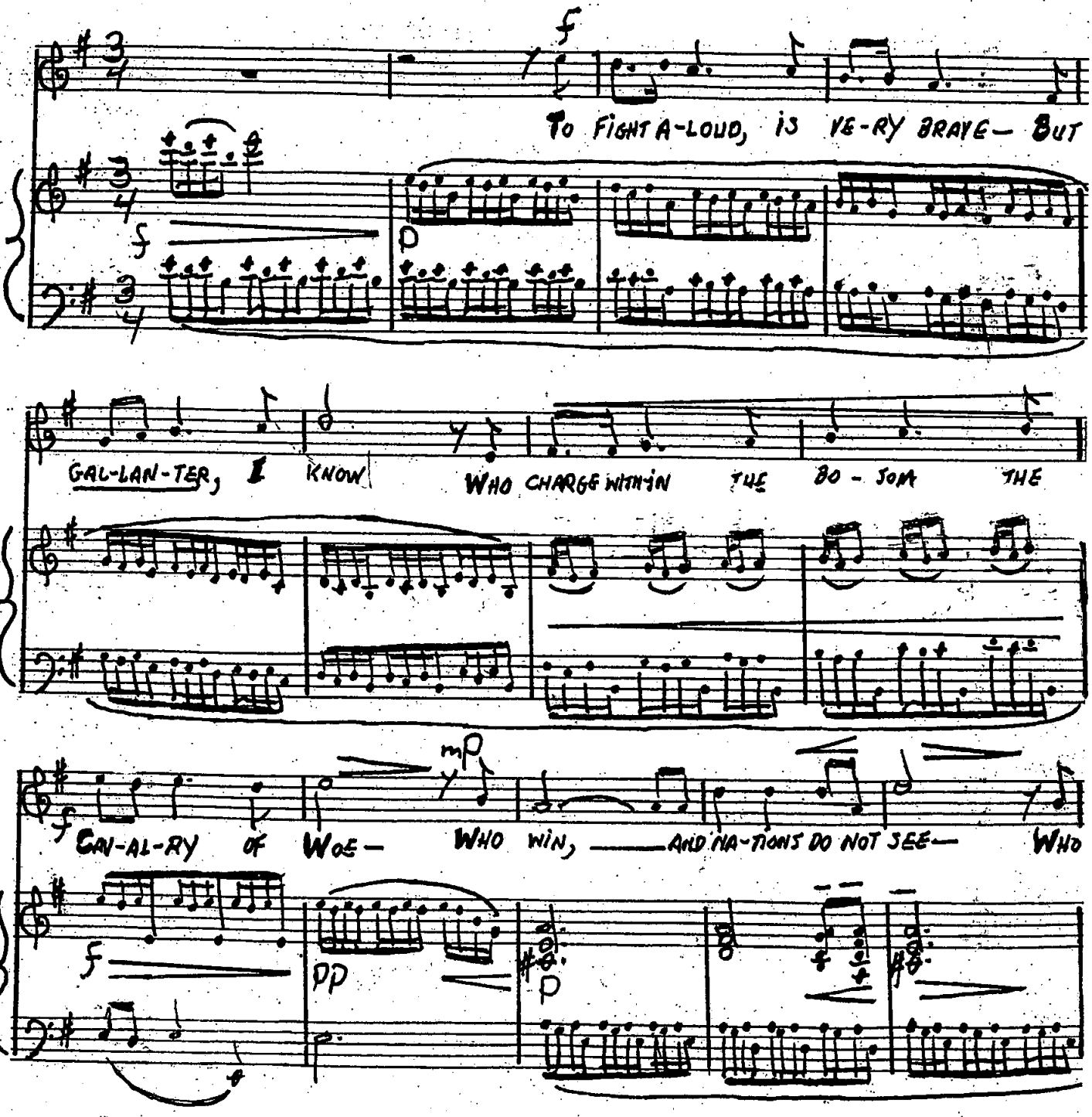
MEDIUM

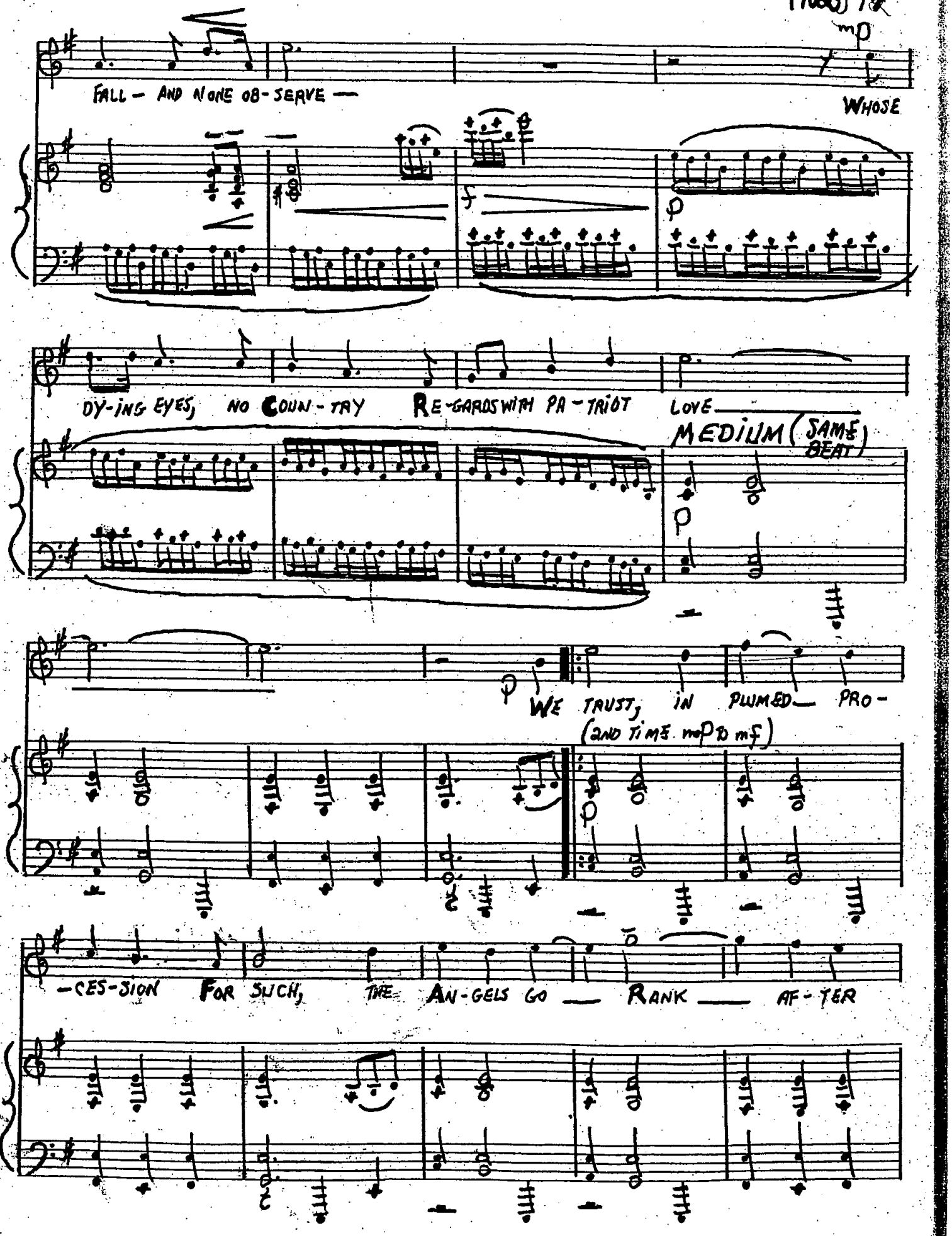



BE-
GRIEFS-HILLS-E-TER-NI-TY-
NOR THIS BE-HOOV-ETH ME.
mp
THESE ARE THAT REST-ING,-
RISE.
CAN I EX-POUND THE SKIES?
SLOWLY
HOW STILL THE RID-DLE LIES!
SLOWLY
IN TIME
pp

6. TO FIGHT ALOUD

FAST




mp
FALL - AND NONE OB-SERVE —
WHOSE
f
p
DY-ING EYES, NO COUN-TRY RE-GARDS WITH PA-TRIOT LOVE
MEDIUM (SAME BEAT)
p
WE TRUST, IN PLUMED PRO-
(2ND TIME mp TO mf)
-CES-SION FOR SUCH, THE AN-GELS GO RANK AF-TER

(2ND TIME) mf

RANK, WITH EV — EN — FEET — AND UN-I-FORMS OF SNOW. mp WE

f TRUST, IN PLUMED — PRO-CES-SION FOR SUCH, THE AN-GELS GO —

f

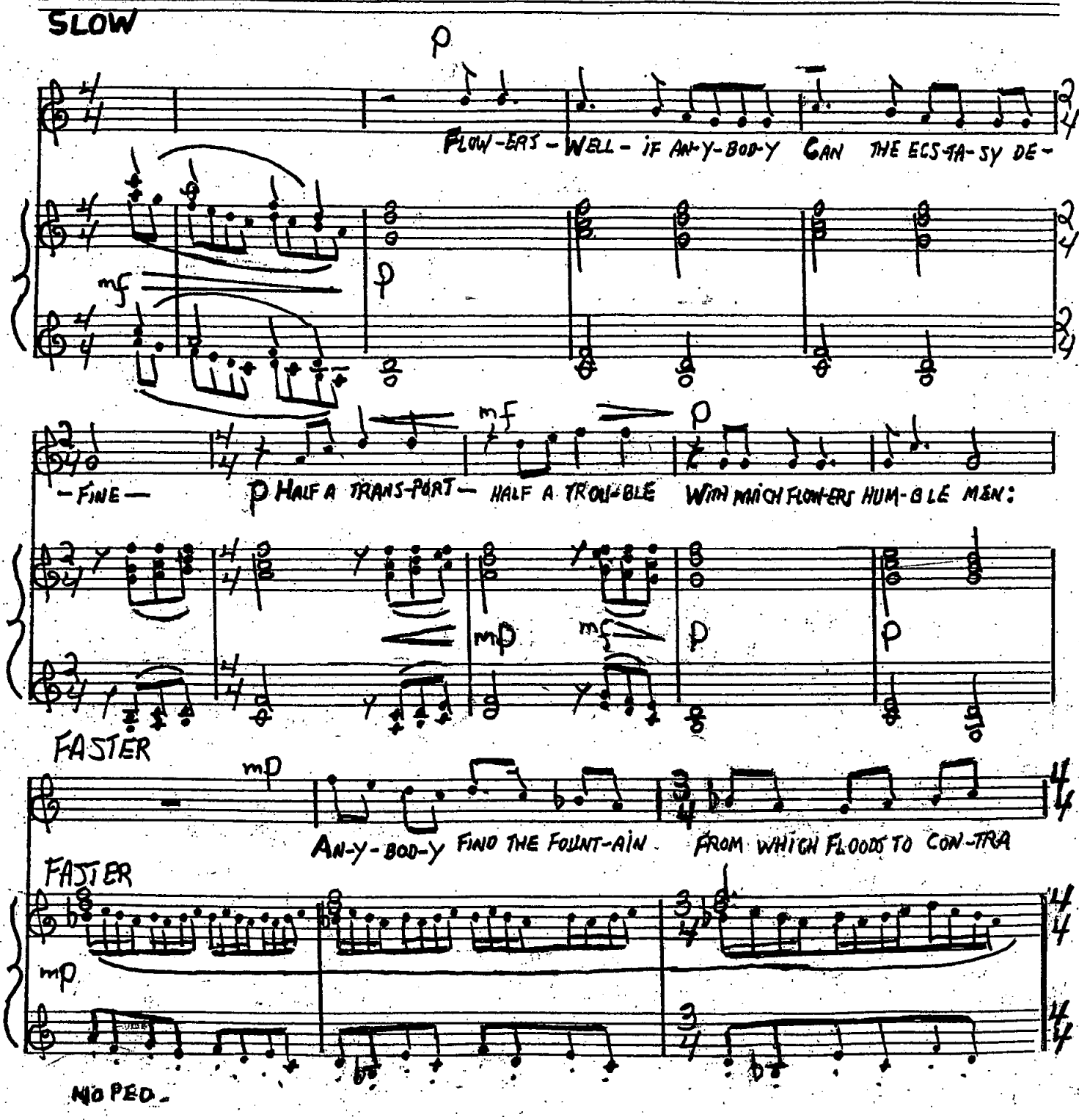
— RANK — AF-TER RANK, WITH EV — EN — FEET AND

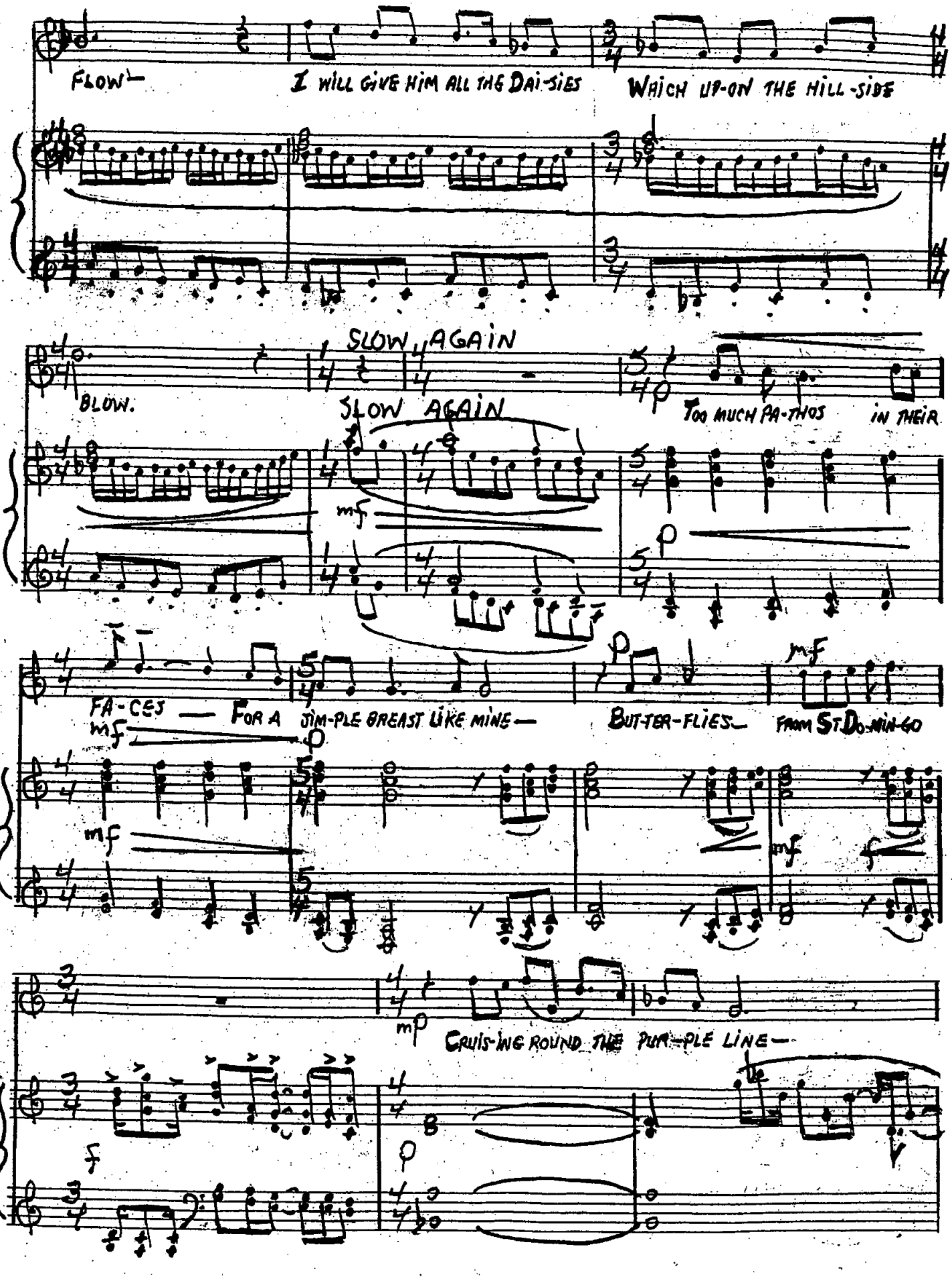
UN-I-FORMS OF SNOW. —

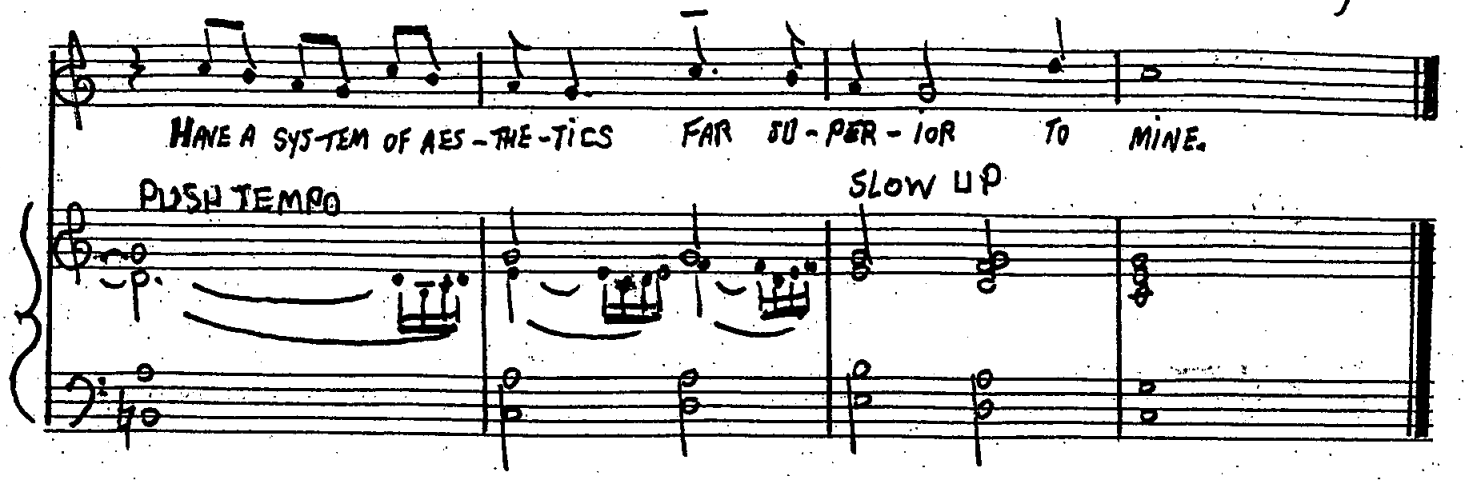
ff

(NO RIT.)

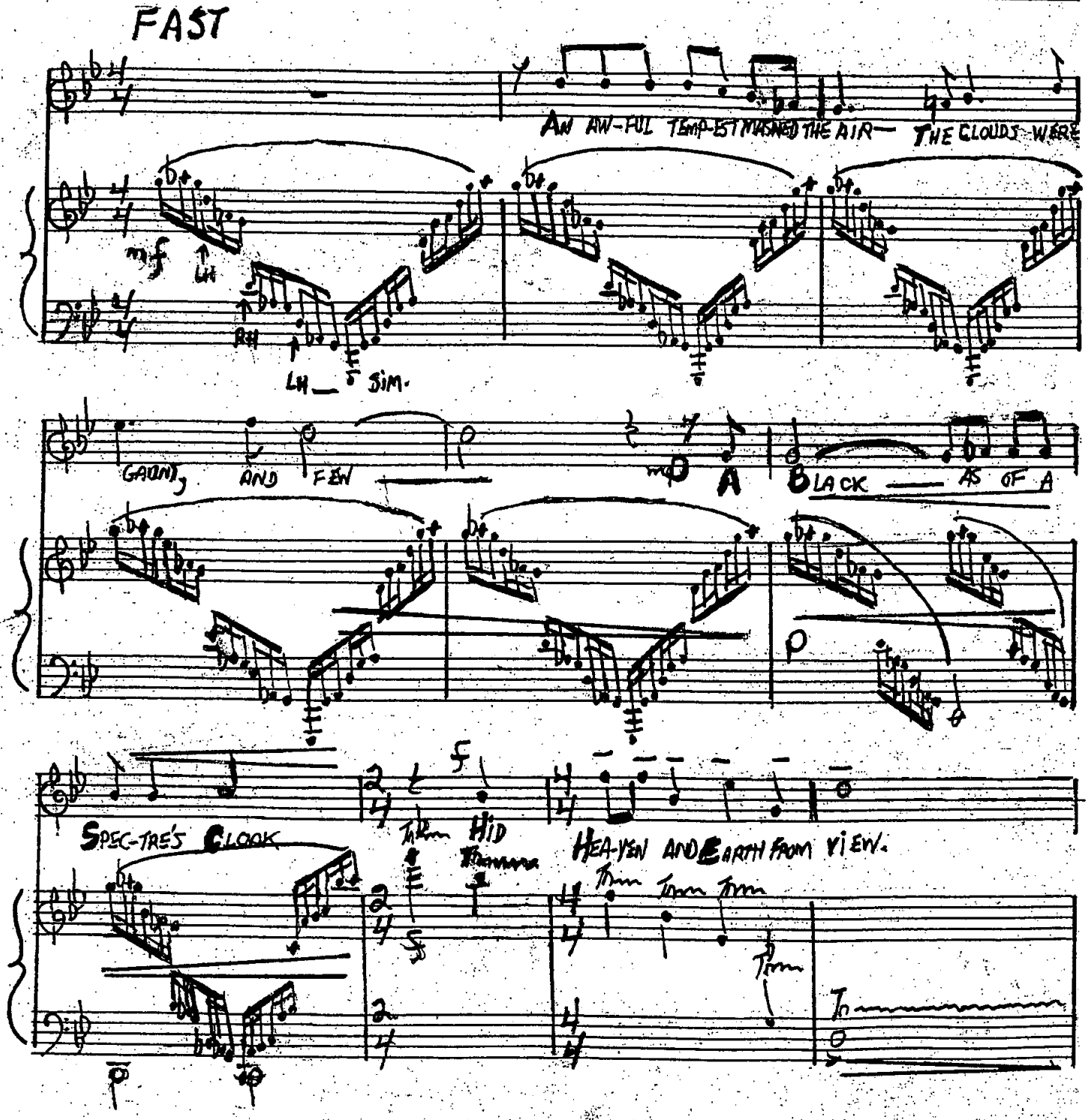
7. FLOWERS

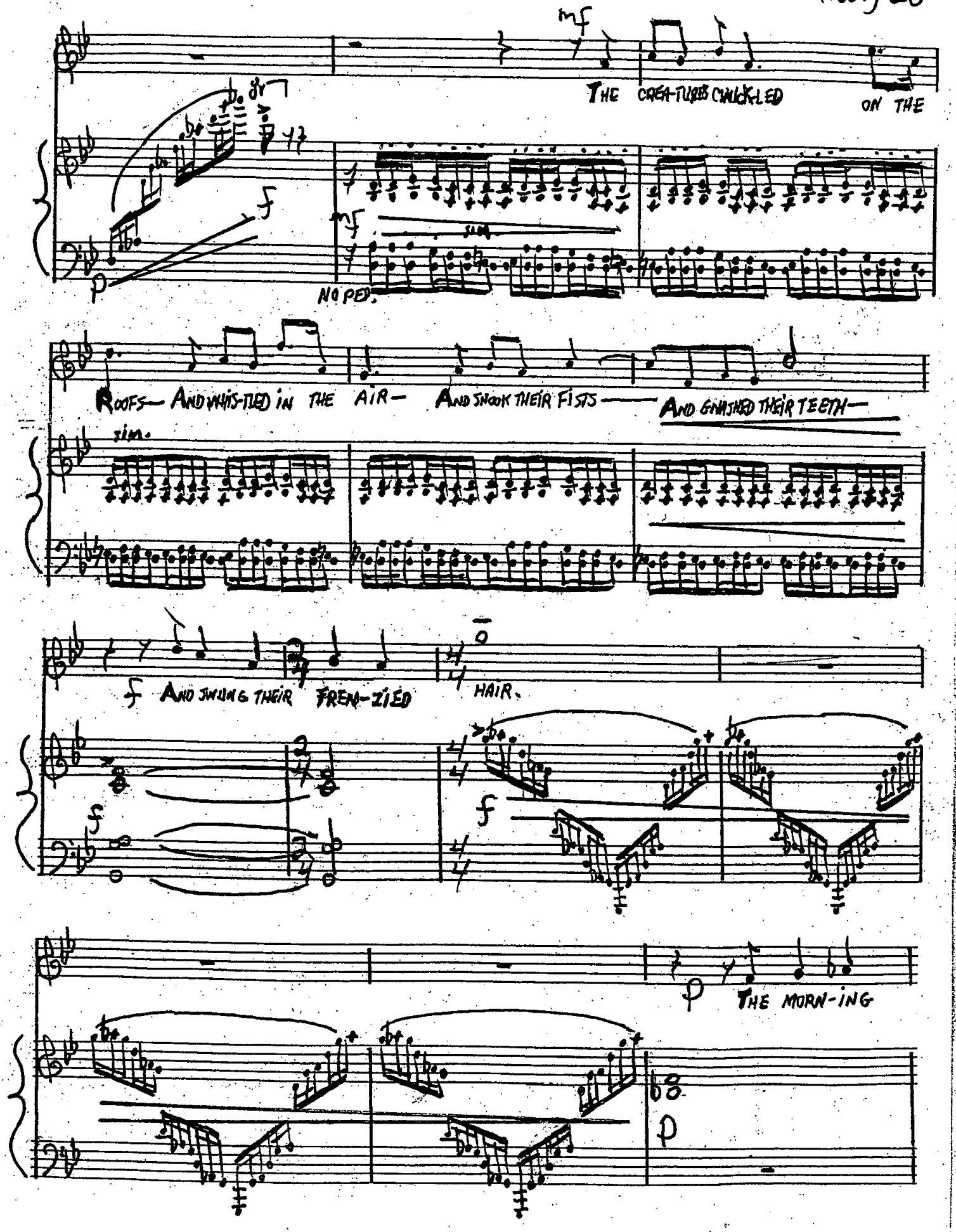

SLOW
p
FLOW-ERS - WELL - IF AN-Y-BOD-Y CAN THE ECS-TA-SY DE-
mf
p
-FINE-
p HALF A TRANS-PORT - HALF A TROU-BLE WITH WHICH FLOW-ERS HUM-BLE MEN:
mf
p
mp
mf
p
p
FASTER
mp
AN-Y-BOD-Y FIND THE FOUNT-AIN FROM WHICH FLOODS TO CON-TRA
FASTER
mp
NO PED.

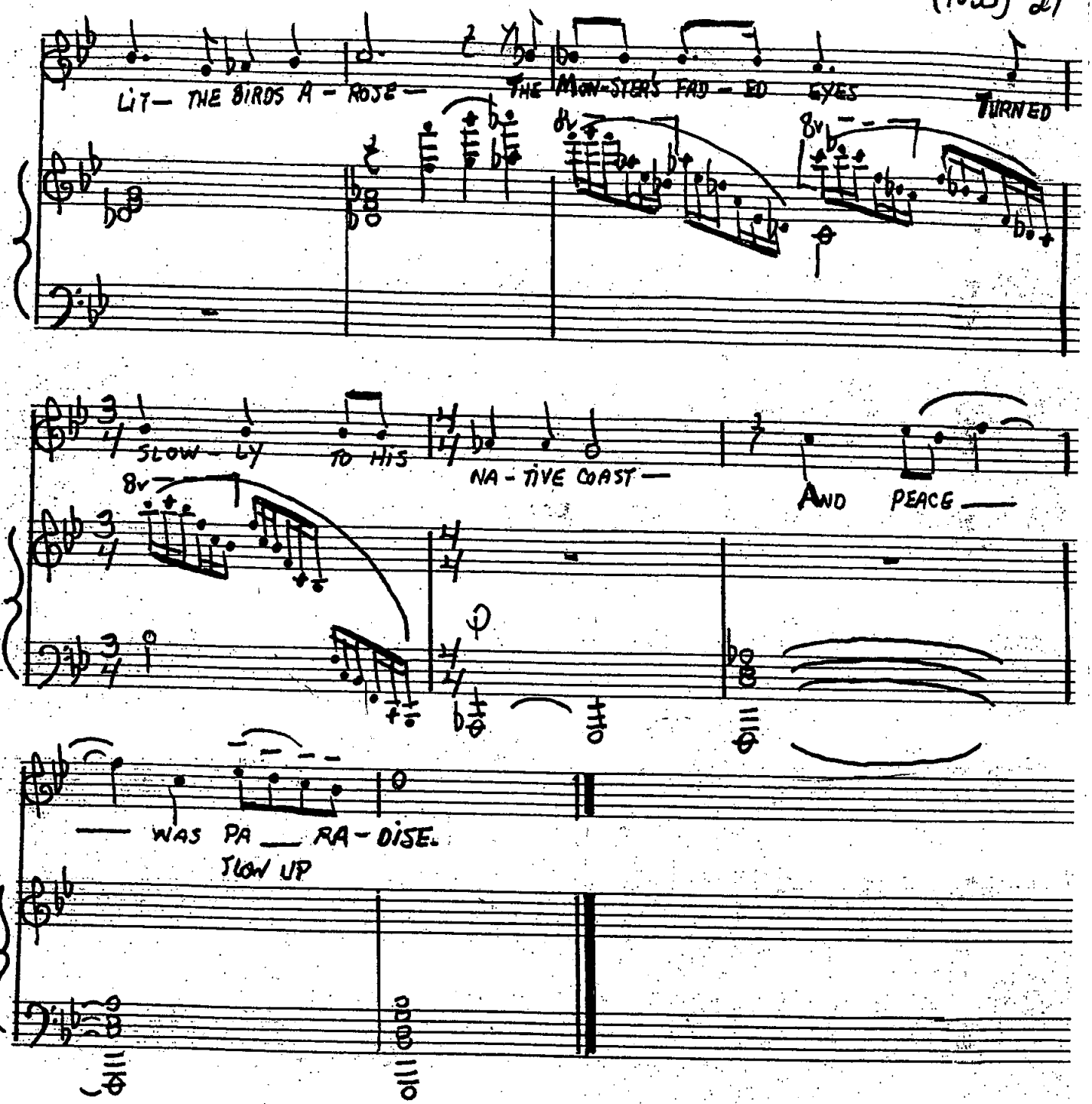

FLOW—
I WILL GIVE HIM ALL THE DAI-SIES
WHICH UP-ON THE HILL-SIDE
SLOW AGAIN
BLOW.
SLOW AGAIN
TOO MUCH PA-THOS
IN THEIR
FA-CES — FOR A SIM-PLE BREAST LIKE MINE —
BUT-TER-FLIES —
FROM ST. DO-MIN-GO
CRUIS-ING ROUND THE PUR-PLE LINE —


HAVE A SYS-TEM OF AES-THE-TICS FAR SU-PER-IOR TO MINE.
PUSH TEMPO
SLOW UP

8. AN AWFUL TEMPEST

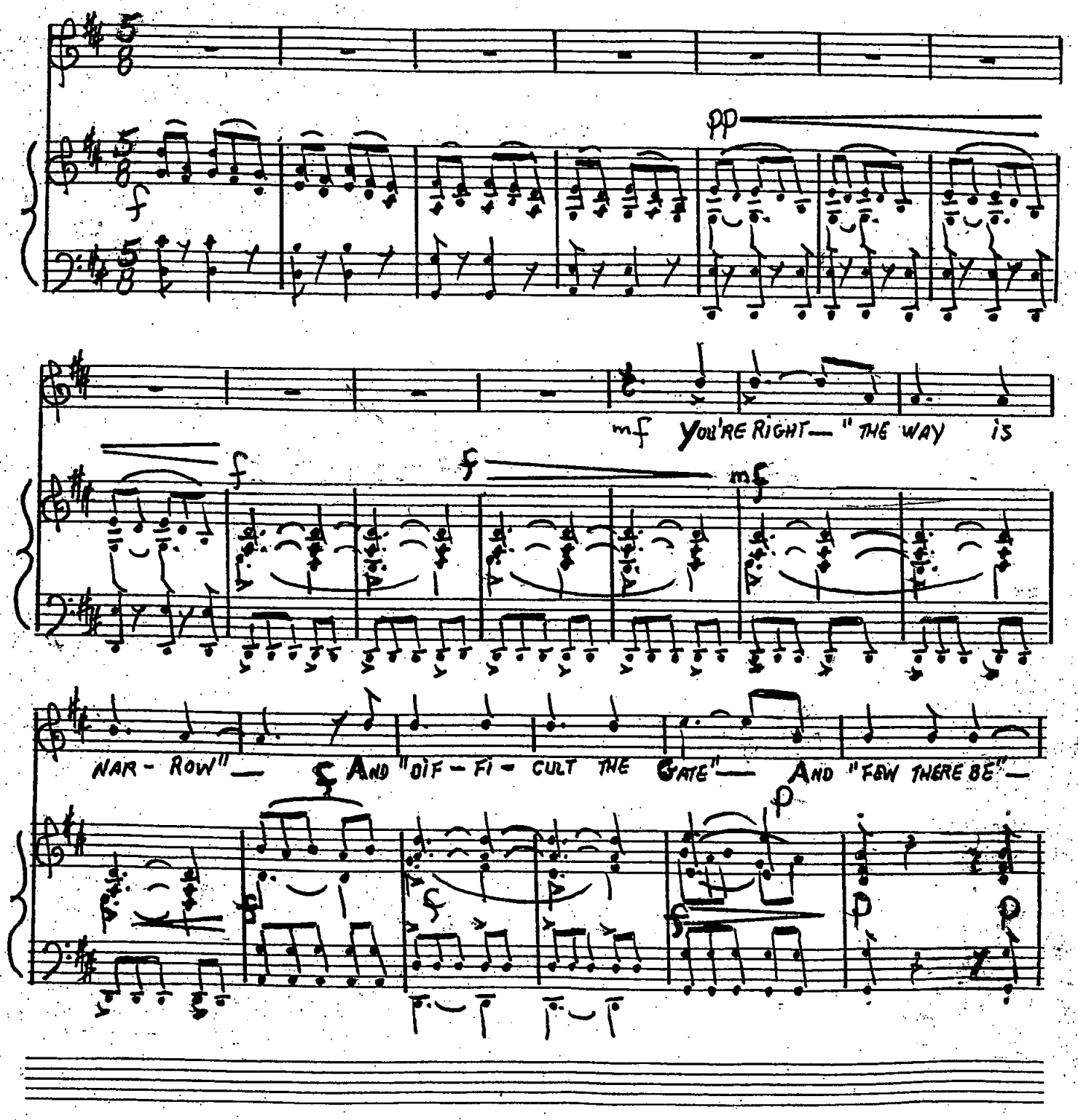


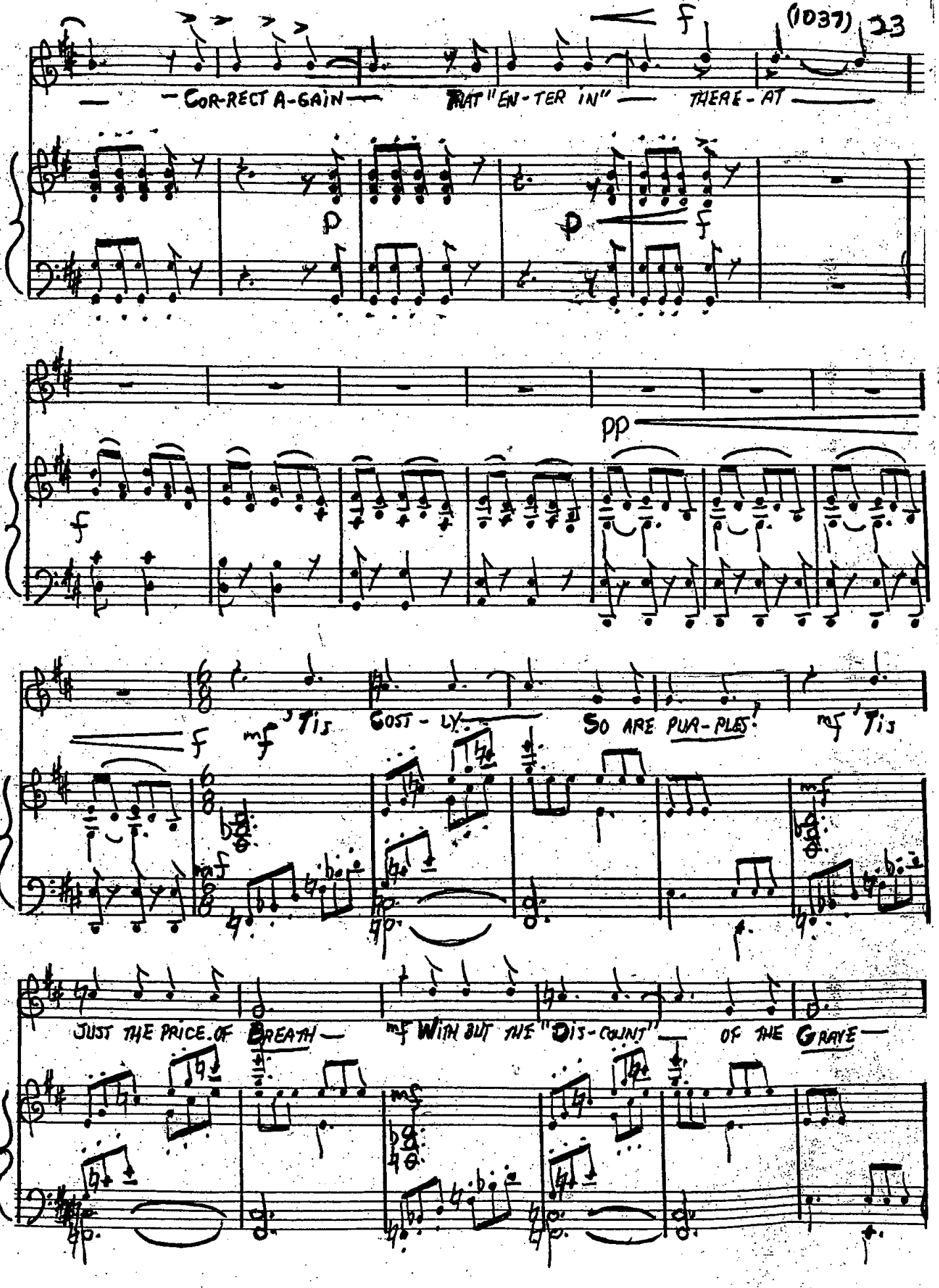

mf
THE CREA-TURES CHUCK-LED ON THE
sim.
NO PED.
ROOFS— AND WHIS-TLED IN THE AIR— AND SHOOK THEIR FISTS— AND GNASHED THEIR TEETH—
sim.
f AND SWUNG THEIR FREN-ZIED HAIR.
f
f
p THE MORN-ING
p

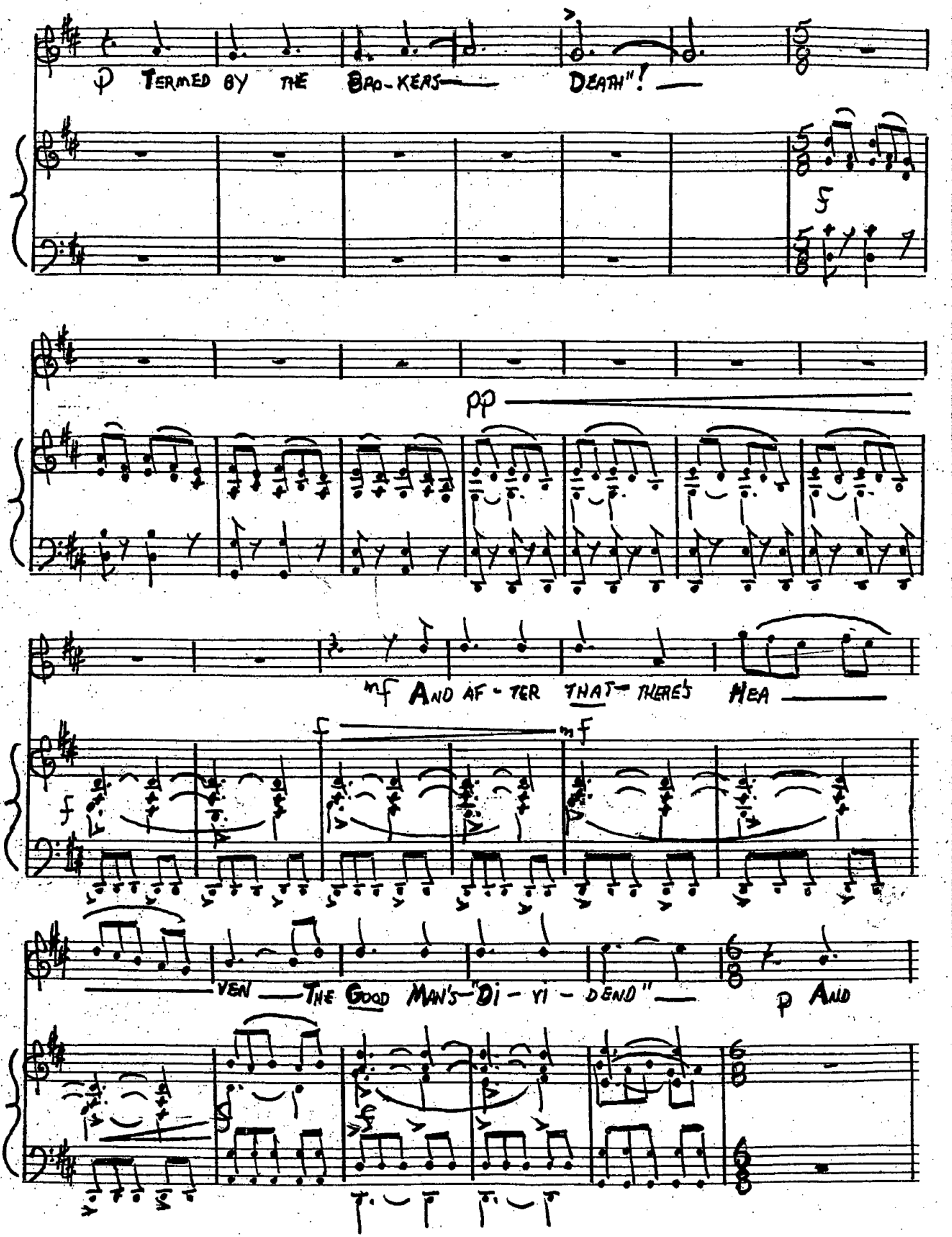

LIT— THE BIRDS A - ROSE—
THE MON-STER'S FAD - ED EYES
TURNED
SLOW - LY
TO HIS
NA - TIVE COAST—
AND
PEACE—
— WAS PA — RA - DISE.
SLOW UP

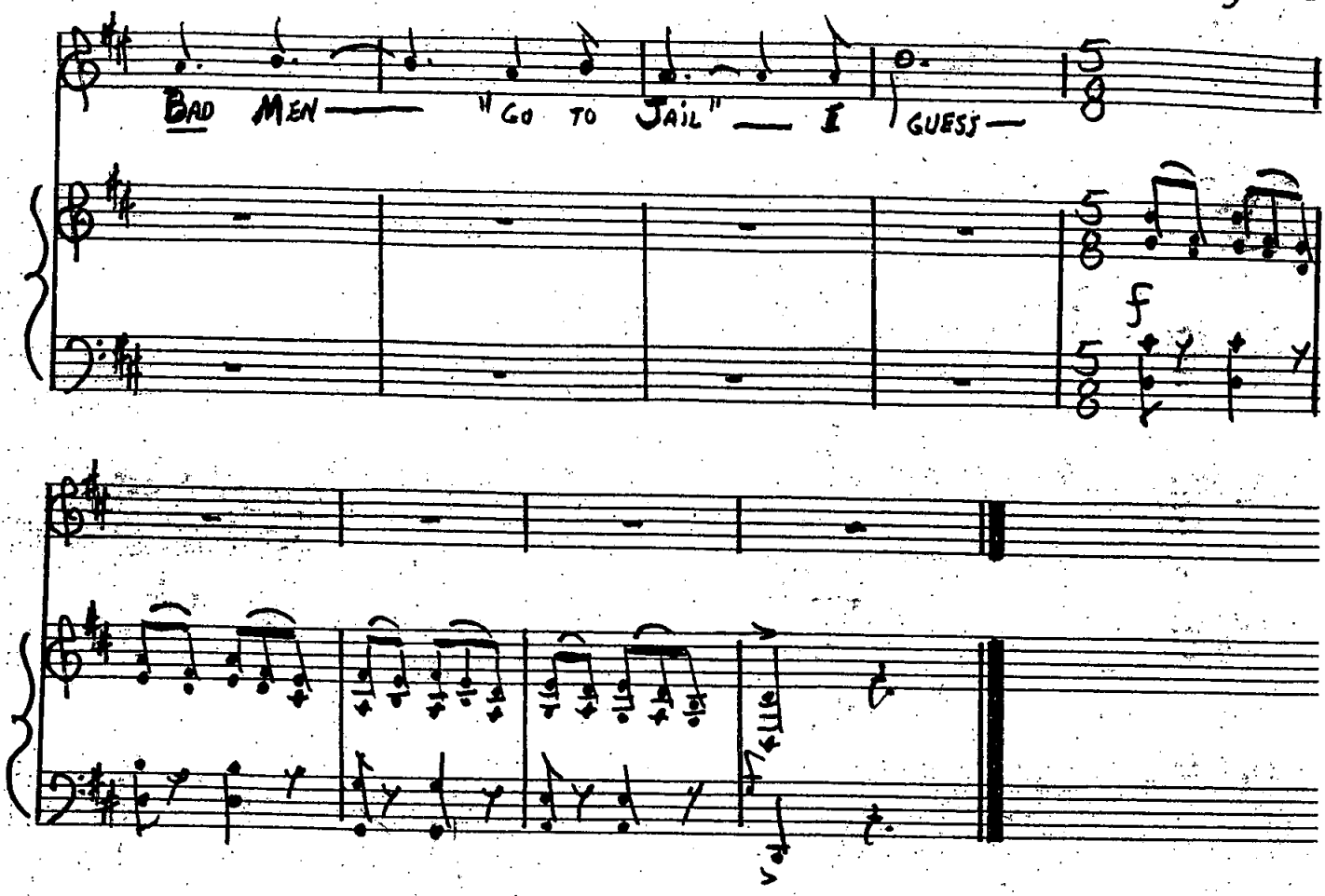
9. YOU'RE RIGHT

FAST



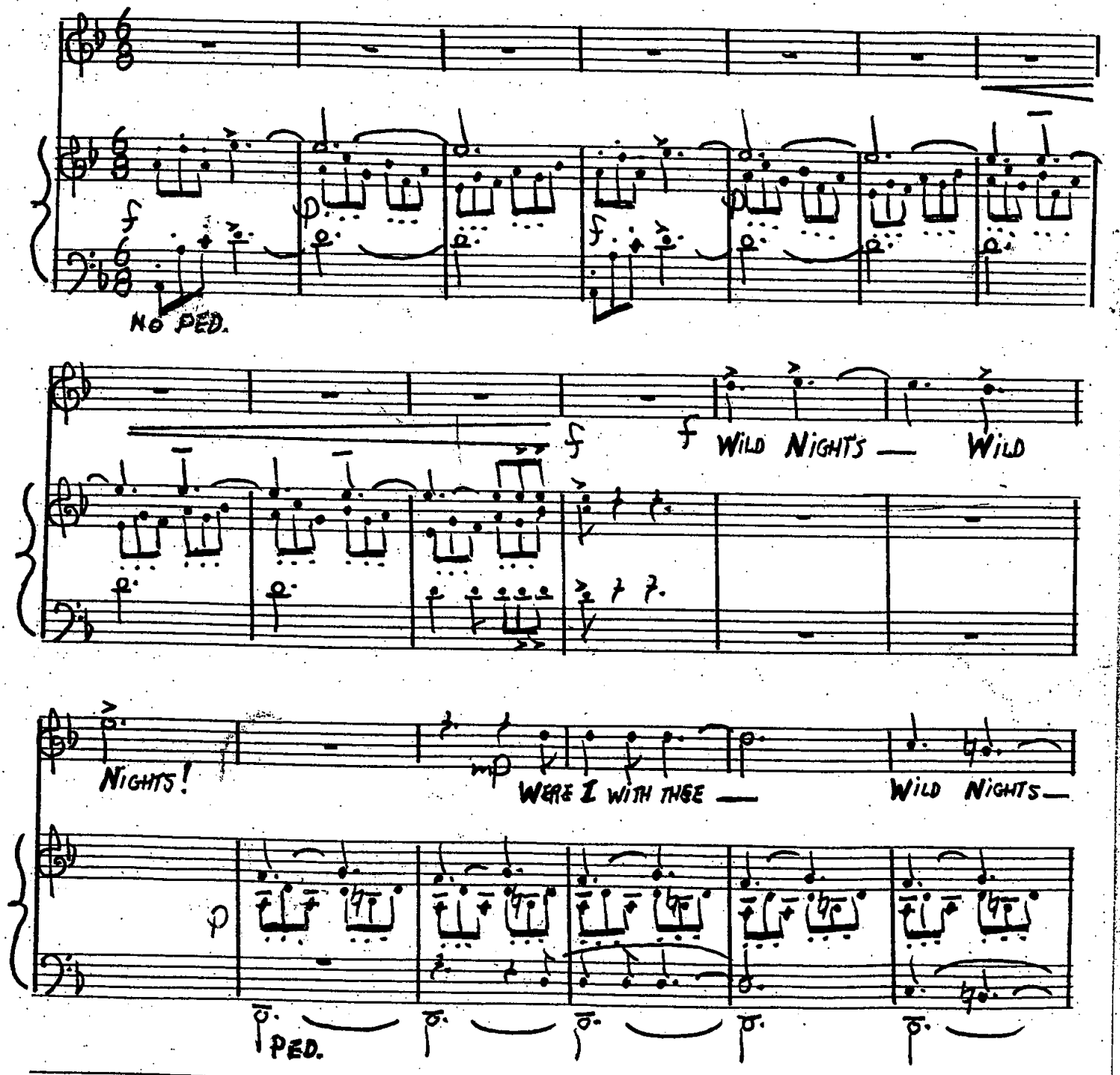

— COR-RECT A-GAIN — THAT "EN-TER IN" — THERE-AT —
f
p
p
f
pp
f
mf 'Tis COST-LY — SO ARE PUR-PLES! mf 'Tis
f
mf
JUST THE PRICE OF BREATH — mf WITH BUT THE "DIS-COUNT" — OF THE GRAVE —
mf

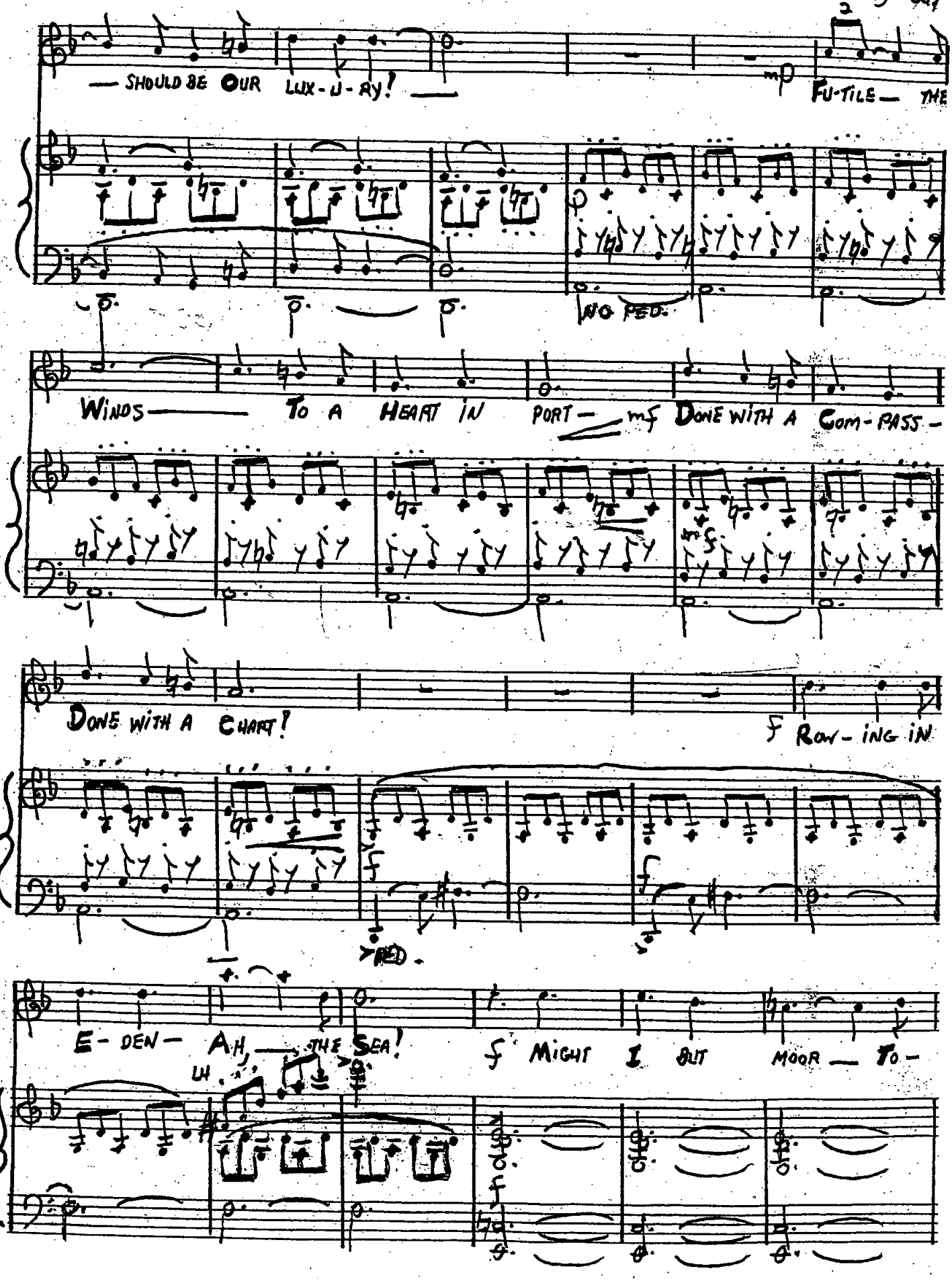

TERMED BY THE BRO-KERS— DEATH"!
5
pp
mf AND AF-TER THAT— THERE'S HEA—
f
mf
—VEN —THE GOOD MAN'S "DI-VI-DEND"—
p AND

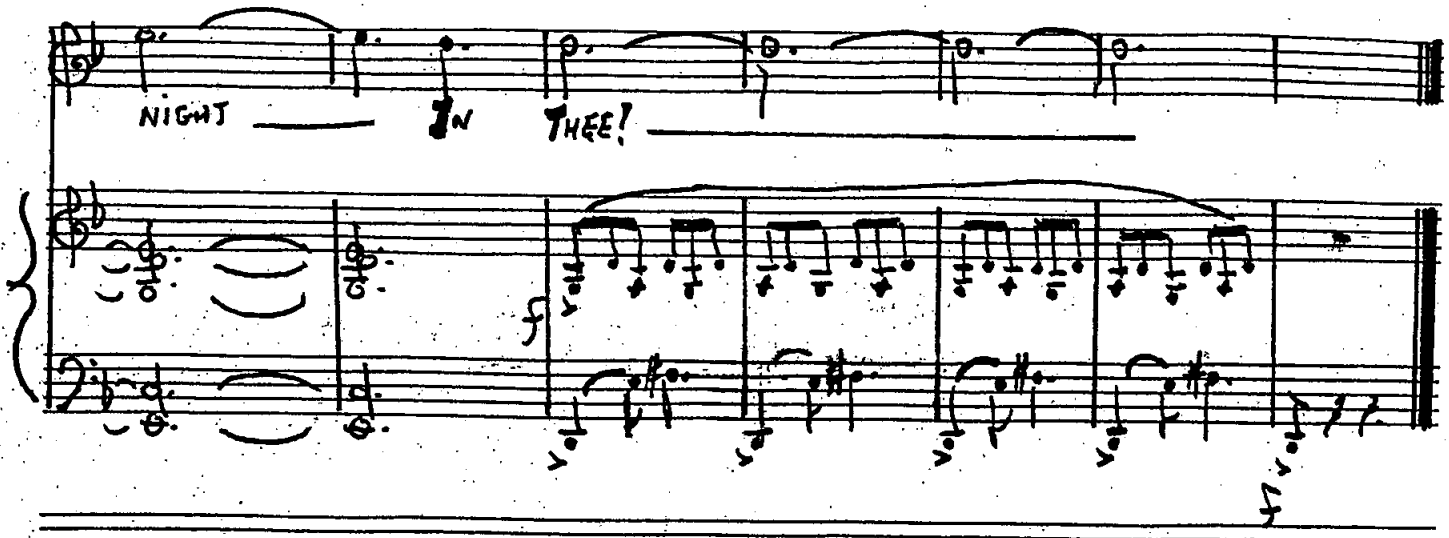

BAD MEN — "GO TO JAIL" — I GUESS —
f
8va

10. WILD NIGHTS

FAST

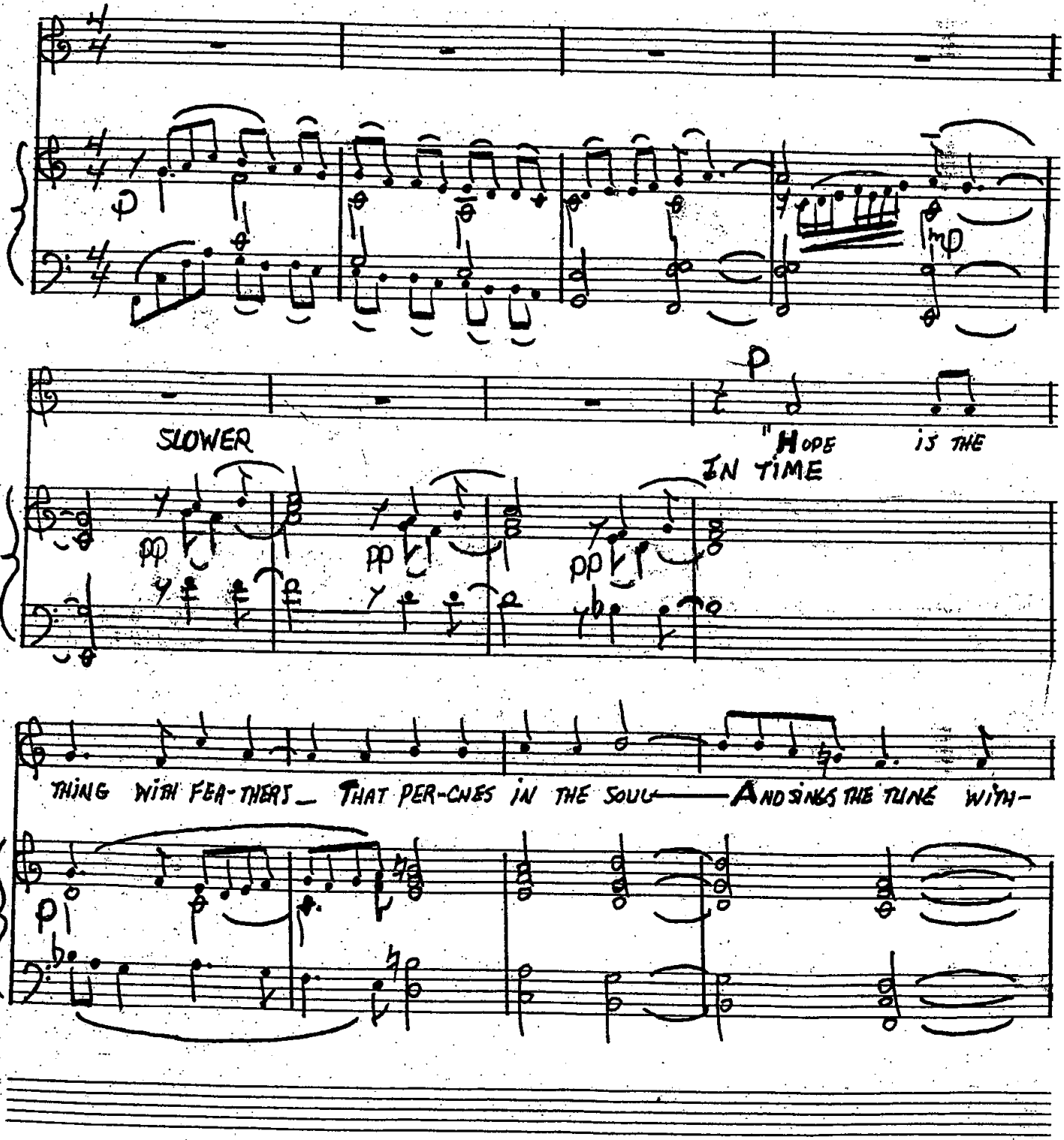


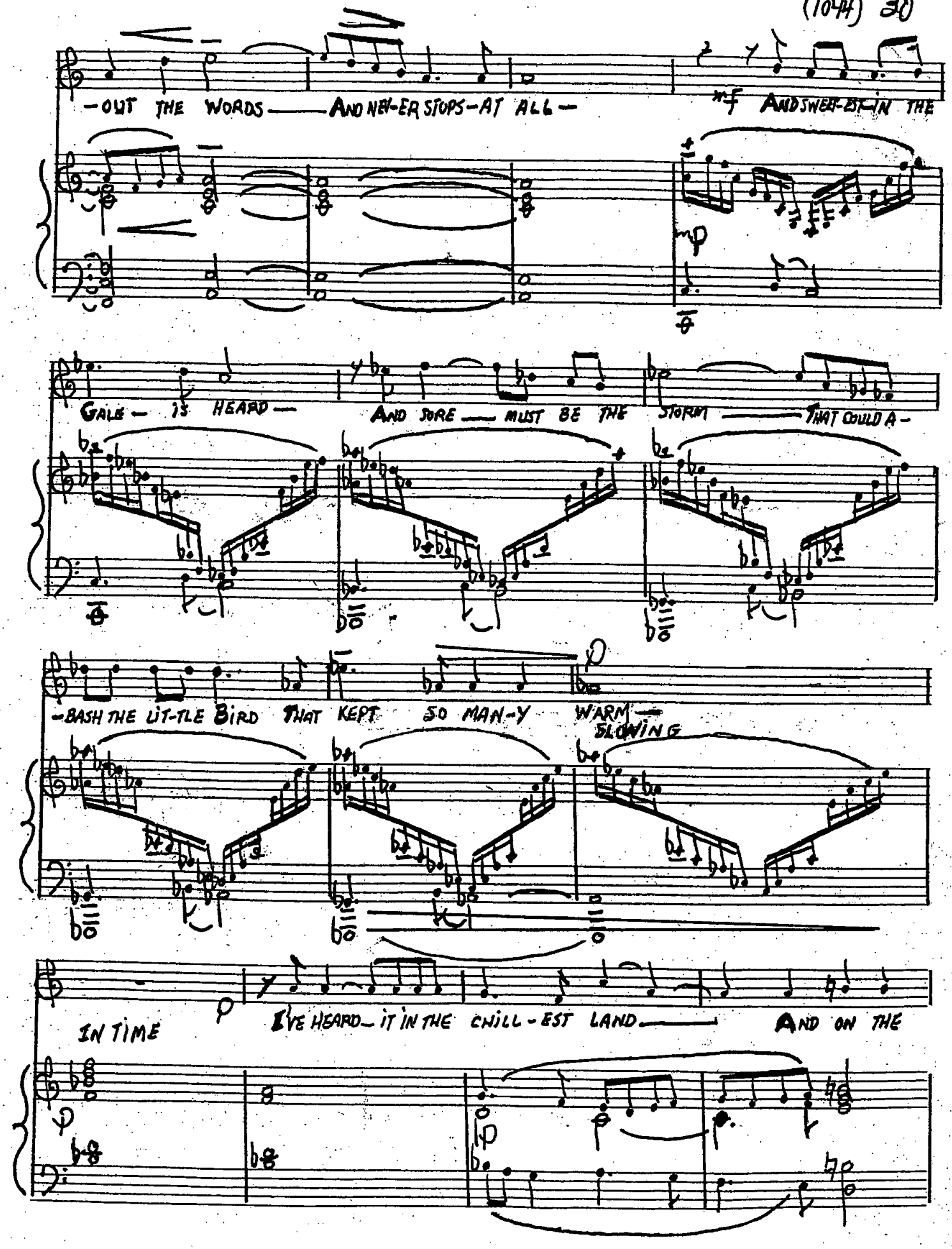

— SHOULD BE OUR LUX-U-RY! —
mp
FU-TILE— THE
NO PED.
WINDS— TO A HEART IN PORT— mf DONE WITH A COM-PASS-
DONE WITH A CHART!
f ROW-ING IN
E-DEN— AH, — THE SEA!
f MIGHT I BUT MOOR — TO-

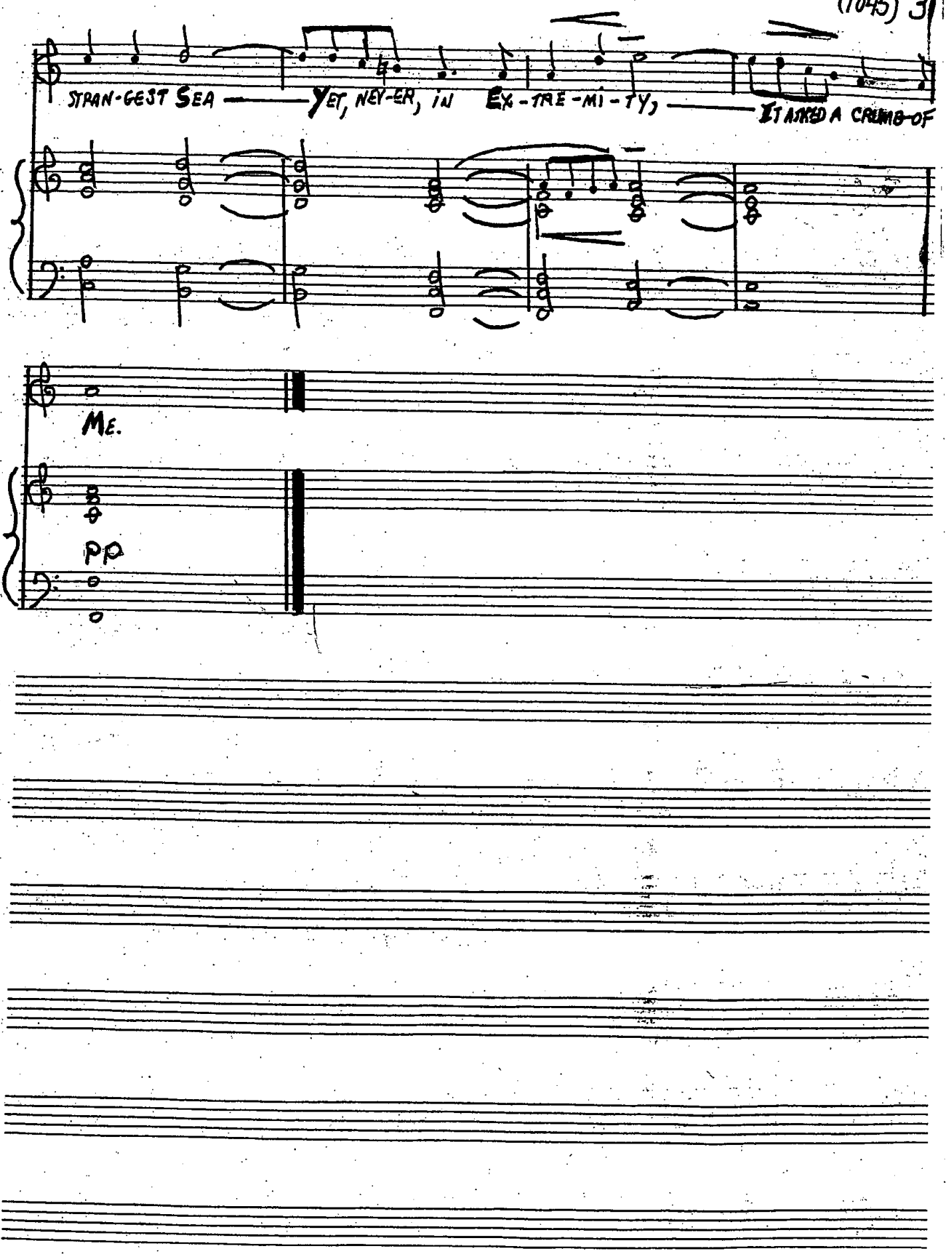

NIGHT
IN
THEE!
f

11. HOPE

MEDIUM

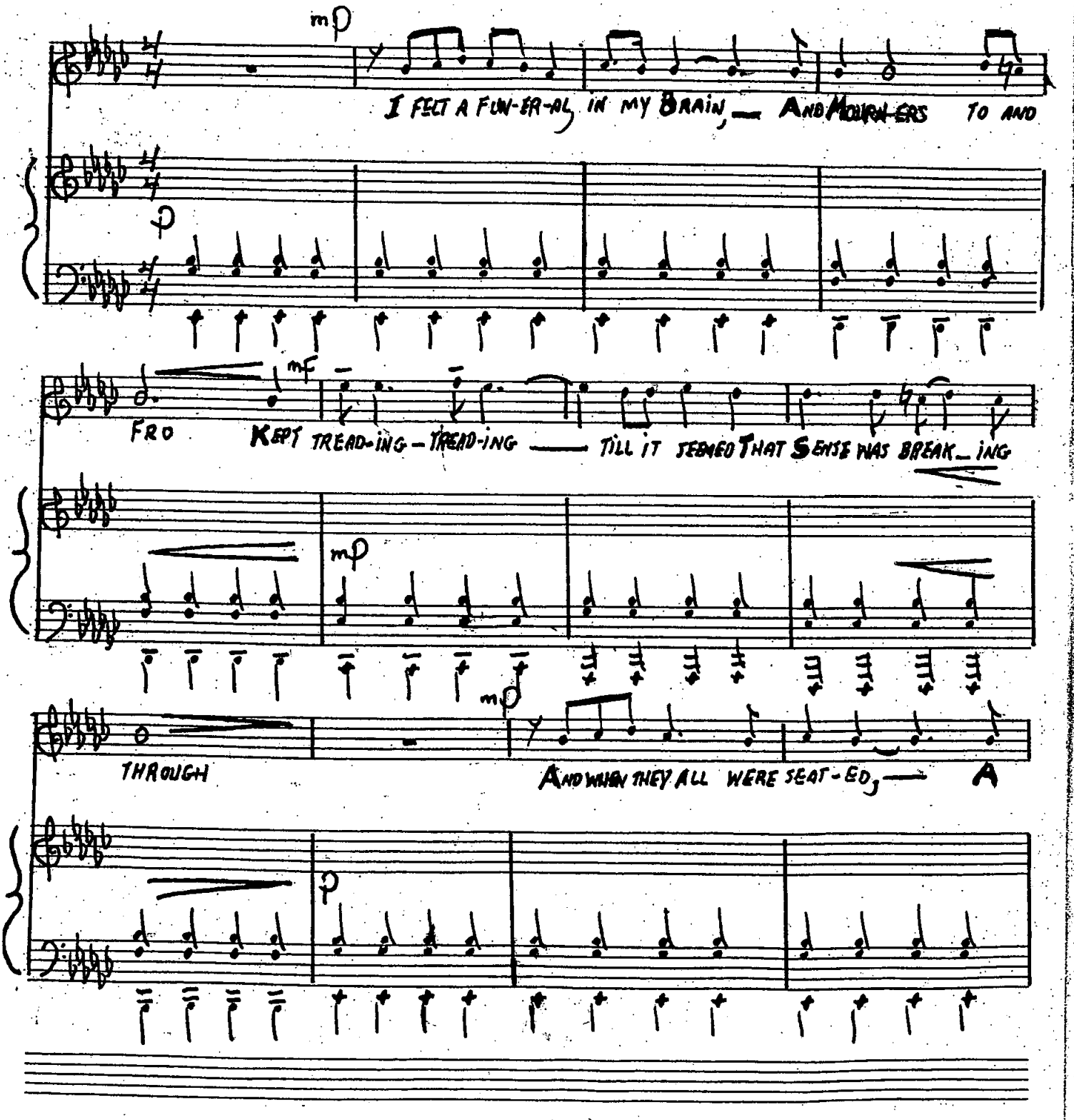


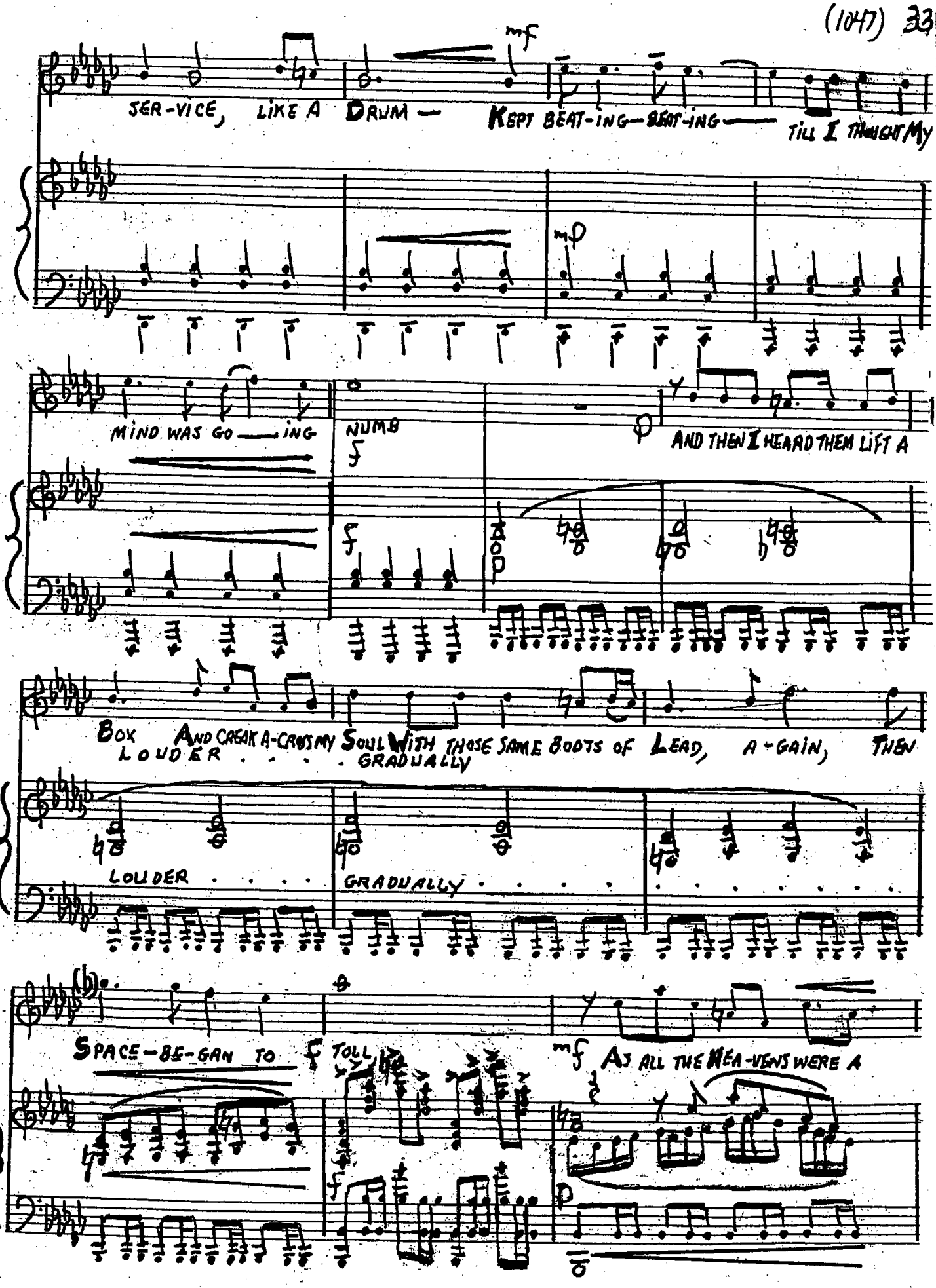

-OUT THE WORDS — AND NEV-ER STOPS-AT ALL —
mf AND SWEE-ET-IN THE
GALE — IS HEARD — AND SURE — MUST BE THE STORM — THAT COULD A-
-BASH THE LIT-TLE BIRD THAT KEPT SO MAN-Y WARM —
SLOWING
IN TIME
I'VE HEARD — IT IN THE CHILL-EST LAND — AND ON THE

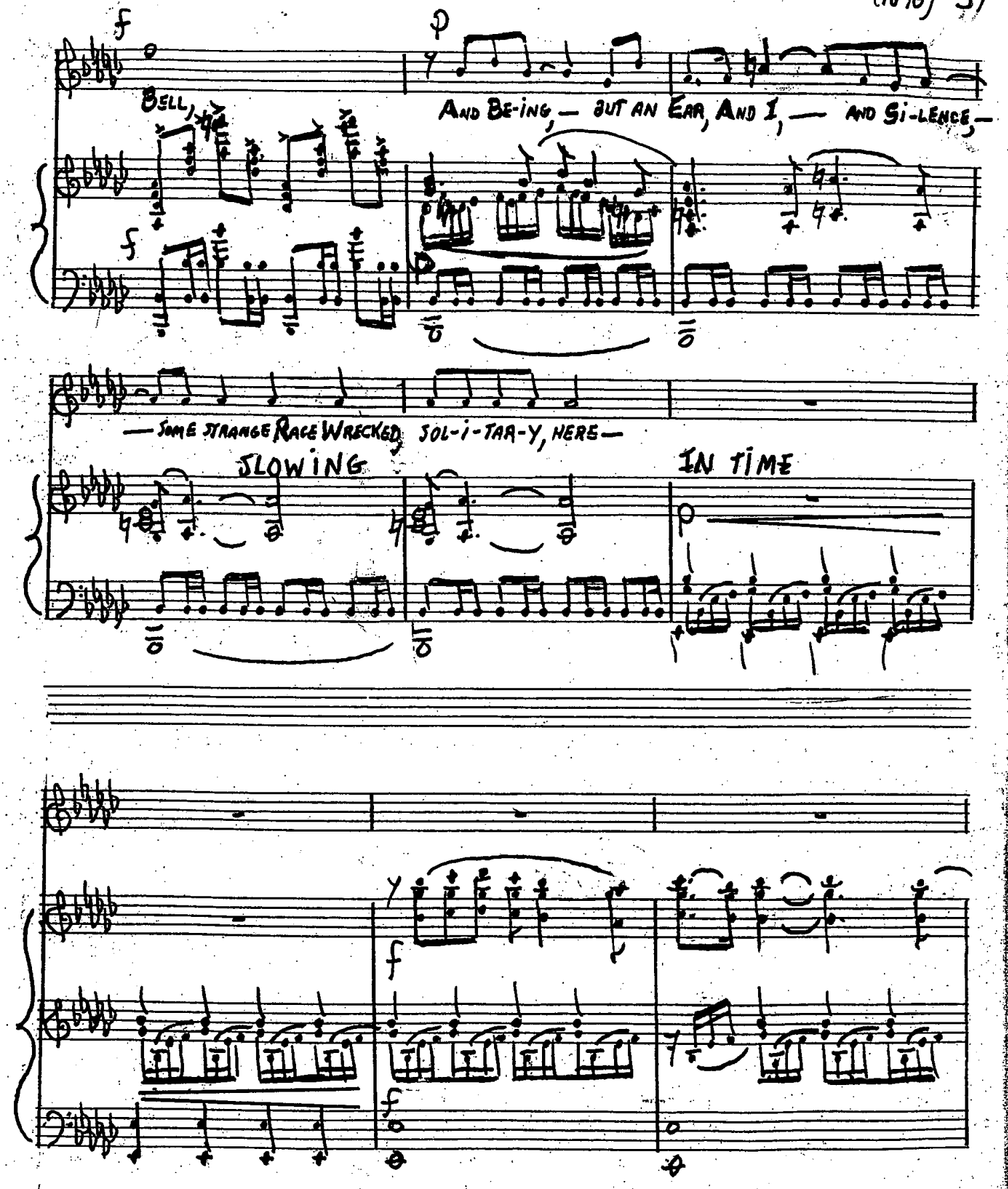

STRAN-GEST SEA — YET, NEV-ER, IN EX-TRE-MI-TY, — IT ASKED A CRUMB OF
ME.
pp

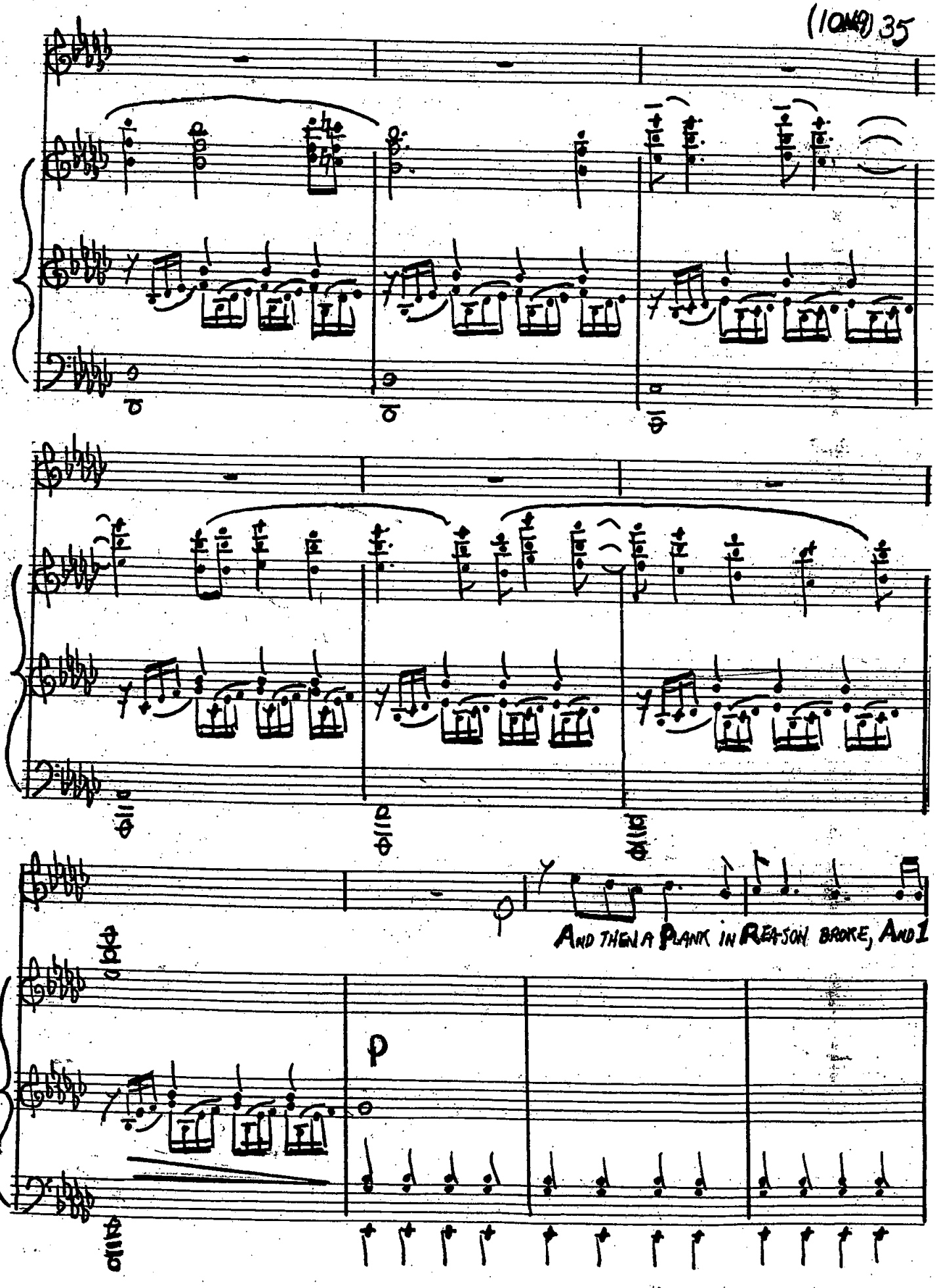
12. I FELT A FUNERAL IN MY BRAIN

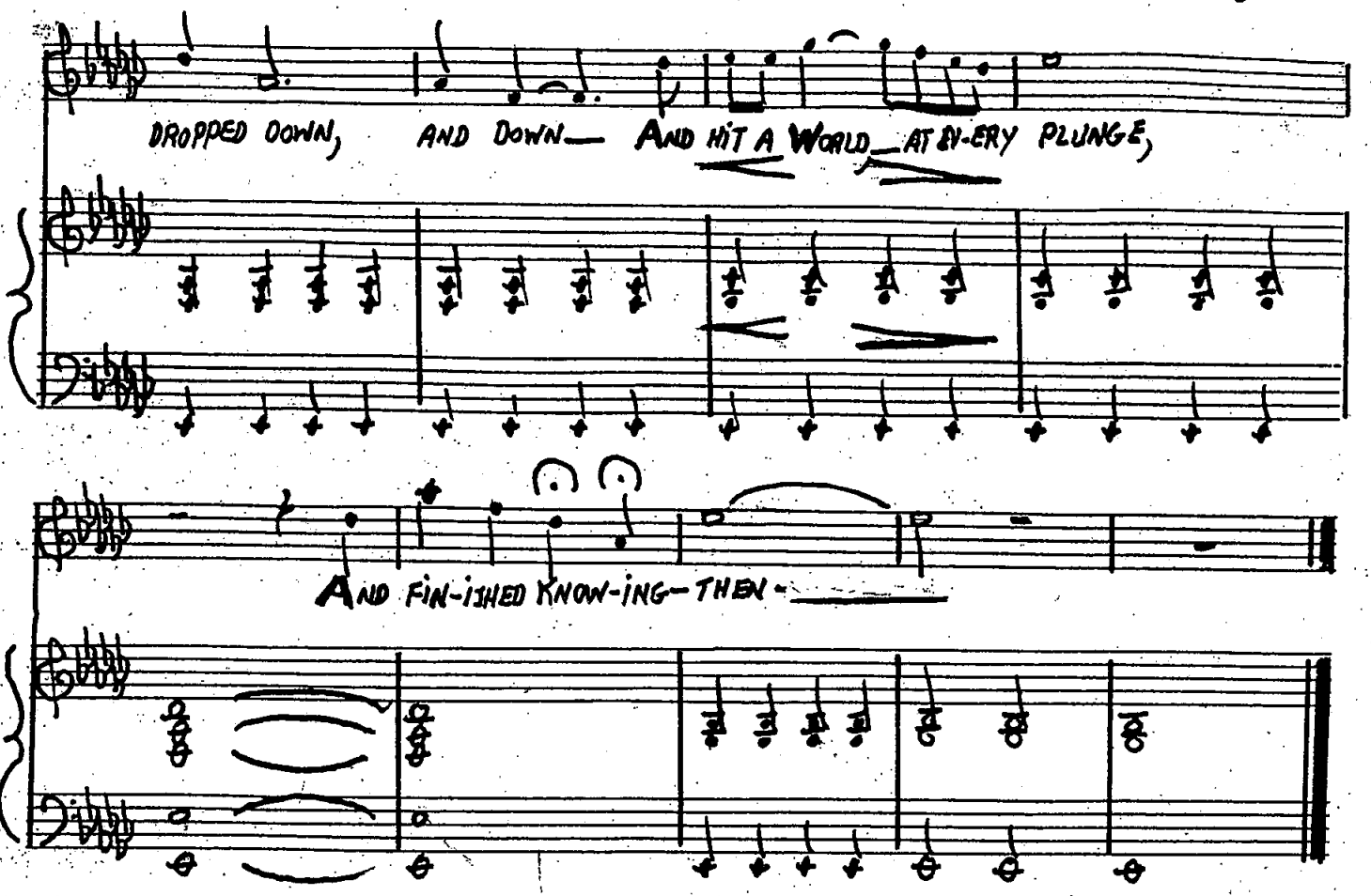
SLOW MEDIUM



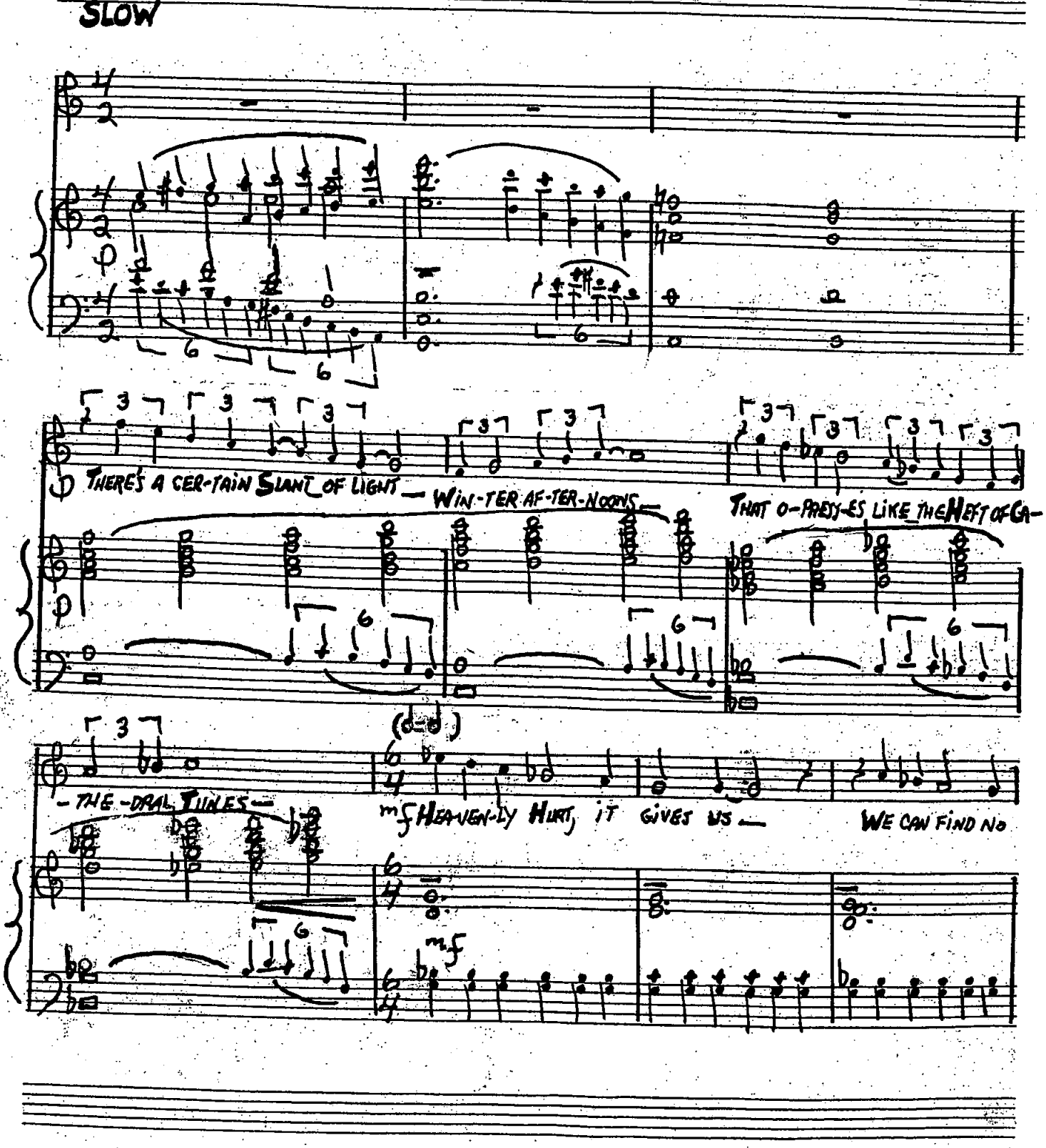

mf
SER-VICE, LIKE A DRUM— KEPT BEAT-ING—BEAT-ING— TILL I THOUGHT MY
mp
MIND WAS GO—ING NUMB
f
AND THEN I HEARD THEM LIFT A
BOX AND CRAWK A-CROSS MY SOUL WITH THOSE SAME BOOTS OF LEAD, A-GAIN, THEN
LOUDER . . . GRADUALLY
LOUDER . . . GRADUALLY
SPACE-BE-GAN TO TOLL
mf
AS ALL THE HEA-VENS WERE A
f
p

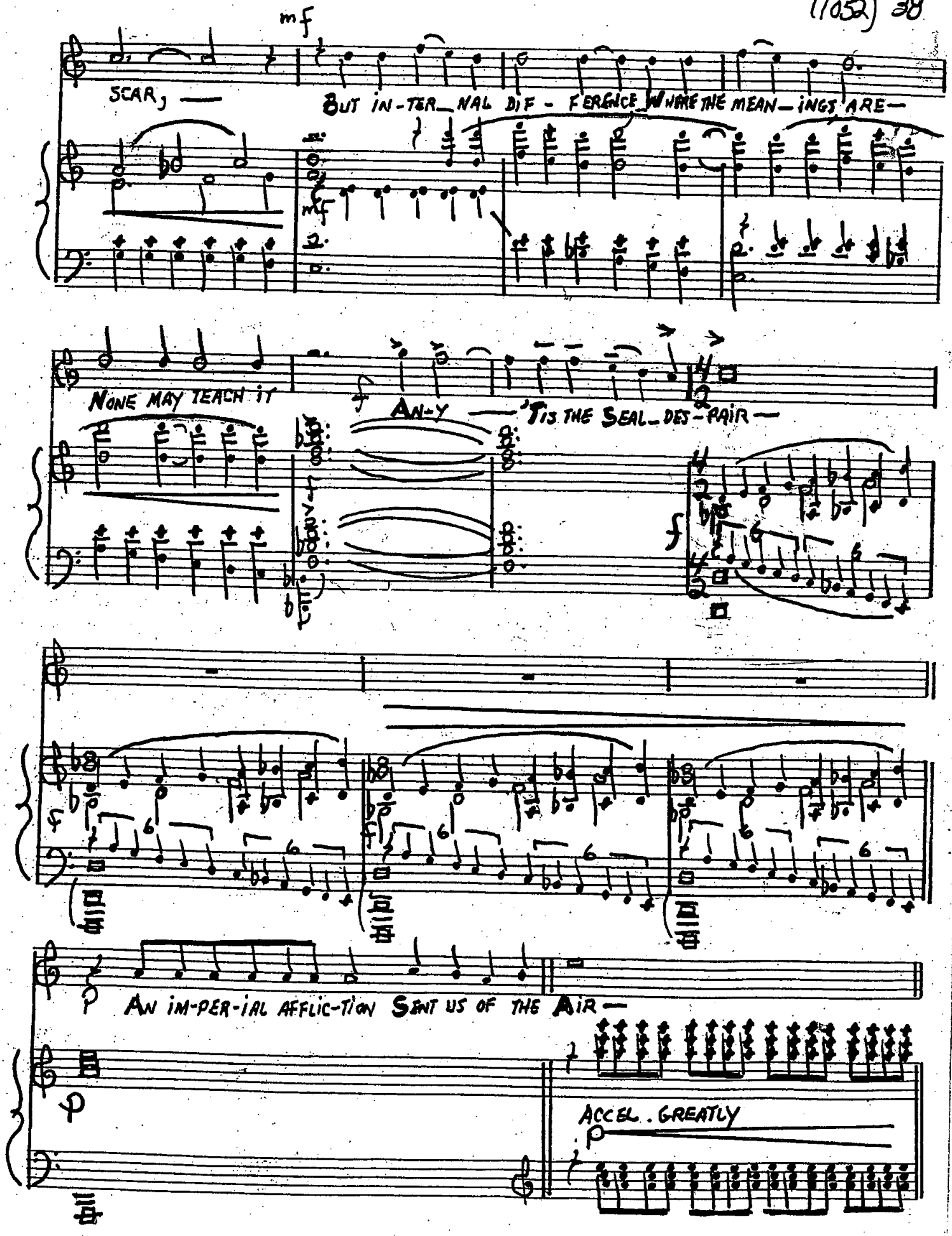

f
p
BELL,
AND BE-ING, — BUT AN EAR, AND I, — AND SI-LENCE, —
f
— SOME STRANGE RACE WRECKED, SOL-I-TAA-Y, HERE —
SLOWING
IN TIME
p
f
f

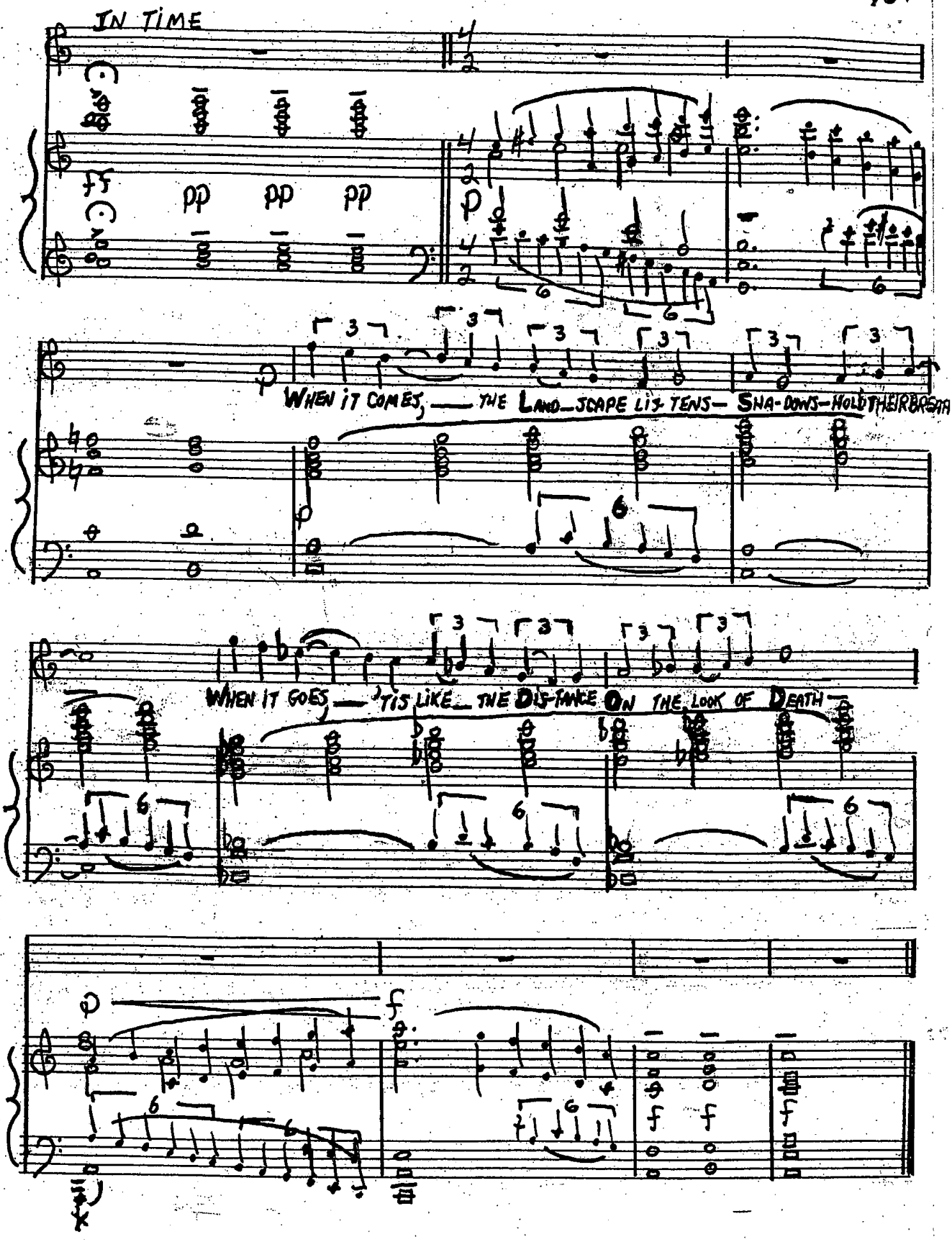

AND THEN A PLANK IN REASON BROKE, AND I
p


DROPPED DOWN, AND DOWN— AND HIT A WORLD AT EV-ERY PLUNGE,
AND FIN-ISHED KNOW-ING—THEN—

13. THERE'S A CERTAIN SLANT OF LIGHT

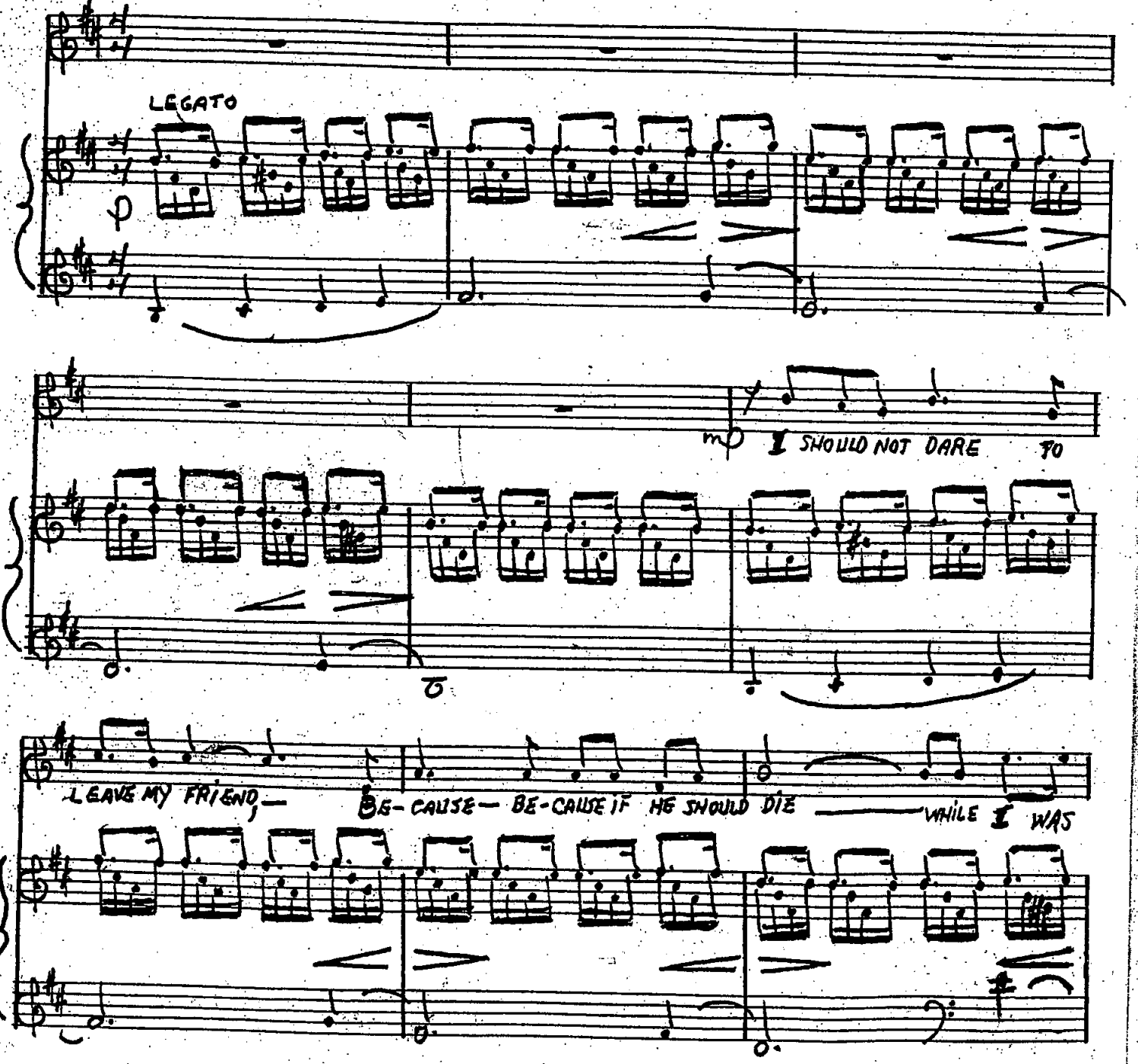


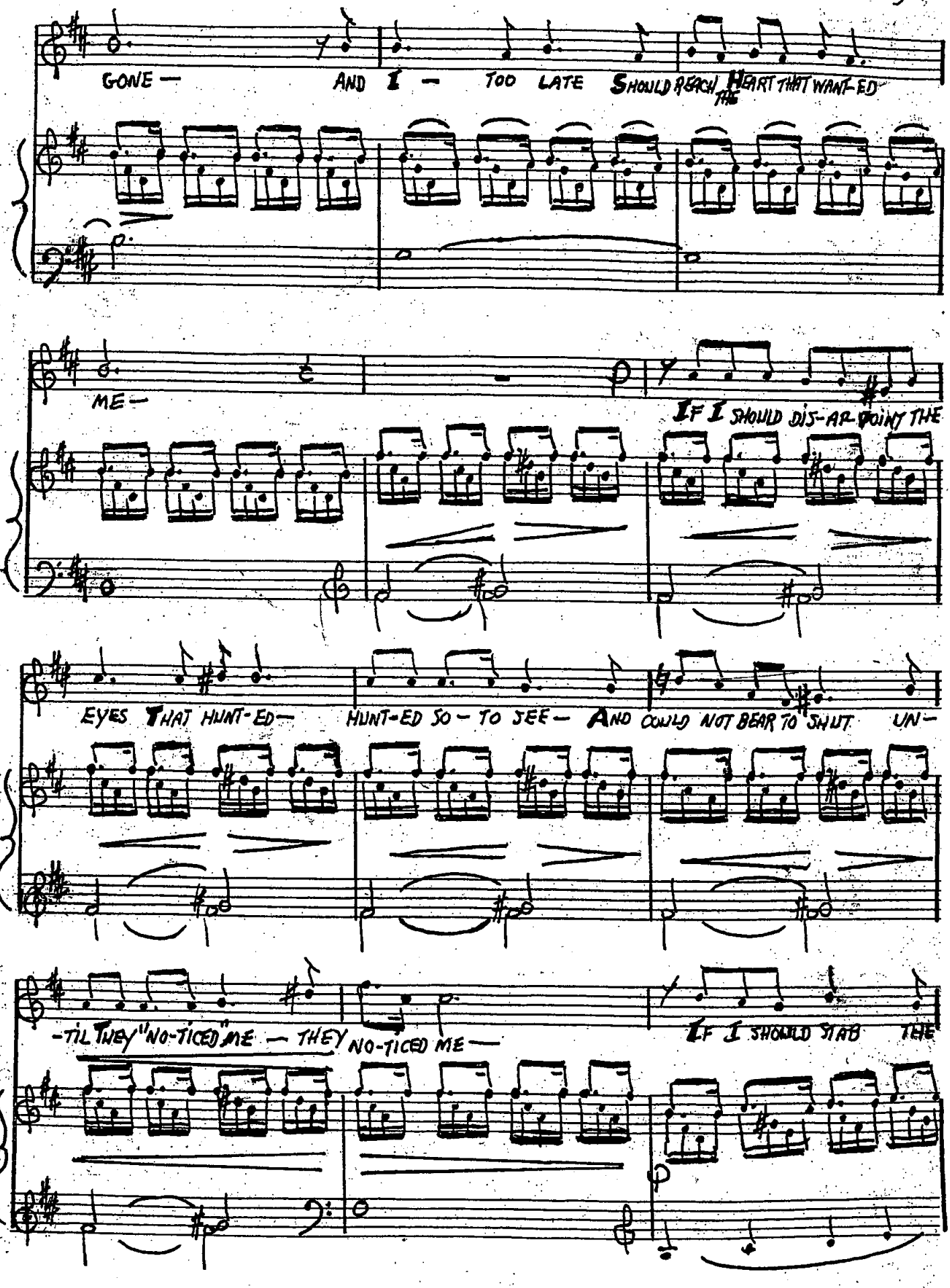

mf
SCAR, —
BUT IN-TER_NAL DIF - F'ERENCE WHERE THE MEAN_INGS ARE—
NONE MAY TEACH IT
AN-Y —
'TIS THE SEAL_DES-PAIR—
AN IM-PER-IAL AFFLIC-TION SENT US OF THE AIR—
ACCEL. GREATLY

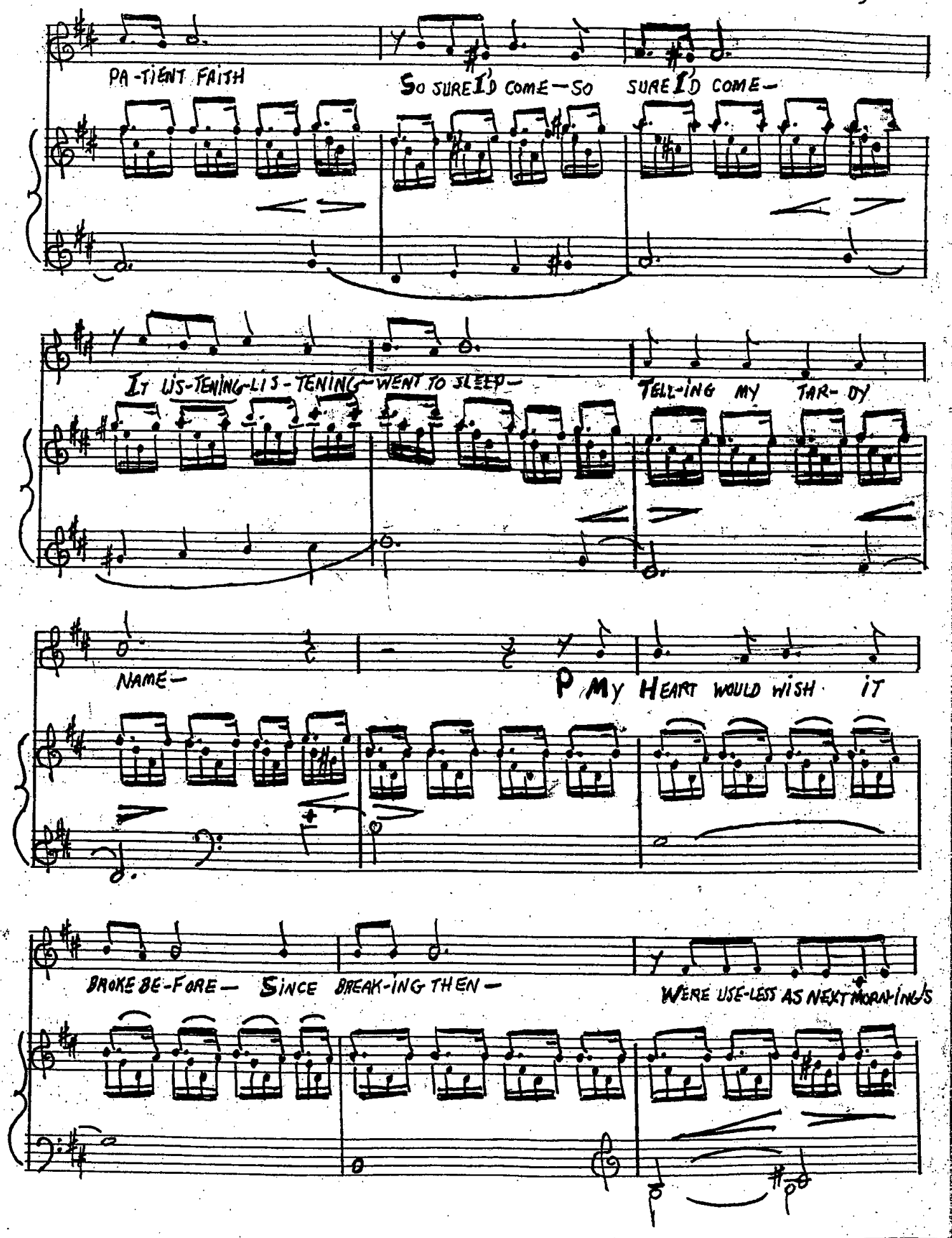

IN TIME
ff
pp
pp
pp
p
WHEN IT COMES, — THE LAND-SCAPE LIS-TENS— SHA-DOWS-HOLD THEIR BREATH
WHEN IT GOES, — 'TIS LIKE— THE DIS-TANCE ON THE LOOK OF DEATH —
p
f
f
f
f

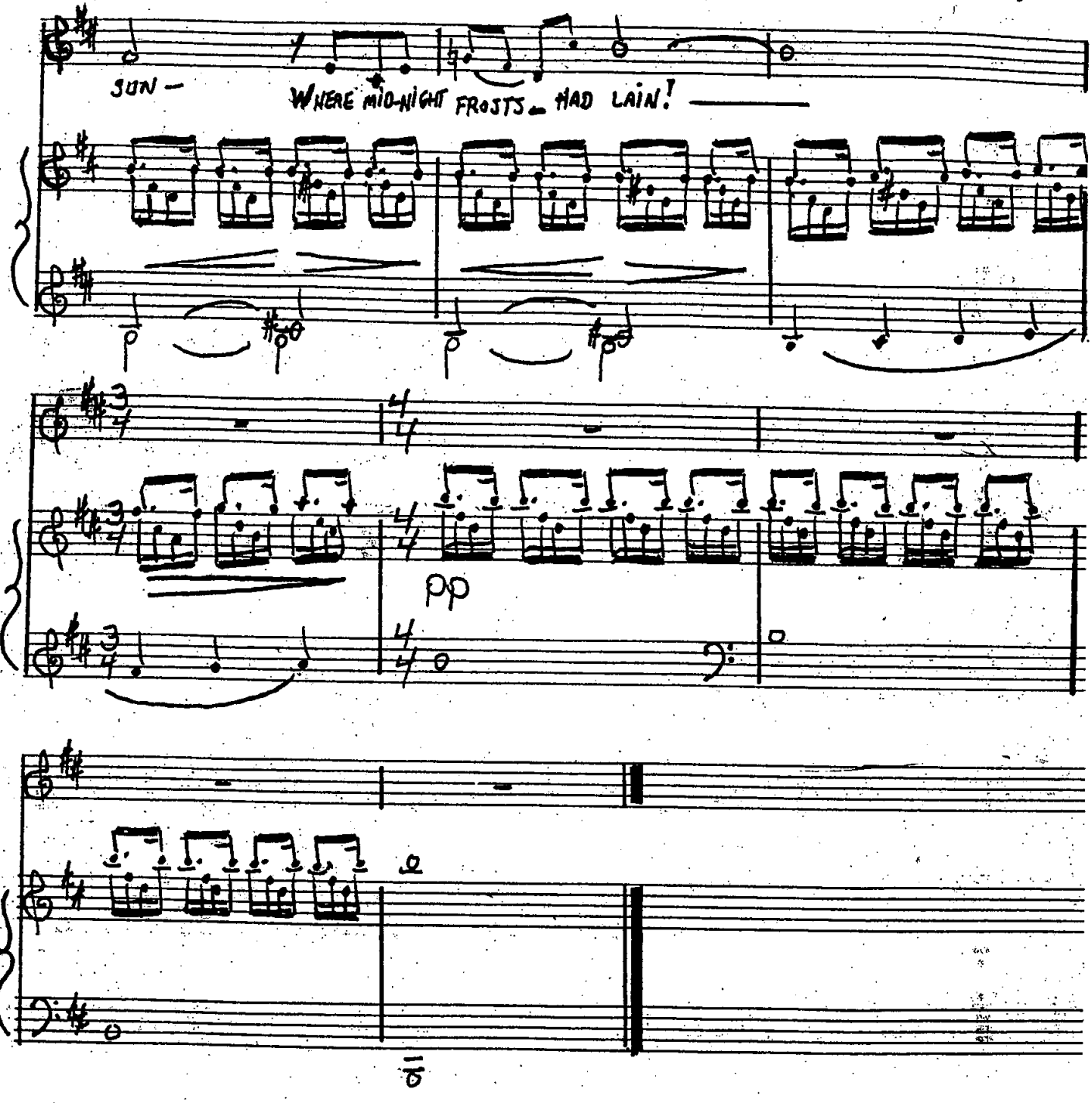
14. I SHOULD NOT DARE TO LEAVE MY FRIEND

MEDIUM



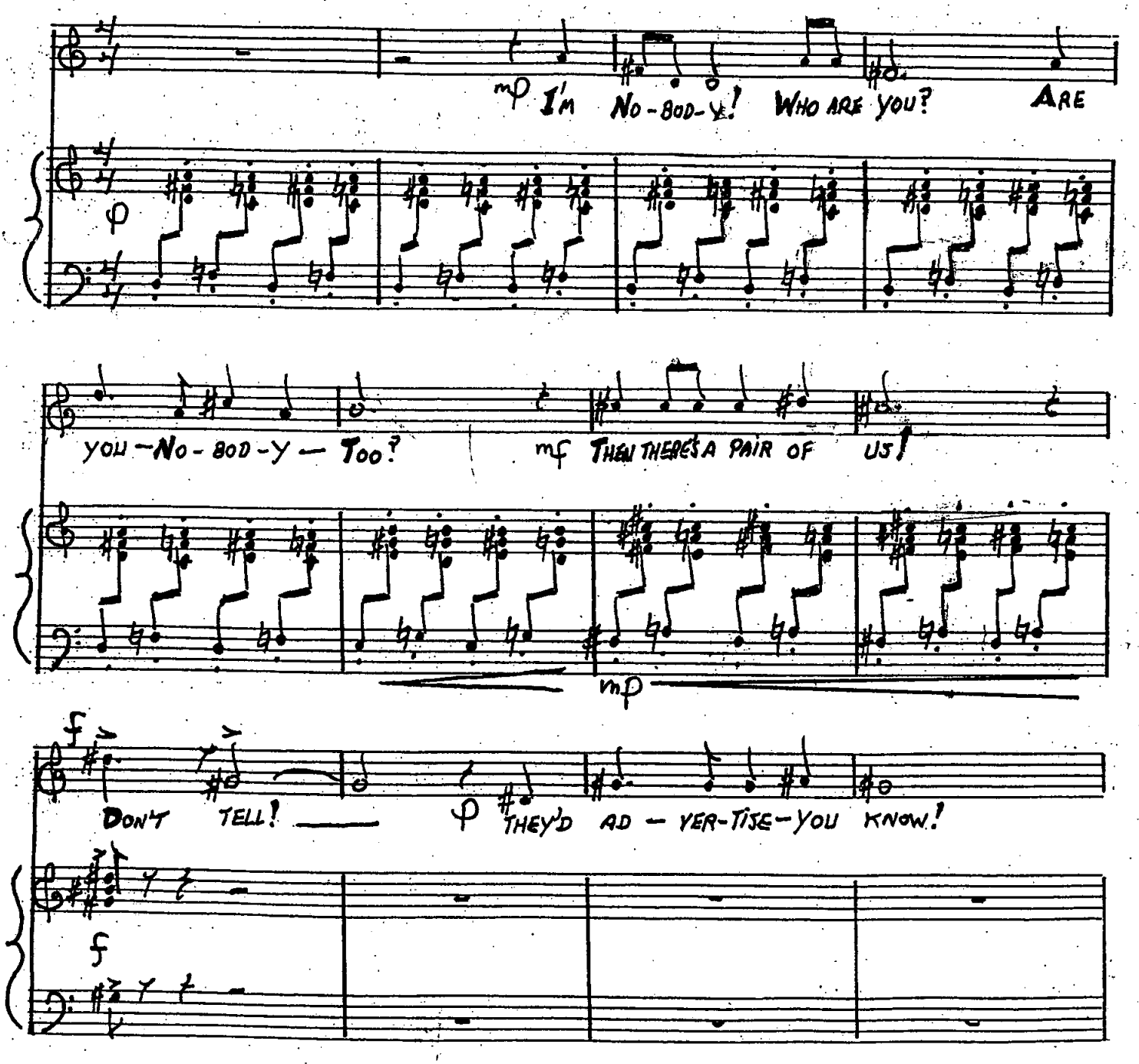

GONE — AND I — TOO LATE SHOULD REACH THE HEART THAT WANT-ED
ME —
IF I SHOULD DIS-AP-POINT THE
EYES THAT HUNT-ED — HUNT-ED SO — TO SEE — AND COULD NOT BEAR TO SHUT UN —
-TIL THEY "NO-TICED" ME — THEY NO-TICED ME —
IF I SHOULD STAB THE

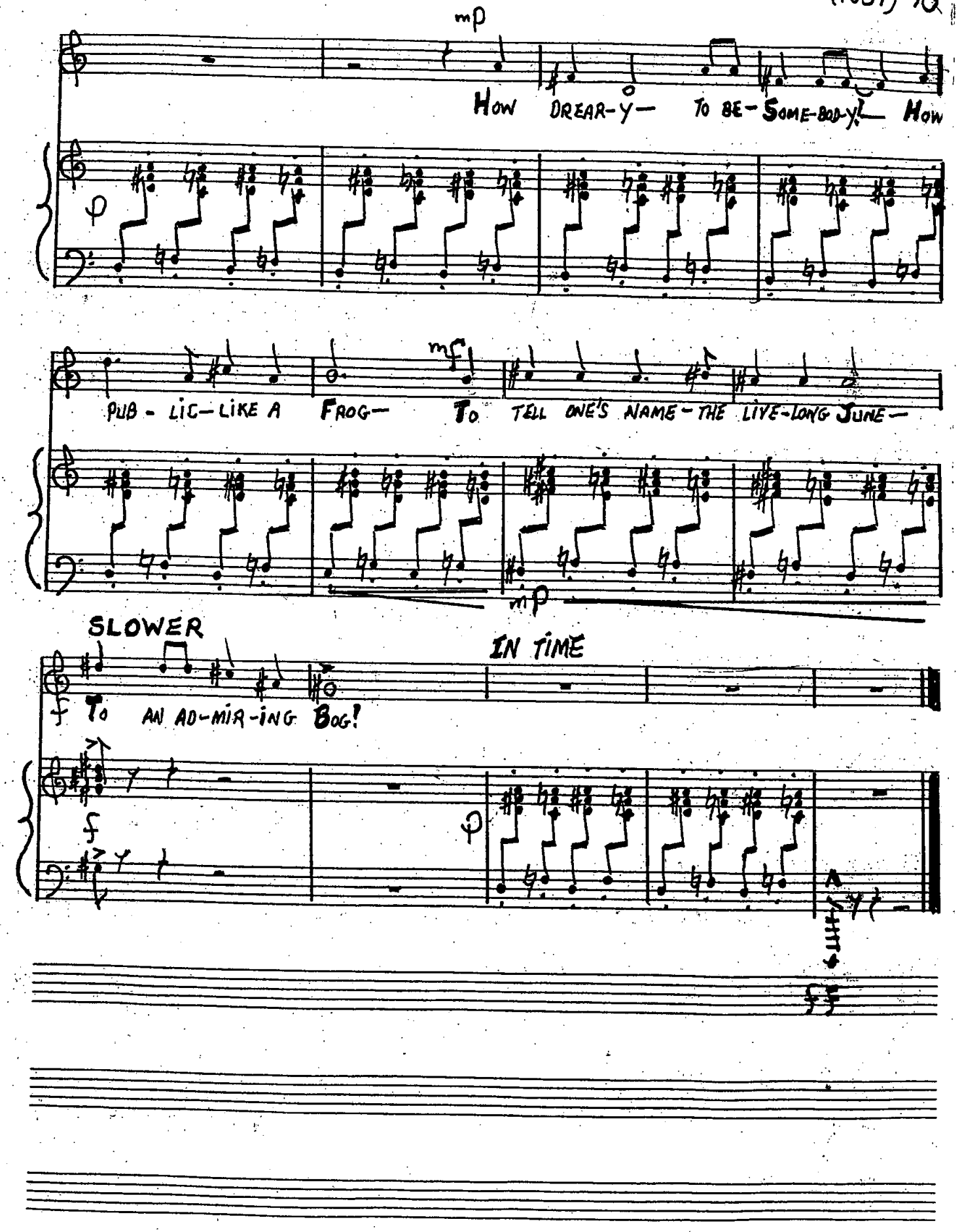

PA-TIENT FAITH
So SURE I'D COME—SO SURE I'D COME—
IT LIS-TENING-LIS-TENING—WENT TO SLEEP—
TELL-ING MY TAR-DY
NAME—
P MY HEART WOULD WISH IT
BROKE BE-FORE— SINCE BREAK-ING THEN—
WERE USE-LESS AS NEXT MORN-INGS


SUN —
WHERE MID-NIGHT FROSTS HAD LAIN!
pp

15. I'M NOBODY

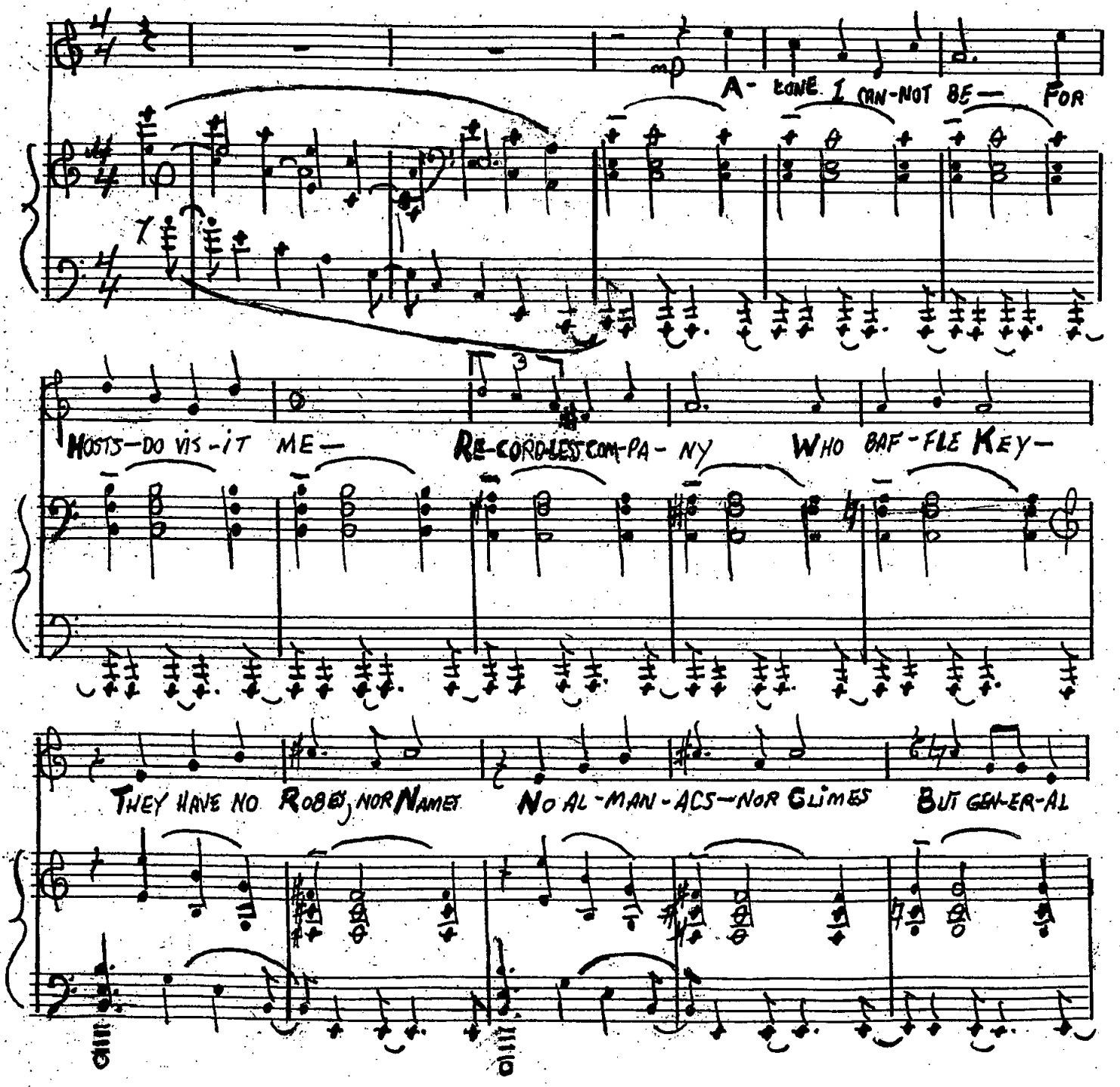
MEDIUM FAST

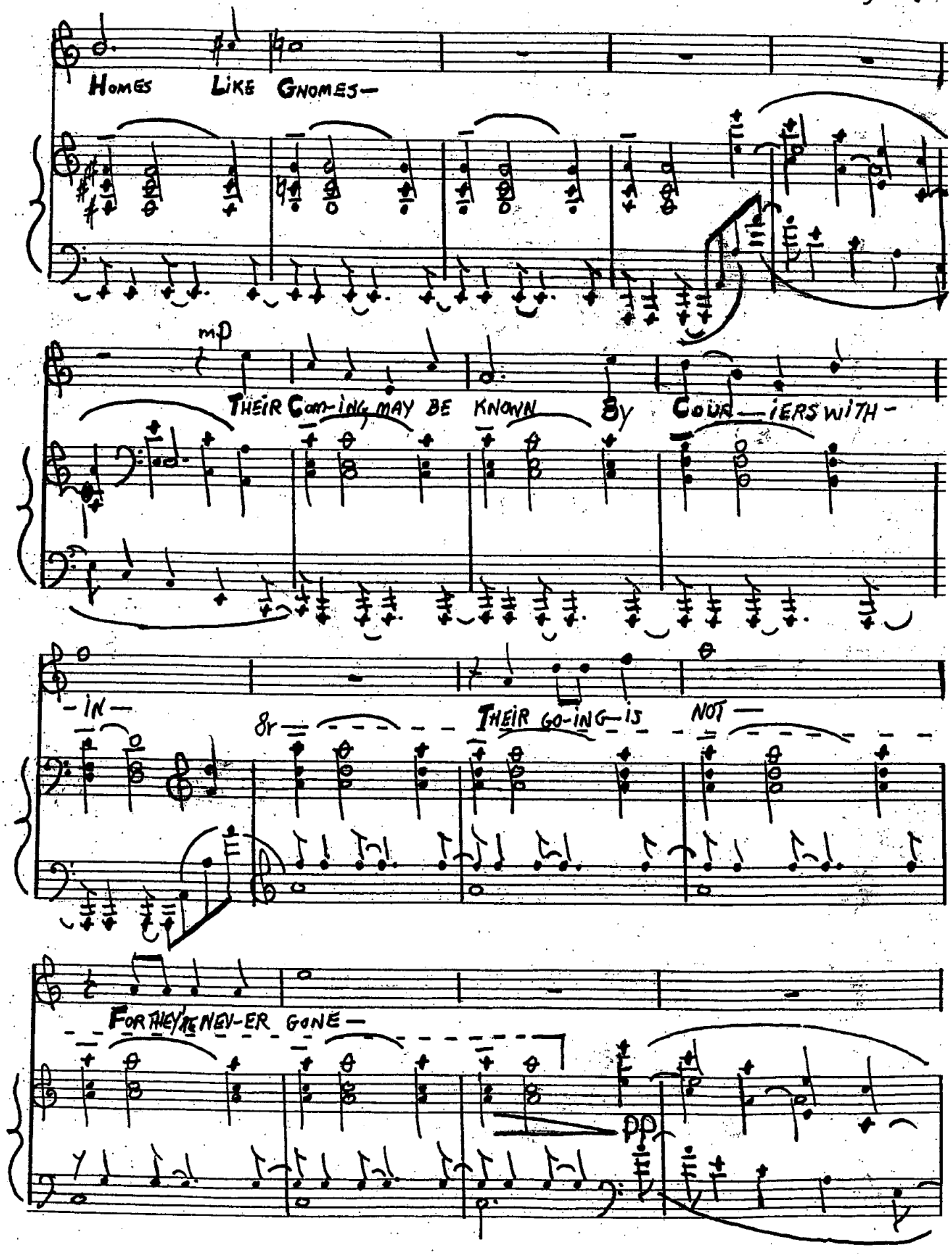


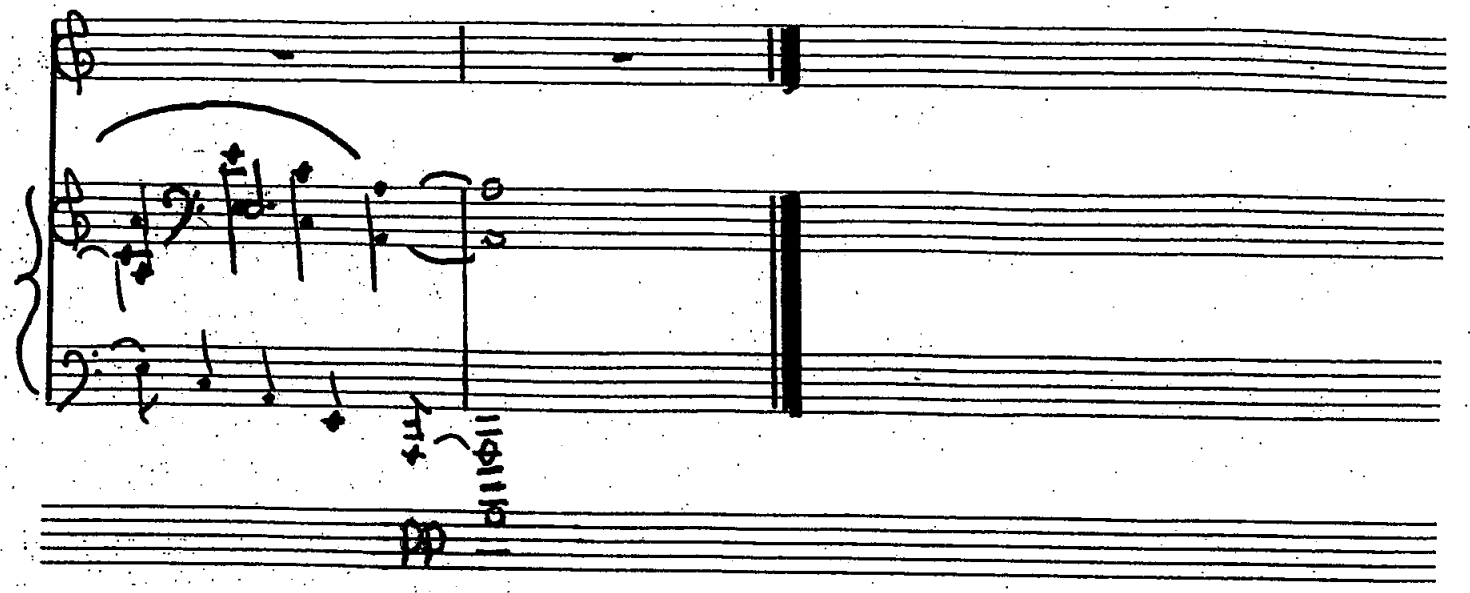

mp
HOW DREAR-Y— TO BE-SOME-BOD-Y!— HOW
p
PUB-LIC—LIKE A FROG— TO TELL ONE'S NAME-THE LIVE-LONG JUNE—
mf
mp
SLOWER
IN TIME
f
TO AN AD-MIR-ING BOG!
f
p
ff

16. ALONE I CANNOT BE

SLOW

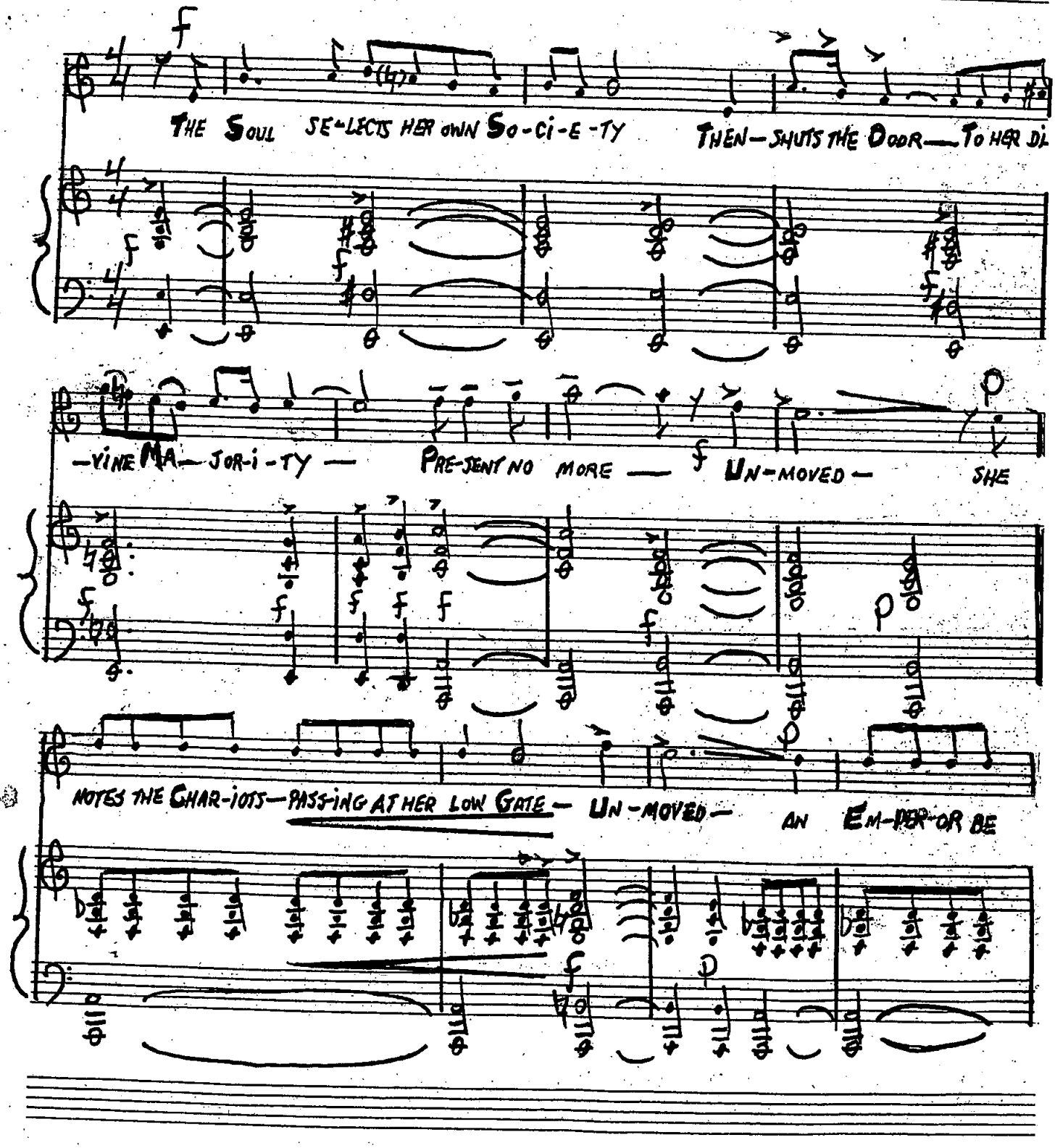


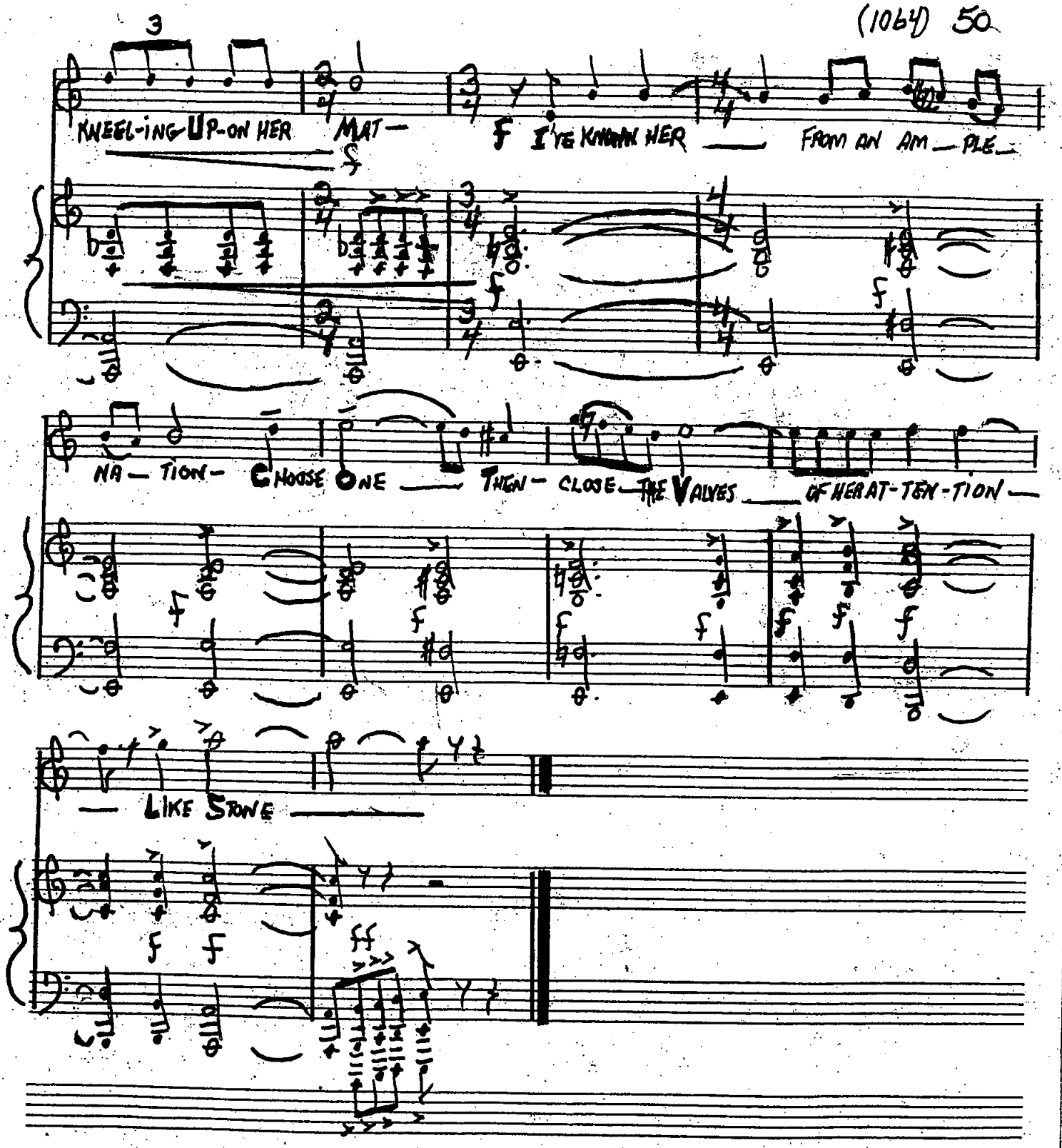

HOMES LIKE GNOMES—
mp
THEIR COM-ING MAY BE KNOWN BY COUR—IERS WITH-
-IN—
8r
THEIR GO-ING—IS NOT—
FOR THEY'RE NEV-ER GONE—
pp



17. THE SOUL SELECTS HER OWN SOCIETY

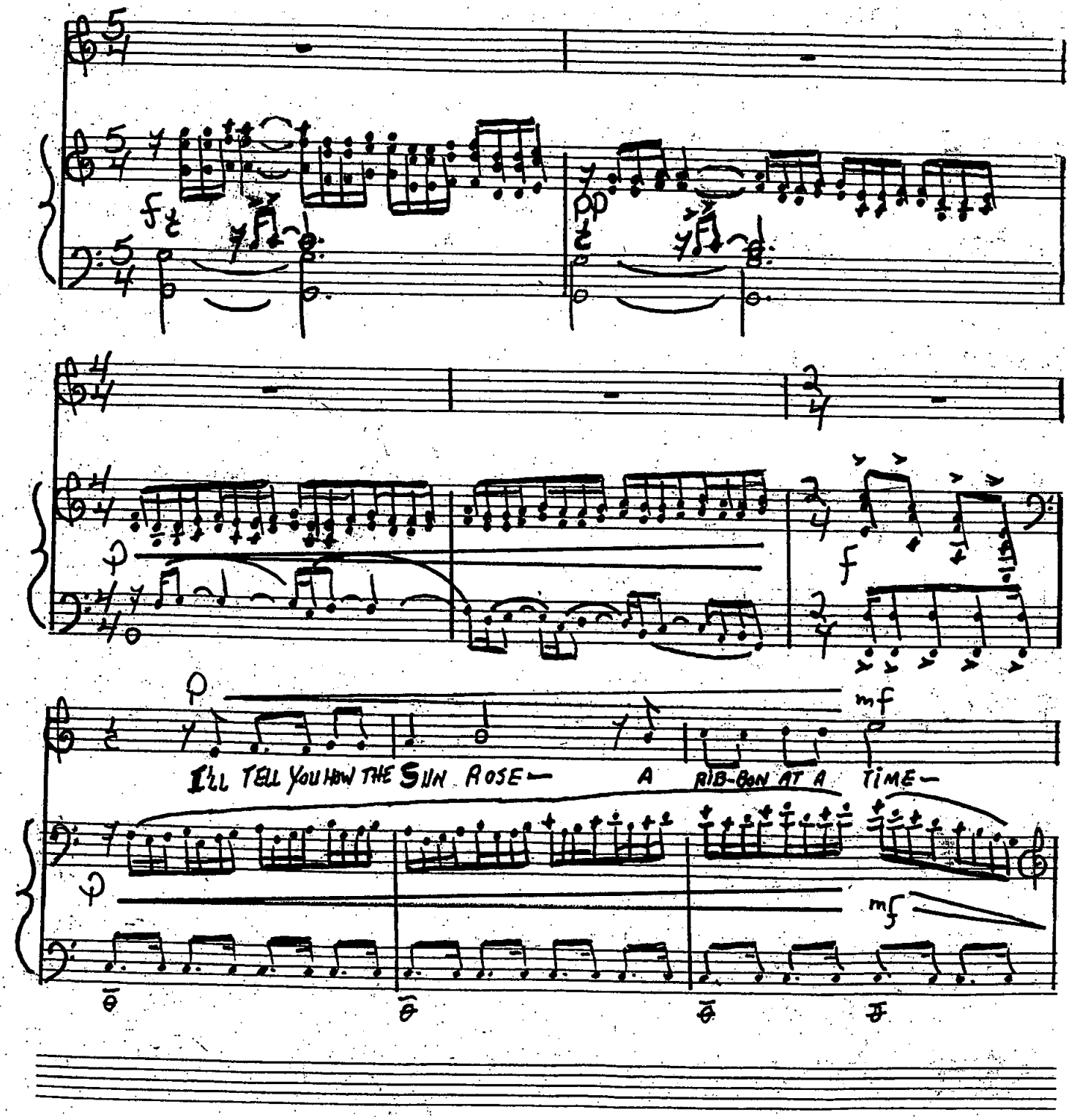
MEDIUM SLOW

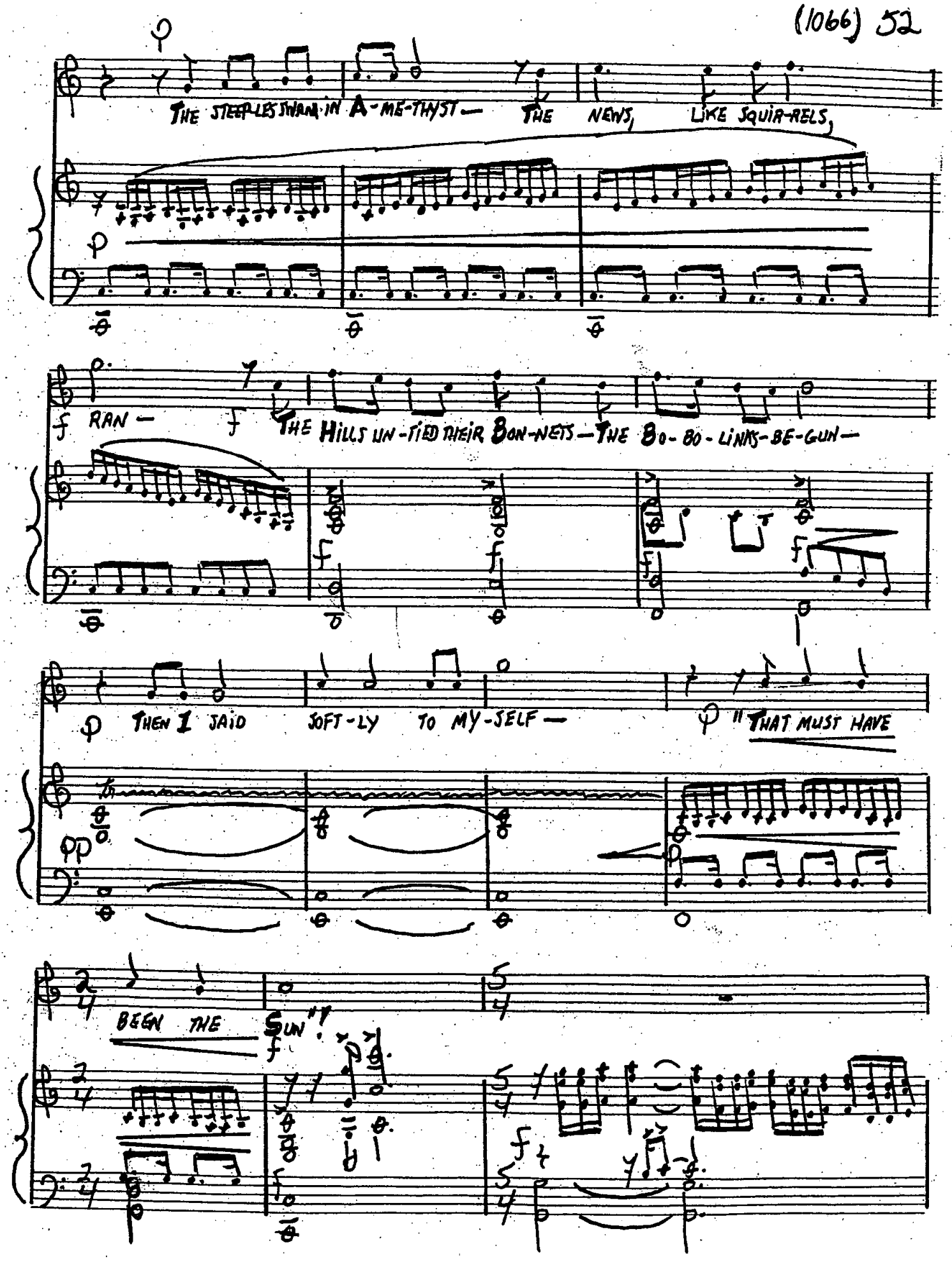


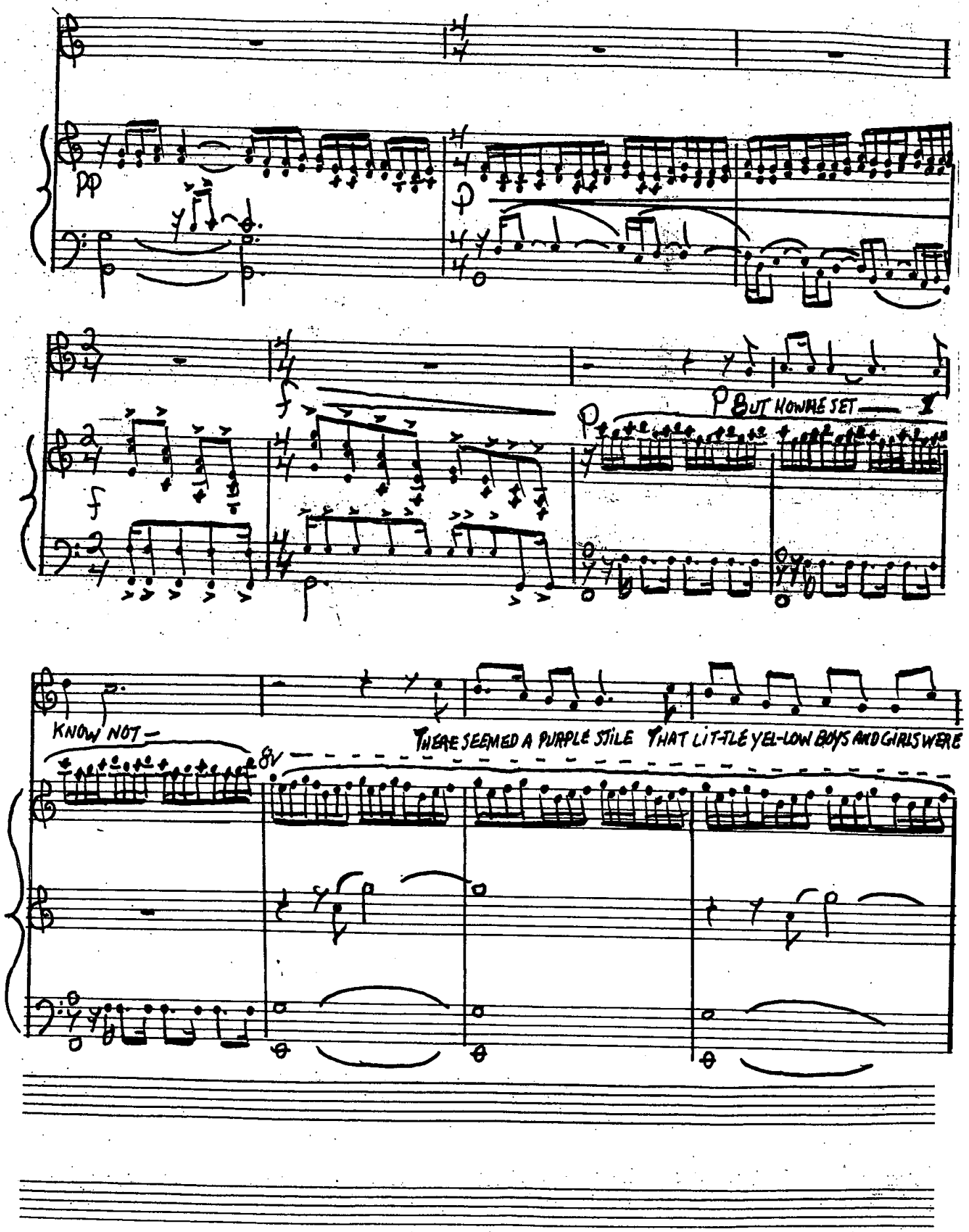

3
KNEEL-ING UP-ON HER MAT-
I'VE KNOWN HER
FROM AN AM-PLE
NA-TION- CHOOSE ONE
THEN- CLOSE THE VALVES
OF HER AT-TEN-TION
LIKE STONE

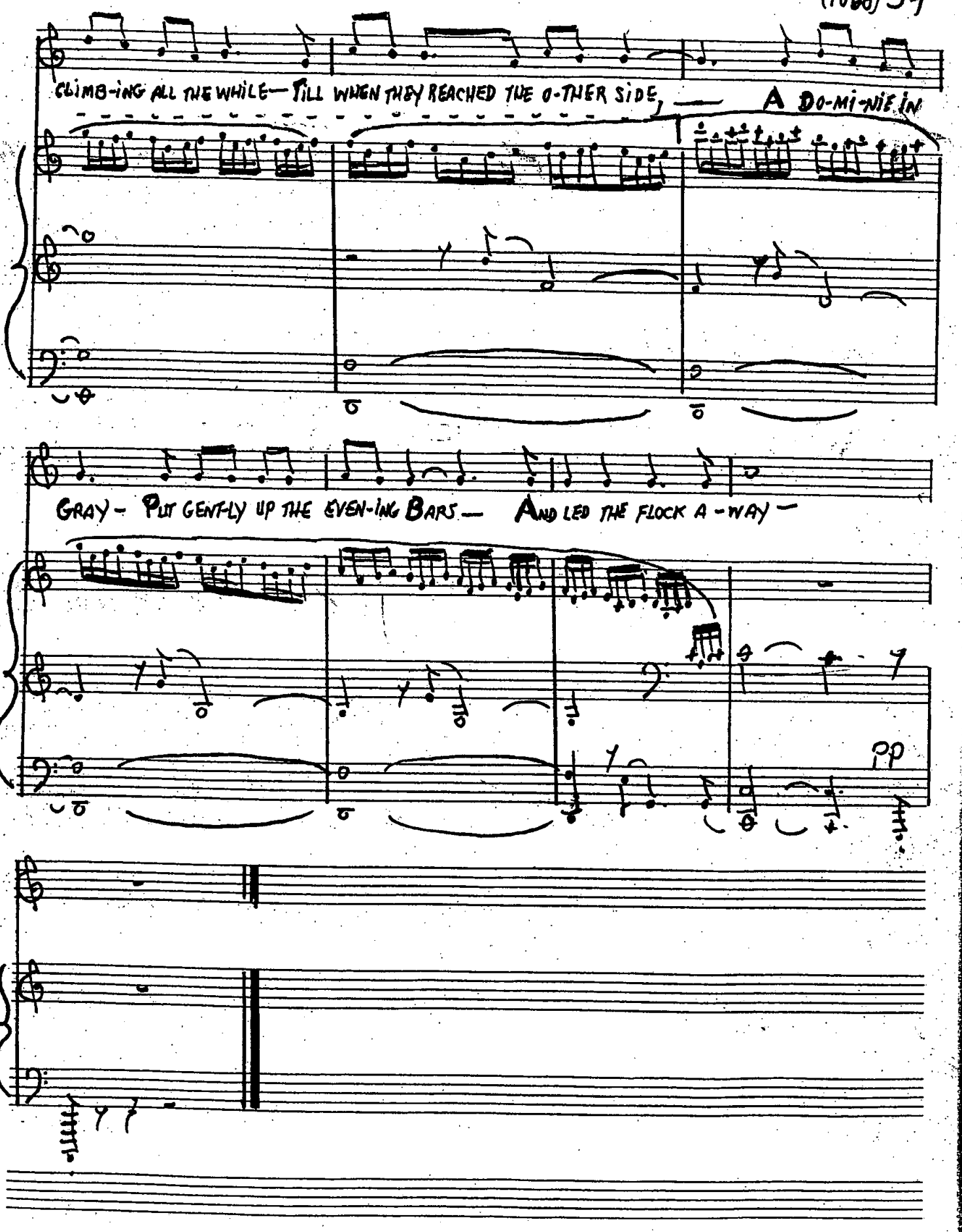
18. I'LL TELL YOU HOW THE SUN ROSE

FAST



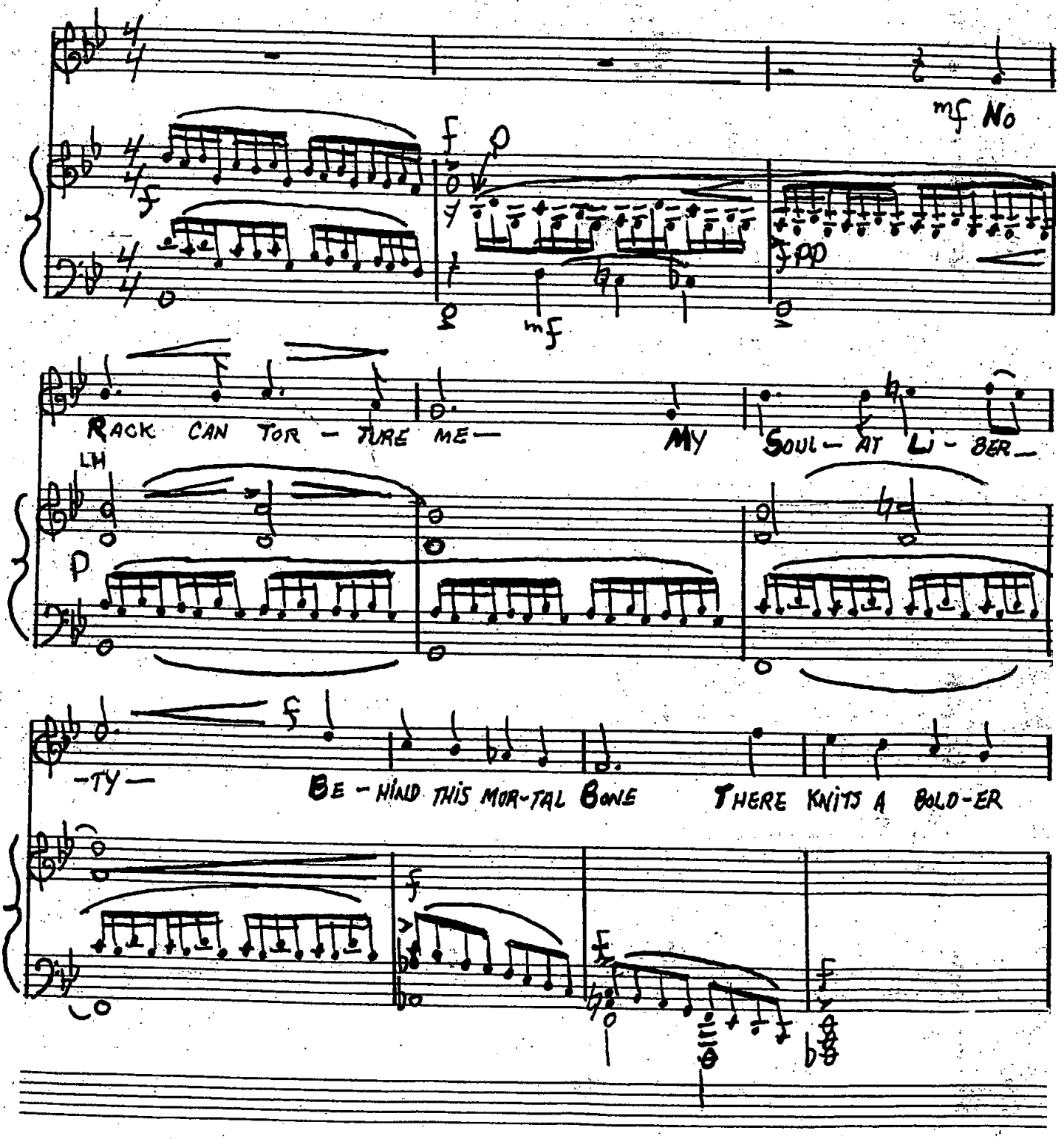

THE STEEPLES SWAM IN A-ME-THYST— THE NEWS, LIKE SQUIR-RELS,
RAN— THE HILLS UN-TIED THEIR BON-NETS—THE BO-BO-LINKS-BE-GUN—
THEN I JAID SOFT-LY TO MY-SELF— "THAT MUST HAVE
BEEN THE SUN!"

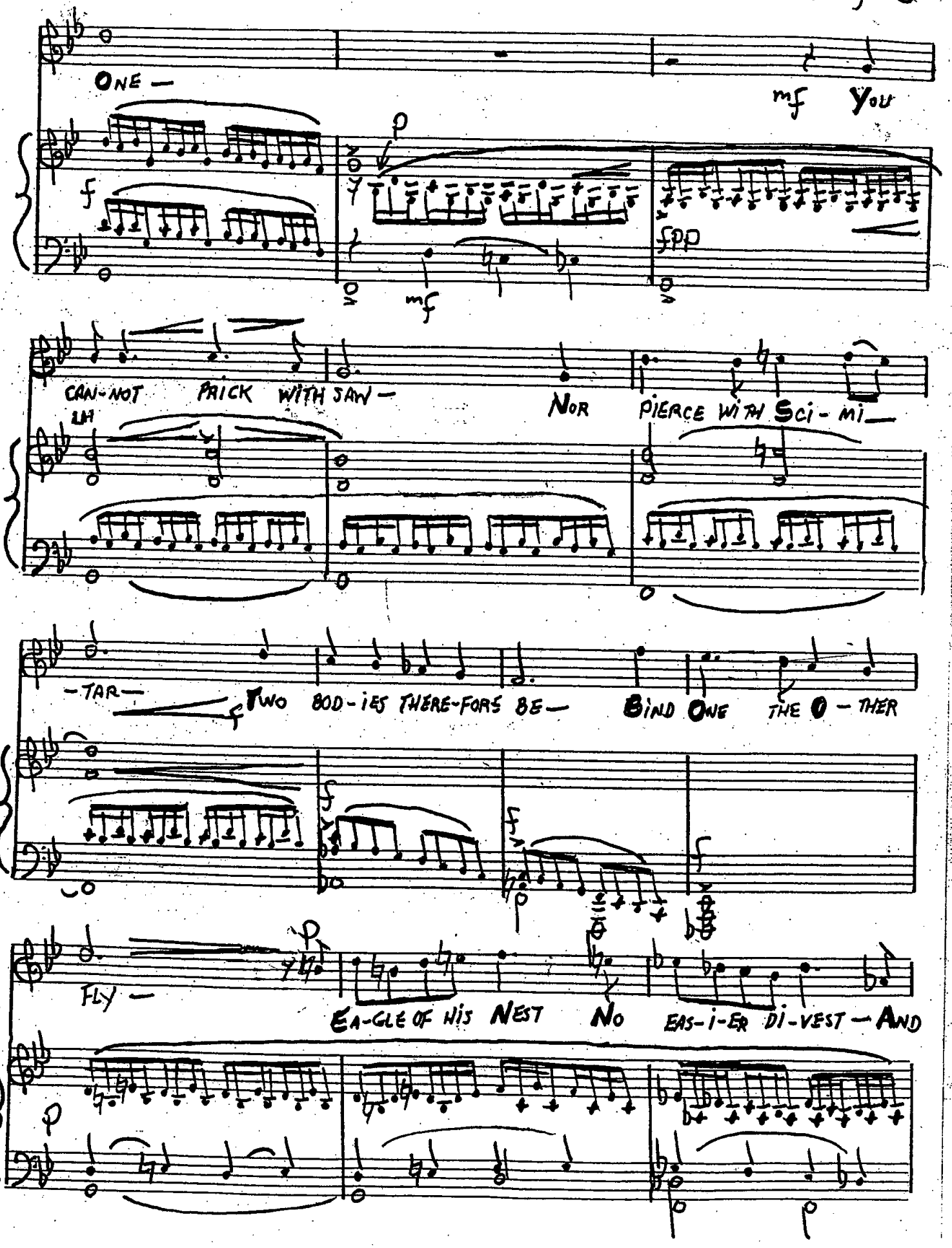

pp
p
f
p
BUT HOW HE SET
KNOW NOT —
8v
THERE SEEMED A PURPLE STILE THAT LIT-TLE YEL-LOW BOYS AND GIRLS WERE

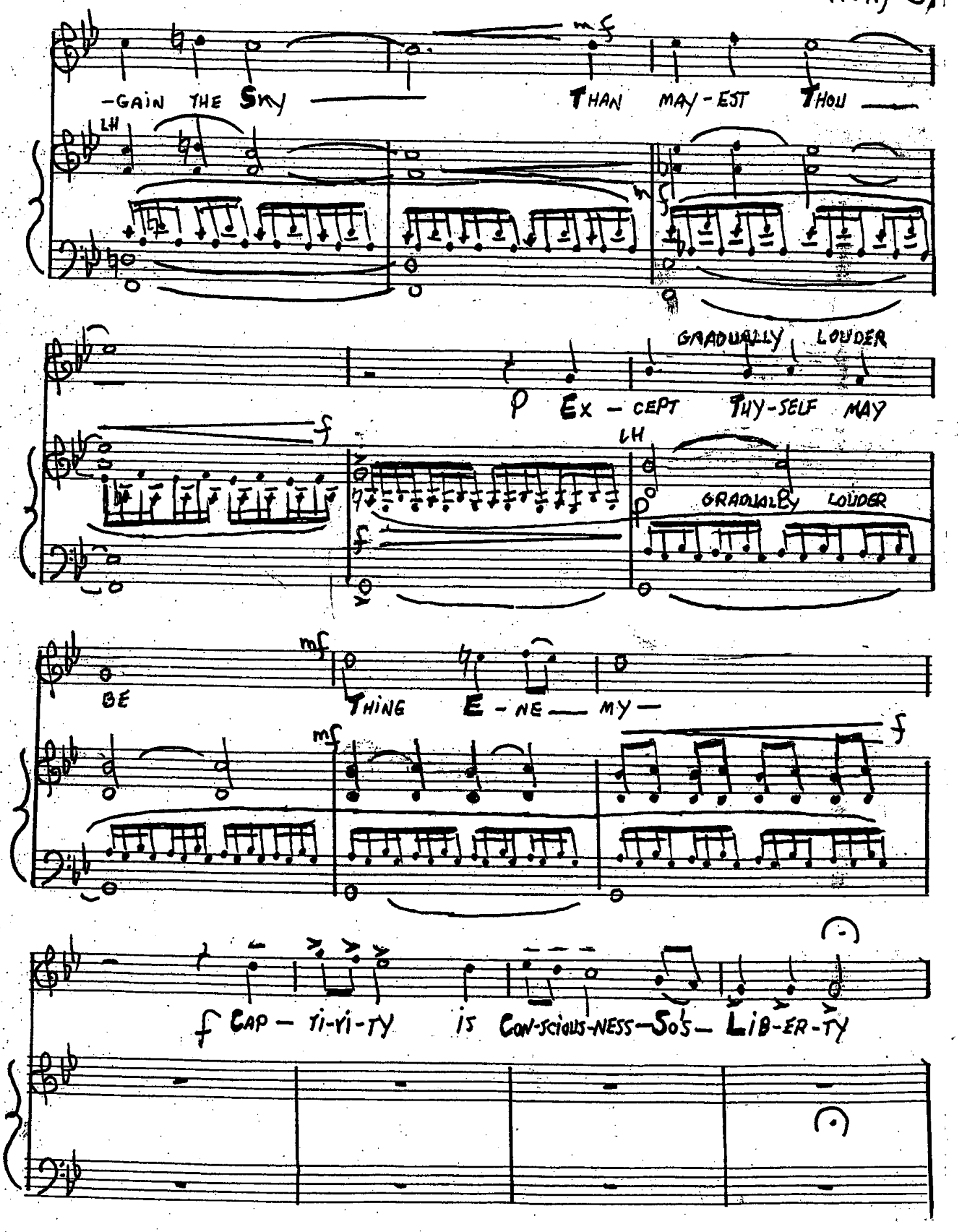

CLIMB-ING ALL THE WHILE— TILL WHEN THEY REACHED THE O-THER SIDE, — A DO-MI-NIE IN
GRAY - PUT GENT-LY UP THE EVEN-ING BARS — AND LED THE FLOCK A-WAY —
pp

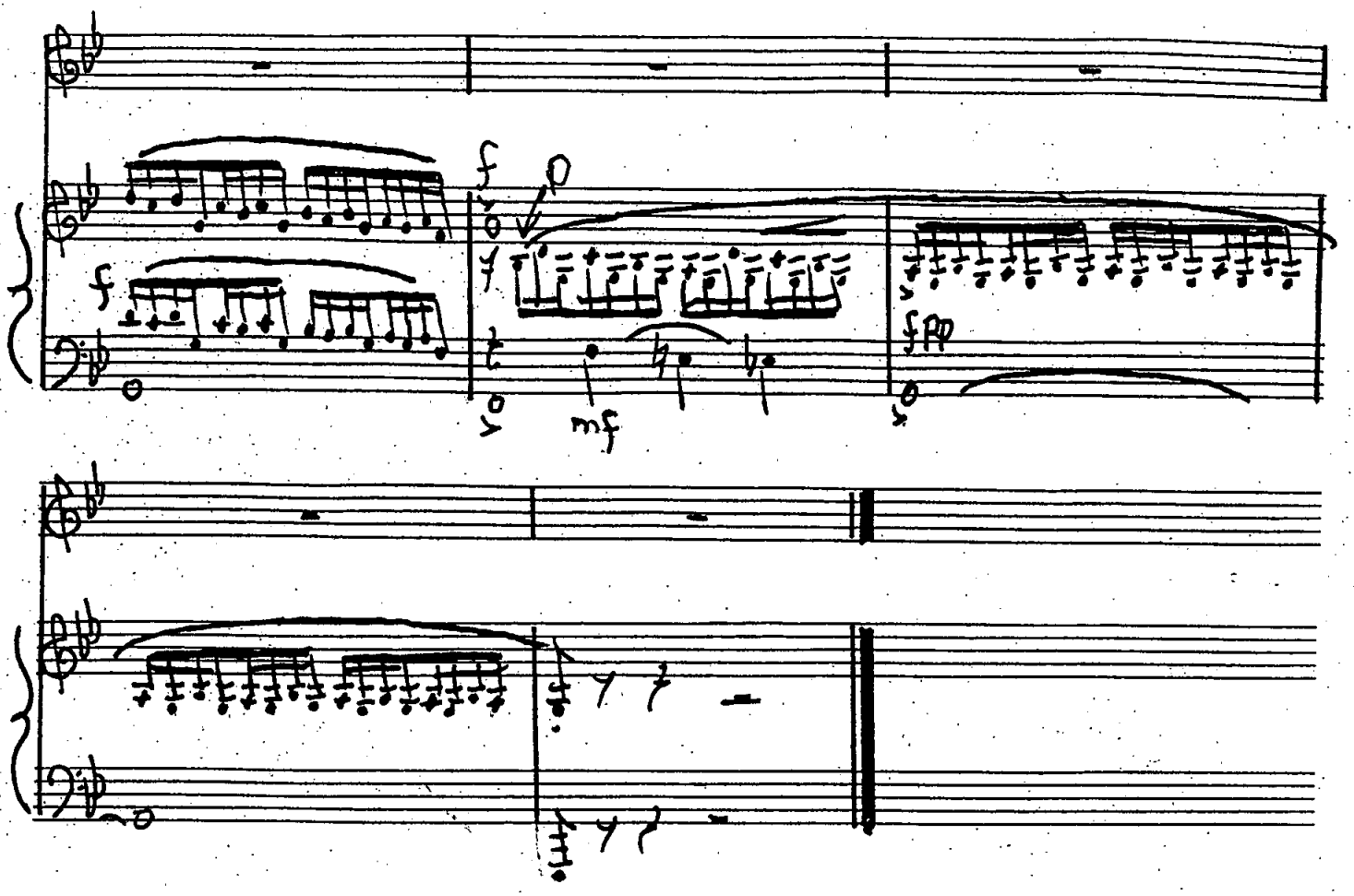
19. NO RACK CAN TORTURE ME

FAST MEDIUM



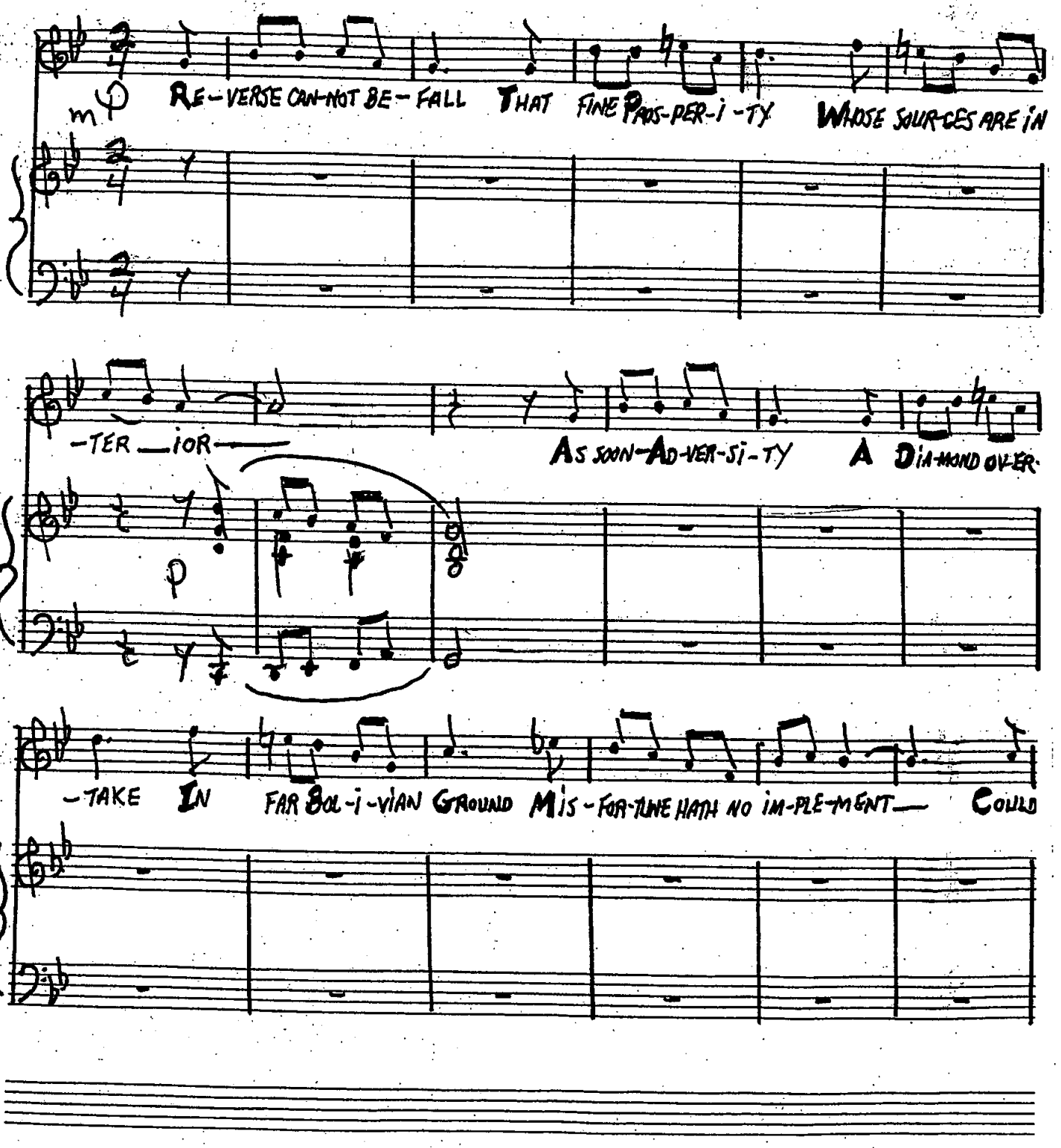

ONE —
mf YOU
f
p
fpp
mf
CAN-NOT PRICK WITH SAW —
LH
NOR PIERCE WITH SCI-MI —
-TAR —
f TWO BOD-IES THERE-FORE BE —
BIND ONE THE O-THER
f
f
f
p
FLY —
EA-GLE OF HIS NEST NO EAS-I-ER DI-VEST — AND
p
p
p

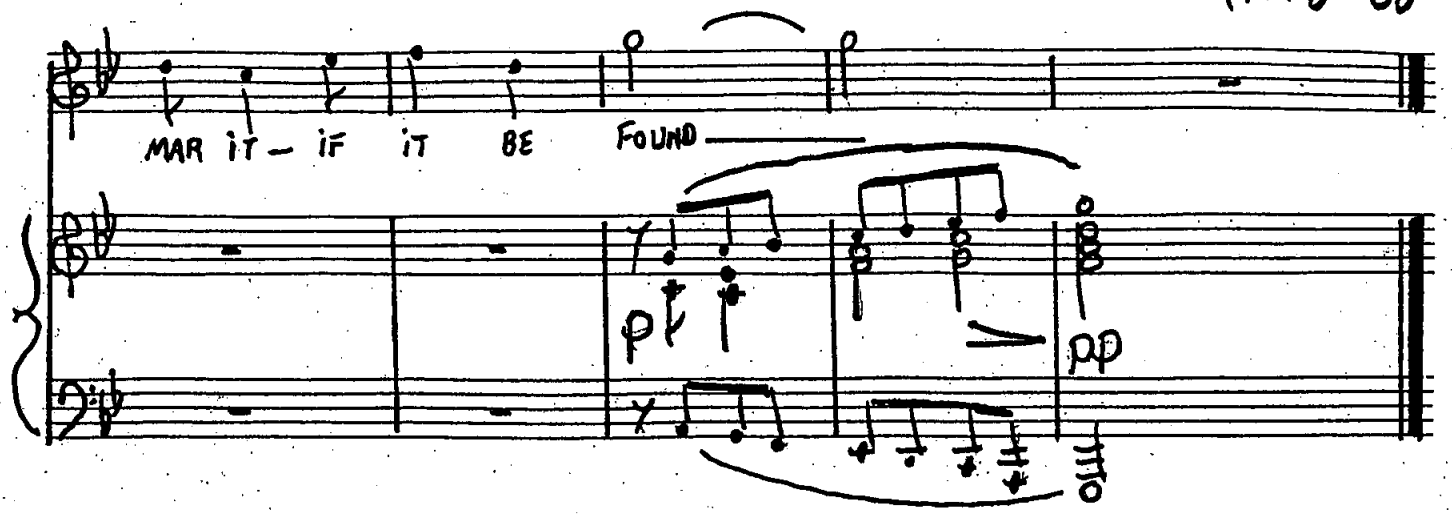

-GAIN THE SKY
THAN MAY-EST THOU
LH
GRADUALLY LOUDER
EX-CEPT THY-SELF MAY
LH
GRADUALLY LOUDER
BE
THING E-NE-MY-
CAP-TI-VI-TY IS CON-SCIOUS-NESS-SO'S-LIB-ER-TY


f
f
mf
ffp

20. REVERSE CANNOT BEFALL

SLOW MEDIUM

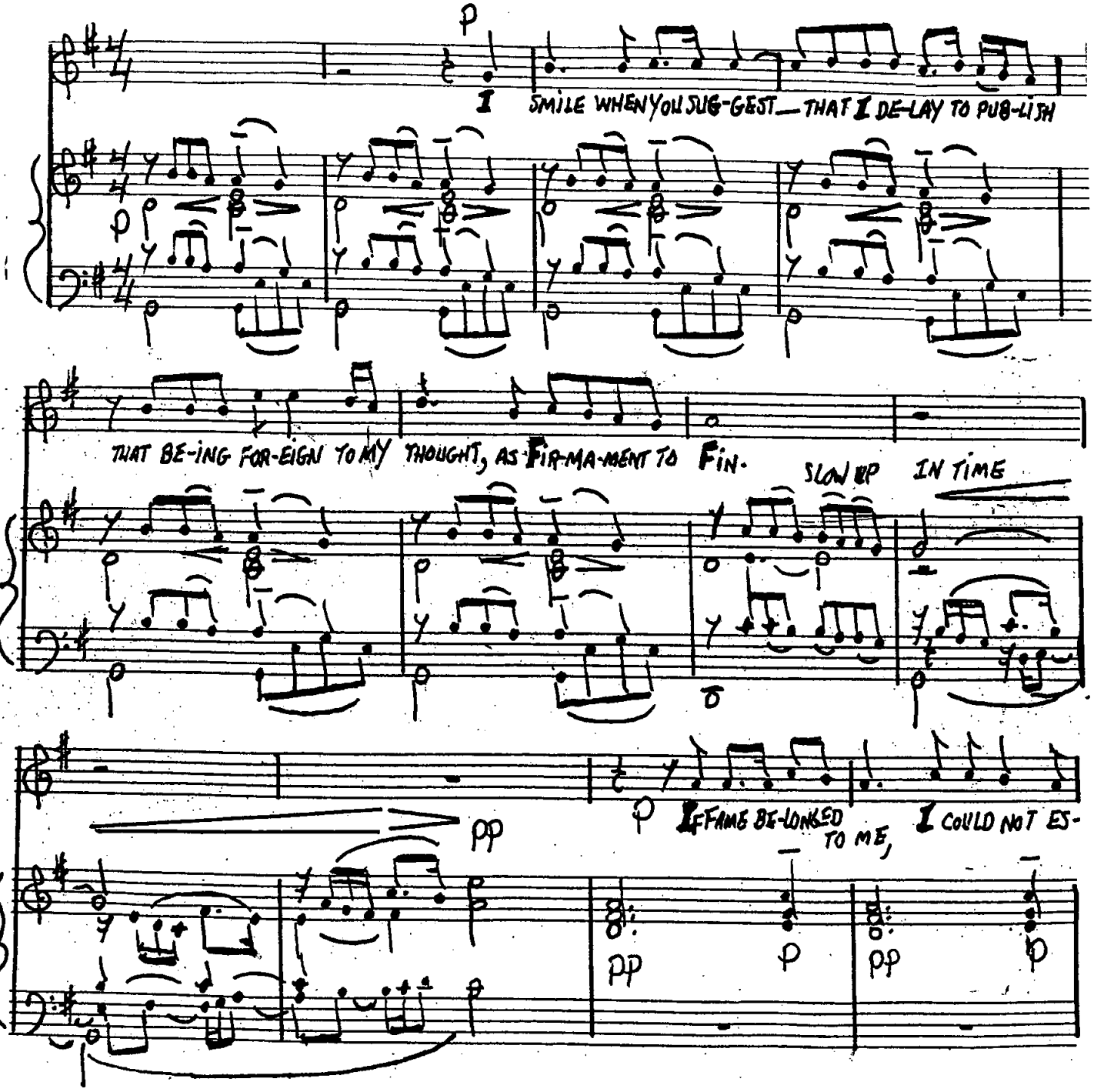


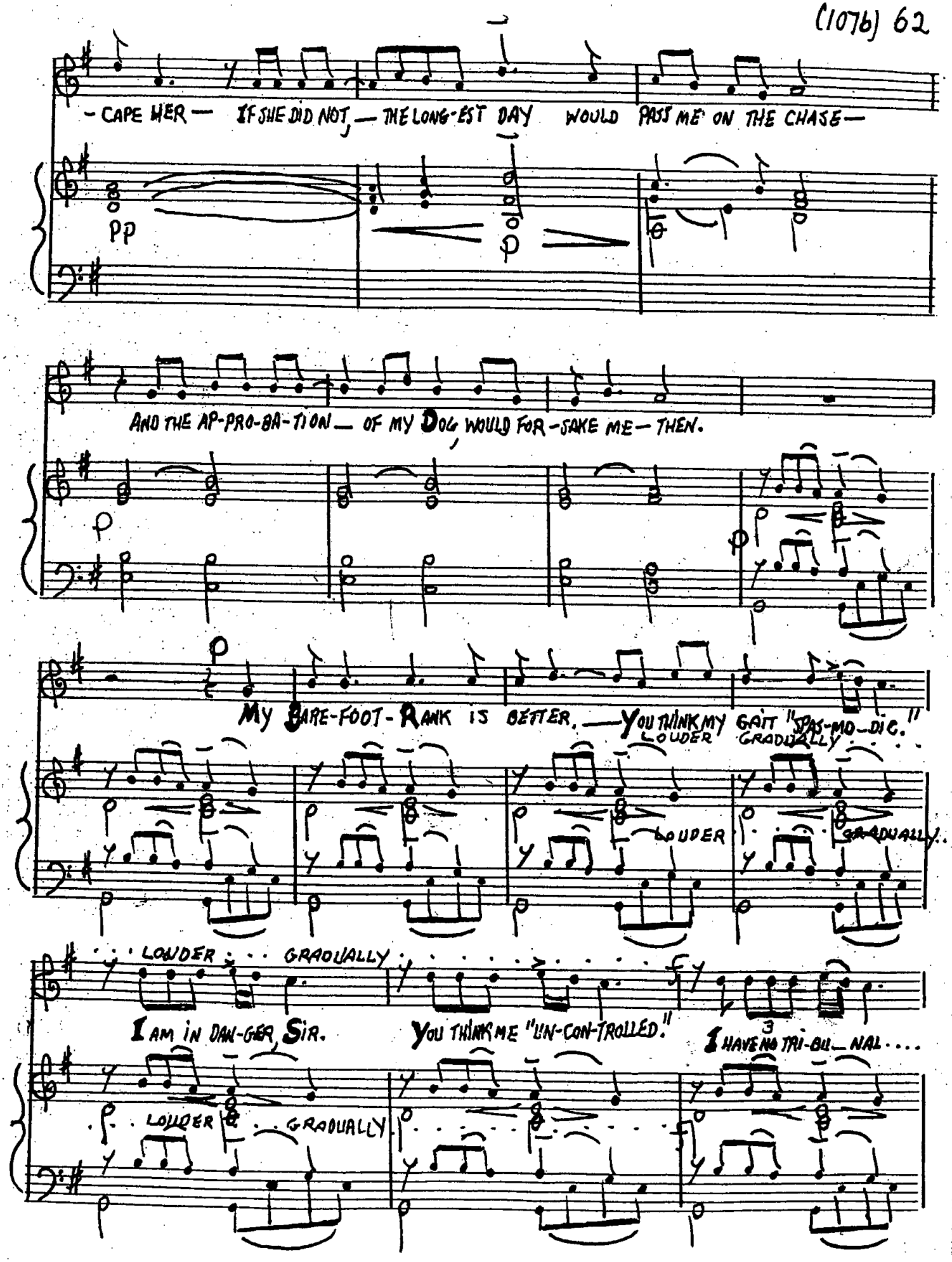

MAR IT — IF IT BE FOUND
p
pp

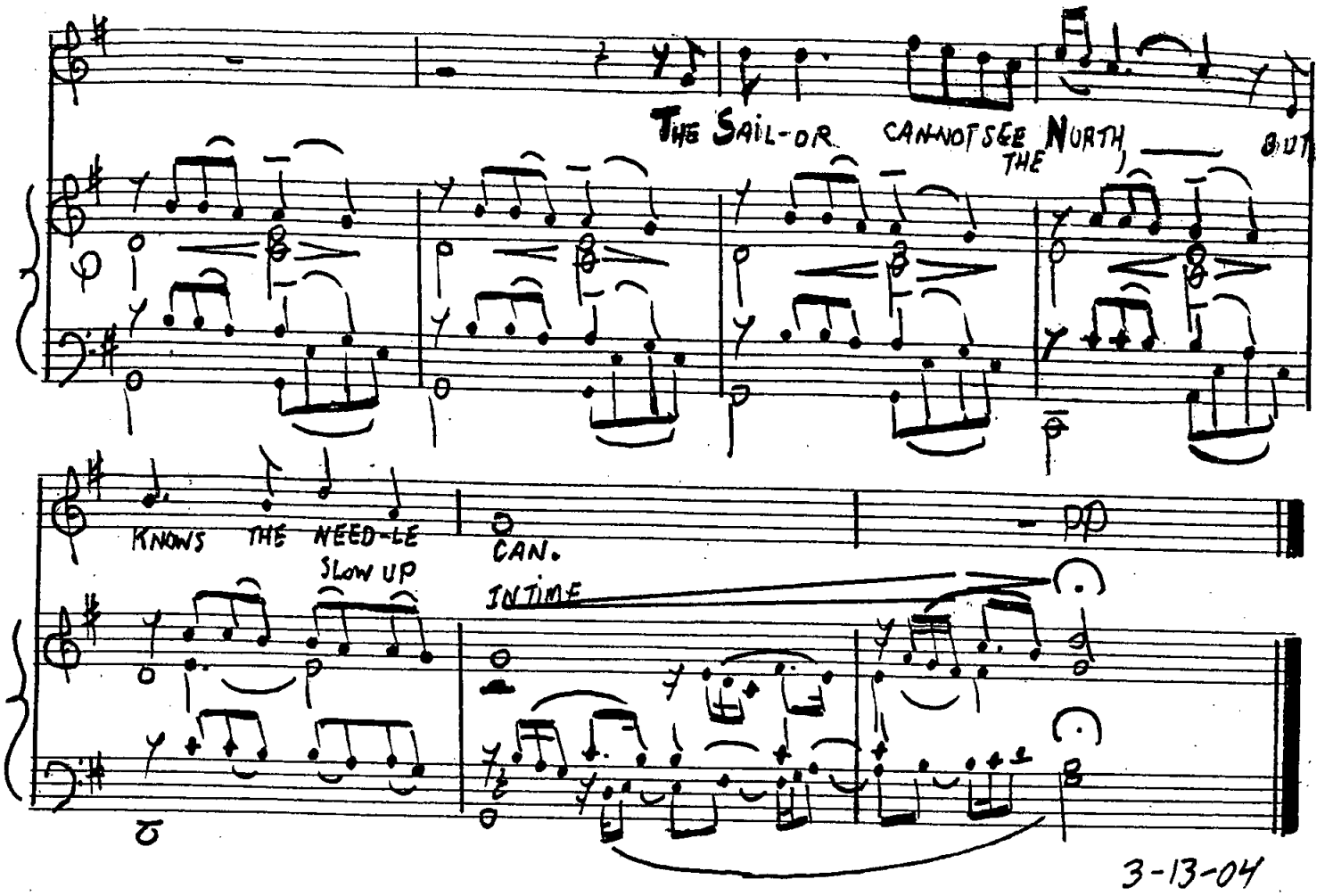
21. I SMILE WHEN YOU SUGGEST

(FROM A LETTER TO T.W. HIGGENSON)

MEDIUM SLOW




- CAPE HER — IF SHE DID NOT, — THE LONG-EST DAY WOULD PASS ME ON THE CHASE —
pp
AND THE AP-PRO-BA-TION — OF MY DOG, WOULD FOR-SAKE ME — THEN.
My BARE-FOOT-RANK IS BETTER. — YOU THINK MY GAIT "SPAS-MO-DIC."
LOUDER GRADUALLY
LOUDER
GRADUALLY
LOUDER GRADUALLY
I AM IN DAN-GER, SIR.
YOU THINK ME "UN-CON-TROLLED."
I HAVE NO TRI-BU-NAL....
3
LOUDER GRADUALLY


THE SAIL-OR CANNOT SEE NORTH, BUT
THE
KNOWS THE NEED-LE
SLOW UP
CAN.
IN TIME
pp

3-13-04