UE

Aleksey Igudesman & Hyung-ki Joo

Our Childhood

Ten pieces for violin and piano

Perusal score

Perusal score

Aleksey Igudesman & Hyung-ki Joo: Our Childhood

UE 36975
ISMN 979-0-008-09183-4
UPC 8-03452-07558-5
ISBN 978-3-7024-0065-1

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Vorwort

Wir haben uns als Kinder kennengelernt und seitdem unser Bestes gegeben, jung zu bleiben. Jeder Mensch trägt, wie wir glauben, ein inneres Kind in sich, und wir haben einen Großteil unseres Lebens damit verbracht, andere Menschen zu begeistern und sie dazu zu ermutigen, ihr eigenes inneres Kind zu entfalten oder neu zu entdecken.

Vielleicht kennst du uns – Igudesman & Joo – bereits als Künstler, die stets einen Schalk im Nacken haben, als Rebellen der klassischen Musik, die höllischen Spaß daran finden, Musikstücke neu zu erfinden und die Musikwelt humorvoll auf den Kopf zu stellen.

Blättere durch unser Album *Our Childhood* und erlebe gemeinsam mit uns noch einmal das Wunder der Kindheit, als jede Note ein Abenteuer war und uns Momente der Freude gegeben hat. Komponieren war für uns schon immer ein Zufluchtsort, und einige unserer persönlichsten Werke möchten wir heute mit dir teilen.

Aus Aleksey Igudesmans Feder stammen vier Stücke, die von Venedig inspiriert sind und die Schönheit dieser außergewöhnlichen Stadt versuchen einzufangen. *Air on a Plane* hingegen ist ein düsteres Werk, das auf Reiseflughöhe entstand.

Hyung-ki Joo hat ein ganzes Album über seine Kindheit geschrieben, bestehend aus zehn Stücken für Klavier, von denen er vier für dieses Album transkribiert hat. Jedes Stück widmet sich einem Aspekt der Kindheit oder einer Erinnerung daran. *Lina's Waltz* ist ein musikalisches Geschenk an seine Tochter.

Außerdem enthält das Album zwei Klassiker: Massenets *Méditation* und Ysaÿes *Rêve d'enfant* (Kindertraum), die wir nach besonders wilden Shows gerne als Zugabe spielen und für dieses Album mit unseren eigenen Phrasierungen, Strichen und Fingersätzen versehen haben. Das letzte Stück in der Sammlung ist unser Arrangement von Robert Schumanns Lied *Mondnacht*, das wir in seiner Geburtsstadt Düsseldorf uraufgeführt haben. Es strahlt genau jene ruhige Schlichtheit aus, die uns dabei vorschwebte.

All diesen Kompositionen gemeinsam ist eine zarte, langsame Schönheit, die dich dazu einlädt, innezuhalten, zu atmen und den stillen Zauber zwischen den Noten zu genießen. *Our Childhood* ist unser musikalischer Zufluchtsort – eine Sammlung, die wir geschaffen haben, um zu entspannen und neue Energie zu sammeln, ganz wie damals in unserer Kindheit, als Musik sowohl Spiel als auch ein liebevolles Gespräch mit dem Leben war.

Wir hoffen, dass dir diese kindliche Reise genauso viel Freude macht wie uns.

Aleksey Igudesman & Hyung-ki Joo, März 2025

Perusal score

Preface

We met as children and we have done our best to remain childlike ever since. We have always believed that everyone has an inner child and we spent the best of our years inspiring and encouraging others to unleash their inner child. You may know us, Igudesman & Joo, as mischievous performers, rebels of classical music who love to reinvent and gently satirize the musical world.

With *Our Childhood*, however, we invite you to leaf through these pages and rediscover the wonder of our early days, when every note was a delightful adventure and every pause a moment of unexpected joy. Composition was always our refuge and we wanted to share some of our most personal works with you.

Aleksey Igudesman composed four pieces inspired by the city of Venice, capturing the beauty of that extraordinary city. *Air on a Plane*, on the other hand, is a somber work born literally at cruising altitude.

Hyung-ki Joo crafted a set of ten childhood pieces for solo piano, four of which he transcribed for this album, each reflecting an aspect or memory of childhood. *Lina's Waltz* is a magical musical gift for his daughter.

We have also included two classics: Massenet's *Méditation* and Ysaÿe's *Rêve d'enfant* (*A Child's Dream*), favorite encores of ours after particularly wild shows, presented here with our own phrasings, bowings, and fingerings. The last addition is our arrangement of Schumann's song *Mondnacht*, which we premiered in Düsseldorf, the very birthplace of its composer. It resonates with the calm simplicity we wanted to transport.

Together, these compositions share a gentle, slow beauty that invites you to pause, breathe, and savor the quiet magic between the notes. *Our Childhood* is our musical refuge — a collection we created to unwind and gather energy, much like revisiting those days when music was both a game and a tender conversation with life.

We hope you enjoy this childlike journey as much as we do.

Aleksey Igudesman & Hyung-ki Joo, March 2025

Perusal score

Préface

Quand nous nous sommes connus, nous étions encore petits, et garder notre âme d'enfant a toujours compté parmi nos priorités. Nous sommes convaincus qu'il reste une part d'enfant en chaque adulte, et l'inciter à s'exprimer fait partie de nos plus grandes joies. Nous sommes Igudesman & Joo : vous nous connaissez peut-être en artistes espiègles, classiques mais rebelles, toujours partants pour réinventer et moquer gentiment le milieu musical.

Our Childhood vous invite à feuilleter l'album avec nous. Nous nous sommes replongés dans l'émerveillement des premiers jours, ce temps où chaque note était une aventure palpitante, chaque silence une occasion de ravissement. Composer nous sert de refuge depuis le début, et nous souhaitons aujourd'hui partager avec vous certaines de nos œuvres les plus personnelles.

Aleksey Igudesman, inspiré par la beauté de Venise, a composé quatre pièces en hommage à cette ville extraordinaire. *Air on a Plane*, plus mélancolique, a été littéralement écrit à une altitude de croisière.

Hyung-ki Joo, auteur d'une série de dix pièces pour piano seul inspirées de ses souvenirs d'enfance, en a transcrit quatre pour ce recueil. Chacune d'elle reflète un aspect de son enfance ou un souvenir particulier. *Lina's Waltz*, à l'ambiance empreinte de magie, est un cadeau à sa fille.

Le recueil comprend aussi les classiques *Méditation* de Jules Massenet et *Rêve d'enfant* d'Eugène Ysaÿe, deux pièces que nous adorons jouer en bis, surtout à la fin de nos spectacles les plus déjantés. Nous vous les présentons avec nos propres phrasés, doigtés et coups d'archet. Pour finir, nous vous proposons notre arrangement du lied de Schumann *Mondnacht* (« Nuit de lune »), que nous avons joué pour la première fois à Düsseldorf, ville natale du compositeur. Il en émane deux qualités qui nous tenaient à cœur pour ce recueil: le calme et la simplicité.

Toutes ces œuvres ont en commun une beauté douce et tranquille qui invite à marquer une pause, respirer, savourer cette magie discrète qui se glisse entre les notes. Nous avons pensé *Our Childhood* comme un refuge, un espace musical où souffler et reprendre de l'énergie. Comme un retour à l'époque où la musique était à la fois un jeu et une tendre conversation avec la vie.

Nous espérons que vous aimerez cette virée enfantine autant que nous.

Aleksey Igudesman & Hyung-ki Joo, mars 2025

Perusal score

Four Evenings in Venice

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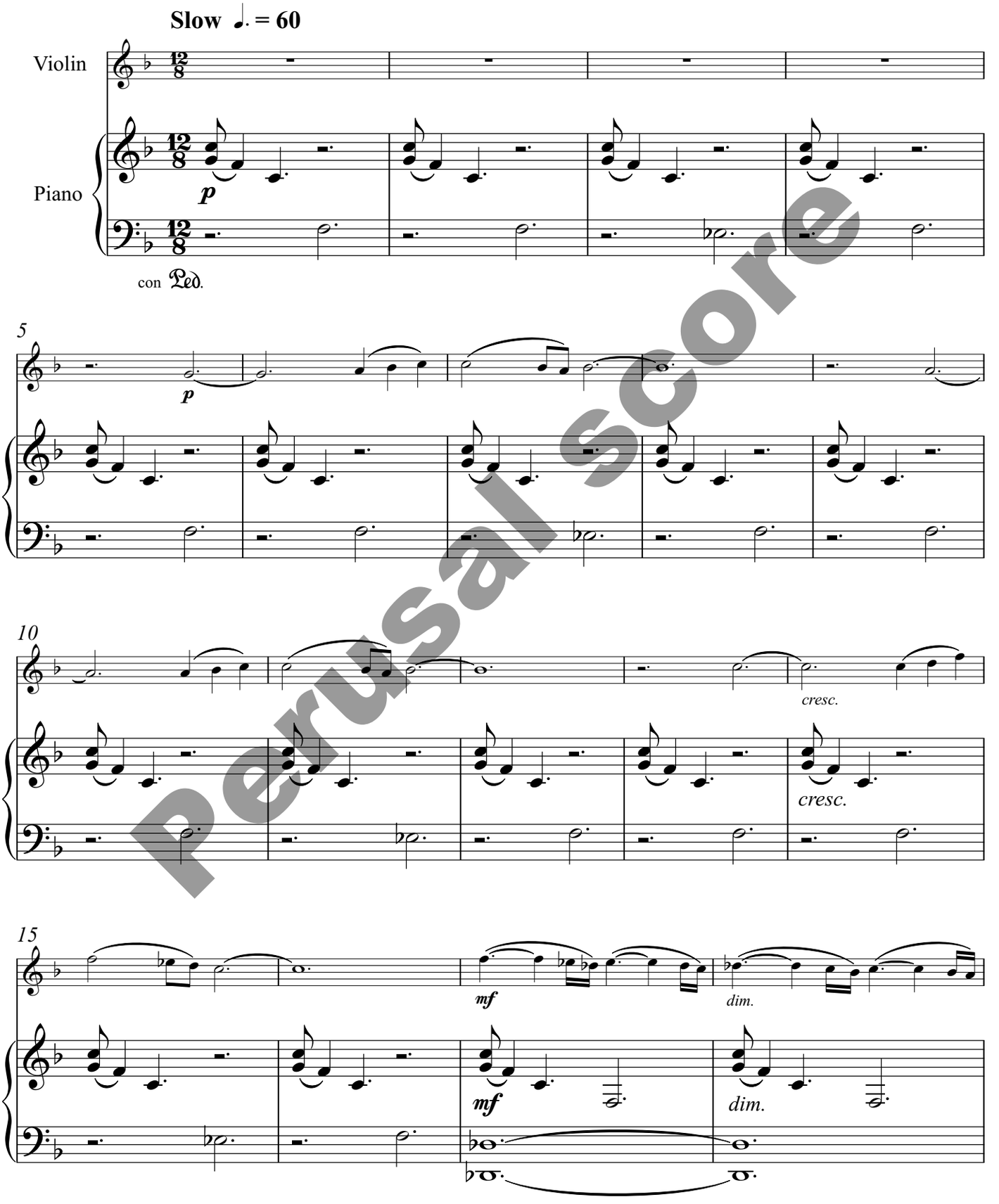
Aleksey Igudesman
(* 1973)

1. Four Evenings in Venice



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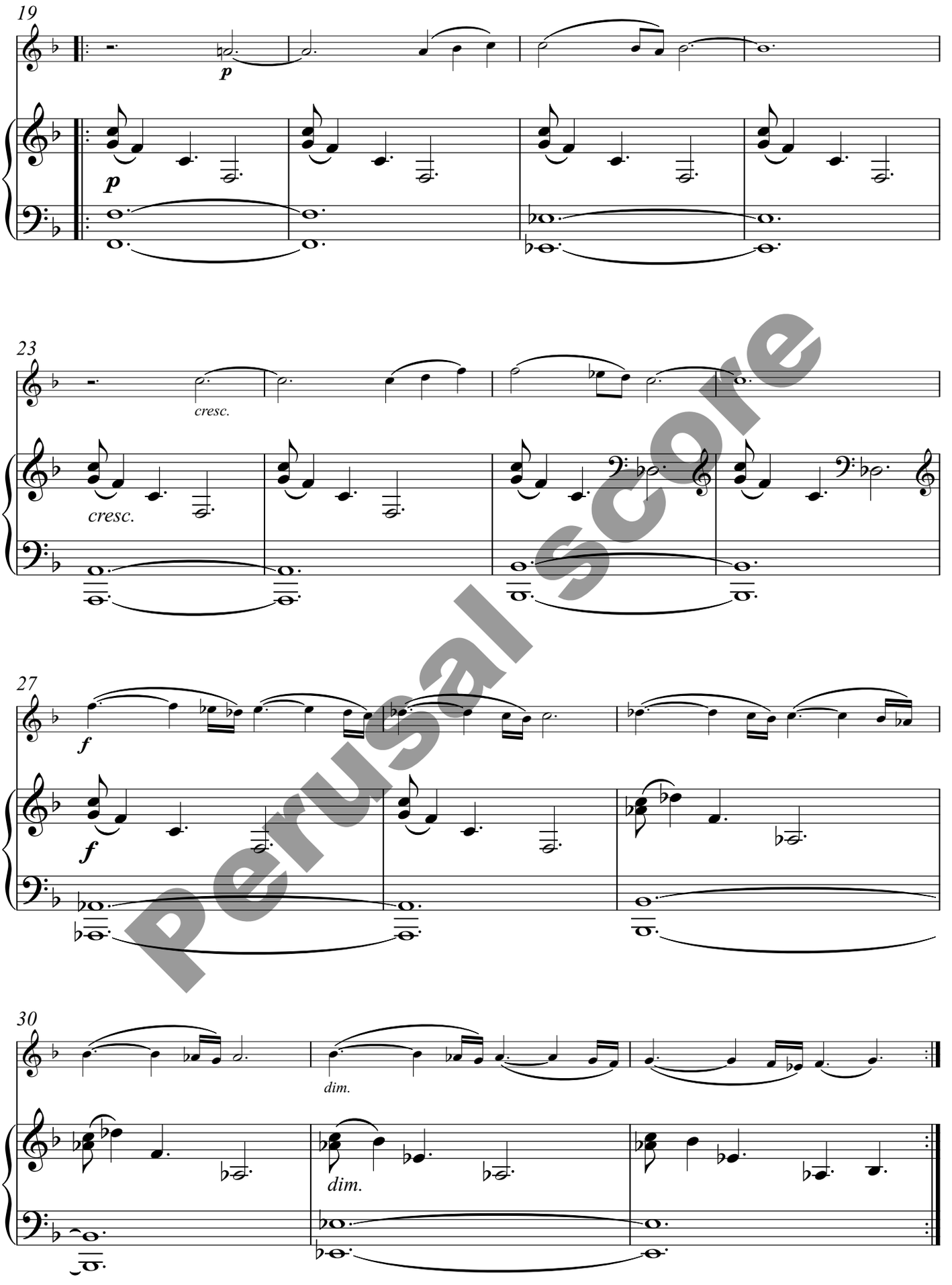

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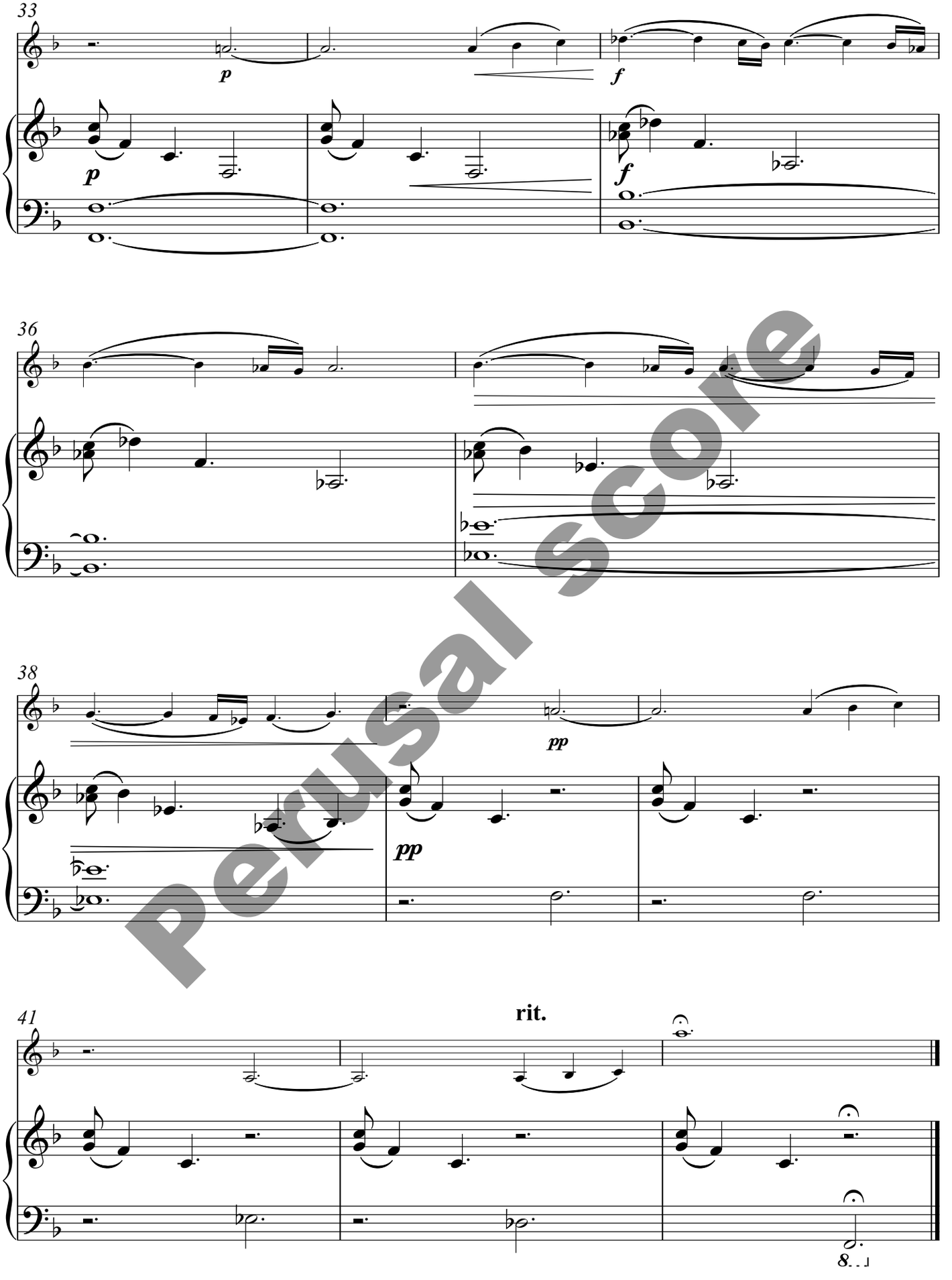

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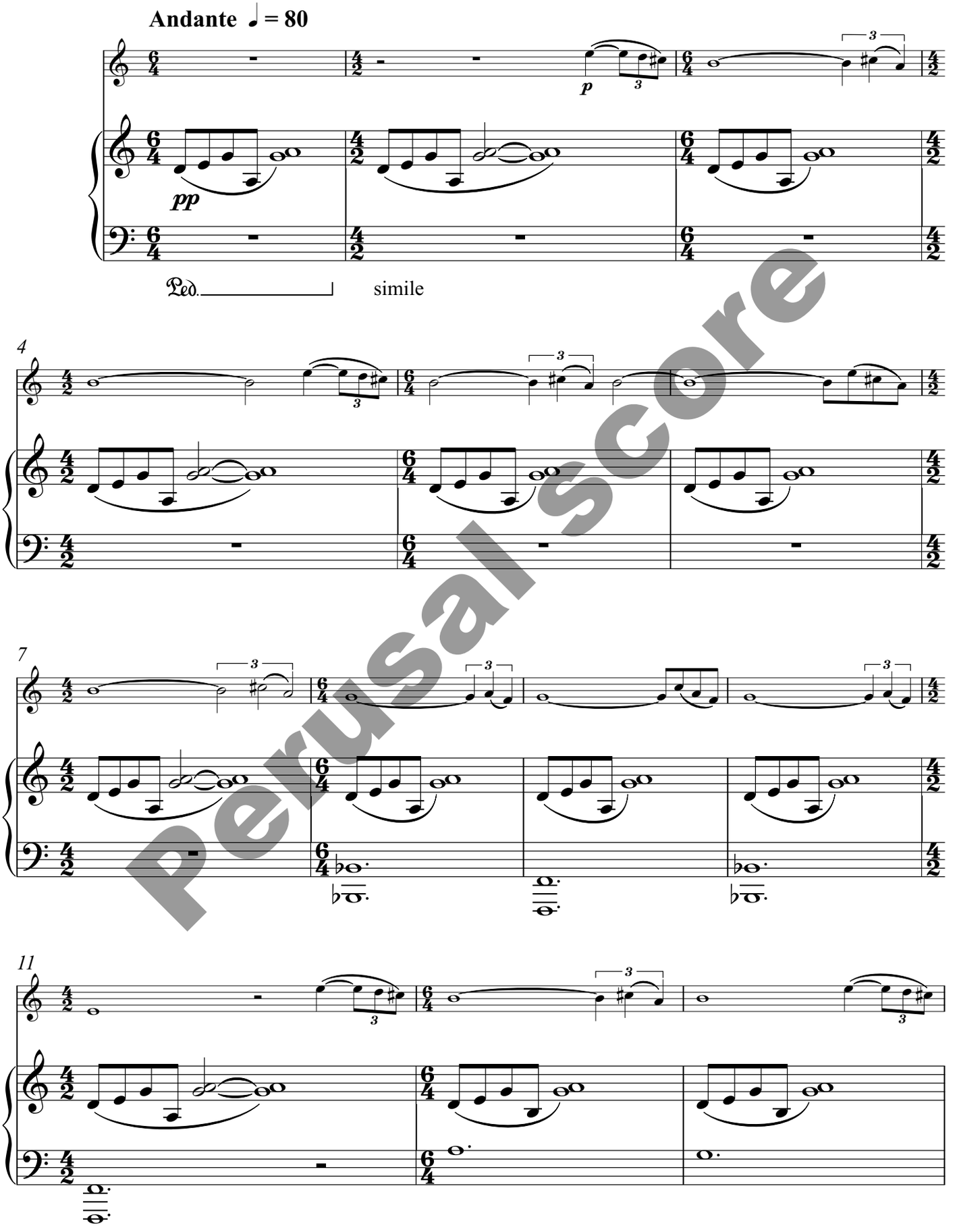

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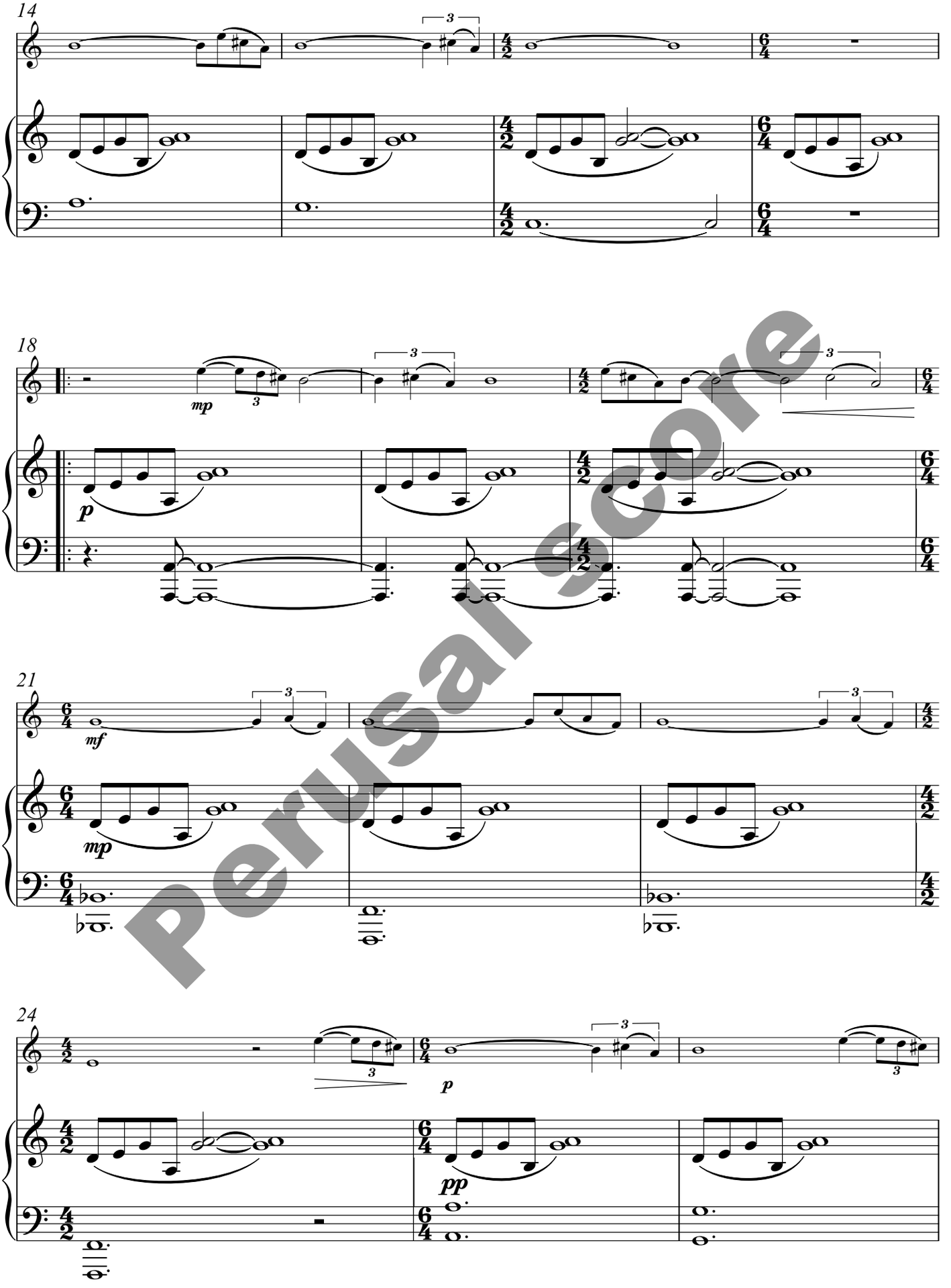

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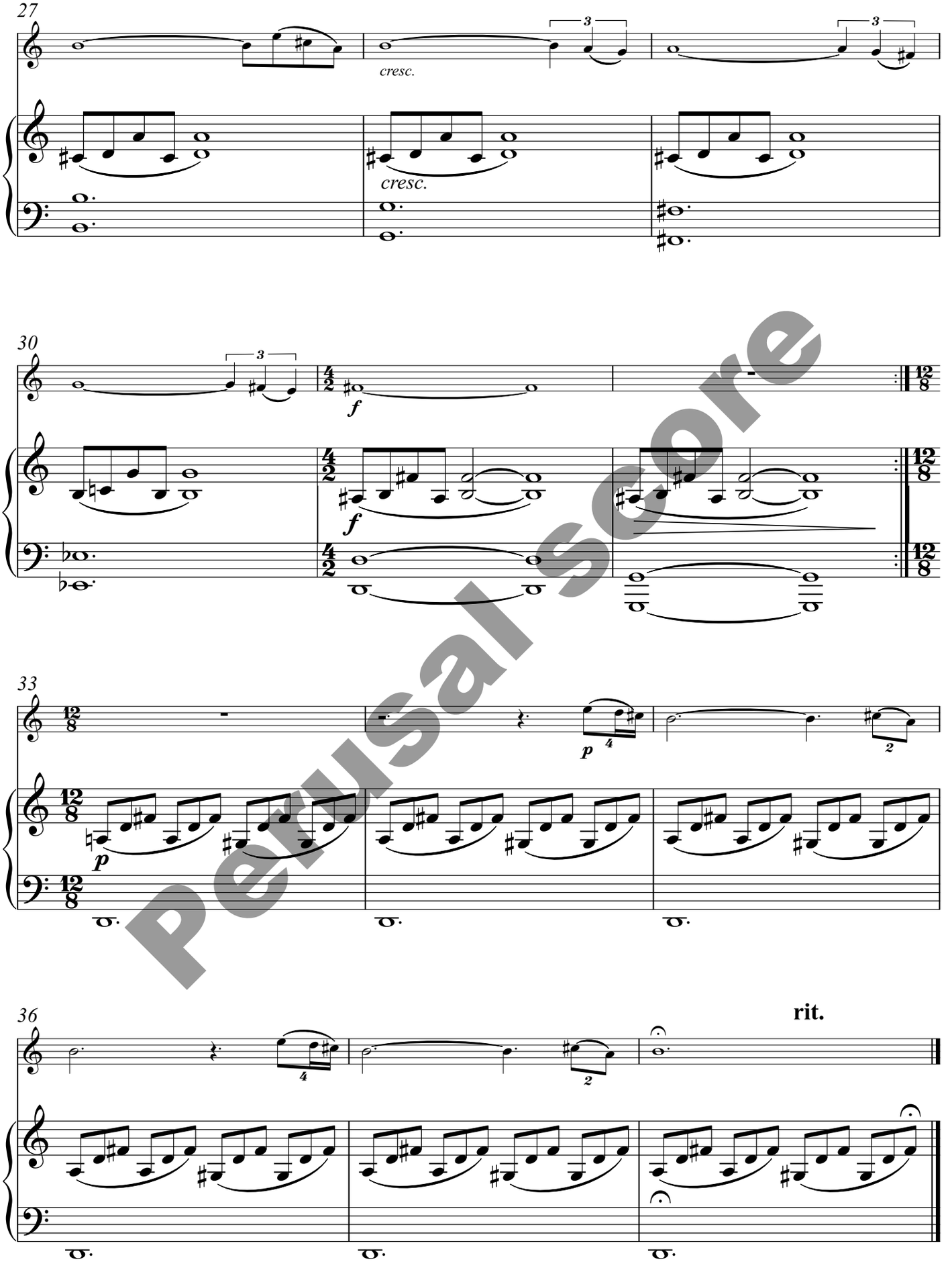

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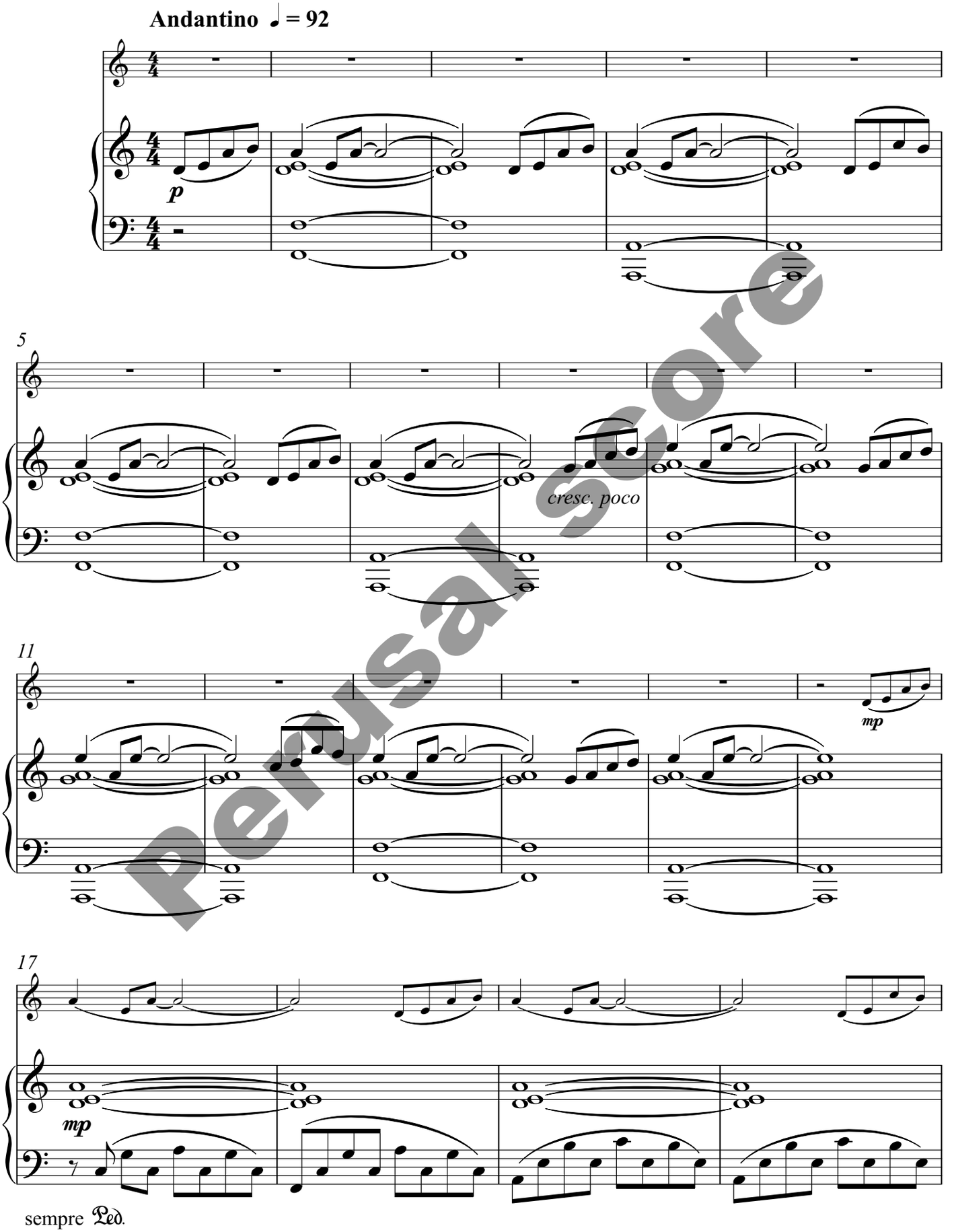

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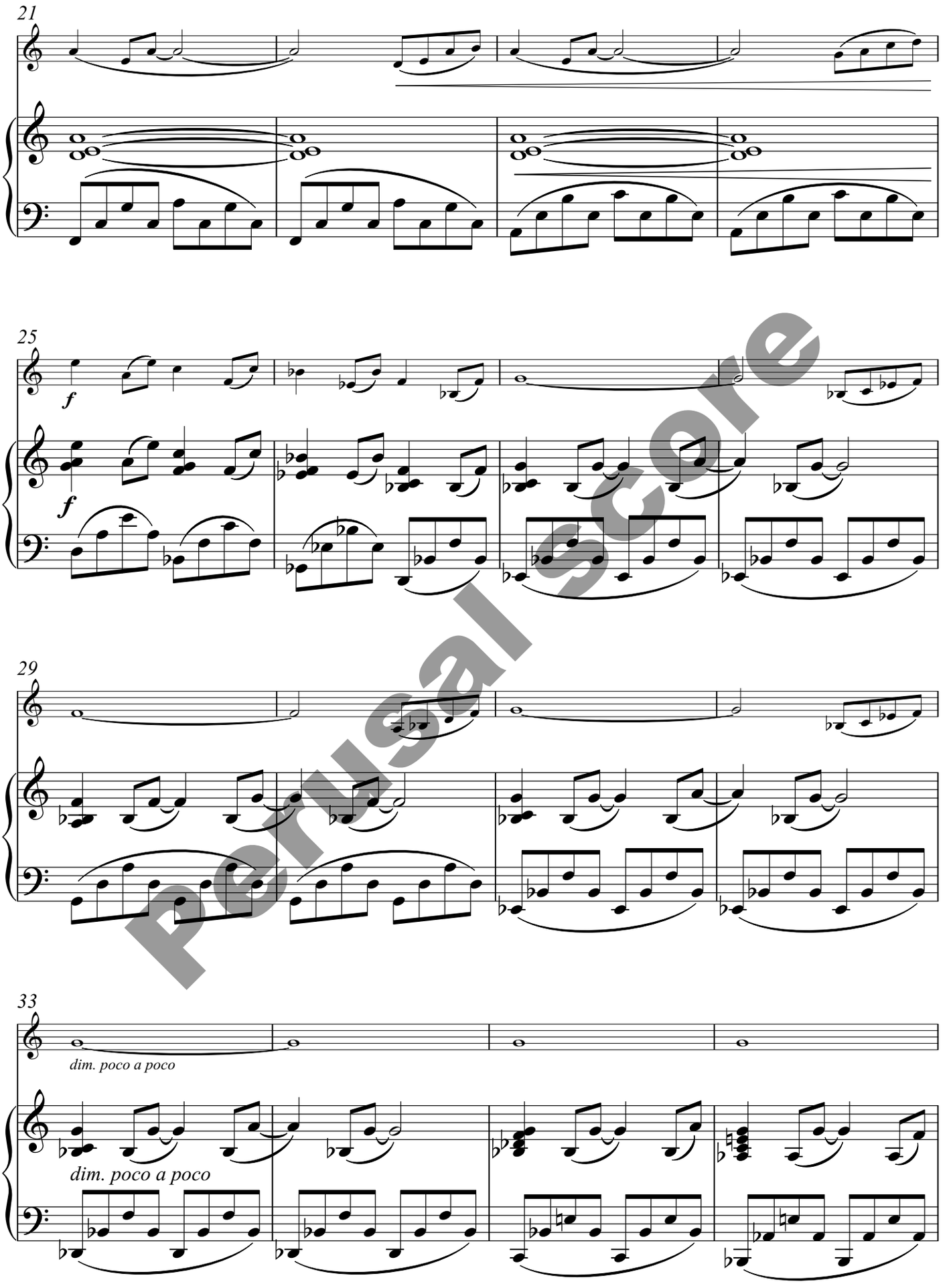

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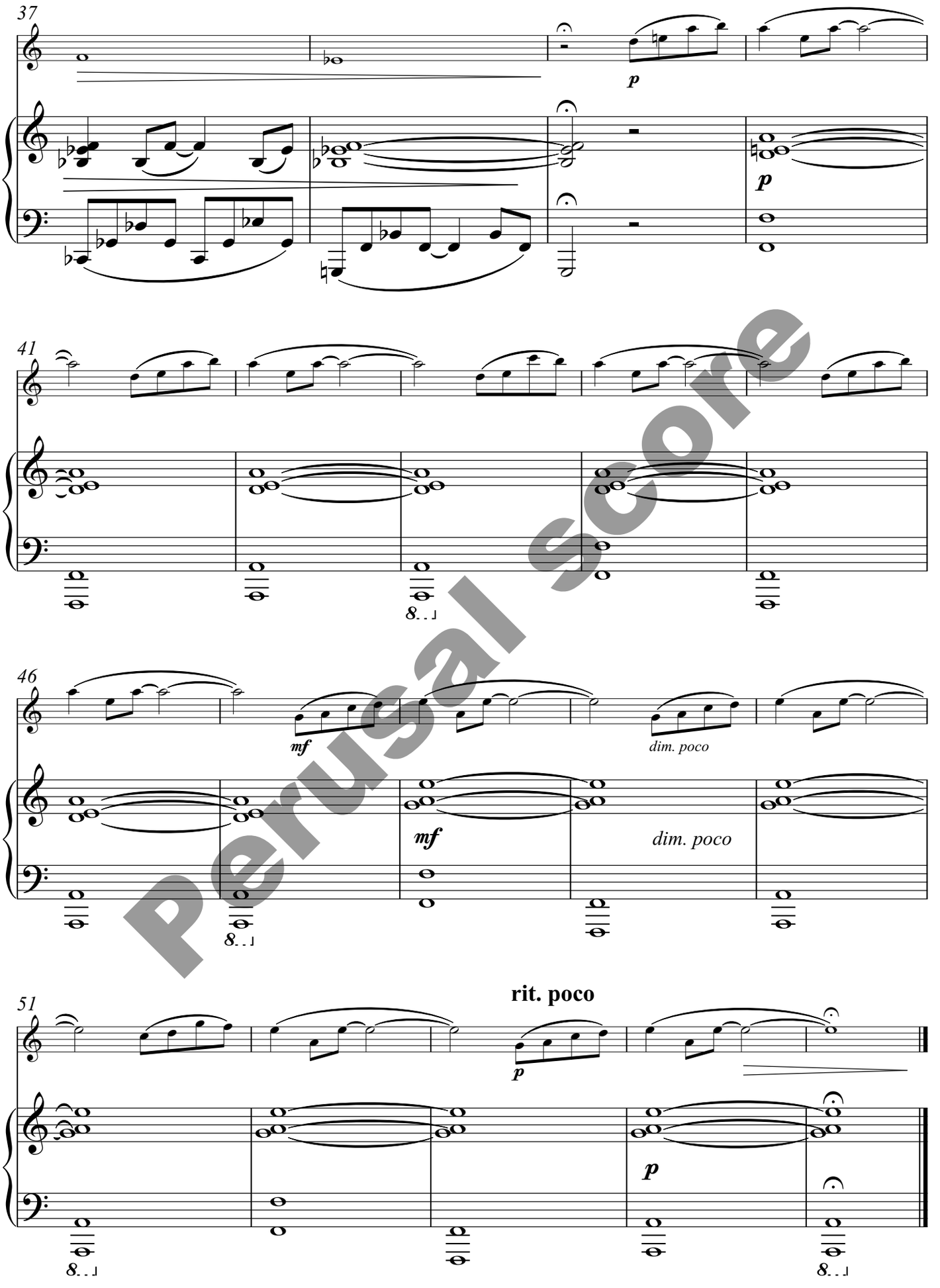

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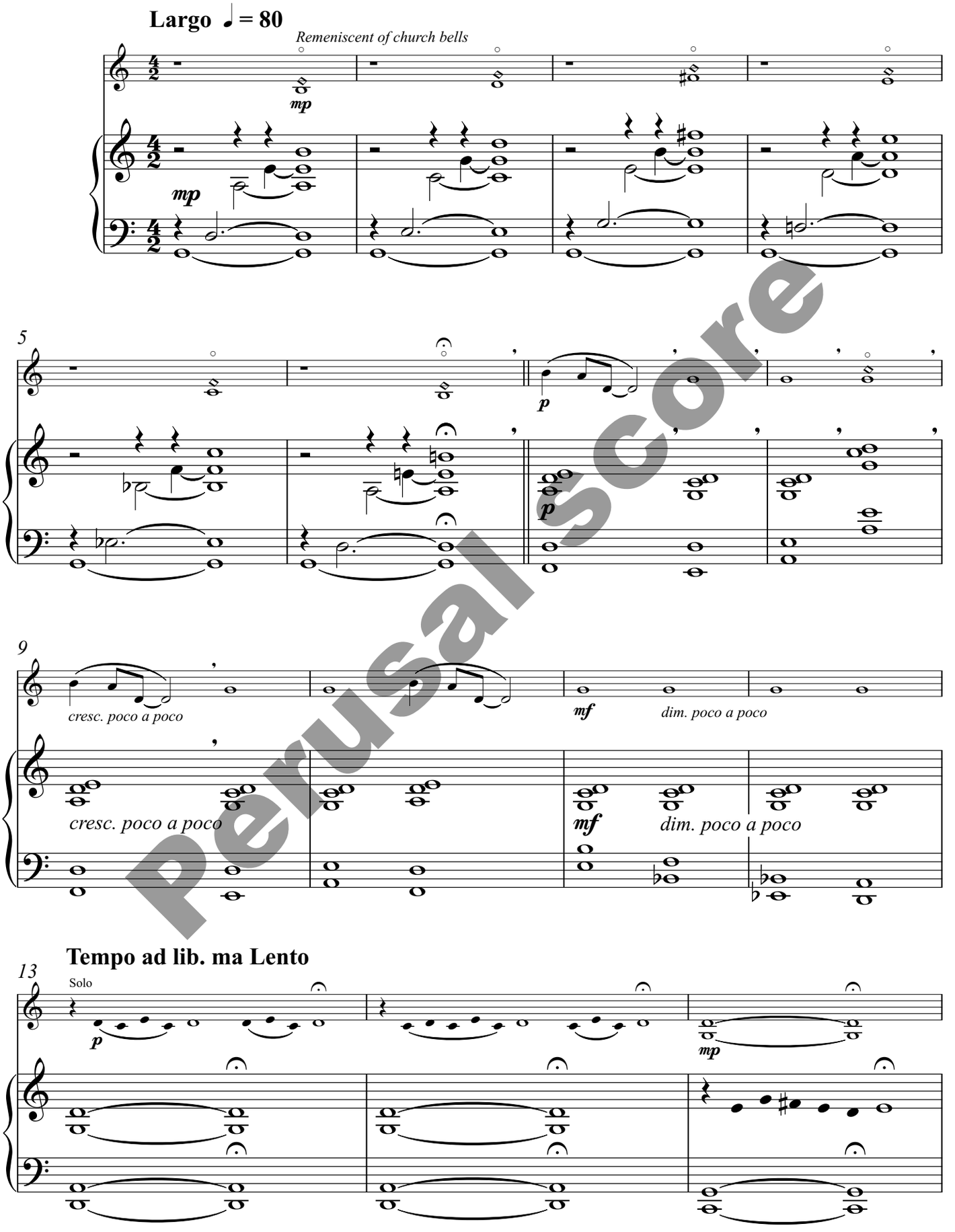
4. Santo Stepano a Venecia



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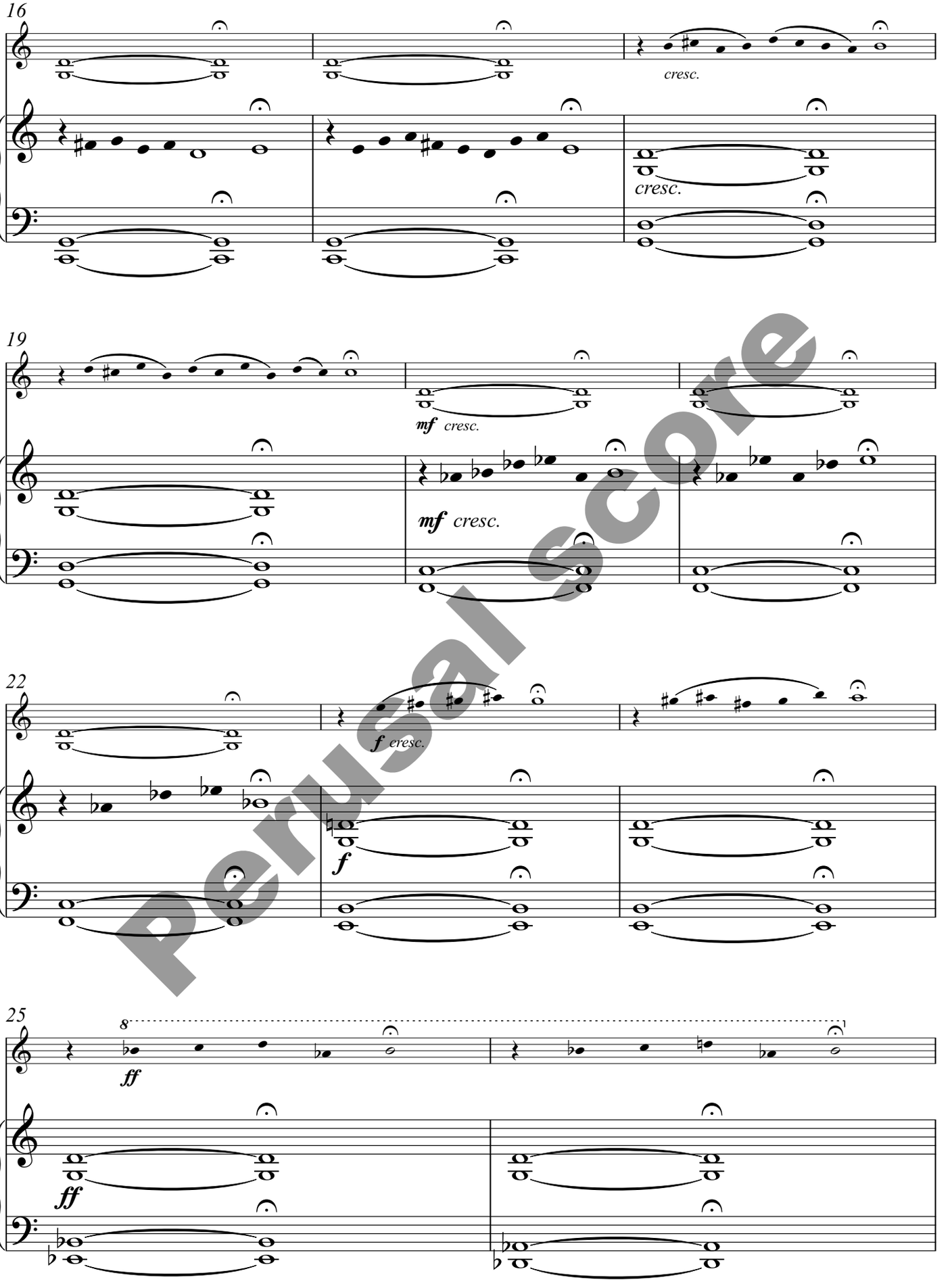

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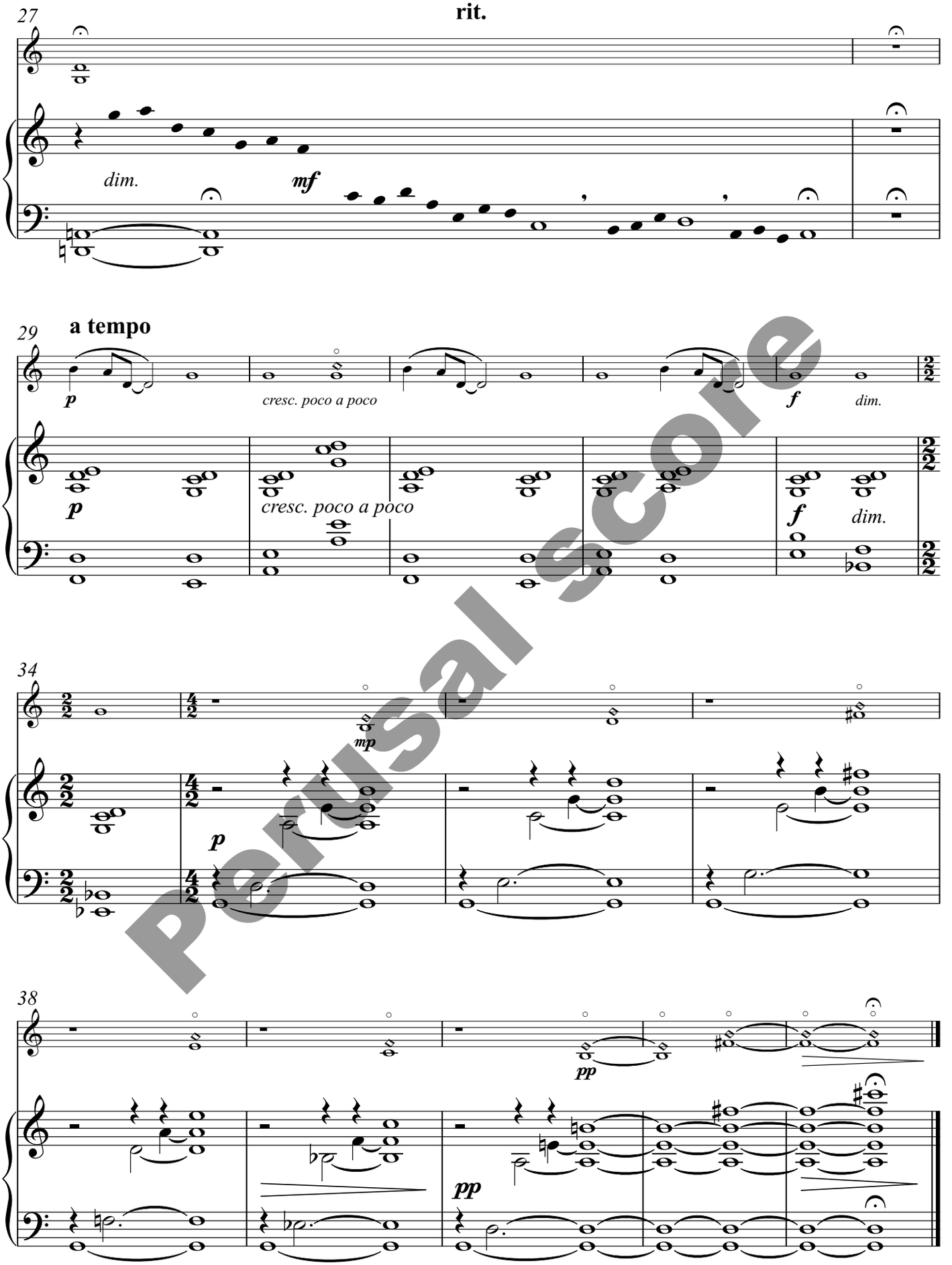

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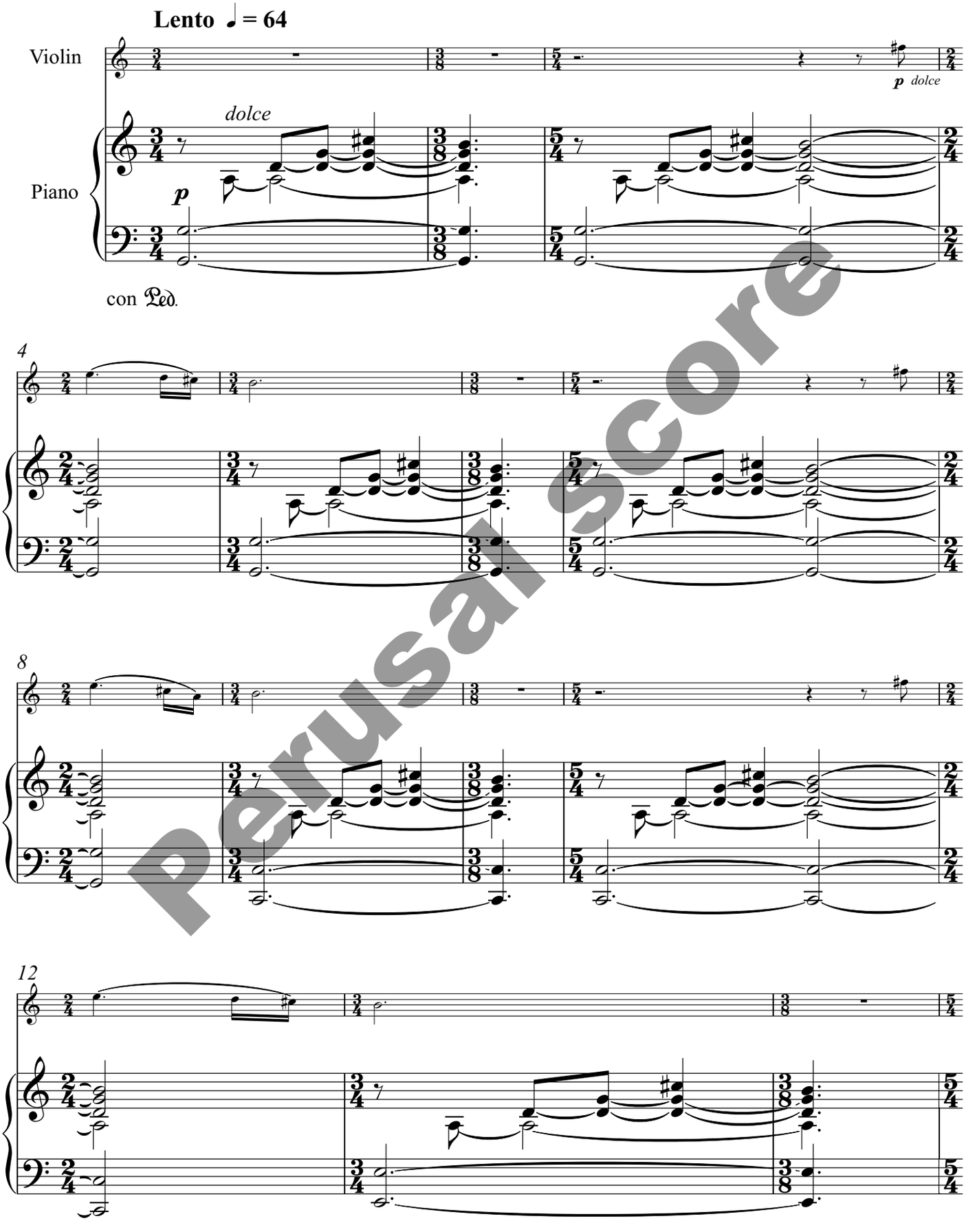
Air on a Plane

Aleksey Igudesman



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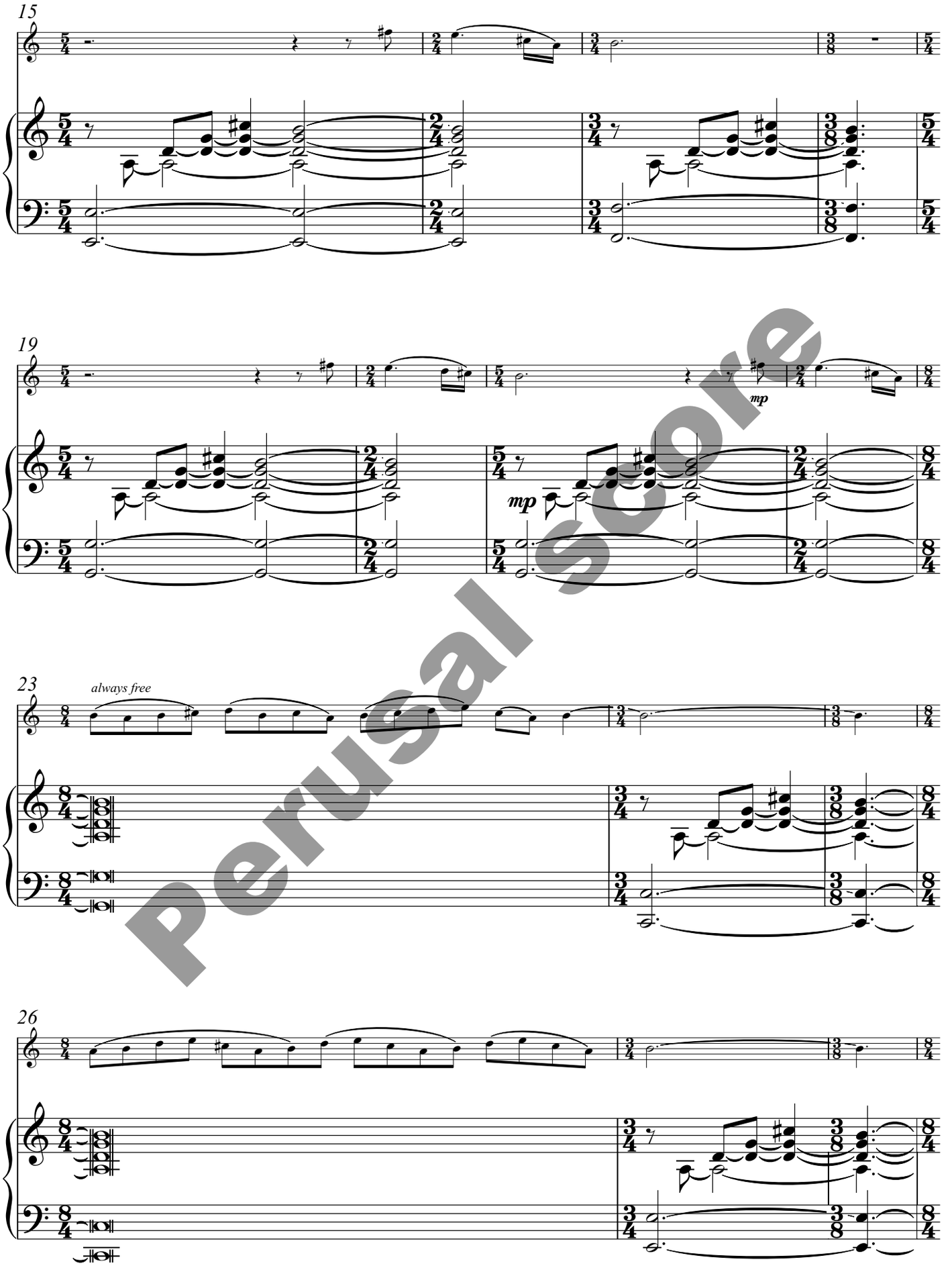

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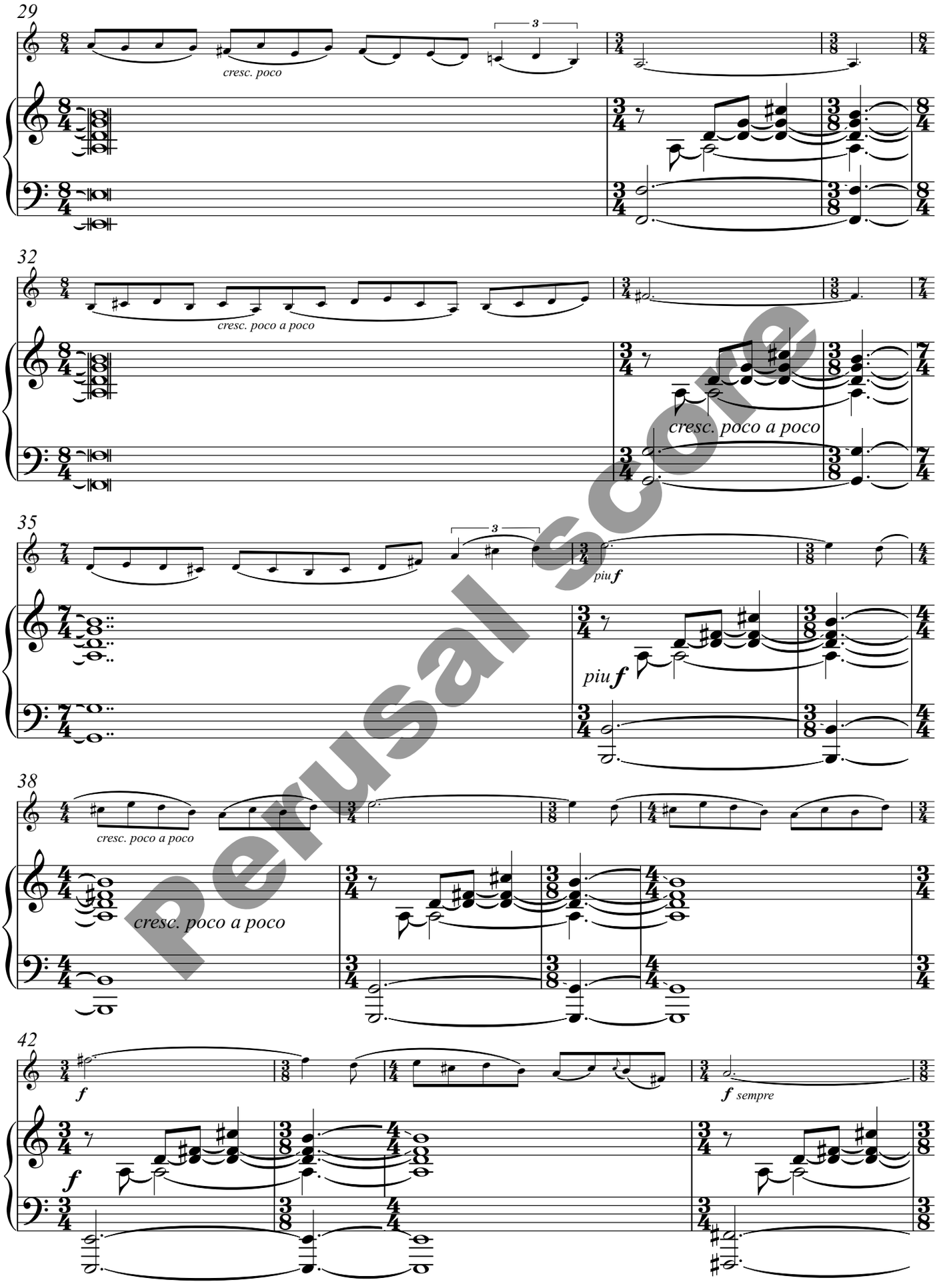

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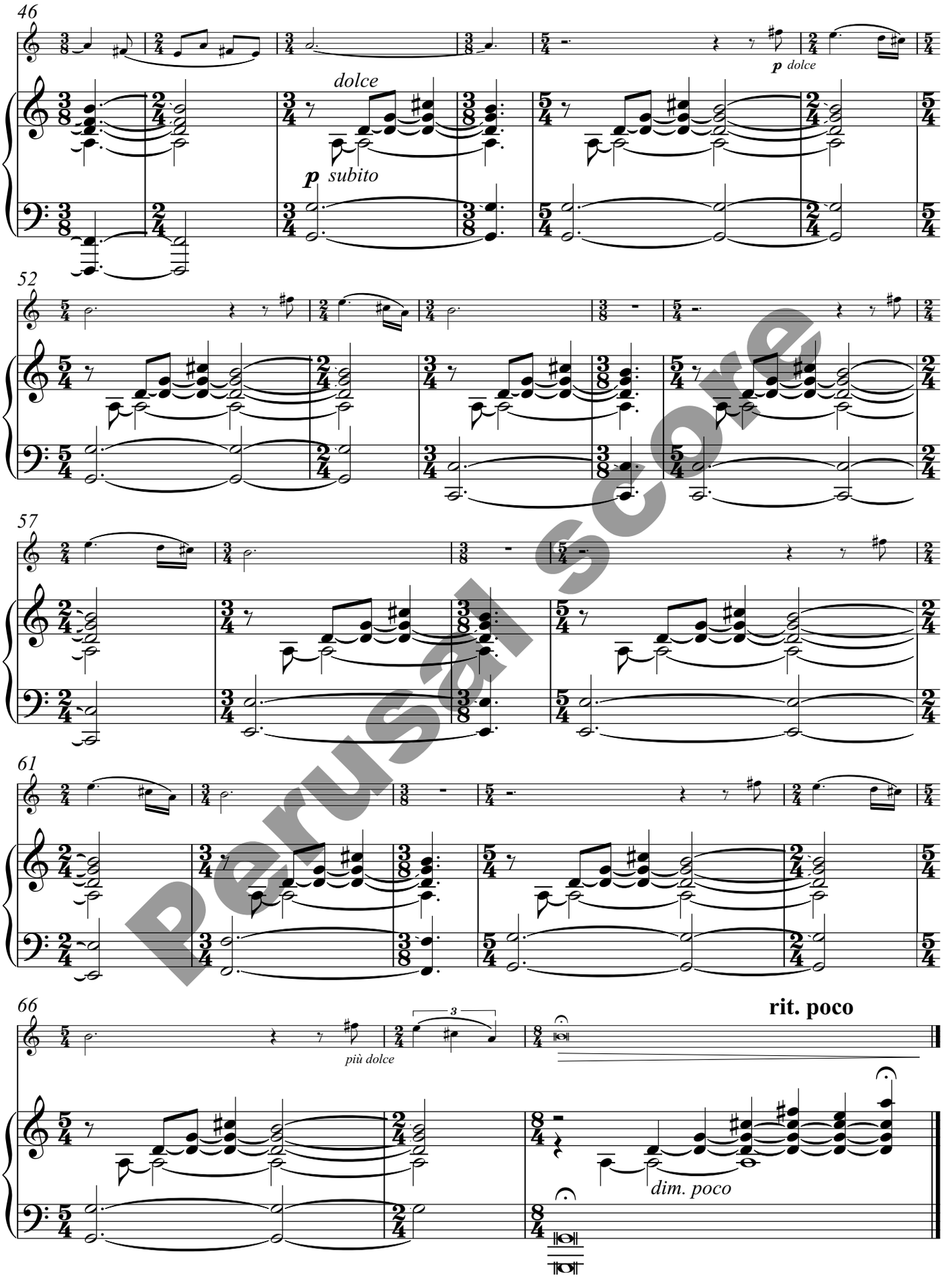

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Lina's Waltz

(2015)

Hyung-ki Joo
(* 1973)

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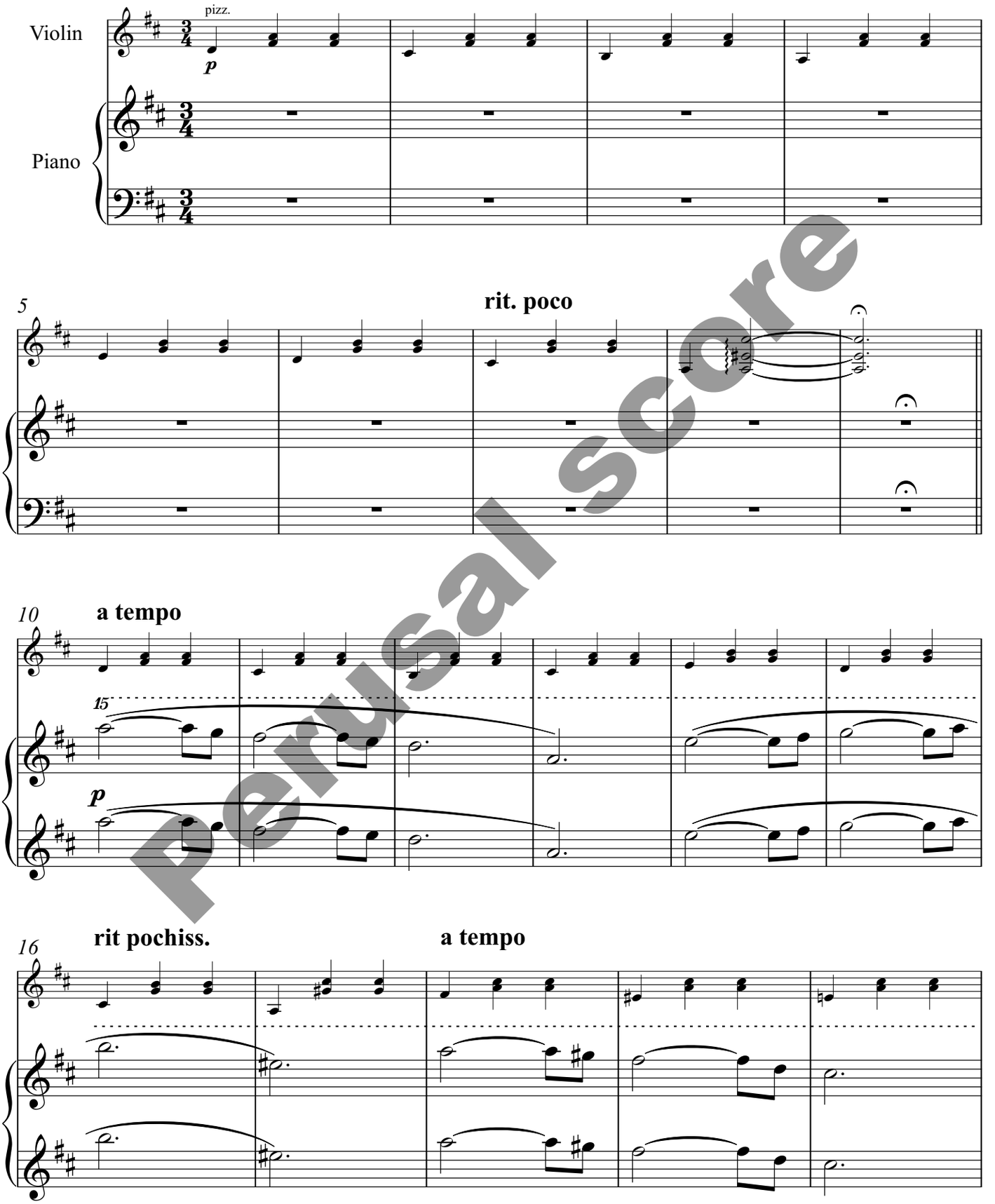

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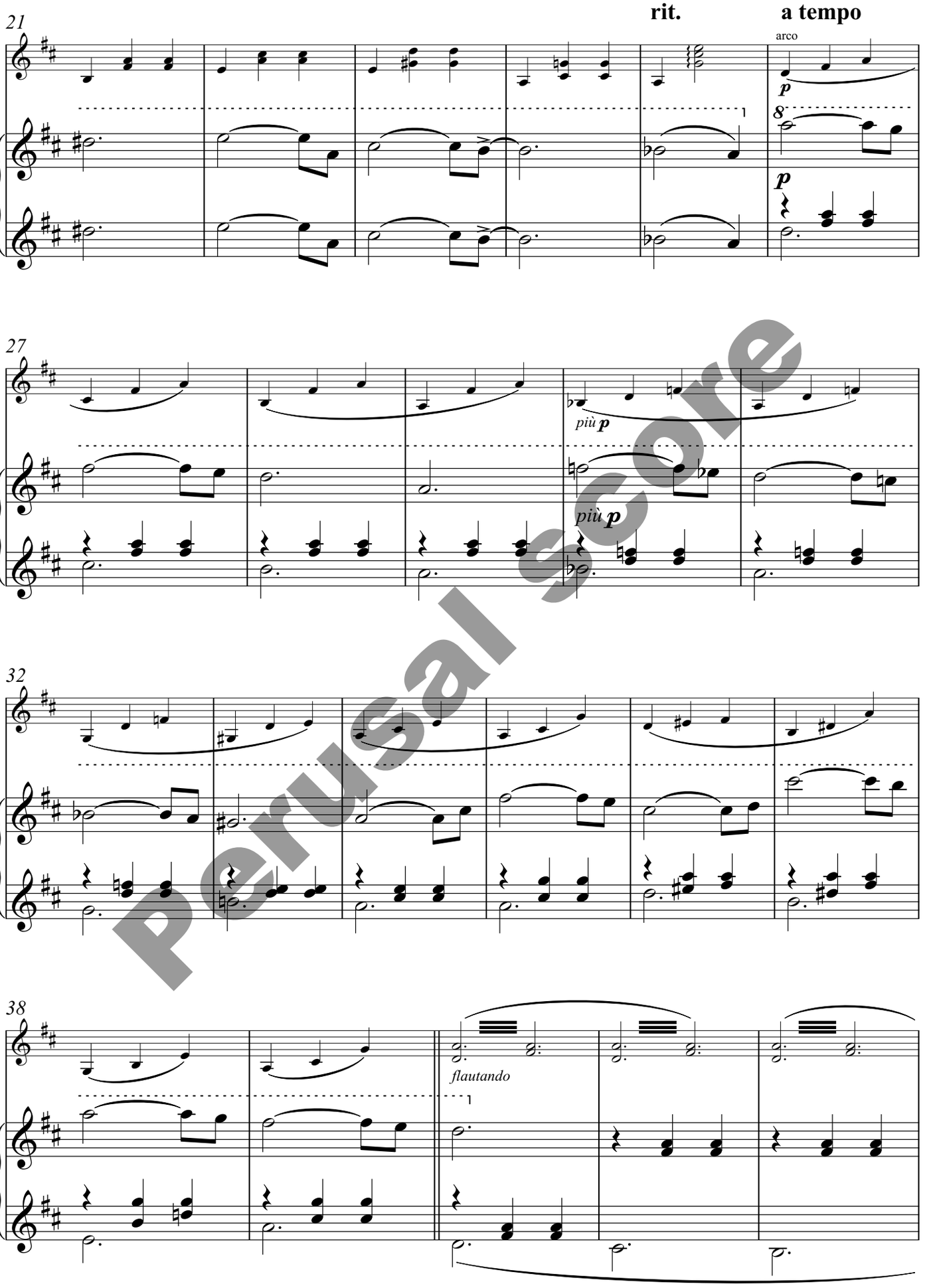

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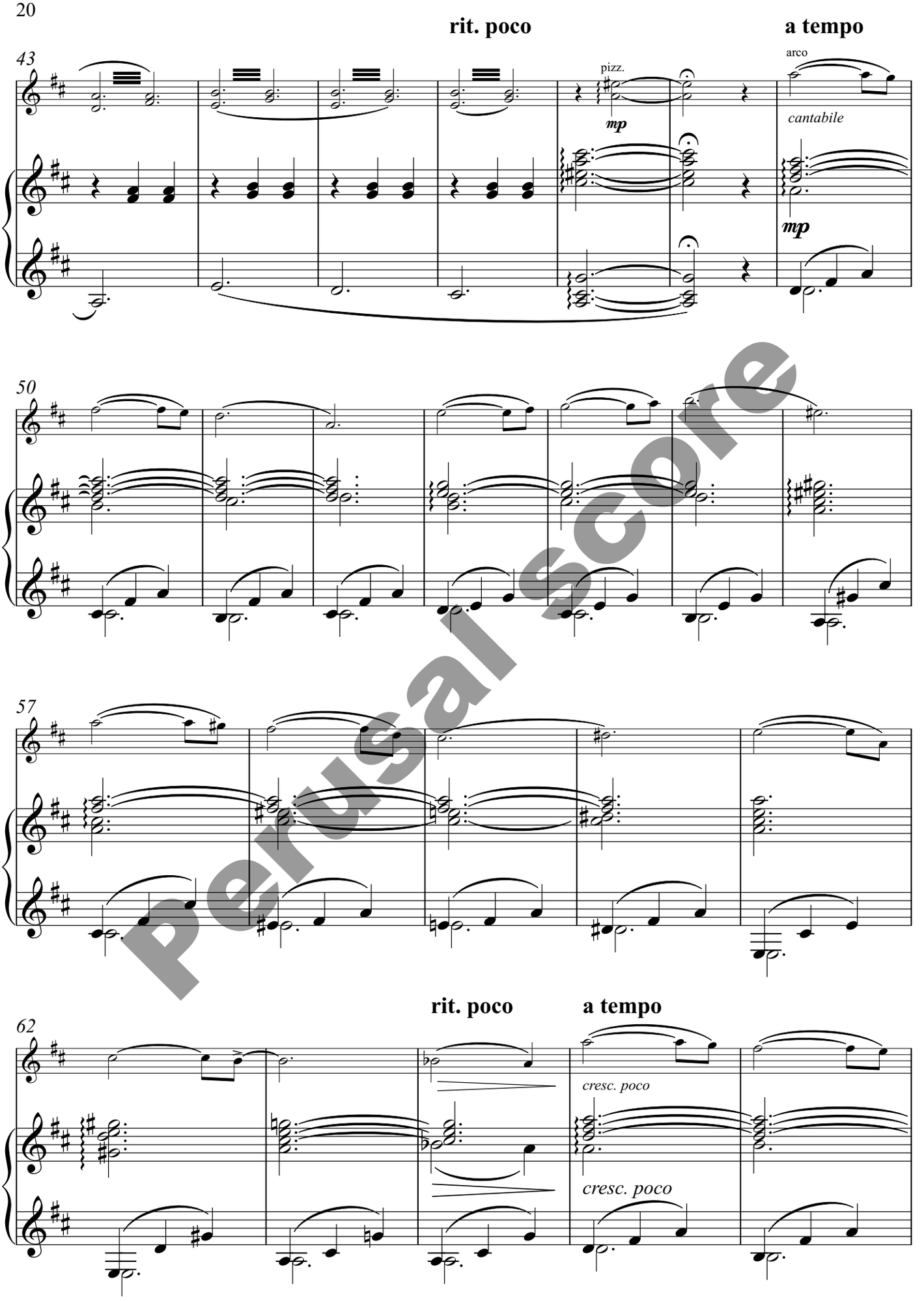

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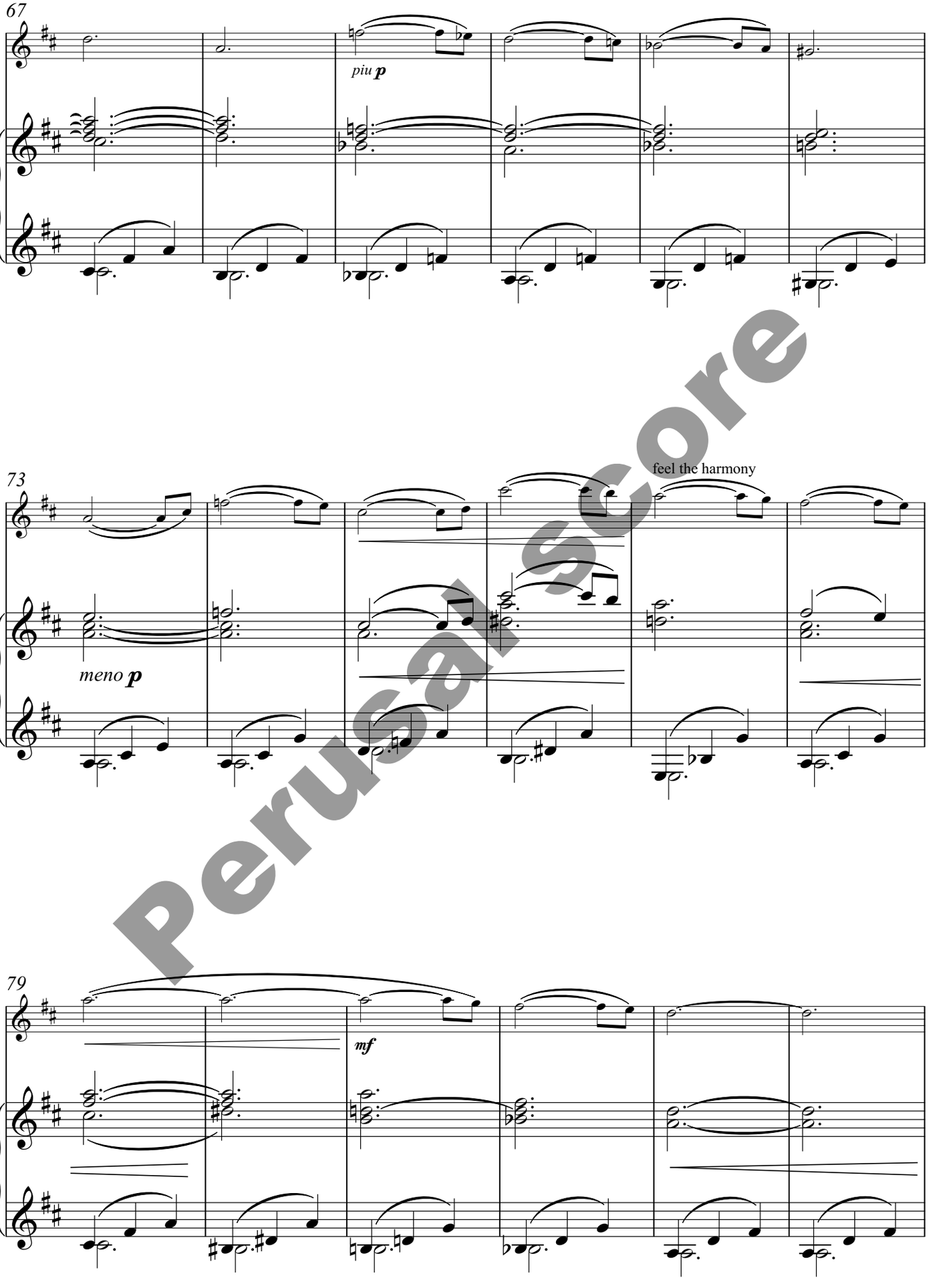

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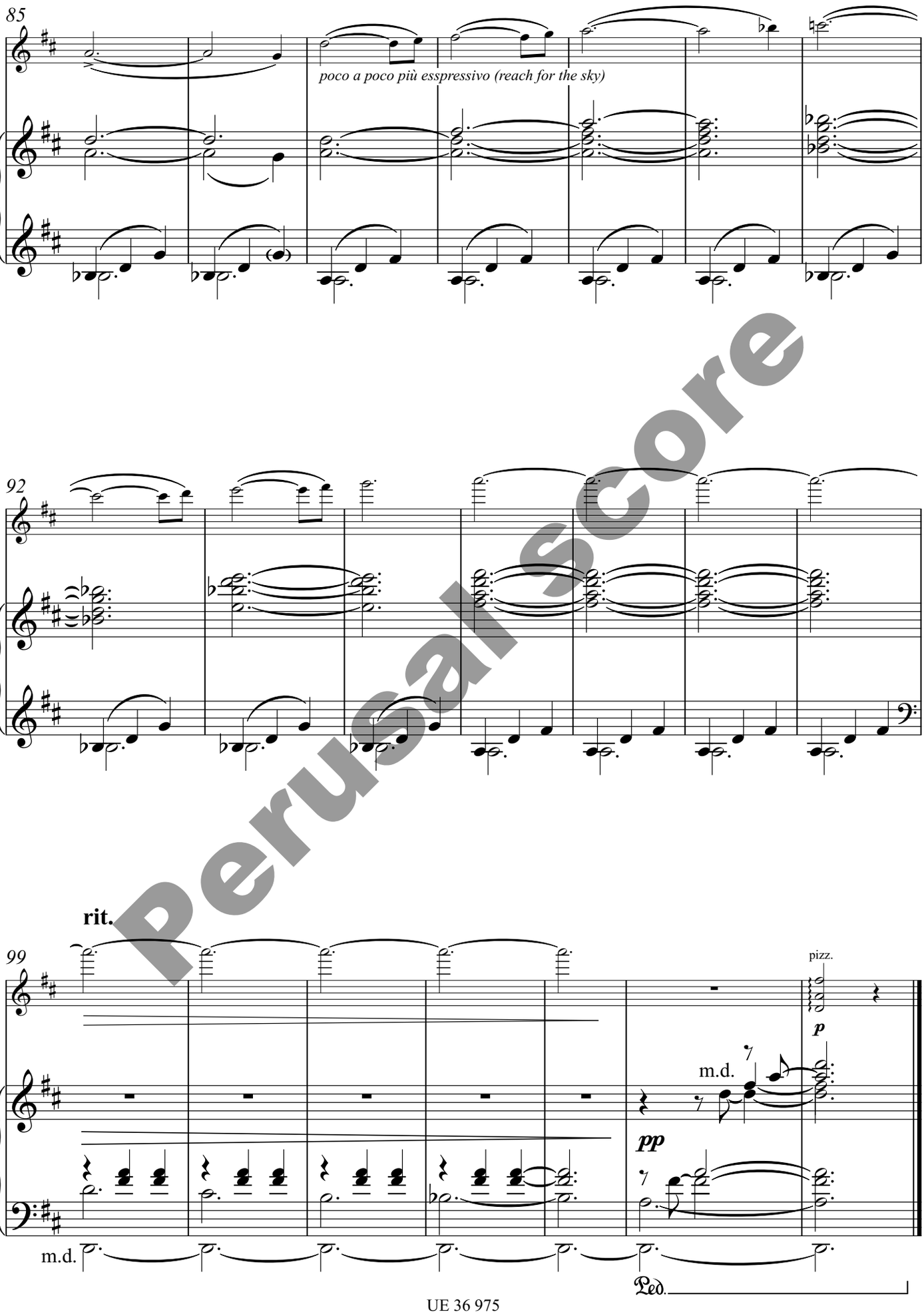

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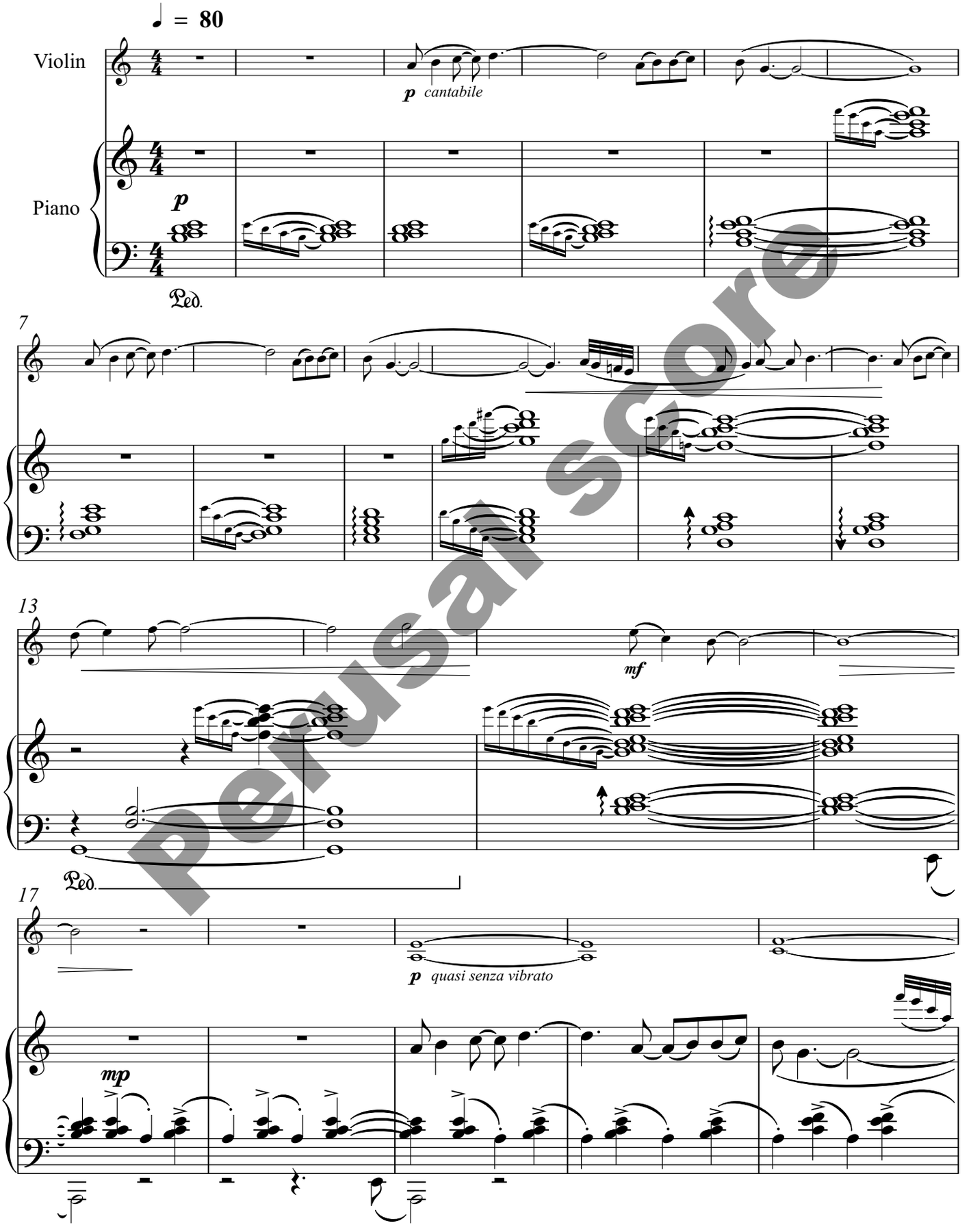
Hiding the Tears

Hyung-ki Joo



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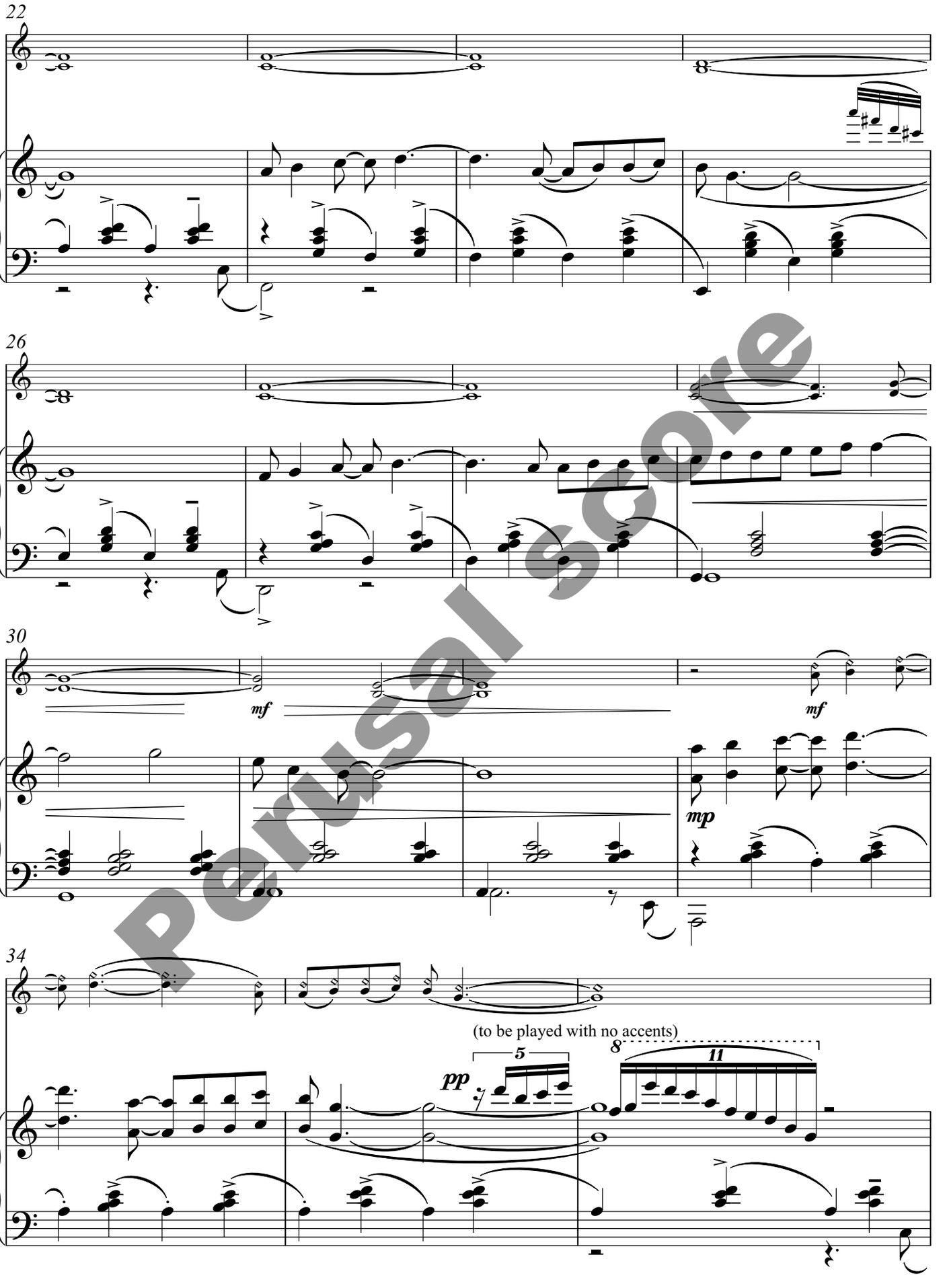

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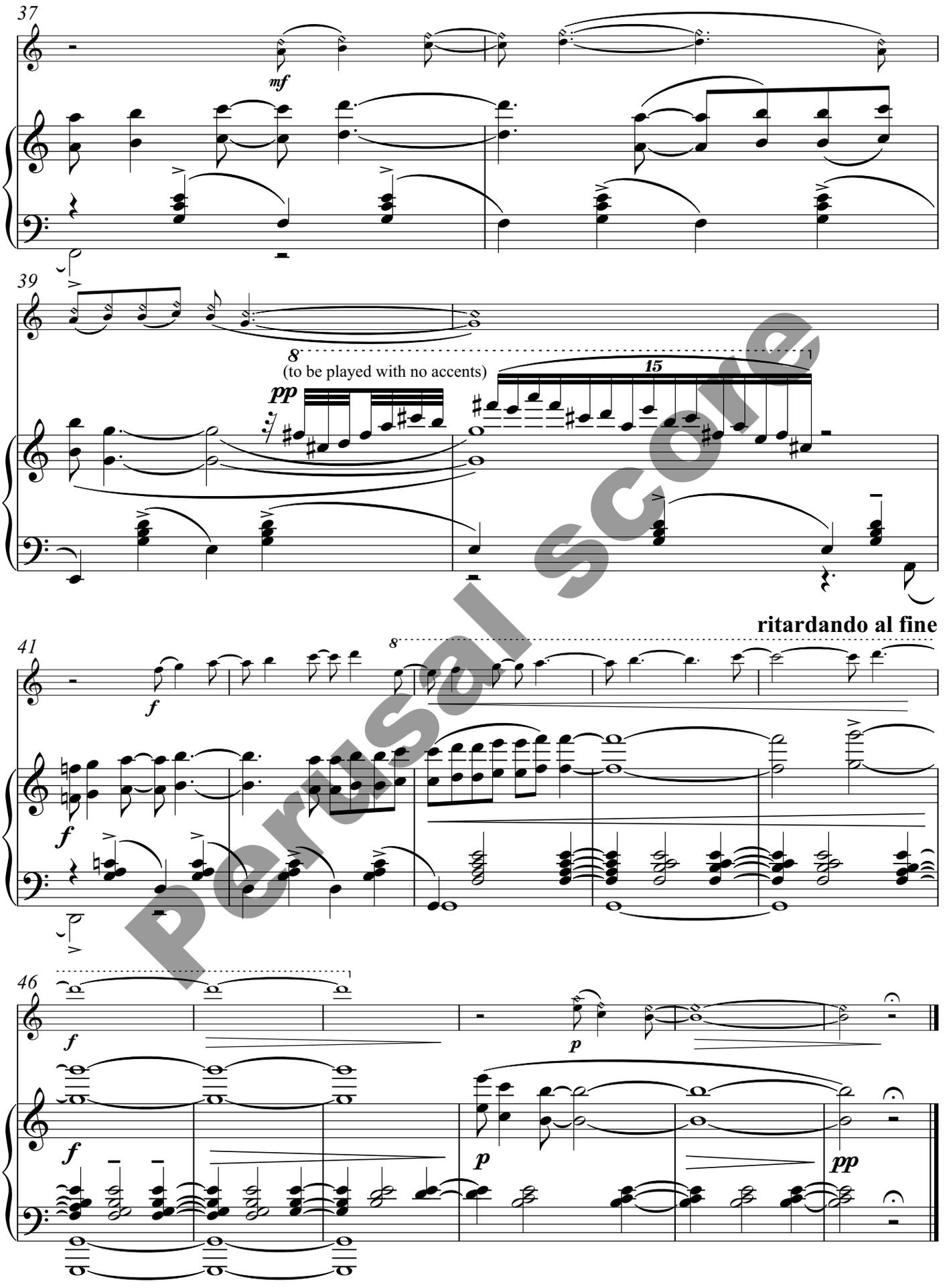

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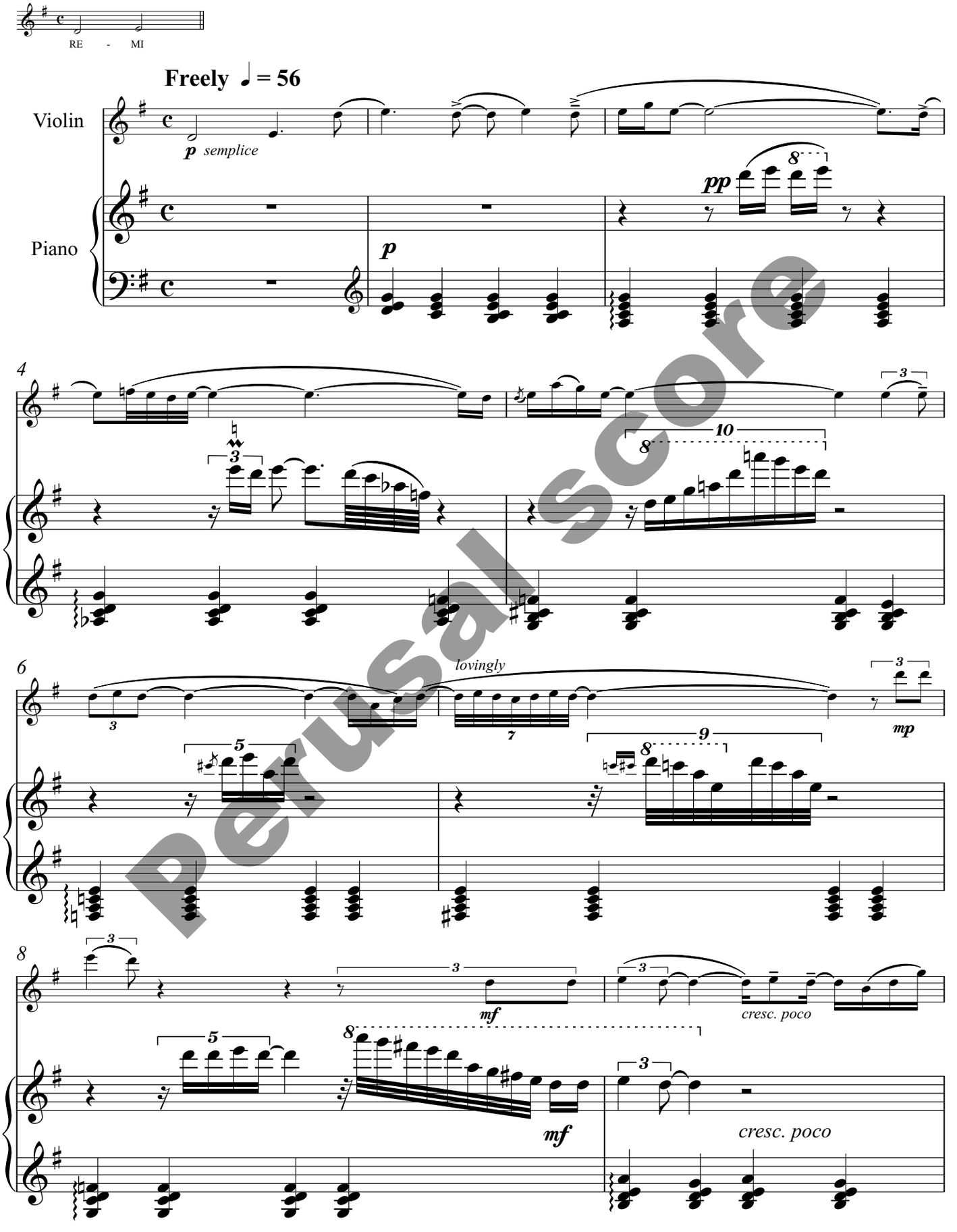
Remy's 1st Birthday

Hyung-ki Joo



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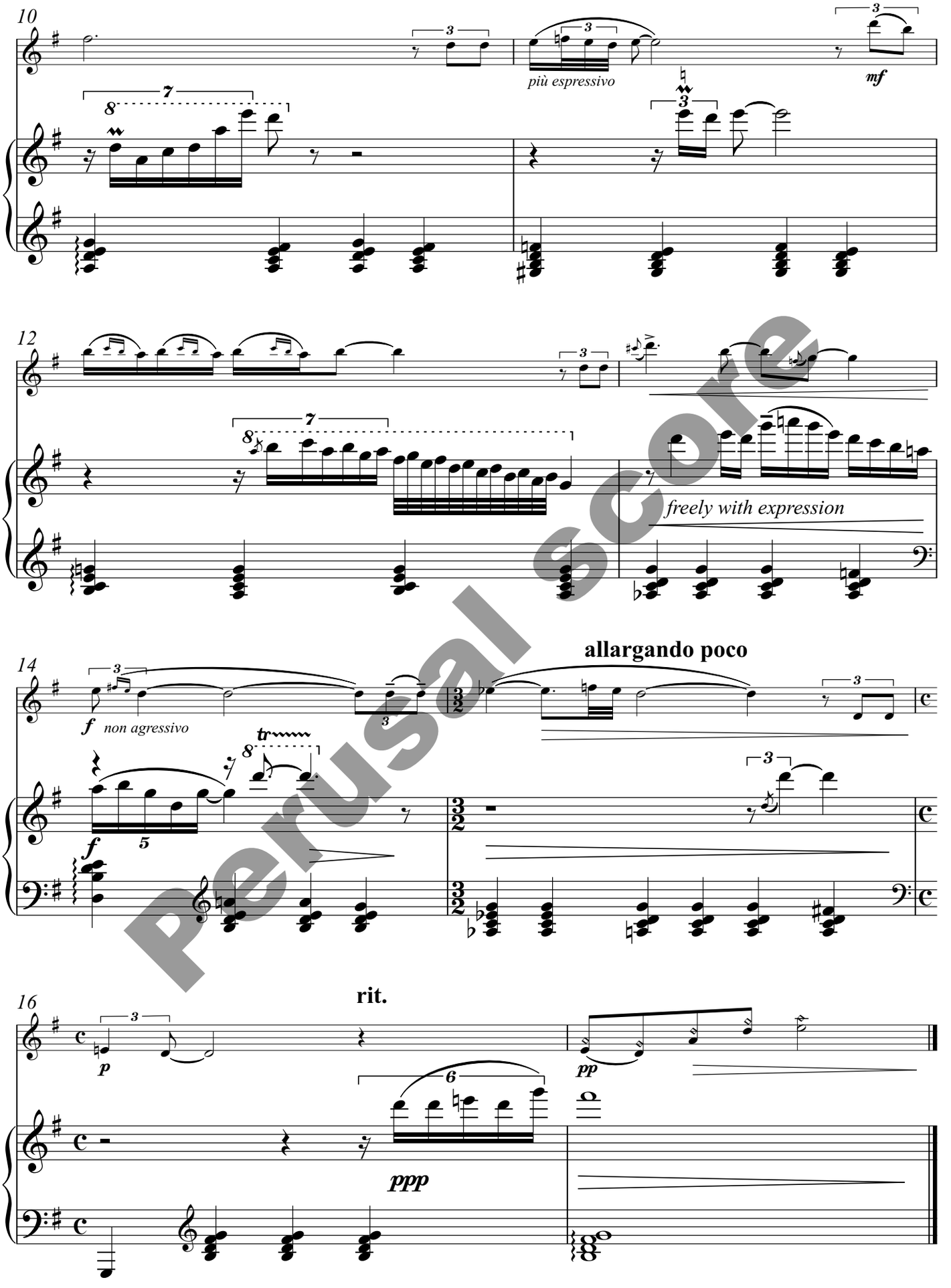

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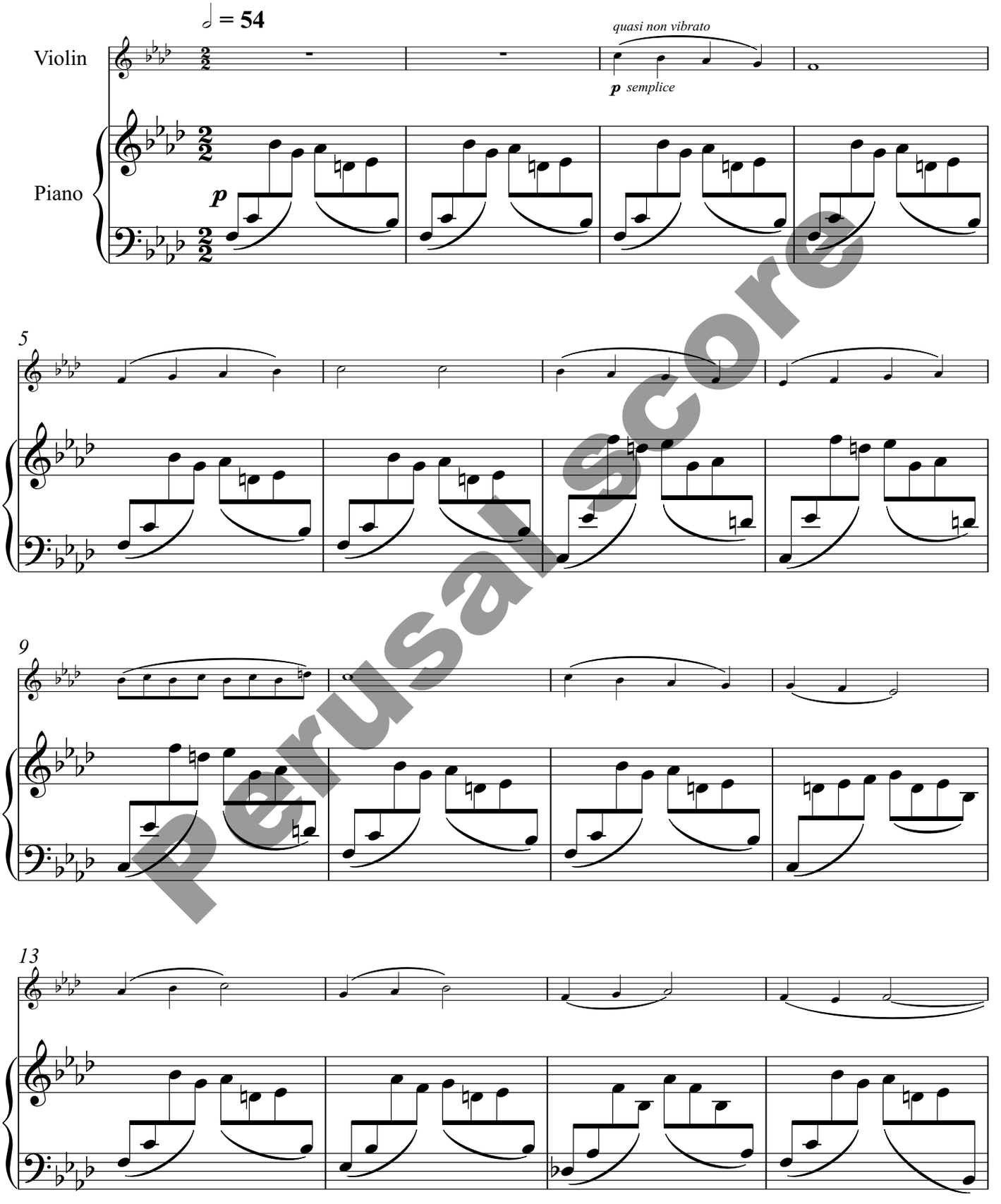
Ancient Childhood

Hyung-ki Joo



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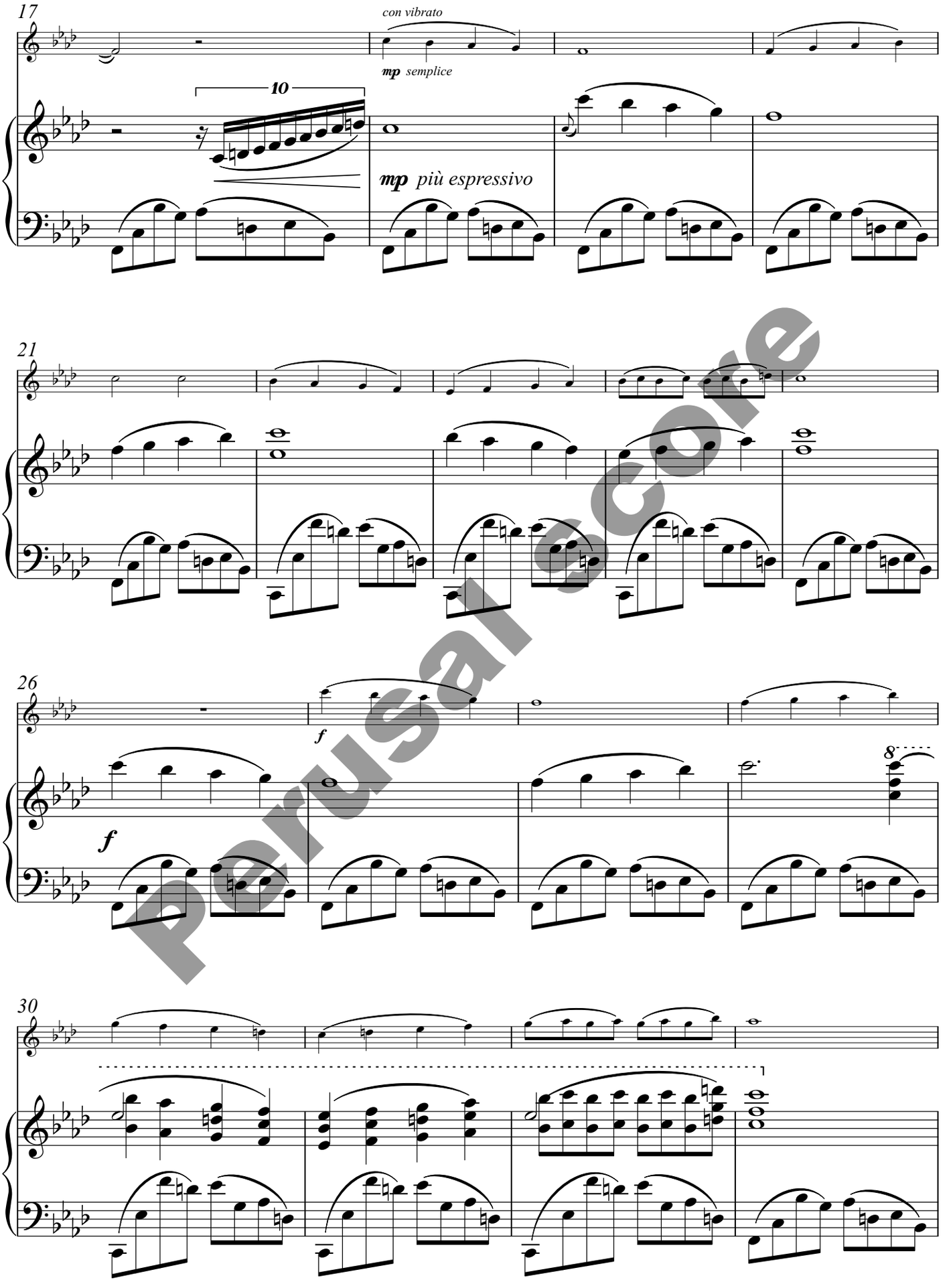

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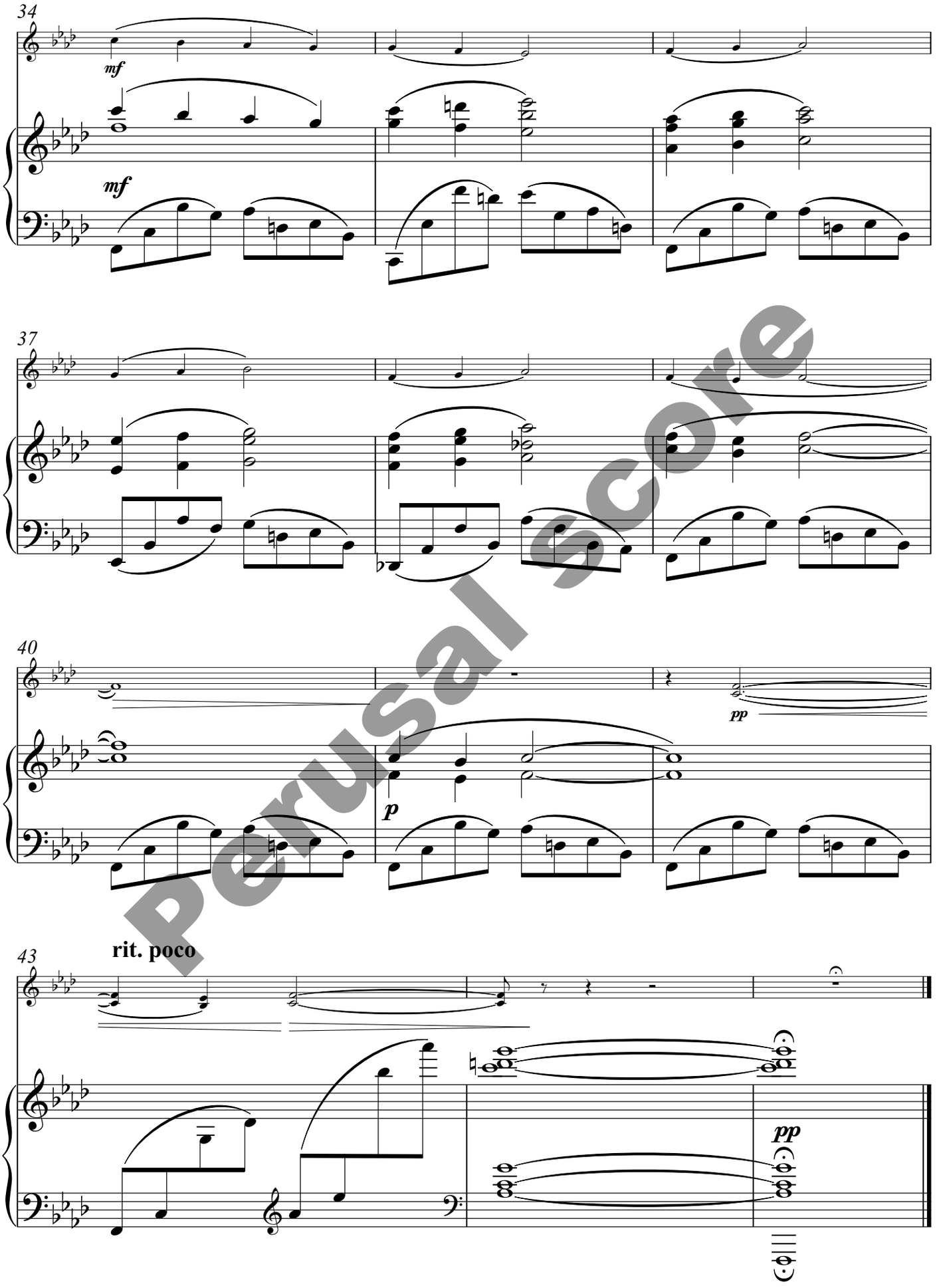

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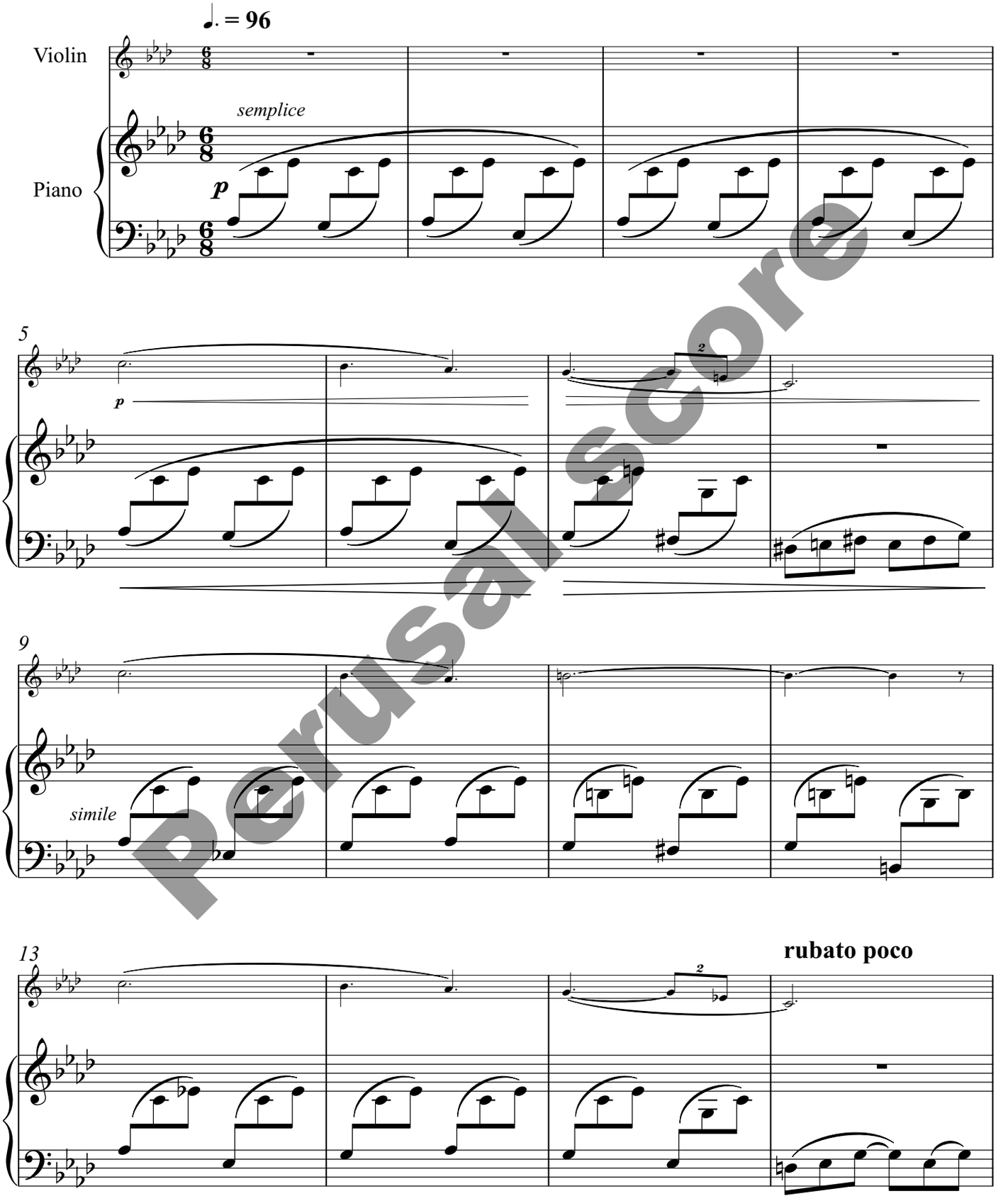
Wondering While Wandering

Hyung-ki Joo



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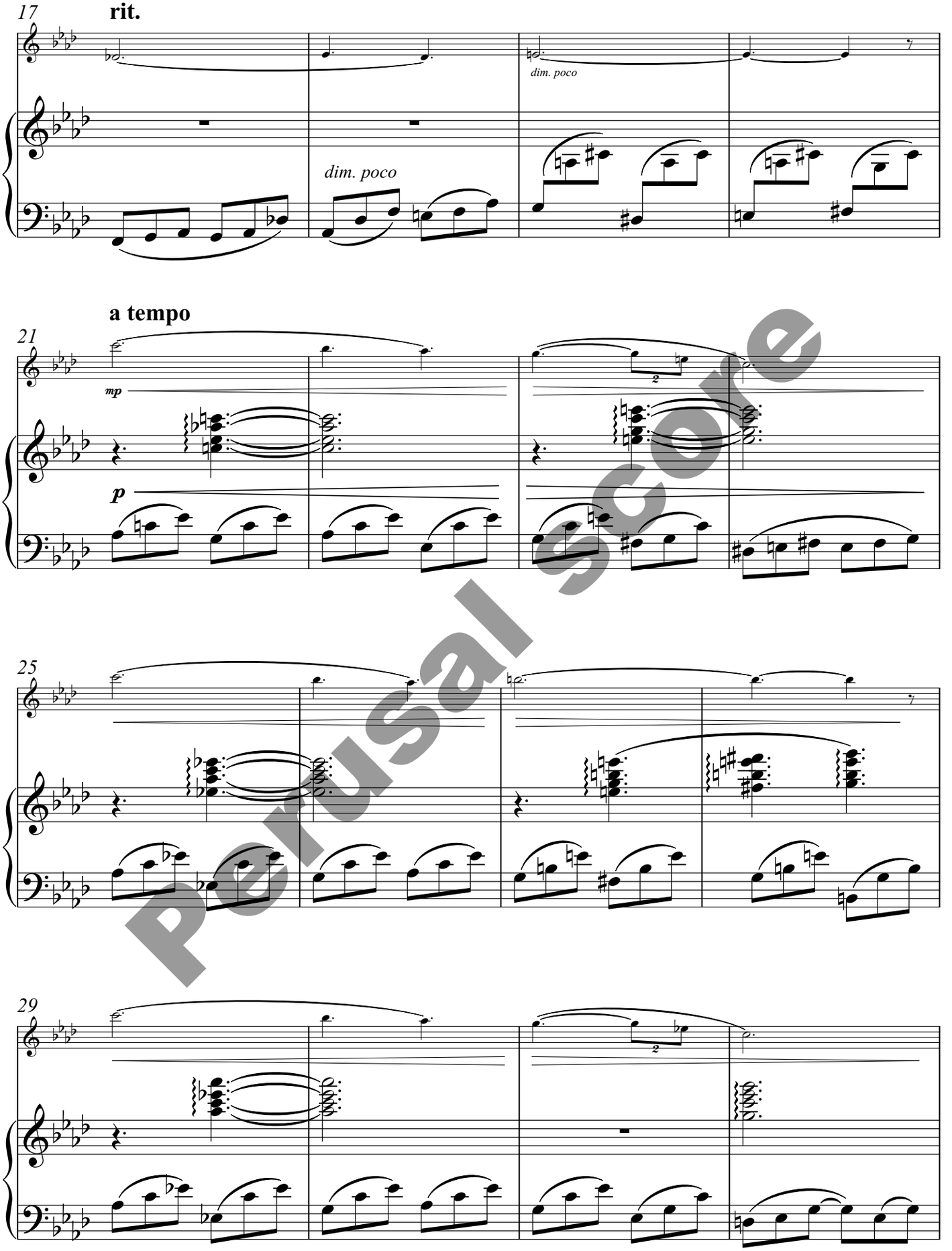

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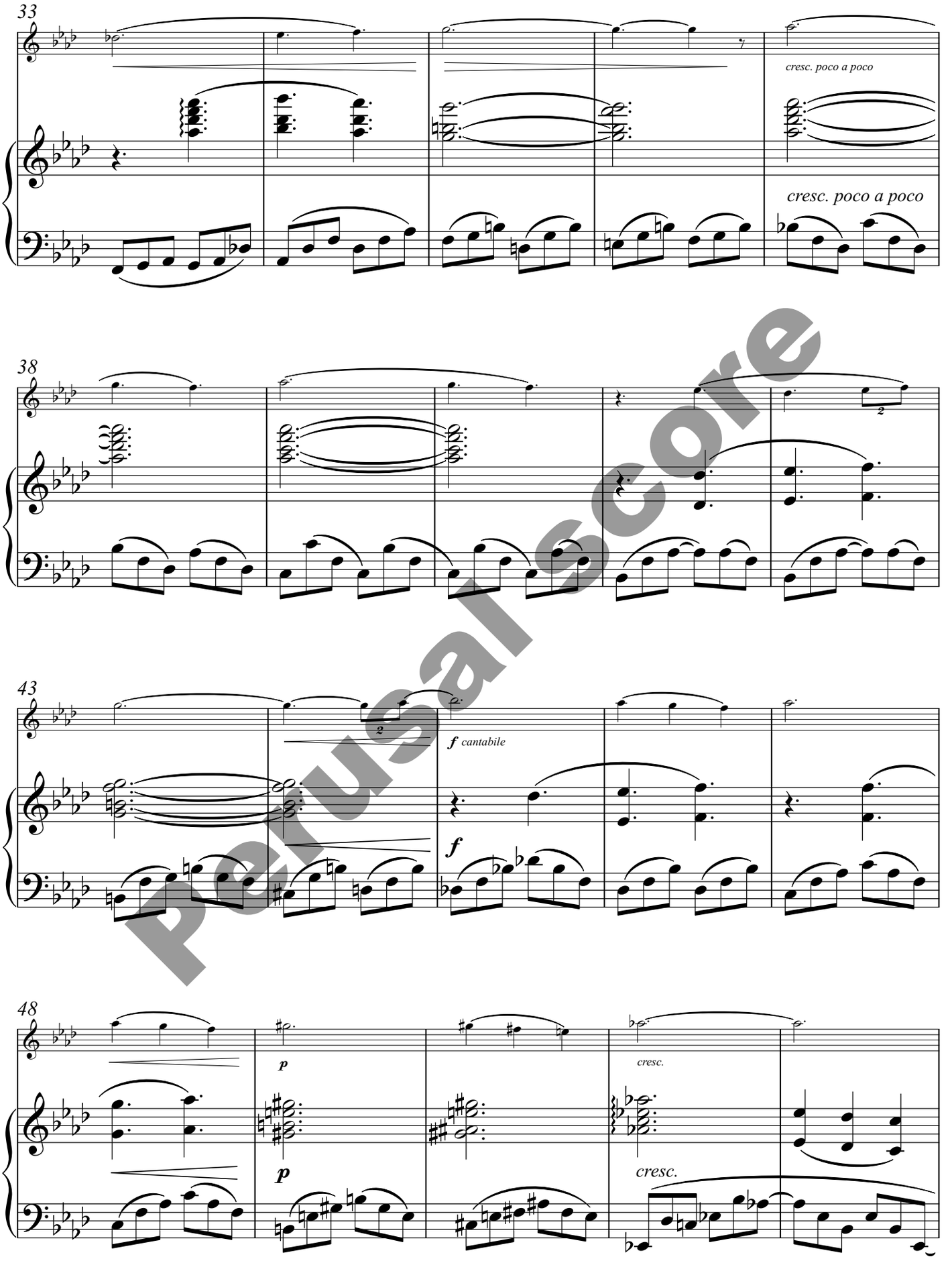

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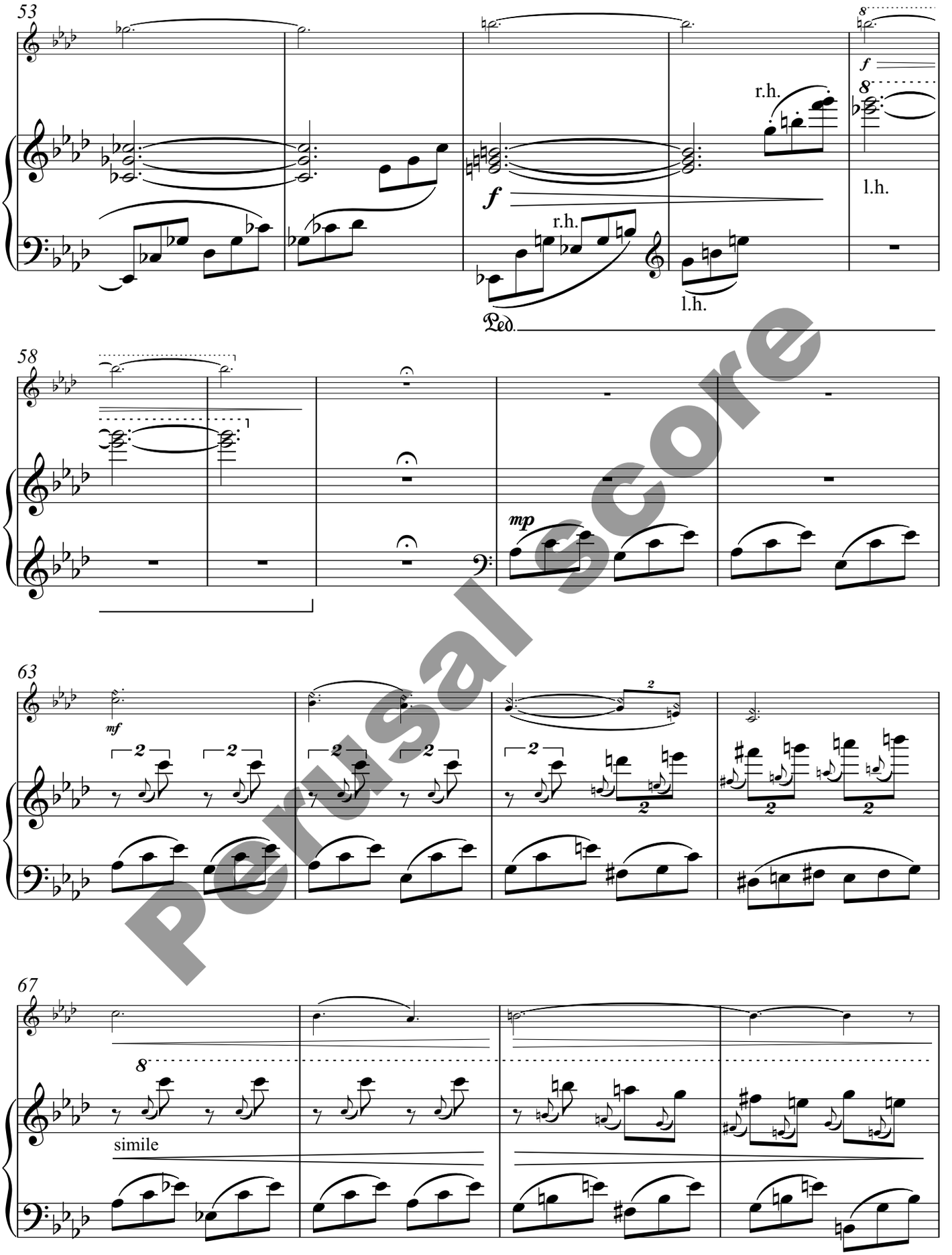

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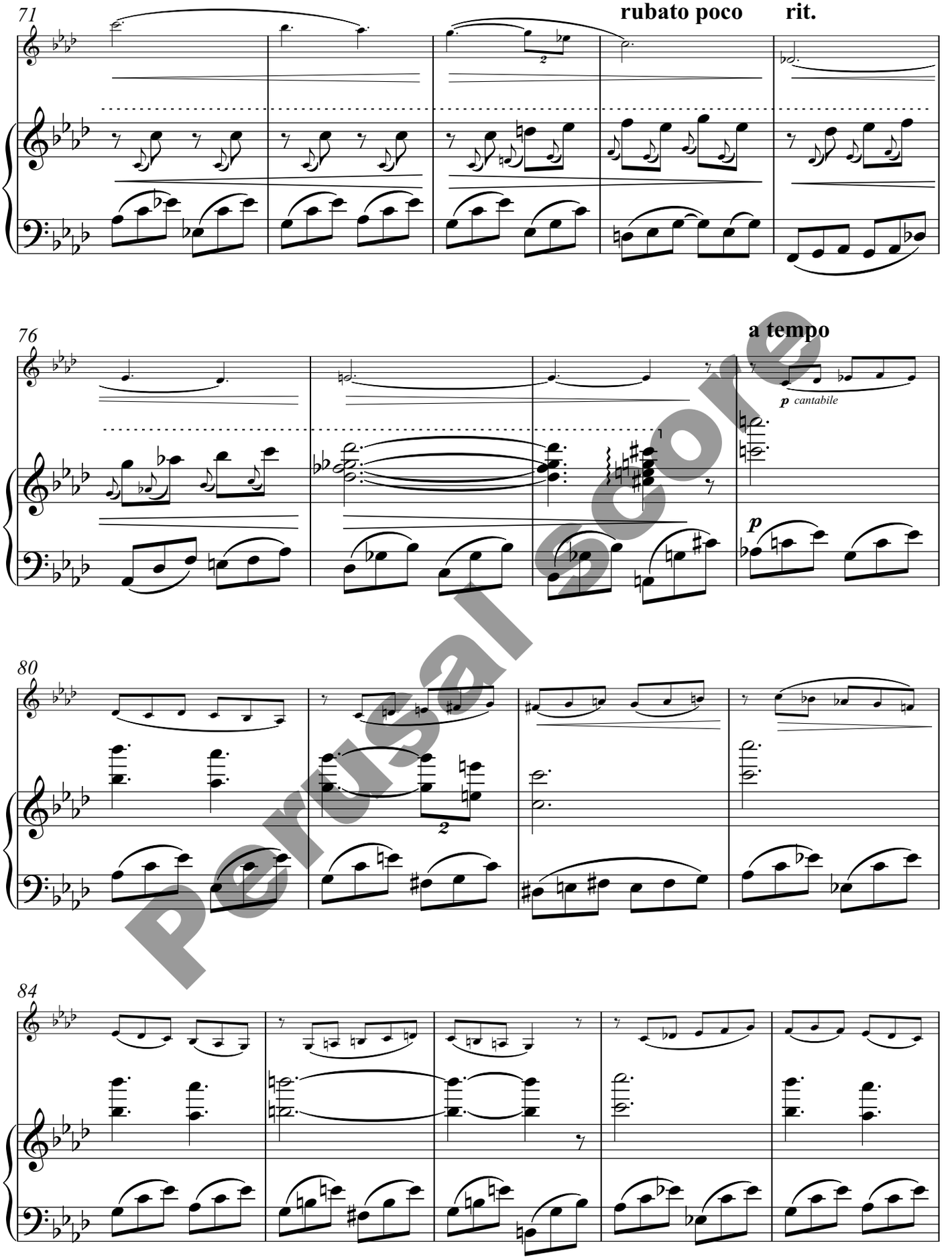

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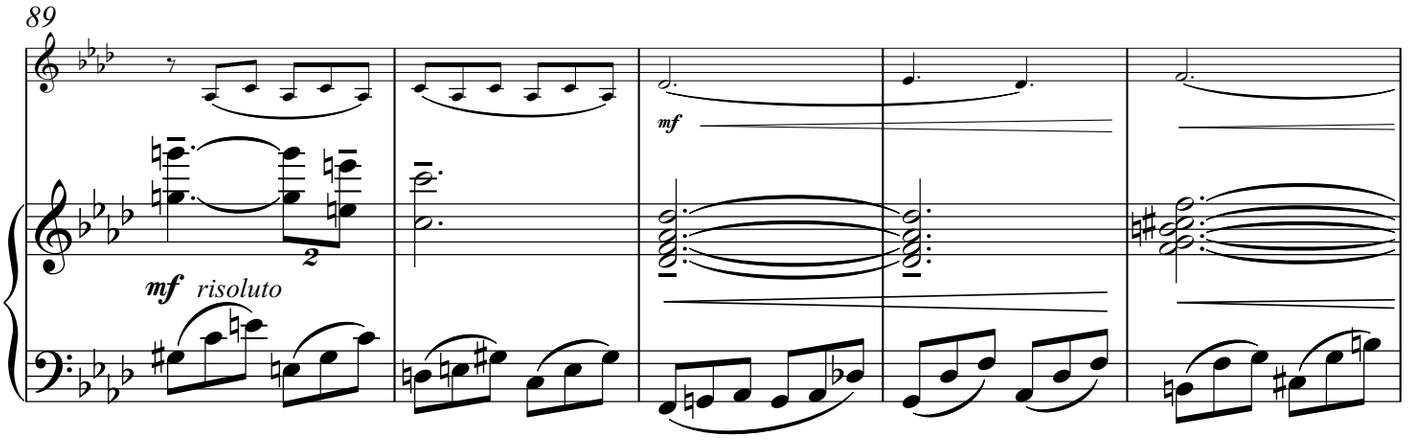
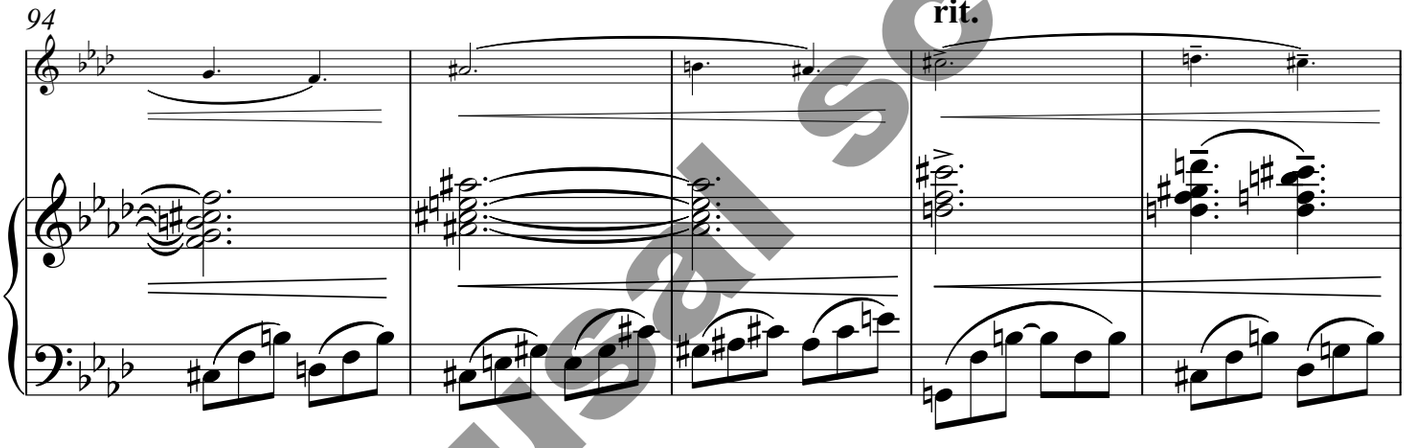
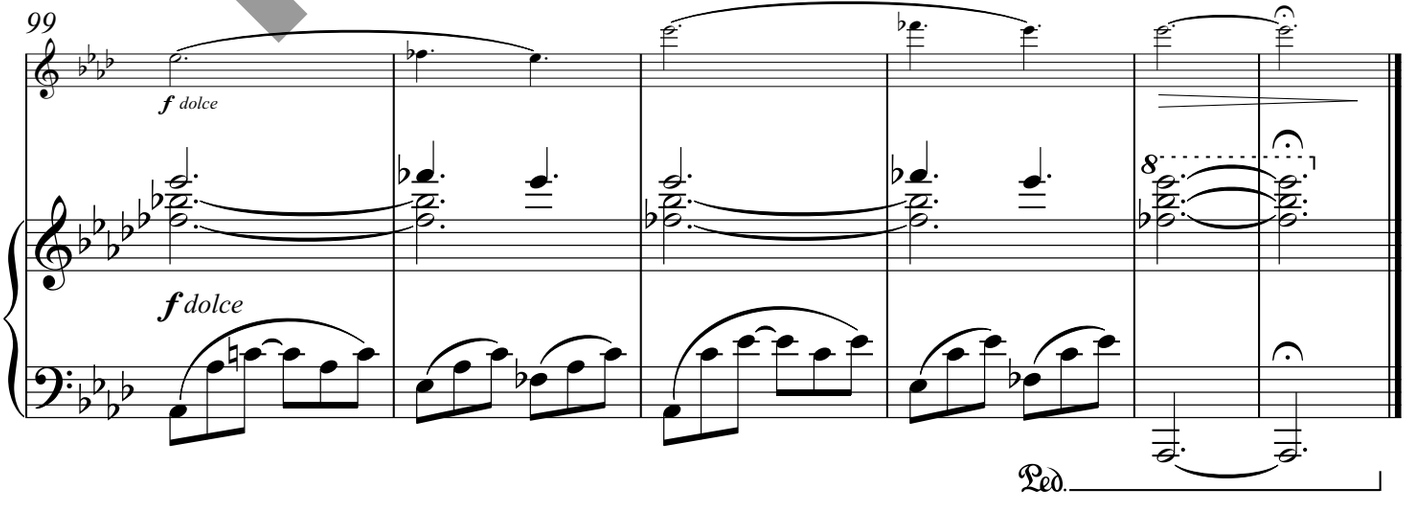




a tempo ma un poco più tranquillo e rit. al fine

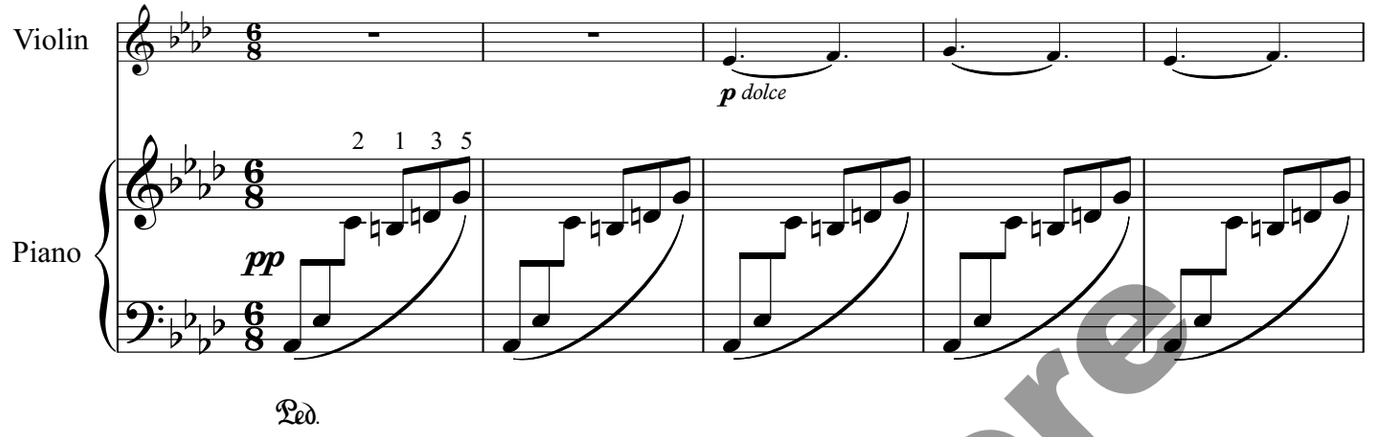


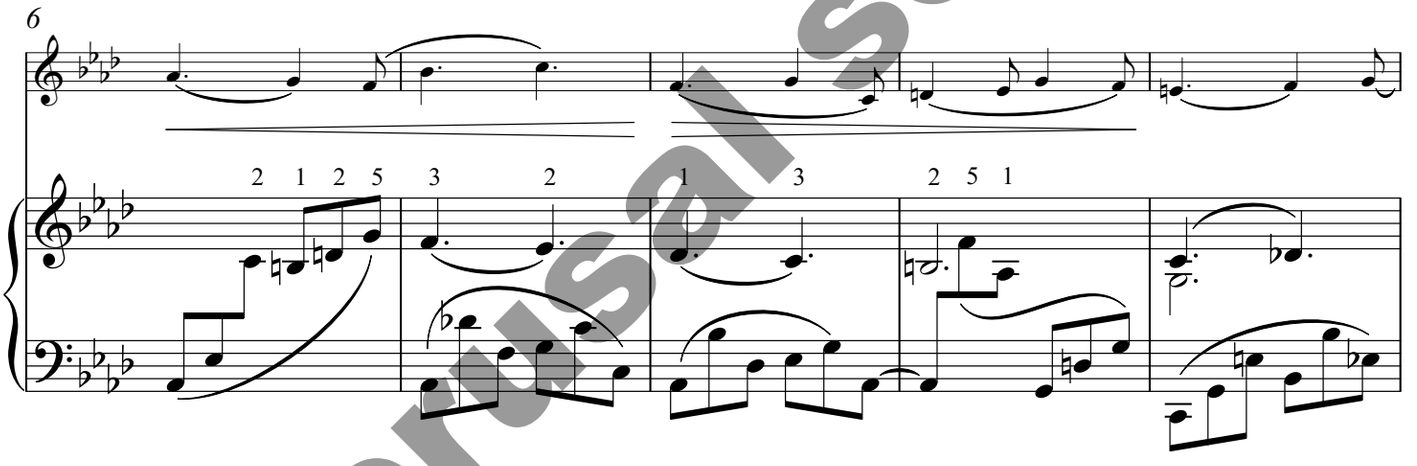
Perusal score

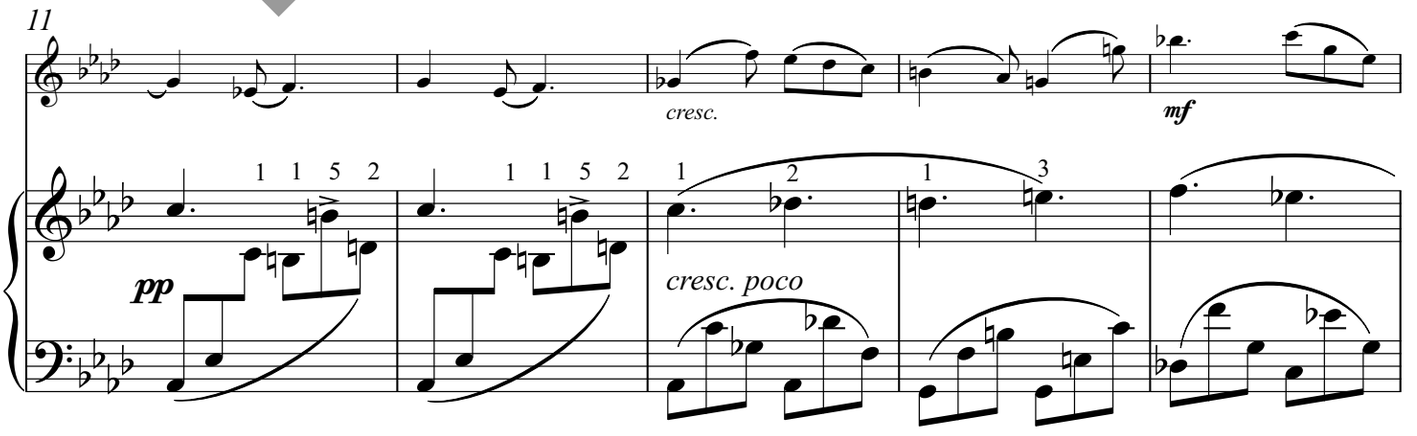
Rêve d'enfant

Eugène Ysaÿe
(1858–1931)
edited by Igudesman & Joo

Poco lento







Perusal score

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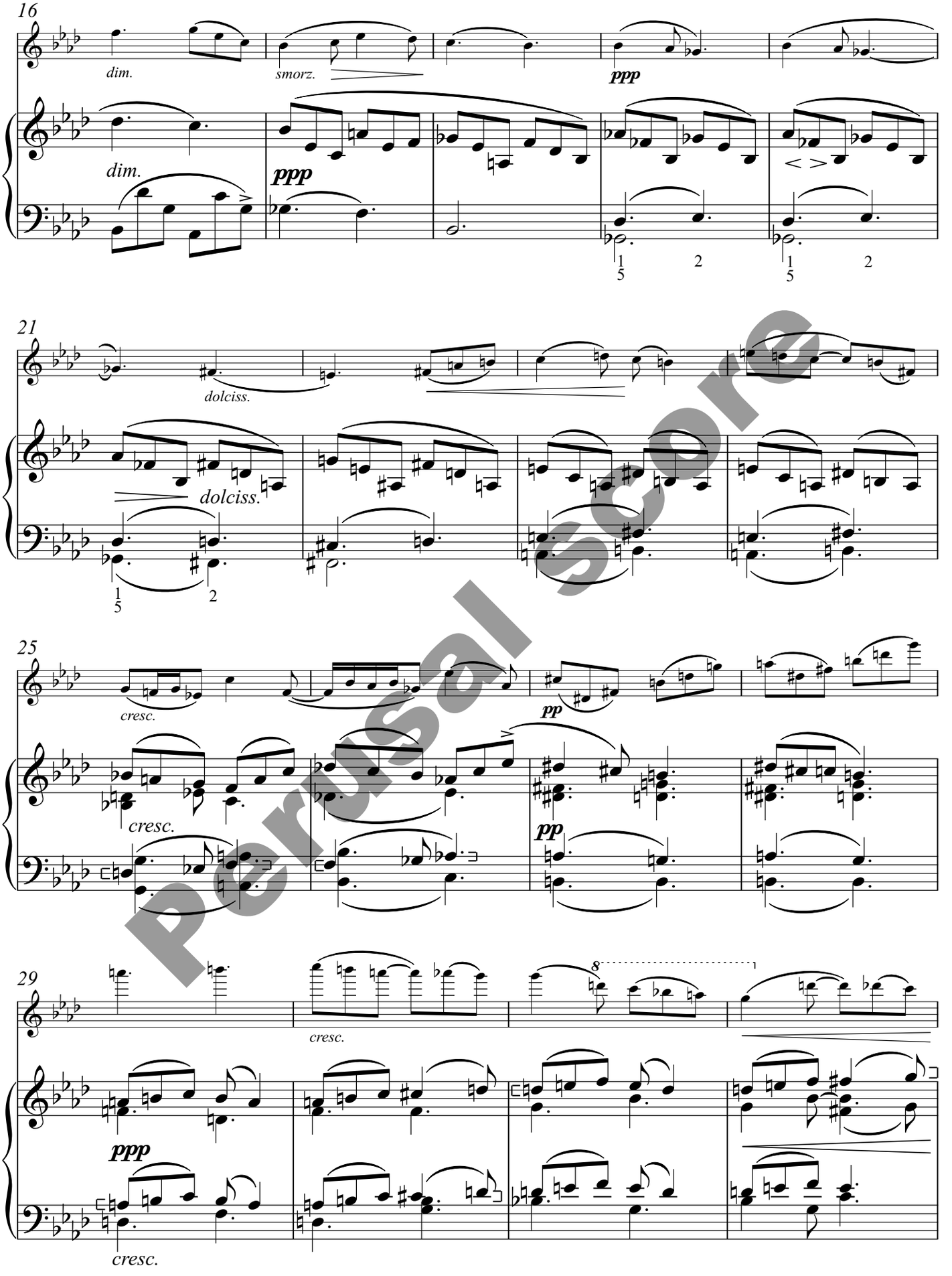

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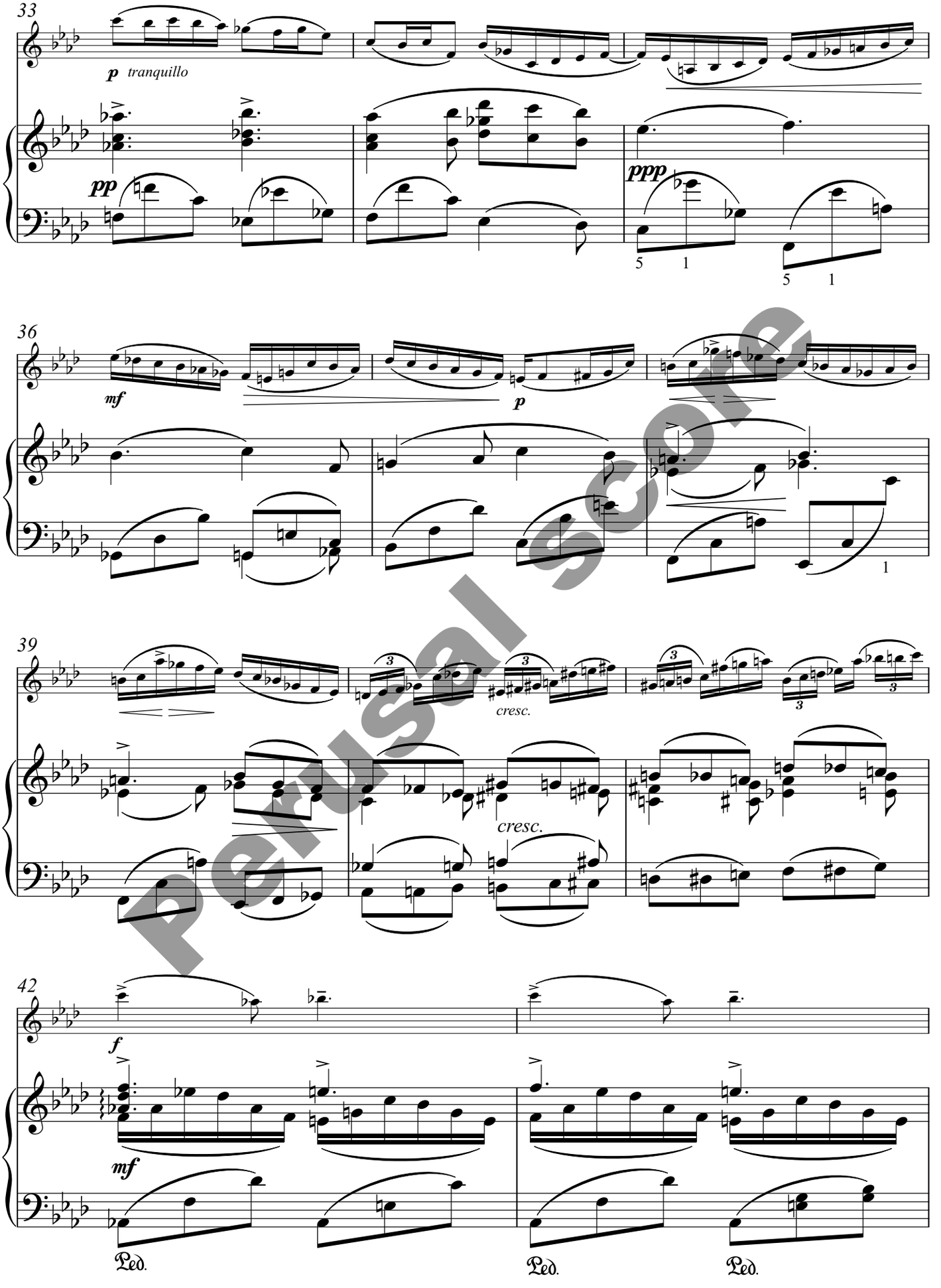

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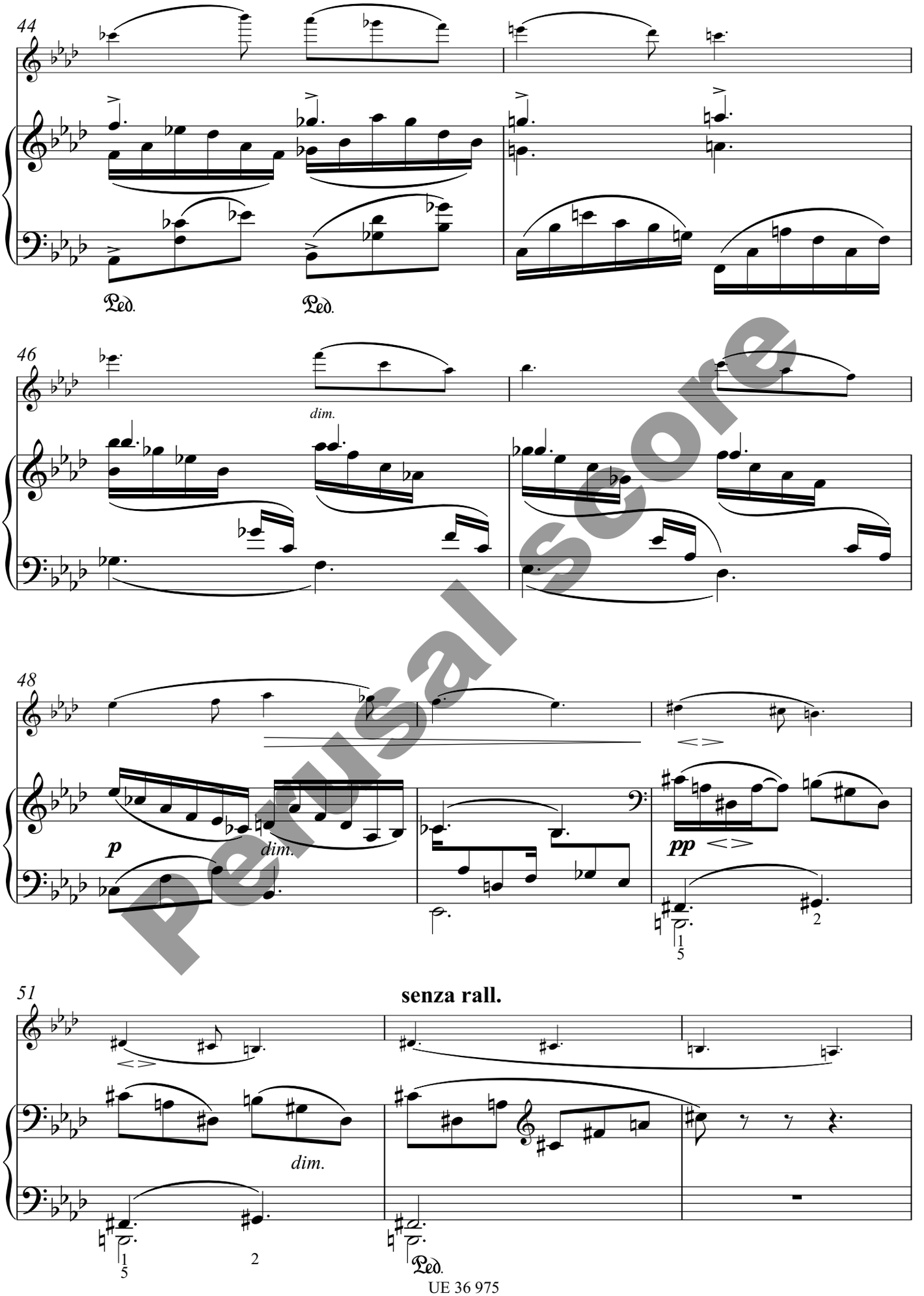

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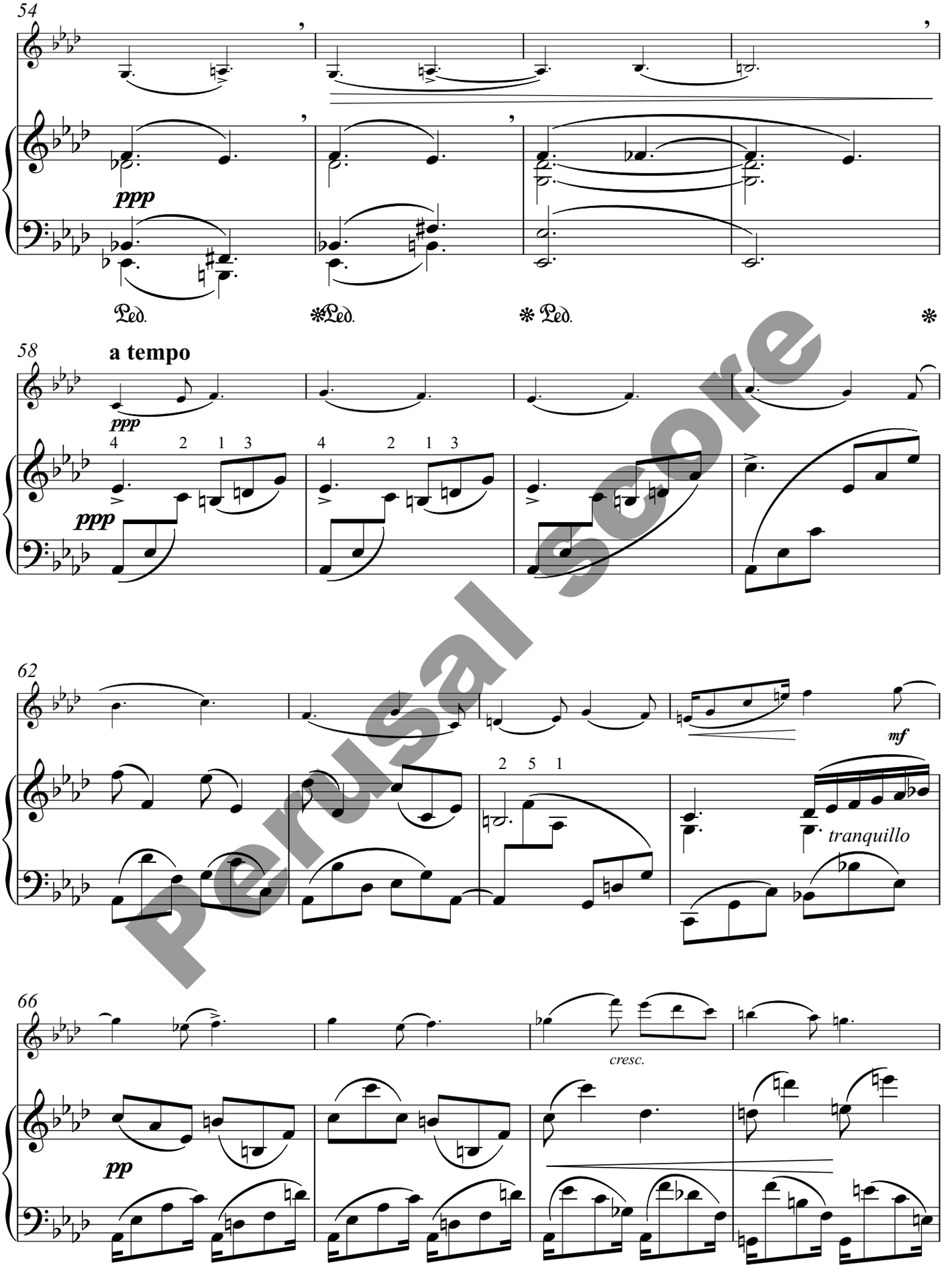

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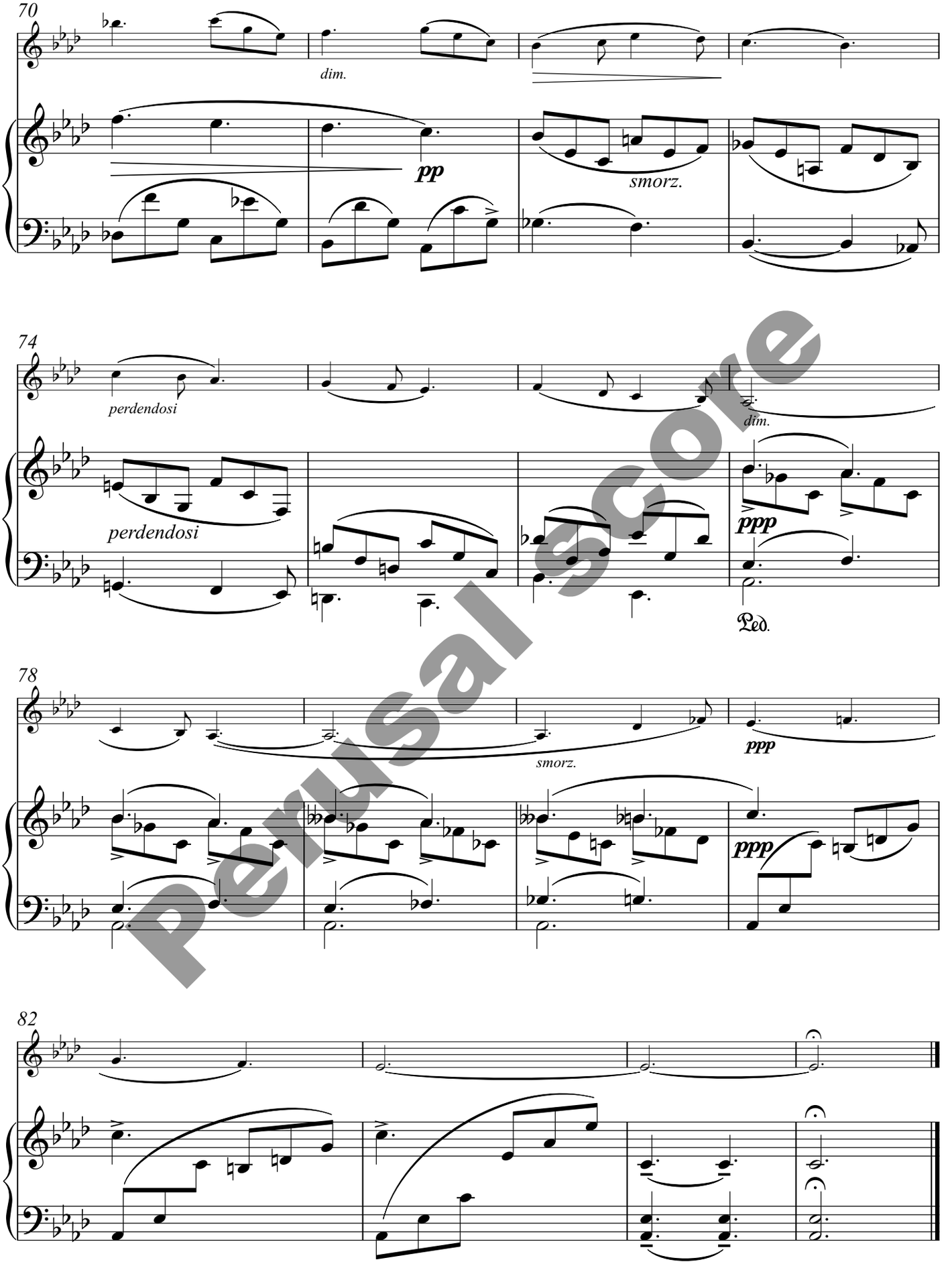
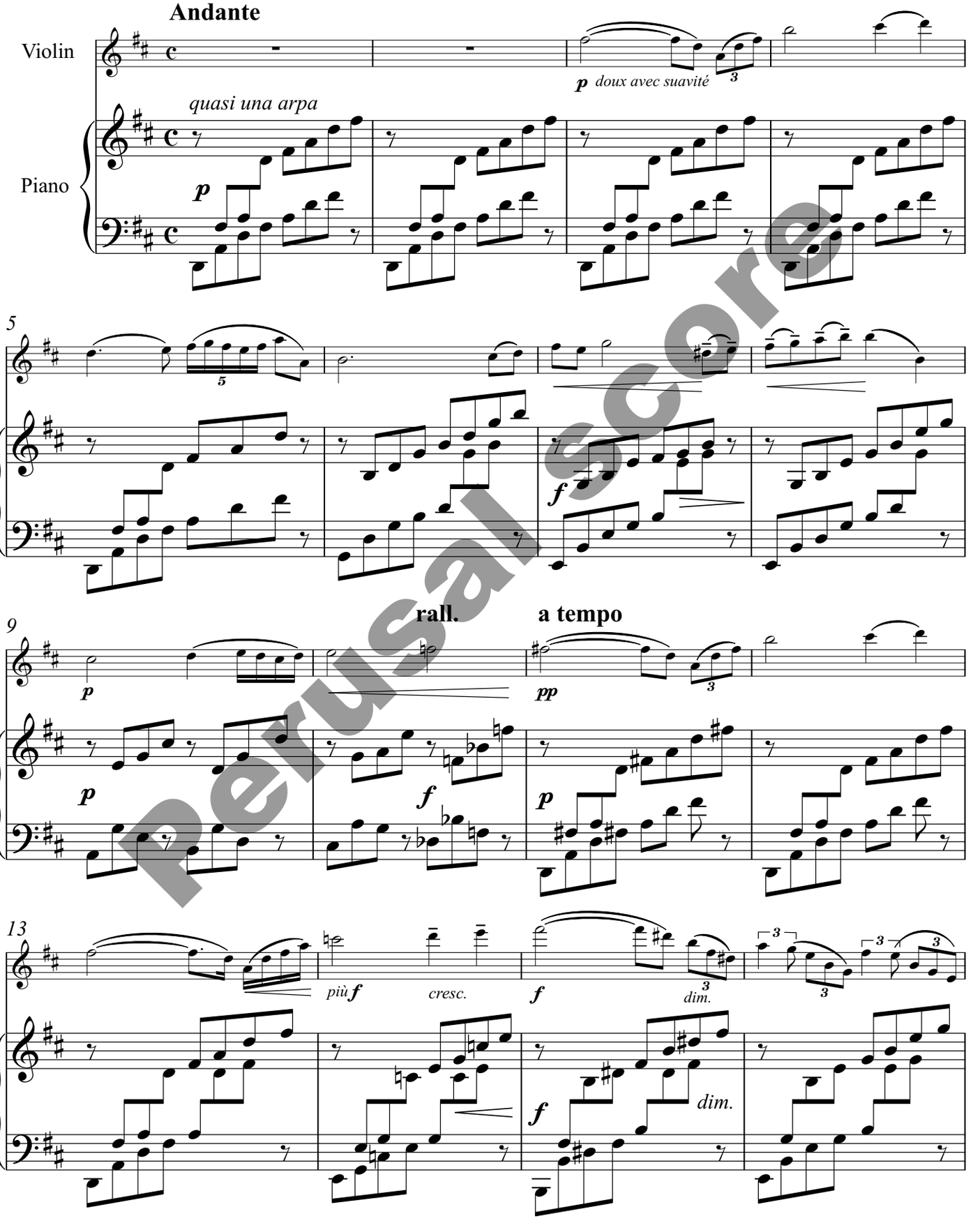


Perusal score

Méditation

from the opera *Thaïs*

Jules Massenet
(1842–1912)
arranged and edited by Igudesman & Joo



Perusal score

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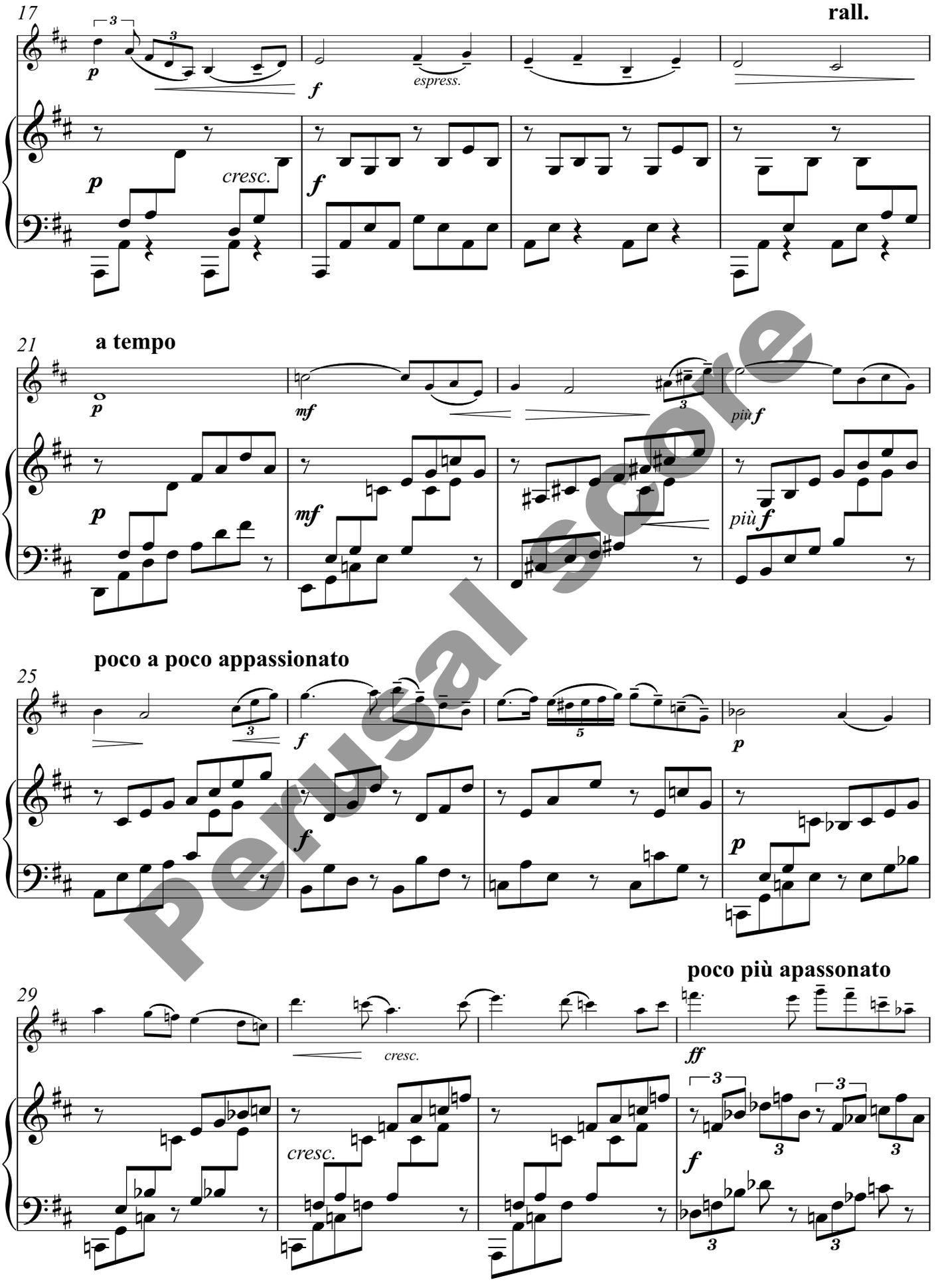

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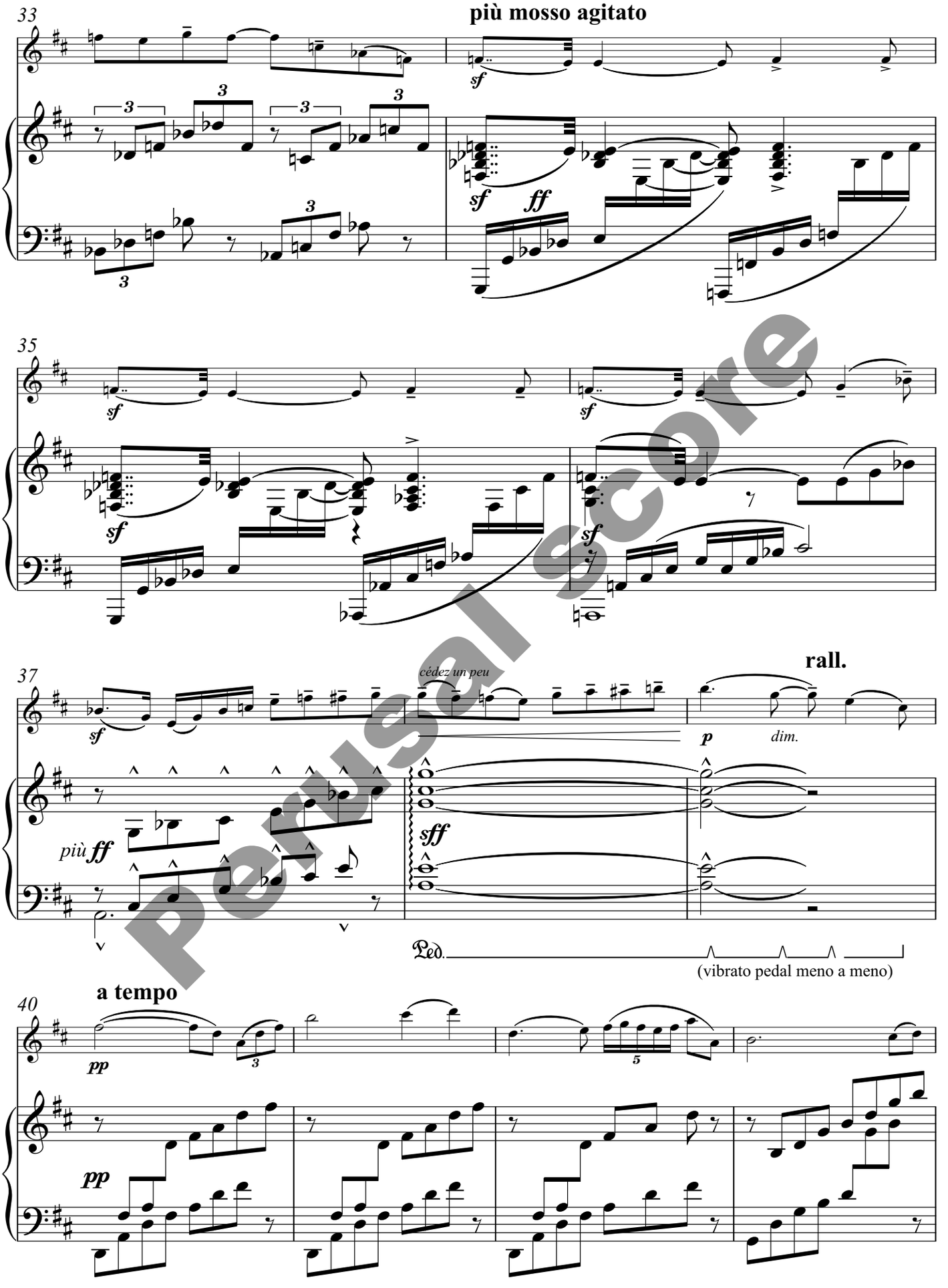

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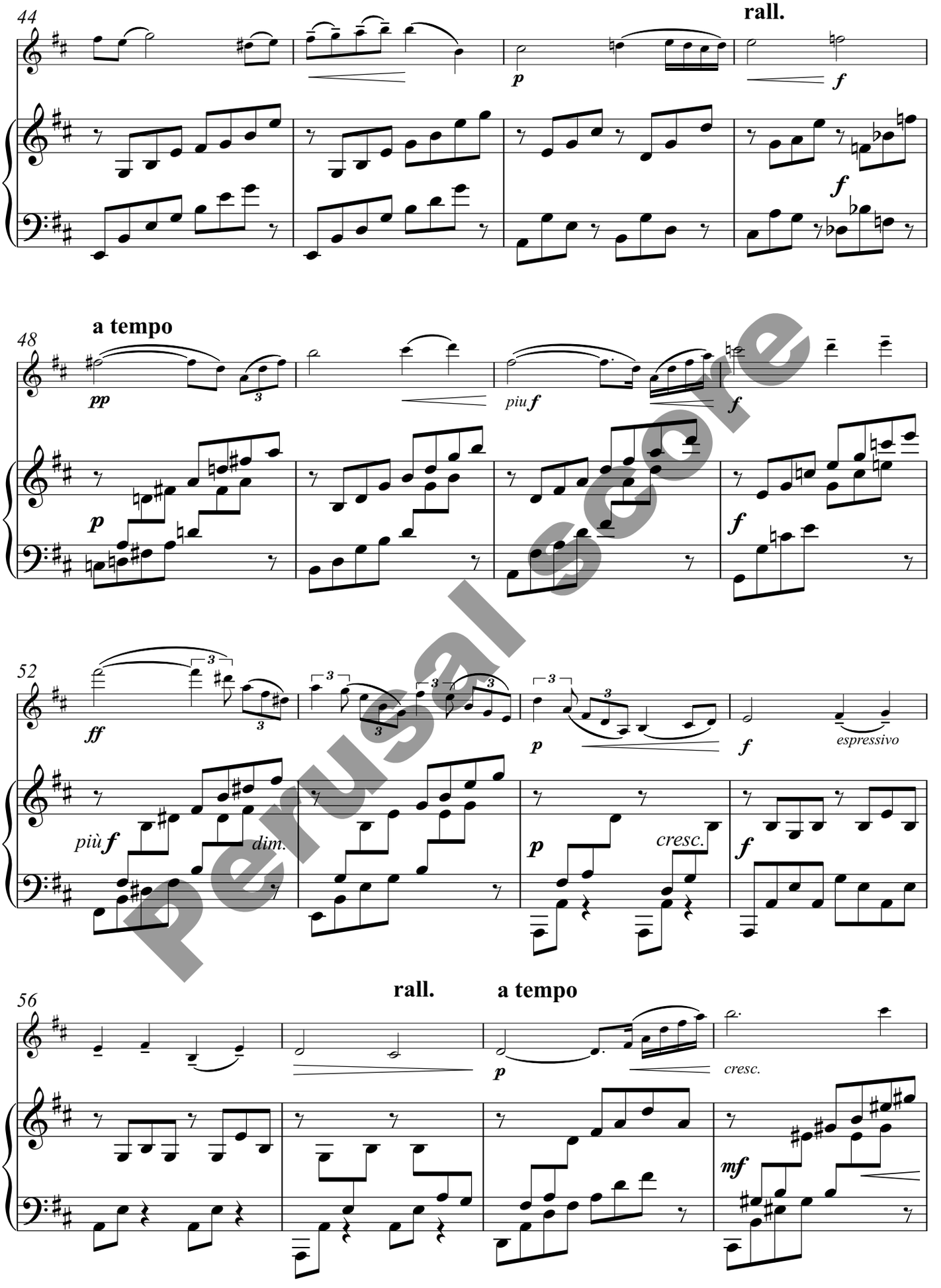

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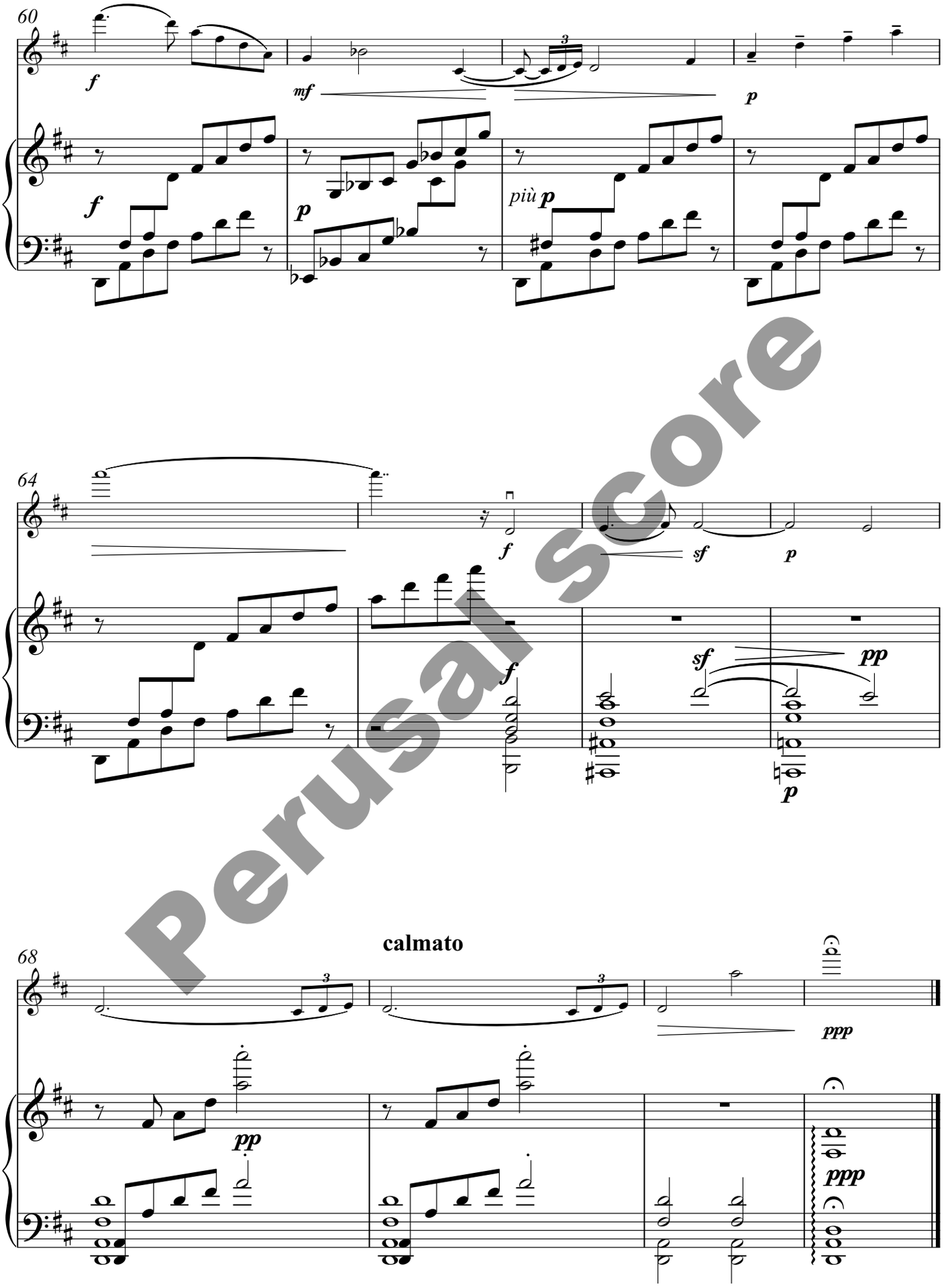

Perusal score

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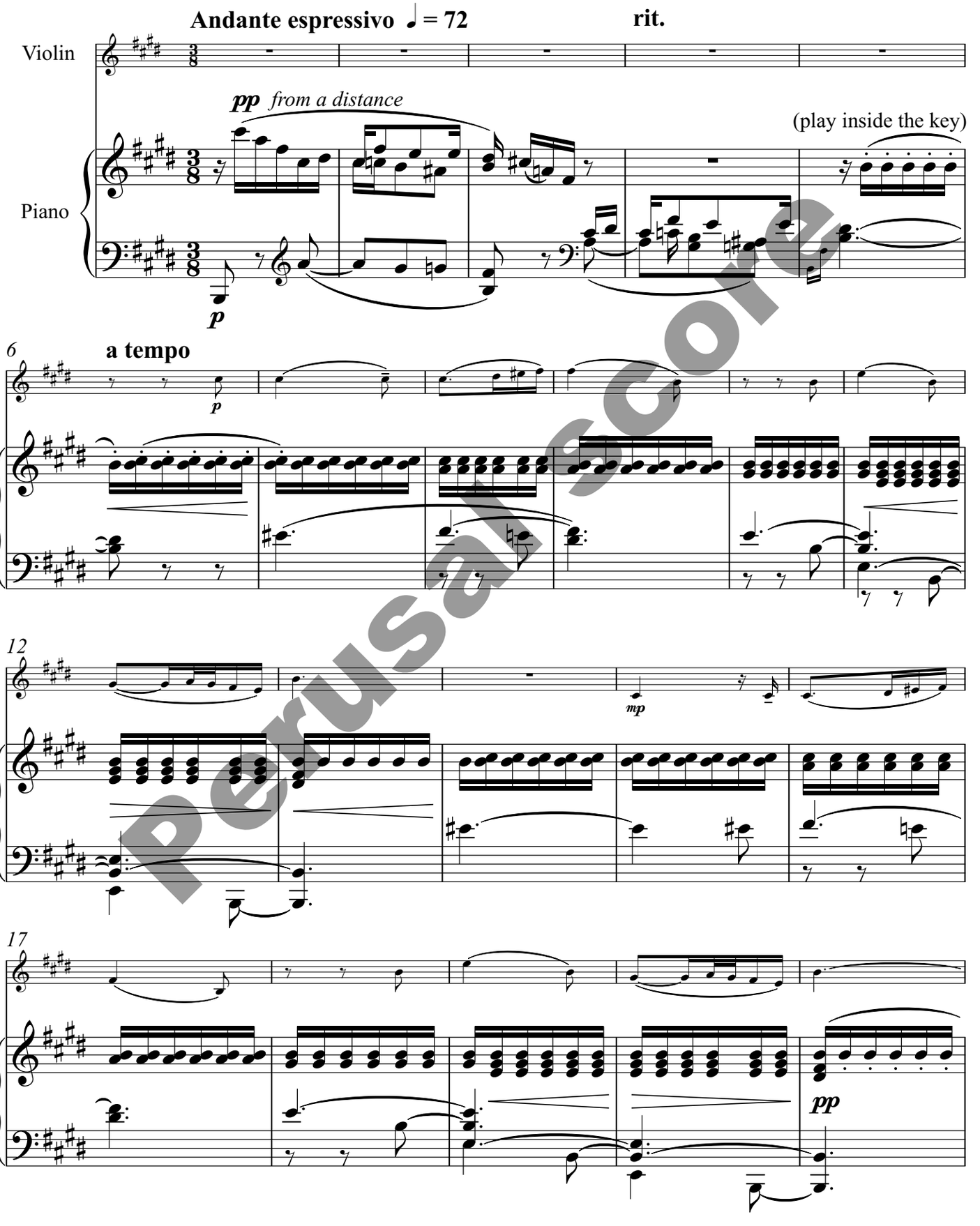
Perusal Score

Mondnacht

Robert Schumann
(1810–1856)
arranged and edited by Igudesman & Joo



Perusal score

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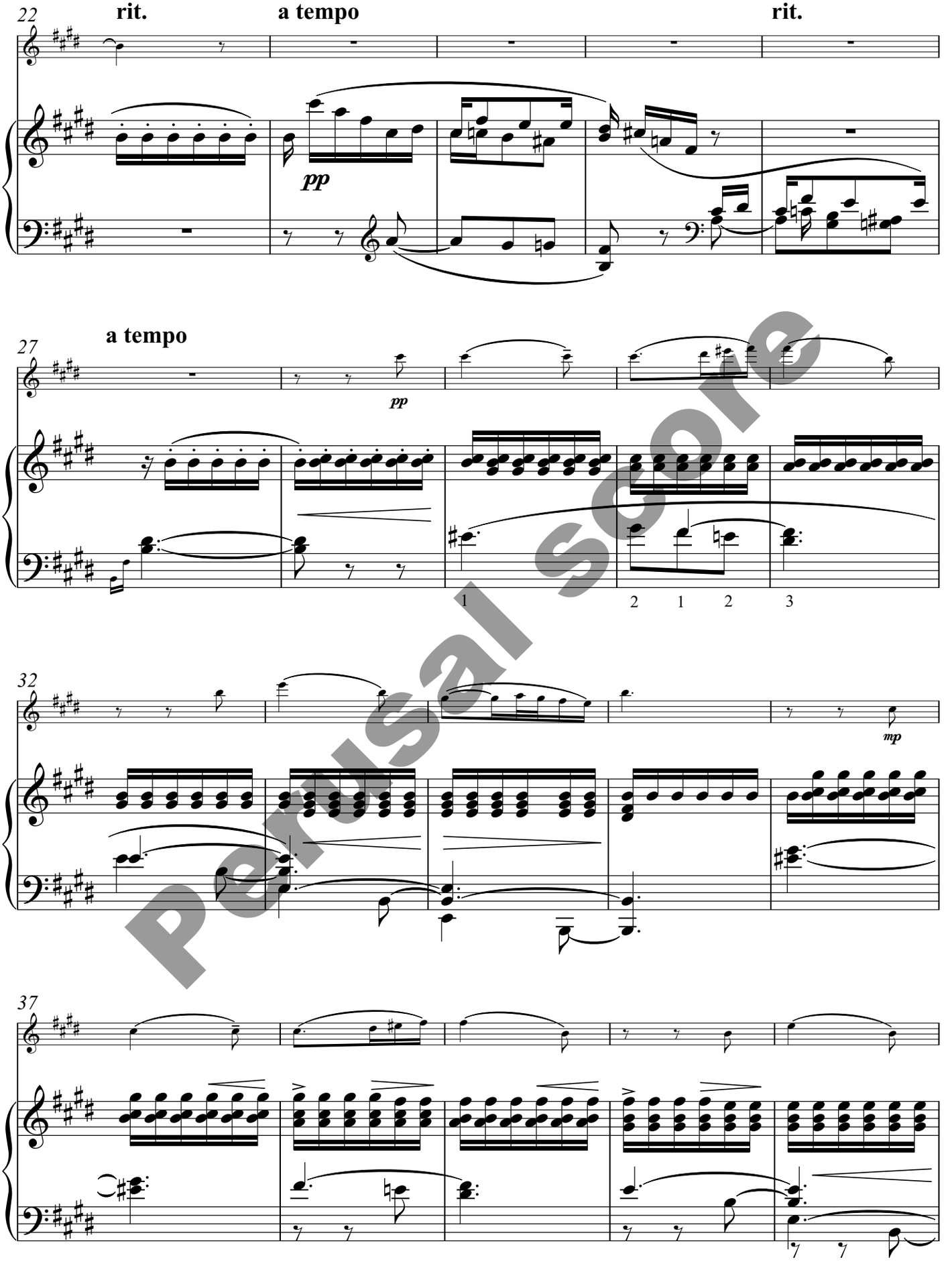

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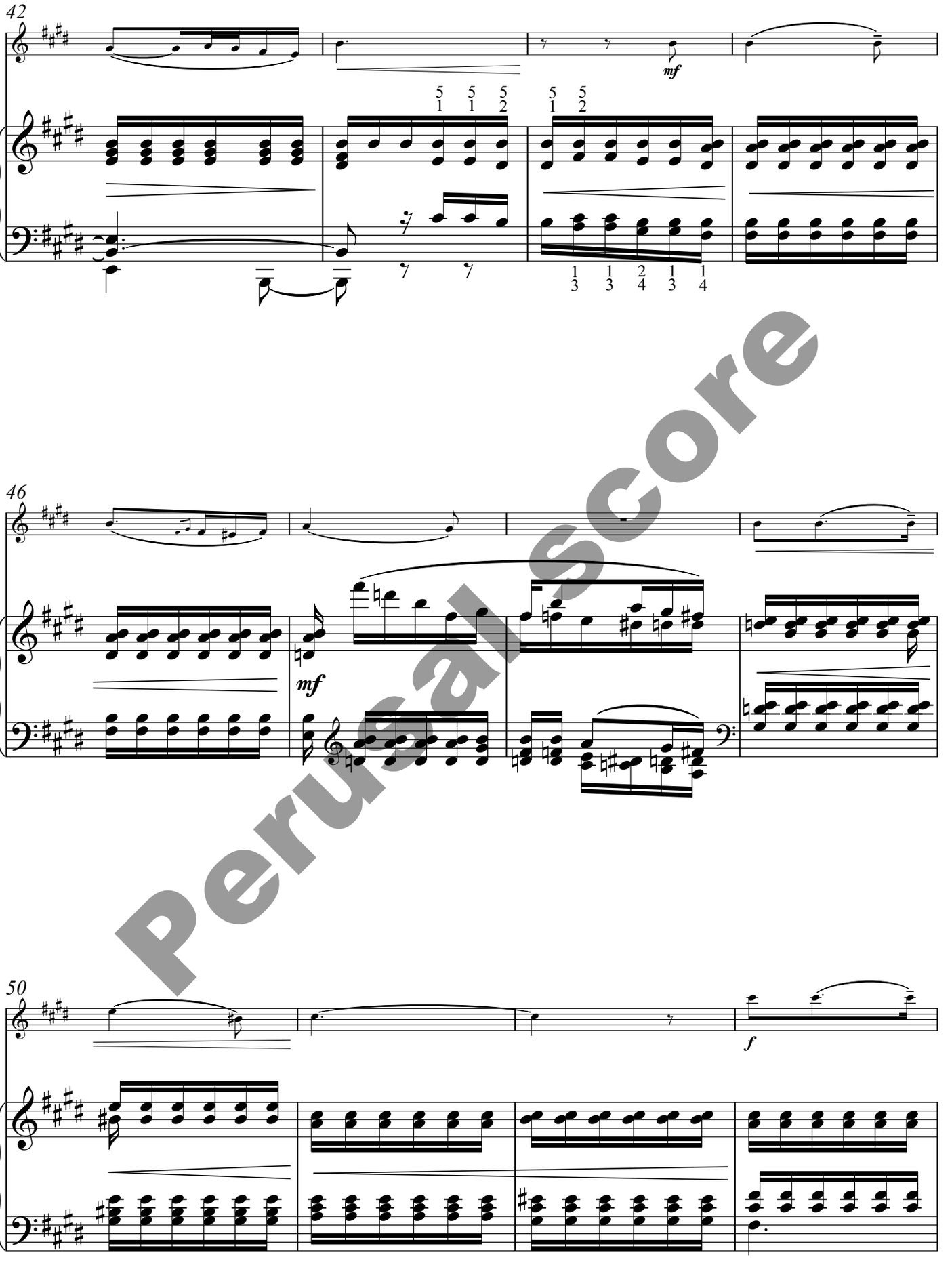

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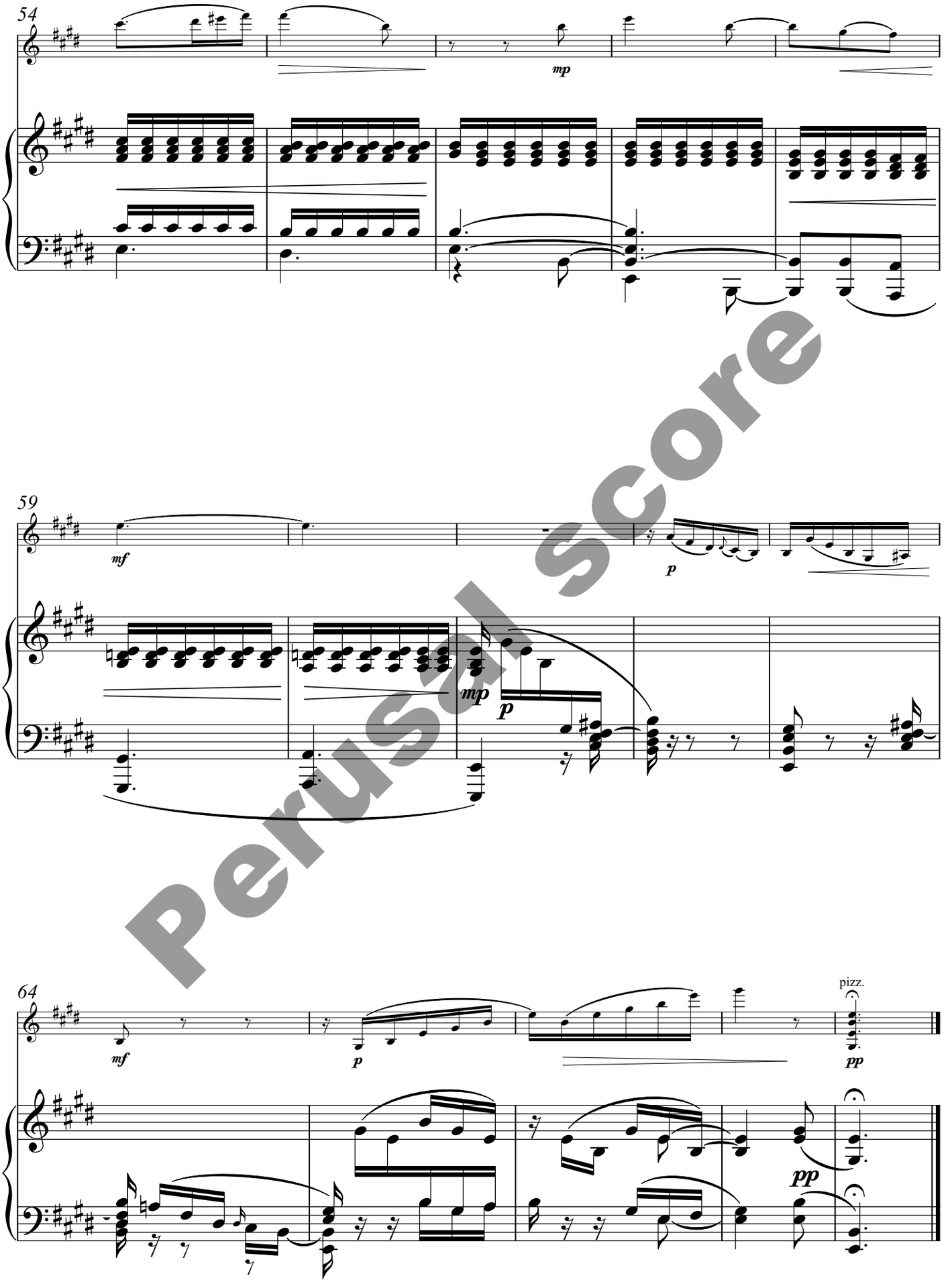

Perusal Score

Aleksey Igudesman & Hyung-ki Joo

Aleksey Igudesman & Hyung-ki Joo

When We Were Young

Two pieces for violin and piano
Hyung-ki Joo: Forever Young Key
Aleksey Igudesman: When I Was Young
UE 36973

Aleksey Igudesman & Hyung-ki Joo

How Far Can You Go

Two pieces for violin and piano
Aleksey Igudesman: As Far As You Can
Hyung-ki Joo: Beyond the Limit?
UE 36974

Aleksey Igudesman & Hyung-ki Joo

A Little Nightmare Music

Three selected pieces for violin and piano
Hyung-ki Joo: Moment musiCALL
Mozart • Igudesman • Joo: Alla molto turca
Aleksey Igudesman: Horror Movie
UE 34170

Aleksey Igudesman & Hyung-ki Joo

Our Childhood

Ten pieces for violin and piano
Igudesman: Four Evenings in Venice • Air on a Plane
Joo: Lina's Waltz • Hiding the Tears • Remy's 1st Birthday •
Ancient Childhood • Wandering While Wandering
Ysaÿe: Rêve d'enfant
Massenet: Méditation
Schumann: Mondnacht
UE 36975

Perusal score