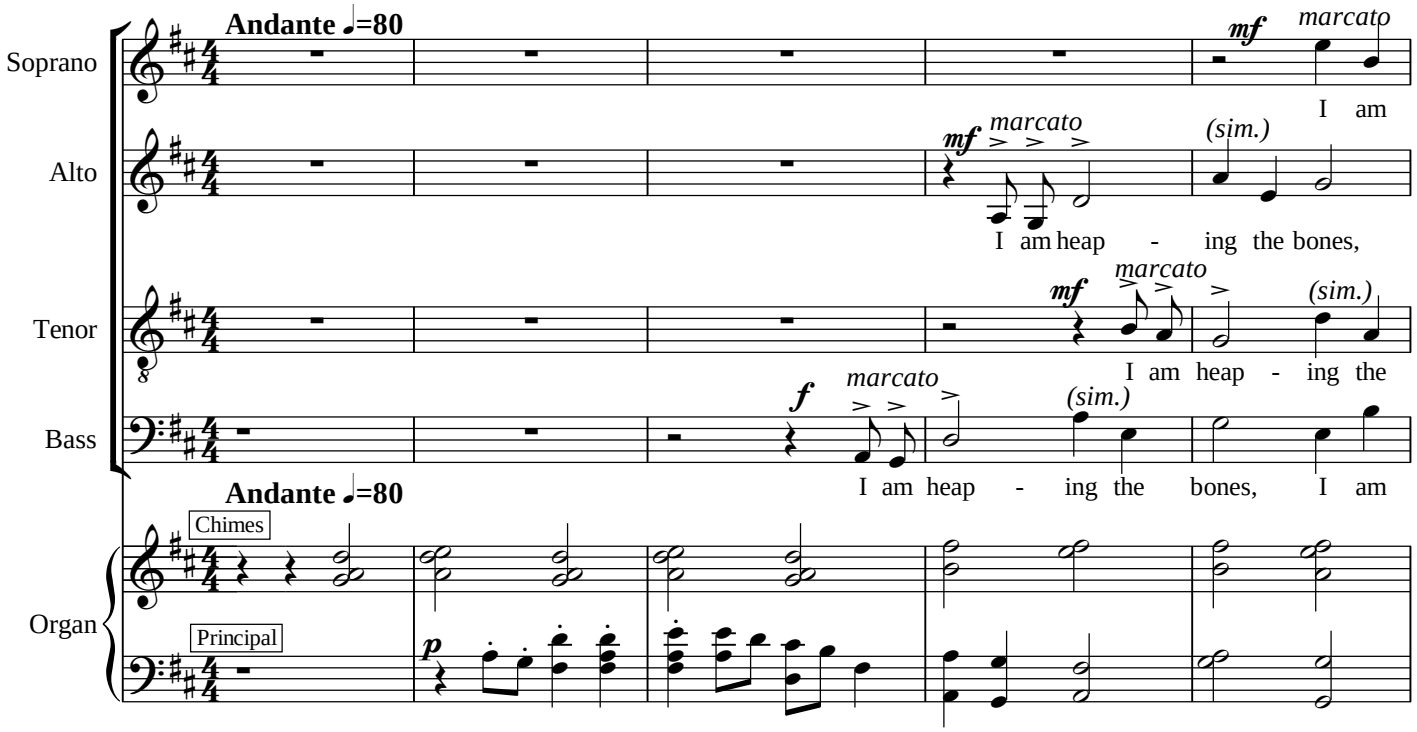
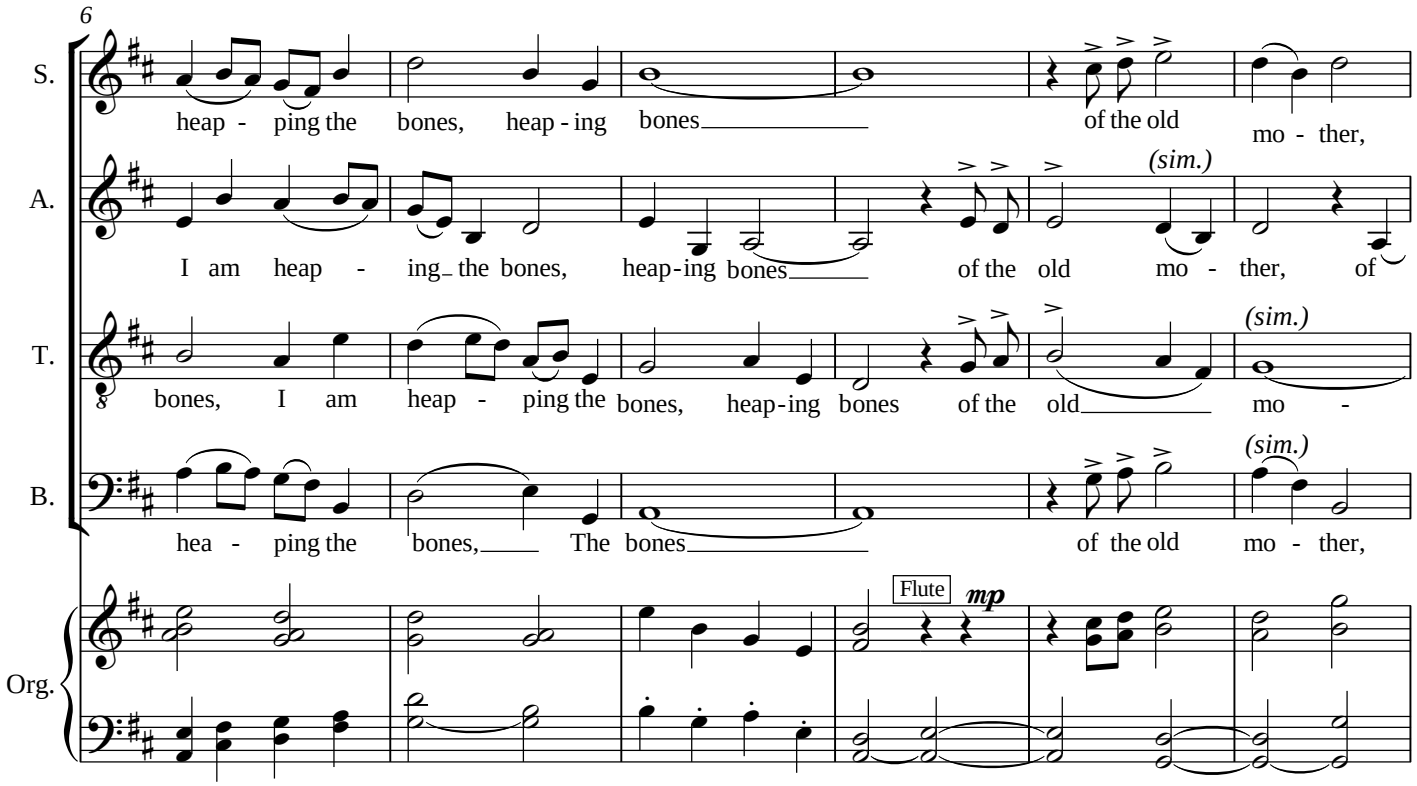
Dedicated to my grandfather Peter Forgue, an artist in wrought iron, who also hand-built a house by the sea.

To The House

Robinson Jeffers

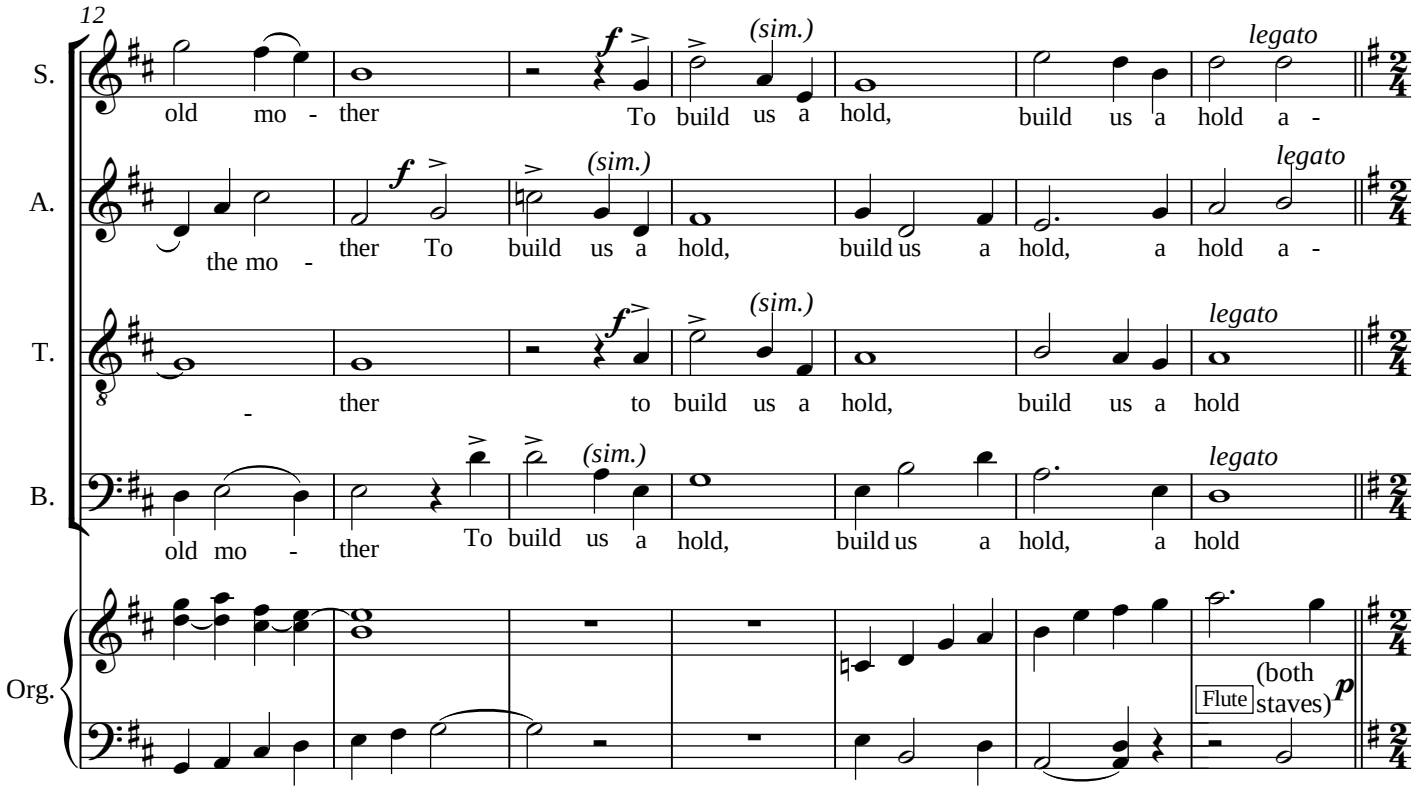
PETER BIRD

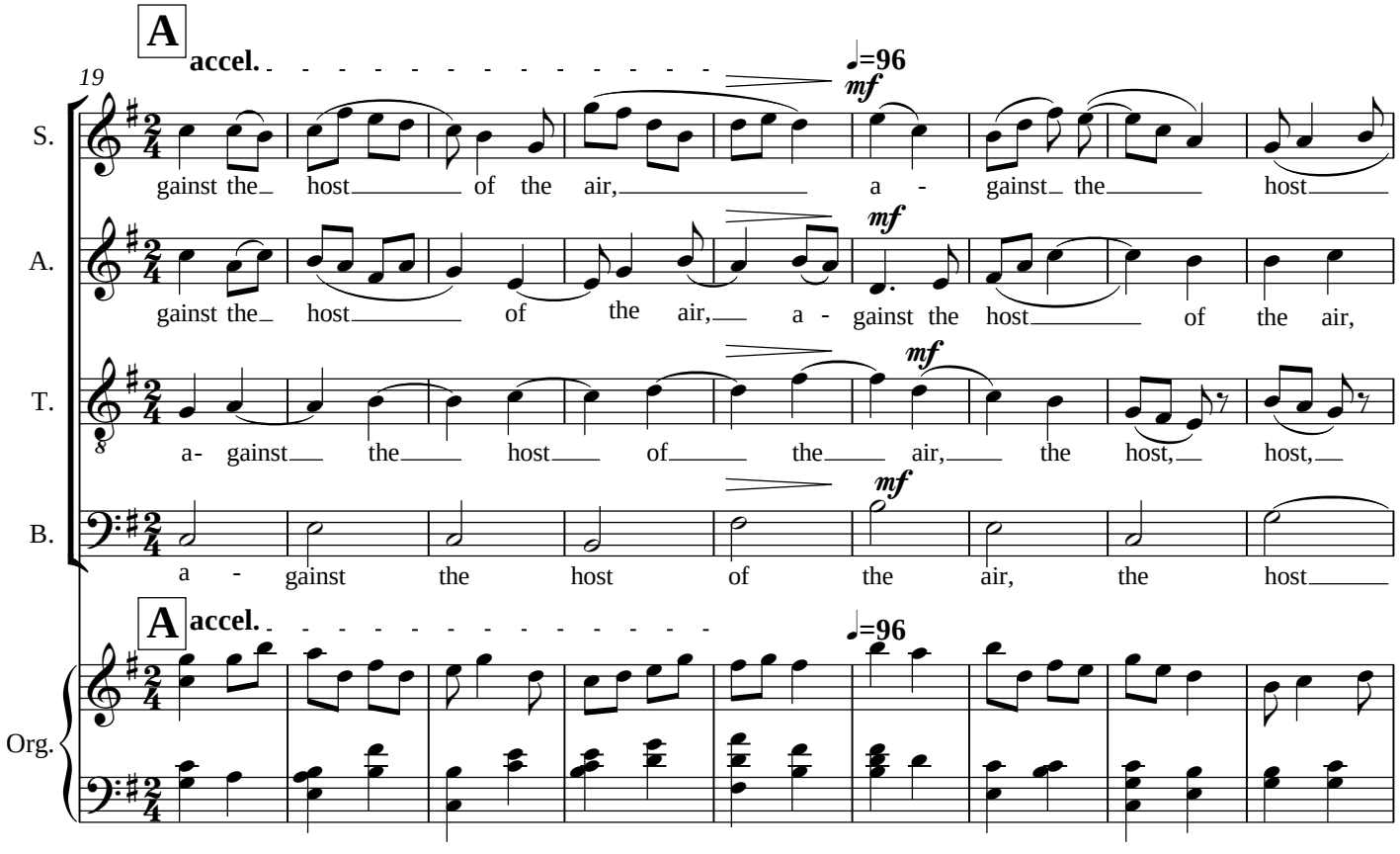




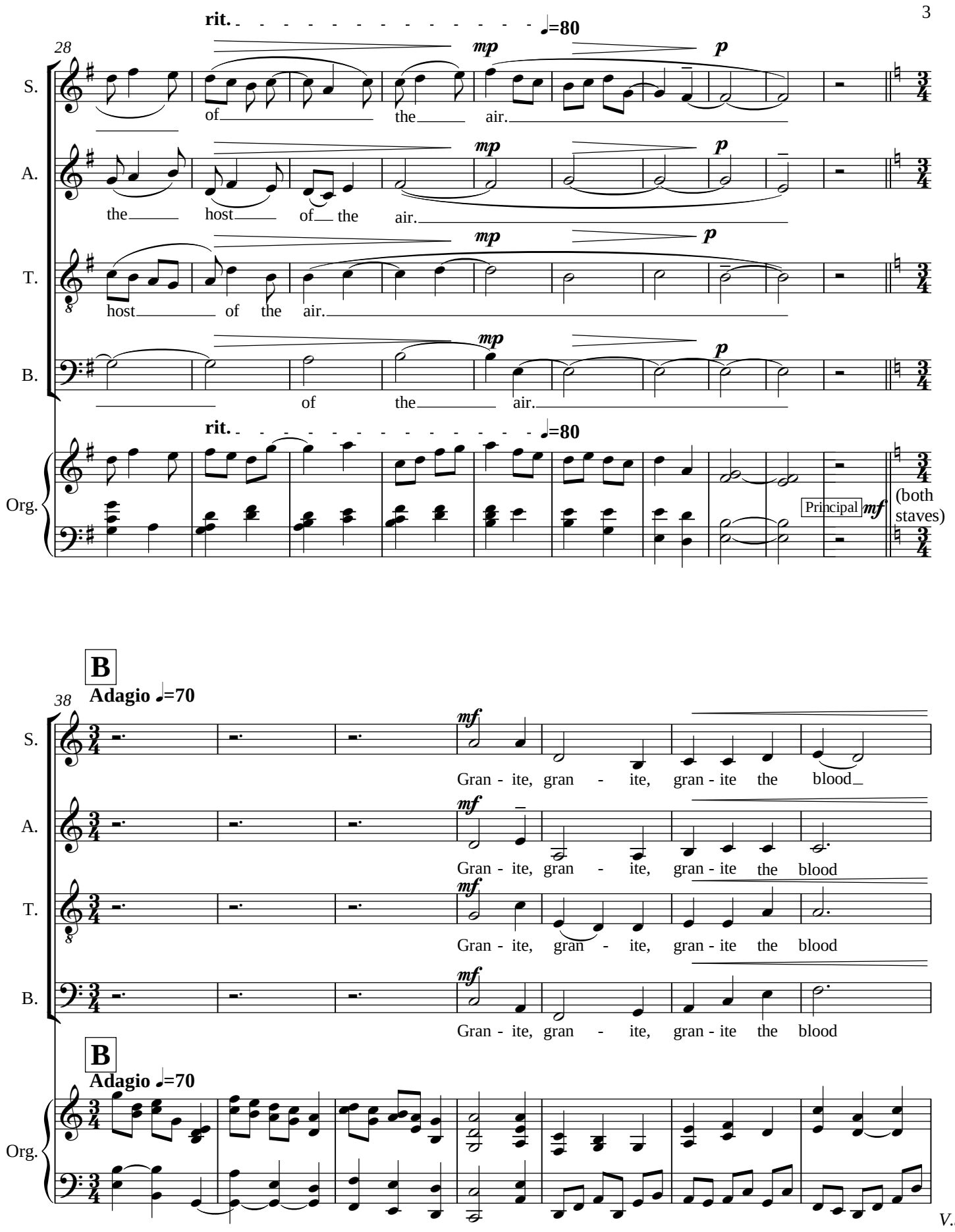
V.S.

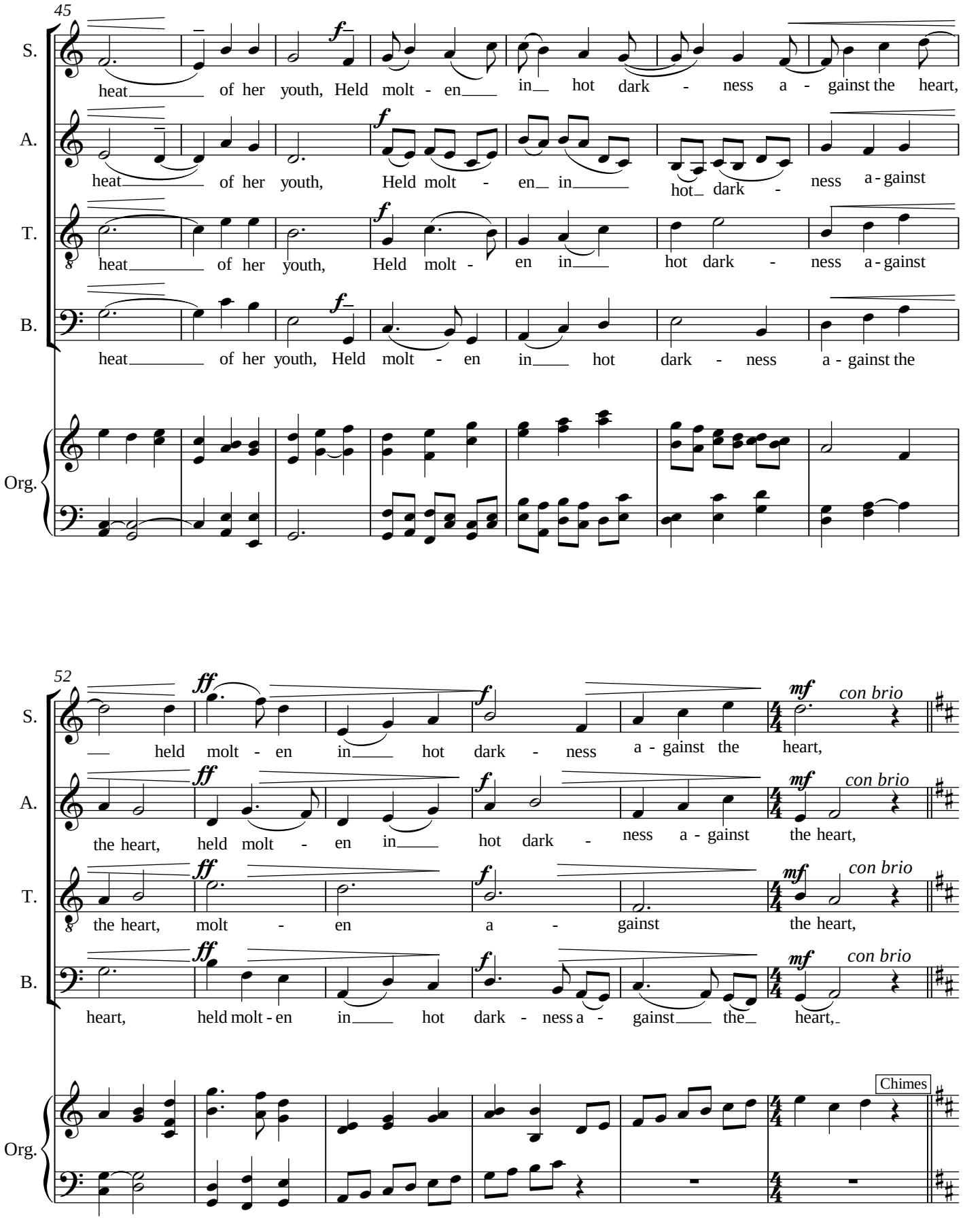
Copyright notices follow the score, on page 9.

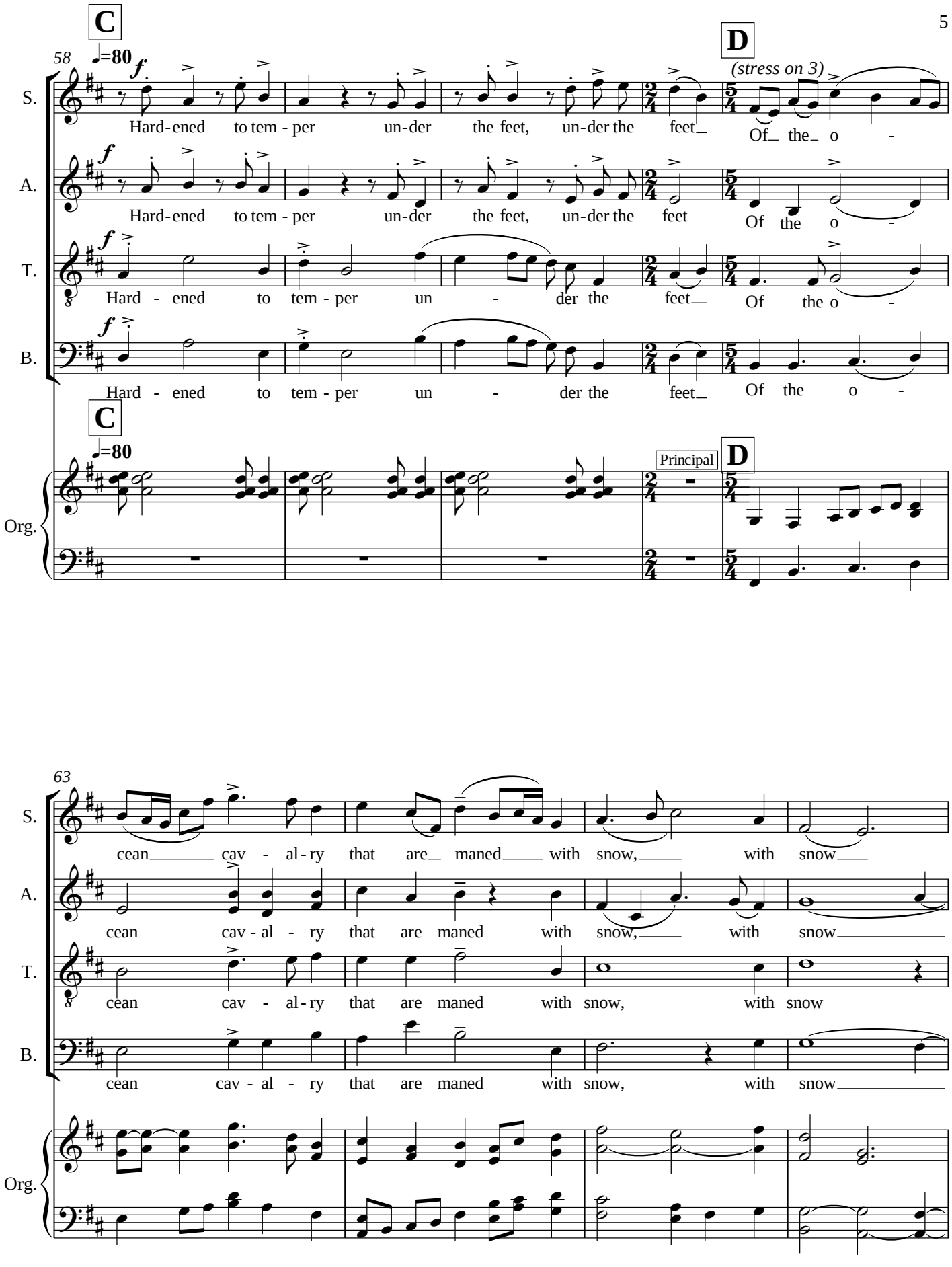

12
S.
old mo - ther
To build us a hold,
build us a hold a -
(sim.)
legato
A.
the mo - ther To build us a hold,
build us a hold, a hold a -
T.
- ther to build us a hold,
build us a hold
B.
old mo - ther
To build us a hold,
build us a hold, a hold
Org.
Flute
(both staves)
p


A
accel.
19
♩=96
mf
S.
gainst the host of the air, a - gainst the host
A.
gainst the host of the air, a - gainst the host of the air,
T.
a- gainst the host of the air, the host, host,
B.
a - gainst the host of the air, the host
Org.

V.S.

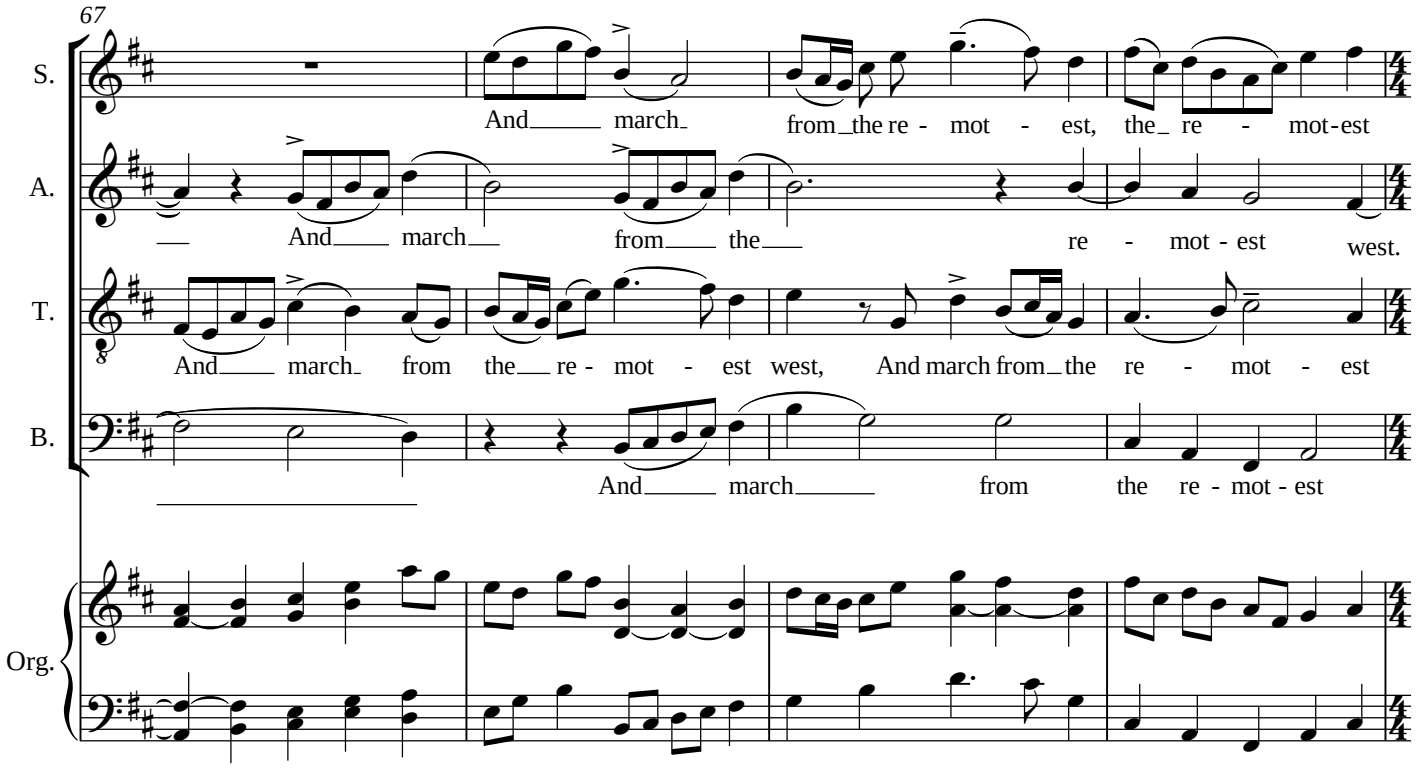

rit.
♩=80
28
S.
A.
T.
B.
Org.
mp
p
of the air.
the host of the air.
host of the air.
of the air.
Principal
mf
(both staves)
B
Adagio ♩=70
38
Gran - ite, gran - ite, gran - ite the blood
V.S.

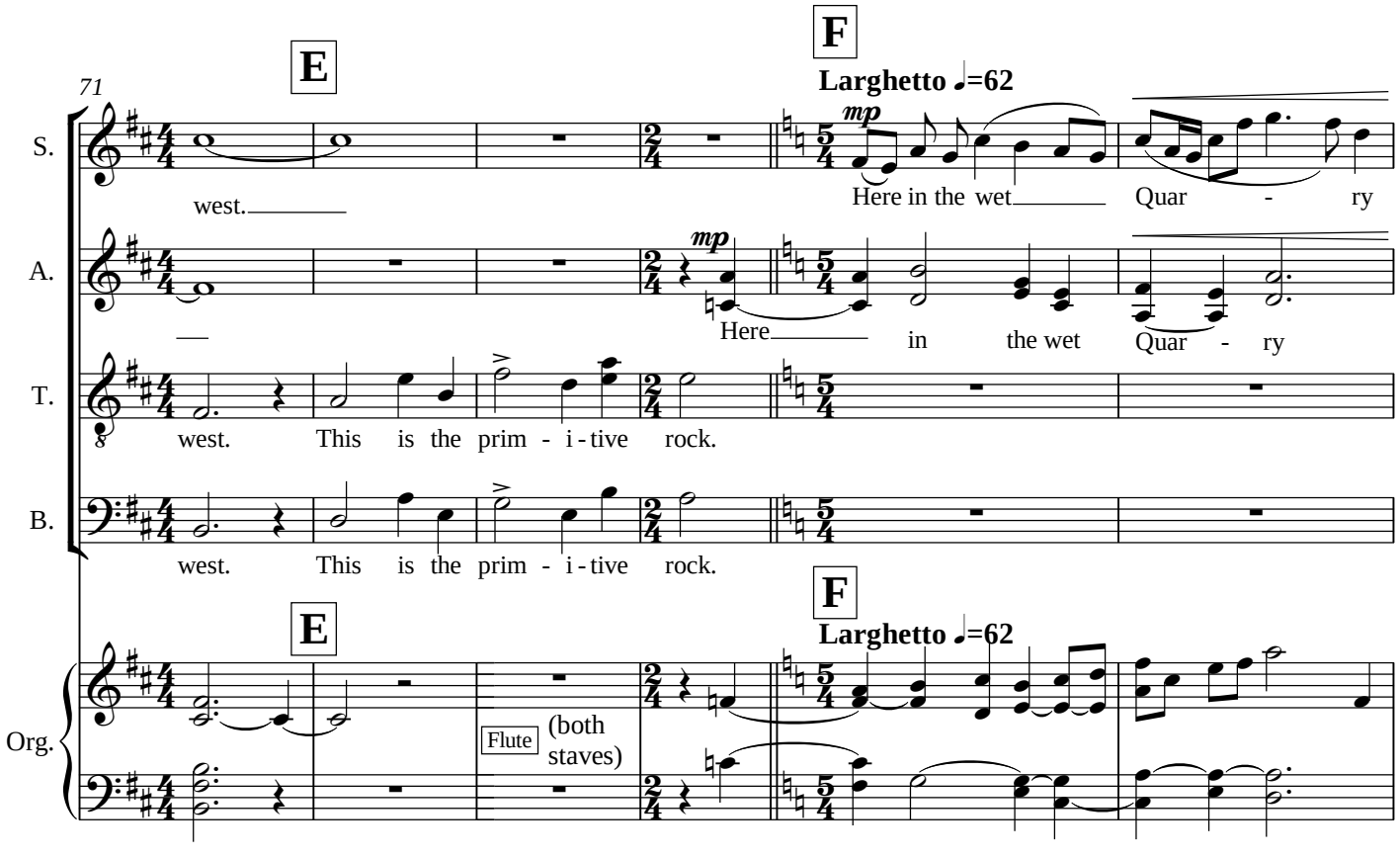

45
S.
heat of her youth, Held molt - en in hot dark - ness a - gainst the heart,
A.
heat of her youth, Held molt - en in hot dark - ness a - gainst
T.
heat of her youth, Held molt - en in hot dark - ness a - gainst
B.
heat of her youth, Held molt - en in hot dark - ness a - gainst the
Org.
52
S.
held molt - en in hot dark - ness a - gainst the heart,
con brio
A.
the heart, held molt - en in hot dark - ness a - gainst the heart,
con brio
T.
the heart, molt - en a - gainst the heart,
con brio
B.
heart, held molt - en in hot dark - ness a - gainst the heart,
con brio
Org.
Chimes
V.S.


C
58
♩=80
f
S.
Hard-ened to tem - per un-der the feet, un-der the feet
A.
Hard-ened to tem - per un-der the feet, un-der the feet
T.
Hard - ened to tem - per un - der the feet
B.
Hard - ened to tem - per un - der the feet
D
(stress on 3)
Of the o -
Of the o -
Of the o -
Org.
Principal

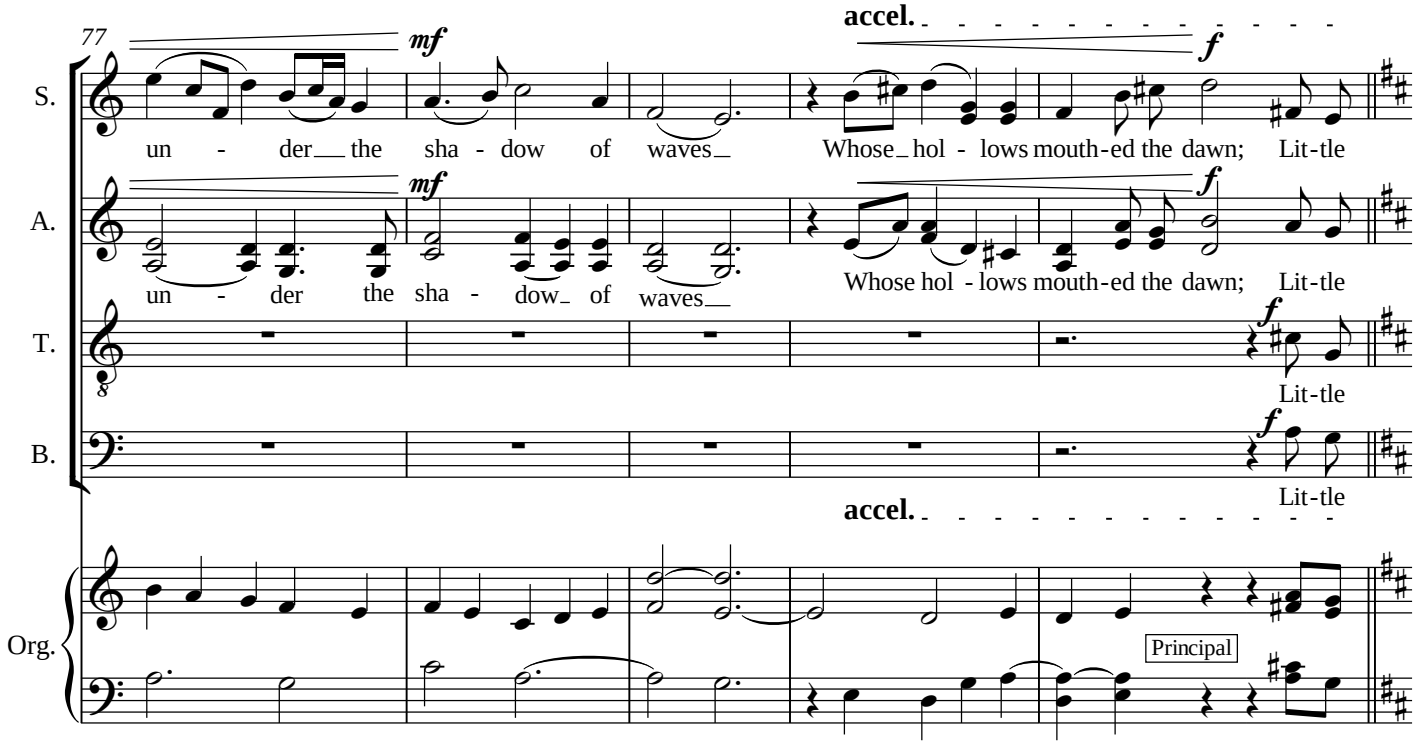
63
S.
cean cav - al - ry that are maned with snow, with snow
A.
cean cav - al - ry that are maned with snow, with snow
T.
cean cav - al - ry that are maned with snow, with snow
B.
cean cav - al - ry that are maned with snow, with snow
Org.

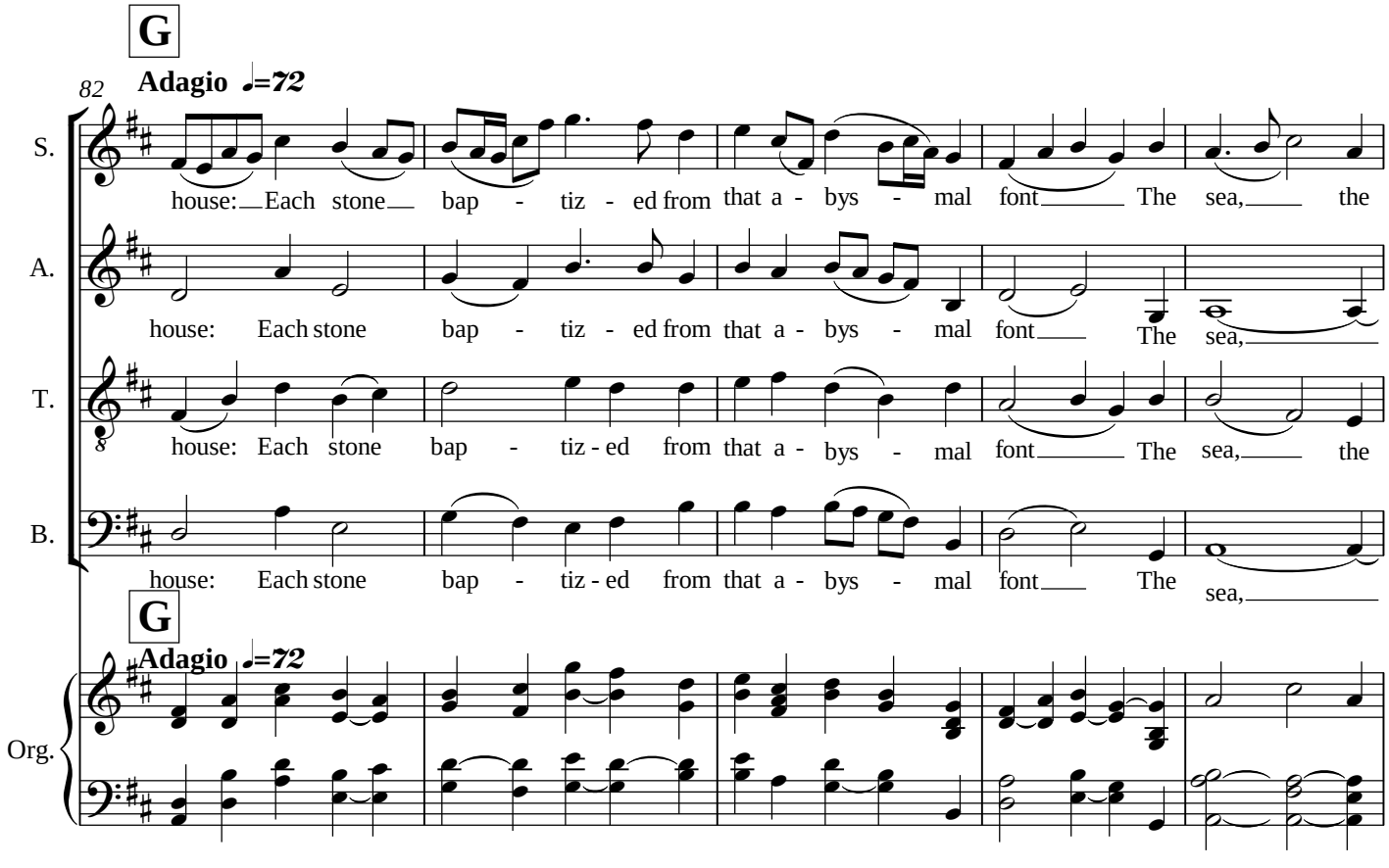
V.S.


67
S.
A.
T.
B.
Org.
And march from the re - mot - est, the re - mot-est
And march from the re - mot - est west.
And march from the re - mot - est west, And march from the re - mot - est
And march from the re - mot - est

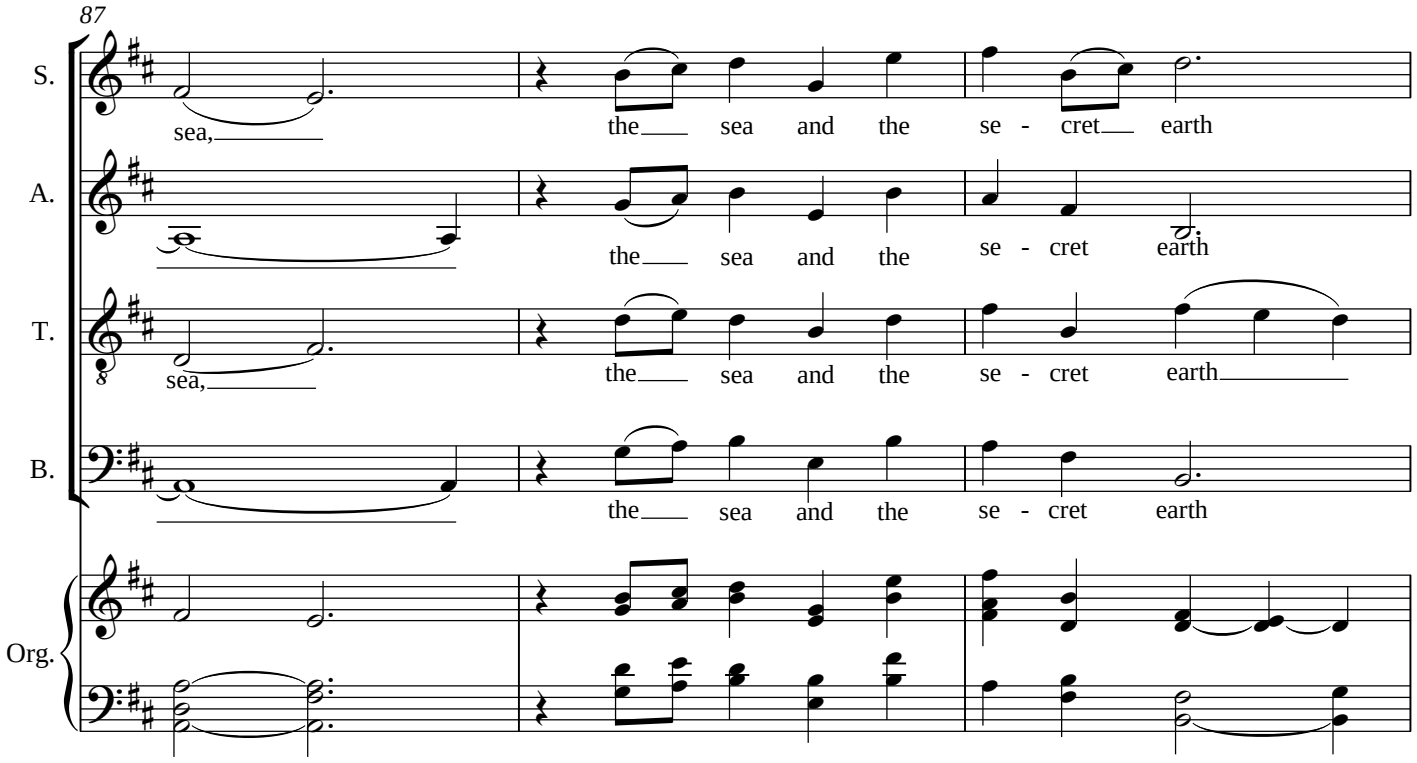

E
F
Larghetto ♩=62
71
S.
A.
T.
B.
Org.
west.
mp
Here in the wet Quar - ry
Here in the wet Quar - ry
west. This is the prim - i - tive rock.
west. This is the prim - i - tive rock.
Flute
(both staves)

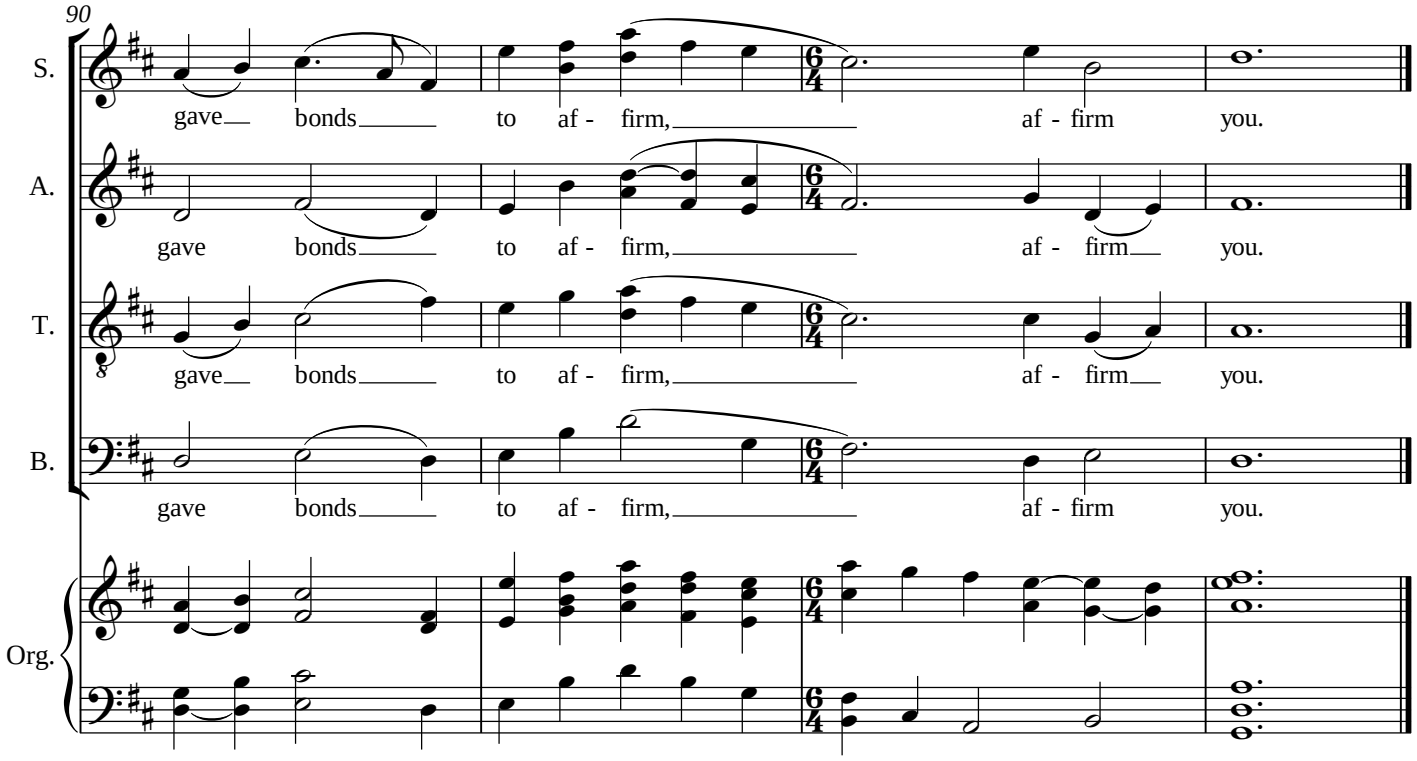
V.S.


77
mf
accel.
f
S.
un - der the sha - dow of waves
Whose hol - lows mouth-ed the dawn; Lit-tle
A.
un - der the sha - dow of waves
Whose hol - lows mouth-ed the dawn; Lit-tle
T.
Lit-tle
B.
Lit-tle
accel.
Org.
Principal


G
82
Adagio ♩=72
S.
house: Each stone bap - tiz - ed from that a - bys - mal font The sea, the
A.
house: Each stone bap - tiz - ed from that a - bys - mal font The sea,
T.
house: Each stone bap - tiz - ed from that a - bys - mal font The sea, the
B.
house: Each stone bap - tiz - ed from that a - bys - mal font The sea,
G
Adagio ♩=72
Org.

V.S.


87
S.
A.
T.
B.
Org.
sea,
the sea and the se - cret earth
the sea and the se - cret earth
sea,
the sea and the se - cret earth
the sea and the se - cret earth


90
S.
A.
T.
B.
Org.
gave bonds to af - firm, af - firm you.
gave bonds to af - firm, af - firm you.
gave bonds to af - firm, af - firm you.
gave bonds to af - firm, af - firm you.

To The House
Robinson Jeffers

I am heaping the bones of the old mother
To build us a hold against the host of the air;
Granite the blood-heat of her youth
Held molten in hot darkness against the heart
Hardened to temper under the feet
Of the ocean cavalry that are maned with snow
And march from the remotest west.
This is the primitive rock, here in the wet
Quarry under the shadow of waves
Whose hollows mouthed the dawn; little house each stone
Baptized from that abysmal font
The sea and the secret earth gave bonds to affirm you.

Poem by Robinson Jeffers.
Collected Poetry of Robinson Jeffers, edited by Tim Hunt, Volume I.
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Robinson Jeffers and his wife Una moved in 1914 to Carmel, California, at the north end of the rugged Big Sur coast. Here he would build Tor House (and later, Hawk Tower) from granite on the site, and celebrate the work with this poem that invokes the four classical elements of earth, air, fire, and water.

Dedicated to my grandfather Peter Forgue, an artist in wrought iron, who also hand-built a house by the sea.

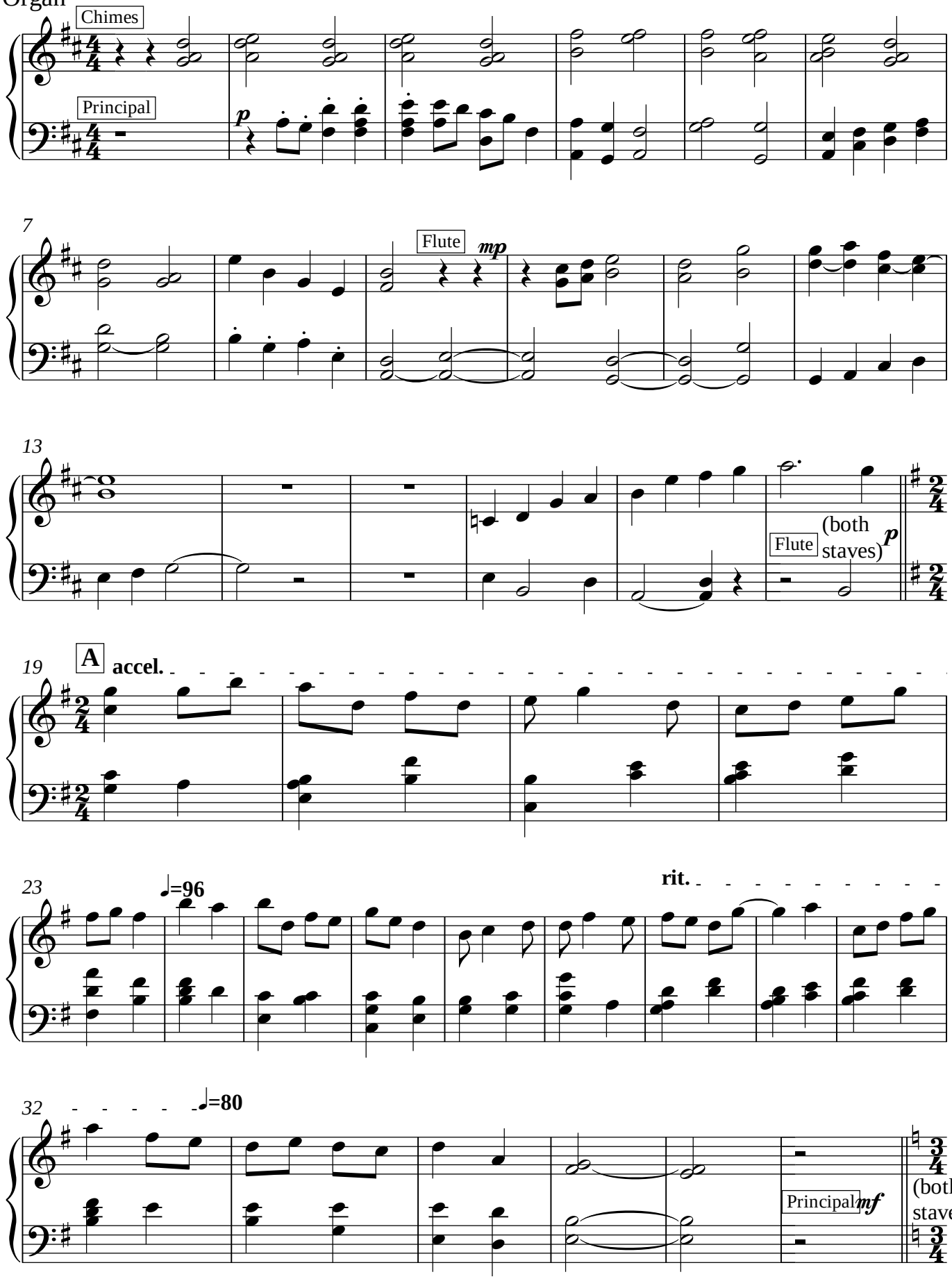
To The House

Robinson Jeffers

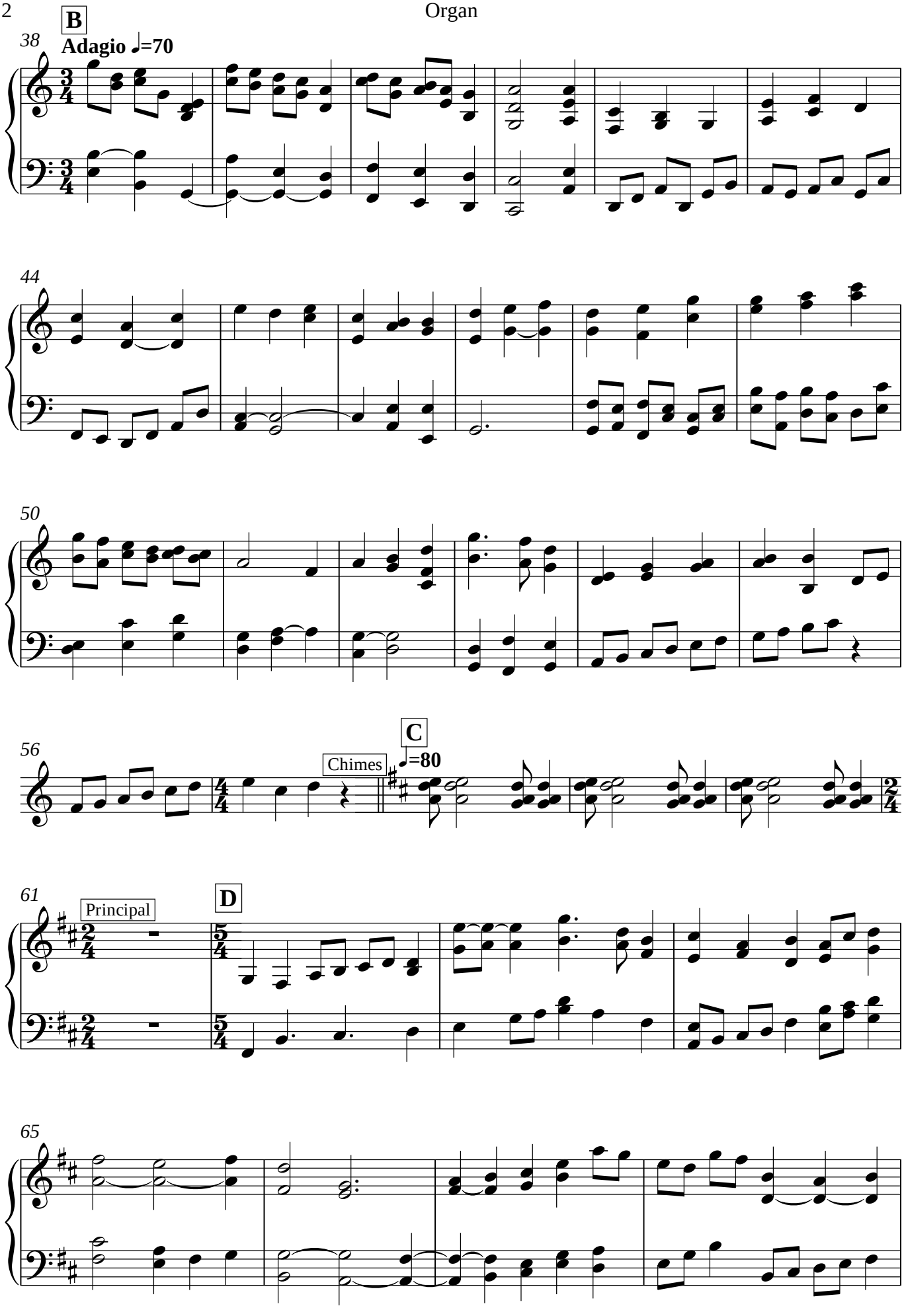
PETER BIRD

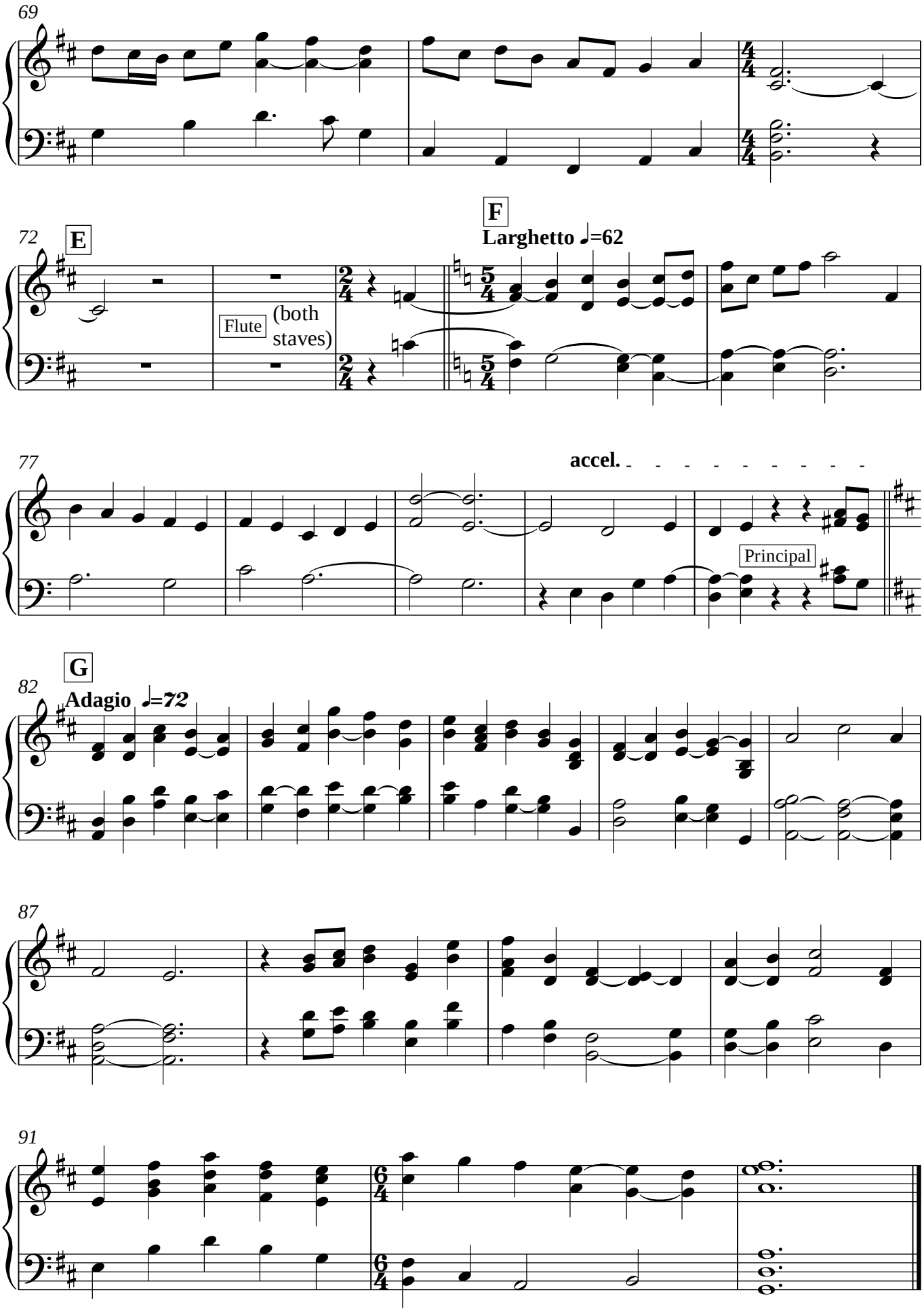
Organ

Andante ♩=80



V.S.


B
38
Adagio ♩=70
44
50
56
C
♩=80
Chimes
61
D
Principal
65


69
72
E
Flute
(both staves)
F
Larghetto ♩=62
77
accel.
Principal
G
82
Adagio ♩=72
87
91