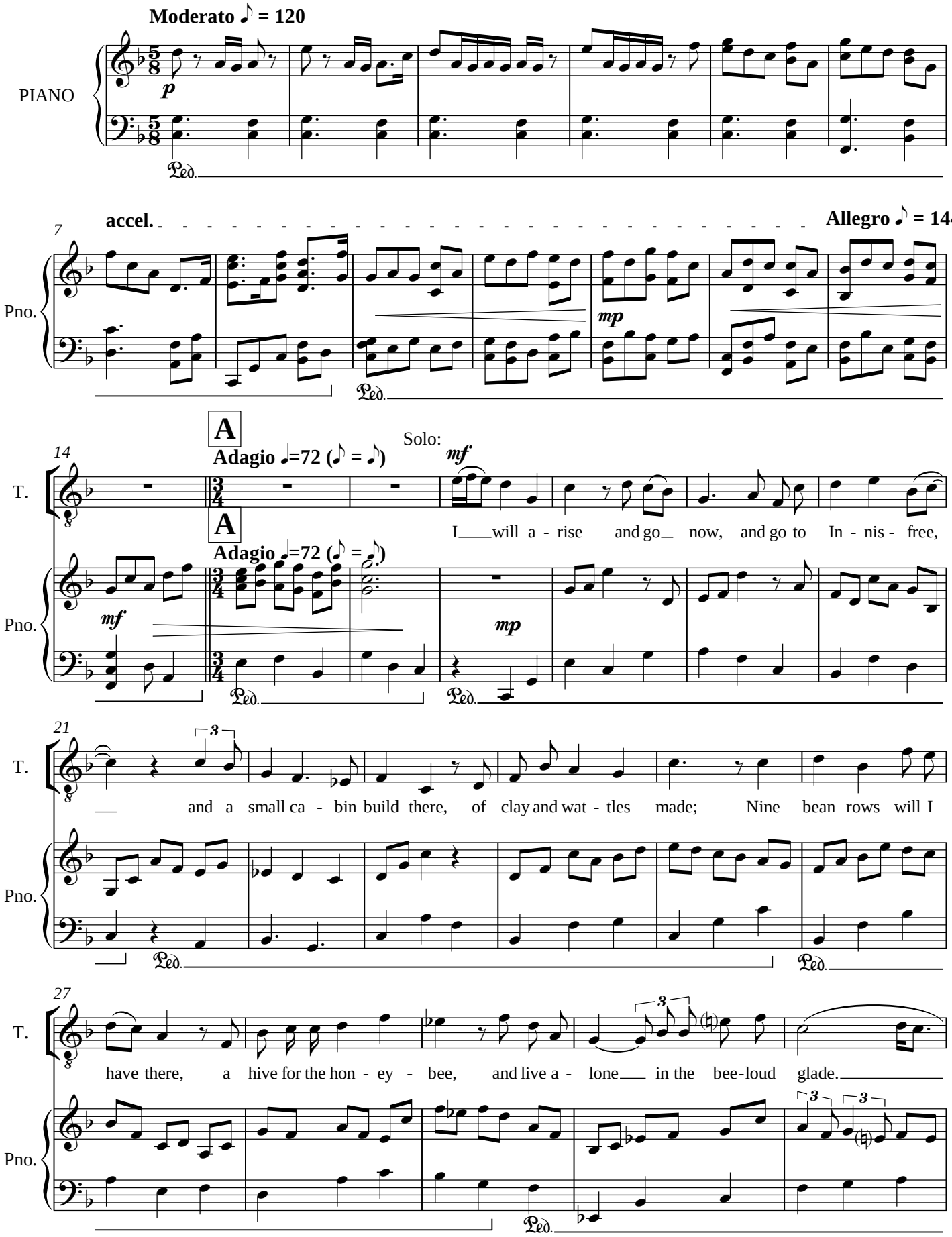
The Lake Isle of Innisfree

William Butler Yeats

PETER BIRD



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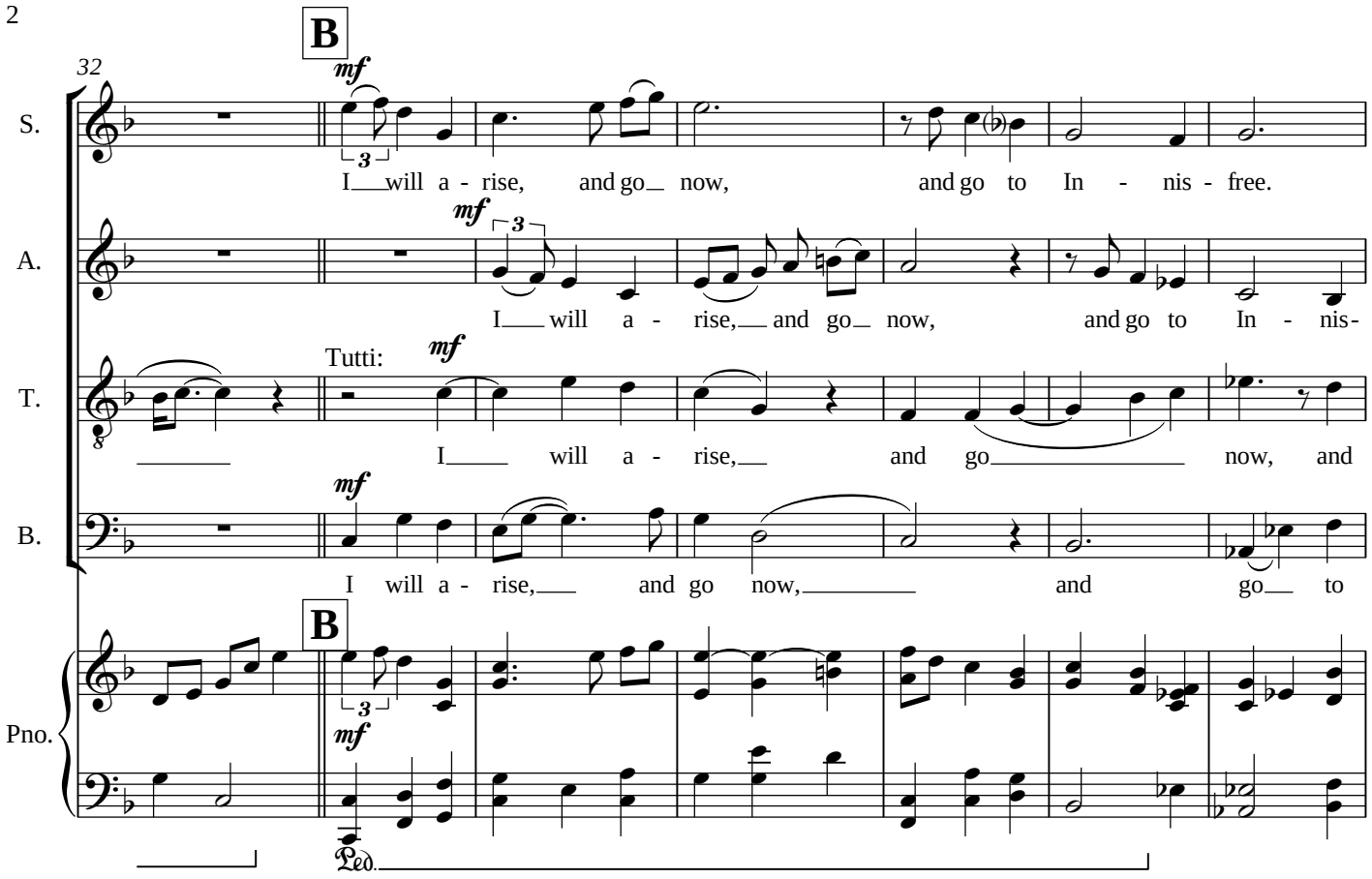
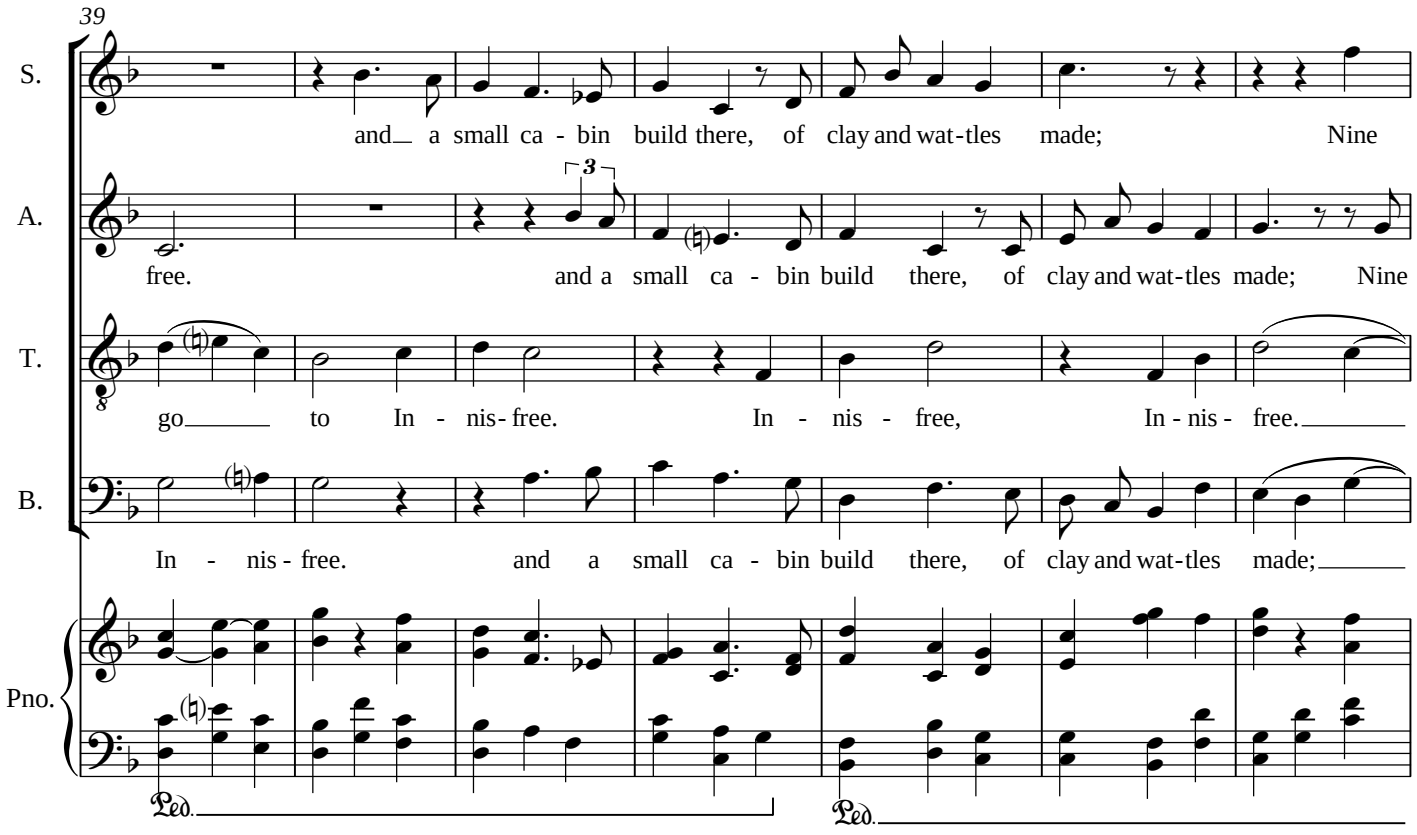
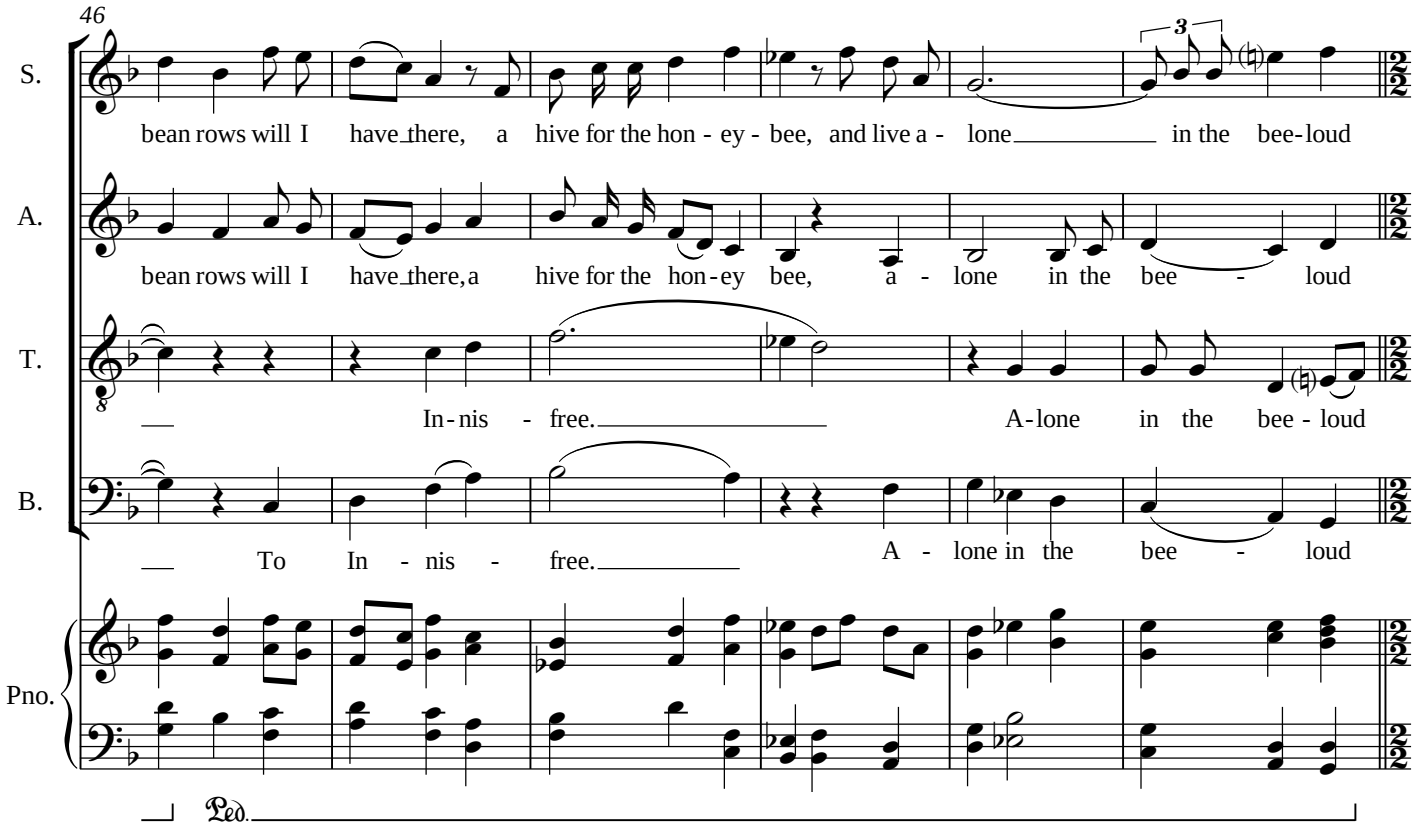
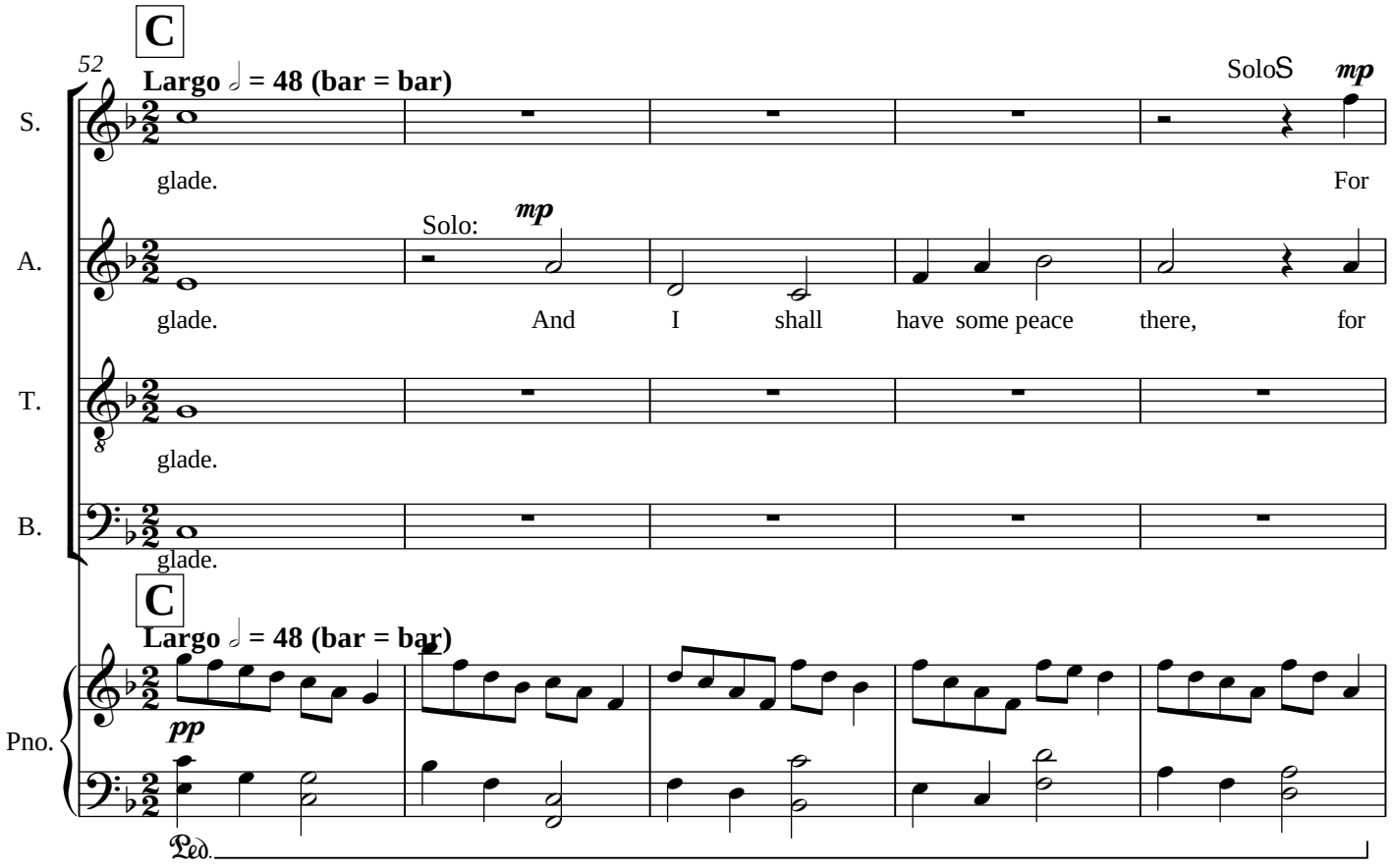
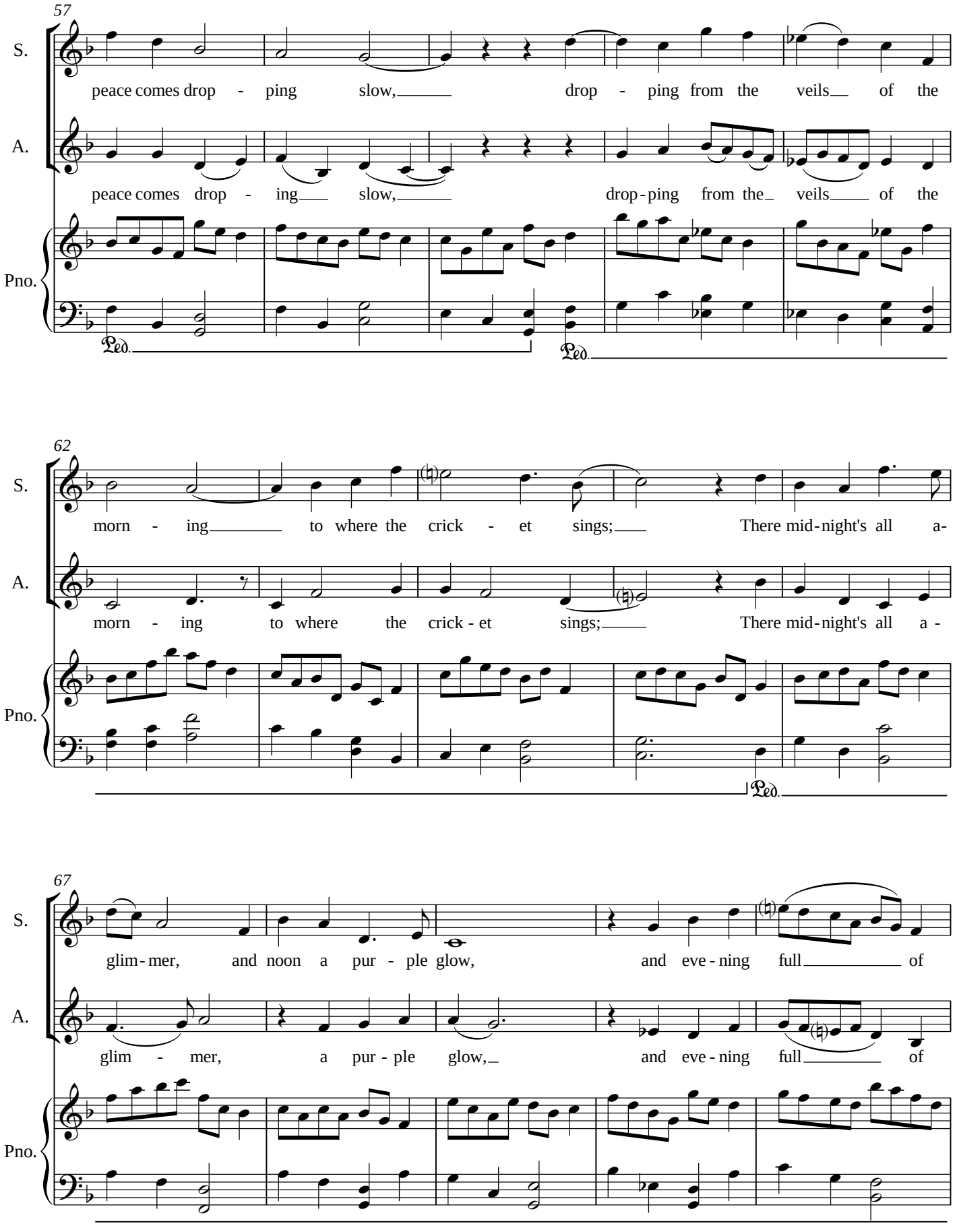
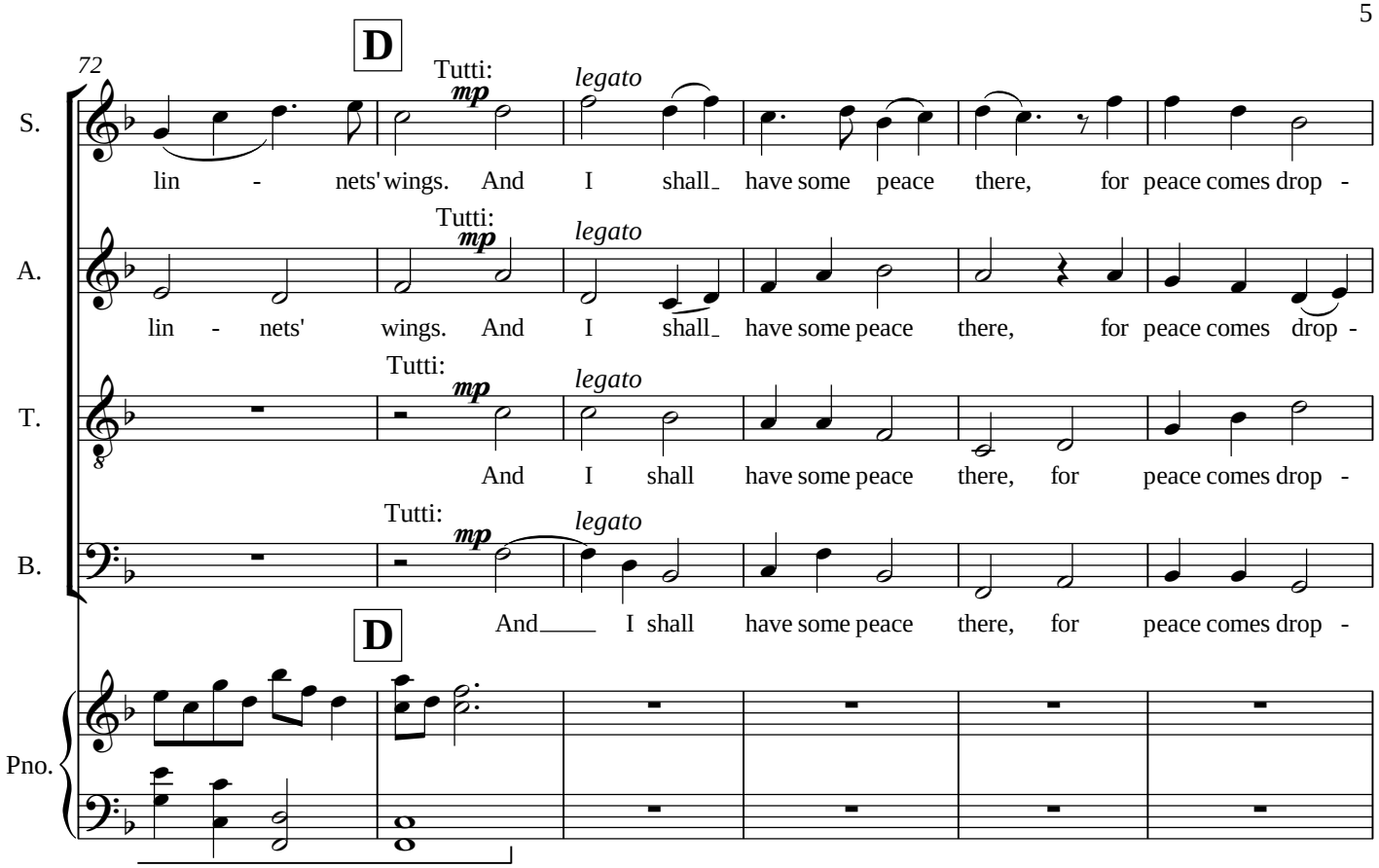

32
B
mf
S.
I will a - rise, and go now, and go to In - nis - free.
A.
I will a - rise, and go now, and go to In - nis-
Tutti:
T.
I will a - rise, and go now, and
B.
I will a - rise, and go now, and go to
Pno.
Ped.

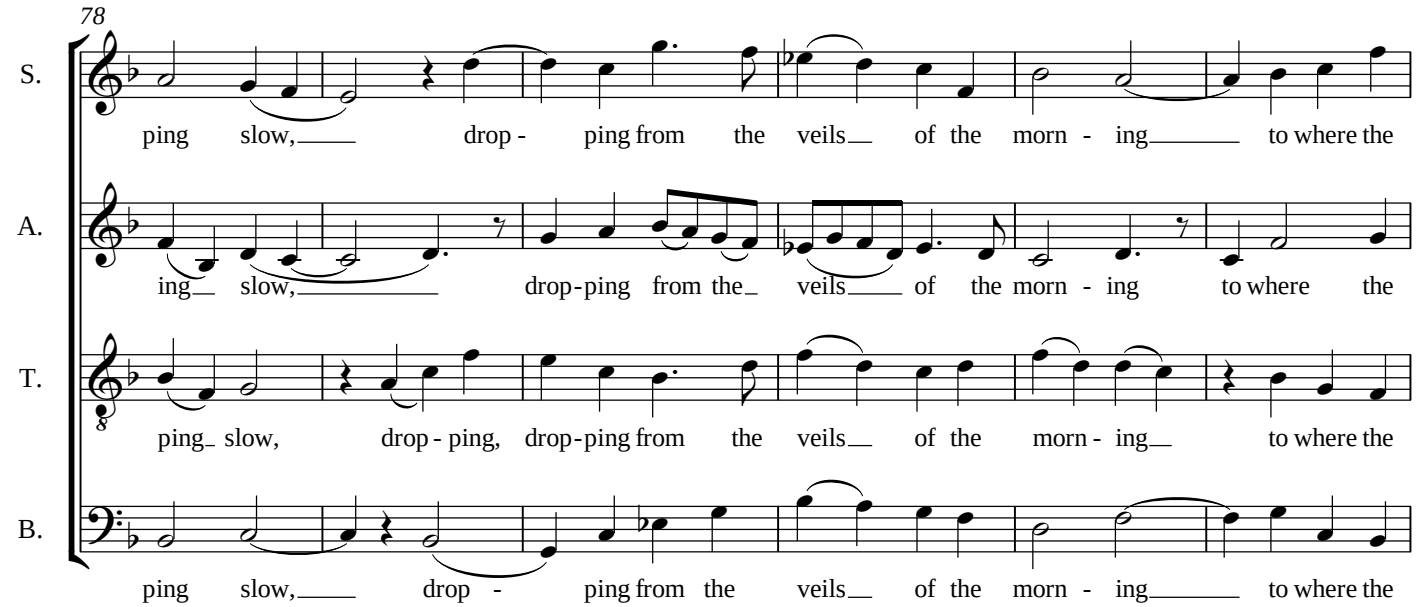

39
S.
and a small ca - bin build there, of clay and wat-tles made; Nine
A.
free. and a small ca - bin build there, of clay and wat-tles made; Nine
T.
go to In - nis- free. In - nis - free, In - nis - free.
B.
In - nis - free. and a small ca - bin build there, of clay and wat-tles made;
Pno.
Ped.
Ped.

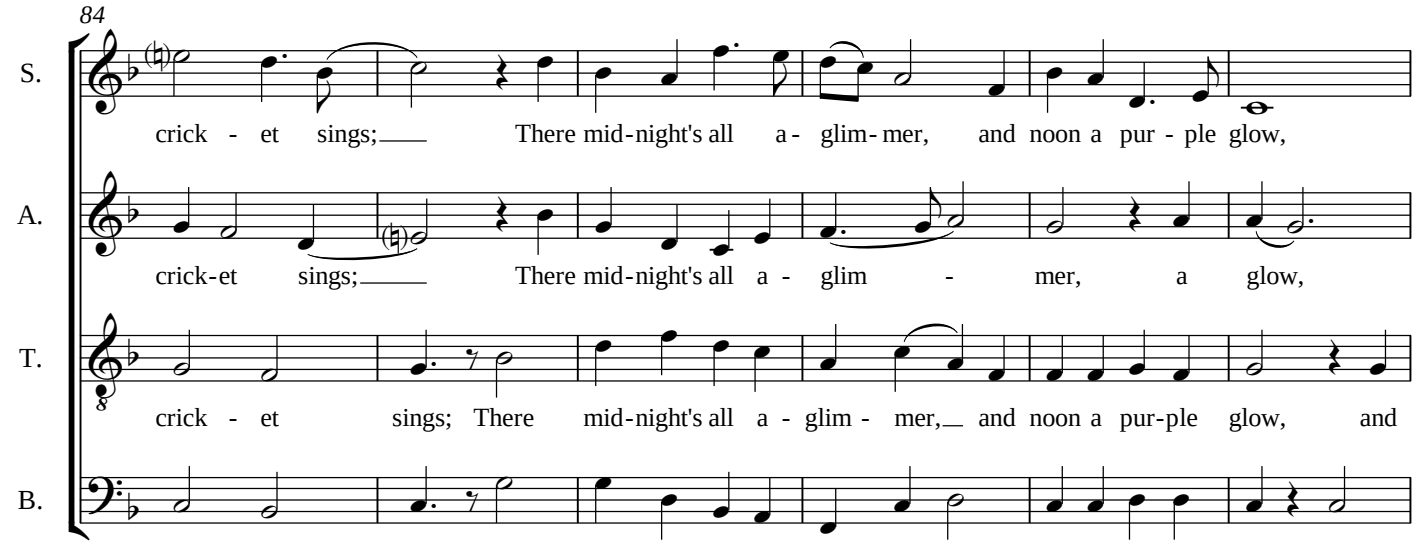

46
S.
bean rows will I have there, a hive for the hon - ey - bee, and live a - lone in the bee-loud
A.
bean rows will I have there, a hive for the hon-ey bee, a - lone in the bee - loud
T.
In-nis - free. A-lone in the bee - loud
B.
To In - nis - free. A - lone in the bee - loud
Pno.
Ped.

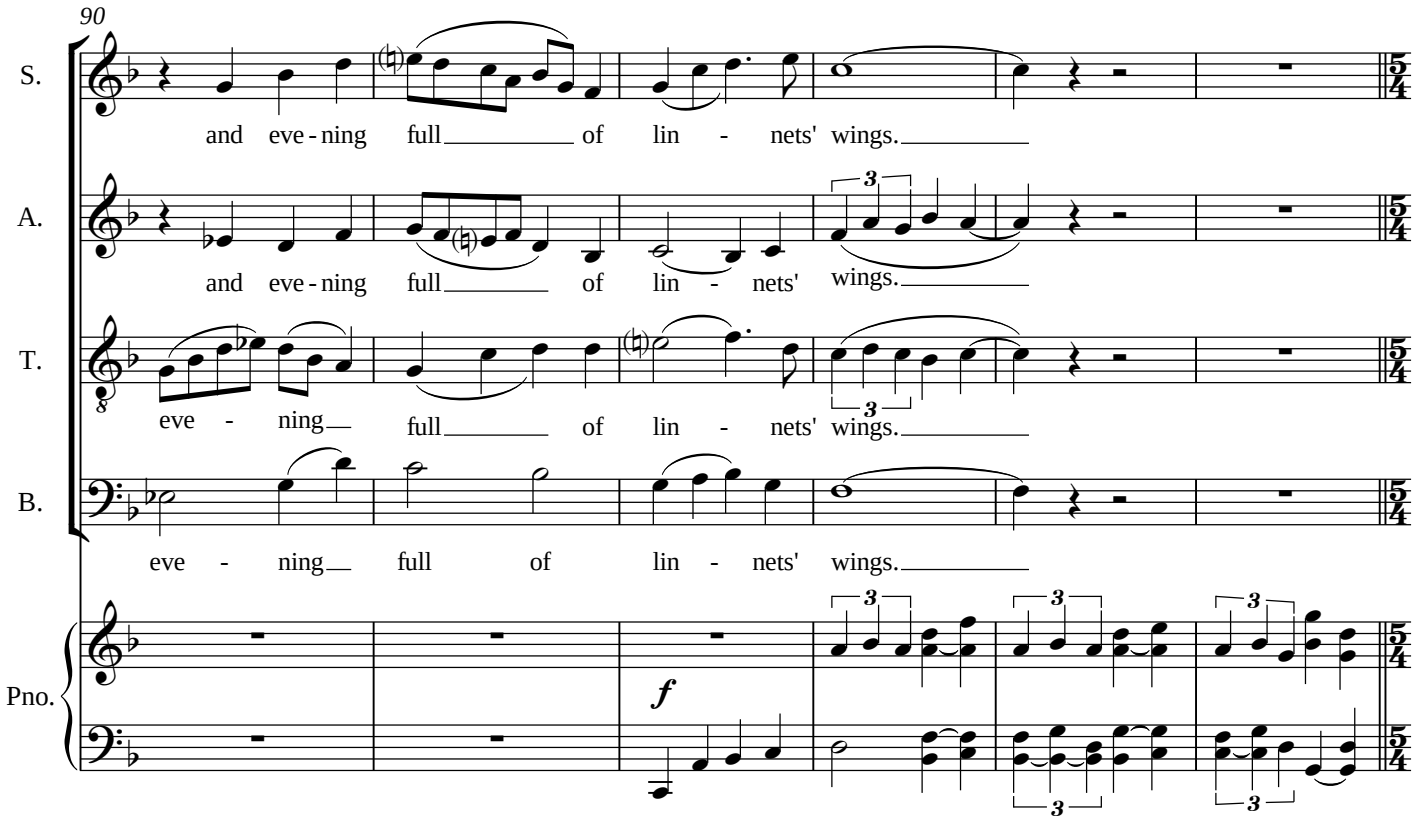

C
52
Largo ♩ = 48 (bar = bar)
S.
glade.
Solo
mp
For
A.
Solo:
mp
glade. And I shall have some peace there, for
T.
glade.
B.
glade.
C
Largo ♩ = 48 (bar = bar)
Pno.
pp
Ped.

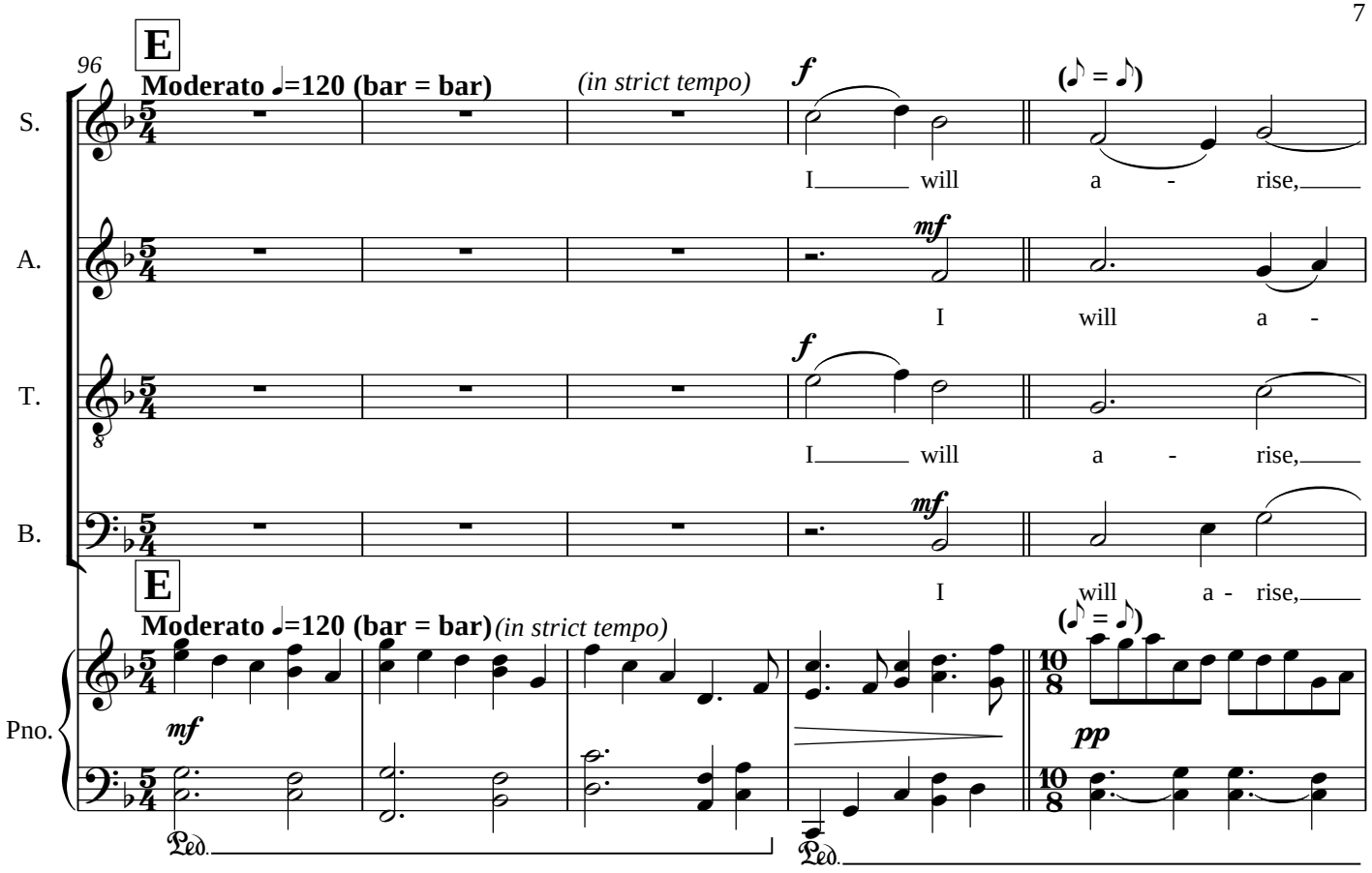

57
S.
peace comes drop - ping slow, drop - ping from the veils of the
A.
peace comes drop - ing slow, drop-ping from the veils of the
Pno.
62
S.
morn - ing to where the crick - et sings; There mid-night's all a-
A.
morn - ing to where the crick-et sings; There mid-night's all a-
Pno.
67
S.
glim-mer, and noon a pur - ple glow, and eve-ning full of
A.
glim - mer, a pur-ple glow, and eve-ning full of
Pno.

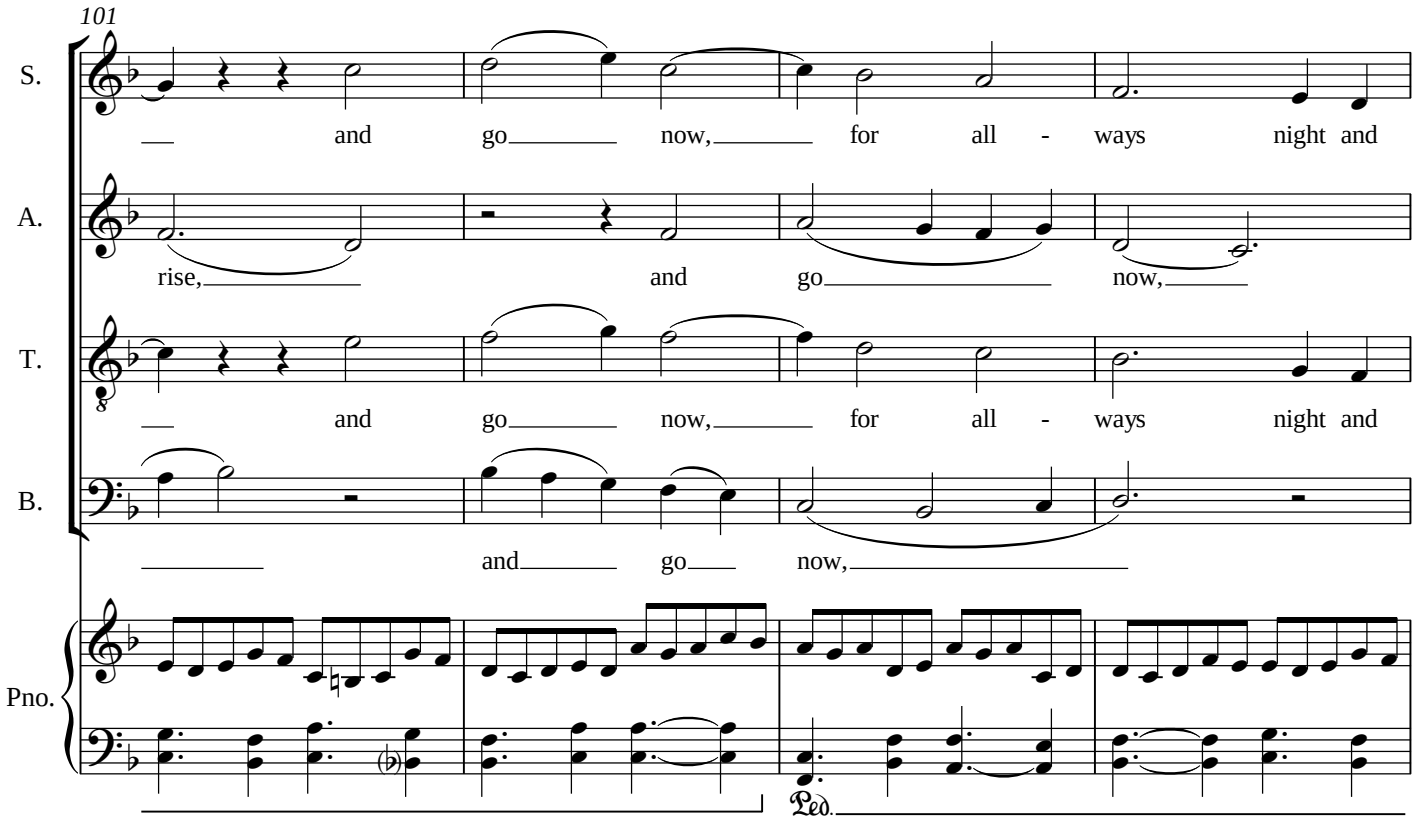

72
D
Tutti:
mp
legato
S.
lin - nets' wings. And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes drop -
A.
lin - nets' wings. And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes drop -
T.
And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes drop -
B.
And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes drop -
Pno.

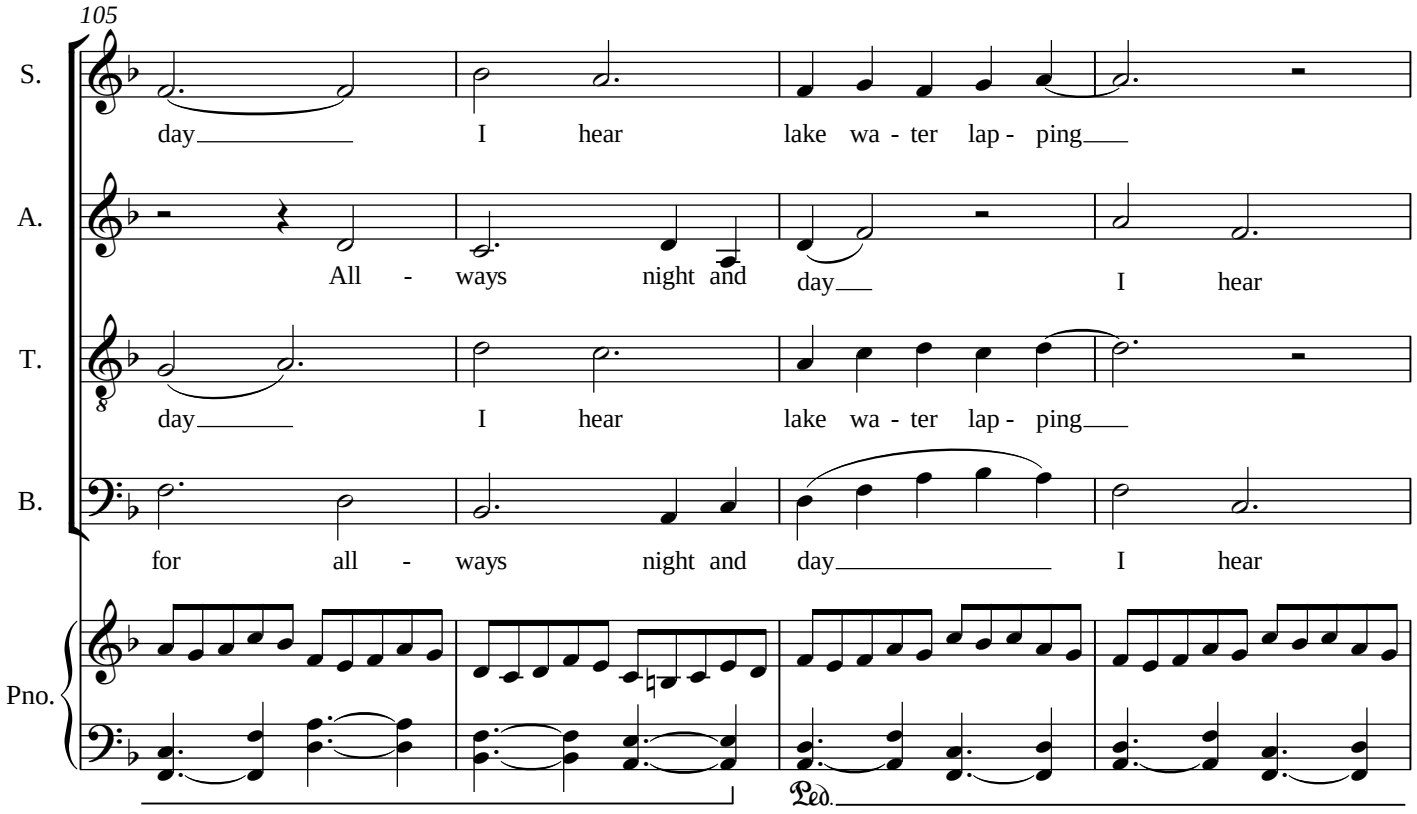

78
S.
ping slow, drop - ping from the veils of the morn - ing to where the
A.
ing slow, drop-ping from the veils of the morn - ing to where the
T.
ping slow, drop - ping, drop-ping from the veils of the morn - ing to where the
B.
ping slow, drop - ping from the veils of the morn - ing to where the

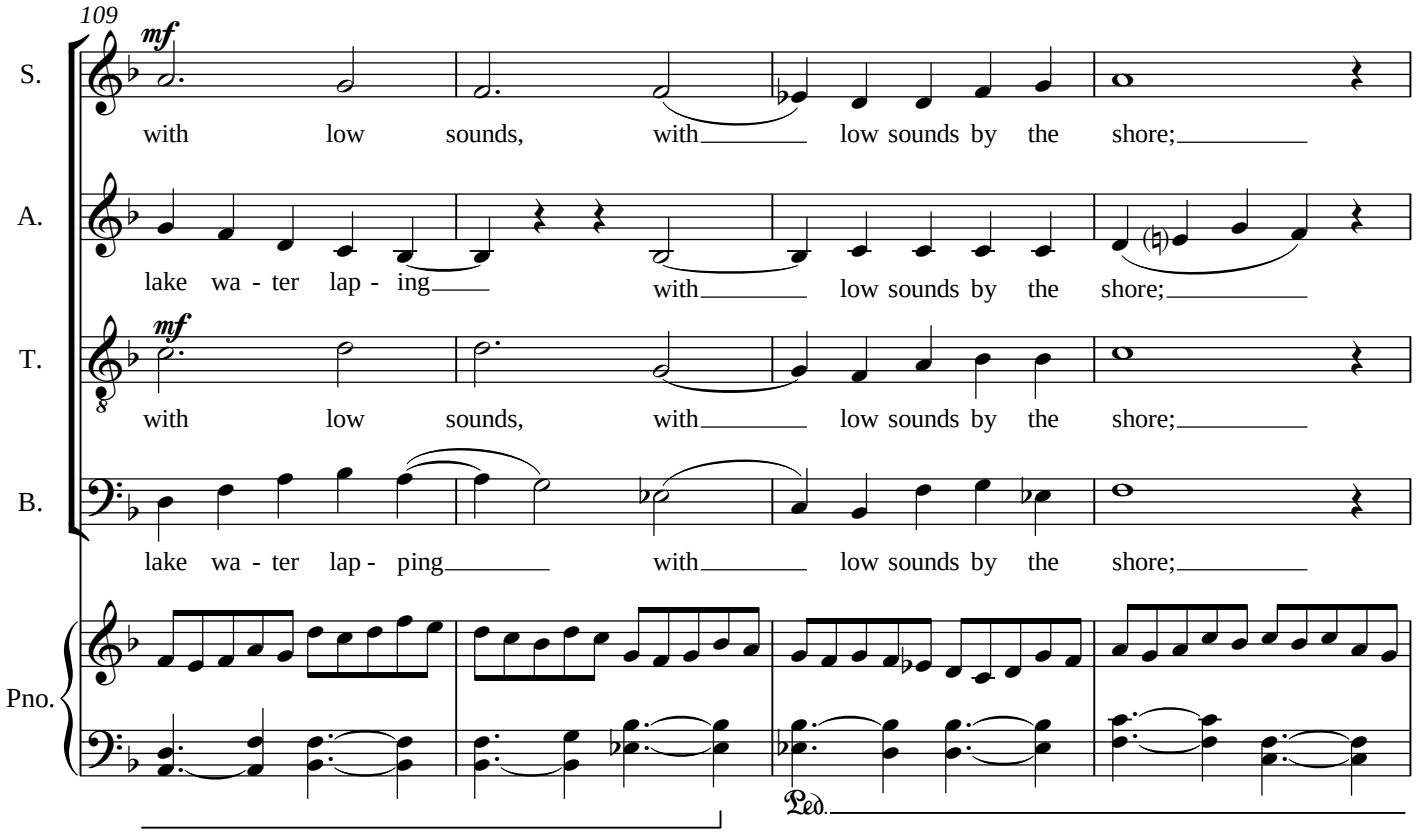

84
S.
crick - et sings; There mid-night's all a - glim - mer, and noon a pur - ple glow,
A.
crick-et sings; There mid-night's all a - glim - mer, a glow,
T.
crick - et sings; There mid-night's all a - glim - mer, and noon a pur-ple glow, and
B.
crick - et sings; There mid-night's all a - glim - mer, and noon a pur-ple glow, and

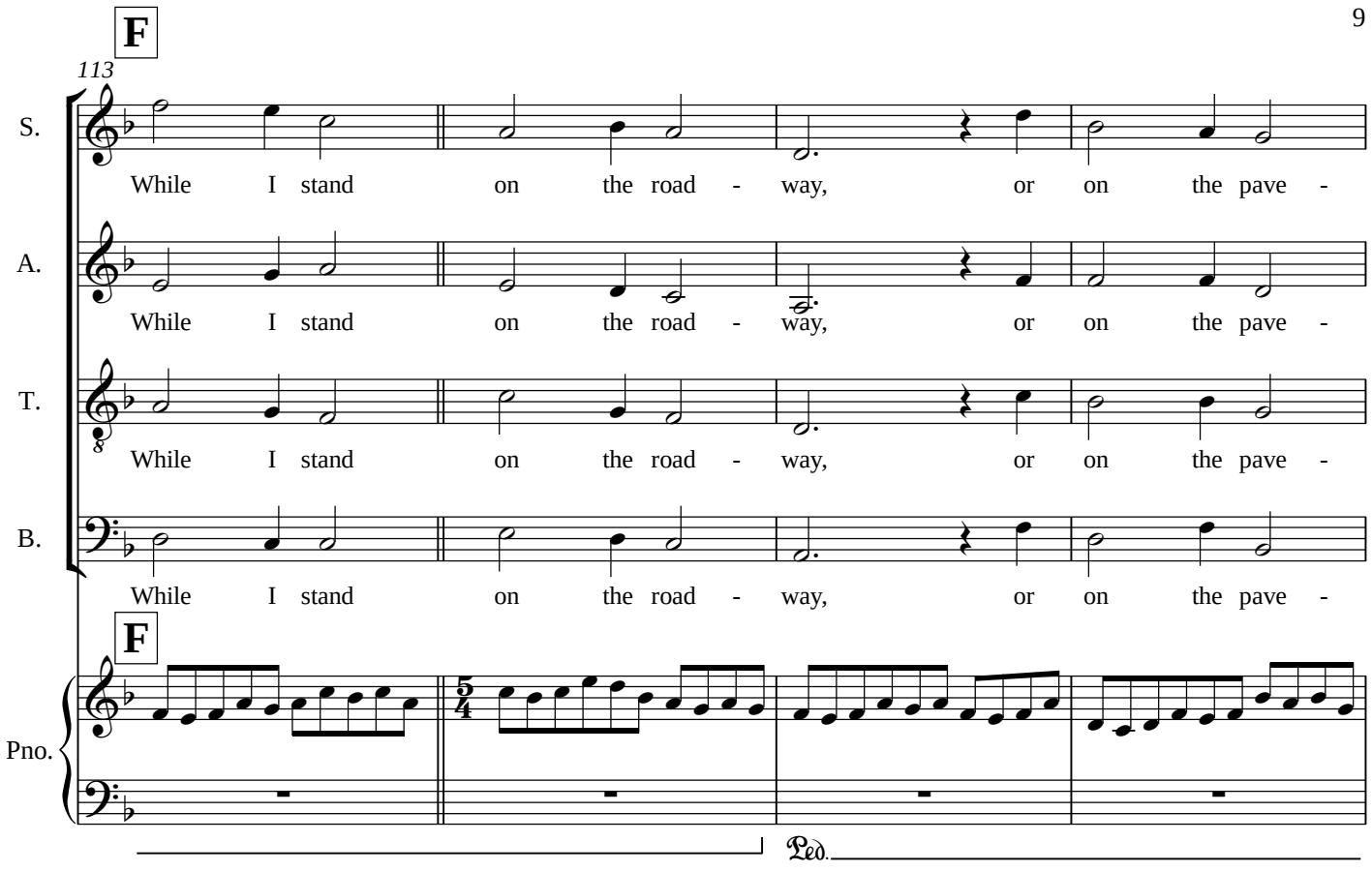

90
S.
and eve - ning full of lin - nets' wings.
A.
and eve - ning full of lin - nets' wings.
T.
eve - ning full of lin - nets' wings.
B.
eve - ning full of lin - nets' wings.
Pno.
f

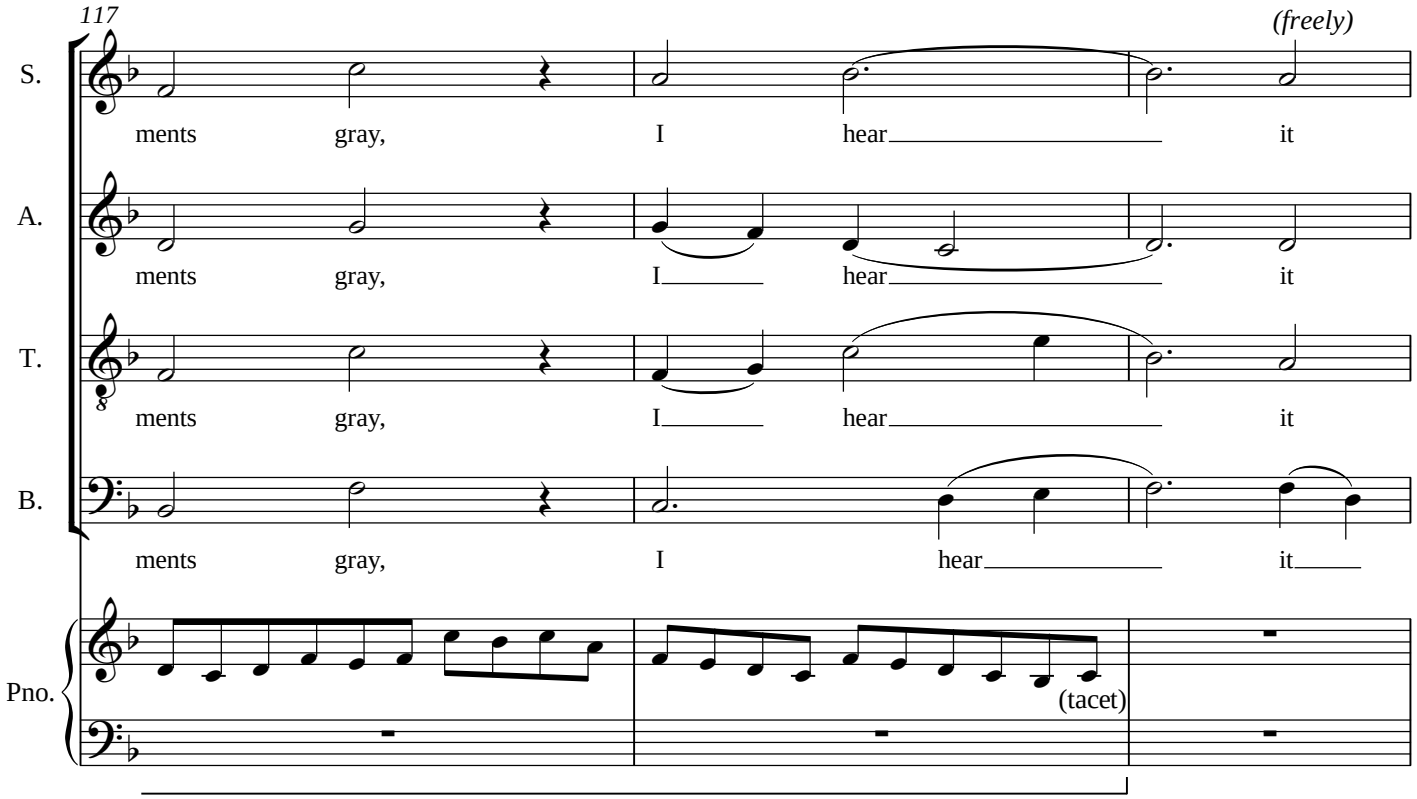

96
E
Moderato ♩=120 (bar = bar)
(in strict tempo)
f
(♪ = ♪)
S.
I will a - rise,
A.
mf
I will a -
T.
f
I will a - rise,
B.
mf
I will a - rise,
E
Moderato ♩=120 (bar = bar)
(in strict tempo)
(♪ = ♪)
Pno.
mf
pp
Ped.
Ped.

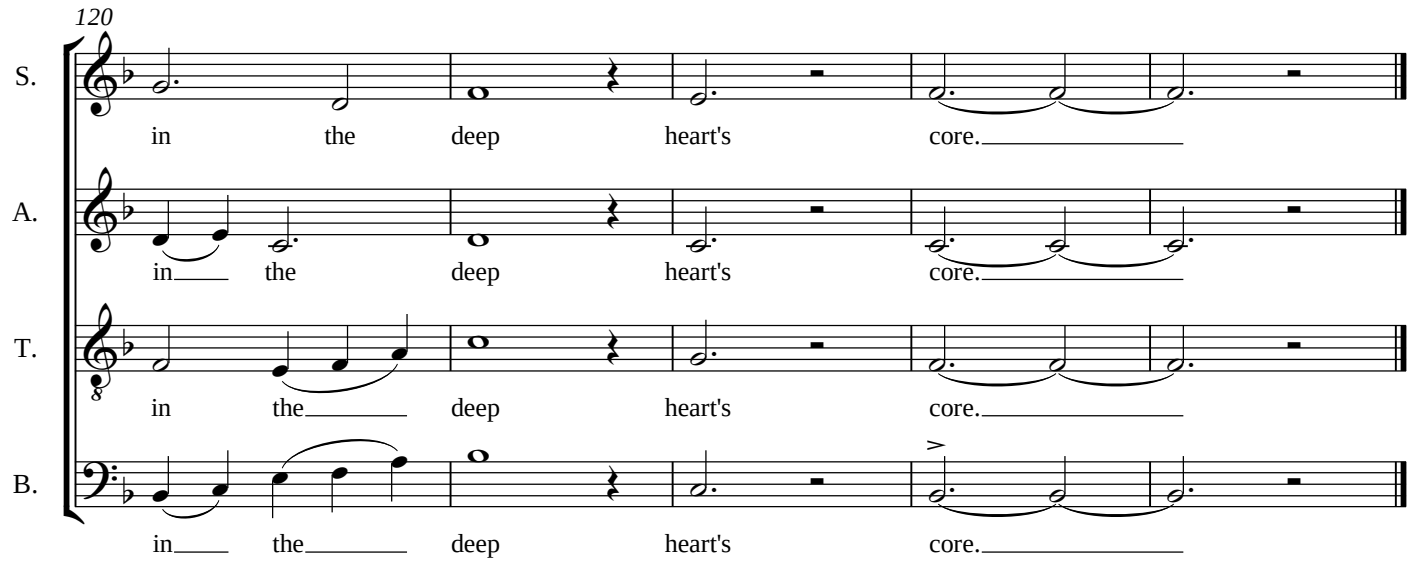

101
S.
and go now, for all - ways night and
A.
rise, and go now,
T.
and go now, for all - ways night and
B.
and go now,
Pno.
Ped.


105
S.
day I hear lake wa - ter lap - ping
A.
All - ways night and day I hear
T.
day I hear lake wa - ter lap - ping
B.
for all - ways night and day I hear
Pno.
Ped.


109
mf
S.
with low sounds, with low sounds by the shore;
A.
lake wa - ter lap - ing with low sounds by the shore;
mf
T.
with low sounds, with low sounds by the shore;
B.
lake wa - ter lap - ping with low sounds by the shore;
Pno.
Ped.


F
113
S.
While I stand on the road - way, or on the pave -
A.
While I stand on the road - way, or on the pave -
T.
While I stand on the road - way, or on the pave -
B.
While I stand on the road - way, or on the pave -
F
Pno.
Ped.


117
(freely)
S.
ments gray, I hear it
A.
ments gray, I hear it
T.
ments gray, I hear it
B.
ments gray, I hear it
Pno.
(tacet)


120
S.
in the deep heart's core.
A.
in the deep heart's core.
T.
in the deep heart's core.
B.
in the deep heart's core.

The Lake Isle of Innisfree

from The Rose [1893]

by William Butler Yeats (1865-1939)

I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,
And a small cabin build there, of clay and wattles made:
Nine bean-rows will I have there, a hive for the honey-bee;
And live alone in the bee-loud glade.

And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes dropping slow,
Dropping from the veils of the morning to where the cricket sings;
There midnight's all a glimmer, and noon a purple glow,
And evening full of the linnet's wings.

I will arise and go now, for always night and day
I hear lake water lapping with low sounds by the shore;
While I stand on the roadway, or on the pavements grey,
I hear it in the deep heart's core.

Program notes: As Yeats wrote in Four Years, he had seriously contemplated the idea of imitating Thoreau and living alone on this island. His sudden recall of the island while standing in a city street led to this poem, which was one of the first in which he loosened his meter and began to find his own voice. For many readers, it also works as a metaphor for the hope of finding some "island" of peace and contentment in this life, before leaving it. I hope this choral setting, with several soloists rather than one, will heighten that universality. Each of the 3 stanzas has its own mood, which is why I change the time signature from 3/4 to 2/2 to 5/4, and transform the melody and harmony in each.

Performance suggestion: Sing without vibrato.

P.B. 2007

PIANO

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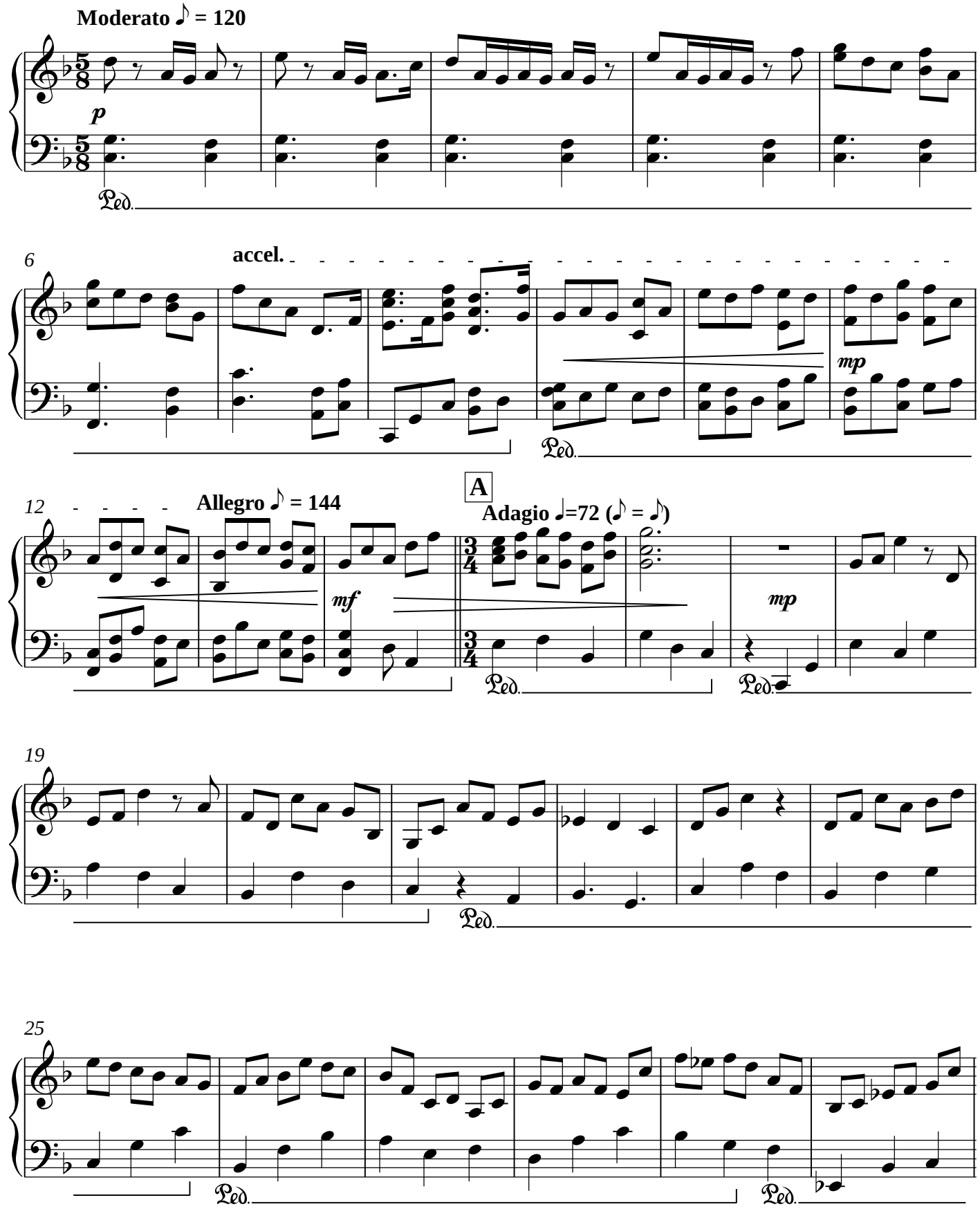
William Butler Yeats

PETER BIRD



V.S.

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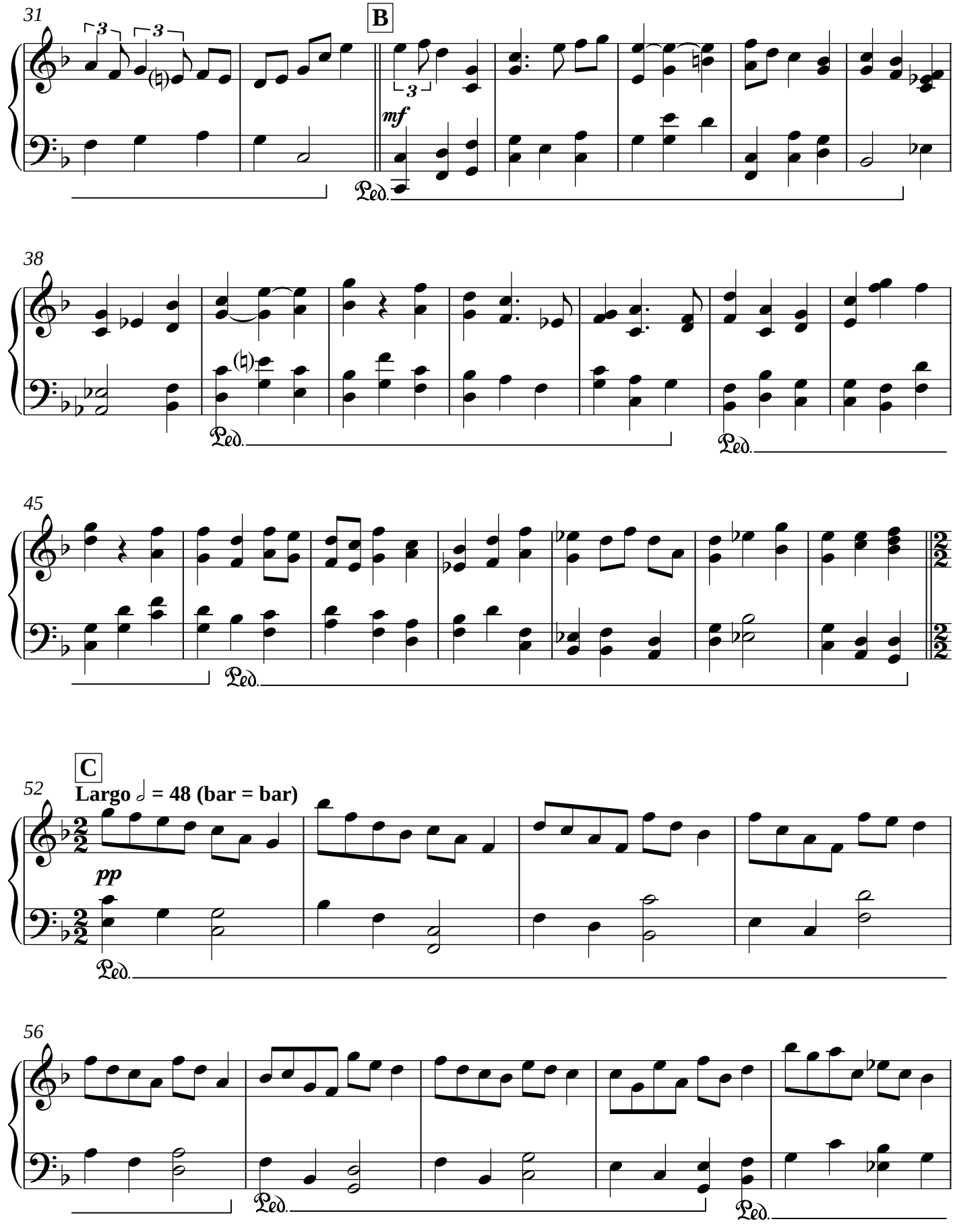
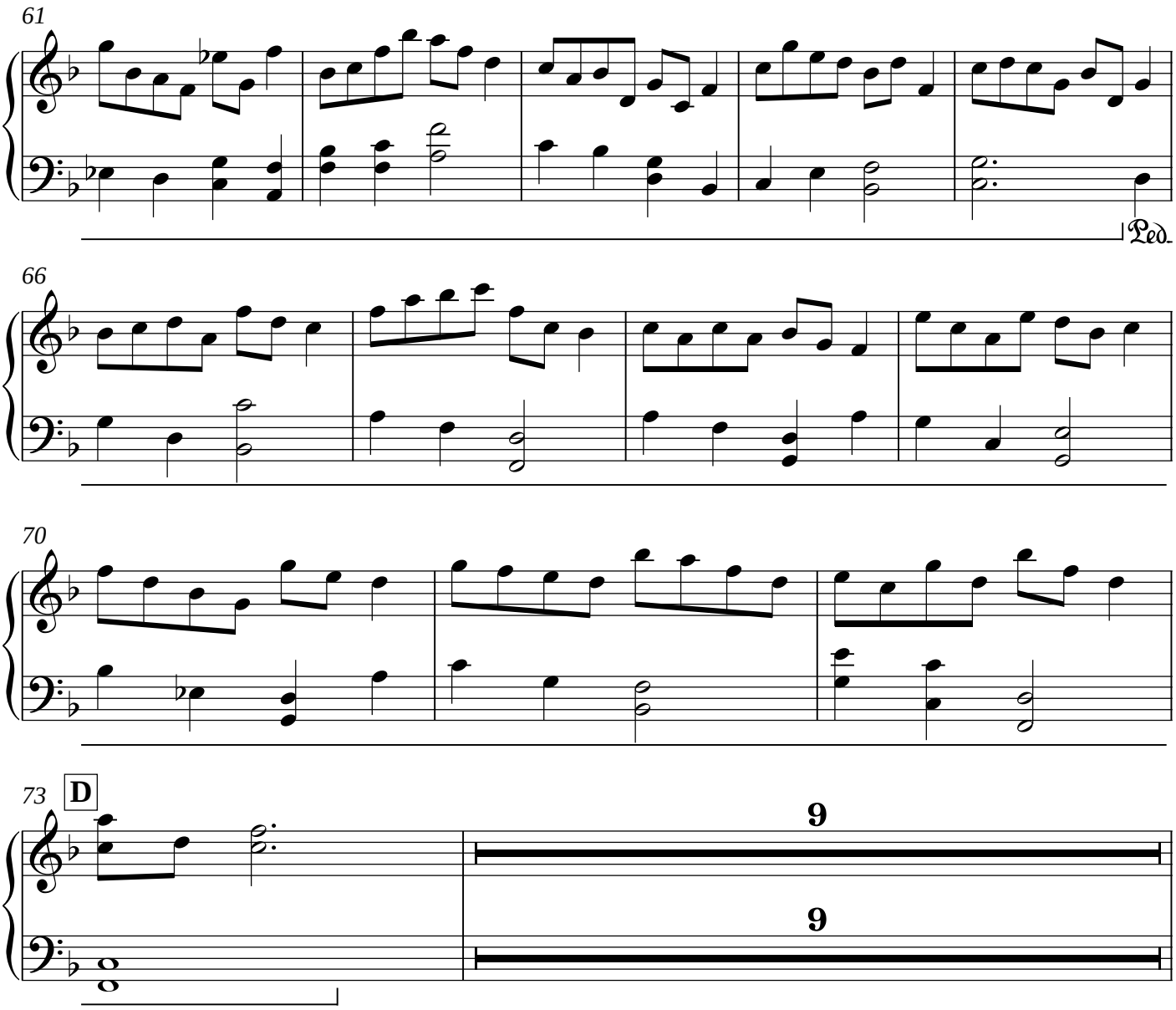
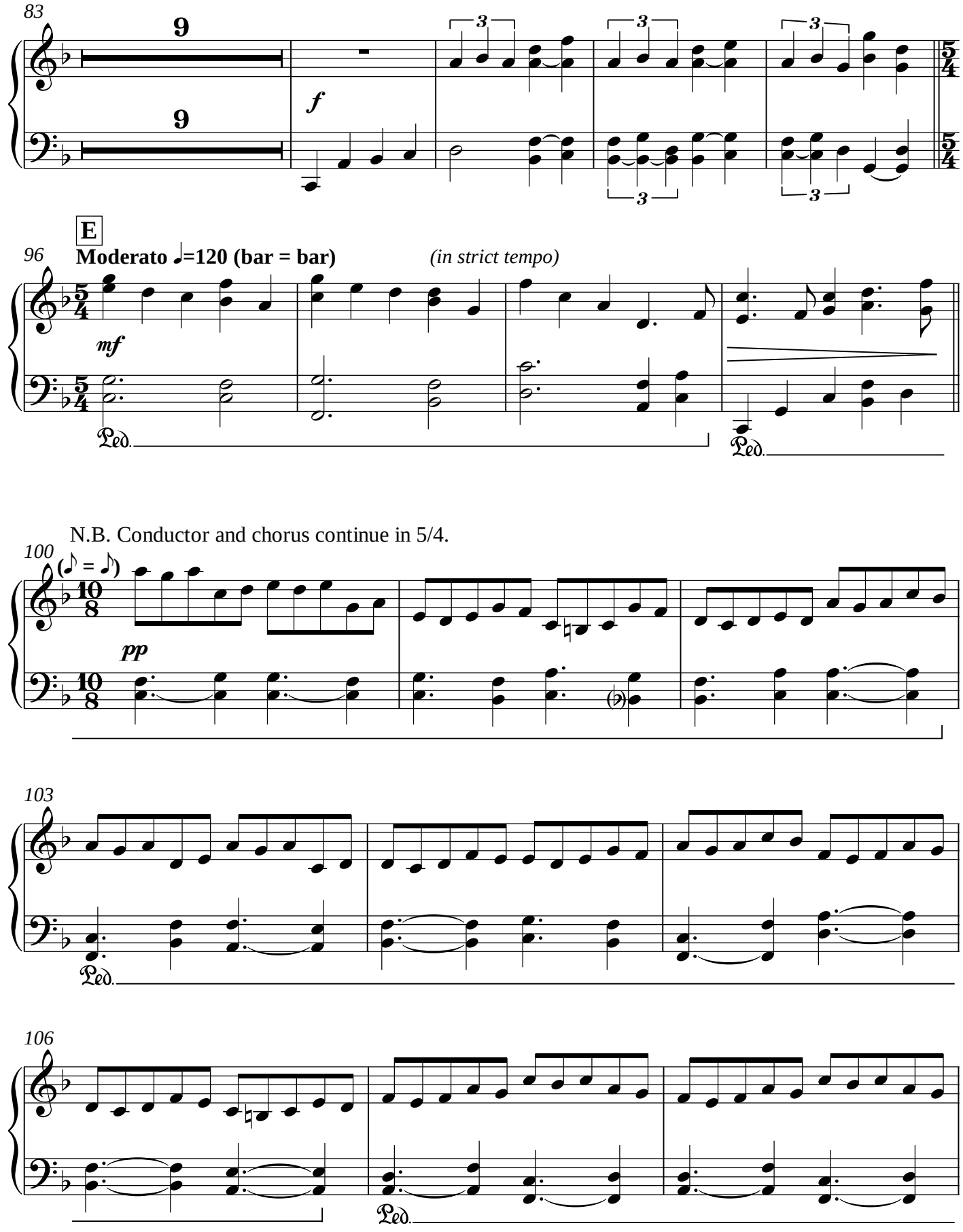
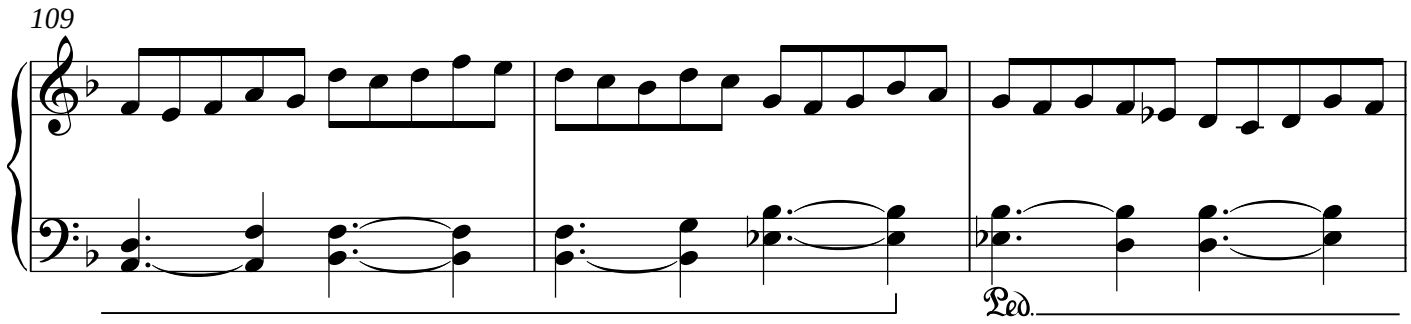
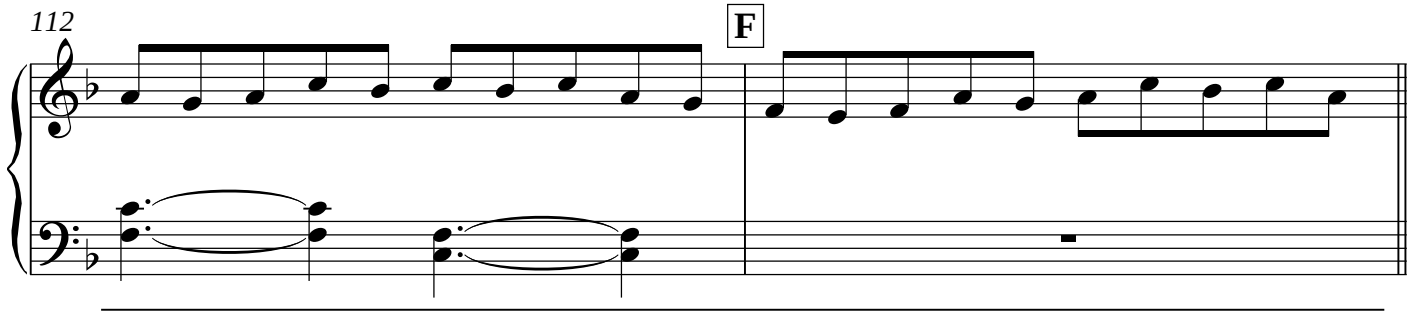
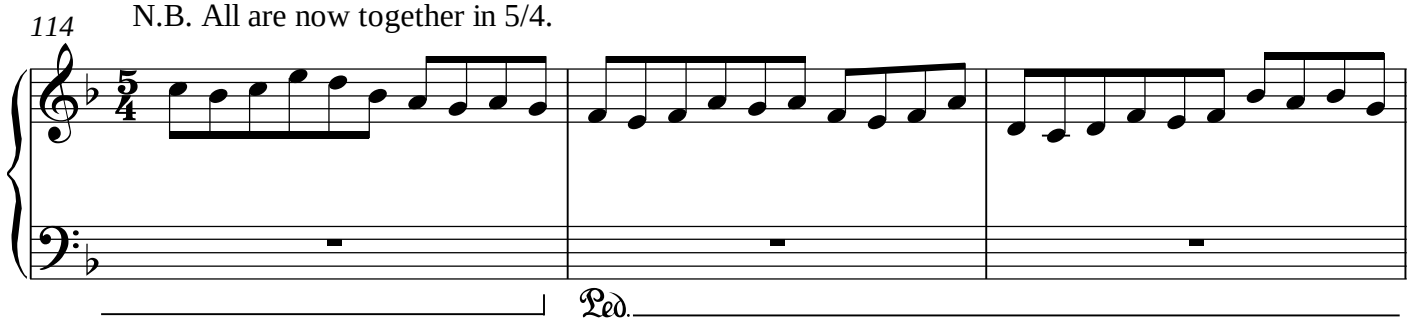
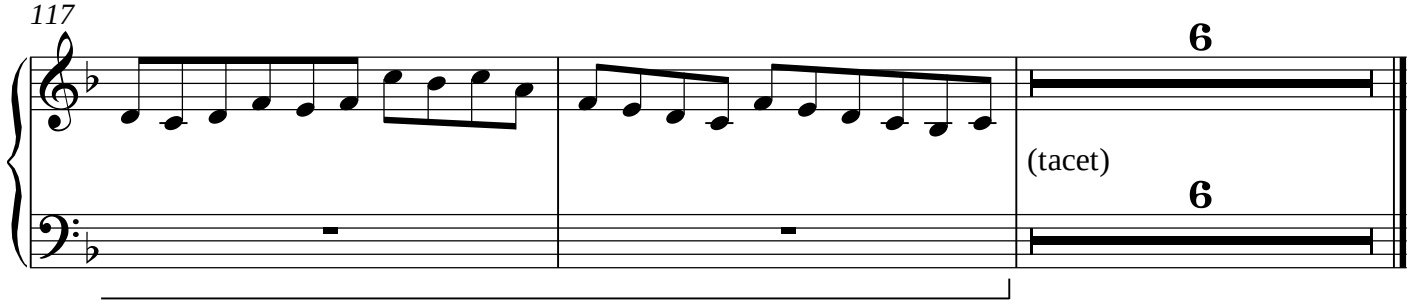

31
B
mf
Ped.
38
Ped.
Ped.
45
Ped.
C
52
Largo 𝅗𝅥 = 48 (bar = bar)
pp
Ped.
56
Ped.
Ped.


61
Ped.
66
70
73
D
9
9


83
9
9
f
3
3
3
3
3
5/4
5/4
E
96
Moderato ♩=120 (bar = bar)
(in strict tempo)
mf
Ped.
Ped.
N.B. Conductor and chorus continue in 5/4.
100
(♪ = ♪)
10/8
10/8
pp
Ped.
103
Ped.
106
Ped.







N.B. All are now together in 5/4.