Voices of the Past –
A Song Cycle on
Poems by Adelaide Anne Procter

for

Voice and Piano

by

Justin Henry Rubin

HARVEY MUSIC EDITIONS

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Voices of the Past – A Song Cycle on Texts by Adelaide Anne Procter (1825-1864)

I. *Echoes*

Music: Justin Henry Rubin
(2016)

Poco adagio e rubato

ppp ***p***

1. Still, Still the an - gel
2. Still, Still the wood is
3. Cease, Cease, oh e - choes,

pp *molto risonante*

p

Poco rit. *a tempo* *Molto rit.*

stars are shi - ning, Still the rip - pling wa - ters flow,
dim and lone - ly, Still the plash - ing foun - tains play,
mourn - ful e - choes! Once I loved your voi - ces well;

a tempo *Rit.*

But the an - gel– voice is si - lent That I heard so long a - go.
But the past and all its beau - ty, Whi - ther has it fled a - way?
Now my heart is sick and wea - ry... Days of old, fare - well!

[loco]

8^{vb}

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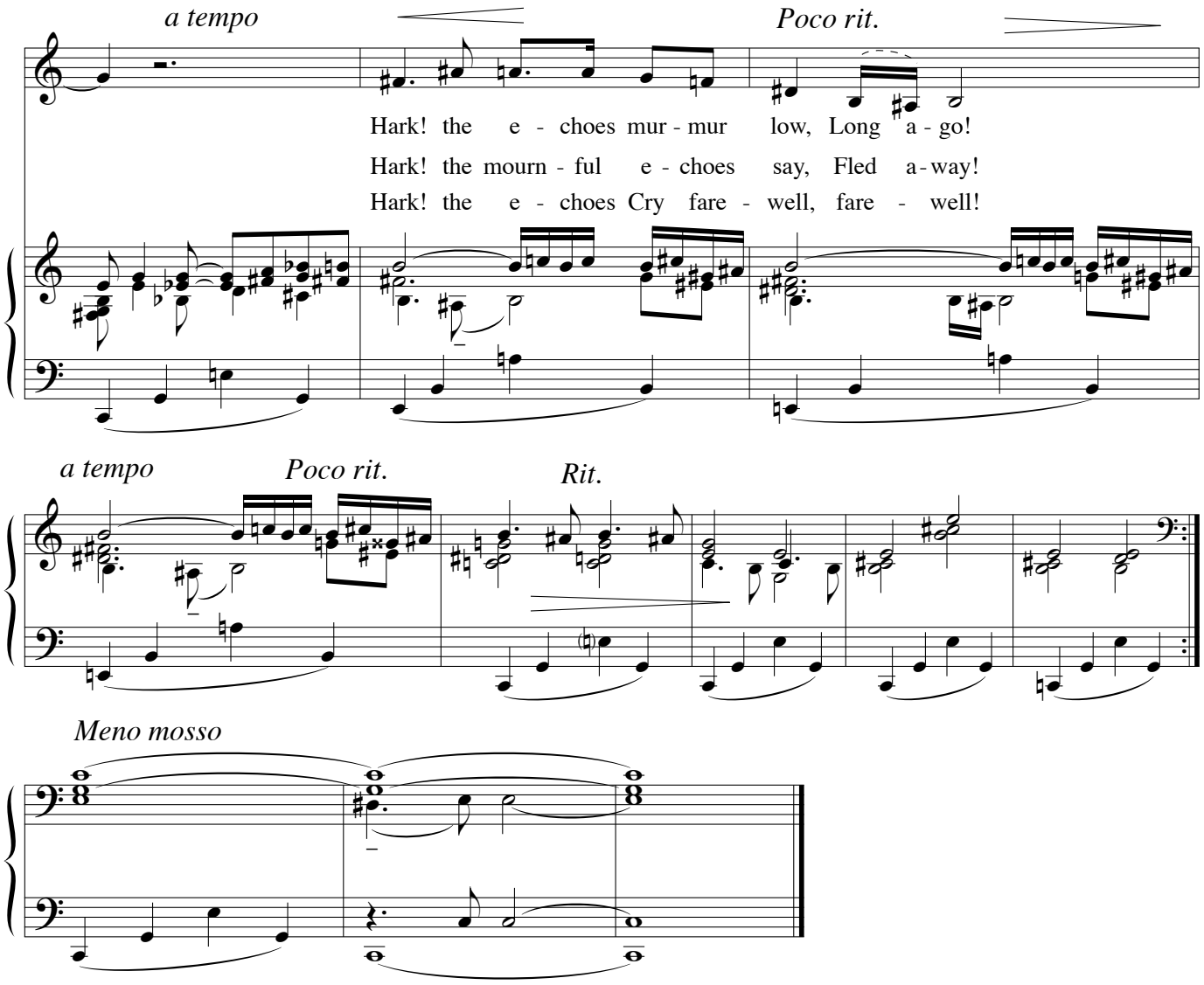

a tempo
Poco rit.
Hark! the e - choes mur - mur low, Long a - go!
Hark! the mourn - ful e - choes say, Fled a - way!
Hark! the e - choes Cry fare - well, fare - well!

a tempo
Poco rit.
Rit.

Meno mosso

II. *My Picture*

Andando

mf

Poco rit. *mf* *a tempo*

Please stand this way... ...more near the win - dow... By my

Poco rit.

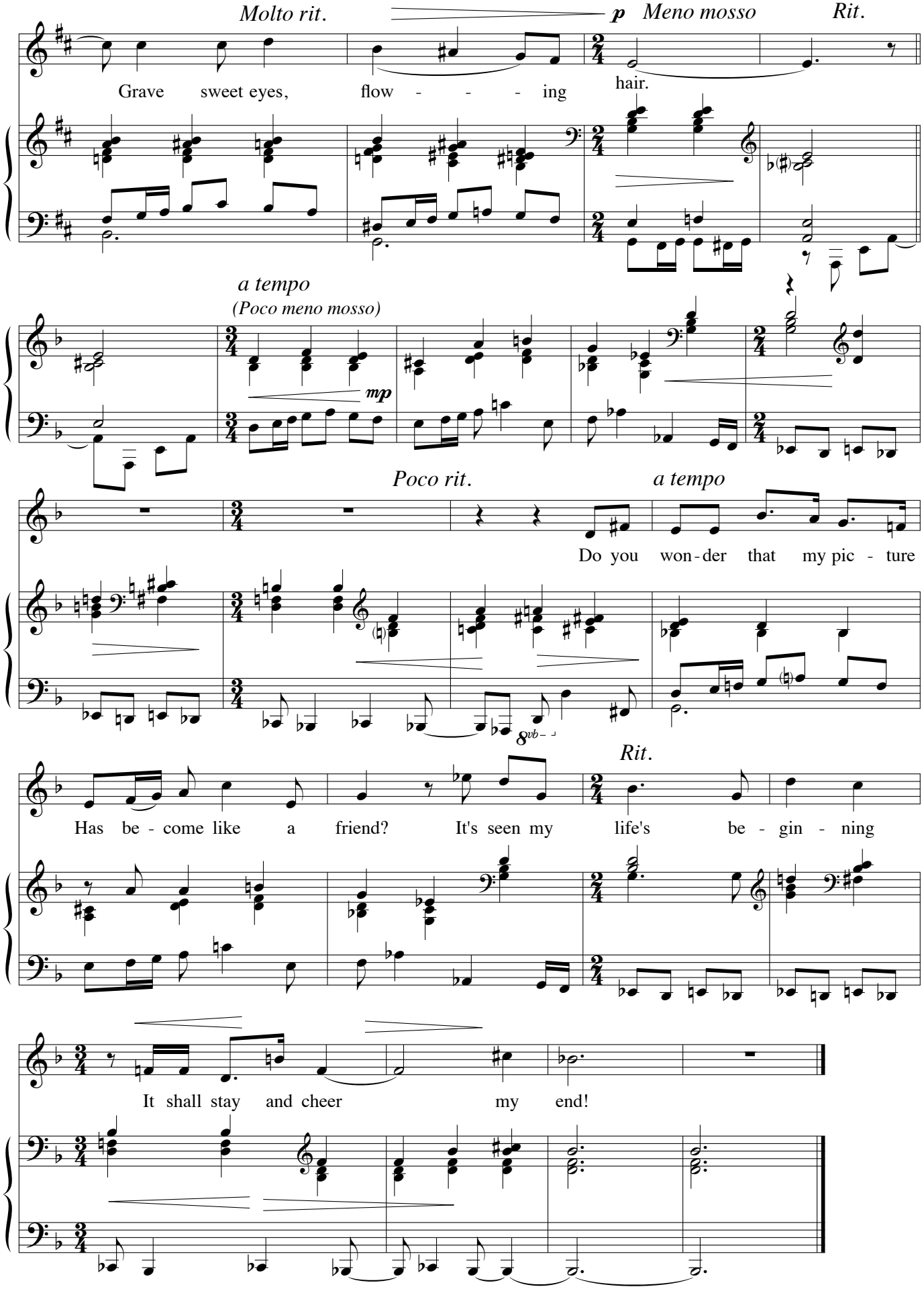
desk you see the light Fall - ing on my pic - ture...

a tempo *Molto rit.* *mp* *a tempo*

Who the head may be

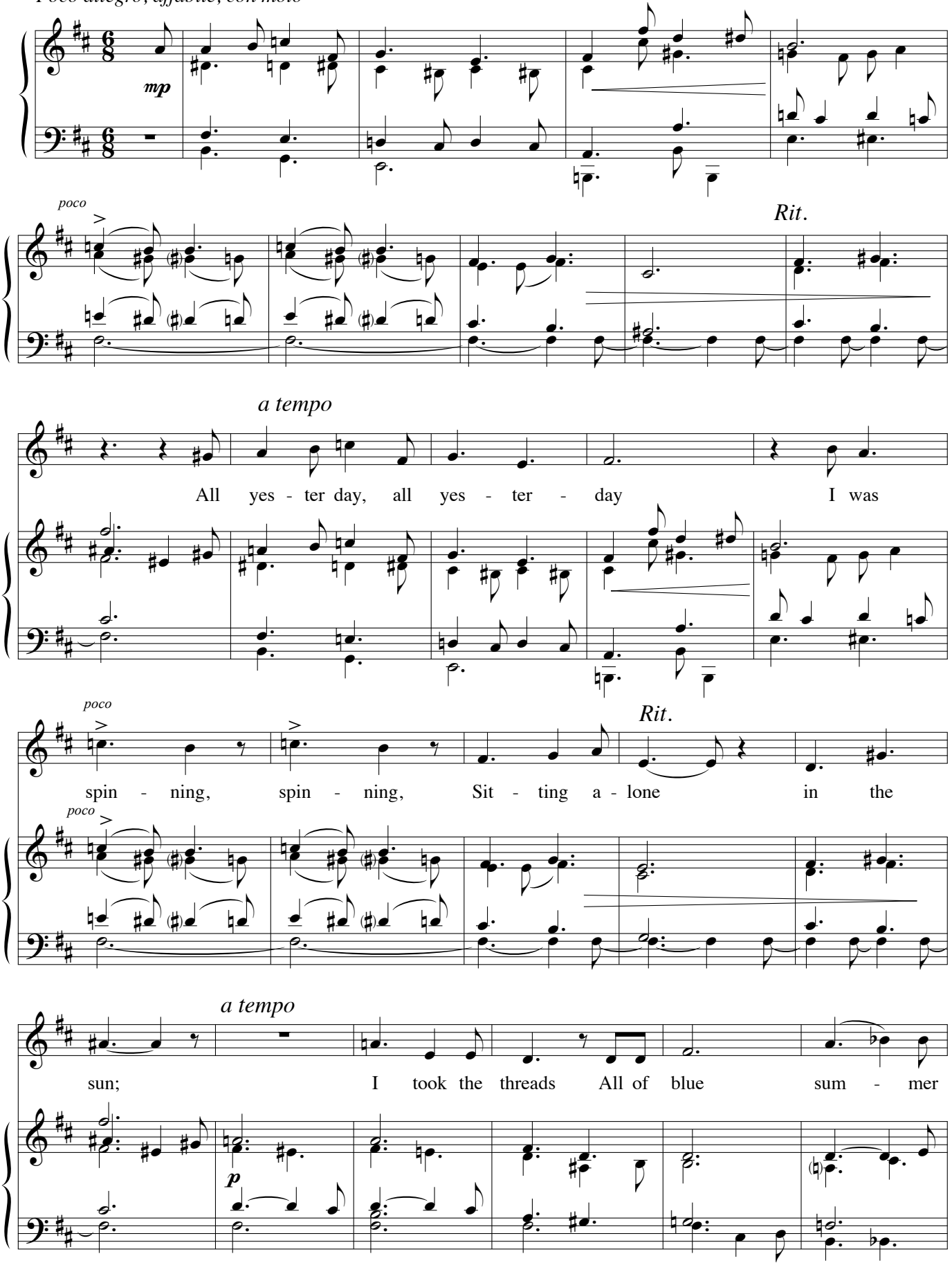
p

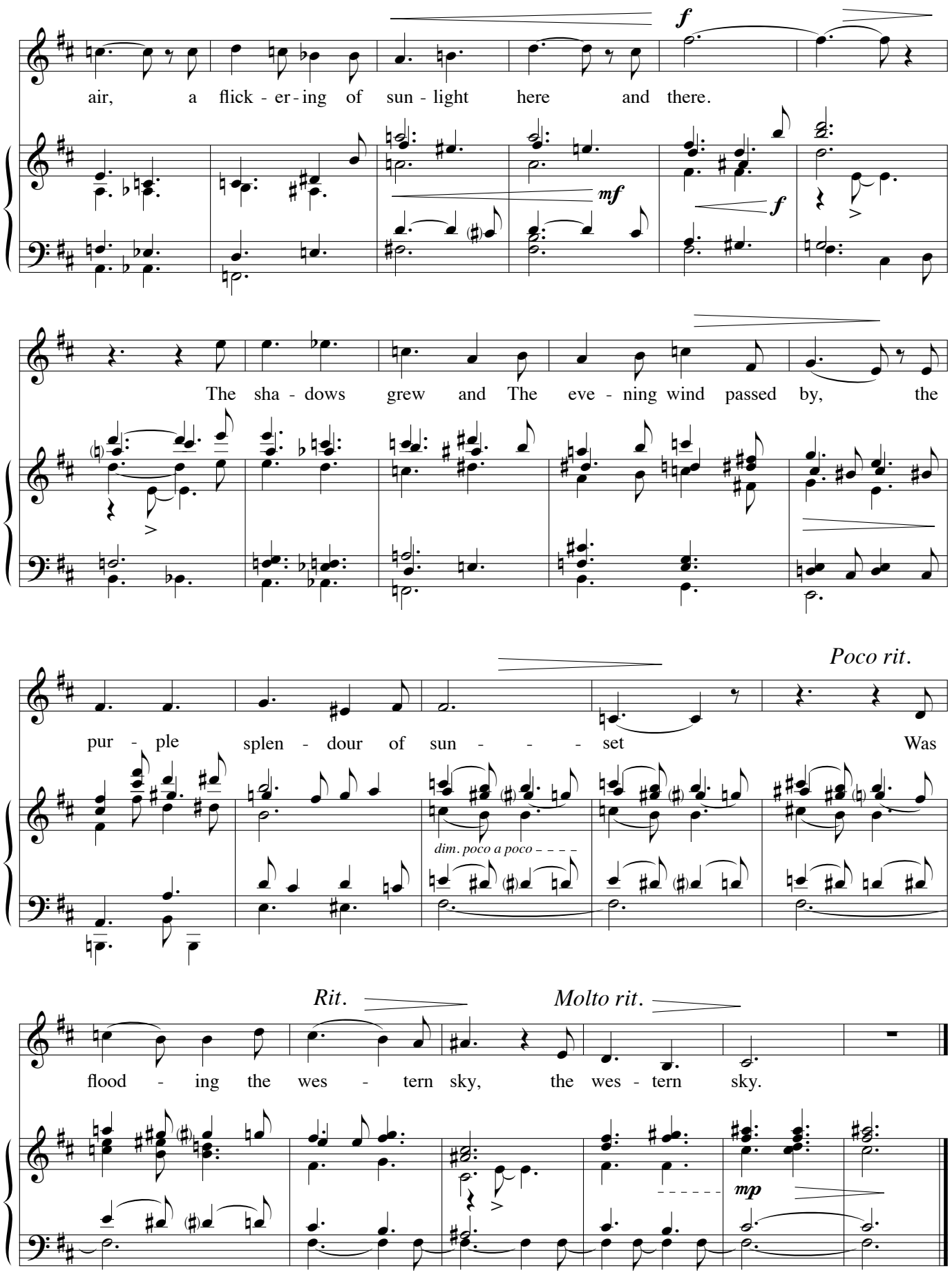
I know not, With a look half sad, half state - ly,


Molto rit.
p
Meno mosso
Rit.
Grave sweet eyes, flow - - - - ing hair.
a tempo
(Poco meno mosso)
mp
Poco rit.
a tempo
Do you won - der that my pic - ture
8vb
Rit.
Has be - come like a friend? It's seen my life's be - gin - ning
It shall stay and cheer my end!

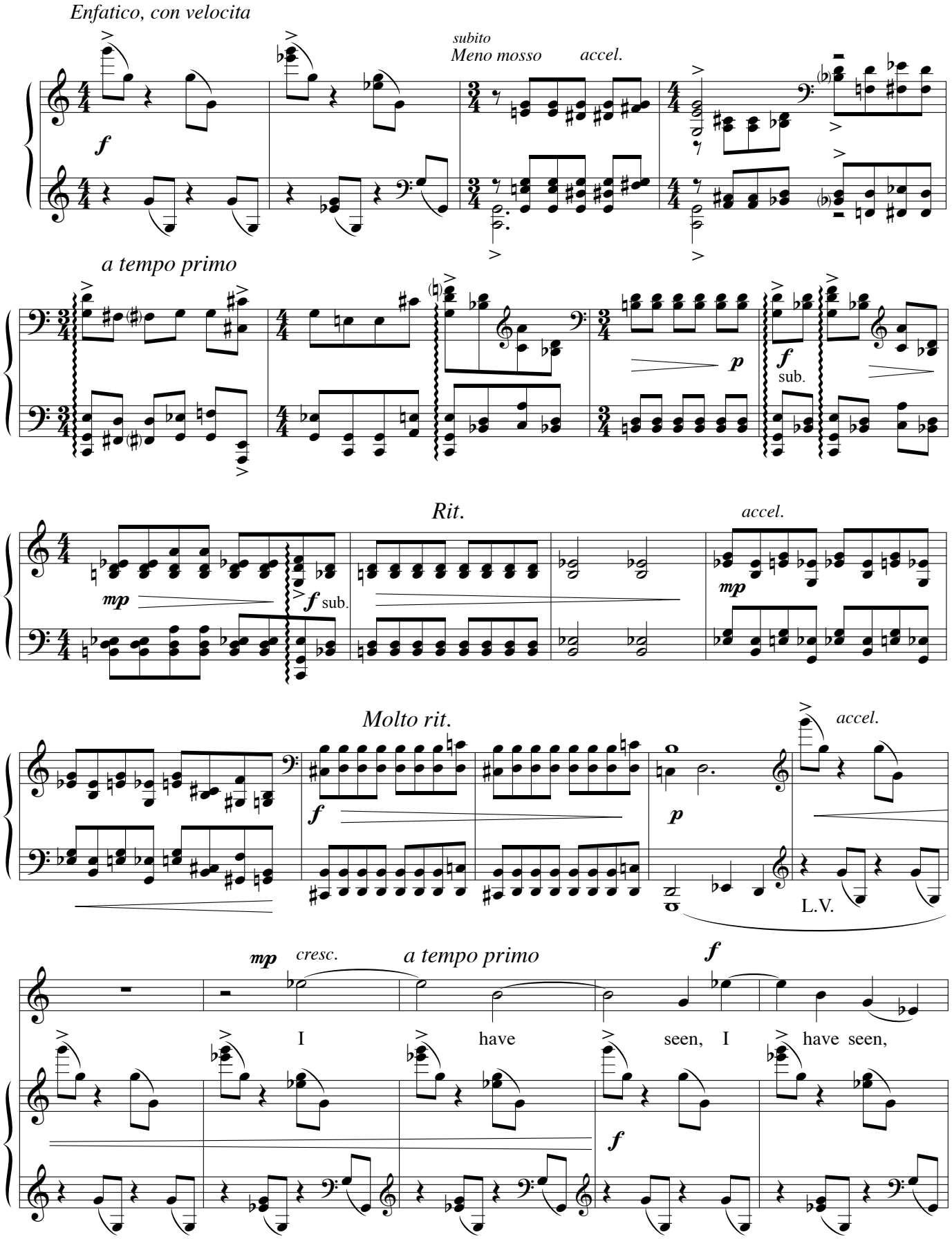
III. *A Dream*

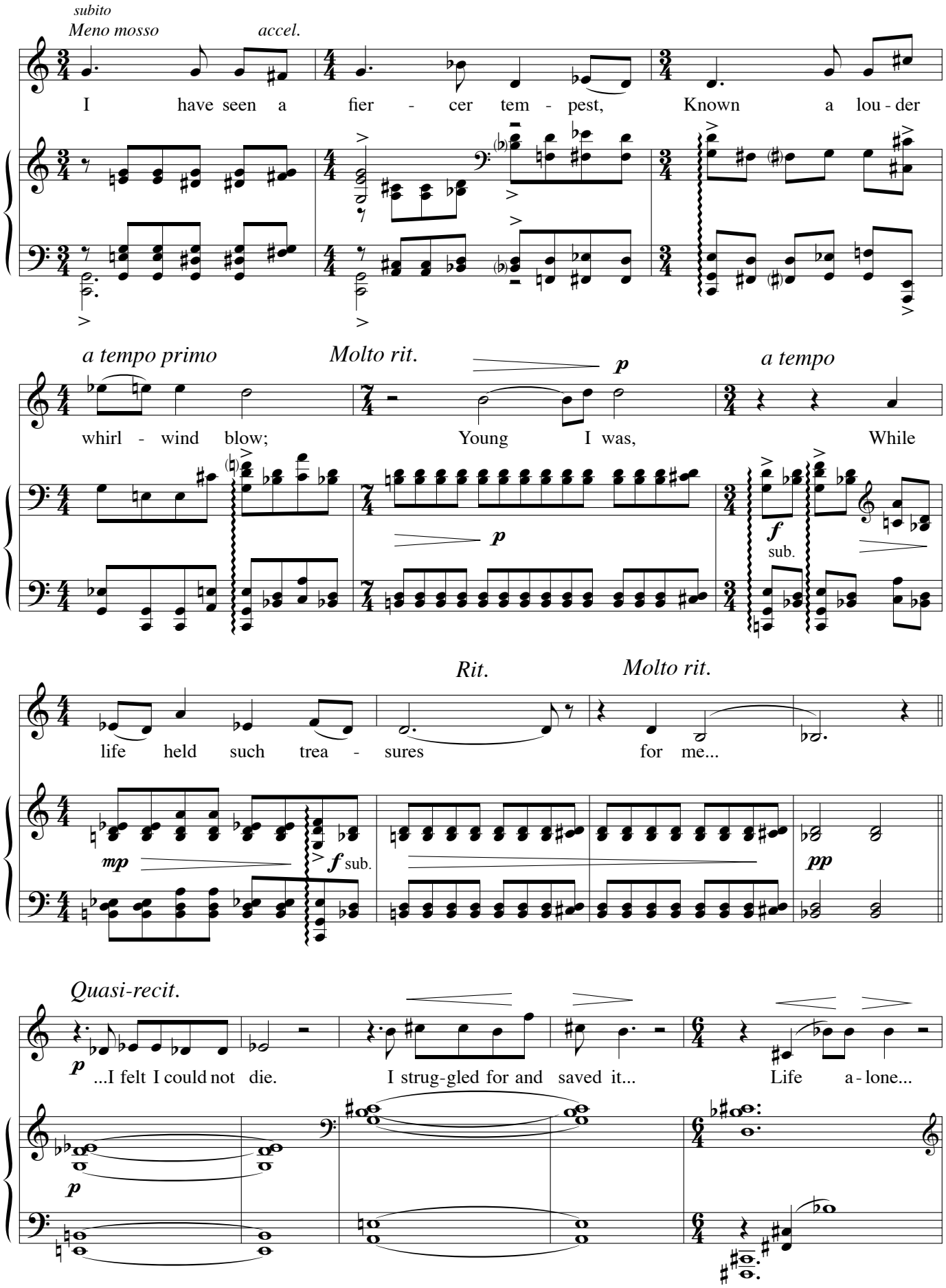
Poco allegro, affabile, con moto

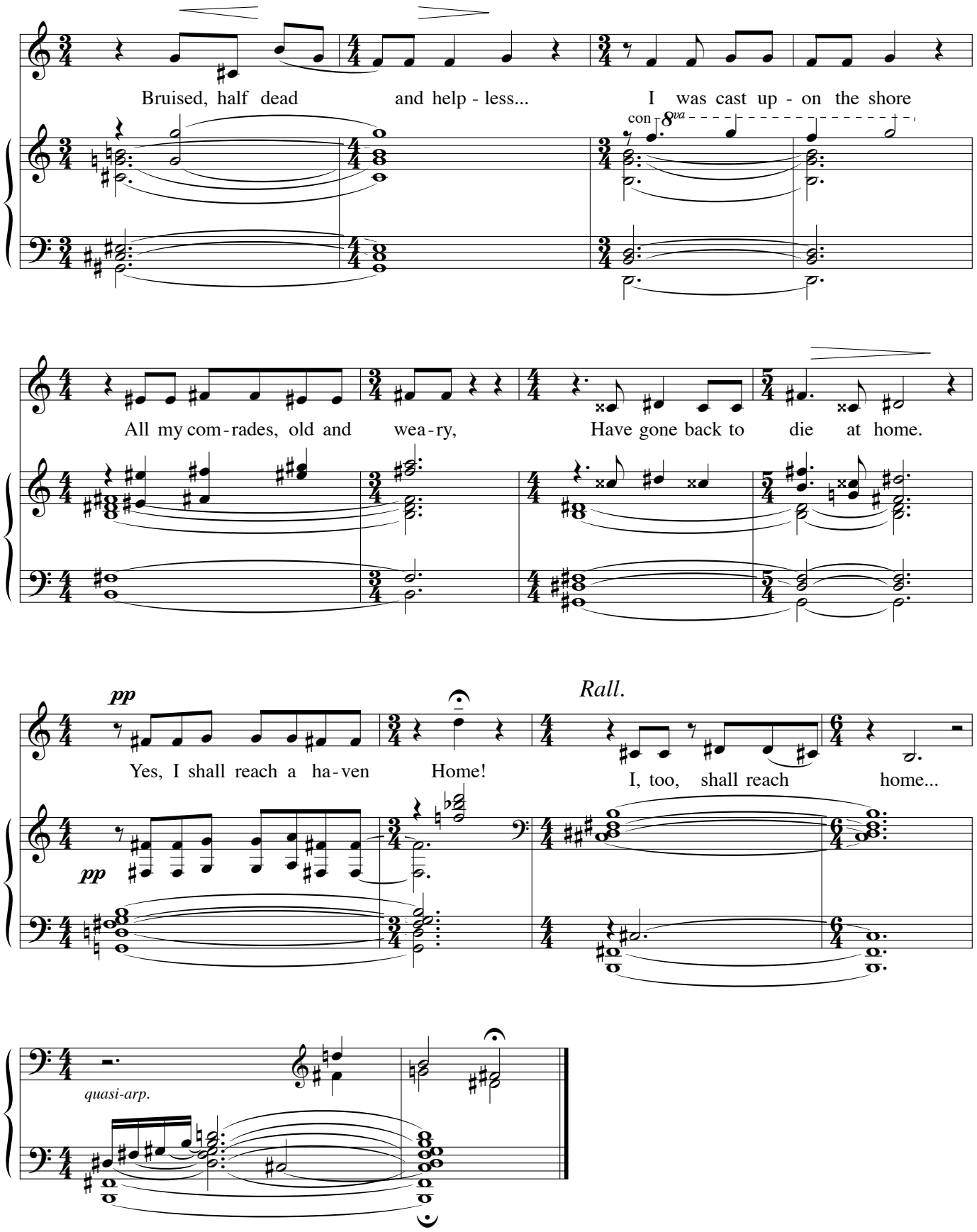



f
air, a flick - er - ing of sun - light here and there.
mf
f
The sha - dows grew and The eve - ning wind passed by, the
Poco rit.
pur - ple splen - dour of sun - - - - set Was
dim. poco a poco - - - -
Rit.
Molto rit.
flood - ing the wes - tern sky, the wes - tern sky.
mp

IV. *Homeward Bound*




subito
Meno mosso
accel.
I have seen a fier - cer tem - pest, Known a lou - der
a tempo primo
Molto rit.
p
a tempo
whirl - wind blow; Young I was, While
p
f
sub.
Rit.
Molto rit.
life held such trea - sures for me...
mp
f sub.
pp
Quasi-recit.
p
...I felt I could not die. I strug-gled for and saved it... Life a - lone...
p


Bruised, half dead and help - less... I was cast up - on the shore
con 8va
All my com - rades, old and wea - ry, Have gone back to die at home.
pp
Rall.
Yes, I shall reach a ha - ven Home! I, too, shall reach home...
pp
quasi-arp.

V. *A Chain*

Chiaramente *Rit.* *a tempo* **mp**

The

sfz *secco* **p** *legato* *poco* **sfz** *sub.*

(secco)

Rit.

bond that links our souls to - ge - ther; Will it last through stor - my

mp *legato*

a tempo *Più mosso* **mp**

wea - - - ther? 1. The slen - der

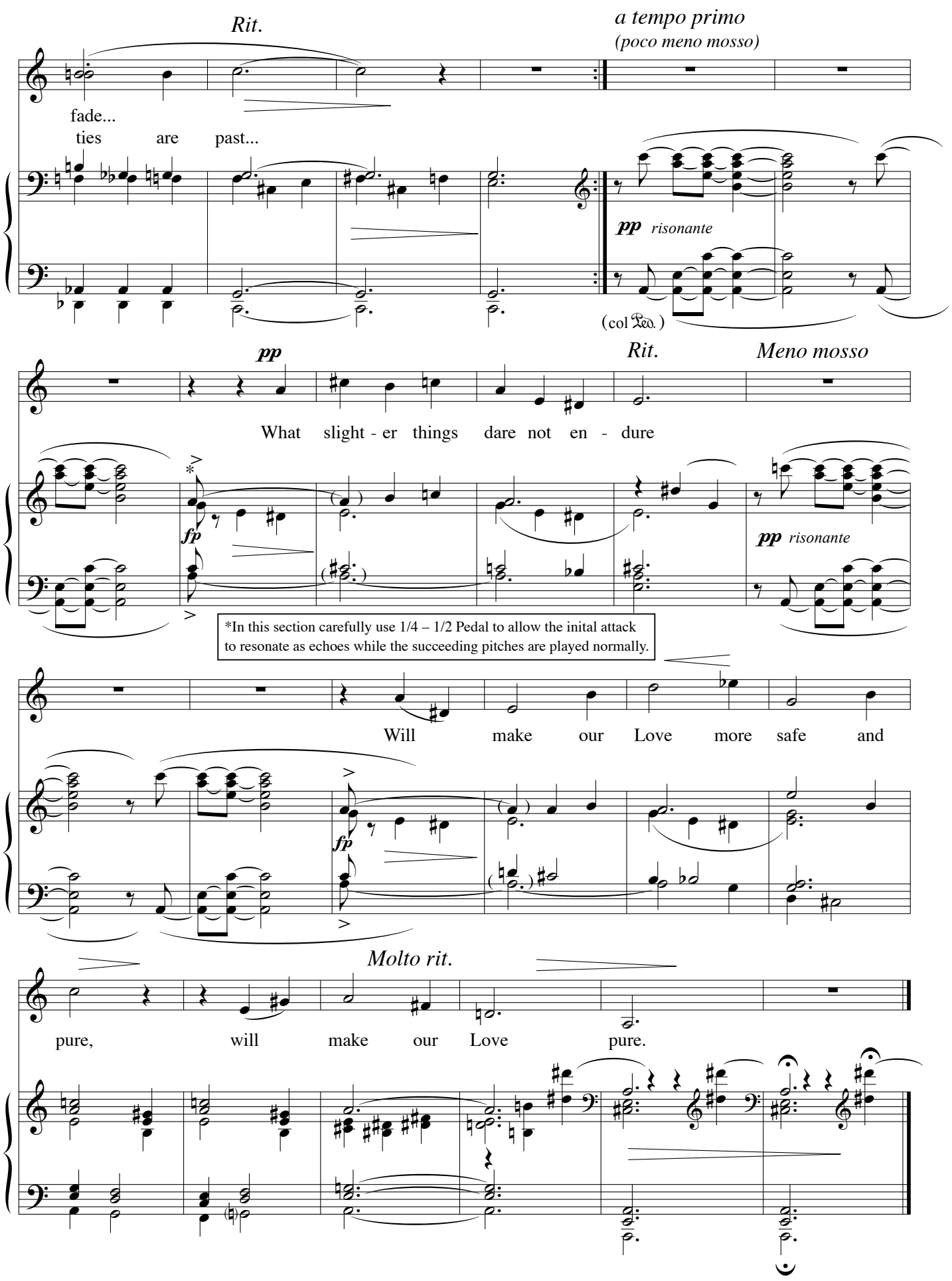
2. But through that

sfz *sub.* **mp**

(secco) *quasi-legato*

link can re - cog - nize: In the bright light it seems to

fei - ry trial When earth - ly ties and bonds are past, when


Rit.
a tempo primo
(poco meno mosso)
fade...
ties are past...
pp risonante
(col Ped.)
pp
Rit.
Meno mosso
What slight - er things dare not en - dure
fp
pp risonante
*In this section carefully use 1/4 – 1/2 Pedal to allow the inital attack to resonate as echoes while the succeeding pitches are played normally.
Will make our Love more safe and
fp
Molto rit.
pure, will make our Love pure.

VI. *A Love Token*

Poco andantino

(a tempo)

mp

Poco rit.

mf *a tempo*

1. Do you grieve no cost - ly
2. Take a Heart of vir - gin

mf

f

mf

of - fer - ing To the La - dy you can make? There is one, and
sil - ver, Fa - shion it with hea - vy blows Cast it in - to

f

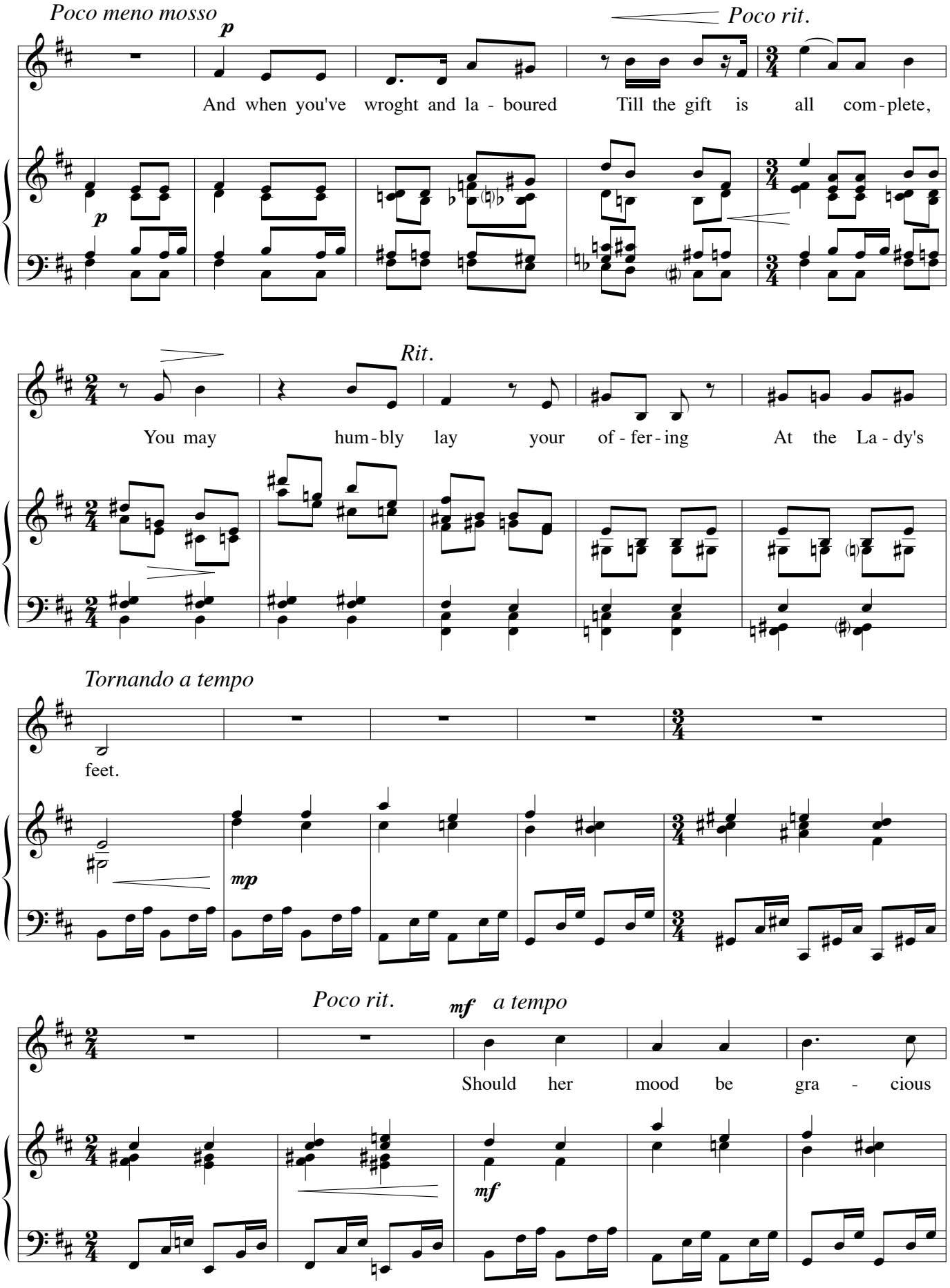
mf

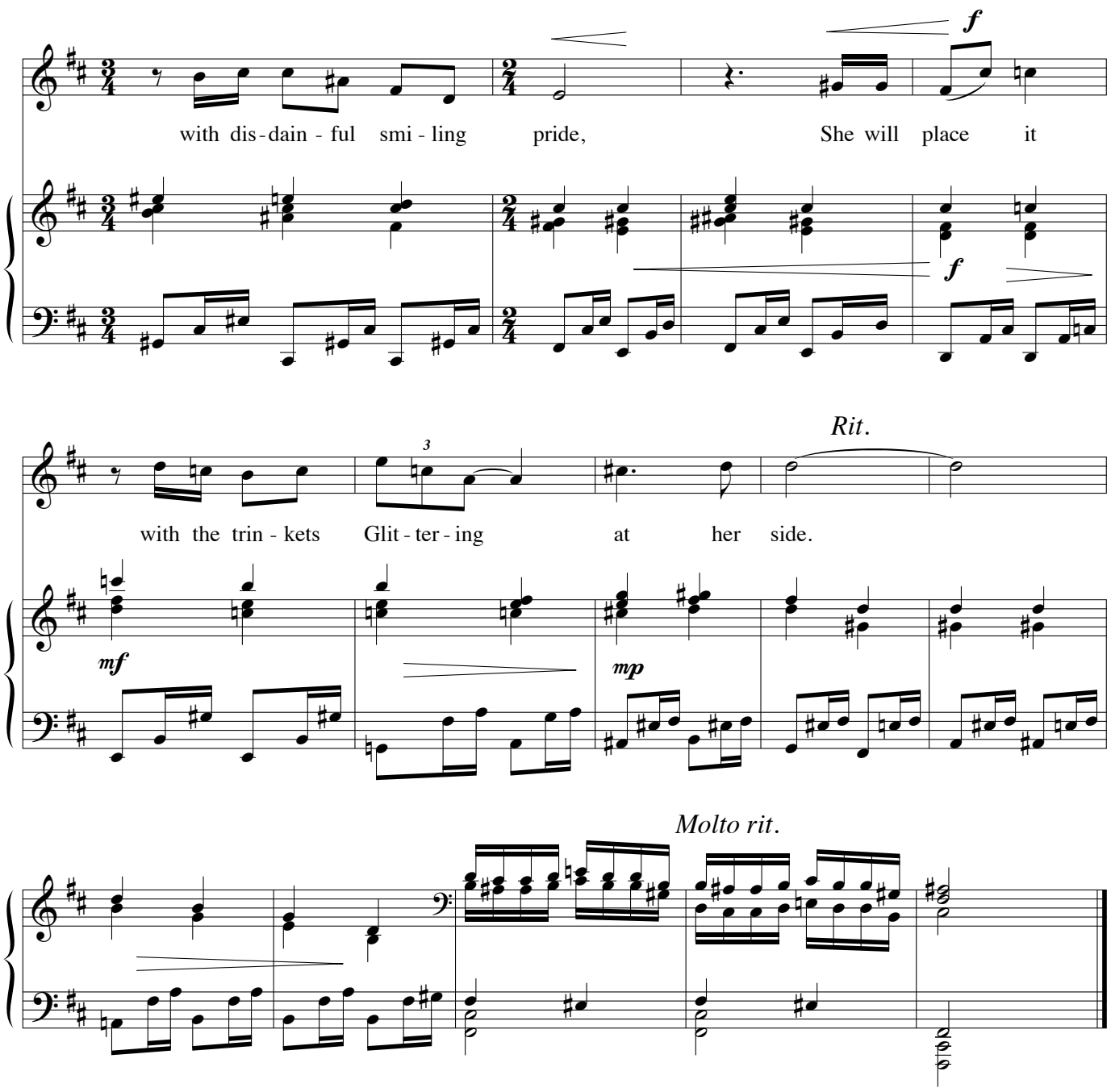
mp

Molto rit.

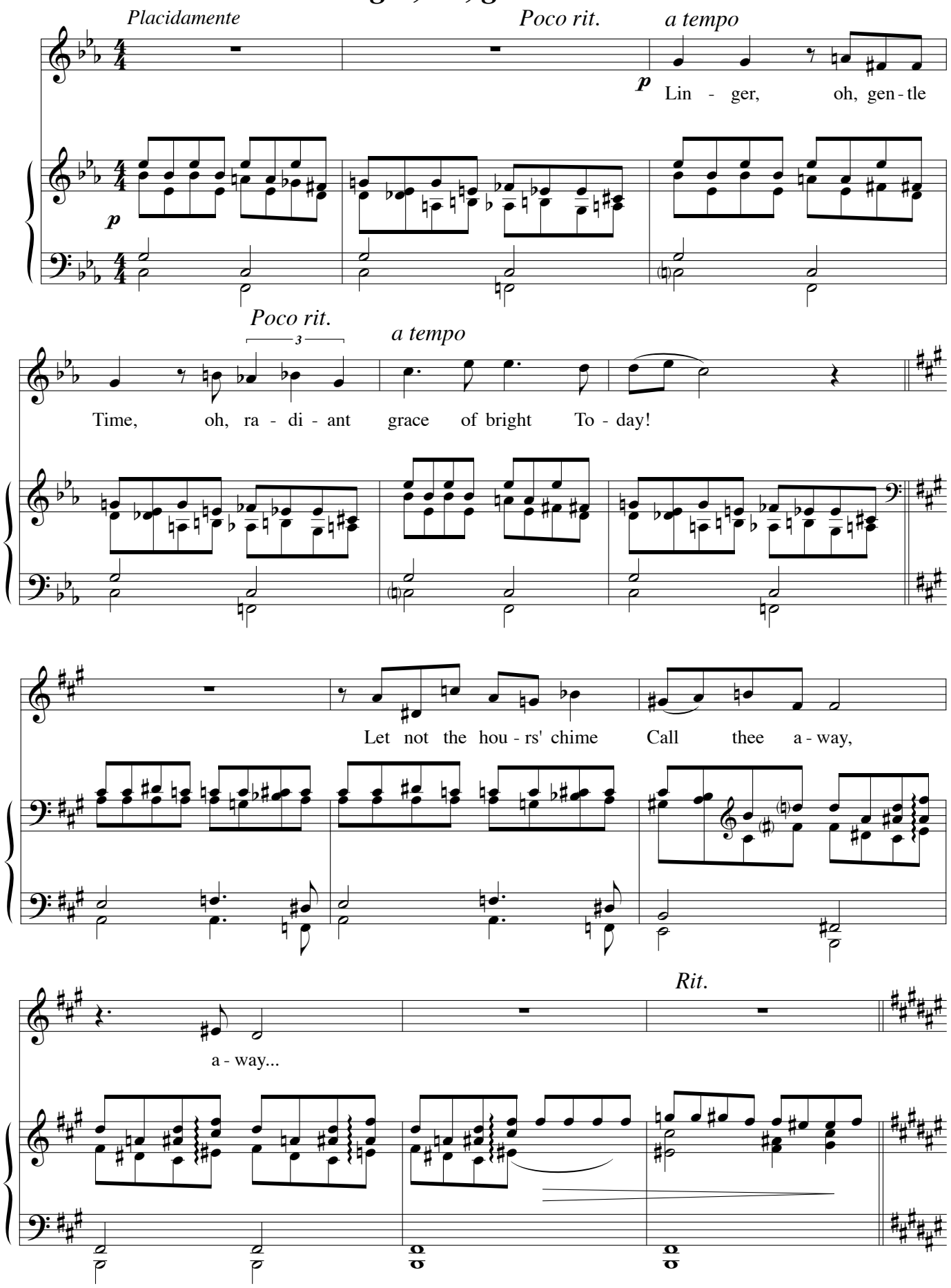
gifts less wor - thy Queens have stooped to take.
Love's hot fur - nace When it fier - cest glows.

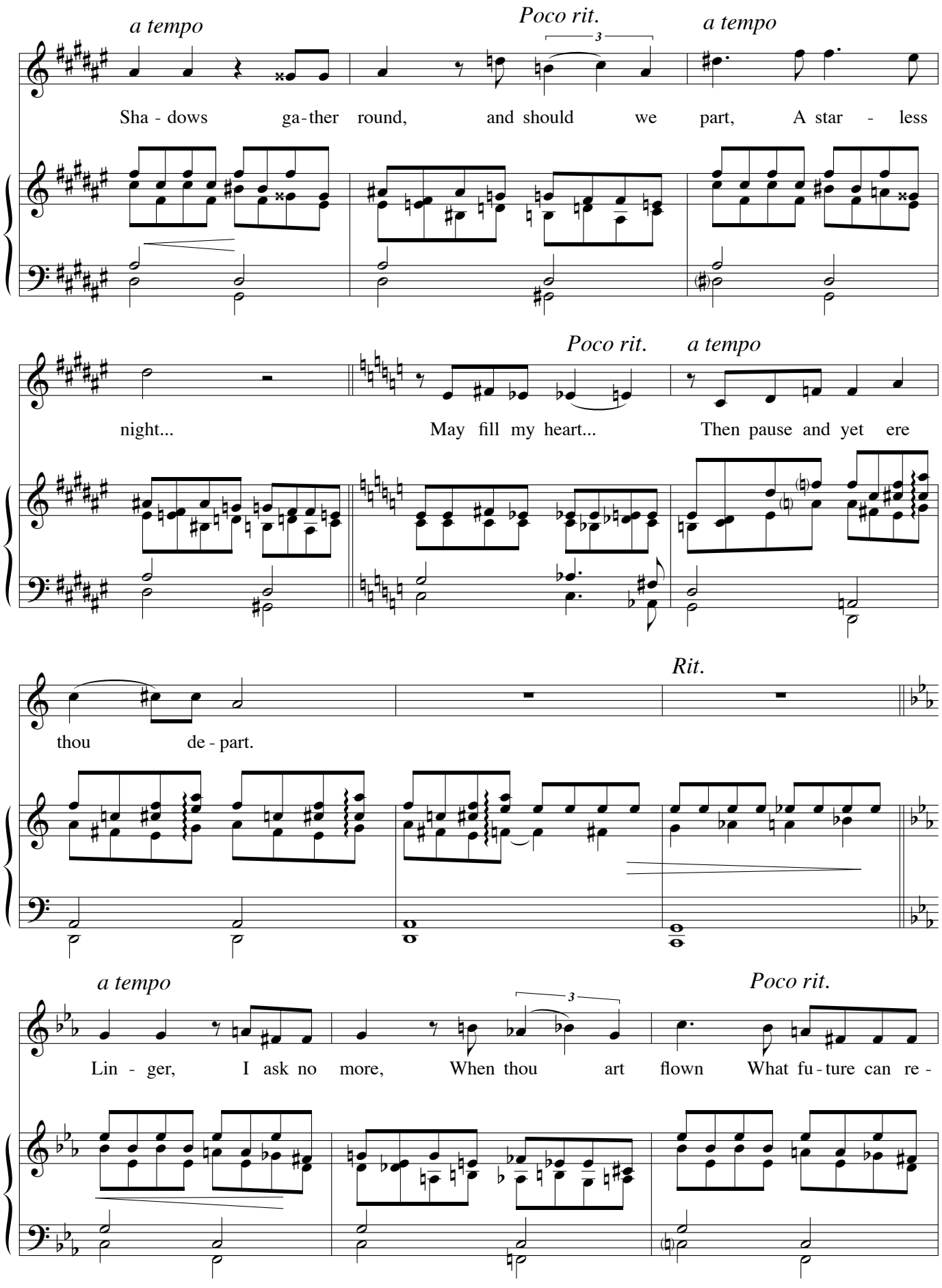
mp

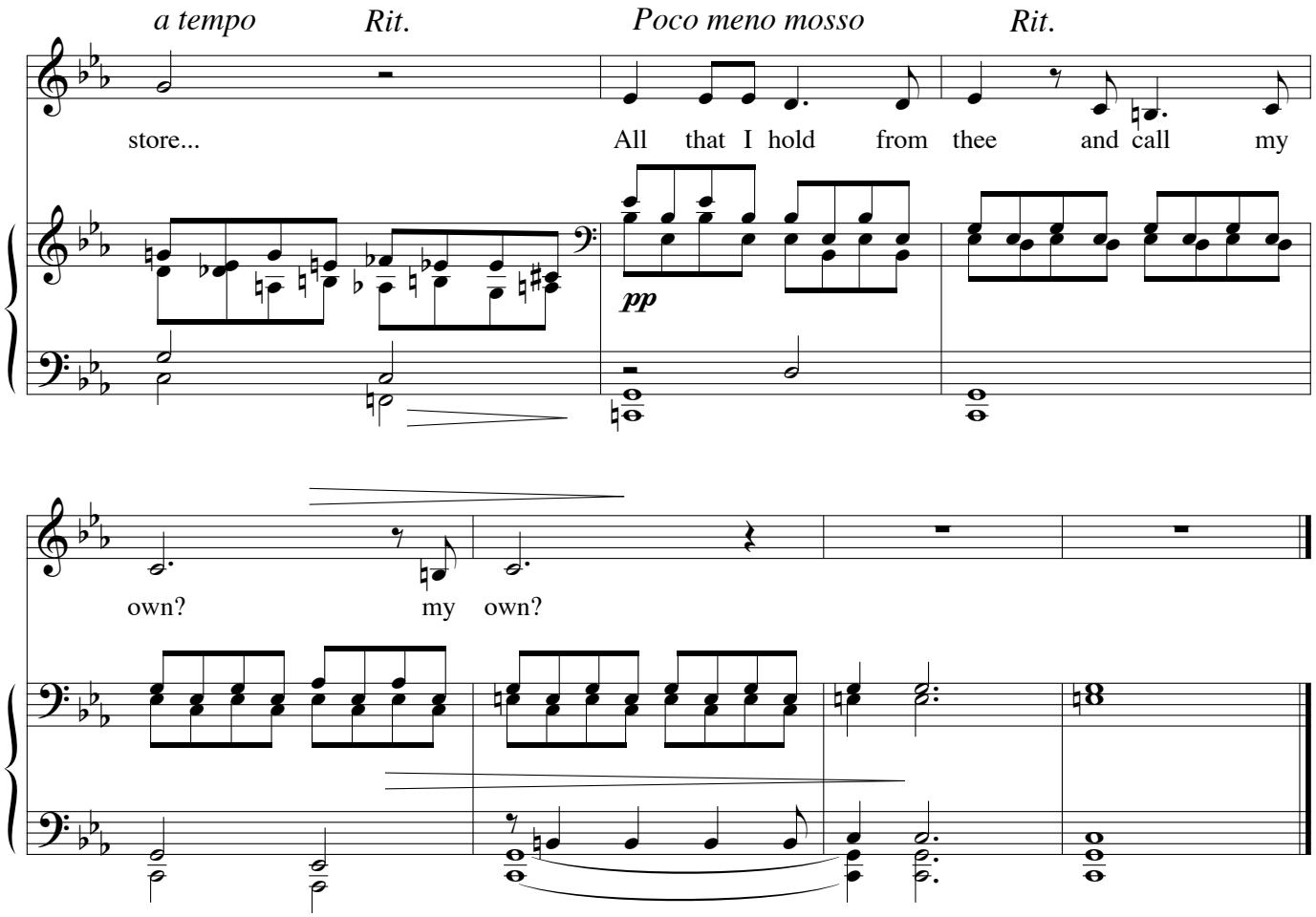

Poco meno mosso
p
Poco rit.
And when you've wroght and la - boured Till the gift is all com - plete,
p
Rit.
You may hum - bly lay your of - fer - ing At the La - dy's
Tornando a tempo
feet.
mp
Poco rit.
mf a tempo
Should her mood be gra - cious
mf


with dis - dain - ful smi - ling pride, She will place it
f
f
with the trin - kets Glit - ter - ing at her side.
Rit.
mf
mp
Molto rit.

VII. *Linger, oh, gentle Time*




a tempo
Poco rit.
a tempo
Sha - dows ga-ther round, and should we part, A star - less
night... May fill my heart... Then pause and yet ere
Poco rit.
a tempo
thou de - part.
Rit.
a tempo
Lin - ger, I ask no more, When thou art flown What fu - ture can re -
Poco rit.


a tempo
Rit.
Poco meno mosso
Rit.
store...
All that I hold from thee and call my
pp
own?
my own?

VIII. *An Ideal*

Andante, con poco rubato

Poco rit.

mf

a tempo *Poco rit.* *a tempo*

mf

While the grey mists of ear - ly dawn Were lin - ger - ing

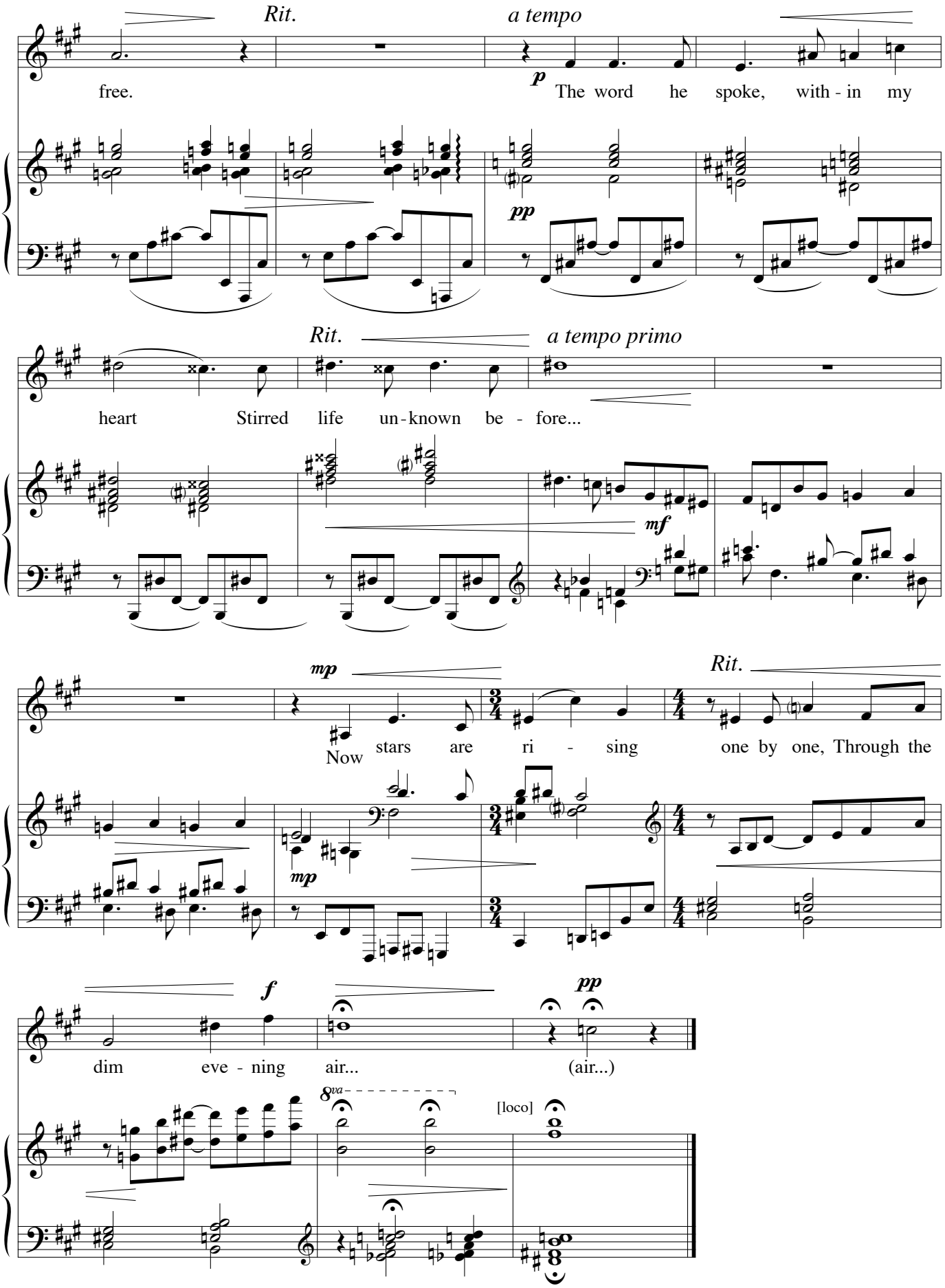
Poco rit.

a tempo *Poco rit. Poco meno mosso*

round the hill... *mp* A wing - èd Spi - rit

mp

came to me, No - ble, and ra - di - ant, and


Rit.
a tempo
free.
p
The word he spoke, with - in my
pp
Rit.
a tempo primo
heart
Stirred life un - known be - fore...
mf
mp
Rit.
Now stars are ri - sing one by one, Through the
mp
f
pp
dim eve - ning air...
(air...)
8va
[loco]

IX. *Spring*

Gaiamente

mp

Poco rit.

Rit.

Accel.

a tempo

mf

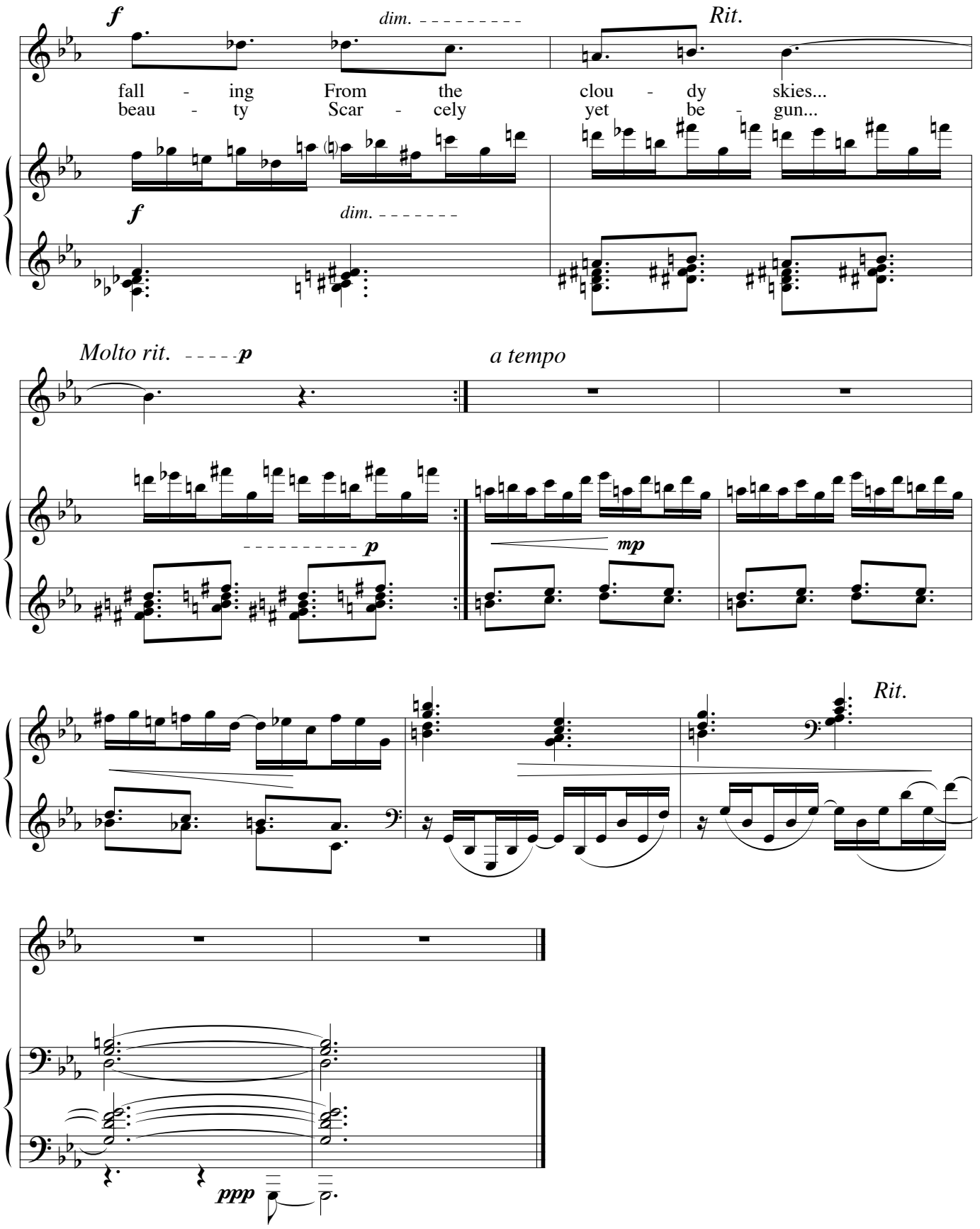
mp

1. Hark! the Hours are soft - ly call - ing,
2. List - en to Earth's wea - ry voi - ces,

mf

Bid - - ding Spring a - rise,
Lou - - der e - - - - very day,

To list - en to rain - drops
But has - ten her task of


f
dim.
Rit.
fall - ing From the clou - dy skies...
beau - ty Scar - cely yet be - gun...
f
dim.
Molto rit.
p
a tempo
p
mp
Rit.
ppp

X. *Voices of the Past*

Misterioso, poco adagio

p *risonante, legato*

(col Ped.)

Rit. *a tempo*

p You won - der that my tears should

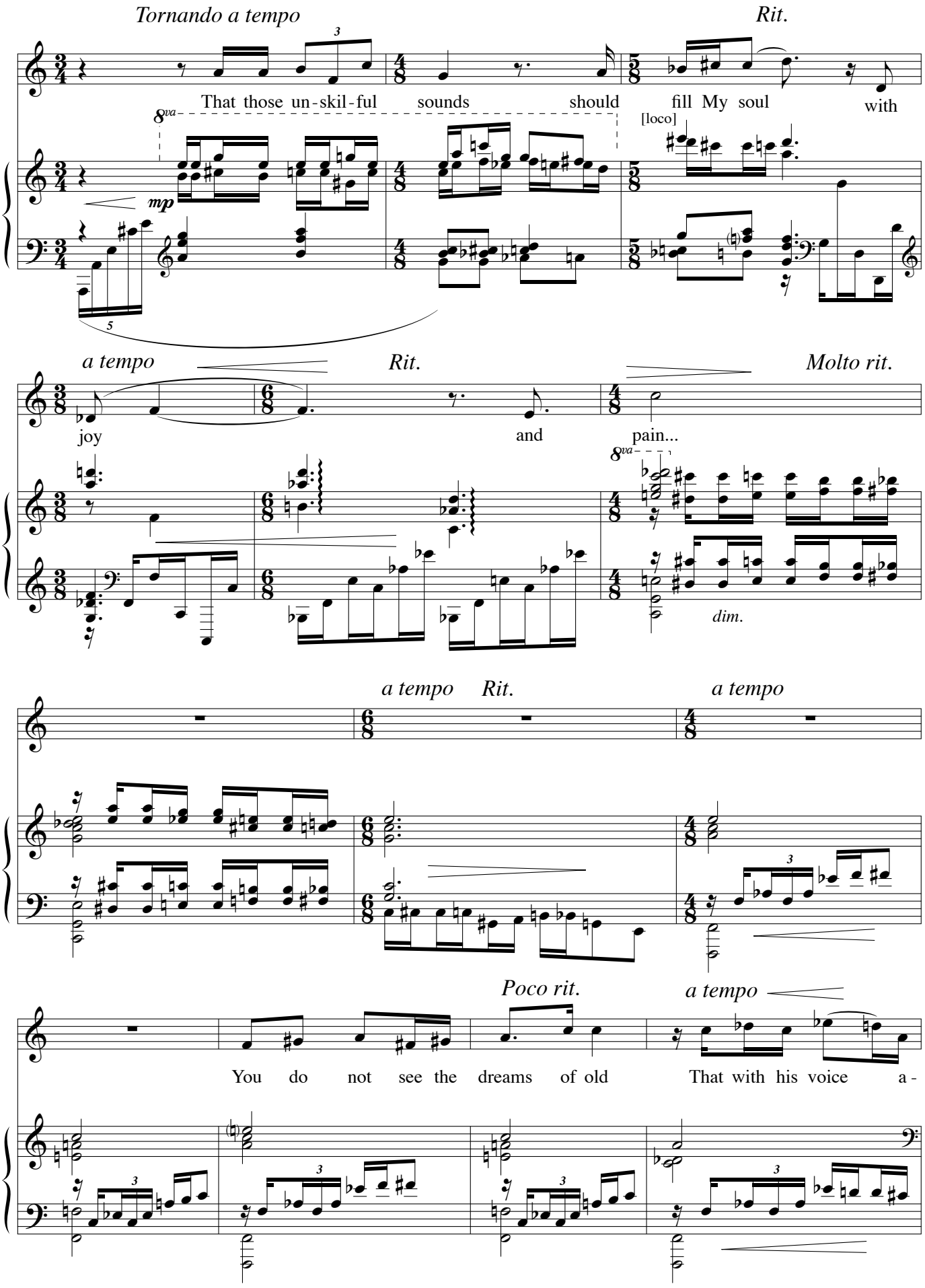
Poco rit. *a tempo*

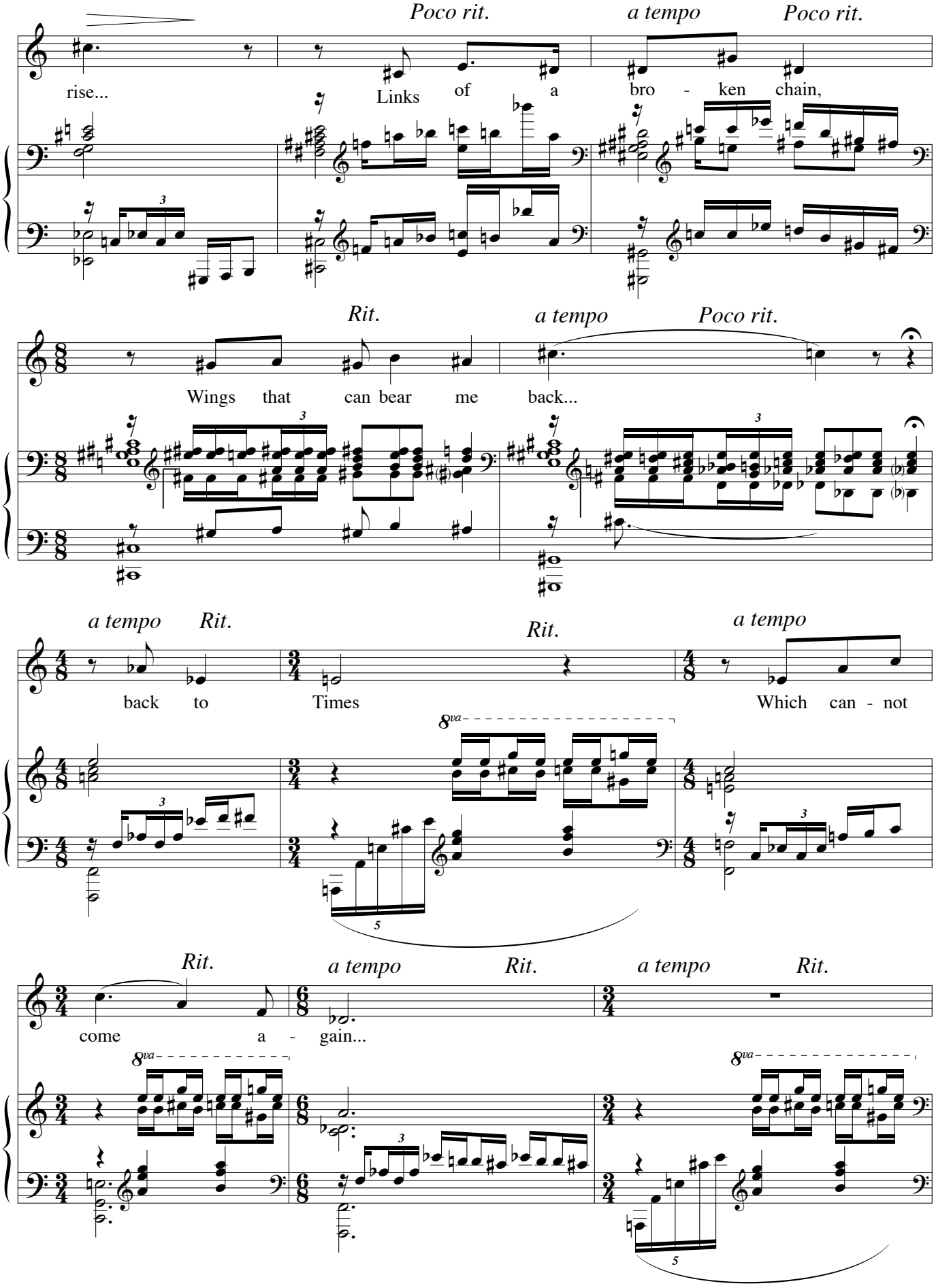
flow In lis - ten - ing to that sim - - - - - ple

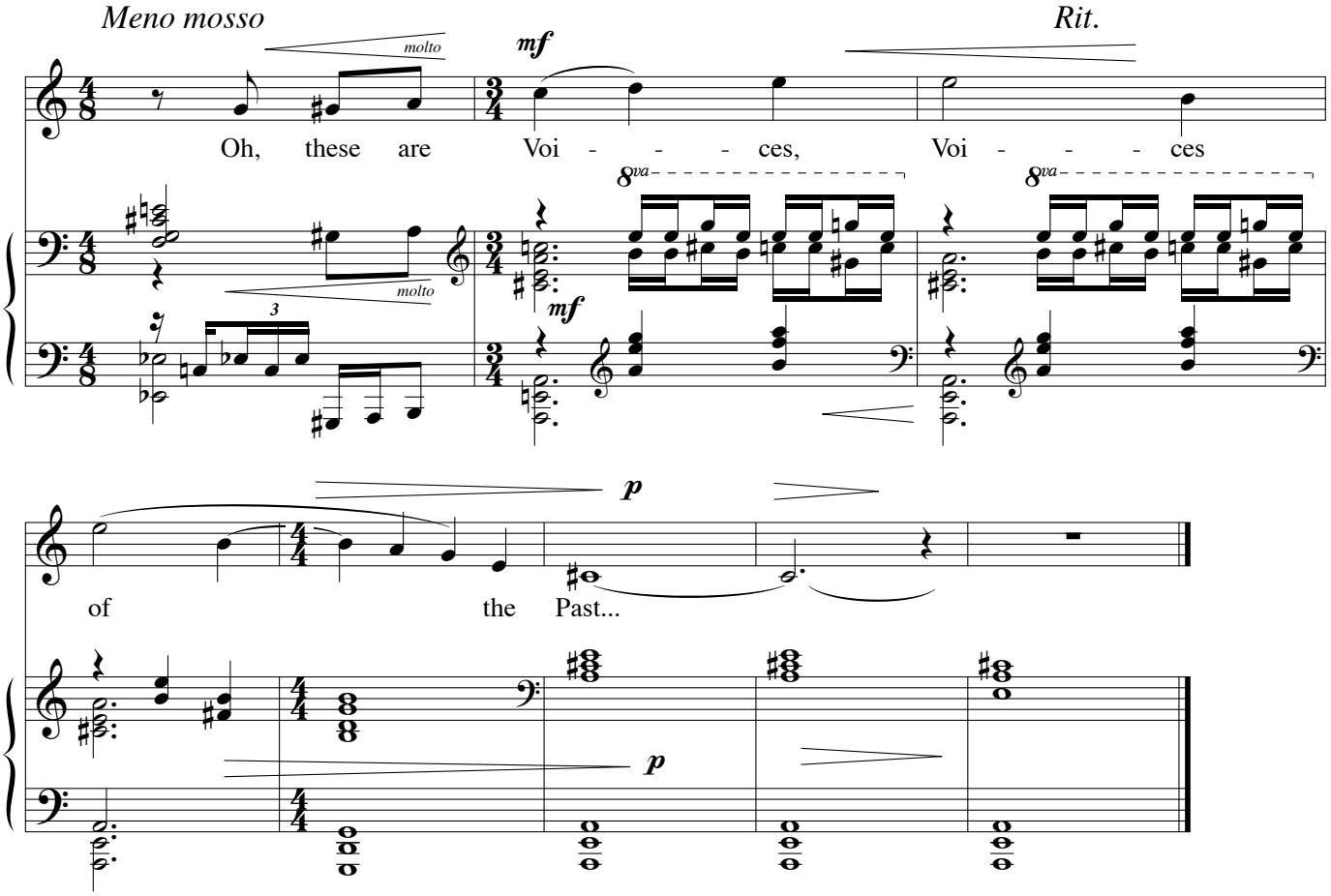
(Ped. - - - - - - - - - Ped. - - - - - - - - - - -)

Rit. *Molto rit.*

strain, that sim - ple strain...


Tornando a tempo
Rit.
That those un-skil-ful sounds should fill My soul with
8va
mp
[loco]
a tempo
Rit.
Molto rit.
joy and pain...
8va
dim.
a tempo
Rit.
a tempo
Poco rit.
a tempo
You do not see the dreams of old That with his voice a-


Poco rit.
a tempo
Poco rit.
rise...
Links of a bro - ken chain,
Rit.
a tempo
Poco rit.
Wings that can bear me back...
a tempo
Rit.
Rit.
a tempo
back to
Times
Which can - not
8va
Rit.
a tempo
Rit.
a tempo
Rit.
come a - gain...
8va
8va


Meno mosso
molto
mf
Rit.
Oh, these are Voi - - - - ces, Voi - - - - ces
8va
8va
molto
3
mf
p
of the Past...
p