Tsippi Fleischer
*1946

Oasis

op. 71a, 2013 (40’)

A Children‘s Opera
Englisch Version

Piano Score

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Preface

Oasis op. 71a, 2013 (40')
A Children's Opera in four scenes
Story, Plot and Libretto: Yael Medini

For Children's chorus including six soloists (father, mother, Elon, Noa, Laila, Ali) and 12 instrumentalists:
Flute (Piccolo), Oboe, 2 Clarinets in B, Guitar, 4 Violins, Violoncello, Double-bass, Percussion – 1 player: Tamb.gr./Djambe, Susp. Cymbal, Oriental drum, Sleigh-bells

Originally composed and sung in German
Translation and Editing: Tsippi Fleischer and Adina Stern
English version (equirhythmic): Gila Abrahamson

The world premiere onstage took place on November 12, 2010. OASIS was commissioned and produced by the "Cantus-Juvenum Karlsruhe" youth choir (Germany) in cooperation with the Paladio Players, and took place in the Evangelische Stadtkirche, conducted by Hans-Joerg Kalmbach.
This world-premiere production was initiated by the stage director Sebastian Stiebert, with the encouragement of Furore Verlag, Kassel.
Tsippi Fleischer's music was received with great acclaim.

"I composed this opera in the Sinai Desert. I had travelled there for a purpose. This was in my blissful spring months of 2010. While living in a completely authentic Bedouin tent near Nuweiba, I felt connected both to the nomadic tent of the Israelites and to the oasis of the local inhabitants. The warm breeze caressed me and the magical encounter between the four undaunted children, far away in time and in location, came alive for me. The human aspect having triumphed, once more a spark rekindled in me: perhaps we shall still attain this serenity and contentment?"

Tsippi Fleischer

Synopsis of the Four Scenes

Scene 1: The Israelites, wandering in the arid desert, are running out of water in their camp. The mischievous Elon and Noa, always playing far away from the camp, have revived a little bird during one of their expeditions, and have also noticed a green patch in the distance. They think that this may be a sign of water, but their father makes fun of their "illusions".

Scene 2: (the central scene) Noa and Elon steal away from the camp during the night in order to search for water. Again they see the elusive green patch from afar. The difficulties of their journey increase, they become exhausted and lose consciousness. Suddenly Ali and Laila, Bedouins, children of the desert, appear. For the first time we hear the "Song of the Oasis" which serves as a leitmotiv. Ali and Laila revive Noa and Elon with fresh water; the meeting of the four children in the middle of the desert is moving. Ali and Laila lead Elon and Noa to their oasis – the same green patch they had seen in the distance – where they are treated to food and water. The joyful life in the oasis is revealed; the leitmotiv is performed in a dance in the style of both debka and hora.

Scene 3: Sadness and anxiety prevail in the Israelite tent; where are Noa and Elon this time? But here they are, returning to their parents' tent, accompanied by Ali and Laila. Each child is carrying a jar of water. First the children of the desert hide and only the jars of water are revealed; the parents' thirst is quenched. Then Ali and Laila show themselves. All are overjoyed! The "Song of the Oasis" leitmotiv is heard once more. The Israelite parents wish to adopt Ali and Laila.

Scene 4: lt would be good to go with you, say Ali and Laila, but we will not be able to, states Laila after serious consideration. The brother and sister, children of the desert, sing of their "duty and tradition", and of their need to remain in the desert for generations to come, so as to provide water for those who thirst; the Israelites state that, an their way to the Land of Canaan, they will never forget the kindness shown them in the desert. In the Finale they all sing sadly of their parting, mixed with the hope that each would live in his own tradition, in freedom and in peace.

The chorus moves the plot forward, opening and closing the Opera, and their singing often accompanies the six soloists.

Biography

Tsippi Fleischer was born in Haifa, Israel, in 1946. As a three-year-old she was already improvising at the piano. In time she studied piano and theory formally at the Rubin Conservatory of Music, Haifa. The first beginnings in the 70s are typified by a search for a compositional style in which to incorporate her oriental studies. The 80s brought the formation and crystallization of this style, marked by a finely-honed sonority and images of the Israeli landscape. A spurt of creativity in the 90s found expression in daring musical textures inspired by ancient, far-distant Semitic sources. The listener is impressed by the tonal landscapes and ancient Semitic languages – by the human, feminine imagination and drama, together forming a moving panorama. It is this local view of the Semitic Mediterranean East in the language of the avant-garde and the personal, original and feminine stamp characterizing Fleischer's works that have gained her significant international acclaim. Tsippi Fleischer has received numerous prizes and awards for her works which are performed all over the world.

OASIS

(op. 71a, 2013)
A Children's Opera
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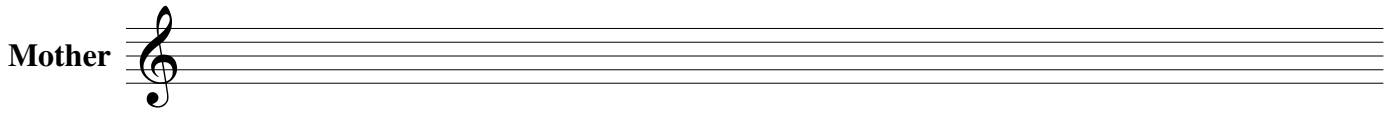
S C E N E I

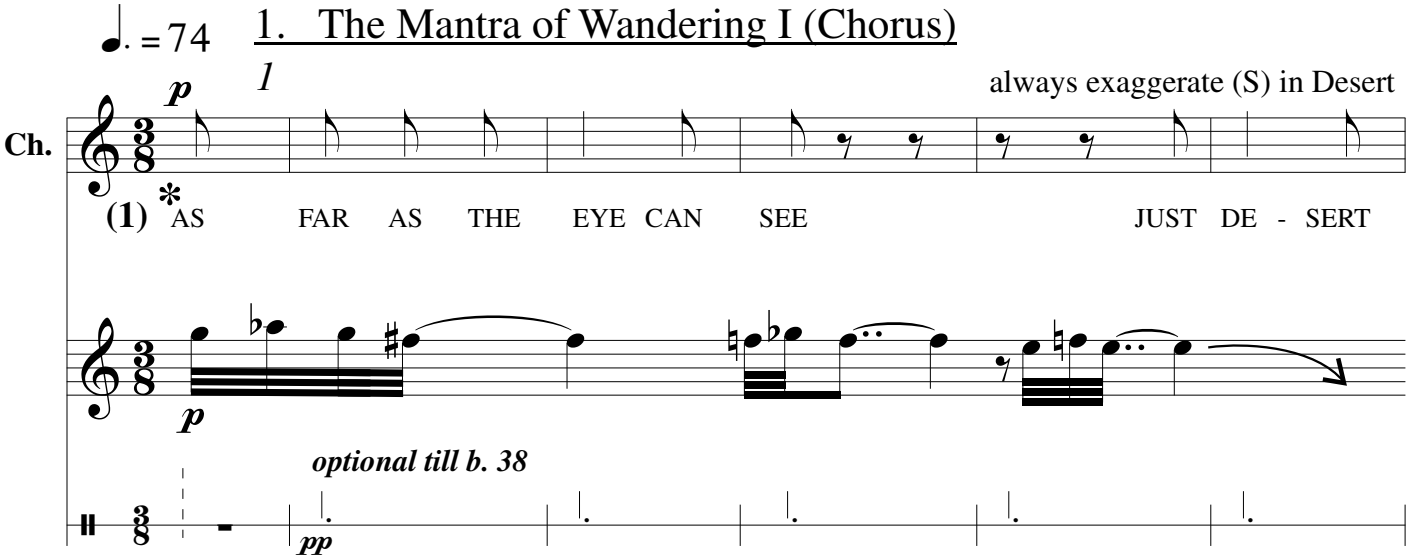
Prologue of the Israelites' Wandering
Scene of the Little Bird

(Silence. In front of stage Elon and Noa are playing with ants, stones and beetles. Props are exaggeratedly large)

Tsippi Fleischer

Introduction
Ad lib.
Flute solo 12"





* Moving cluster of chorus enters - whisper, speak, whistle, and sing
in 5 groups of children (5 talented children will lead the 5 groups).
No unison, no chord. The whistling without rhythm.
Another option, instead of 5 groups of children: 'free controlled pitch.'
The choir moves / steps lightly.

a soft-percussive effect is created by the steps.
It is also possible to "drum"/step with hand-palms on foot.

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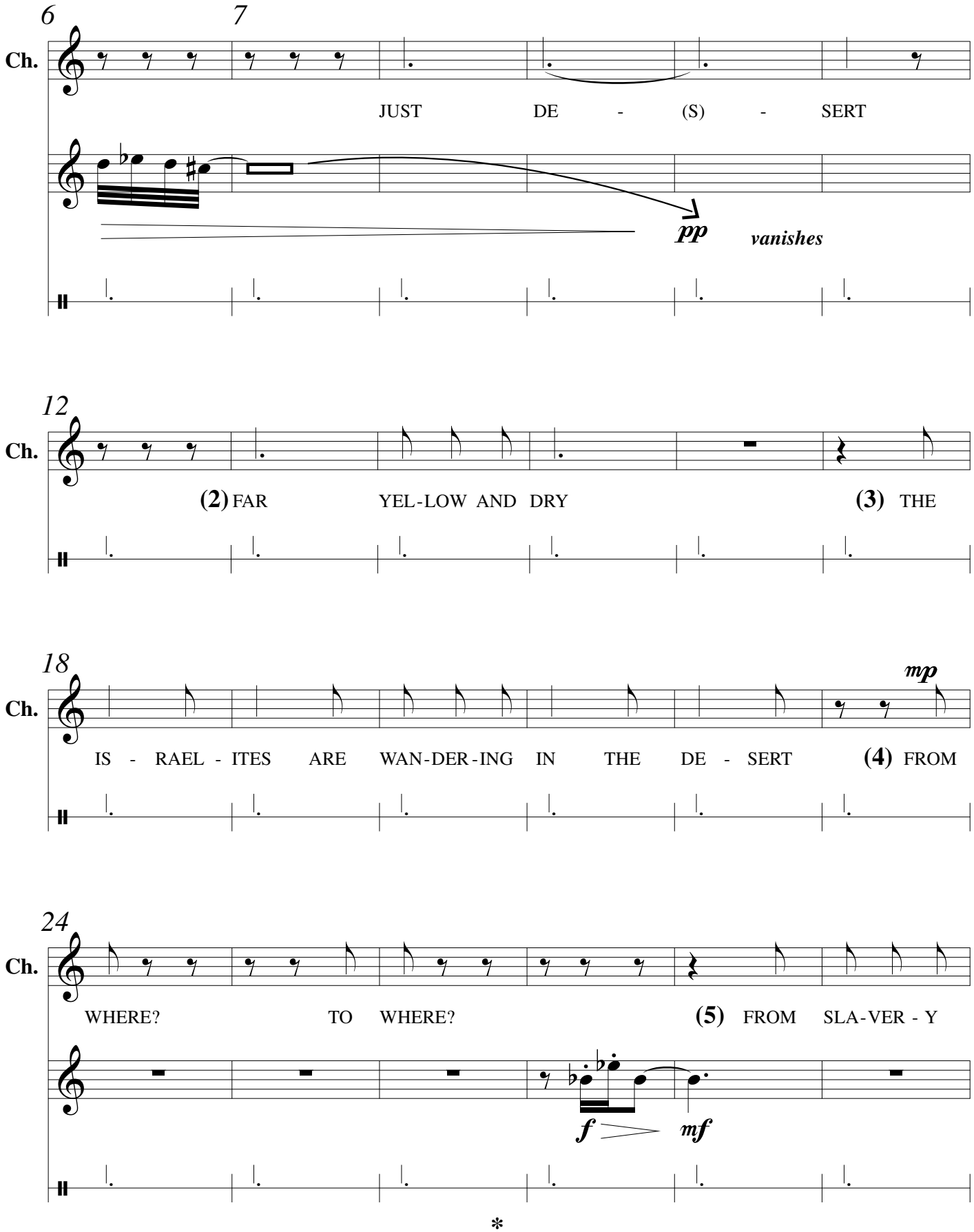

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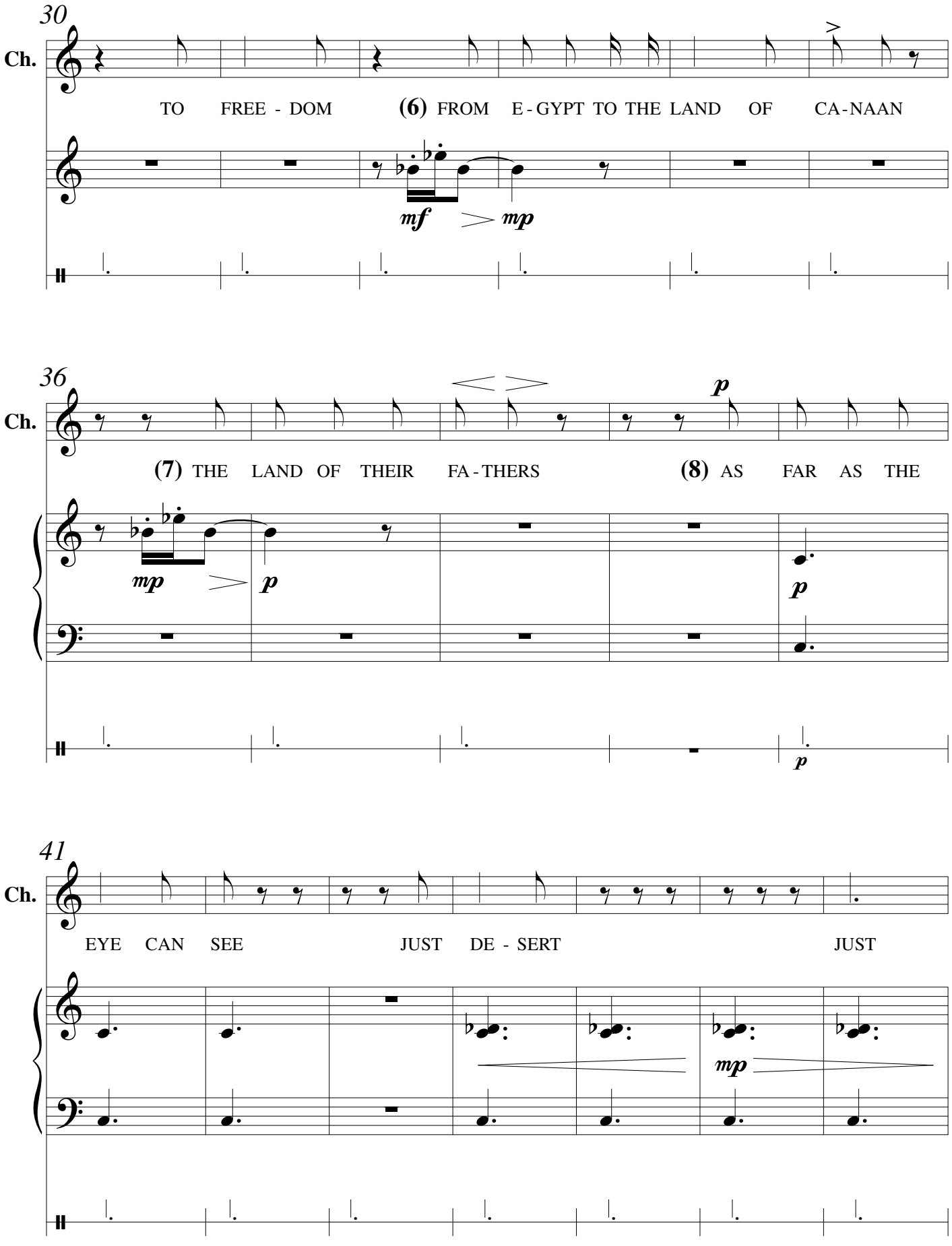
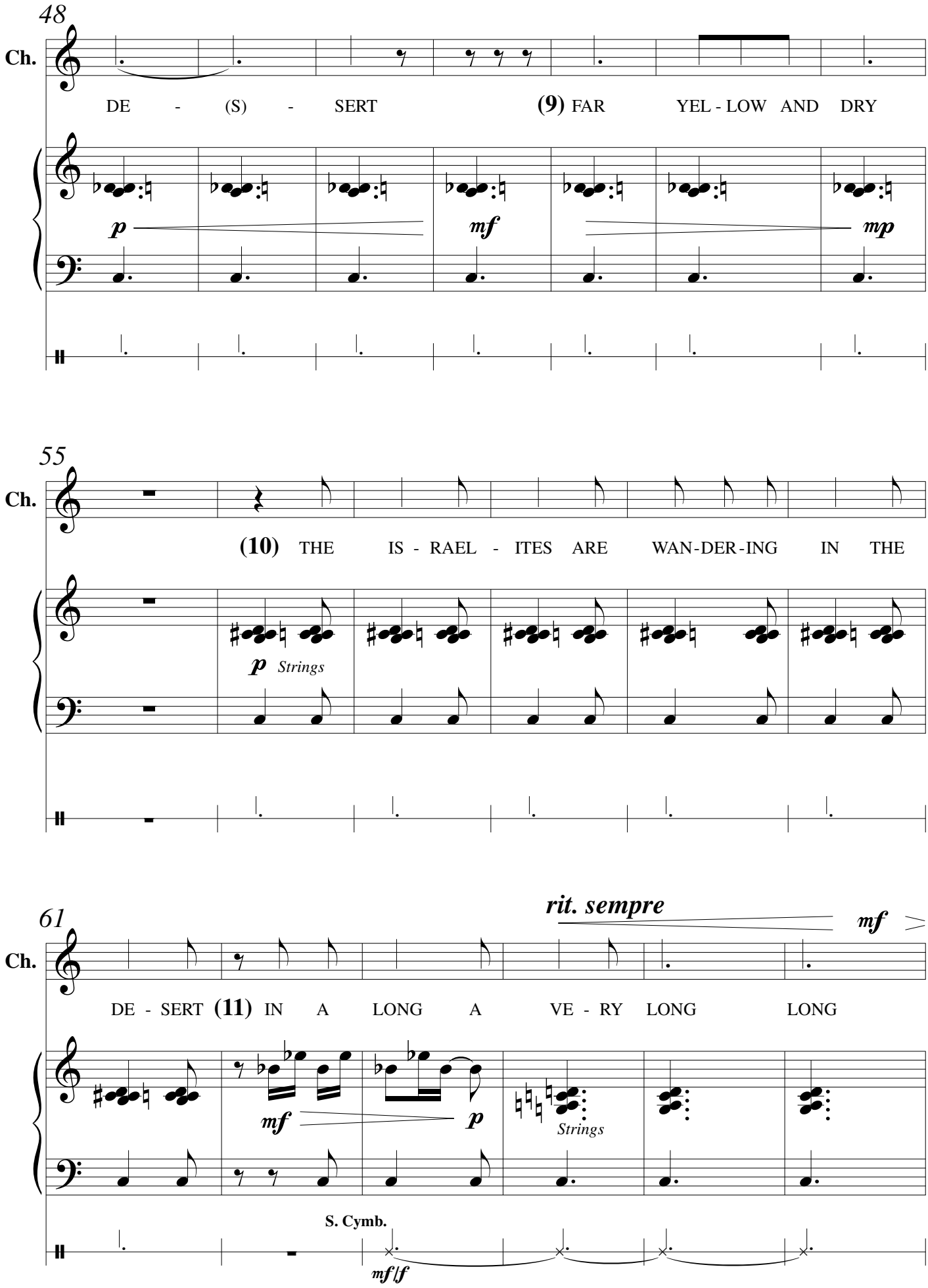

30
Ch.
TO FREE - DOM
(6) FROM E - GYPT TO THE LAND OF CA - NAAN
mf
mp
36
Ch.
(7) THE LAND OF THEIR FA - THERS
(8) AS FAR AS THE
mp
p
p
p
41
Ch.
EYE CAN SEE
JUST DE - SERT
JUST
mp



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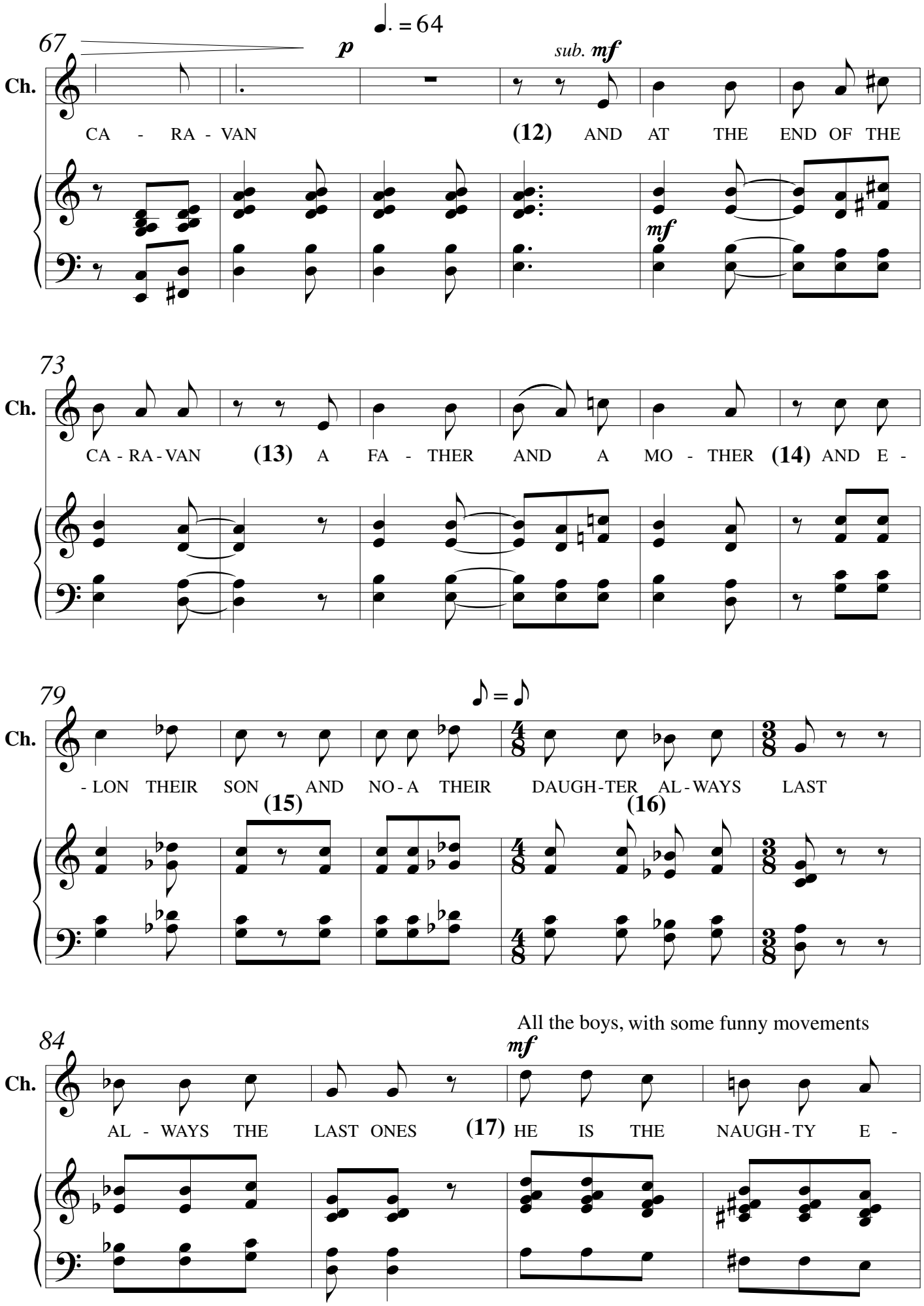
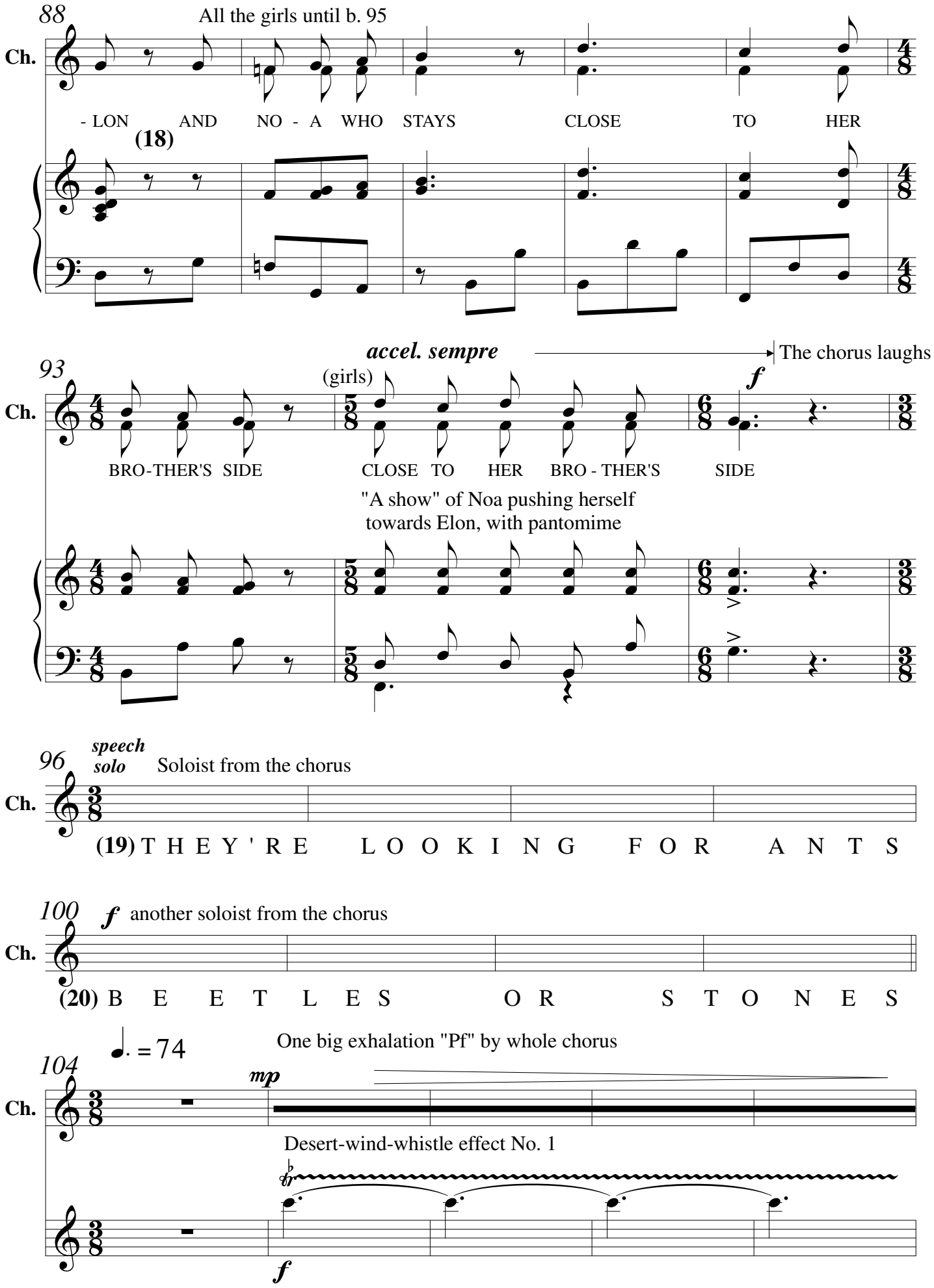

67
♩. = 64
p
sub. mf
Ch.
CA - RA - VAN
(12)
AND AT THE END OF THE
mf
73
Ch.
CA - RA - VAN
(13)
A FA - THER AND A MO - THER
(14)
AND E -
79
♪ = ♪
Ch.
- LON THEIR SON AND NO - A THEIR DAUGH - TER AL - WAYS LAST
(15)
(16)
All the boys, with some funny movements
84
mf
Ch.
AL - WAYS THE LAST ONES
(17)
HE IS THE NAUGH - TY E -



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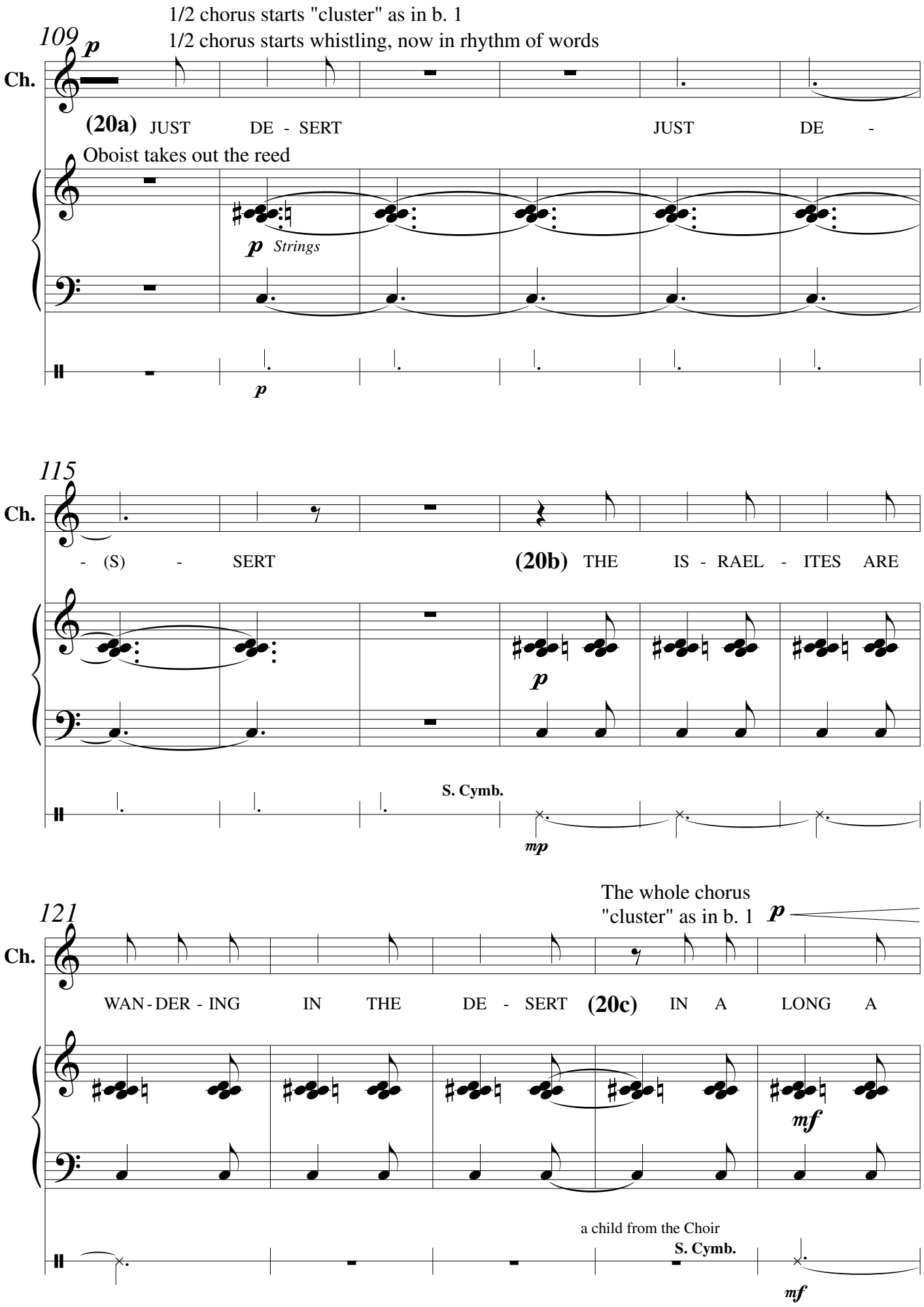
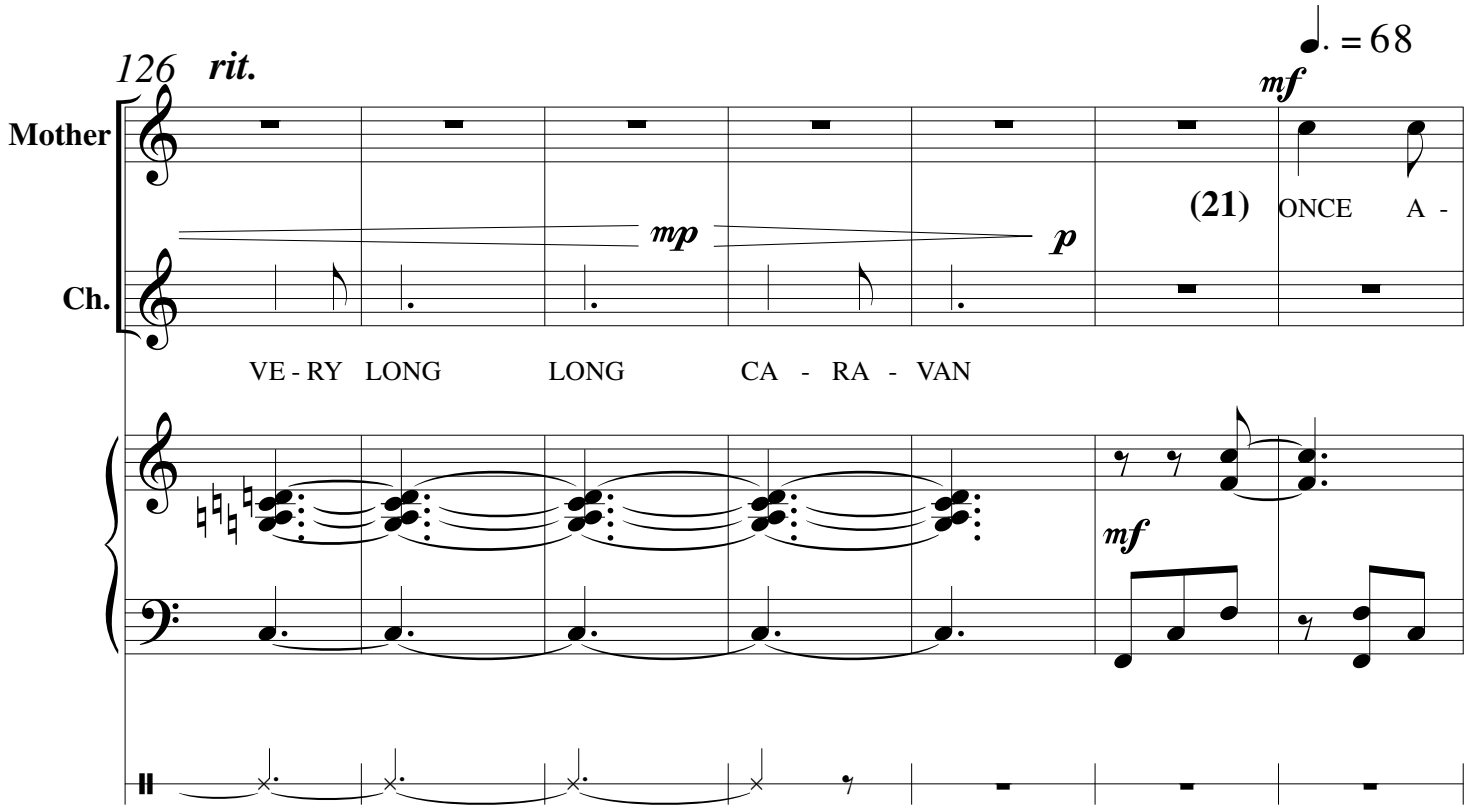
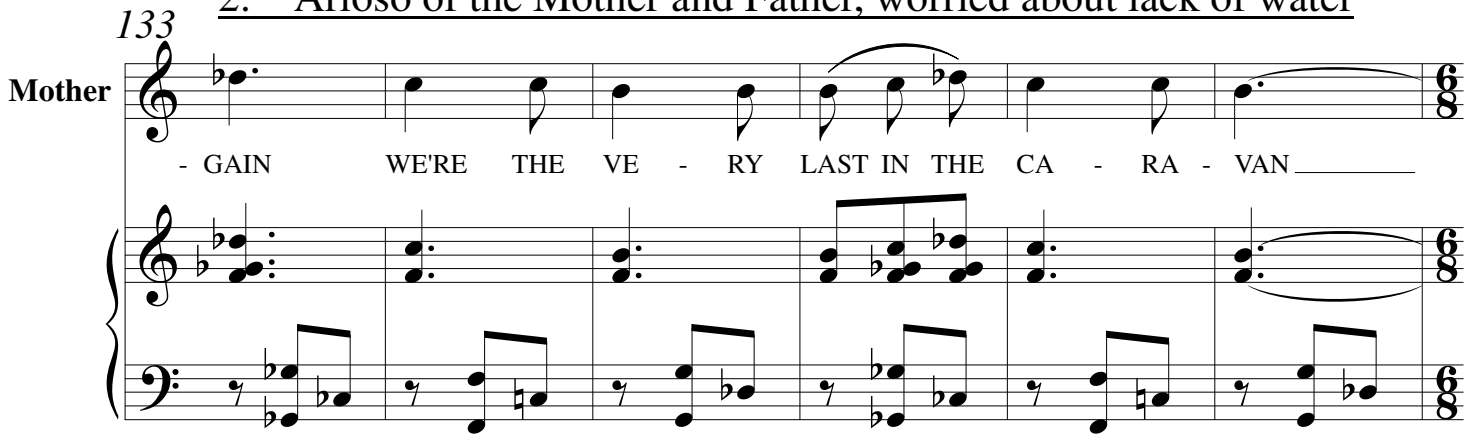
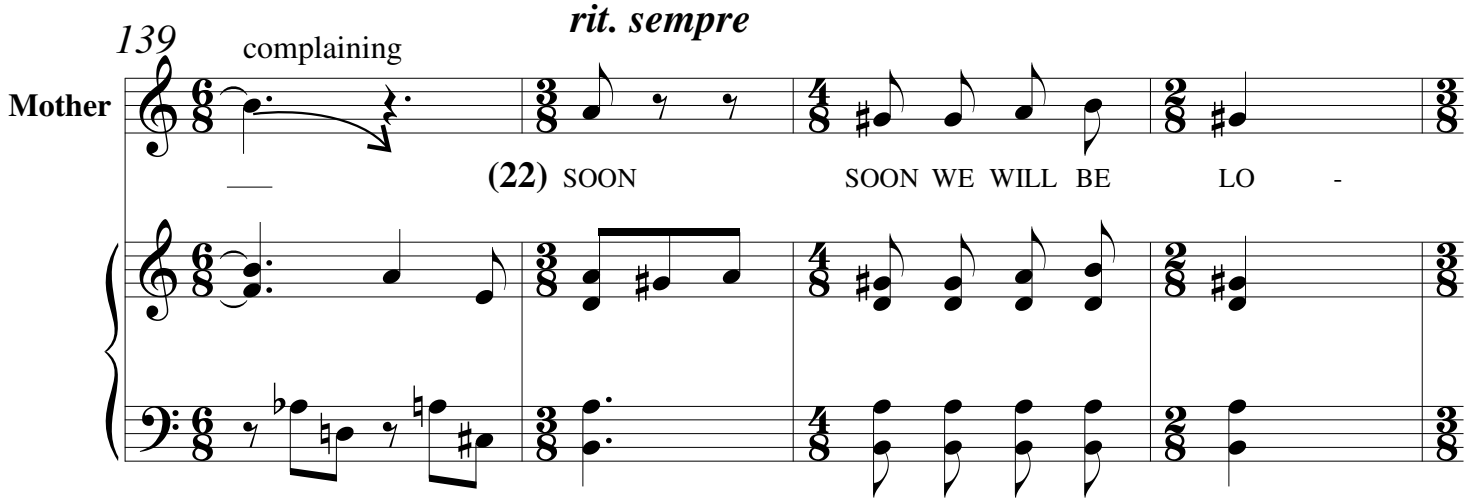

1/2 chorus starts "cluster" as in b. 1
1/2 chorus starts whistling, now in rhythm of words
109
p
Ch.
(20a) JUST DE - SERT JUST DE -
Oboist takes out the reed
p Strings
p
115
Ch.
- (S) - SERT (20b) THE IS - RAEL - ITES ARE
p
S. Cymb.
mp
The whole chorus
"cluster" as in b. 1
p
121
Ch.
WAN - DER - ING IN THE DE - SERT (20c) IN A LONG A
mf
a child from the Choir
S. Cymb.
mf



2. Arioso of the Mother and Father, worried about lack of water





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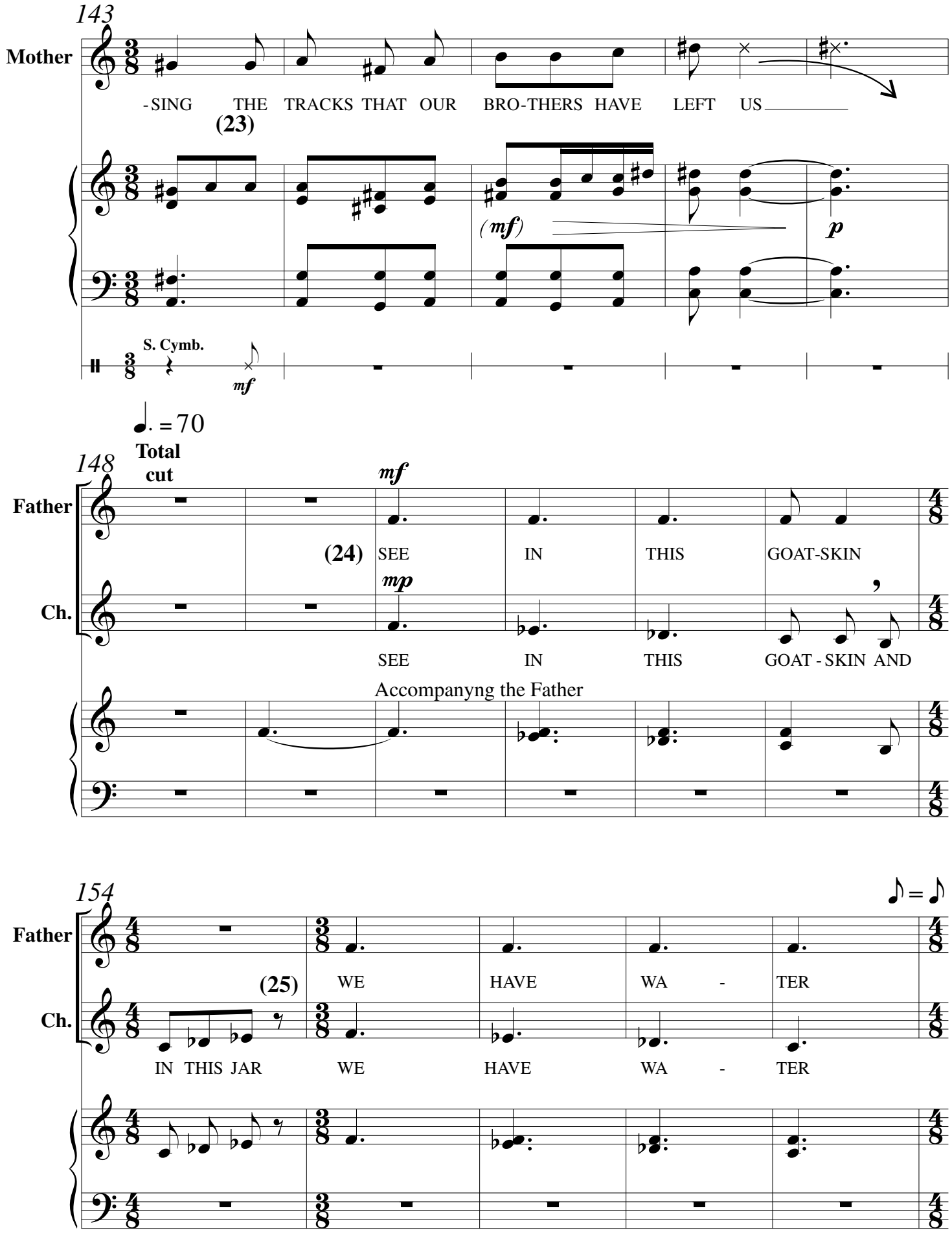
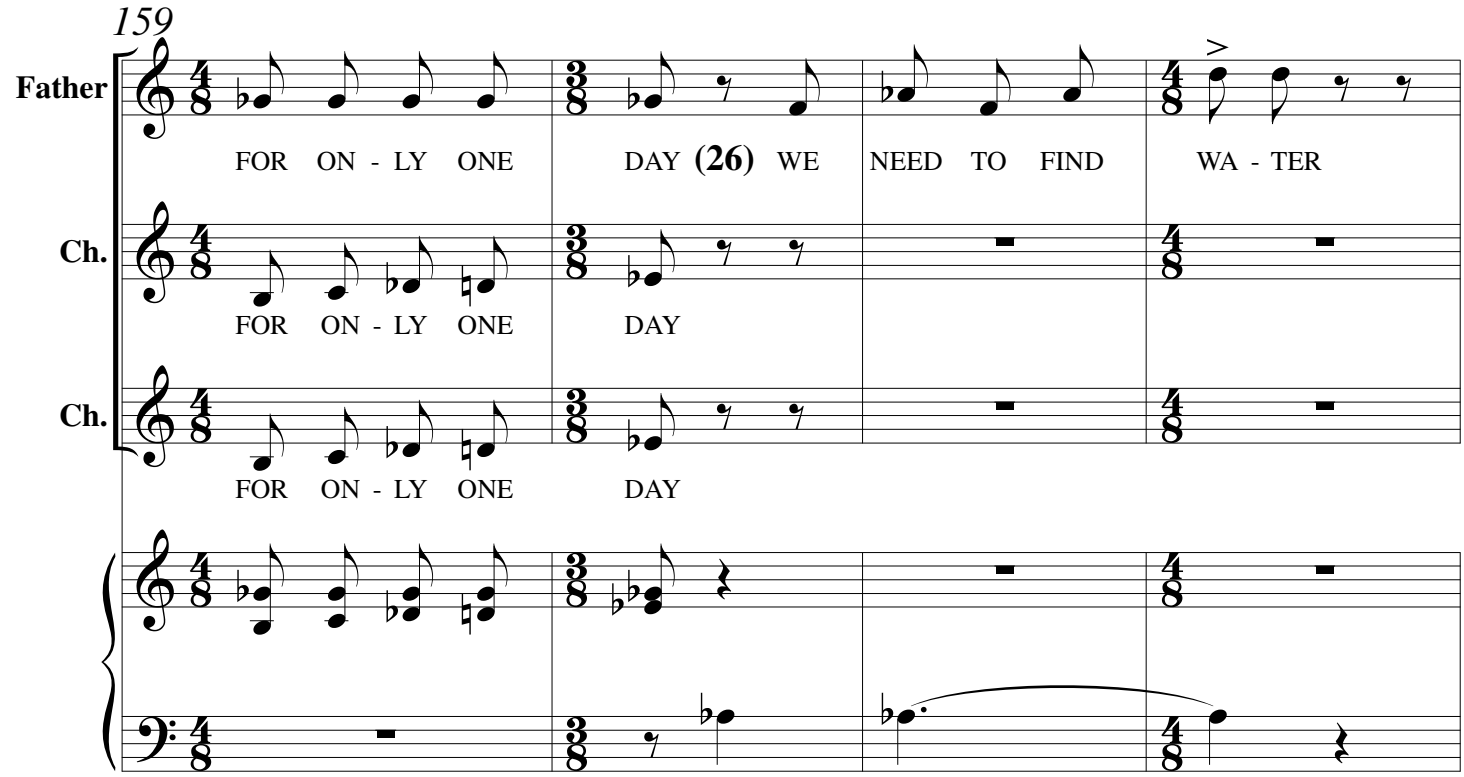
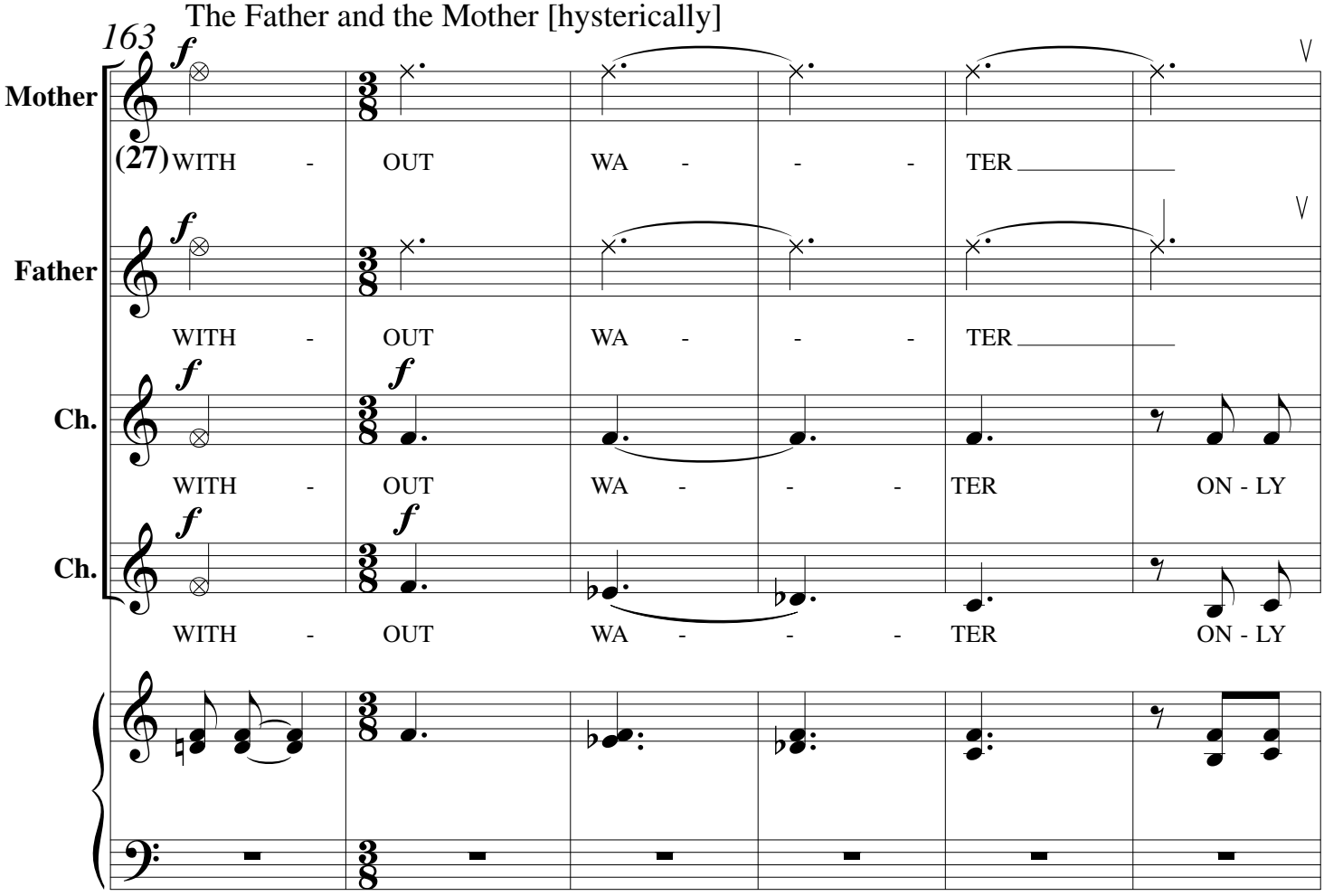

143
Mother
-SING THE TRACKS THAT OUR BRO-THERS HAVE LEFT US
(23)
(mf)
p
S. Cymb.
mf
♩. = 70
Total cut
148
Father
mf
(24)
SEE IN THIS GOAT-SKIN
Ch.
mp
SEE IN THIS GOAT - SKIN AND
Accompanyng the Father
154
♪ = ♪
Father
(25)
WE HAVE WA - TER
Ch.
IN THIS JAR WE HAVE WA - TER





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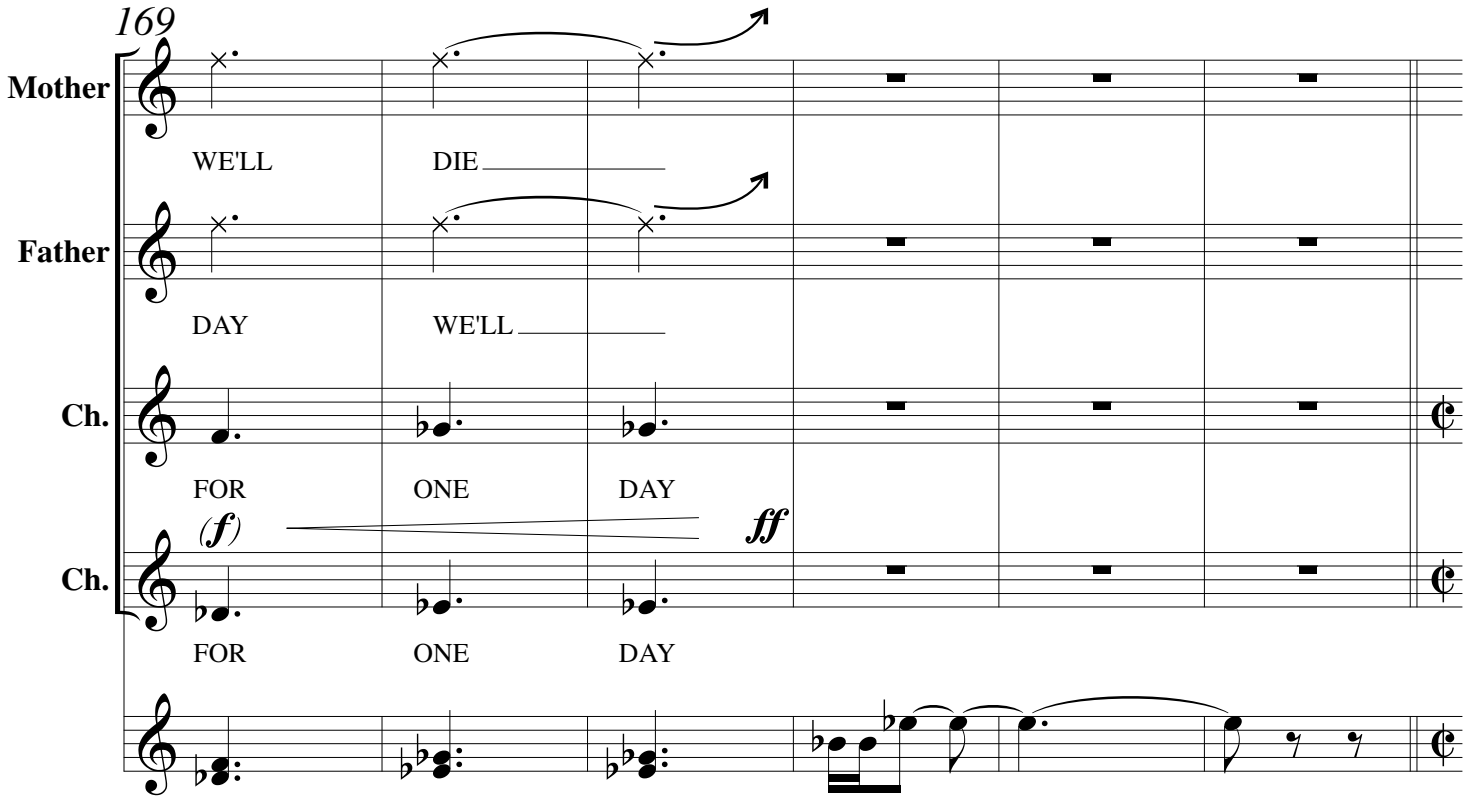
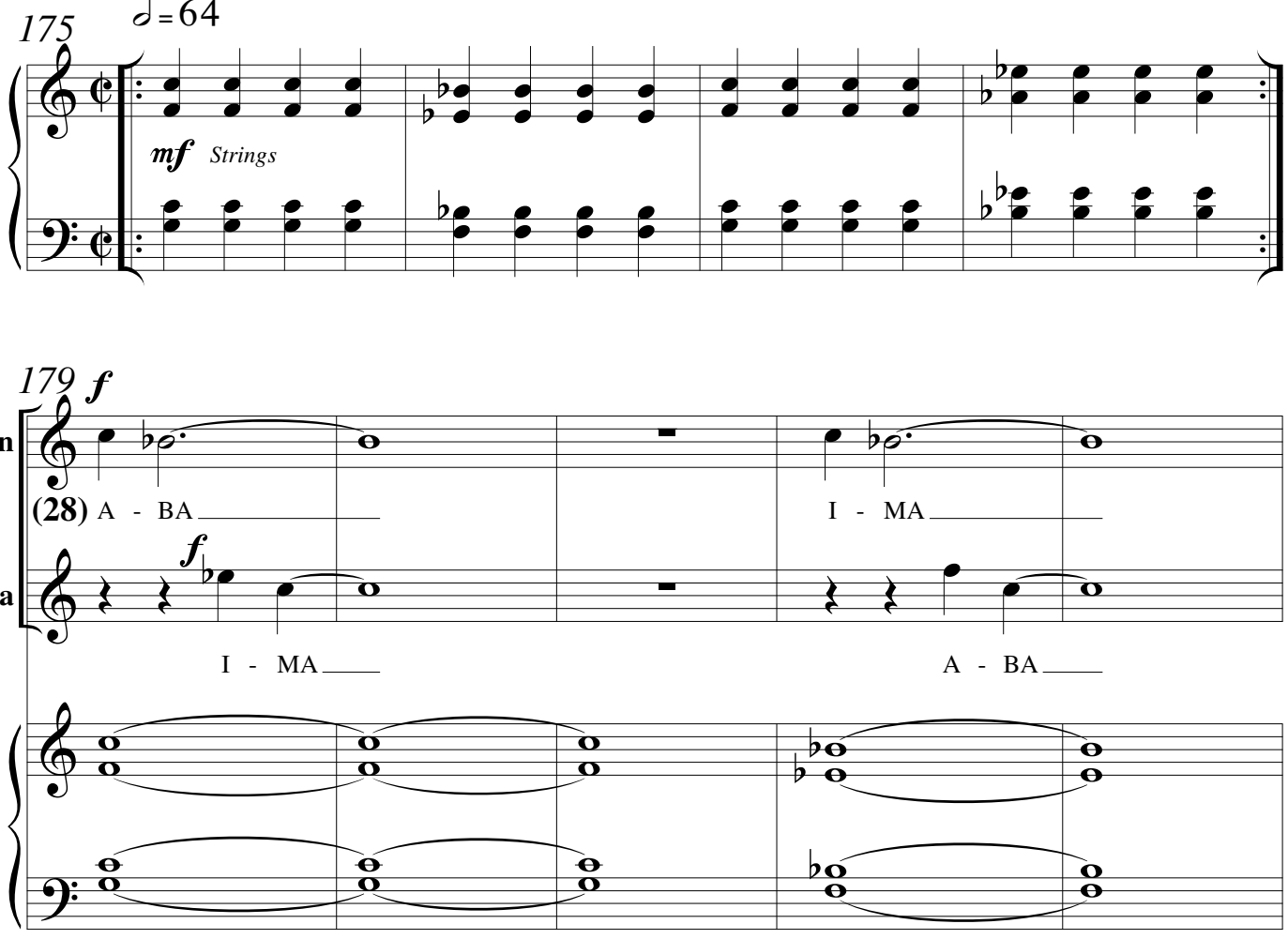
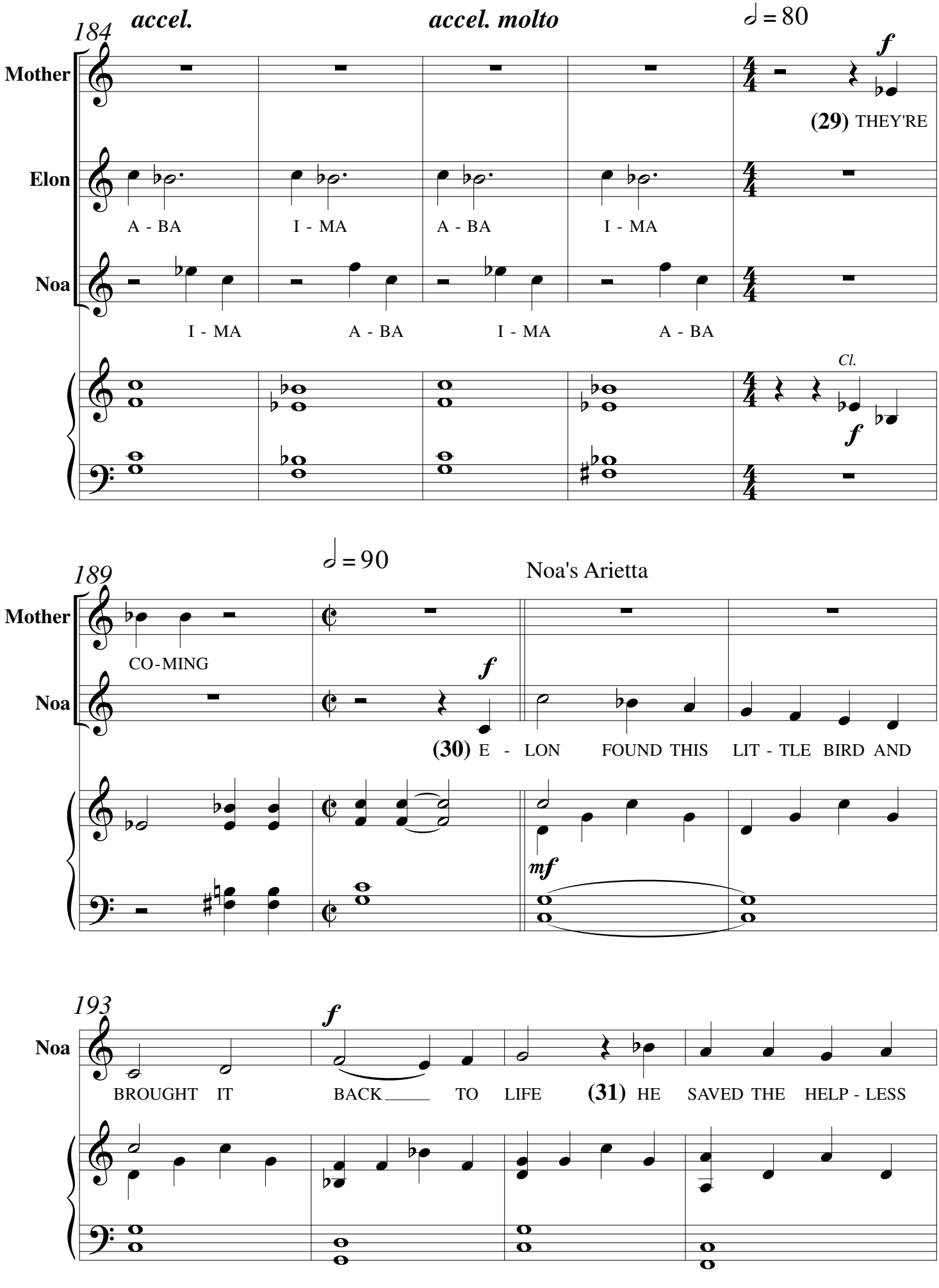


3. Scene of the Little Bird

(Arias of Noa and Elon. The Father answers briefly)





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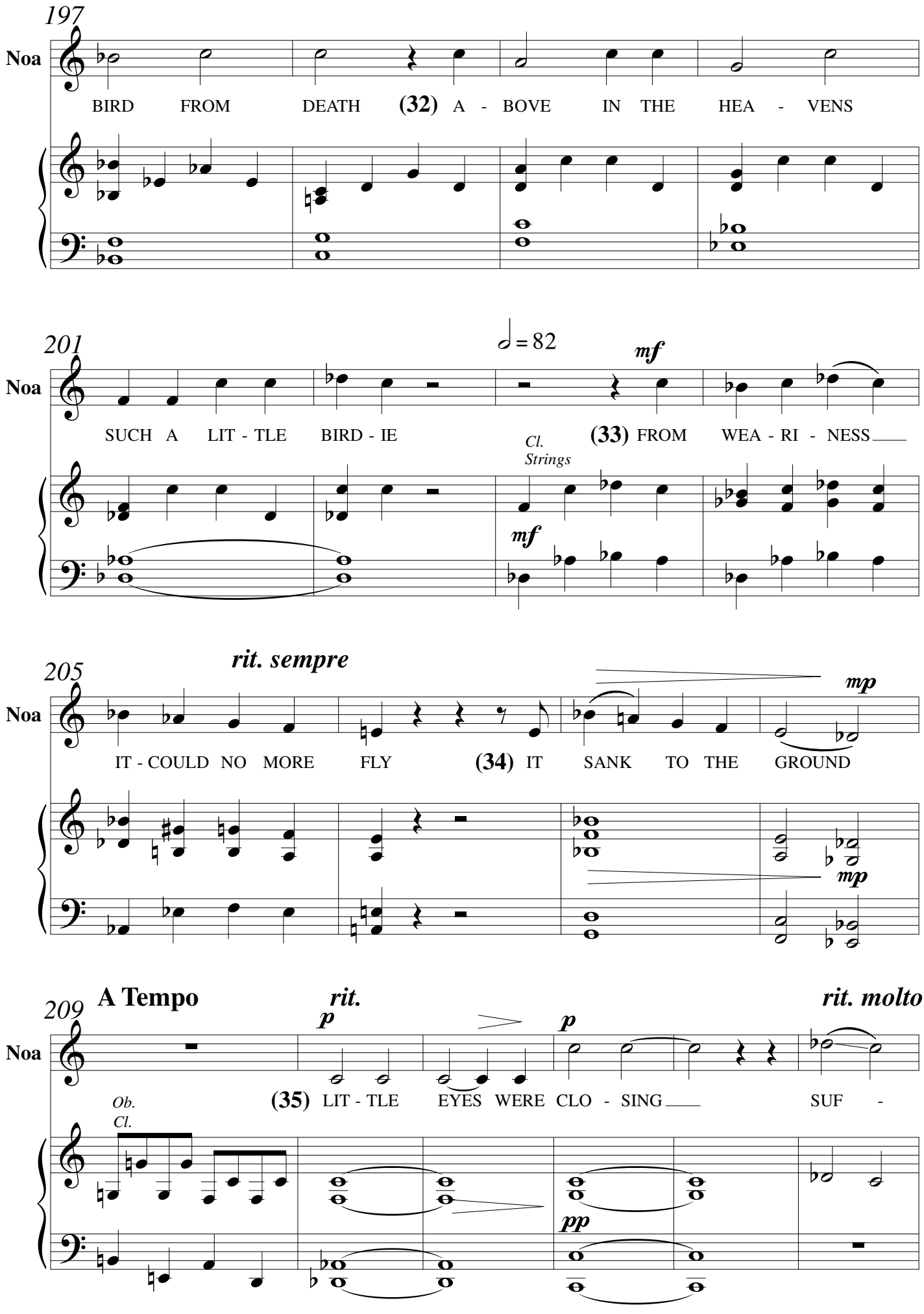
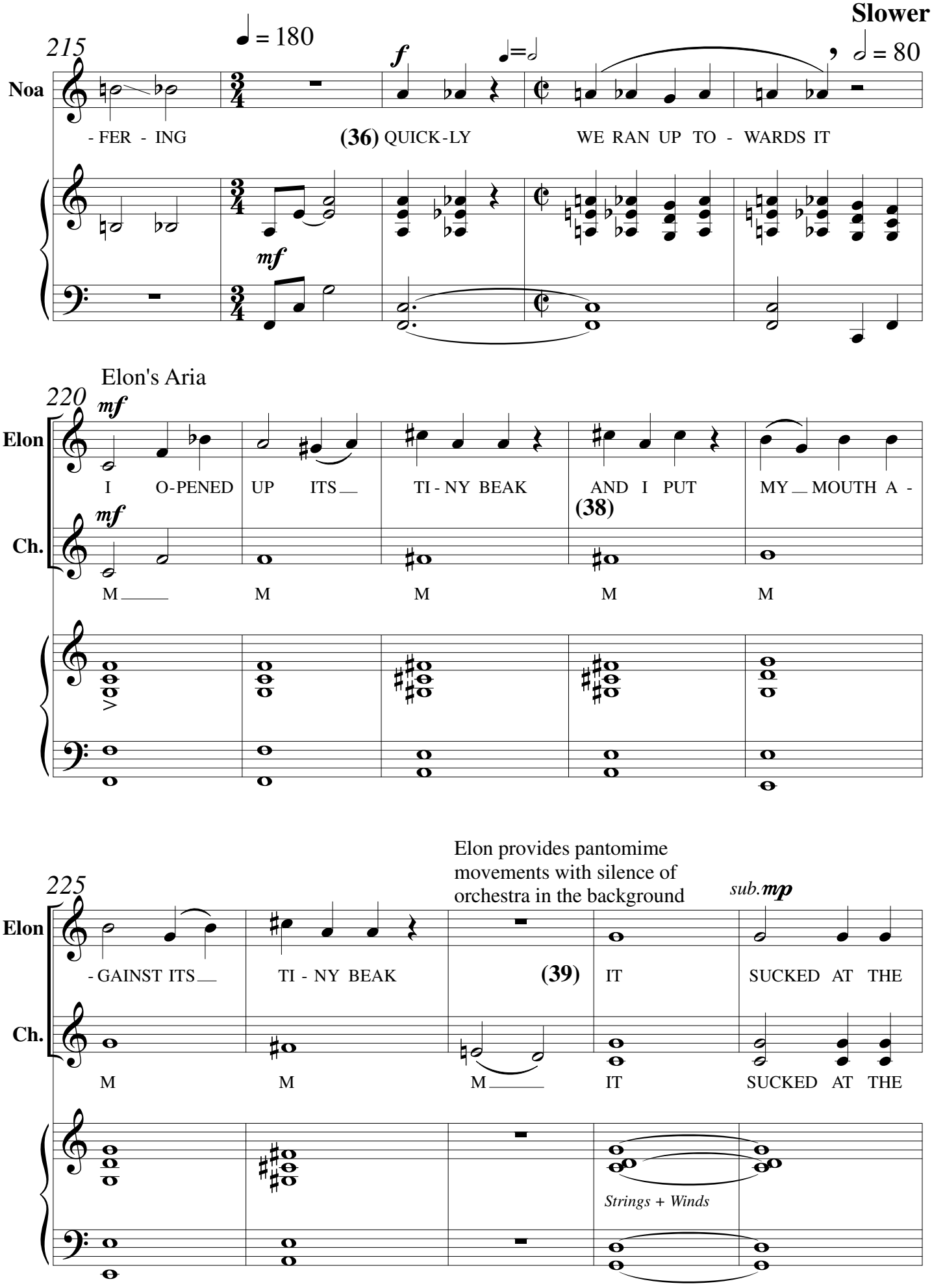

197
Noa
BIRD FROM DEATH (32) A - BOVE IN THE HEA - VENS
201
Noa
♩ = 82
mf
SUCH A LIT - TLE BIRD - IE
Cl.
Strings
(33) FROM WEA - RI - NESS
mf
205
rit. sempre
Noa
mp
IT - COULD NO MORE FLY (34) IT SANK TO THE GROUND
mp
209
A Tempo
rit.
rit. molto
Noa
p
p
Ob.
Cl.
(35) LIT - TLE EYES WERE CLO - SING
SUF -
pp



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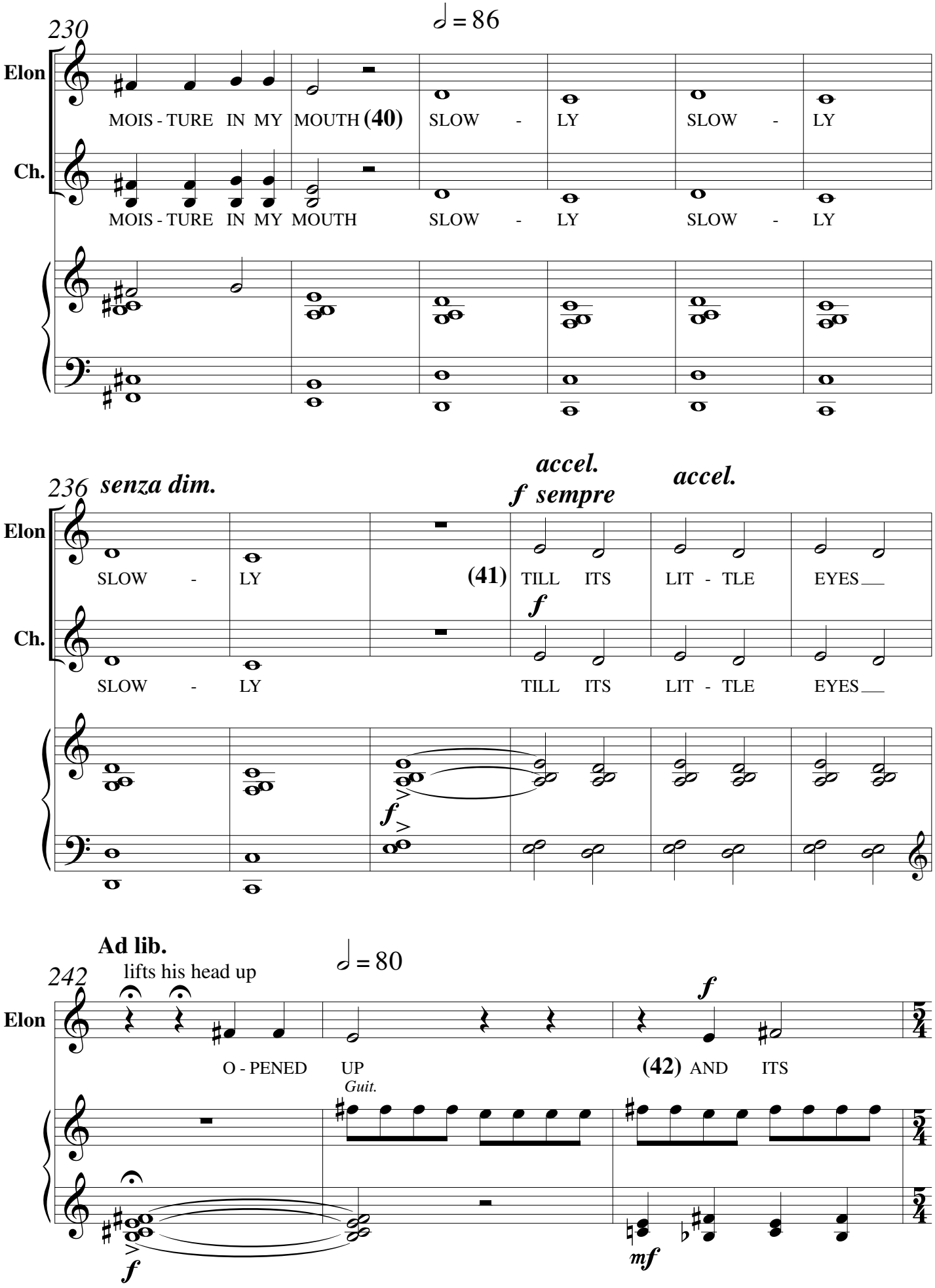
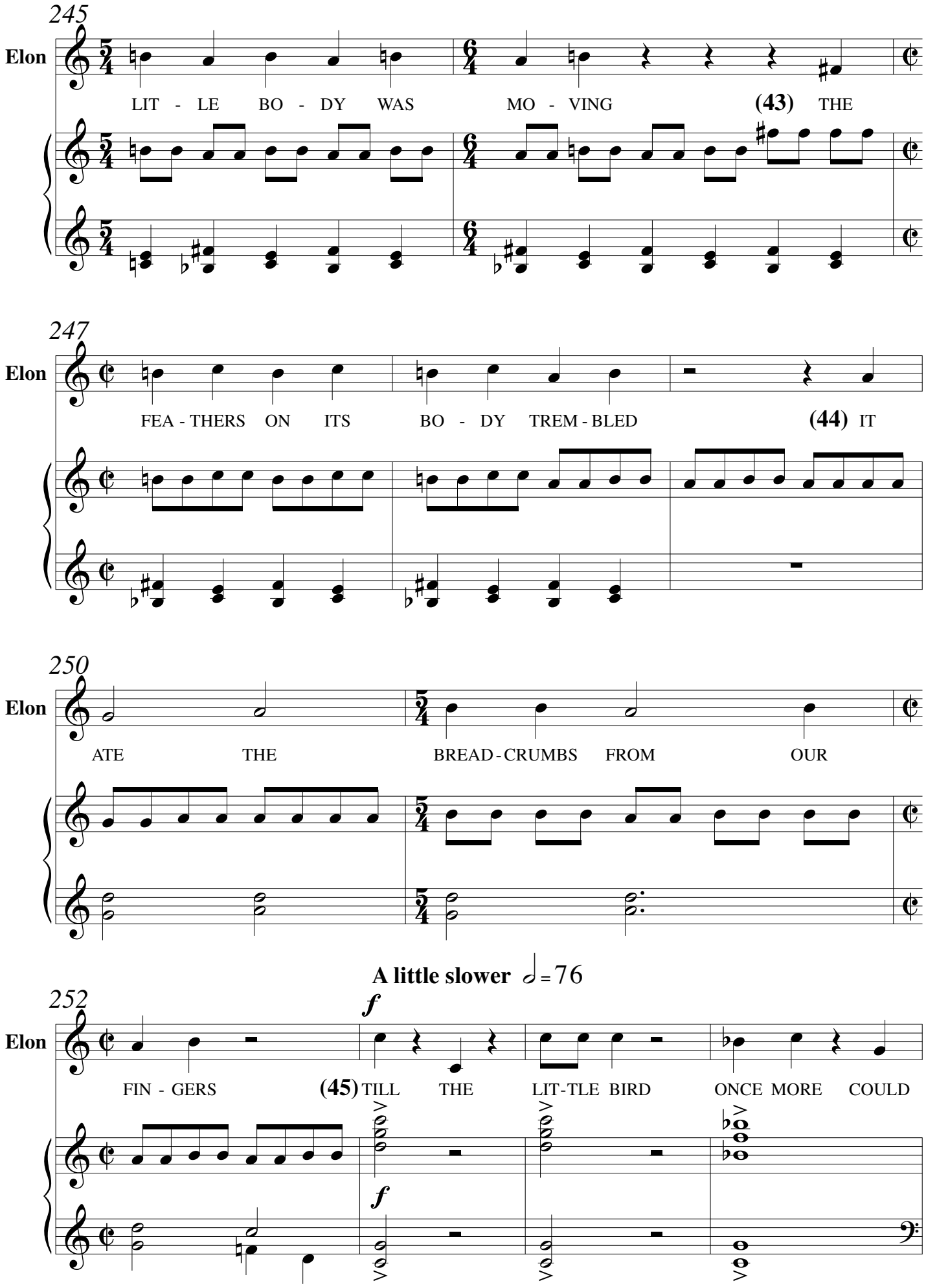

230
♩ = 86
Elon
MOIS - TURE IN MY MOUTH (40) SLOW - LY SLOW - LY
Ch.
MOIS - TURE IN MY MOUTH SLOW - LY SLOW - LY
236
senza dim.
accel.
f sempre
accel.
Elon
SLOW - LY (41) TILL ITS LIT - TLE EYES
f
Ch.
SLOW - LY TILL ITS LIT - TLE EYES
f
f
Ad lib.
lifts his head up
242
♩ = 80
Elon
f
O - PENED UP (42) AND ITS
Guit.
f
mf



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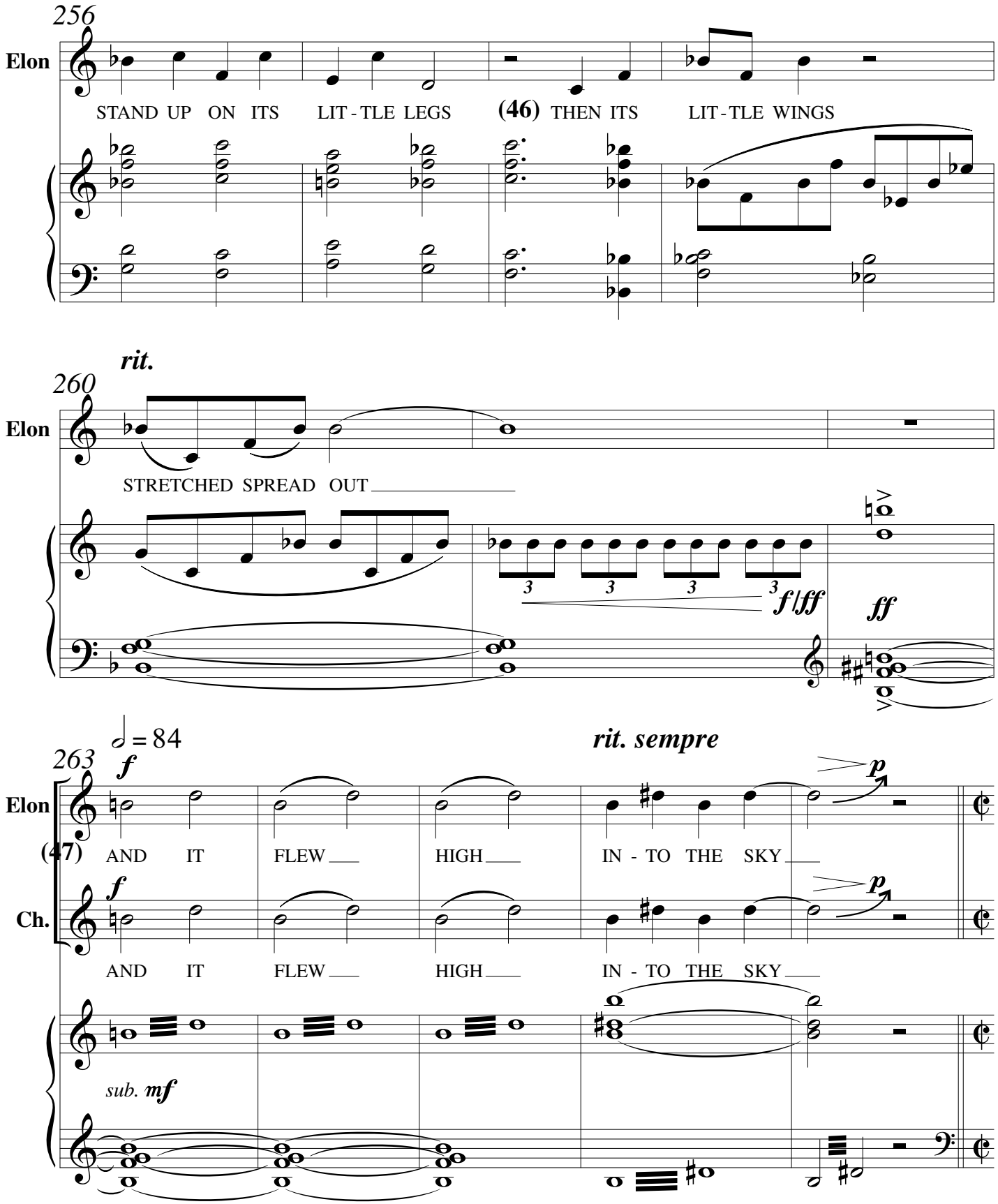
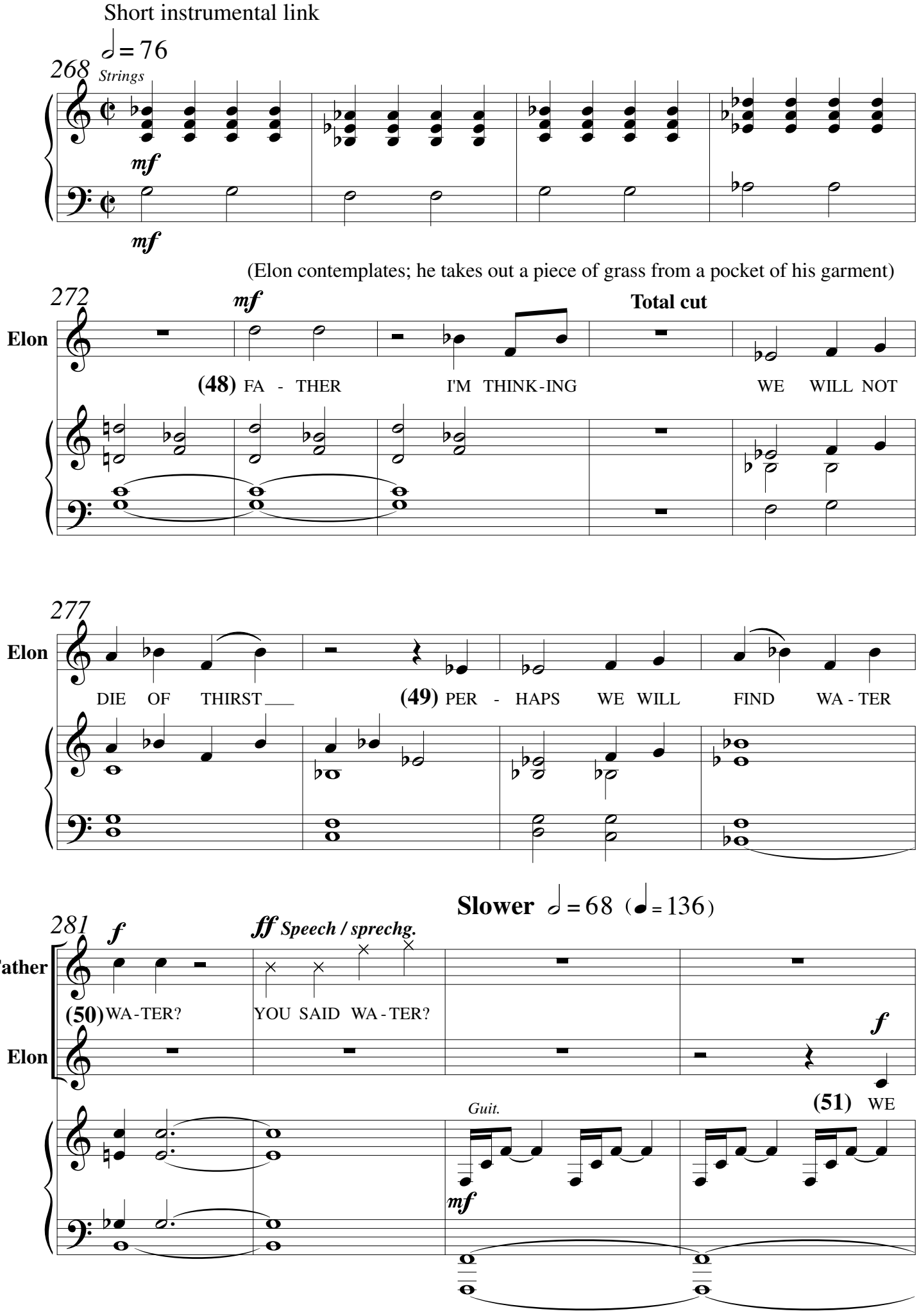

256
Elon
STAND UP ON ITS LIT - TLE LEGS
(46)
THEN ITS LIT - TLE WINGS
rit.
260
Elon
STRETCHED SPREAD OUT
3 3 3 3
f/ff
ff
♩ = 84
263
f
rit. sempre
p
Elon
(47)
AND IT FLEW HIGH IN - TO THE SKY
f
p
Ch.
AND IT FLEW HIGH IN - TO THE SKY
sub. mf



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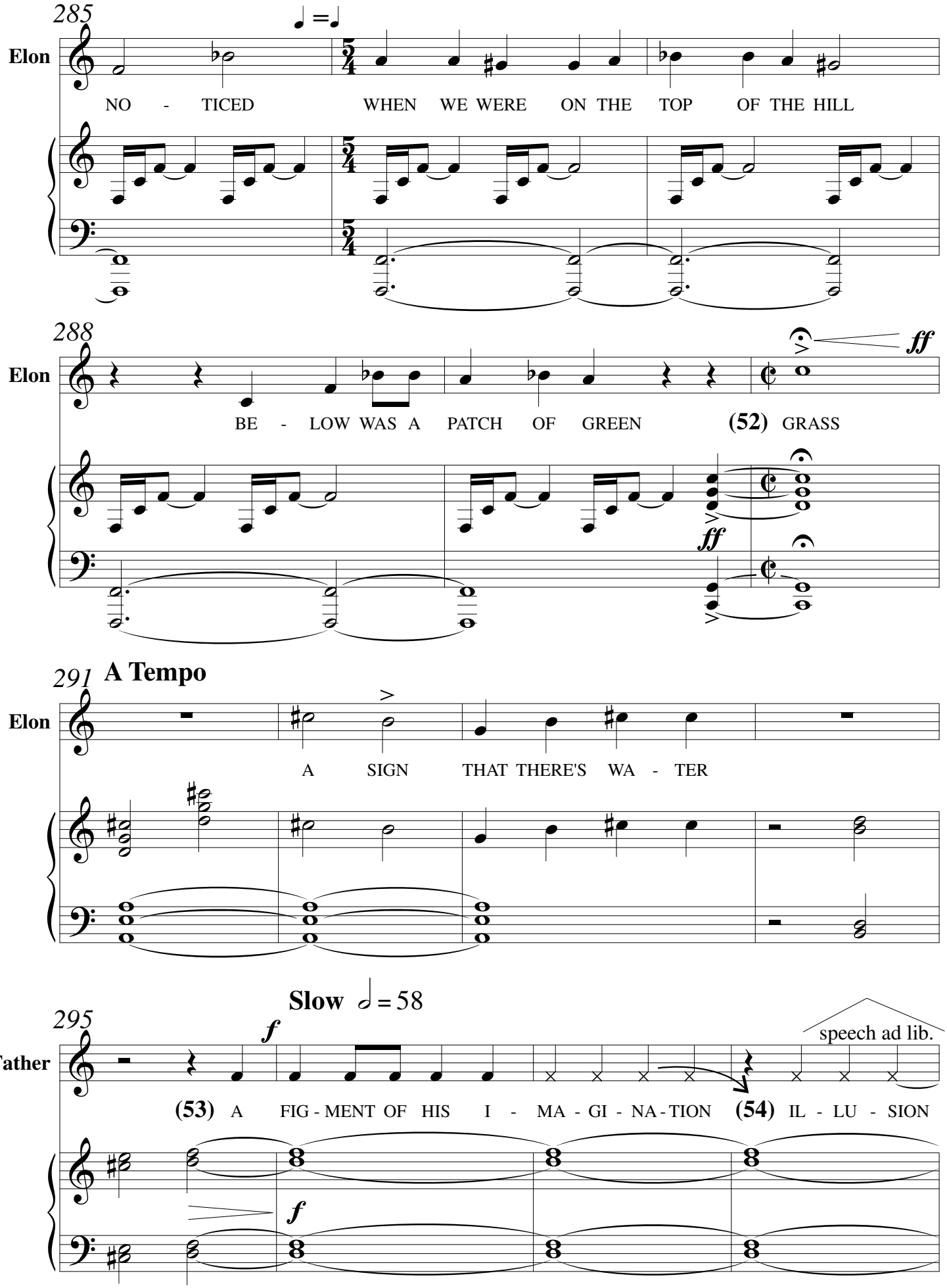
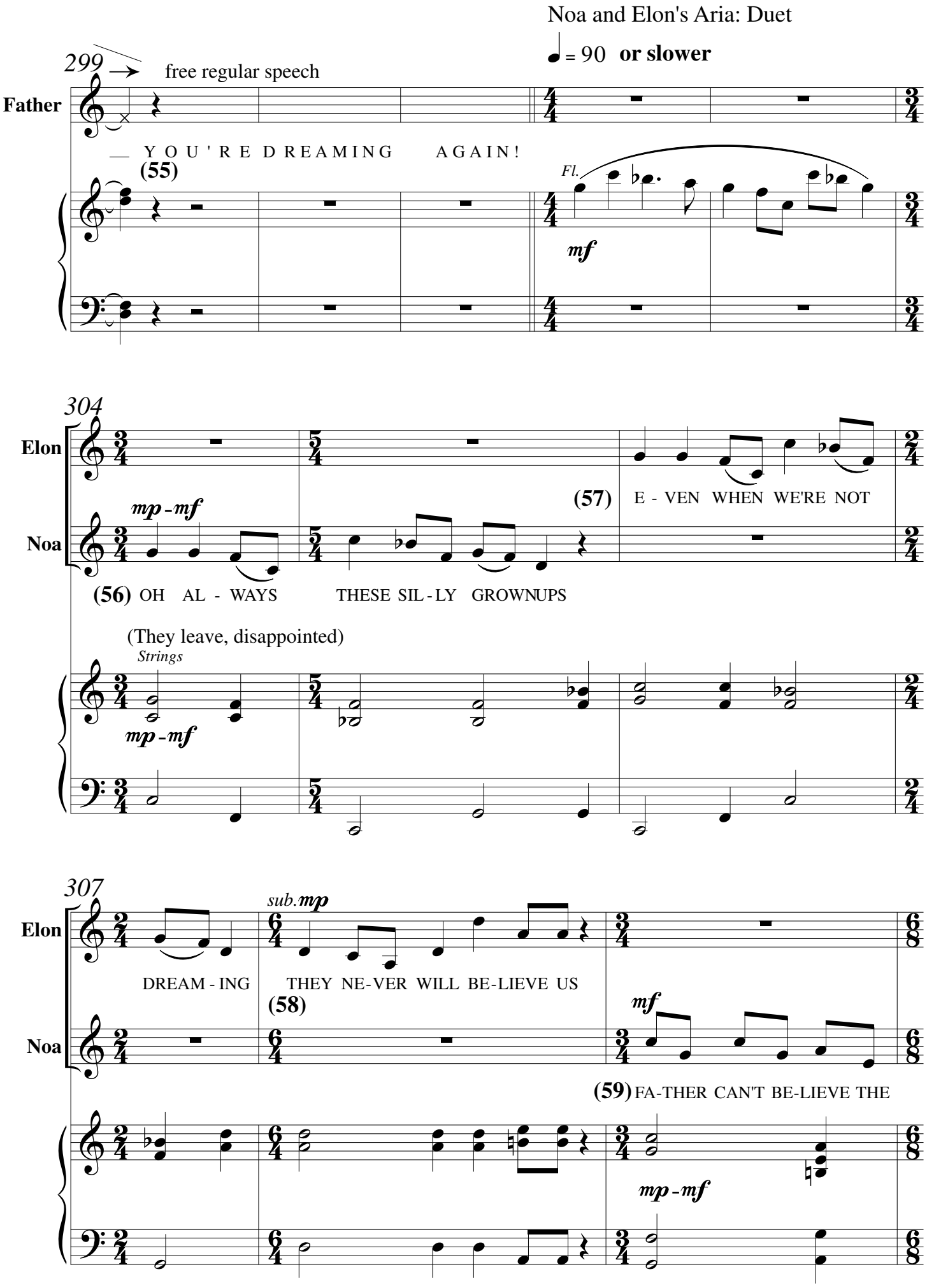

285
Elon
NO - TICED WHEN WE WERE ON THE TOP OF THE HILL
288
Elon
BE - LOW WAS A PATCH OF GREEN (52) GRASS
ff
291
A Tempo
Elon
A SIGN THAT THERE'S WA - TER
Slow 𝅗𝅥 = 58
295
Father
f
speech ad lib.
(53) A FIG - MENT OF HIS I - MA - GI - NA - TION (54) IL - LU - SION



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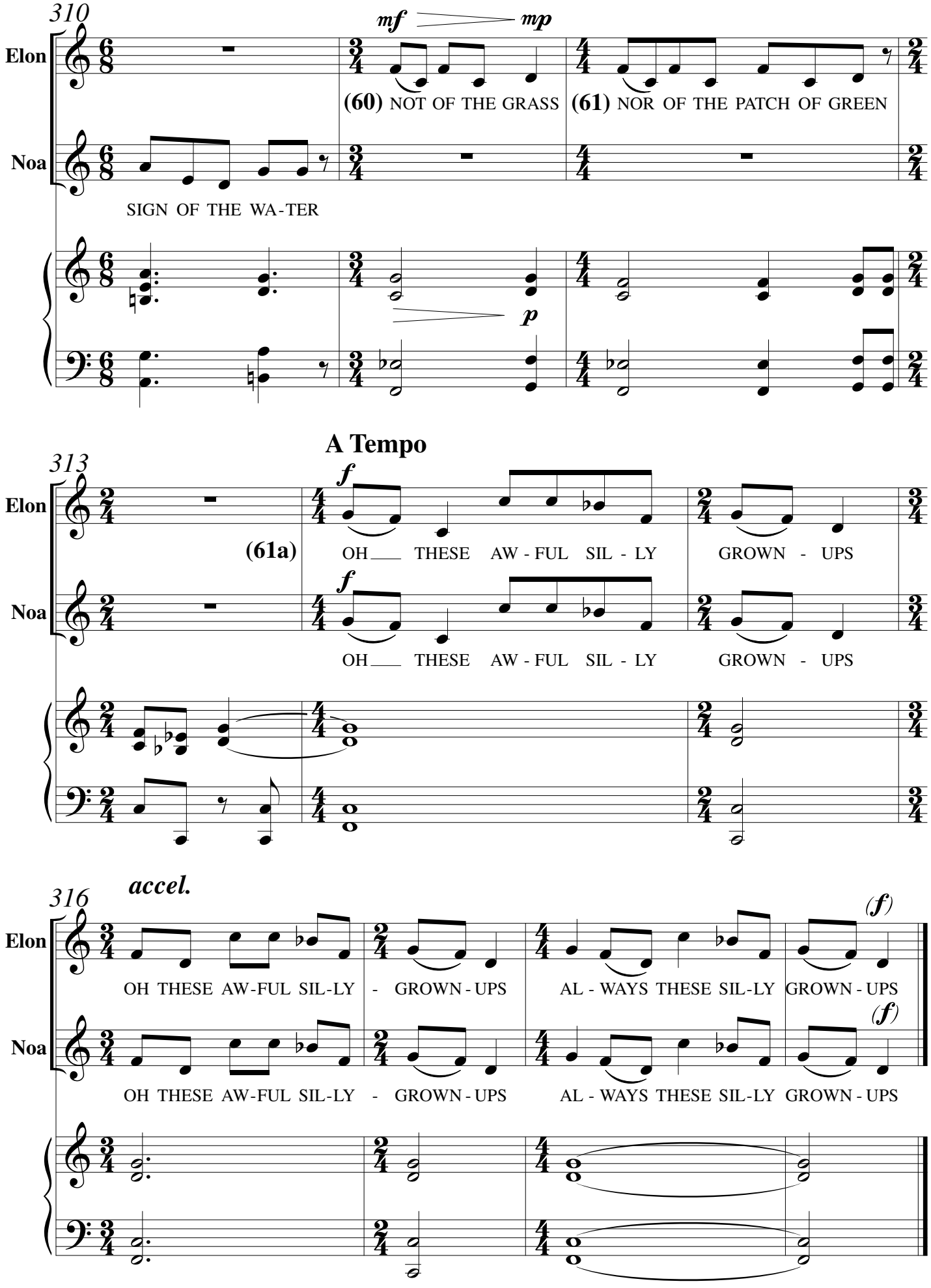
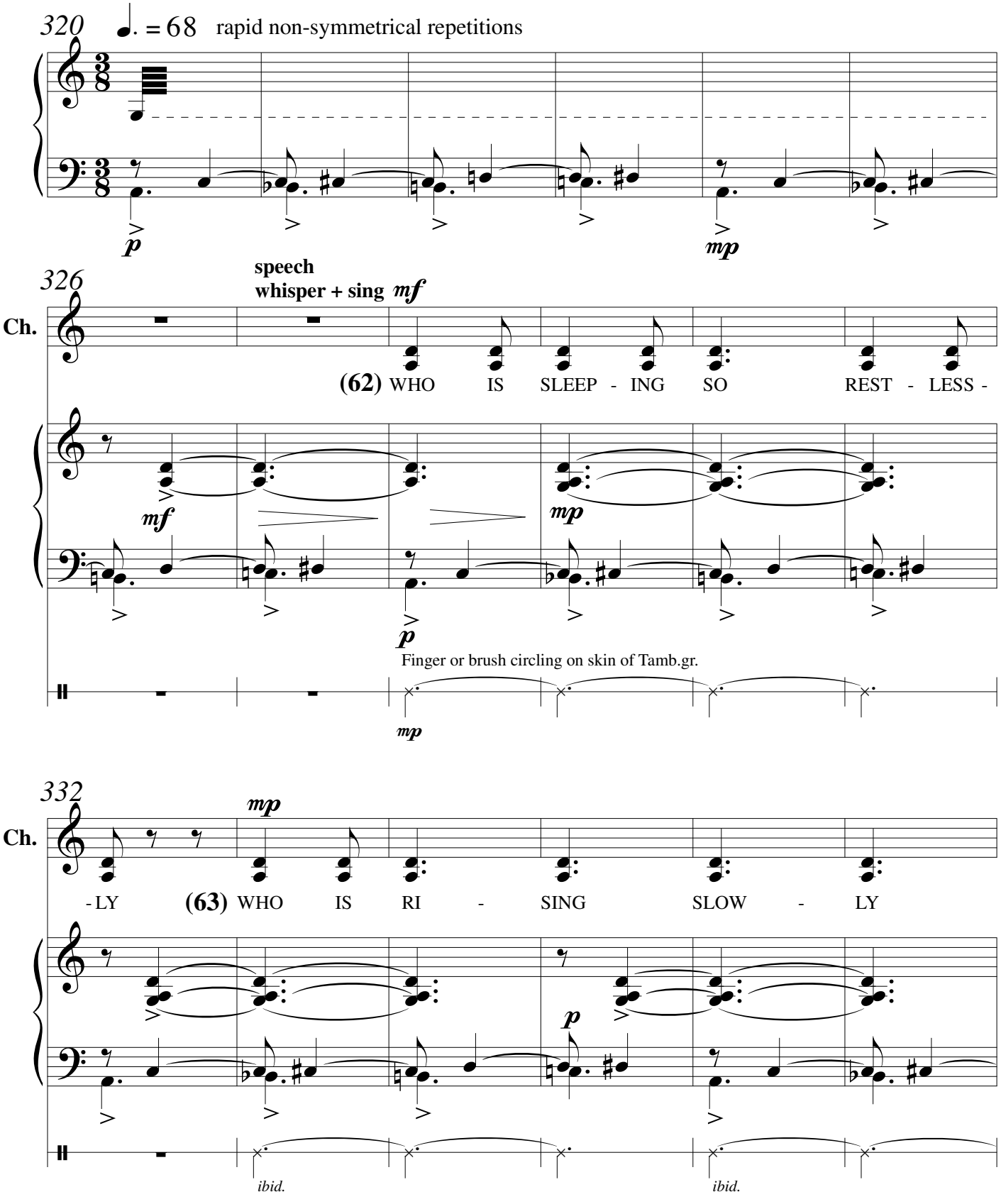

310
Elon
Noa
mf
mp
(60) NOT OF THE GRASS
(61) NOR OF THE PATCH OF GREEN
SIGN OF THE WA-TER
p
A Tempo
313
f
(61a)
OH ___ THESE AW - FUL SIL - LY
GROWN - UPS
accel.
316
(f)
OH THESE AW-FUL SIL-LY - GROWN-UPS
AL - WAYS THESE SIL-LY GROWN-UPS

S C E N E I I

(Central Scene)

Noa and Elon steal out of the Israelites' tent; They meet Ali and Laila (children of the desert, Bedouins) and arrive at the oasis.

4. The Chorus narrates: Noa and Elon want to sneak out of the Israelite tent



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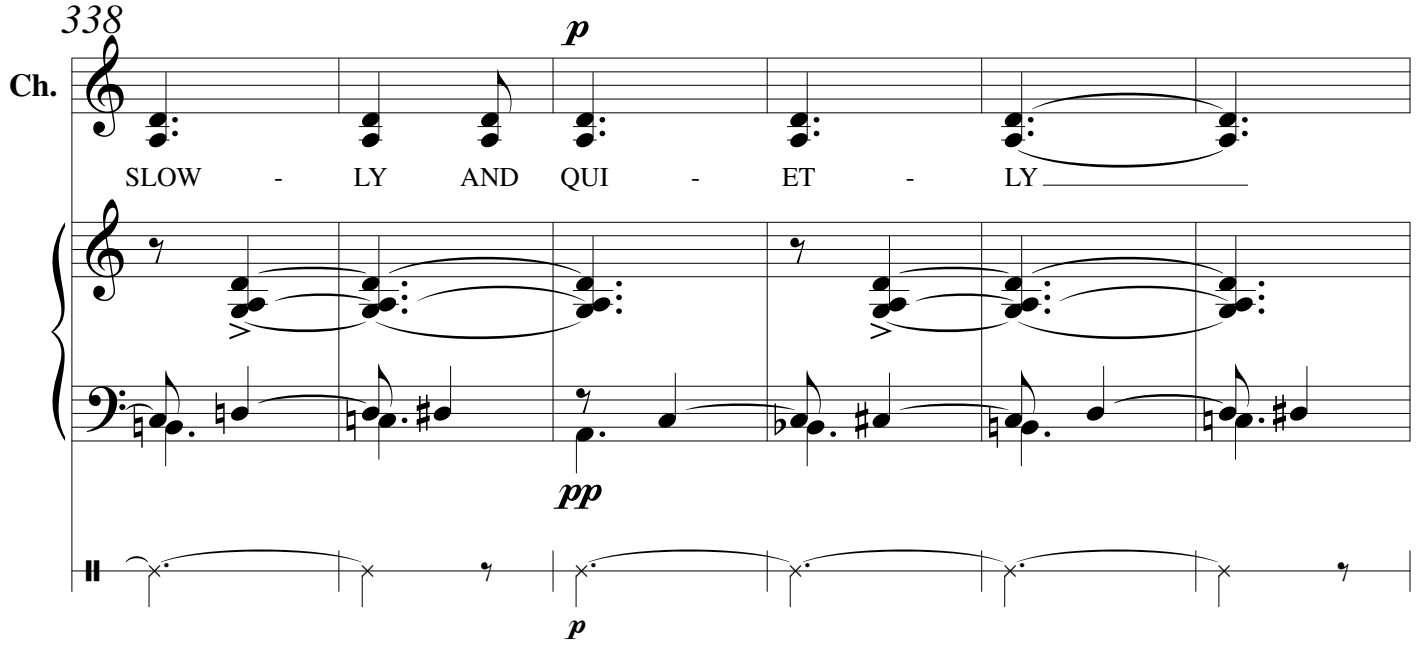
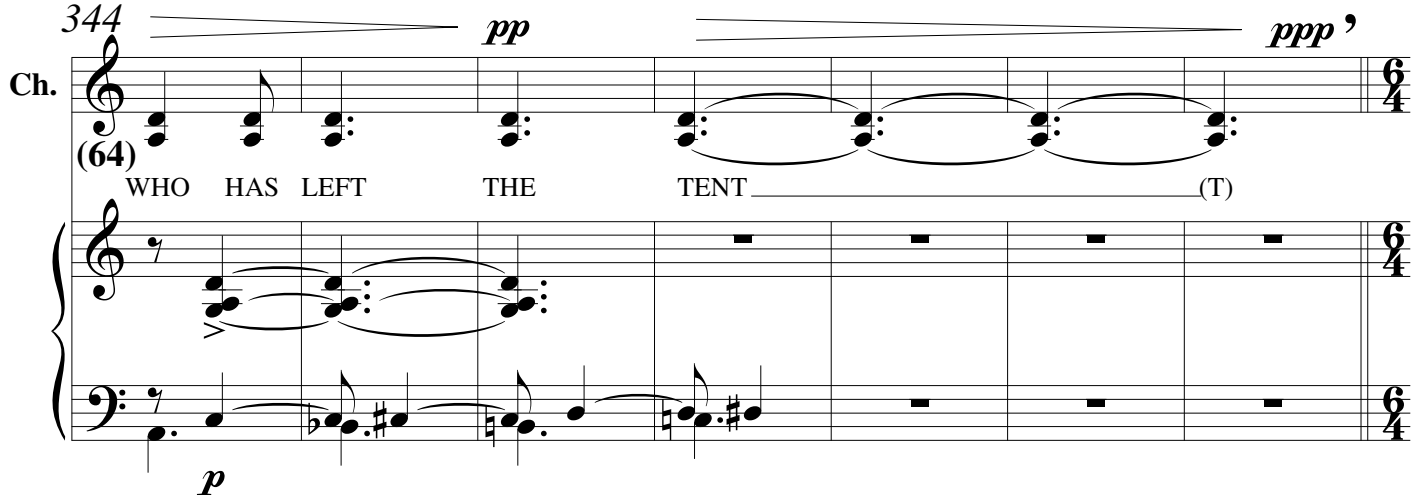
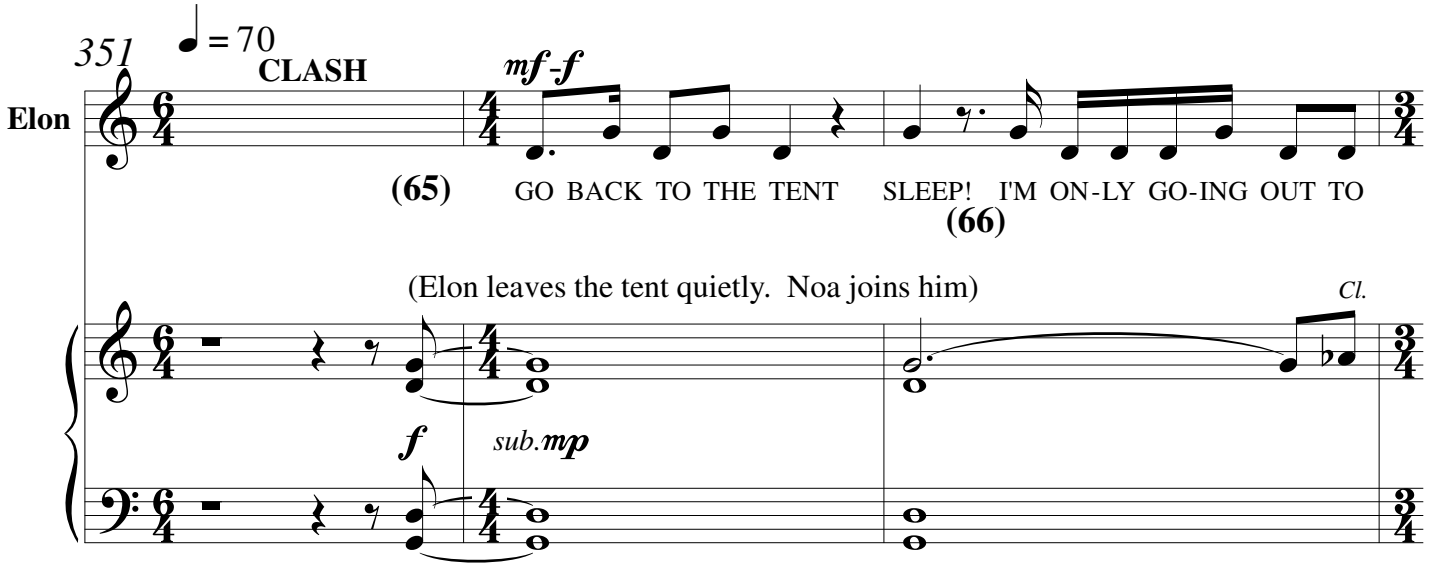
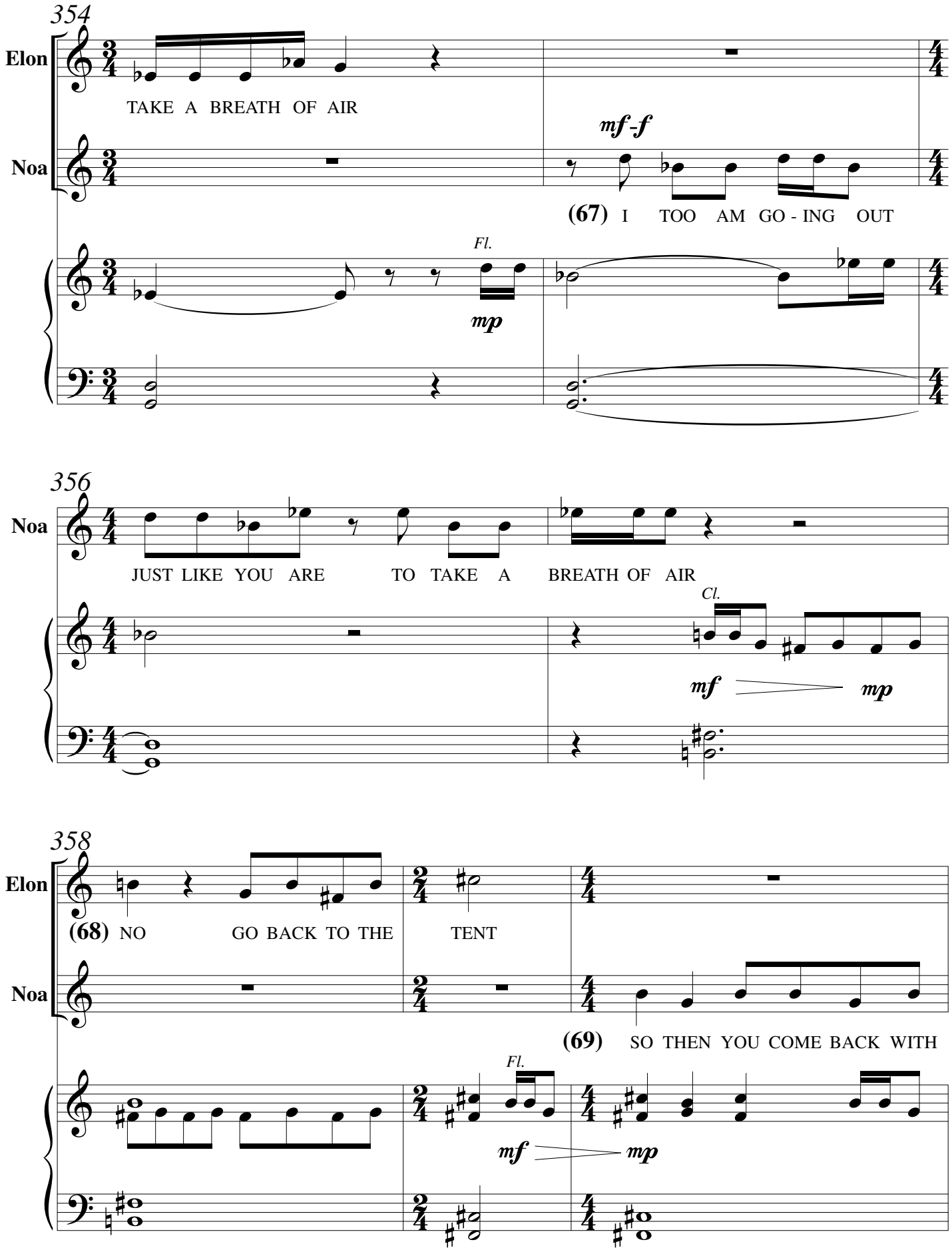




5. Duet of Noa and Elon in the Israelite tent





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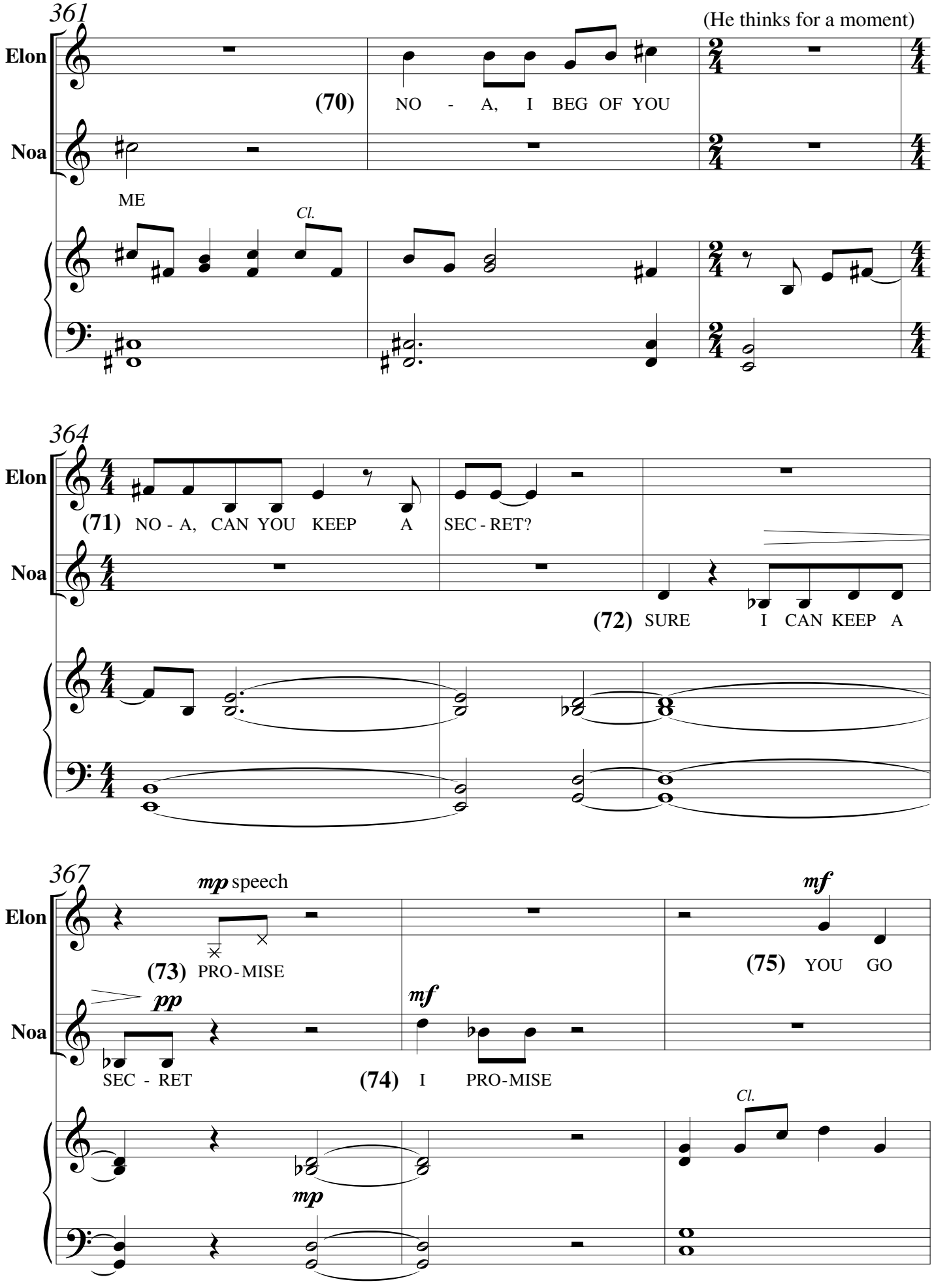
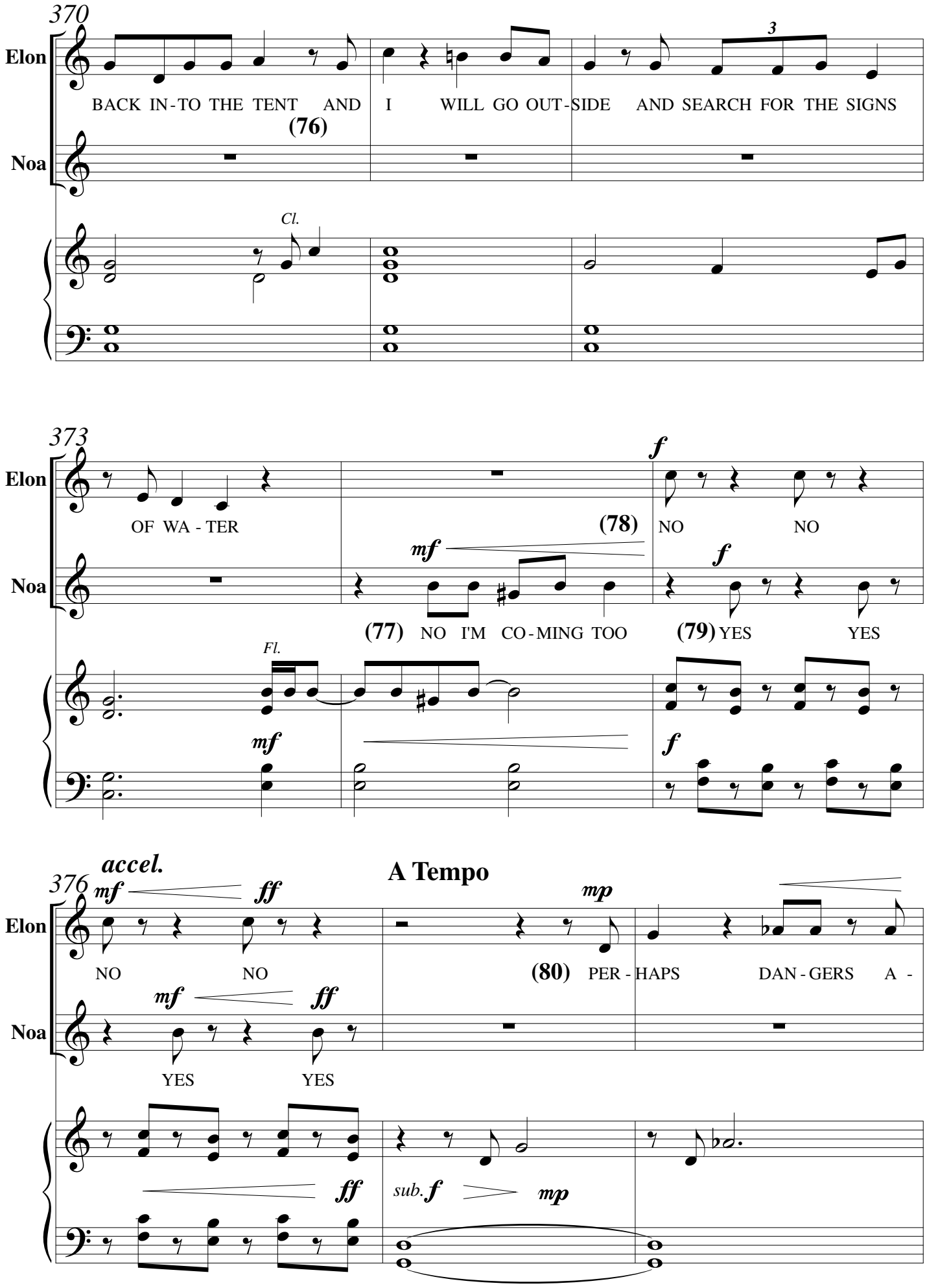

361
Elon
Noa
(He thinks for a moment)
(70) NO - A, I BEG OF YOU
ME
Cl.
364
Elon
Noa
(71) NO - A, CAN YOU KEEP A SEC - RET?
(72) SURE I CAN KEEP A
367
Elon
Noa
mp speech
(73) PRO-MISE
pp
SEC - RET
mf
(74) I PRO-MISE
mp
mf
(75) YOU GO
Cl.



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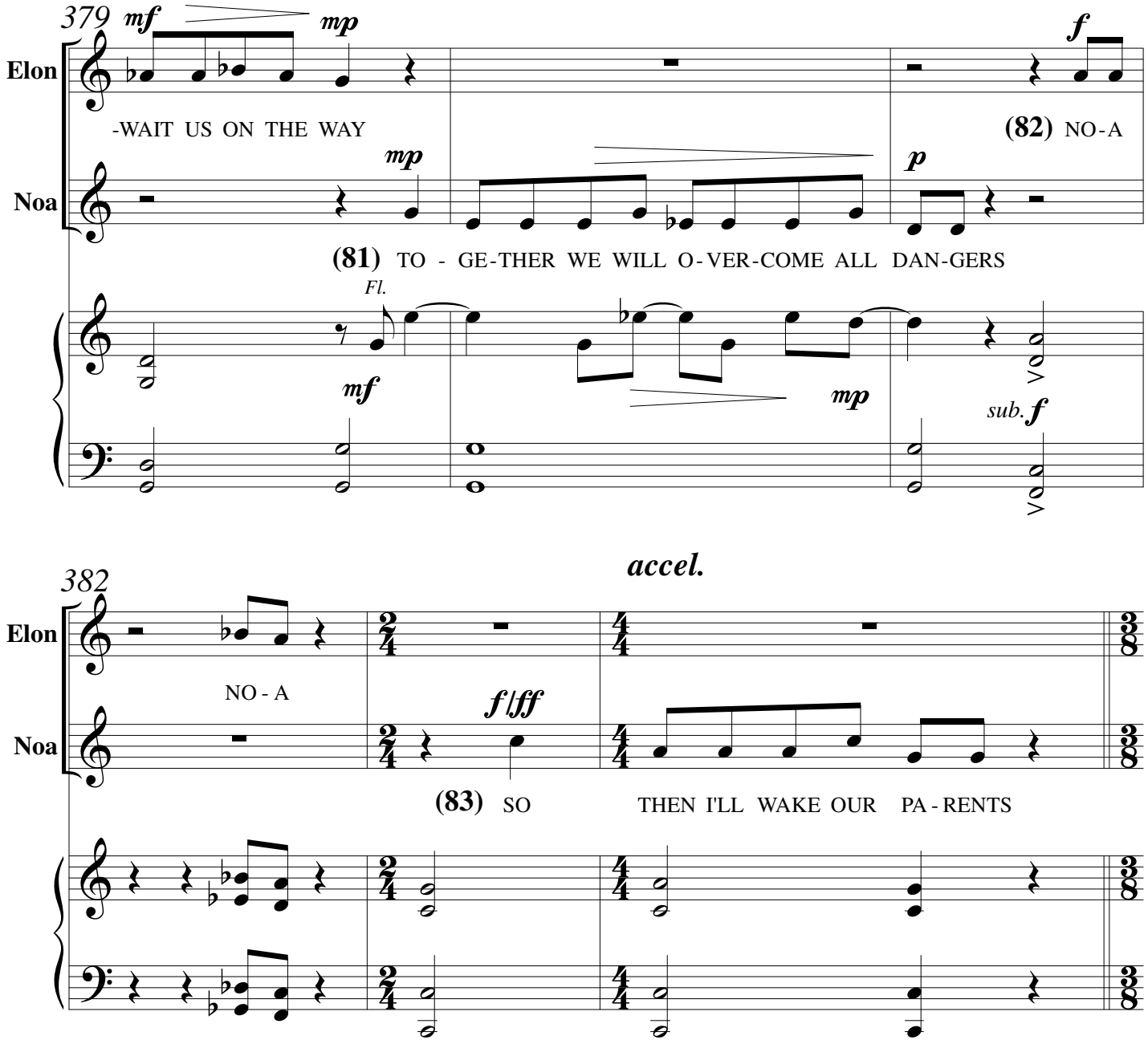
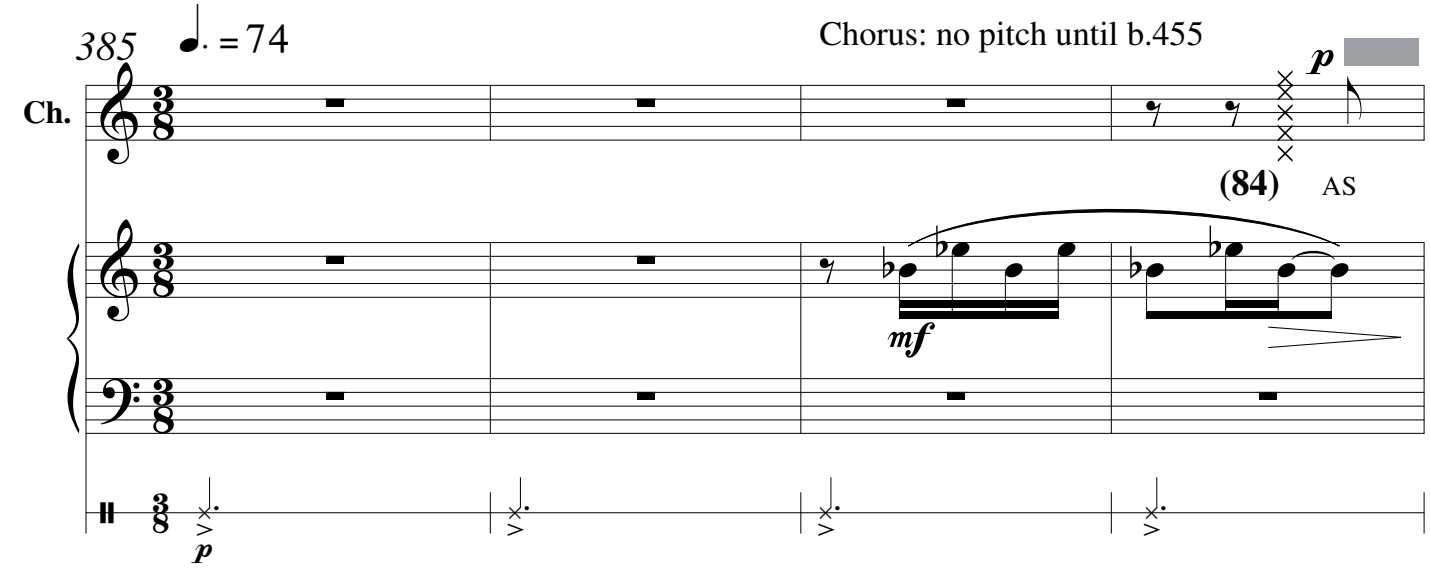
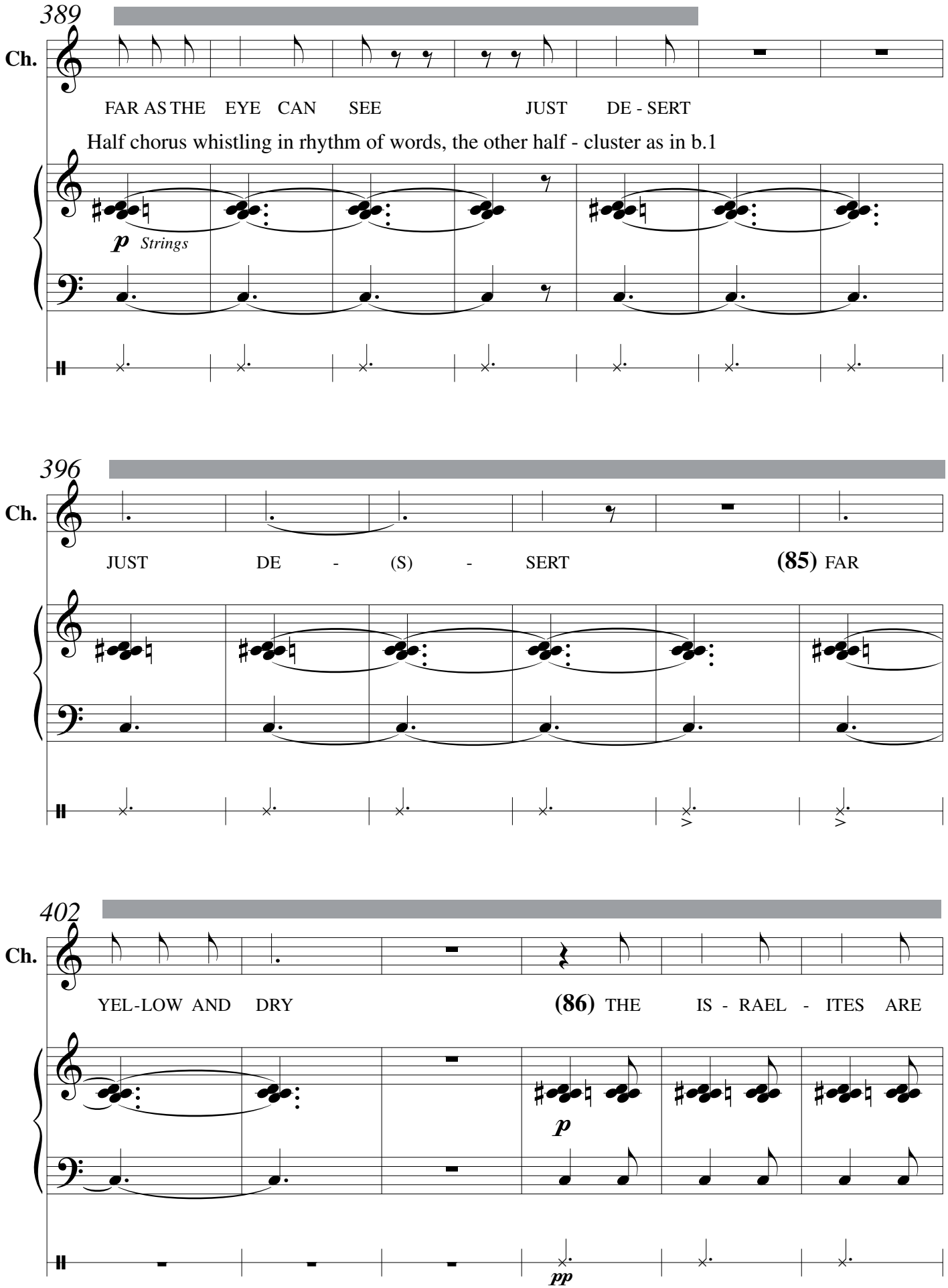


6. The Mantra of Wandering II (Chorus)





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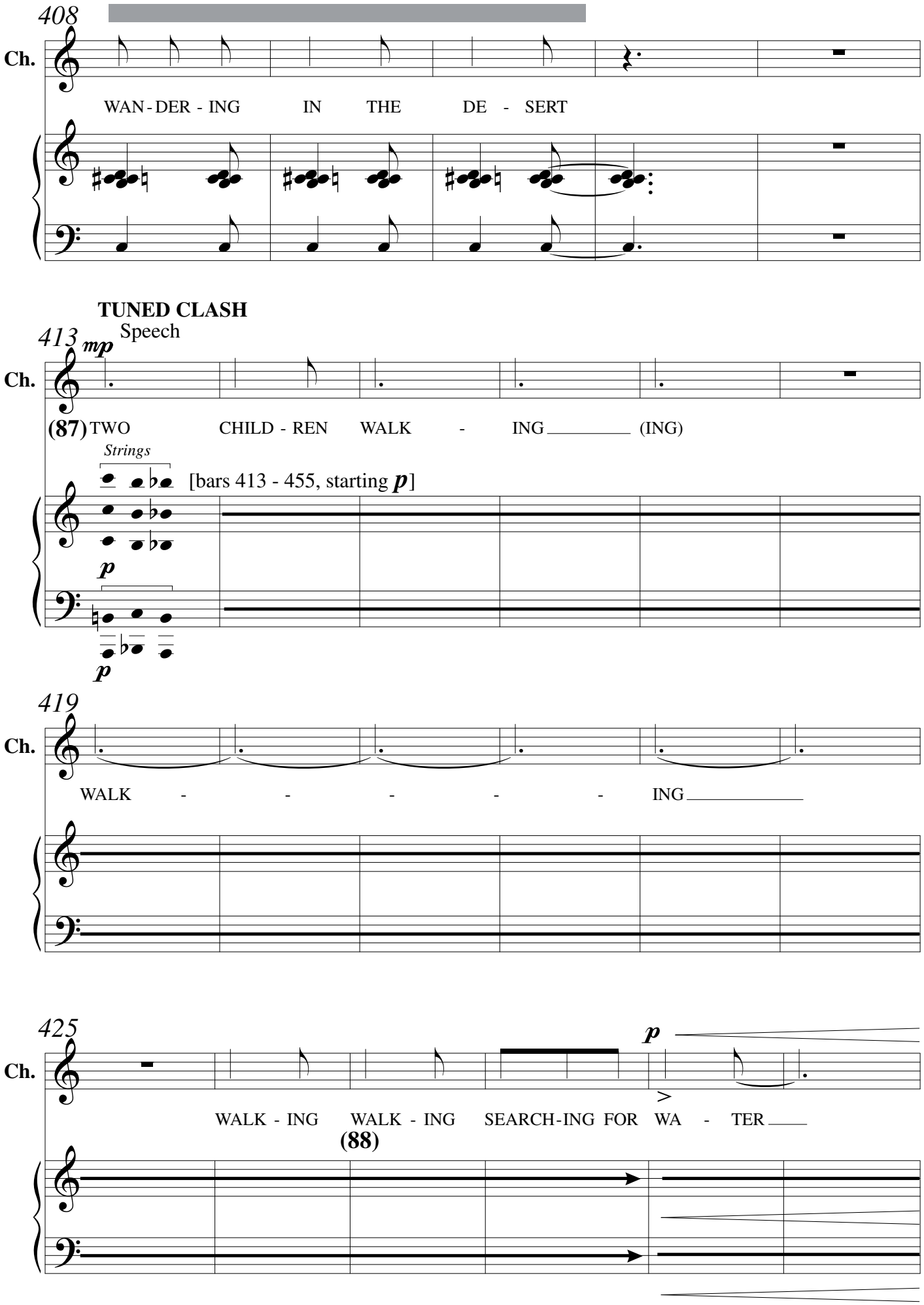
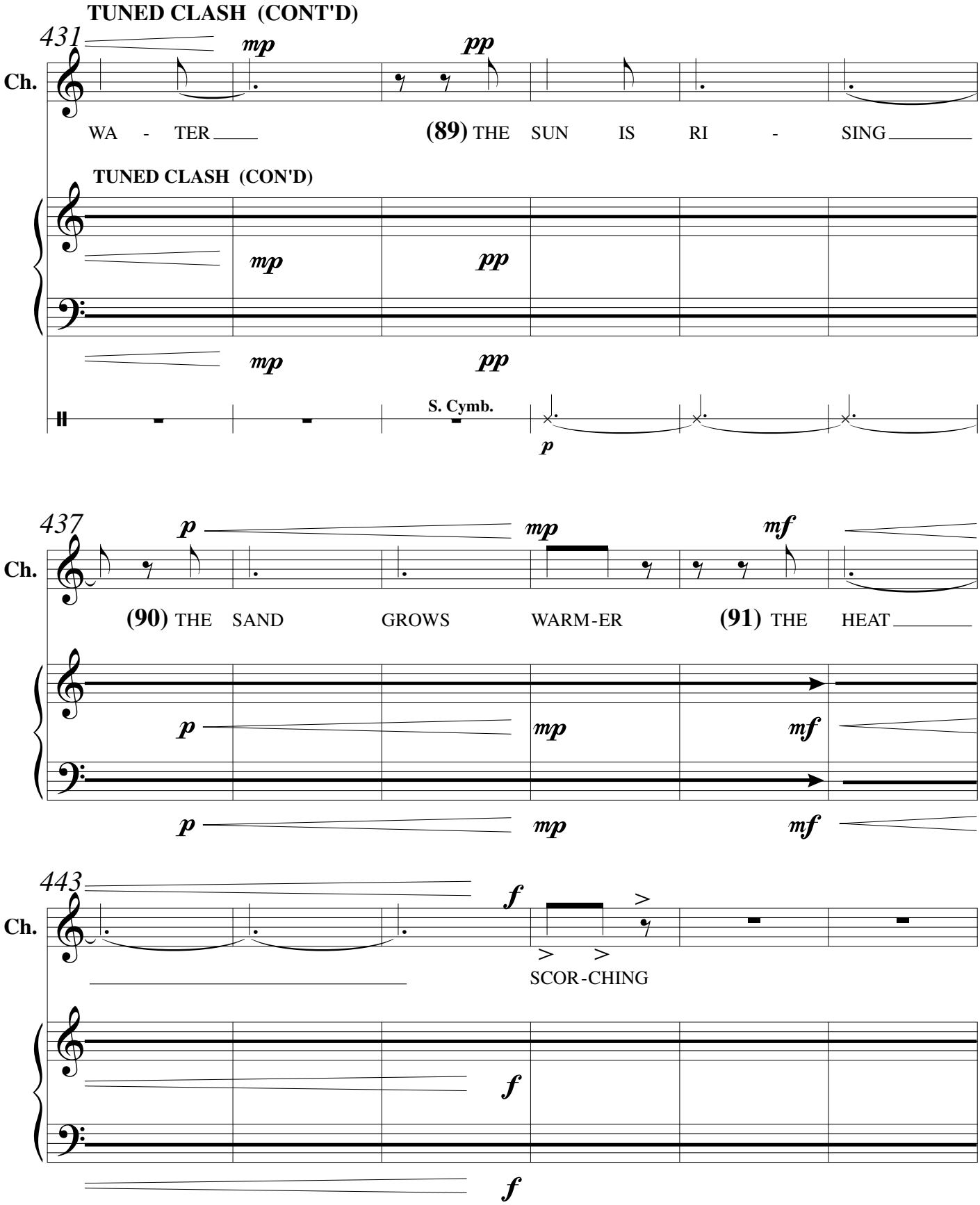

408
Ch.
WAN - DER - ING IN THE DE - SERT
TUNED CLASH
Speech
413
mp
Ch.
(87) TWO CHILD - REN WALK - ING (ING)
Strings
[bars 413 - 455, starting p]
p
p
419
Ch.
WALK - - - - - ING
425
p
Ch.
WALK - ING WALK - ING SEARCH - ING FOR WA - TER
(88)



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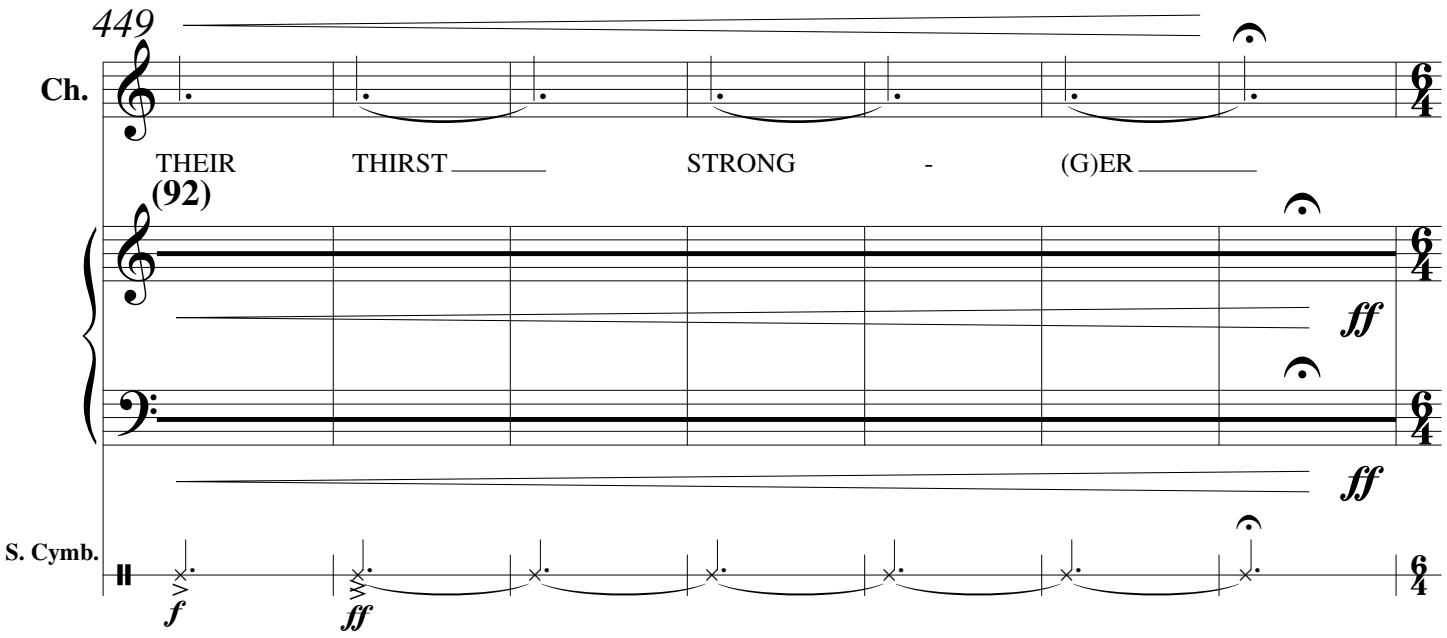
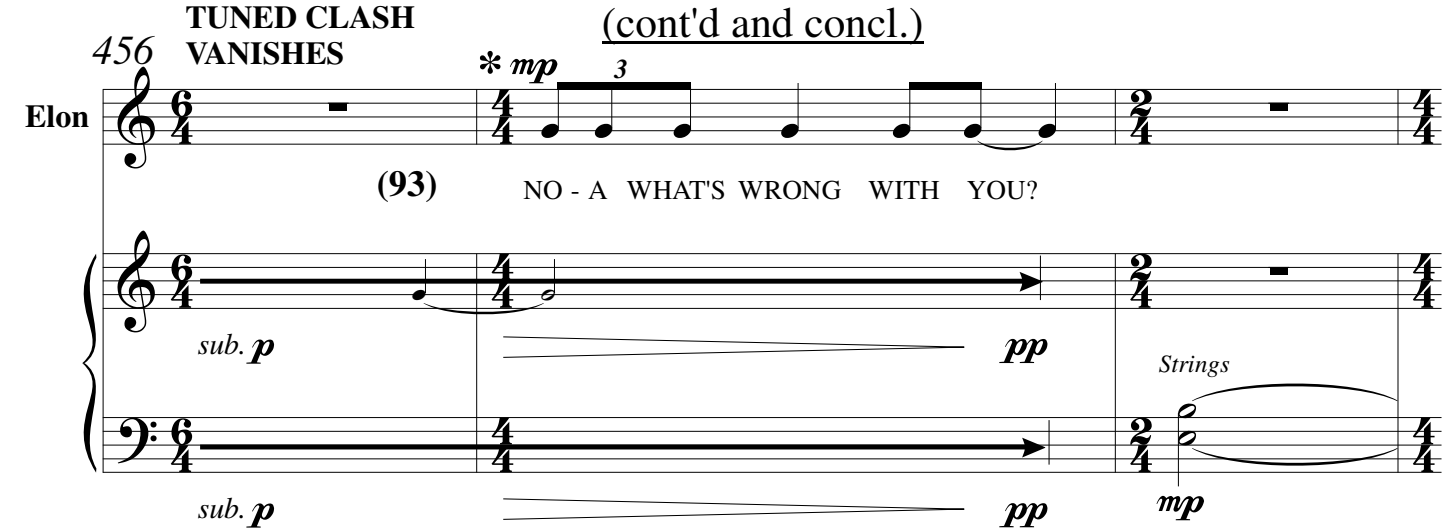
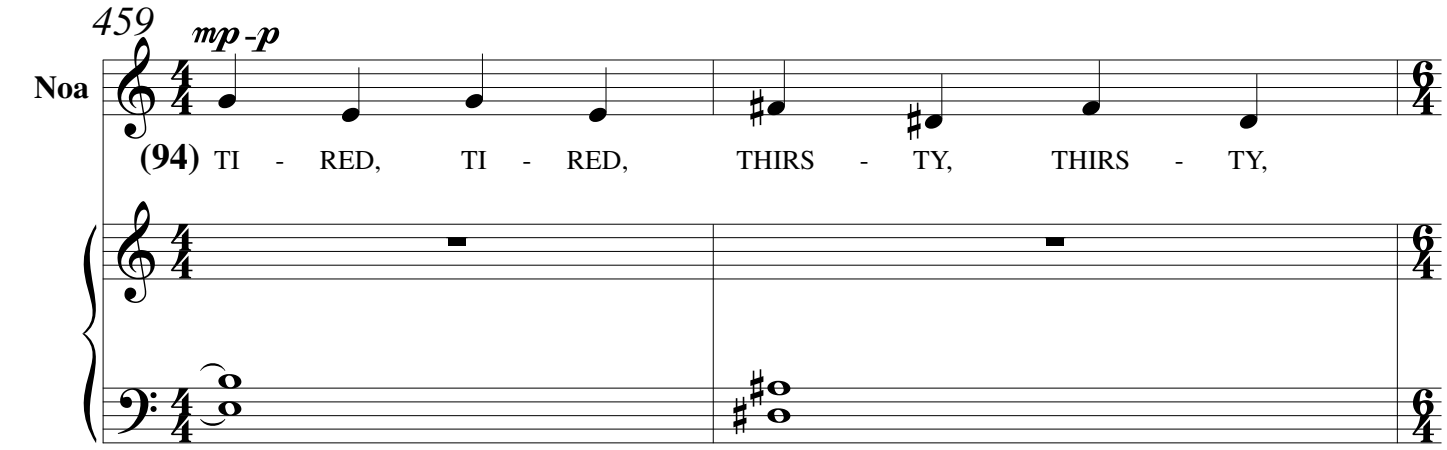
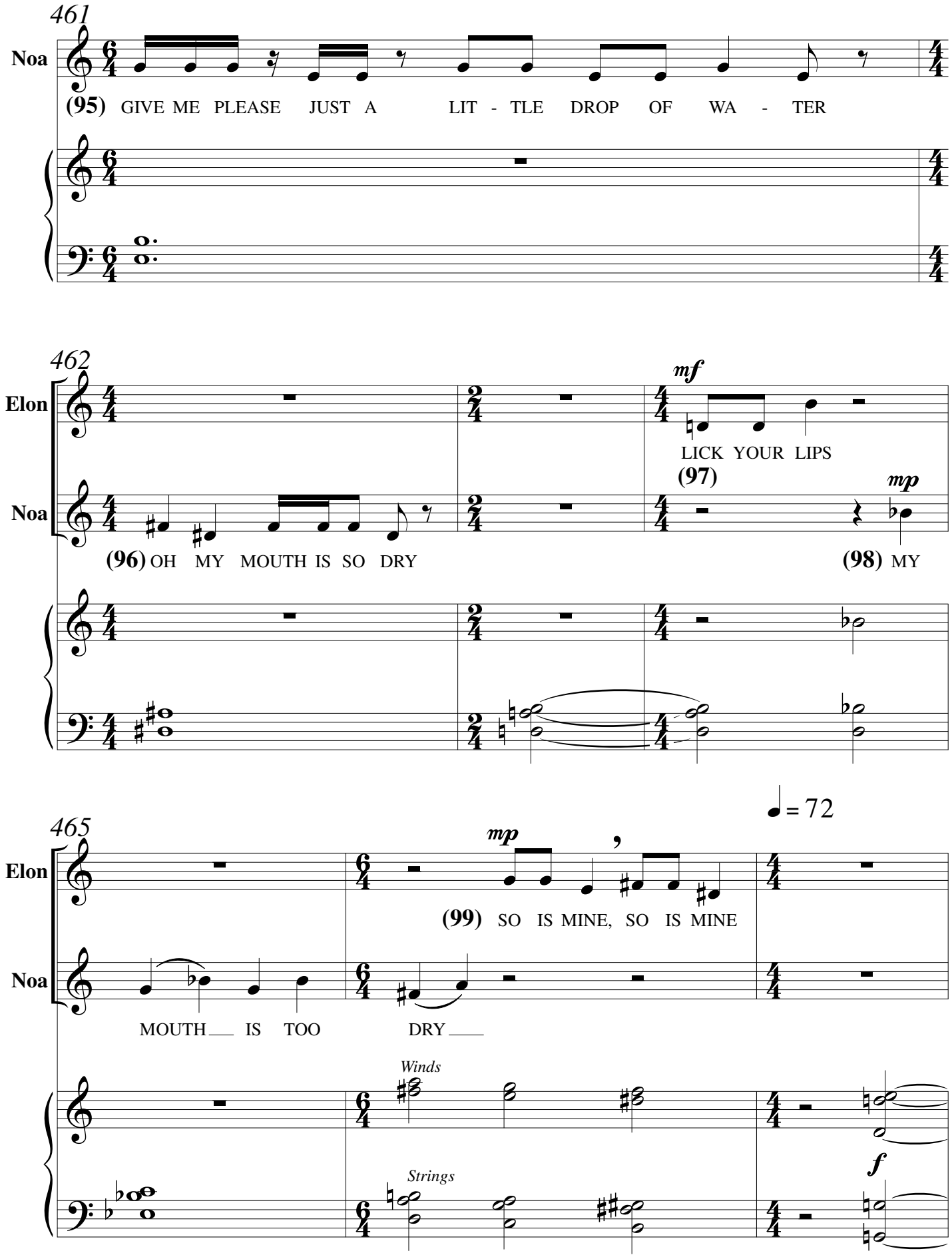


5a. Noa and Elon's duet in the desert (cont'd and concl.)







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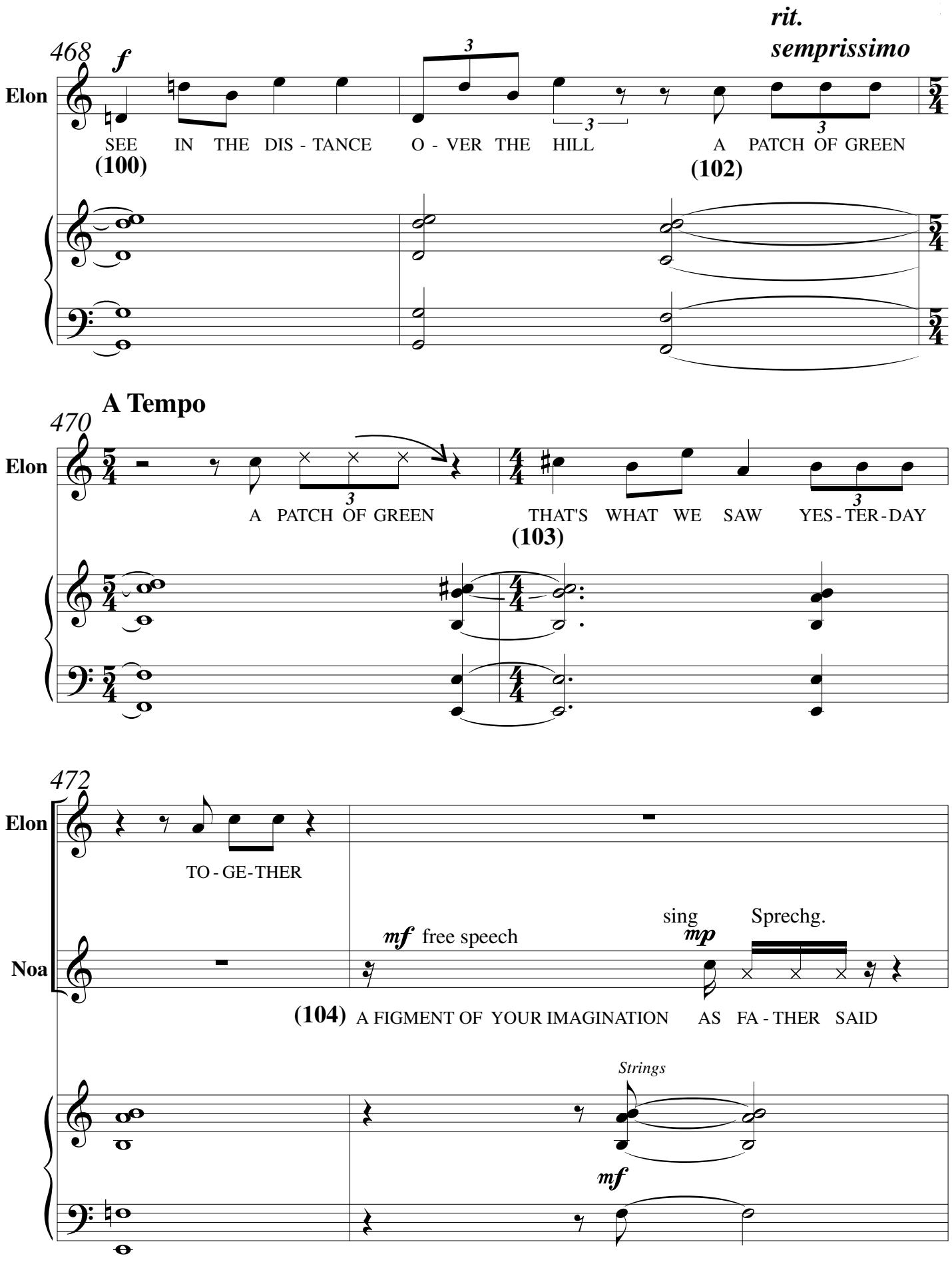
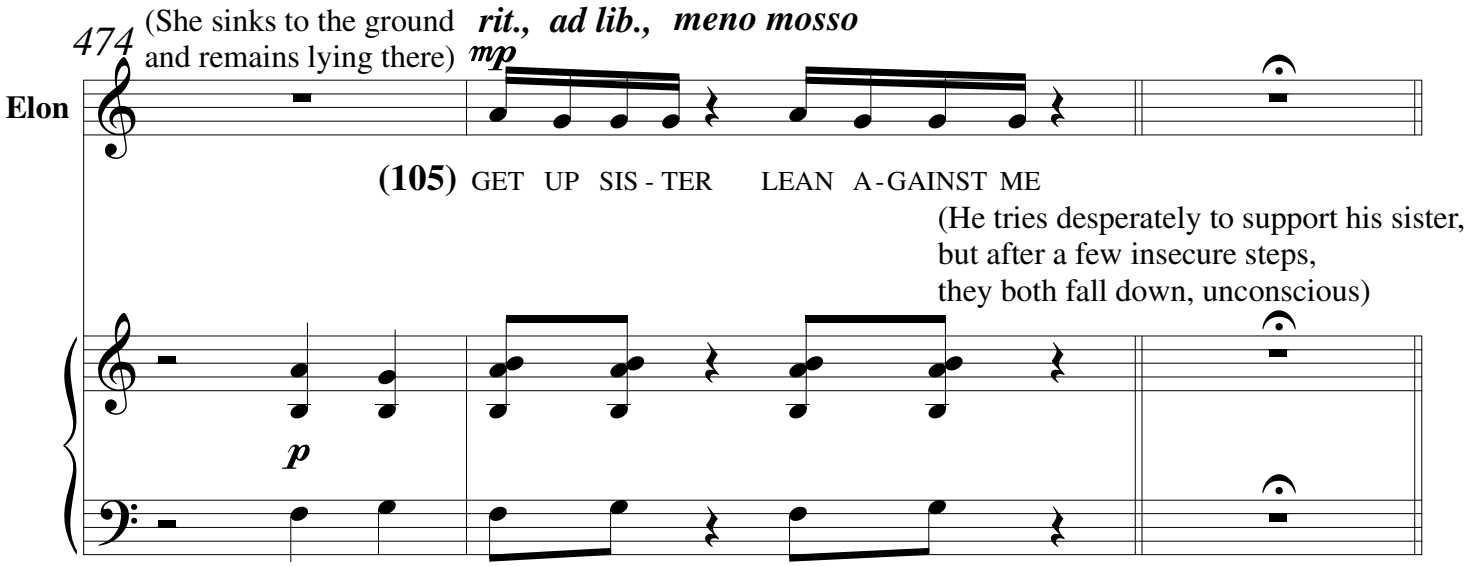
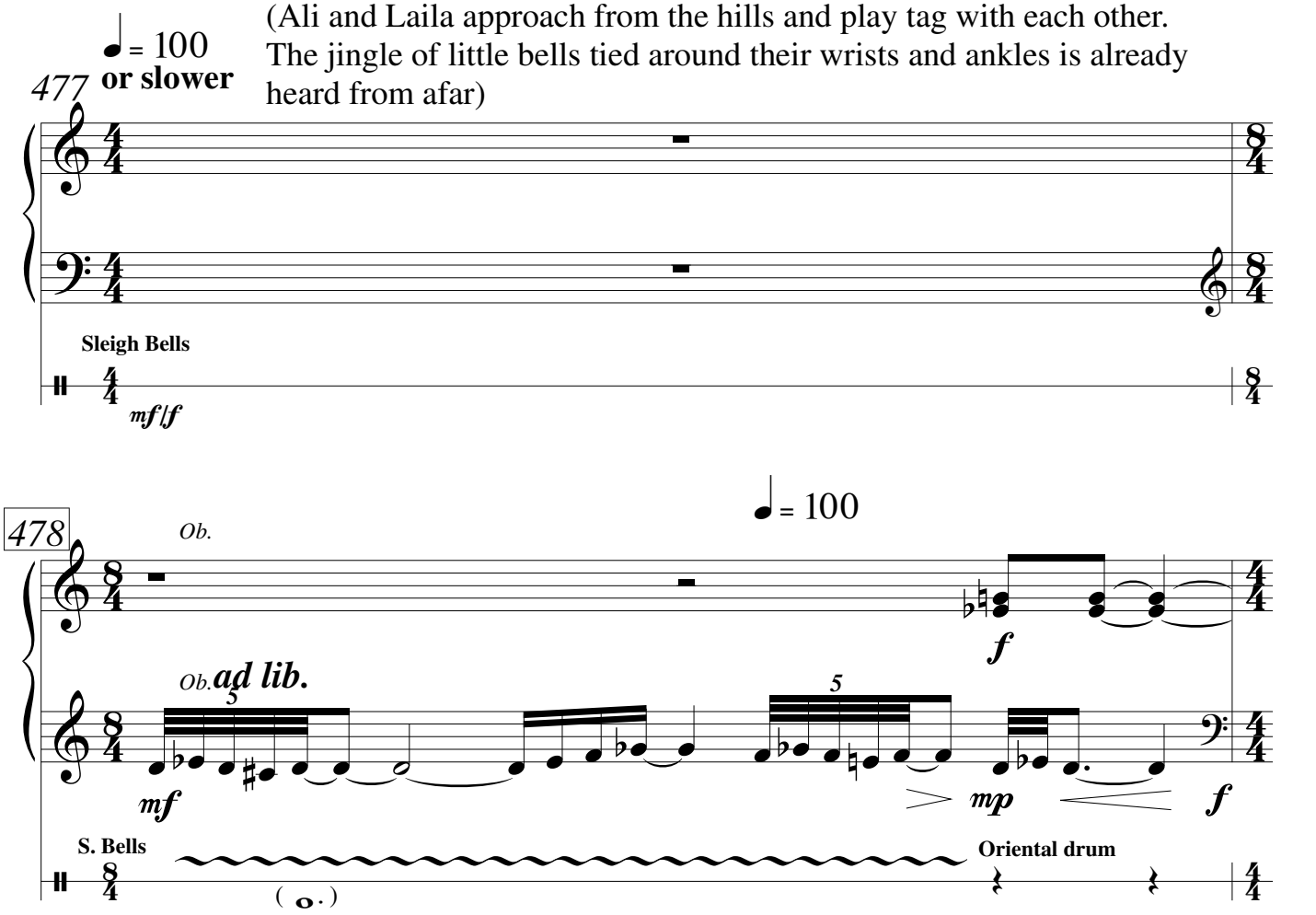

rit.
semprissimo
468
f
Elon
SEE IN THE DIS - TANCE O - VER THE HILL A PATCH OF GREEN
(100)
(102)
A Tempo
470
Elon
A PATCH OF GREEN THAT'S WHAT WE SAW YES - TER - DAY
(103)
472
Elon
TO - GE - THER
Noa
mf free speech
sing
mp
Sprechg.
(104) A FIGMENT OF YOUR IMAGINATION AS FA - THER SAID
Strings
mf



7. Entrance of Ali and Laila



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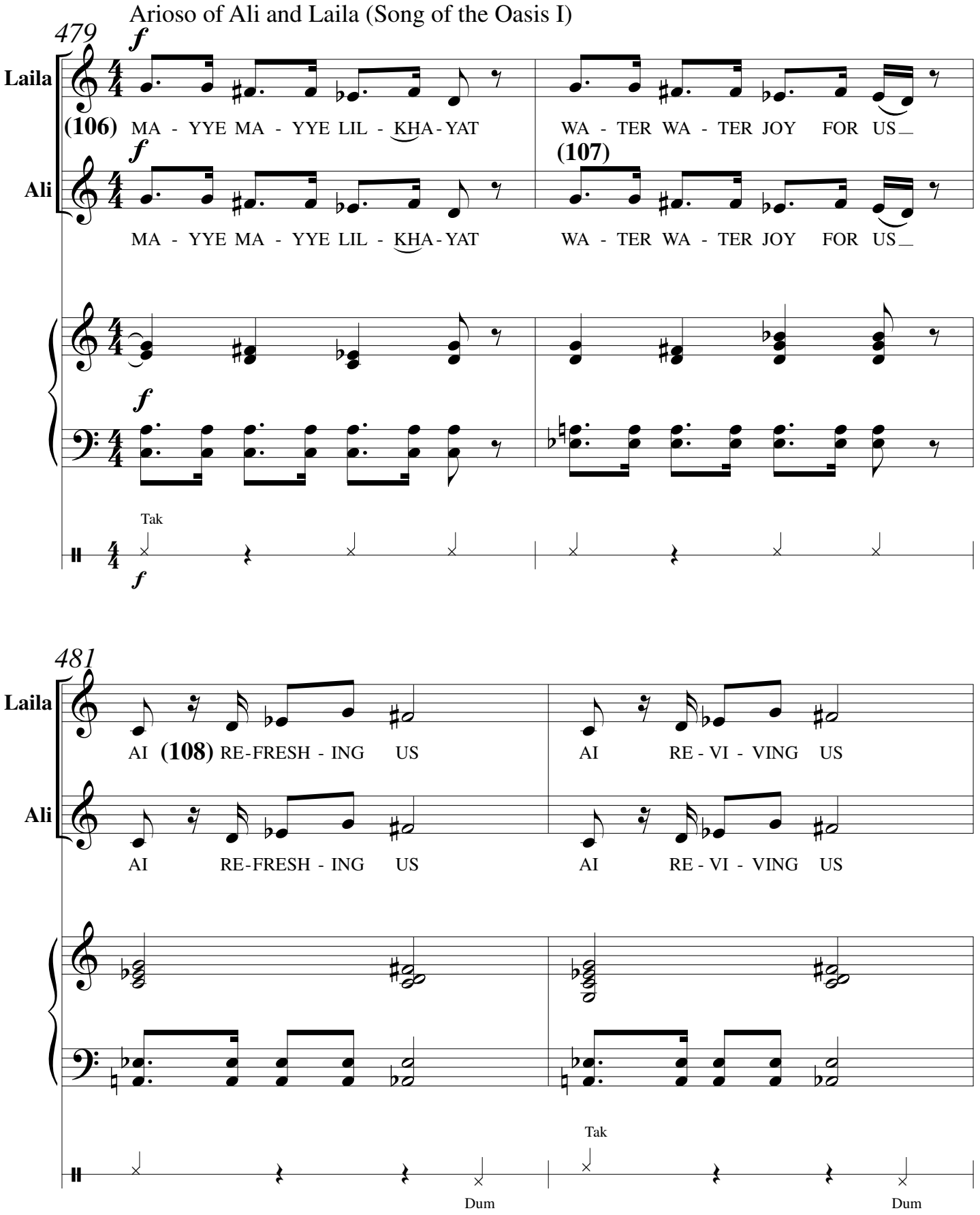
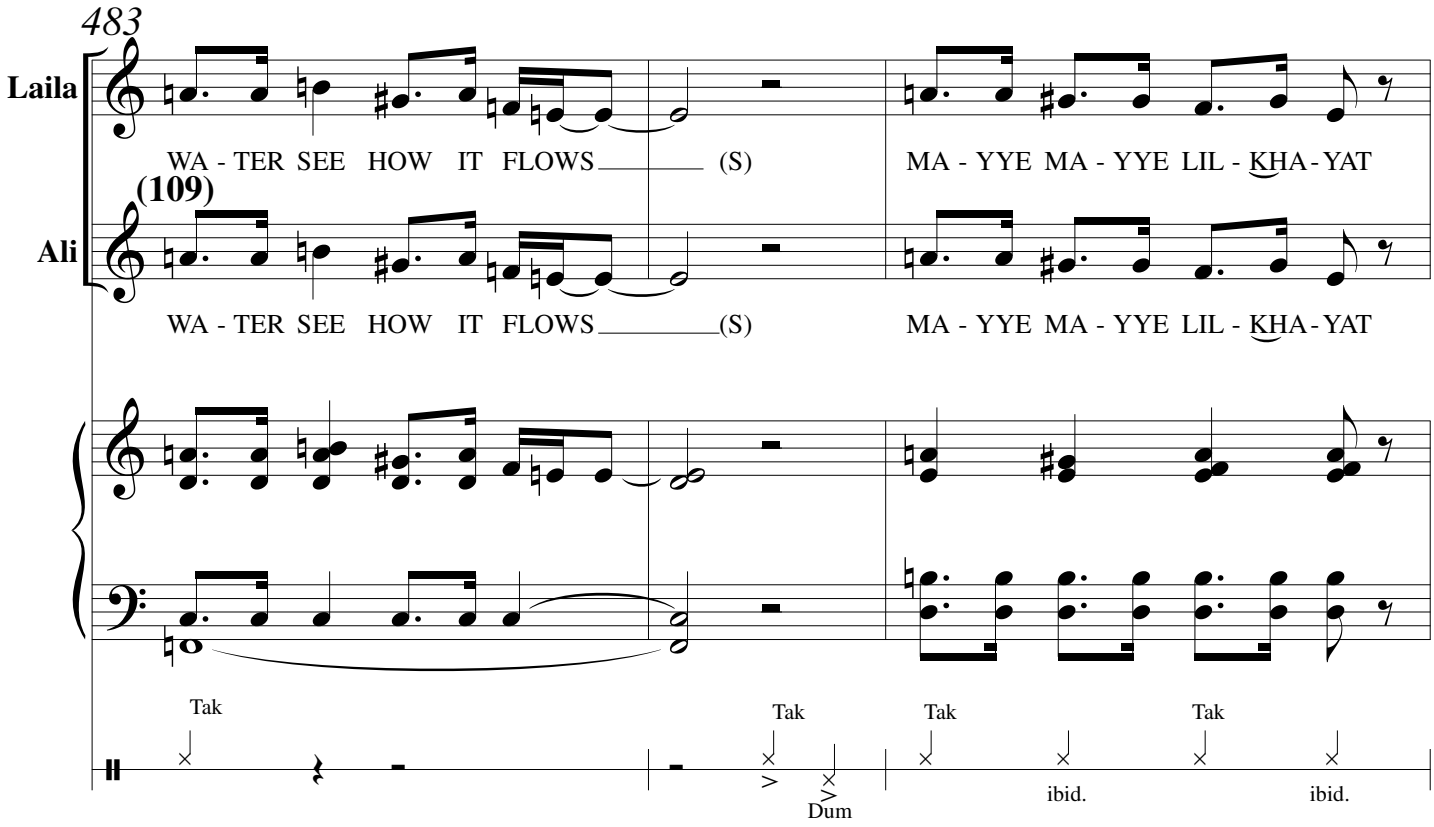
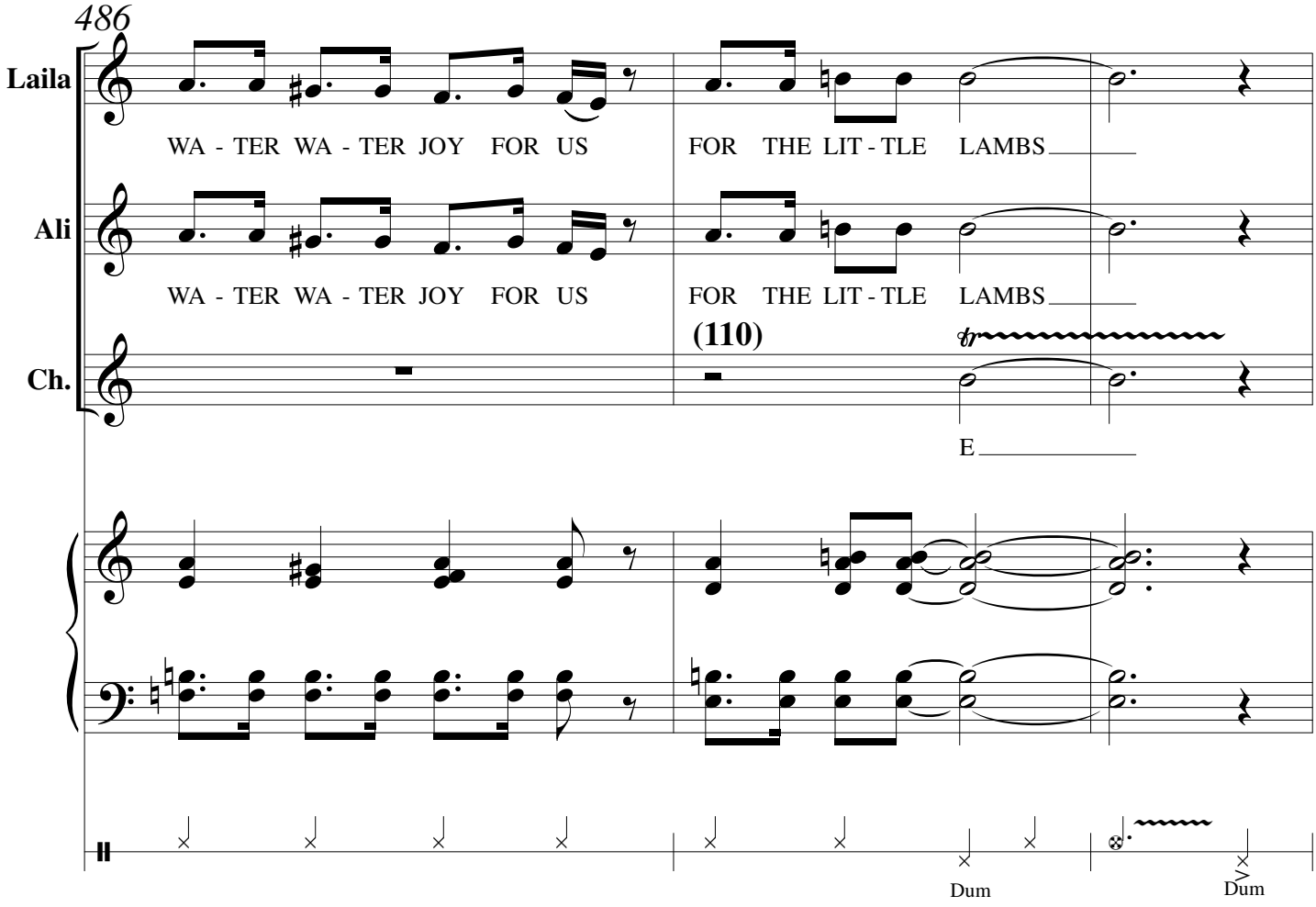
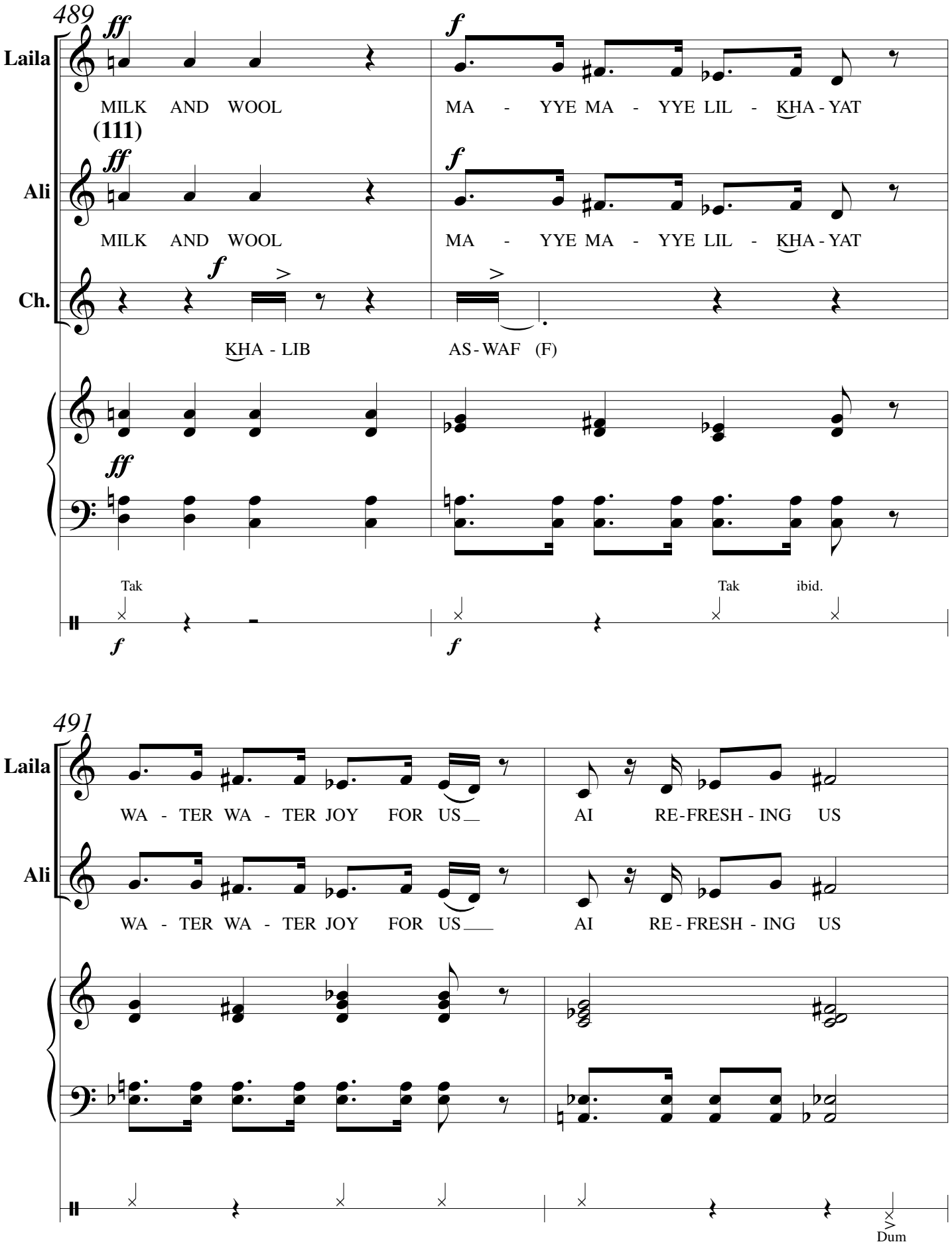
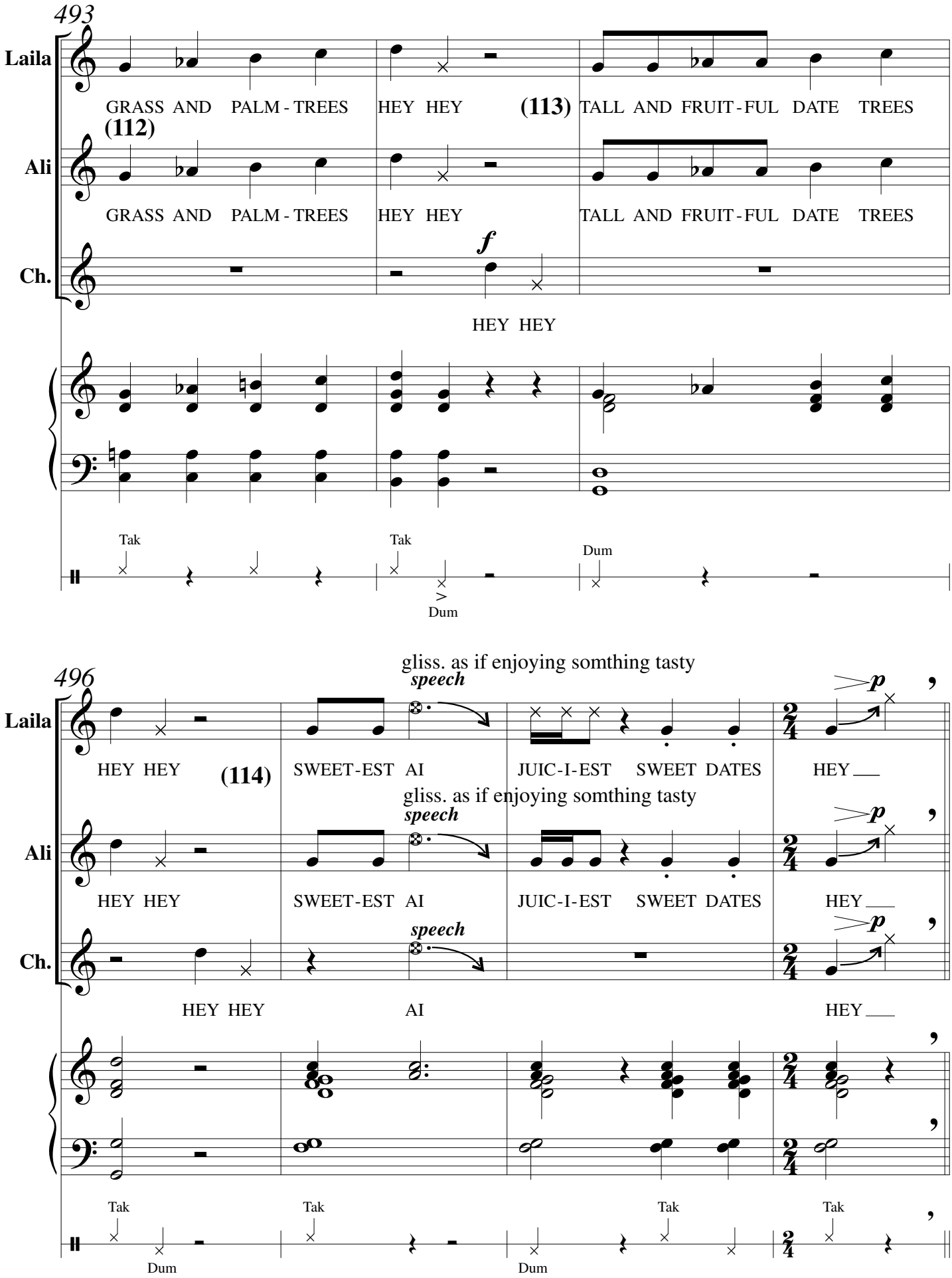

Arioso of Ali and Laila (Song of the Oasis I)
479
Laila
Ali
(106)
MA - YYE MA - YYE LIL - KHA - YAT
WA - TER WA - TER JOY FOR US
(107)
MA - YYE MA - YYE LIL - KHA - YAT
WA - TER WA - TER JOY FOR US
Tak
481
AI (108) RE-FRESH - ING US
AI RE - VI - VING US
AI RE-FRESH - ING US
AI RE - VI - VING US
Tak
Dum
Dum





fue 26017 · ISMN: 979-0-50182-262-1


489
Laila
MILK AND WOOL
MA - YYE MA - YYE LIL - KHA - YAT
(111)
Ali
MILK AND WOOL
MA - YYE MA - YYE LIL - KHA - YAT
Ch.
KHA - LIB
AS - WAF (F)
Tak
Tak
ibid.
491
Laila
WA - TER WA - TER JOY FOR US
AI RE - FRESH - ING US
Ali
WA - TER WA - TER JOY FOR US
AI RE - FRESH - ING US
Dum



fue 26017 · ISMN: 979-0-50182-262-1

Duet of Ali and Laila

(spoken - natural speech without music)

500

Laila

(115) (suddenly notices the unconscious Elon and Noa)
AH...! LOOK, ALI!

Ali

(116) Ali (turns to Noa, frightened)
ARE THEY DEAD?

Ch.

(117) Laila (bends over Elon and Noa)
THEY'VE FAINTED FROM THIRST

f

(118) (She fans the air with her hands)
QUICK, RUN, FETCH WATER

(119) E -

(Ali runs towards the hills. As he begins to run,
the chorus starts singing and accompanies him on his way)

f

502

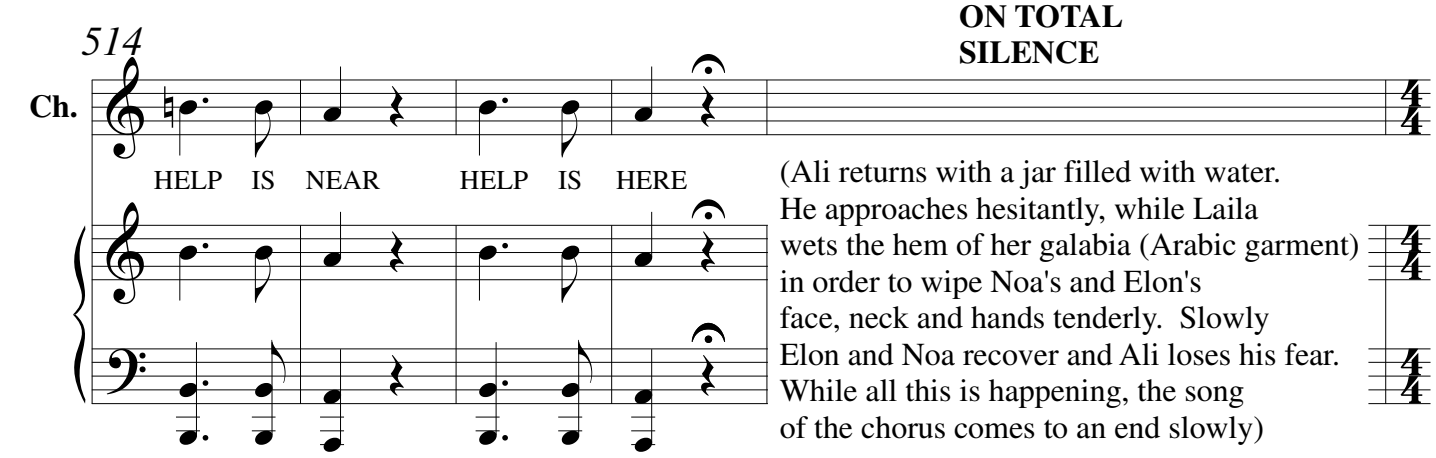
Ch.

- LON AND NO - A - BE HAP - PY **(120)** HELP IS NEAR

508

Ch.

HELP IS HERE E - LON AND NO - A BE HAP - PY

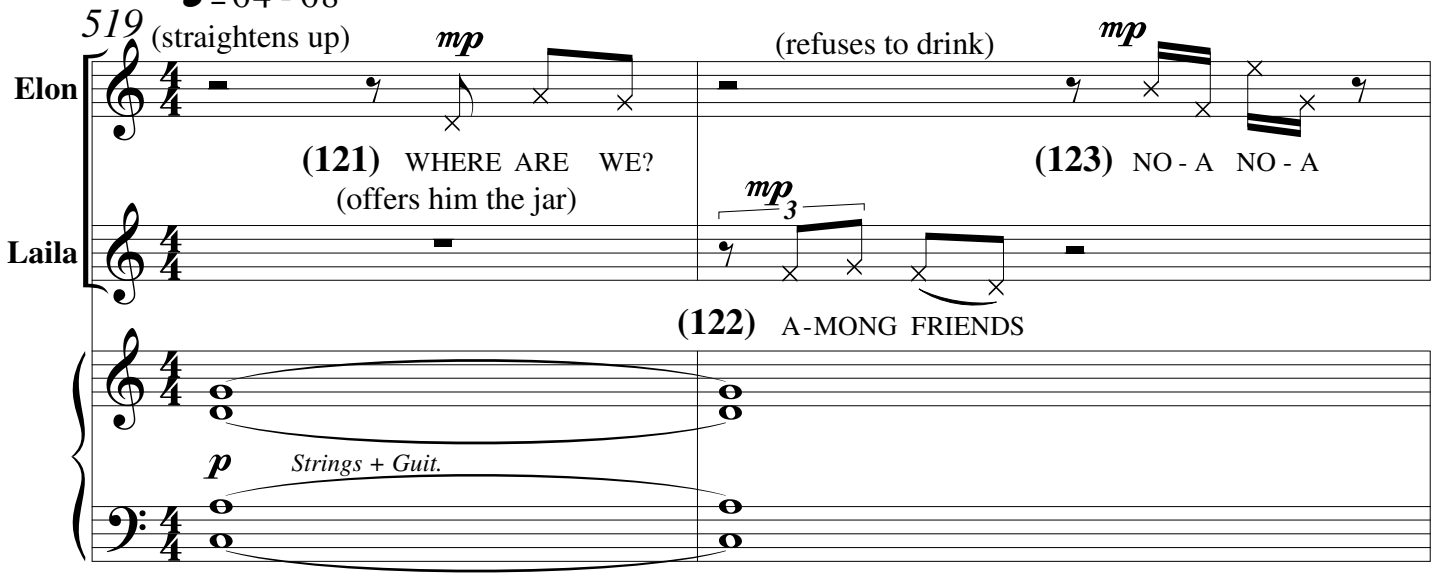


8. Quartet of the Four Children (Recitative)

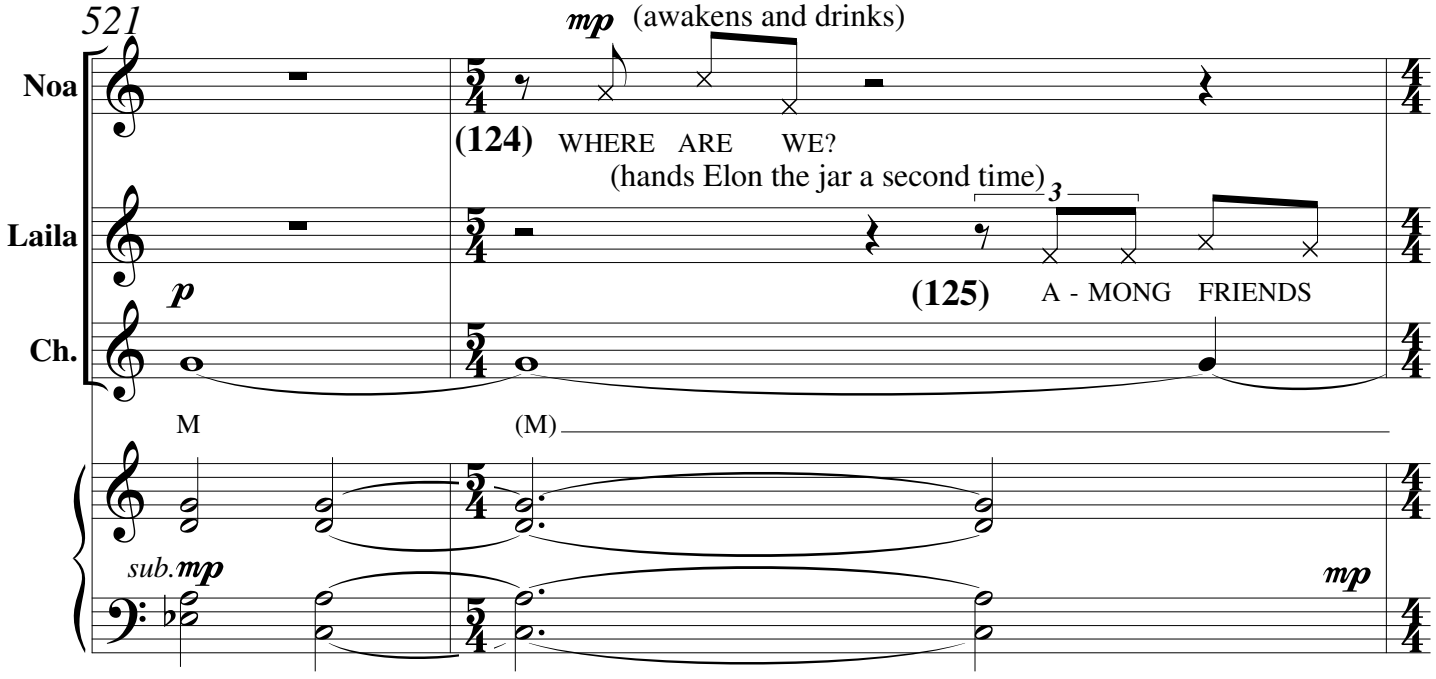
Recitative

♩ = 64 - 68

Relatively unpitched according to score, speech with intonation.
From b. 541 some slight singing is inserted.



(He shakes Noa, helps her to sit up and signals to Laila to hand Noa the jar so that she can be the first to drink)



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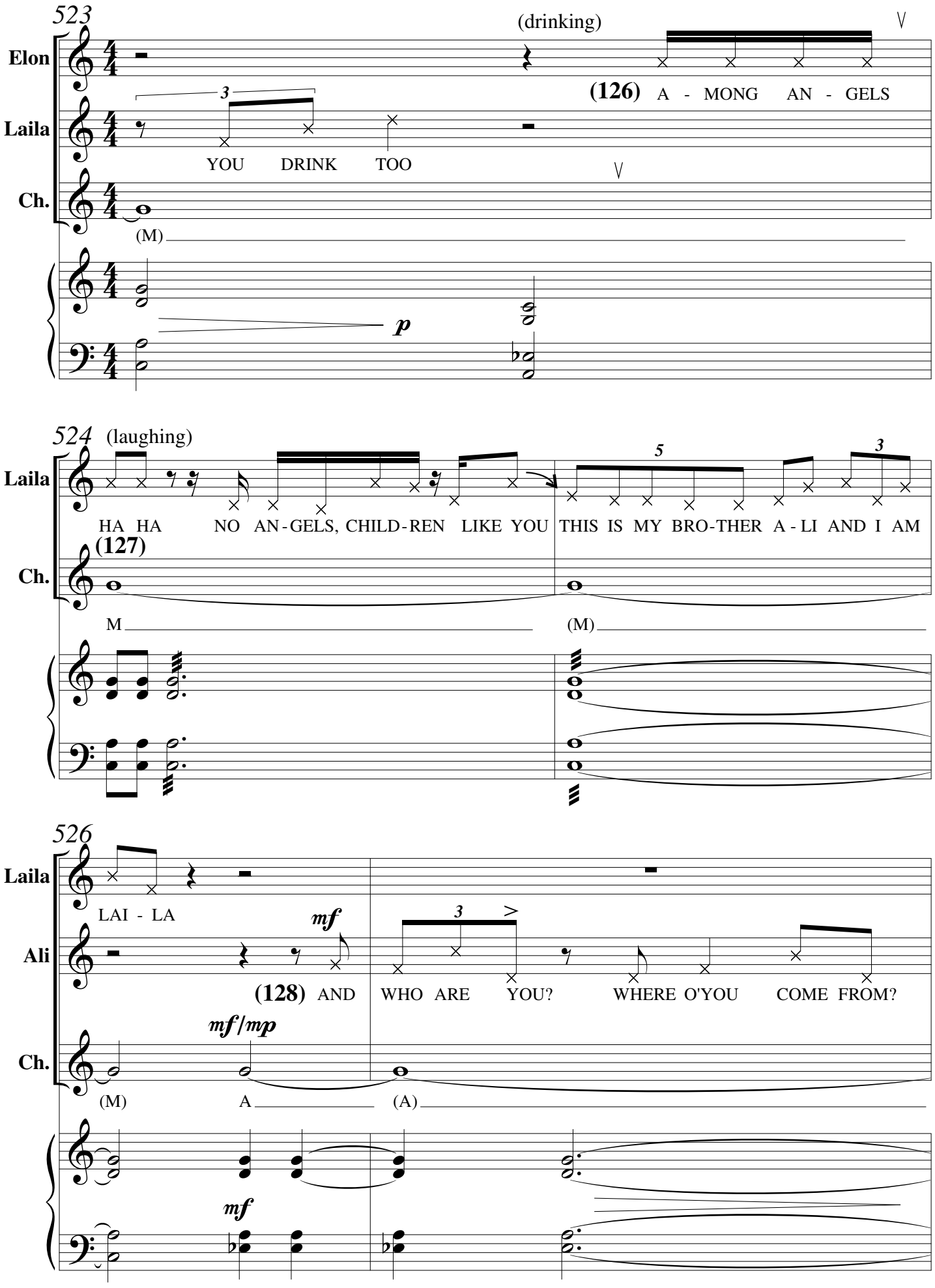
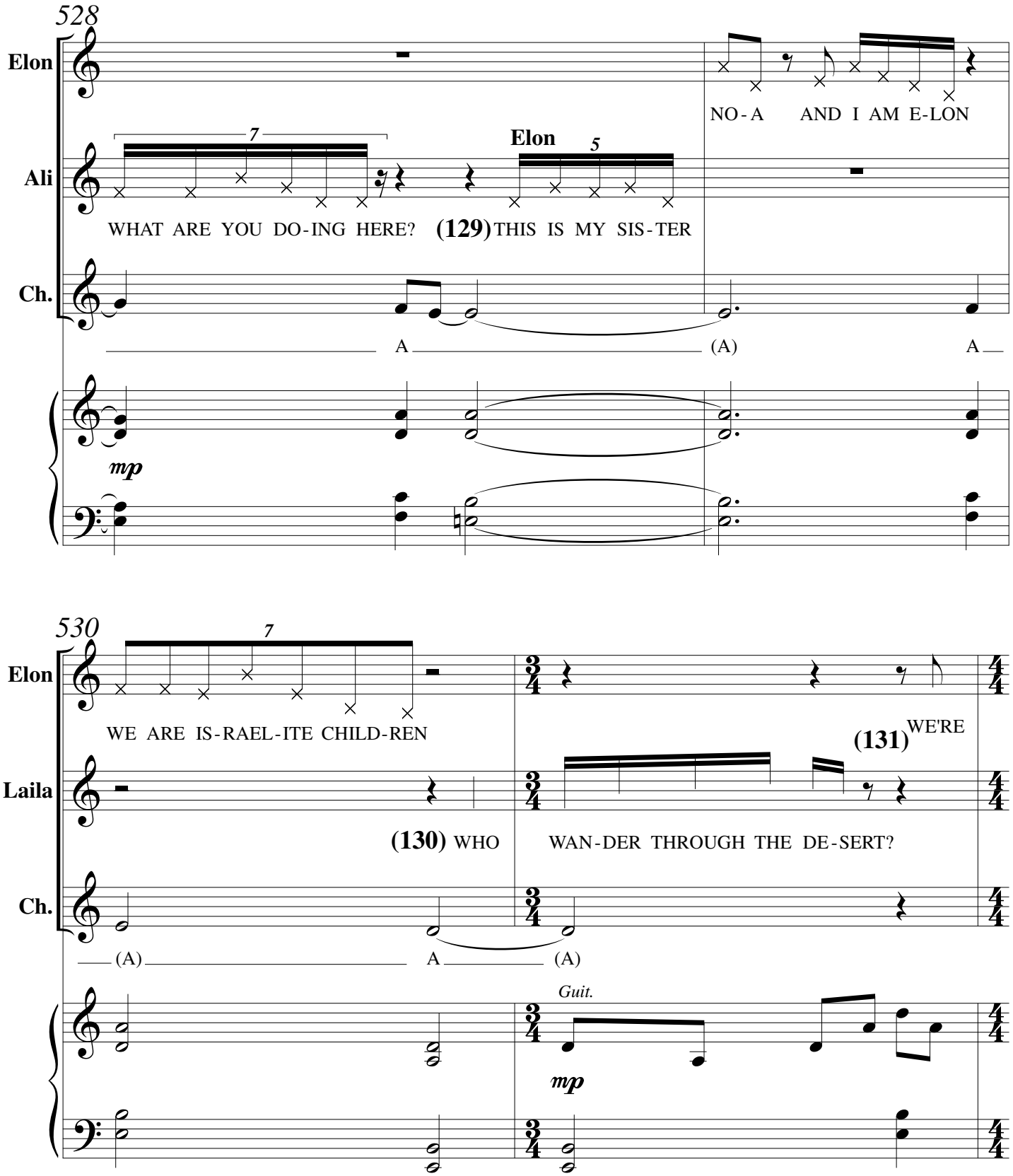

523
(drinking)
Elon
Laila
Ch.
(126) A - MONG AN - GELS
YOU DRINK TOO
(M)
p
524
(laughing)
Laila
HA HA NO AN-GELS, CHILD-REN LIKE YOU THIS IS MY BRO-THER A-LI AND I AM
(127)
Ch.
M
(M)
526
Laila
LAI - LA
Ali
mf
(128) AND WHO ARE YOU? WHERE O'YOU COME FROM?
mf/mp
Ch.
(M) A (A)
mf



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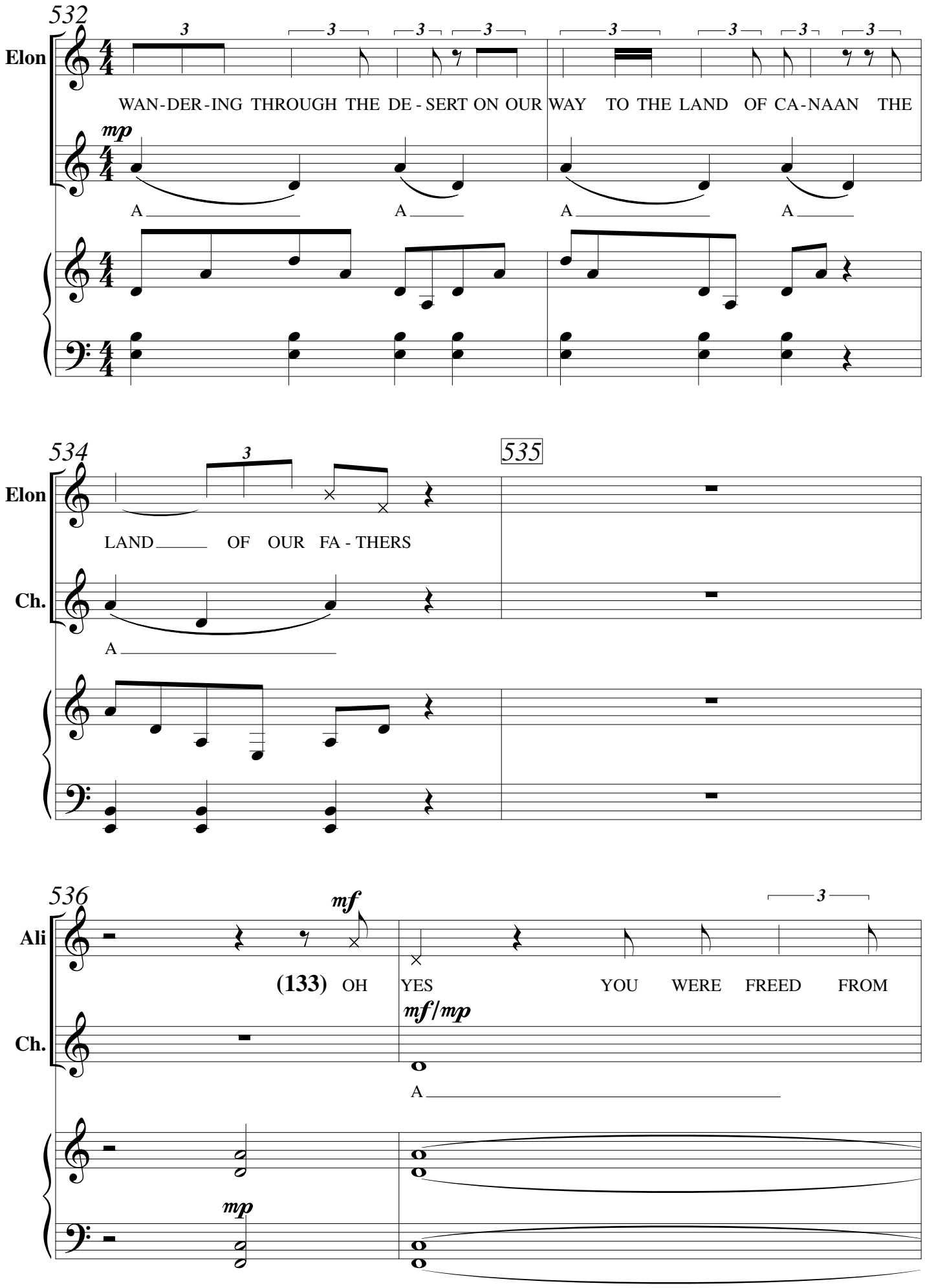
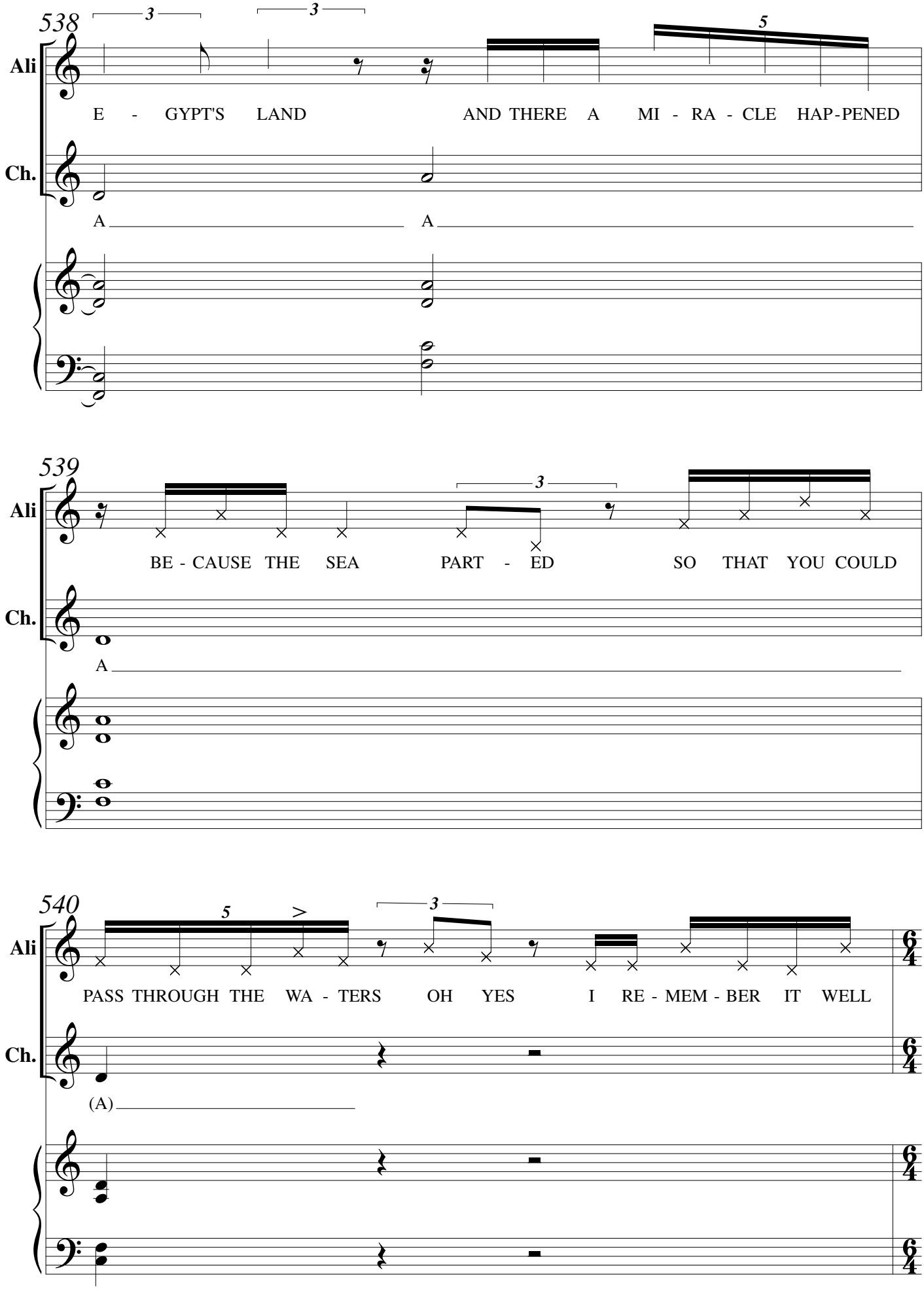
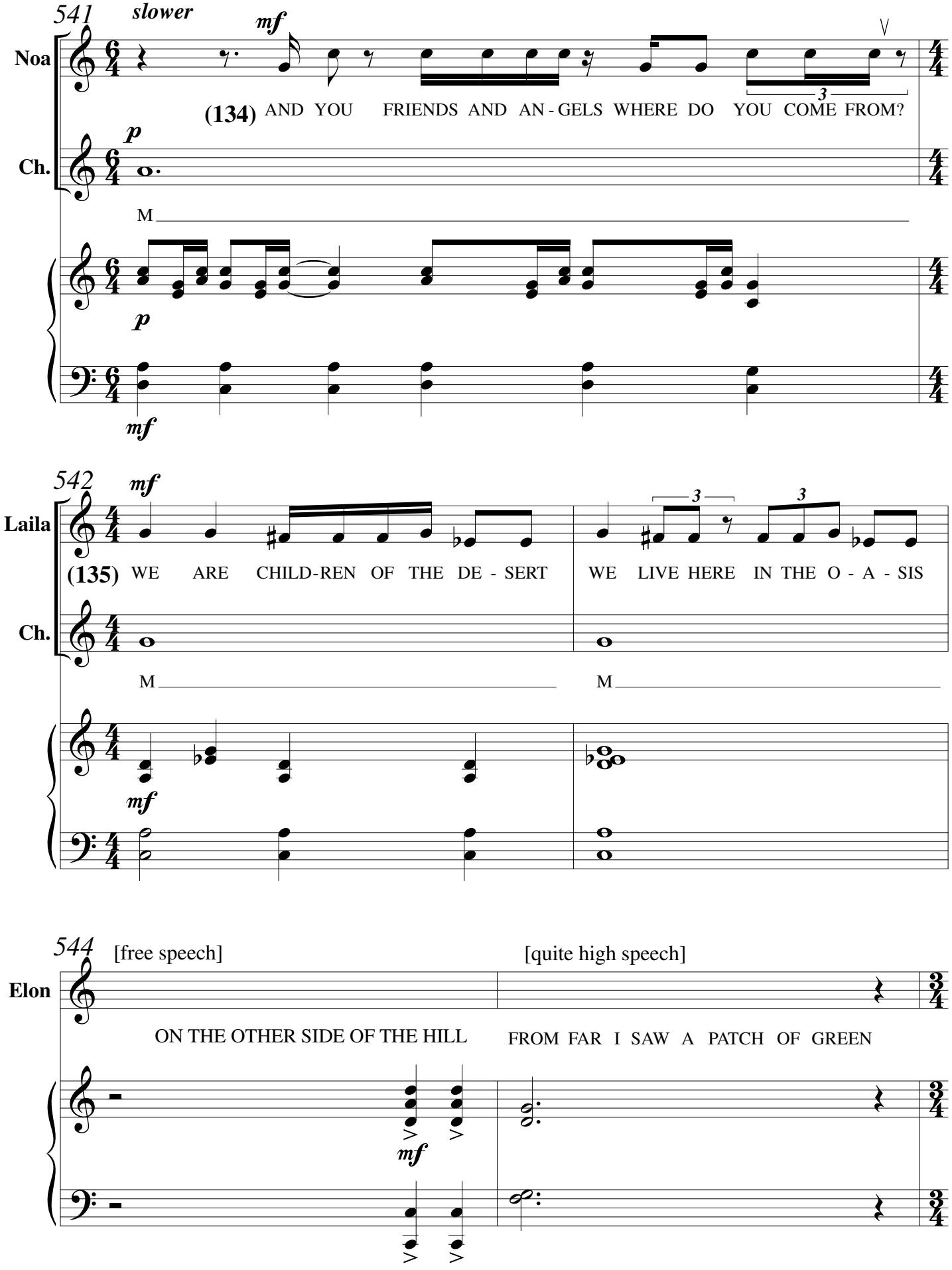
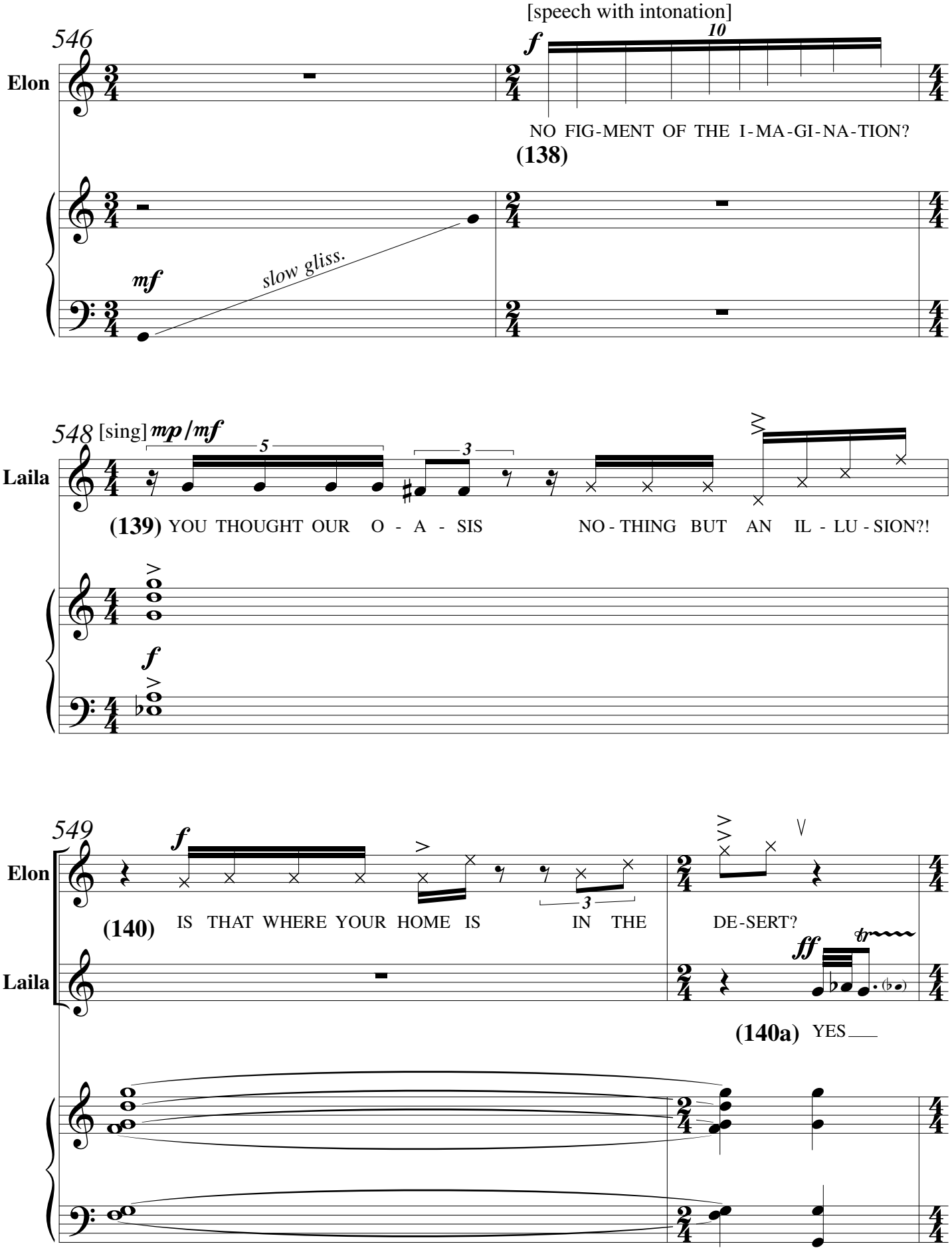

532
Elon
WAN-DER-ING THROUGH THE DE - SERT ON OUR WAY TO THE LAND OF CA-NAAN THE
mp
A A A A
534
535
Elon
LAND OF OUR FA - THERS
Ch.
A
536
Ali
mf
(133) OH YES YOU WERE FREED FROM
Ch.
mf/mp
A
mp



fue 26017 · ISMN: 979-0-50182-262-1


541
slower
mf
Noa
(134) AND YOU FRIENDS AND AN - GELS WHERE DO YOU COME FROM?
Ch.
p
M
p
mf
542
mf
Laila
(135) WE ARE CHILD-REN OF THE DE - SERT WE LIVE HERE IN THE O - A - SIS
Ch.
M
M
mf
544
[free speech]
[quite high speech]
Elon
ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE HILL
FROM FAR I SAW A PATCH OF GREEN
mf



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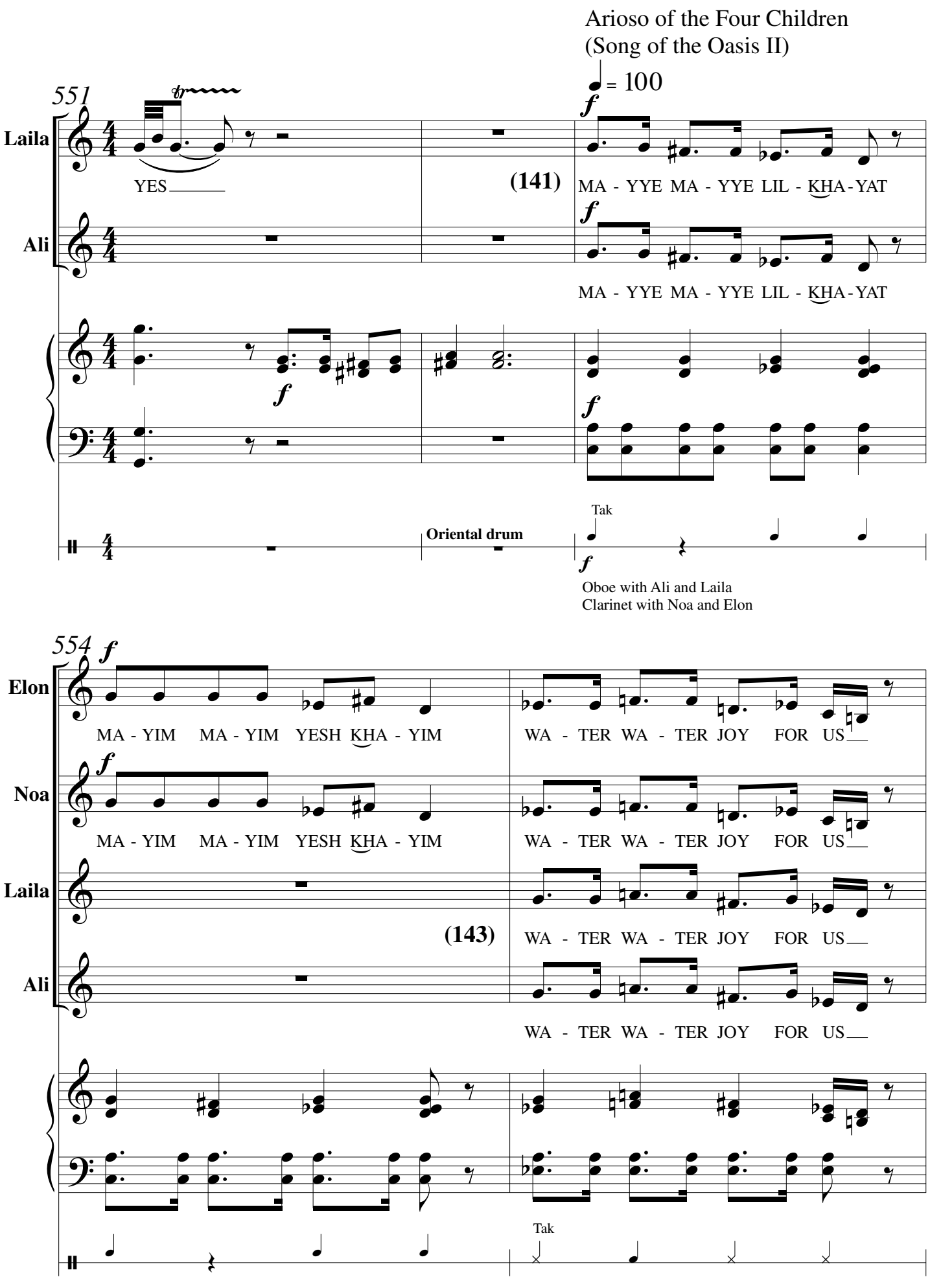
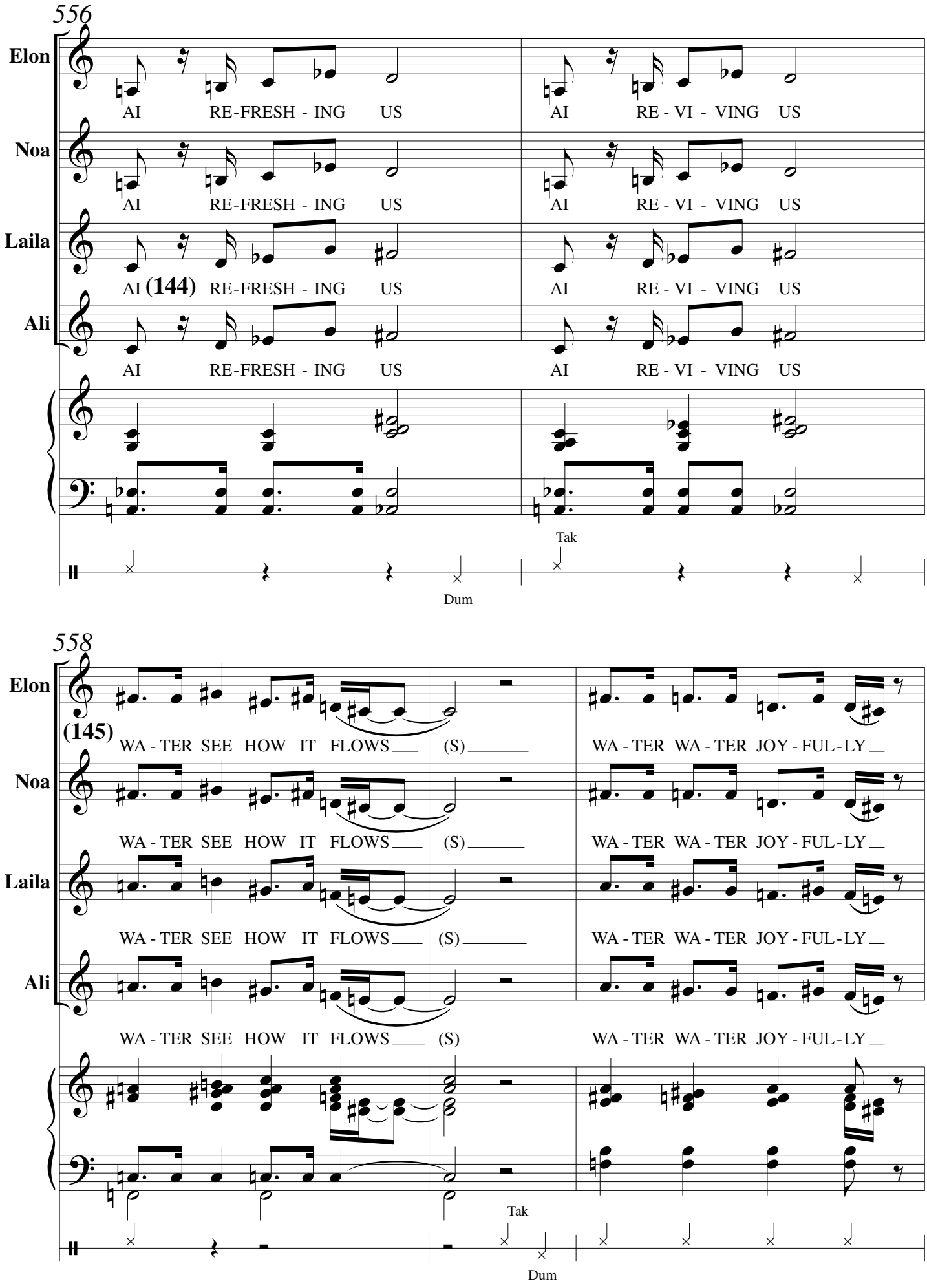

Arioso of the Four Children
(Song of the Oasis II)
= 100
551
Laila
Ali
YES
(141)
MA - YYE MA - YYE LIL - KHA - YAT
MA - YYE MA - YYE LIL - KHA - YAT
Oriental drum
Tak
Oboe with Ali and Laila
Clarinet with Noa and Elon
554
Elon
Noa
Laila
Ali
MA - YIM MA - YIM YESH KHA - YIM
WA - TER WA - TER JOY FOR US
(143)
Tak



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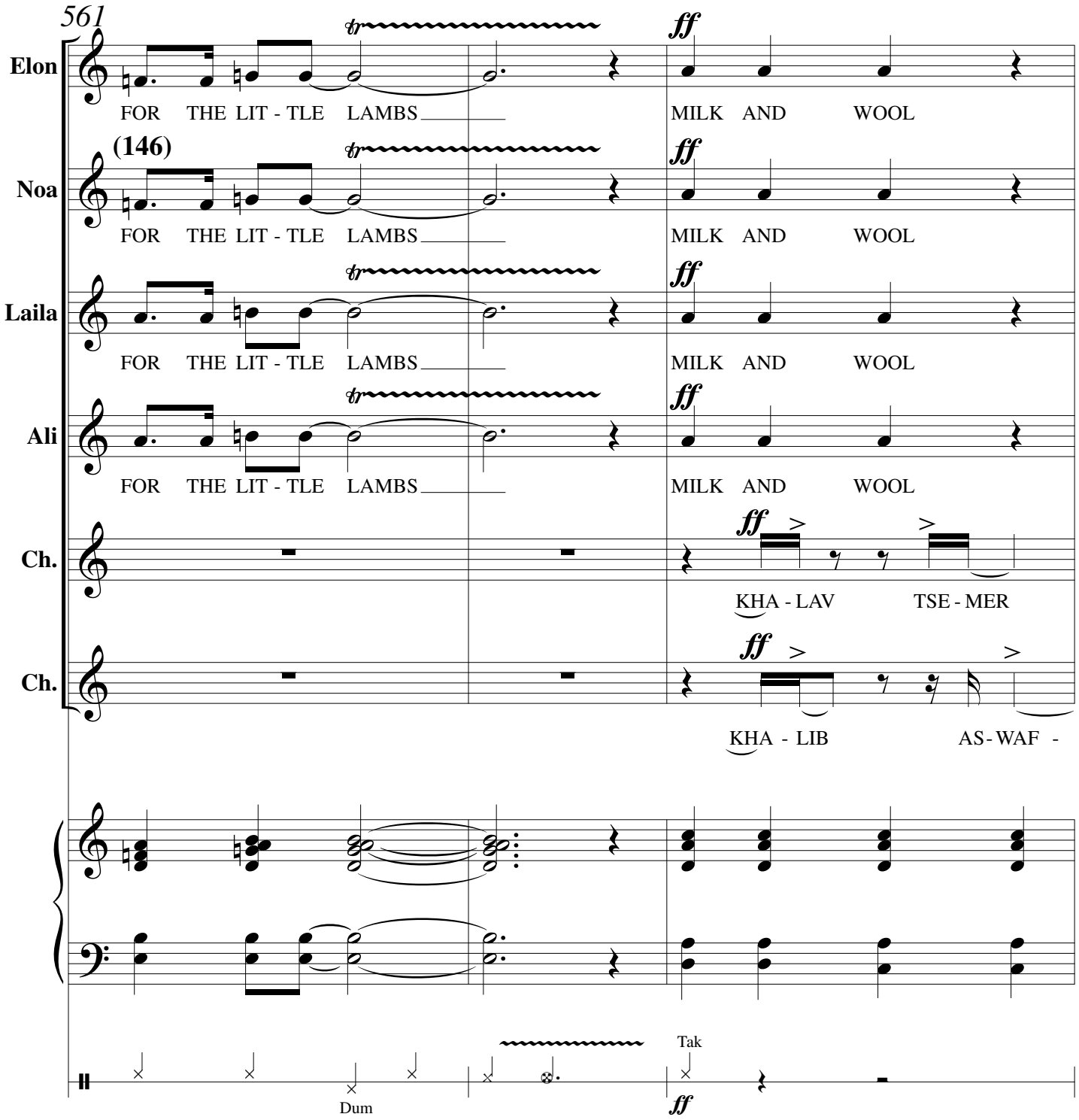
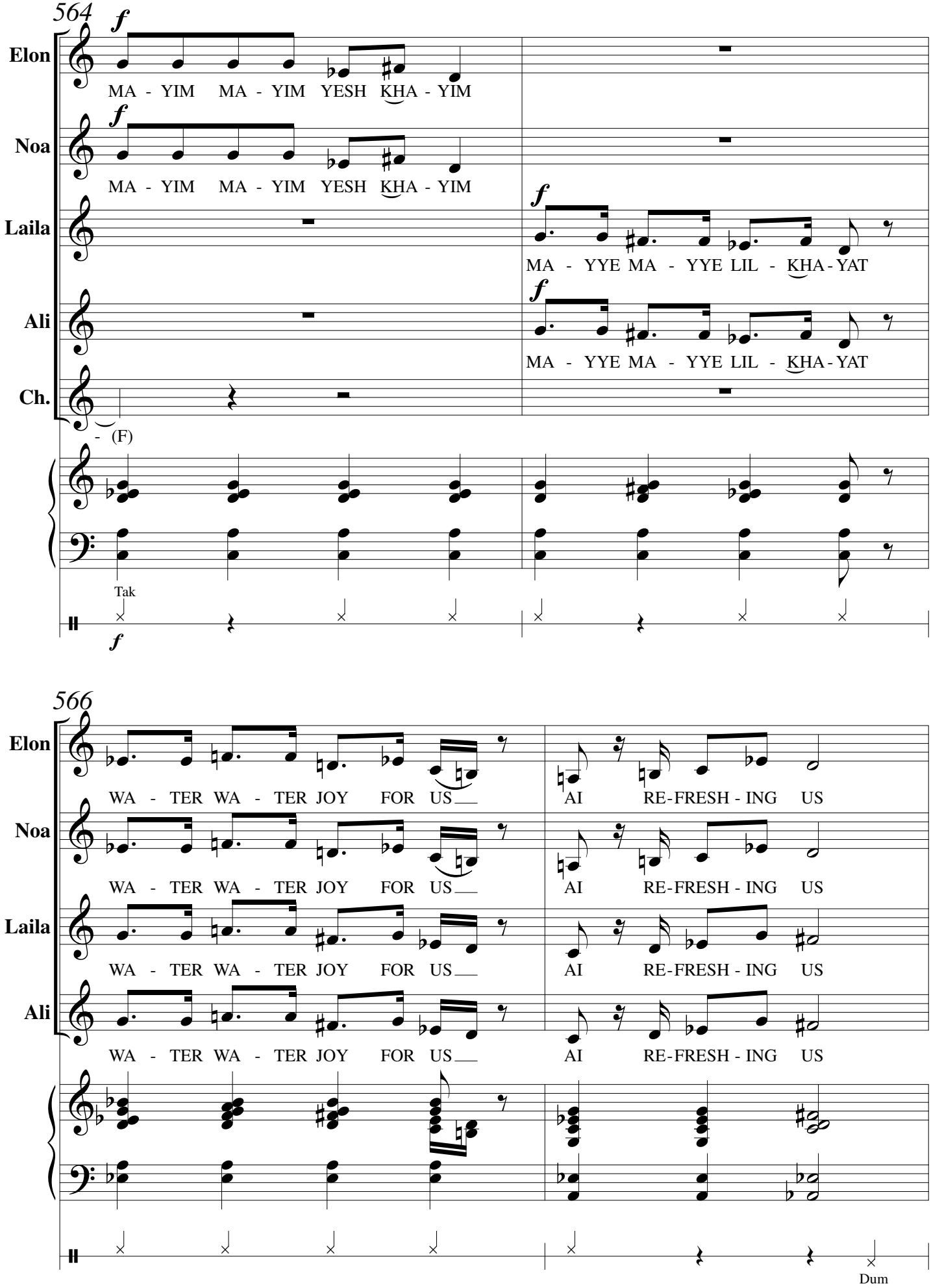

561
Elon
FOR THE LIT - TLE LAMBS
MILK AND WOOL
(146)
Noa
FOR THE LIT - TLE LAMBS
MILK AND WOOL
Laila
FOR THE LIT - TLE LAMBS
MILK AND WOOL
Ali
FOR THE LIT - TLE LAMBS
MILK AND WOOL
Ch.
KHA - LAV
TSE - MER
Ch.
KHA - LIB
AS - WAF -
Tak
Dum



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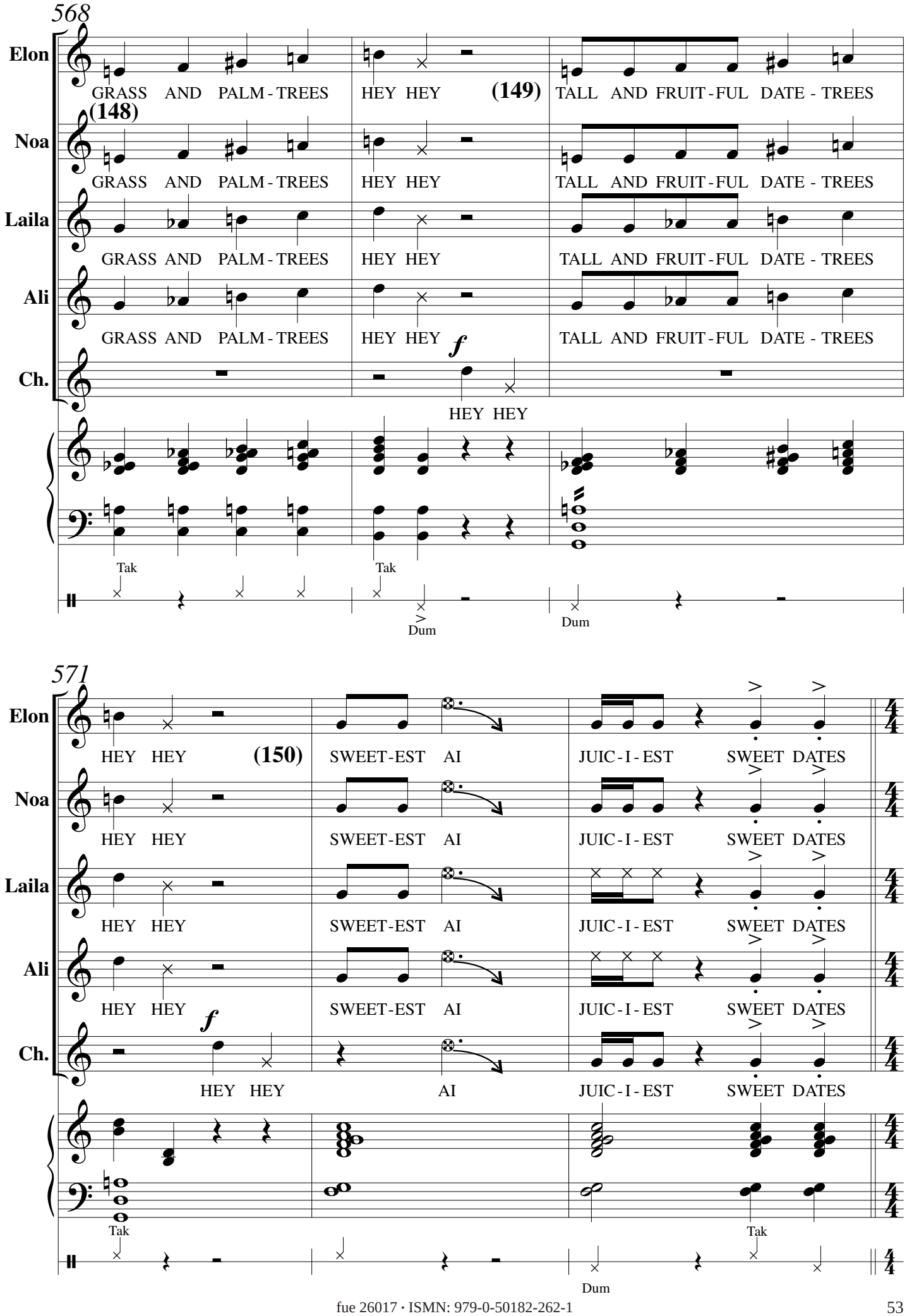
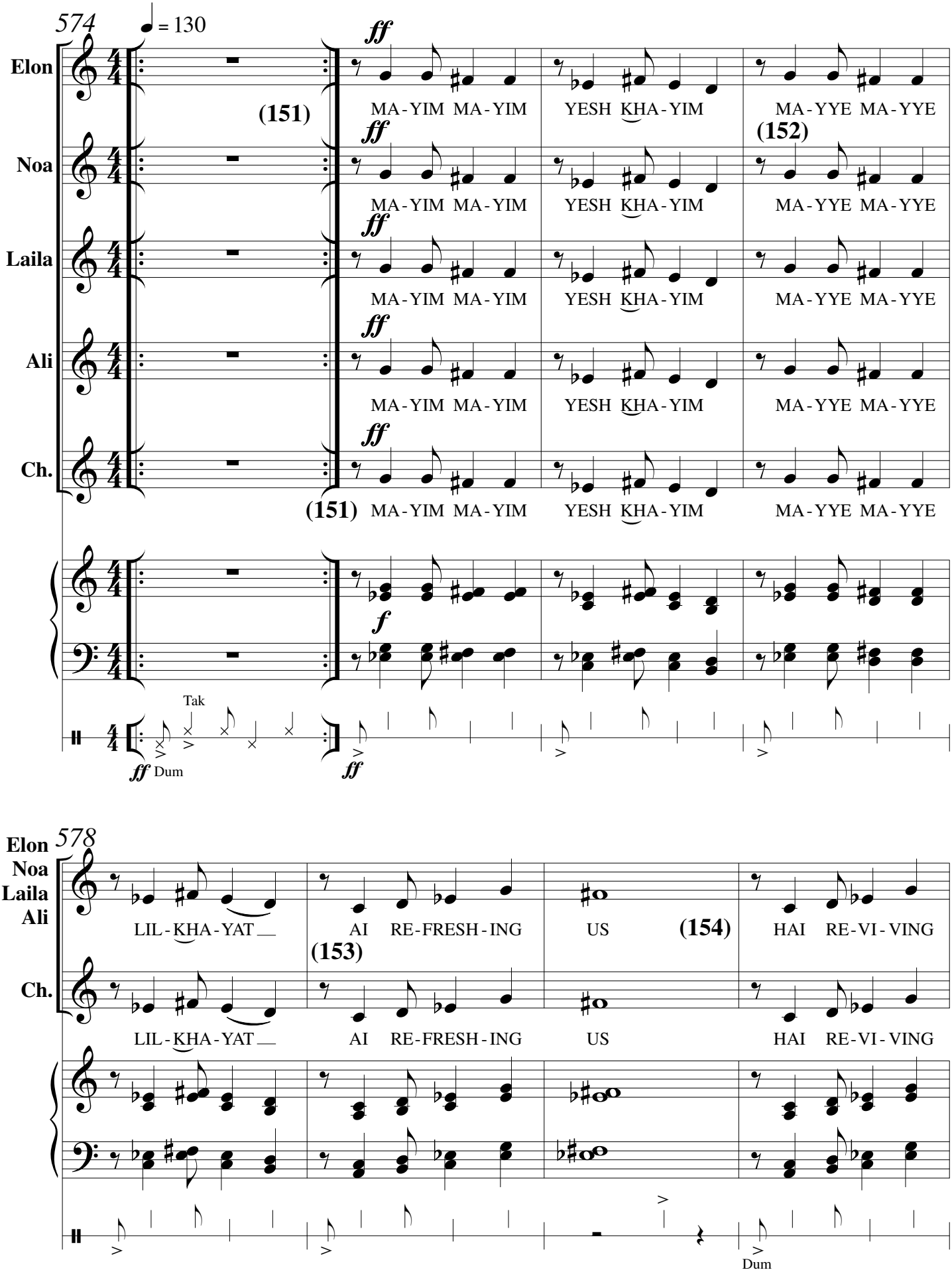

568
Elon
Noa
Laila
Ali
Ch.
GRASS AND PALM - TREES
HEY HEY
(149)
TALL AND FRUIT - FUL DATE - TREES
(148)
f
HEY HEY
Tak
Dum
571
(150)
SWEET-EST AI
JUIC - I - EST
SWEET DATES
AI

Dance (Song of the Oasis III)

(The four children dance in front of the oasis, singing the "Song of the Oasis" III)



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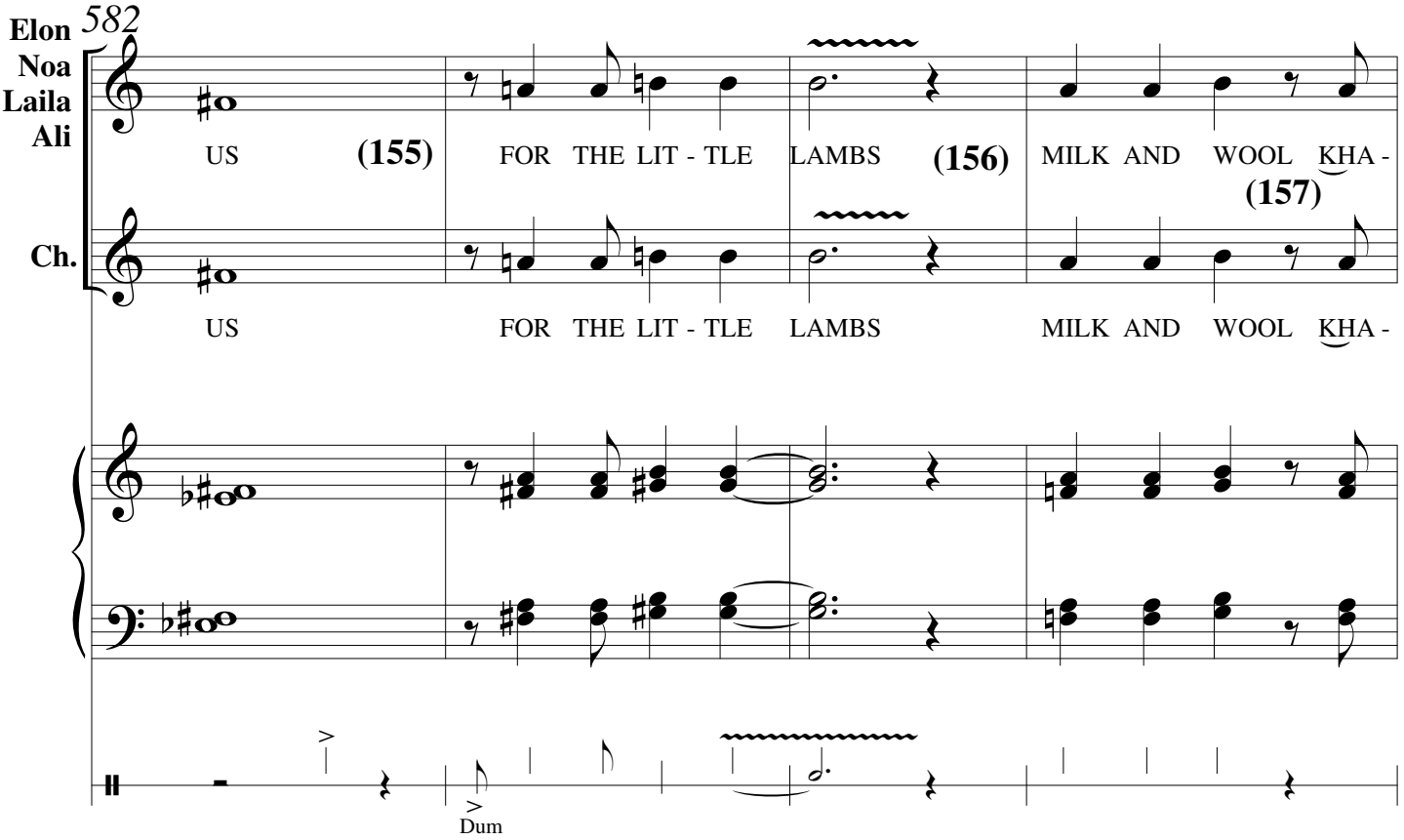
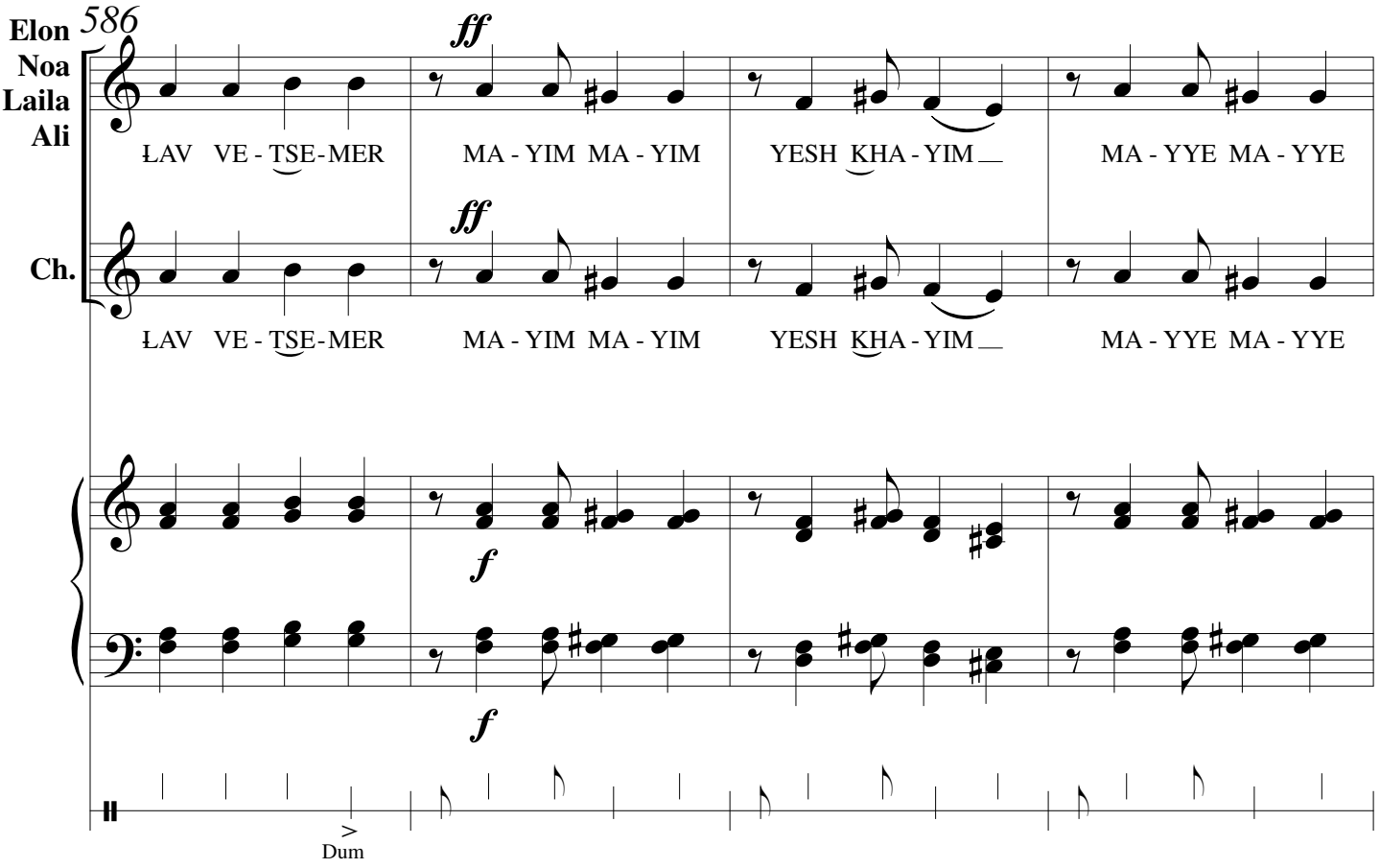
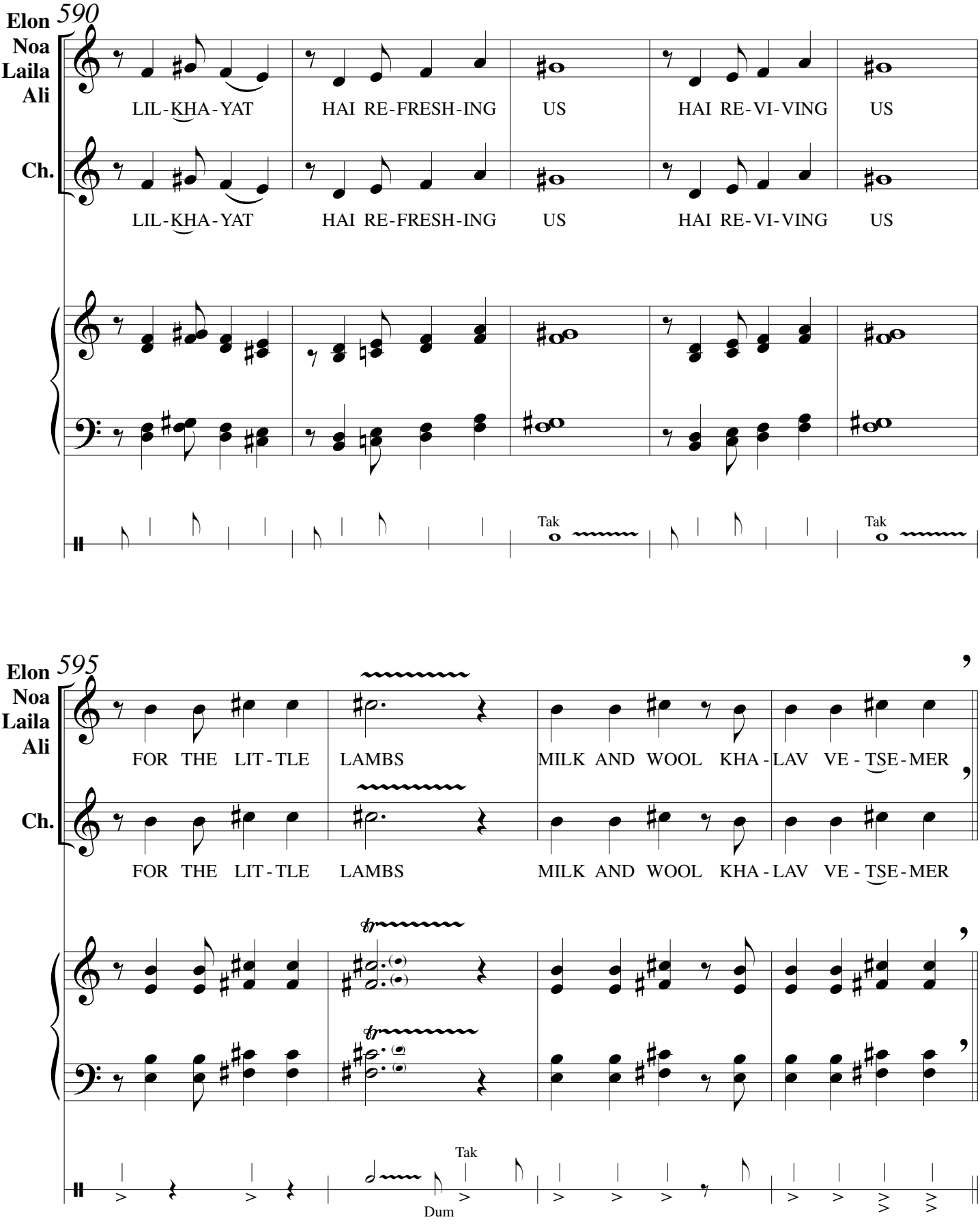

582
Elon
Noa
Laila
Ali
US
(155)
FOR THE LIT - TLE LAMBS
(156)
MILK AND WOOL KHA -
(157)
Ch.
US
FOR THE LIT - TLE LAMBS
MILK AND WOOL KHA -
Dum


586
Elon
Noa
Laila
Ali
ff
ŁAV VE - TSE - MER
MA - YIM MA - YIM
YESH KHA - YIM
MA - YYE MA - YYE
Ch.
ff
ŁAV VE - TSE - MER
MA - YIM MA - YIM
YESH KHA - YIM
MA - YYE MA - YYE
f
f
Dum



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8a. The Mantra of Wandering III (Chorus)

A Short Musical Introduction

599

Ad lib.

Ob. *mf*

Ob. *mp* *p*

600 ♩. = 66

Whistle in length of phrases *mf*

Ch.

Sing + whisper loudly

AND NO - A

(158)

Cl. *mf*

Strings *mp - mf*

mf

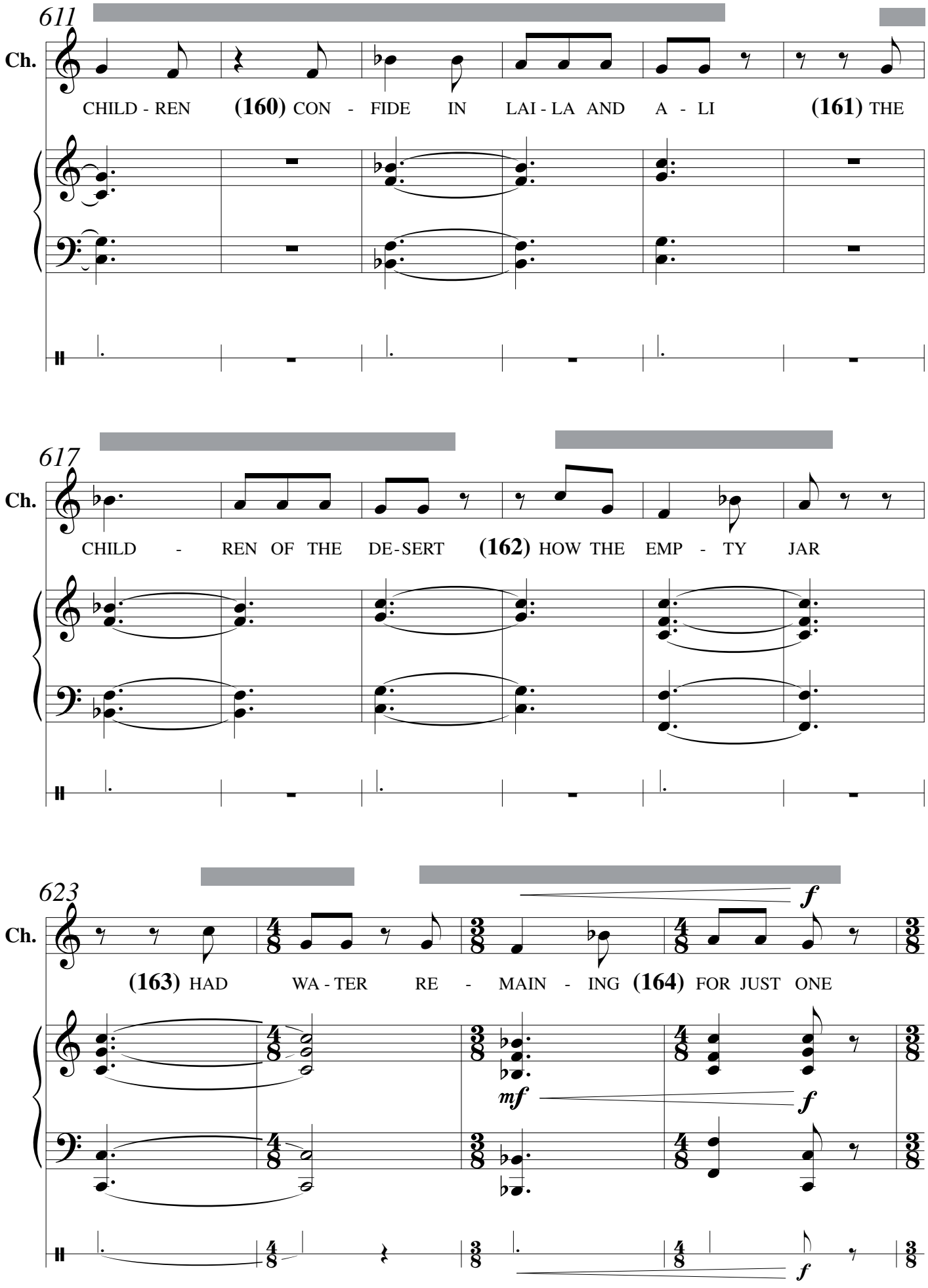
605

Ch.

AND E - LON ___

(159) THE TWO IS - RAEL - ITE

mf



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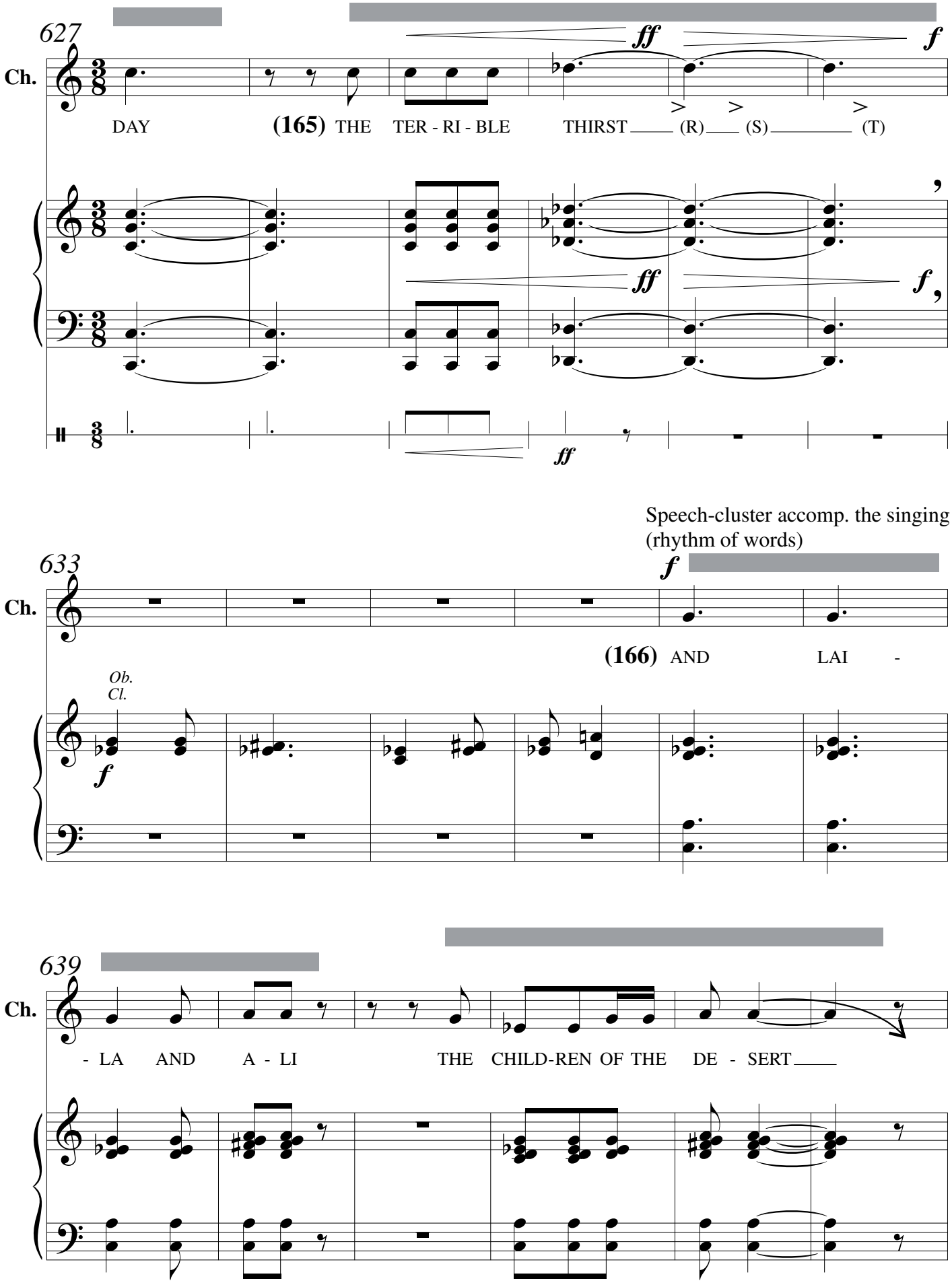
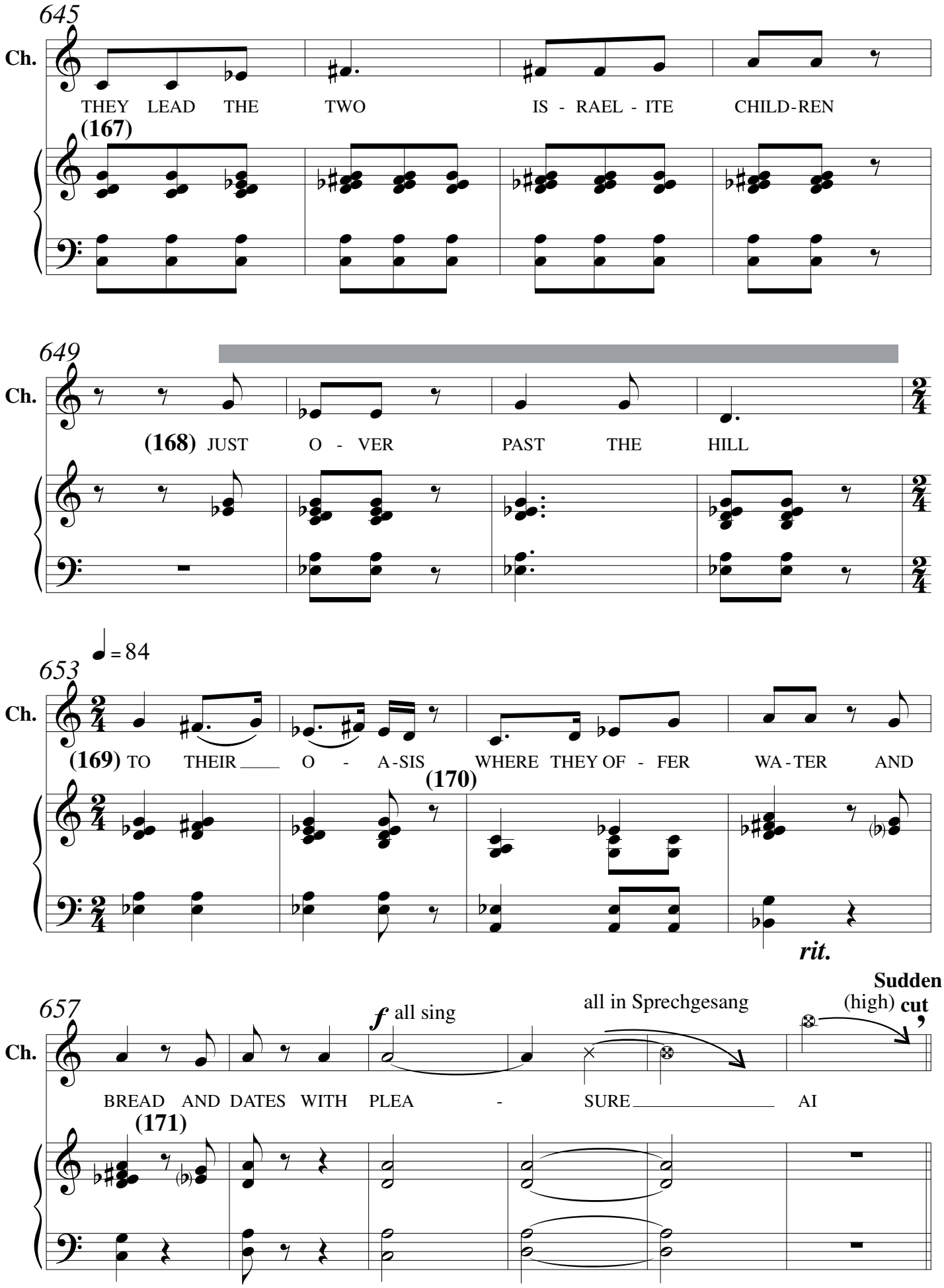

627
Ch.
ff
f
DAY
(165) THE TER - RI - BLE THIRST (R) (S) (T)
ff
f
ff
Speech-cluster accomp. the singing
(rhythm of words)
633
Ch.
f
(166) AND LAI -
Ob.
Cl.
f
639
Ch.
- LA AND A - LI THE CHILD-REN OF THE DE - SERT



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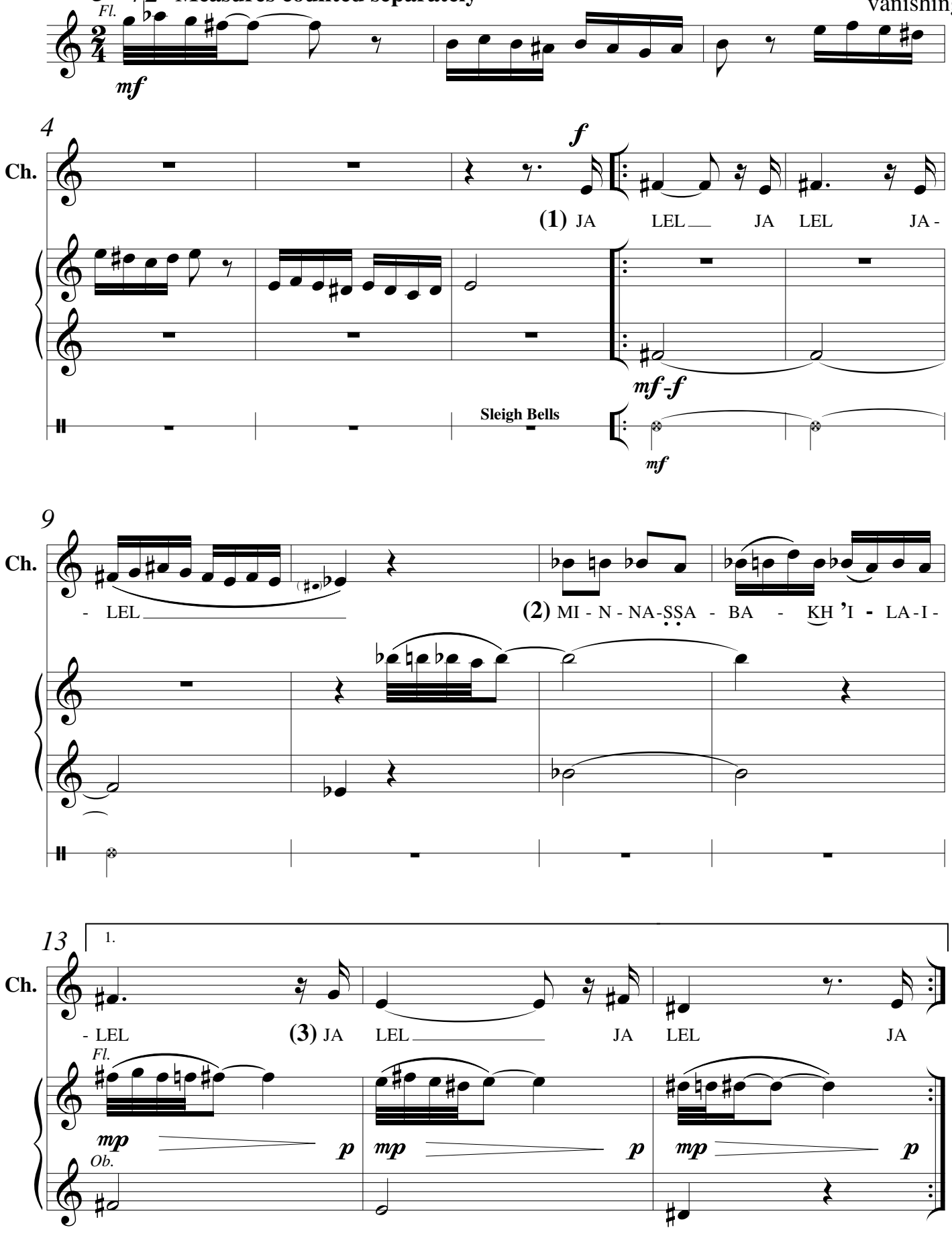
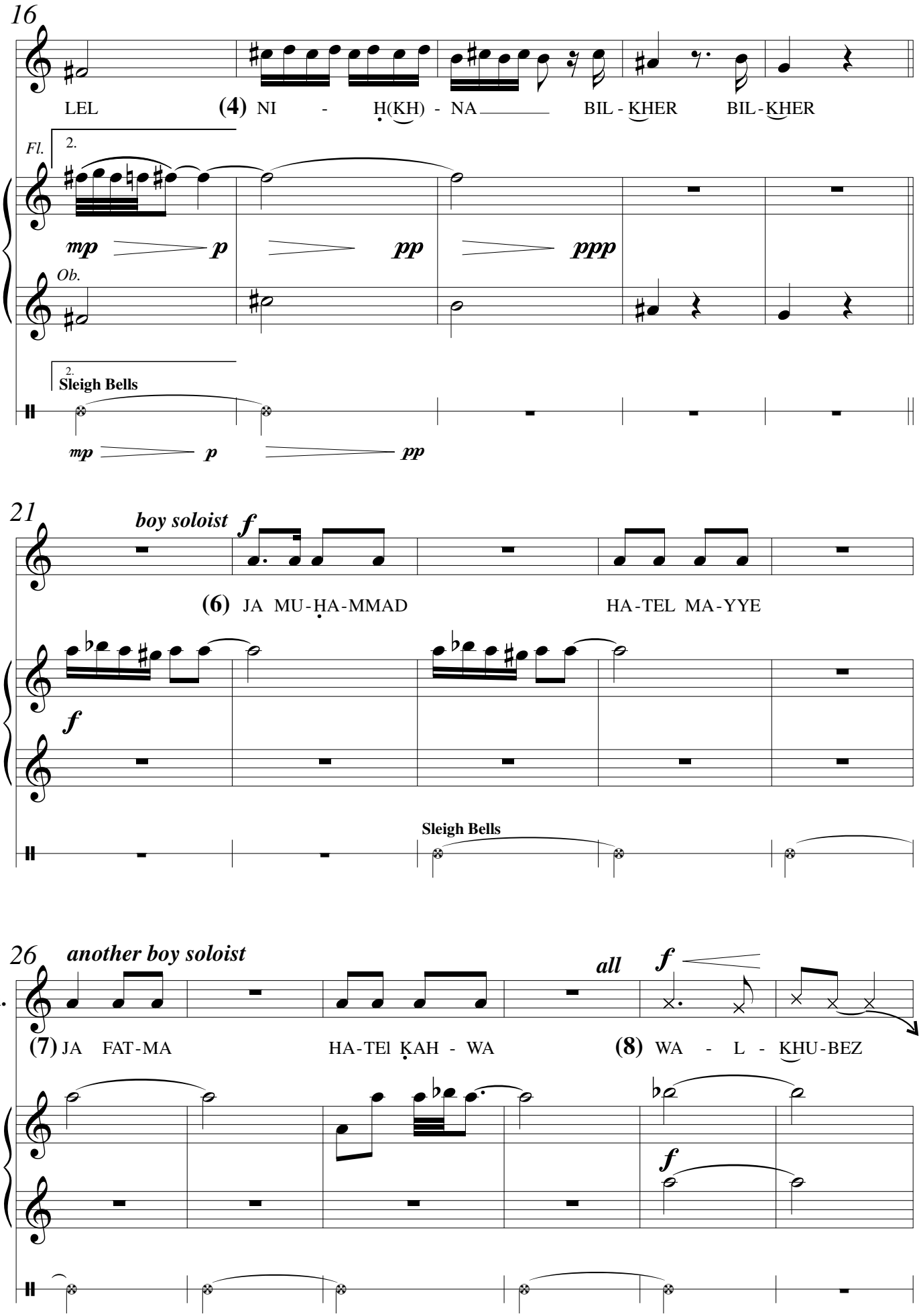
Oriental Scene in the Oasis

(Optional)

Recommended: b. 1-37 (incl. 1 2)
b.7-20 (incl. 1 2)
b.37-40 4 or more times, vanishing

♩ = 72 **Measures counted separately**





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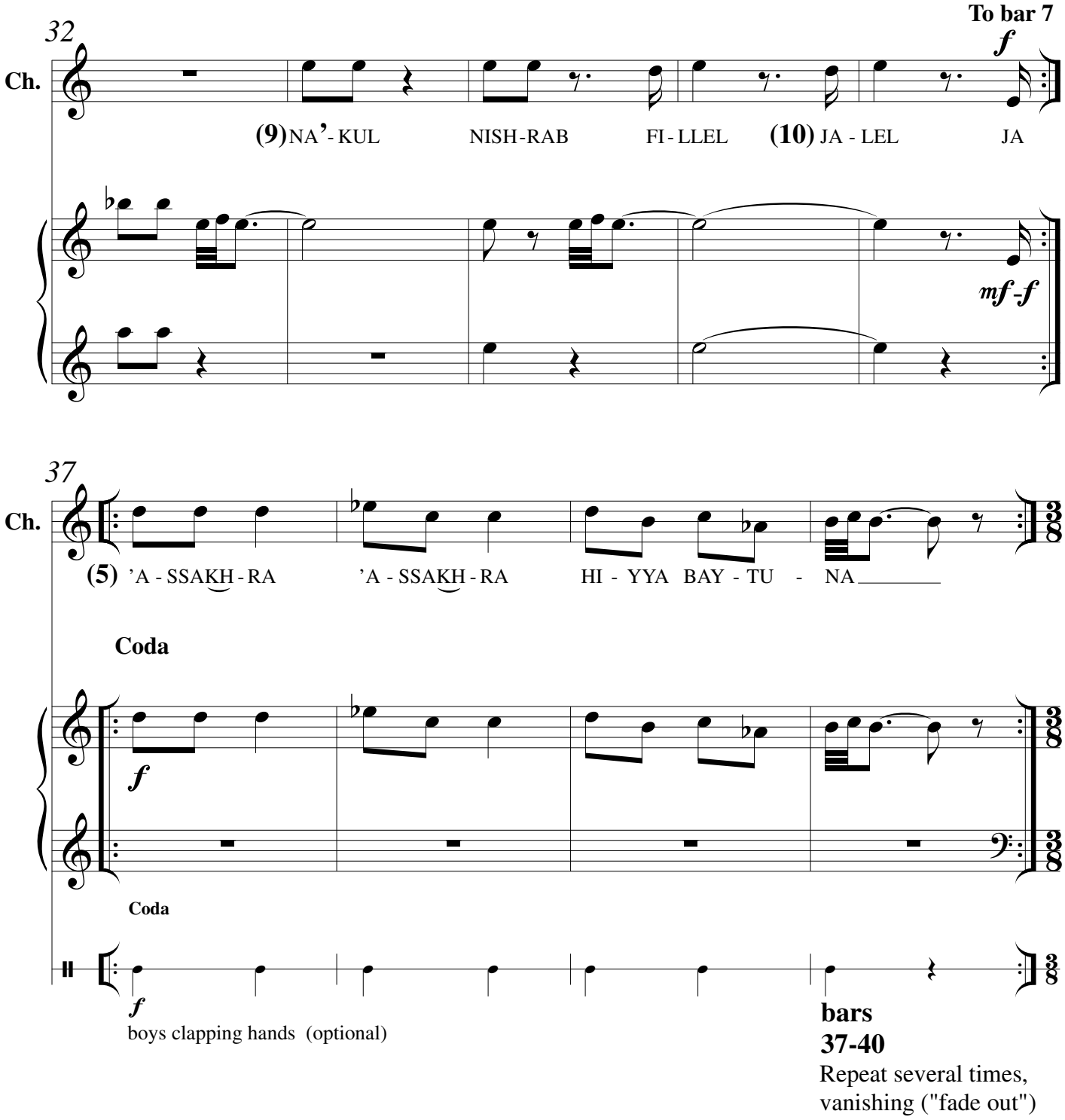
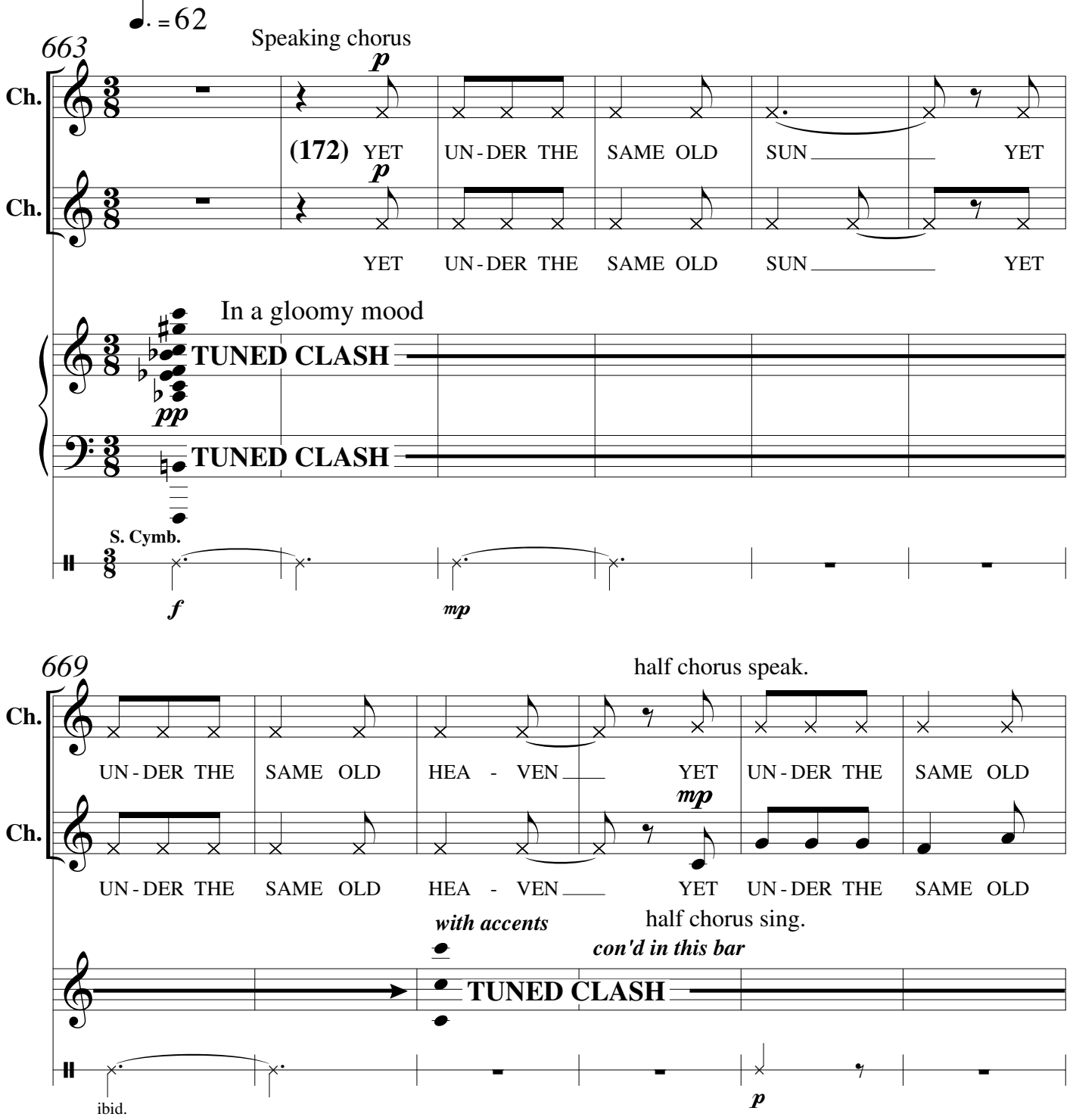

To bar 7
32
Ch.
f
(9) NA' - KUL NISH - RAB FI - LLEL (10) JA - LEL JA
mf-f
37
Ch.
(5) 'A - SSAKH - RA 'A - SSAKH - RA HI - YYA BAY - TU - NA
Coda
f
Coda
f
boys clapping hands (optional)
bars
37-40
Repeat several times,
vanishing ("fade out")

SCENE III

Noa and Elon return to their parents' tent, accompanied by Ali and Laila

(Darkness. The chorus comes onstage talking, and later singing.
The atmosphere becomes still darker.
The stage setting changes to the tent of the Israelites)

9. The Mantra of Wandering IV (Chorus)



TUNED CLASH:
Each instrument improvises on its tone, in totally free rhythms (not related to words).
Cues for singing are inserted by temporal accents. Stable ***pp*** until b. 683. Stable ***p*** in b. 684 - 696.

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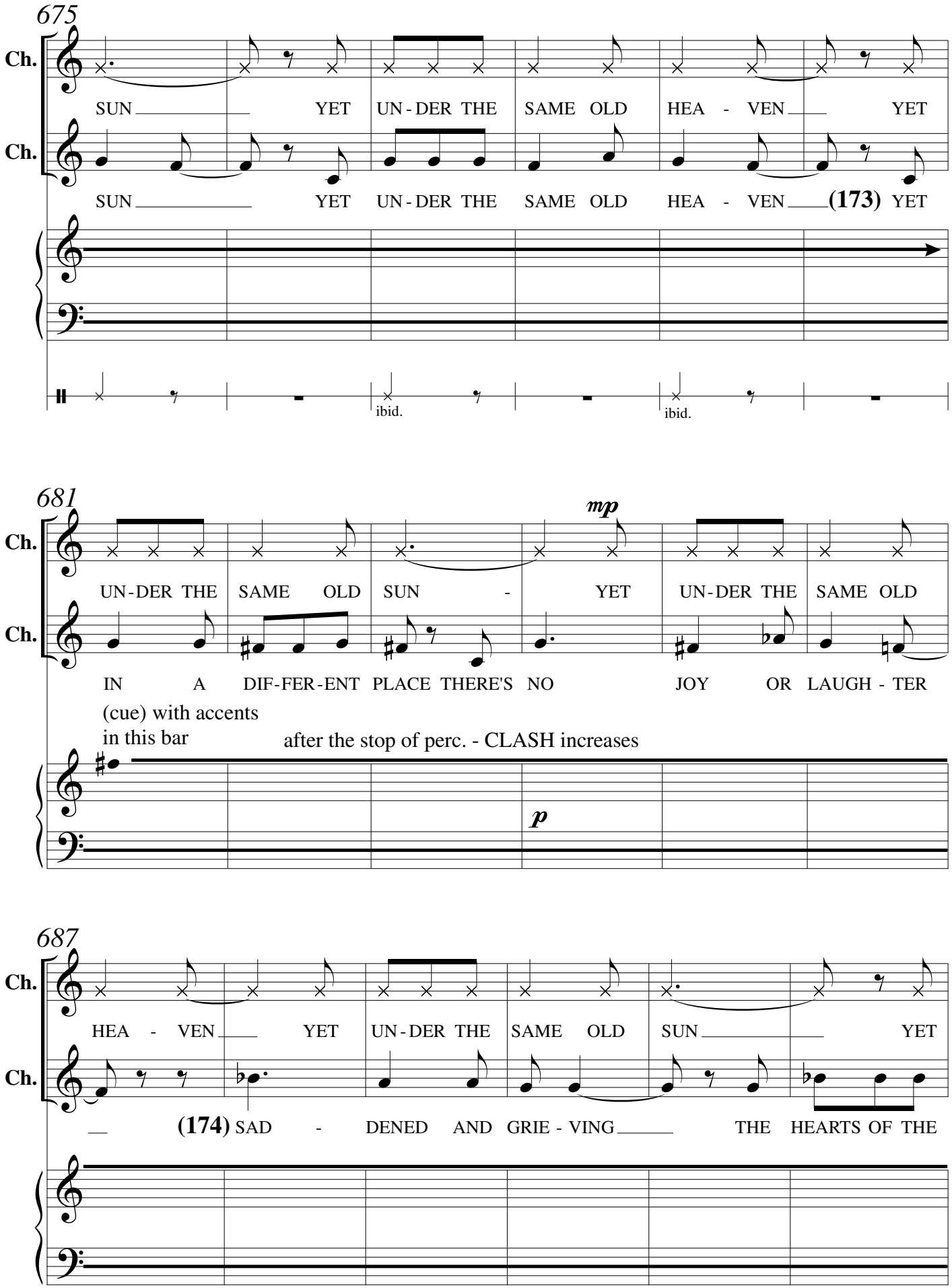
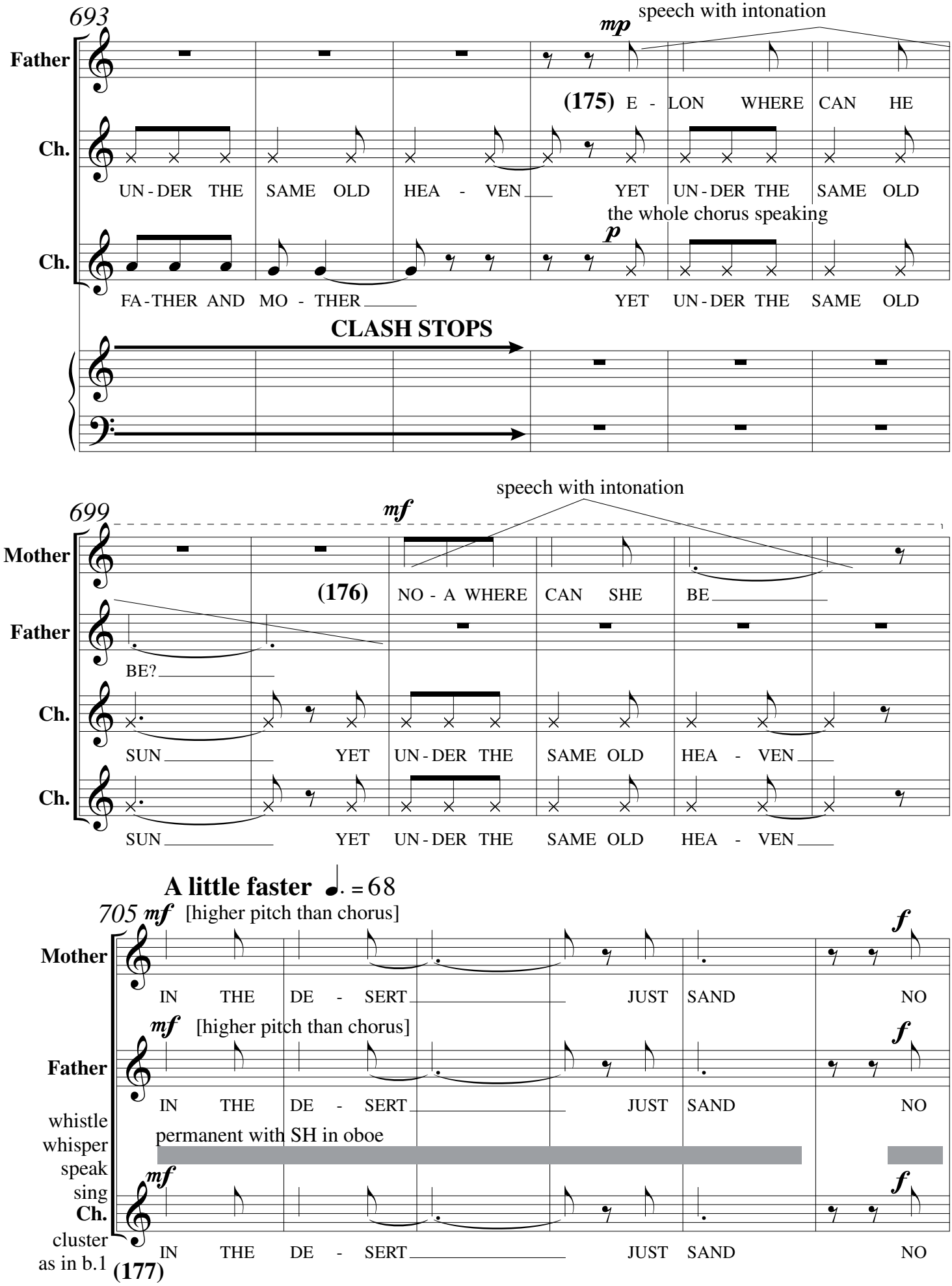

675
Ch.
SUN YET UN - DER THE SAME OLD HEA - VEN YET
Ch.
SUN YET UN - DER THE SAME OLD HEA - VEN (173) YET
ibid.
ibid.
681
mp
Ch.
UN - DER THE SAME OLD SUN - YET UN - DER THE SAME OLD
Ch.
IN A DIF - FER - ENT PLACE THERE'S NO JOY OR LAUGH - TER
(cue) with accents
in this bar
after the stop of perc. - CLASH increases
p
687
Ch.
HEA - VEN YET UN - DER THE SAME OLD SUN YET
Ch.
(174) SAD - DENED AND GRIE - VING THE HEARTS OF THE



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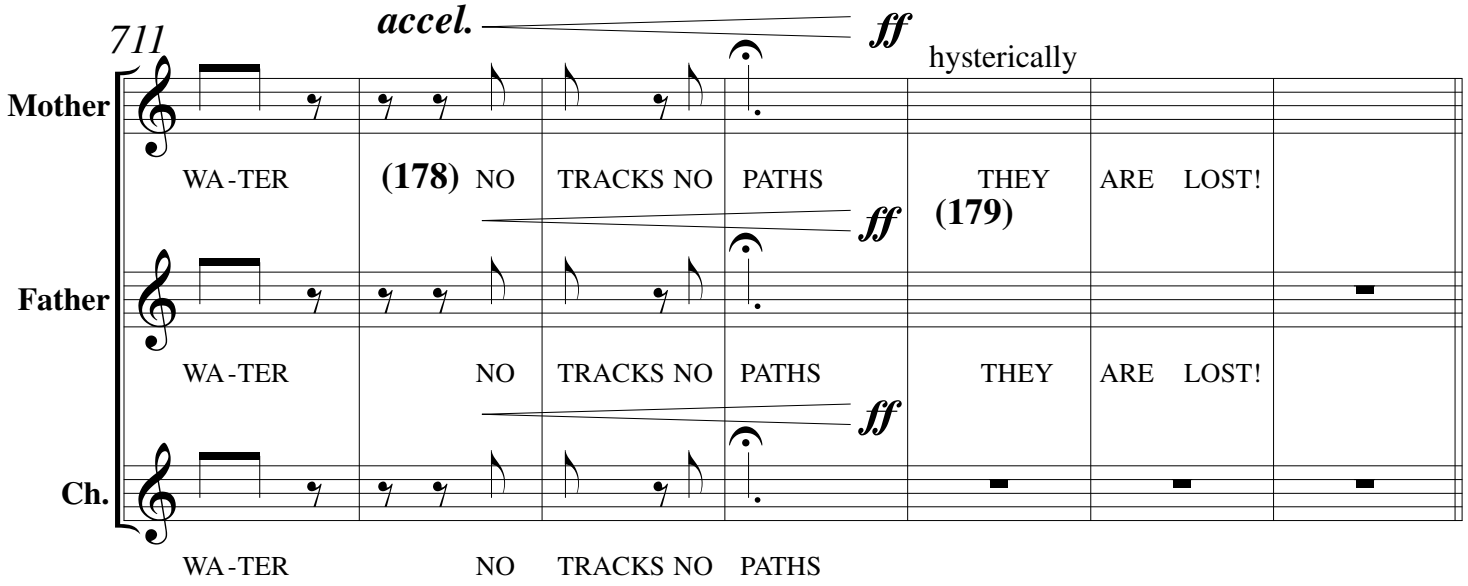
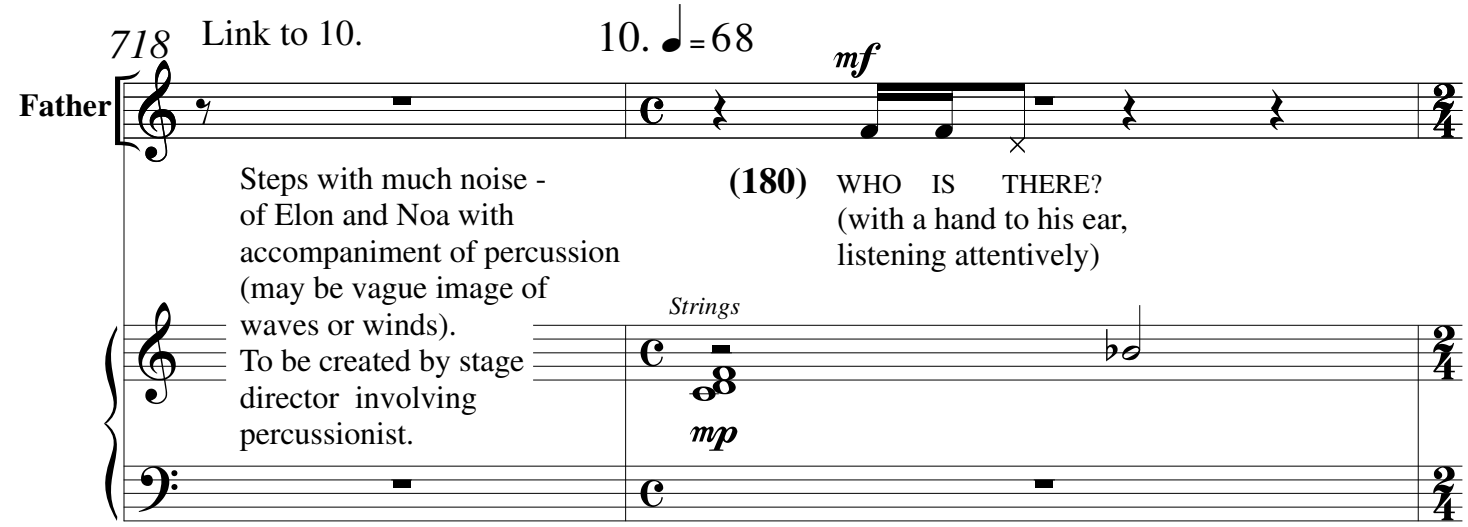
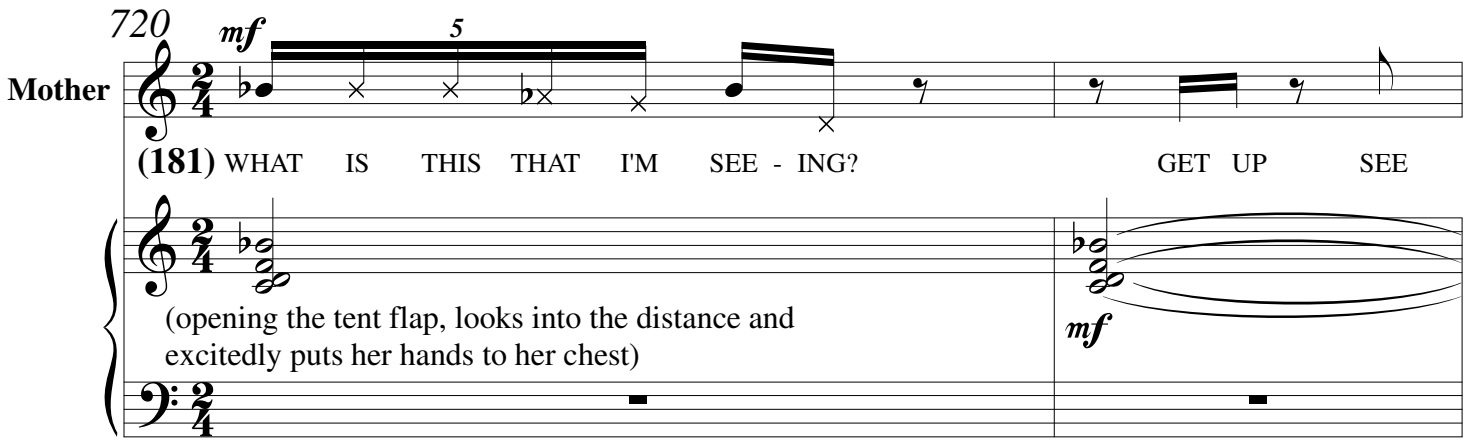
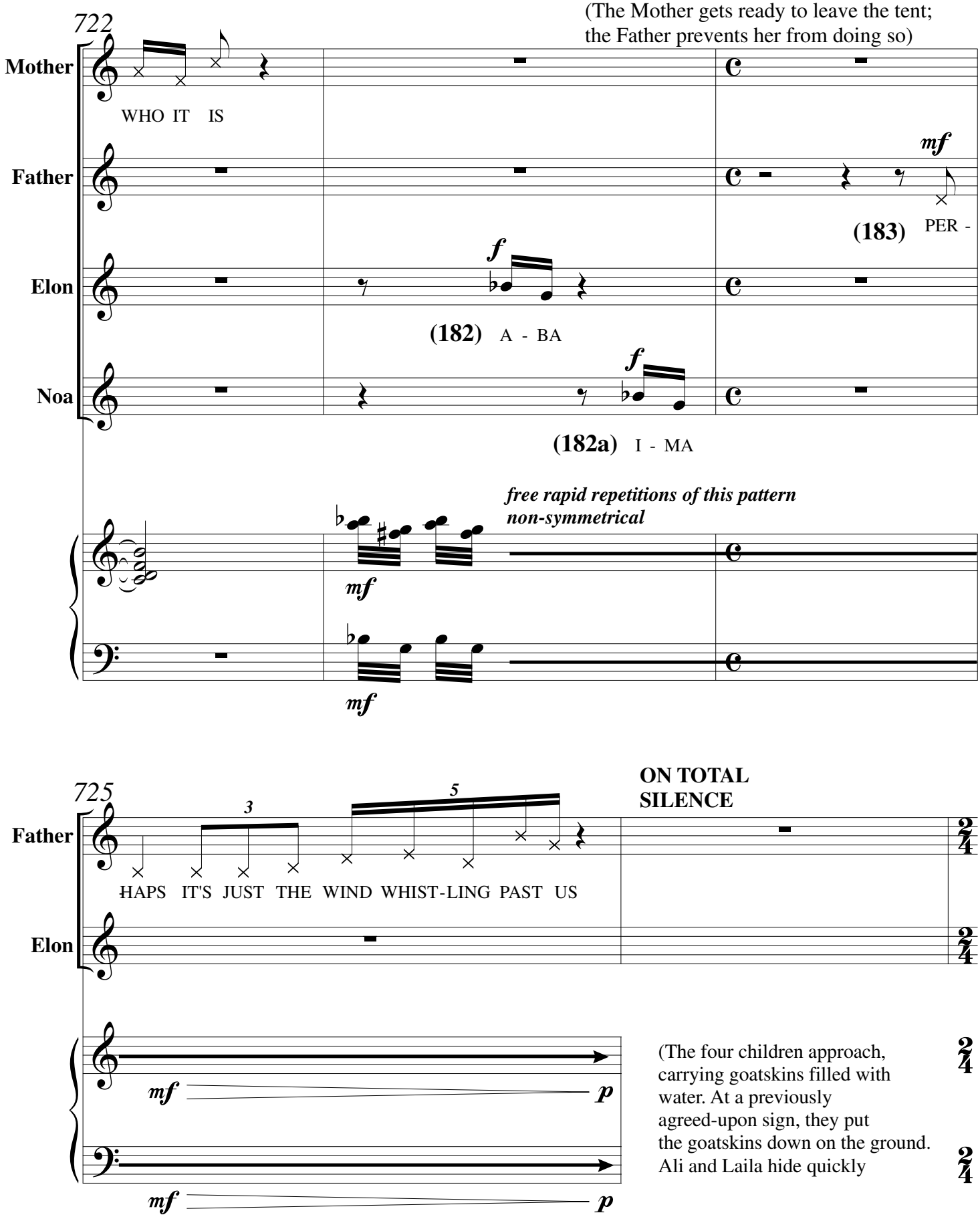


10 - 11. In a single continuity: Elon and Noa return to the Israelite tent accompanied by Ali and Laila (a moving meeting)

A sextet develops: from four (parents, Elon, Noa) to six (including Ali and Laila)







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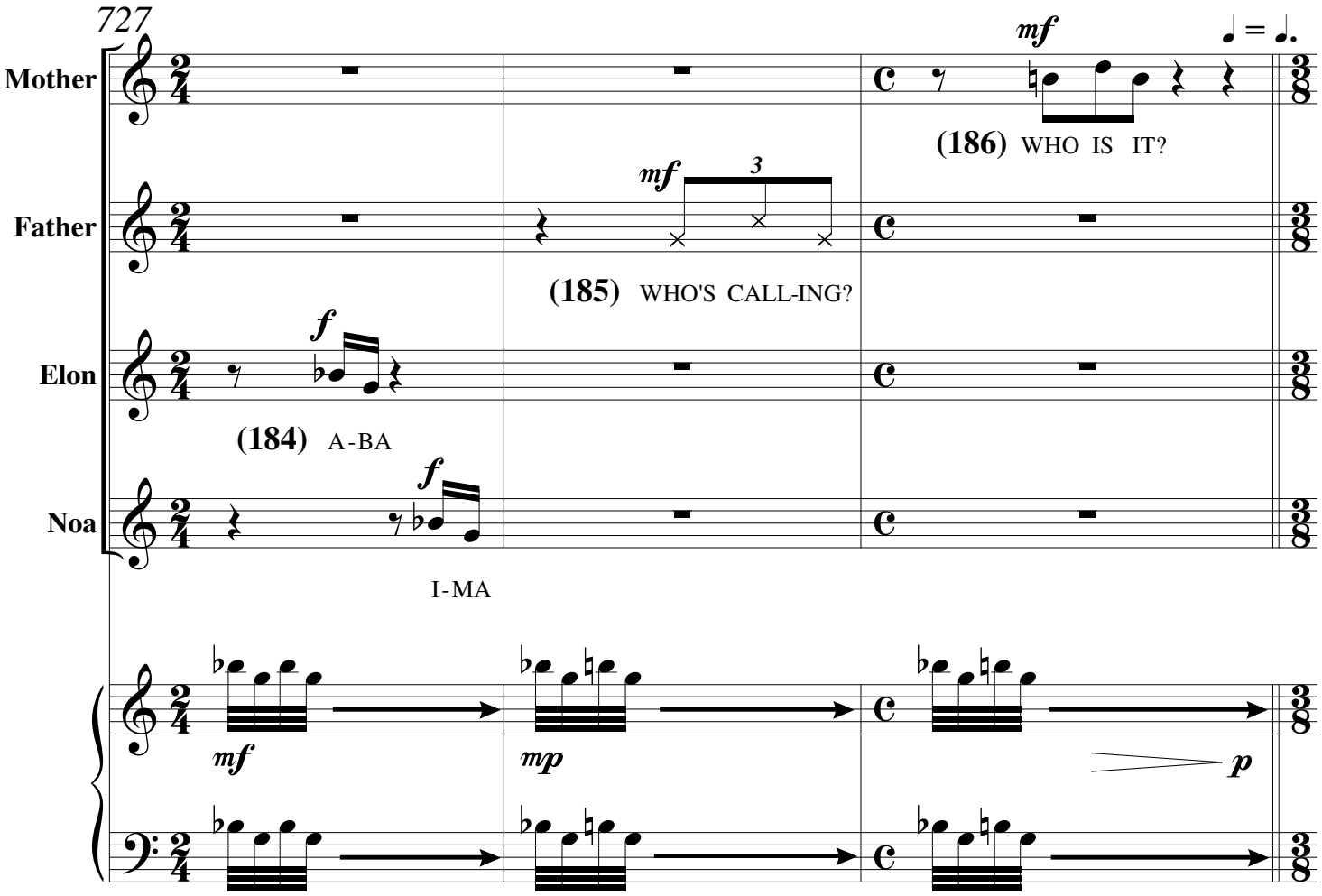
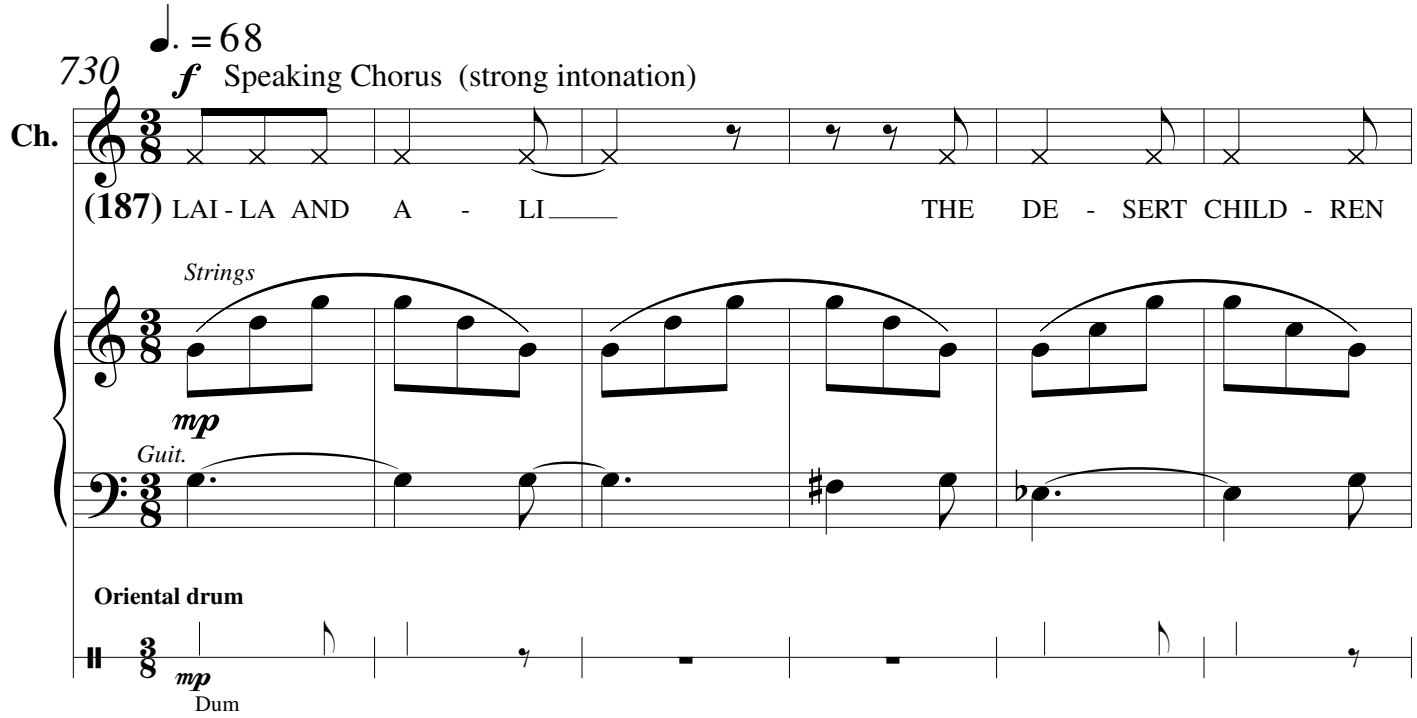
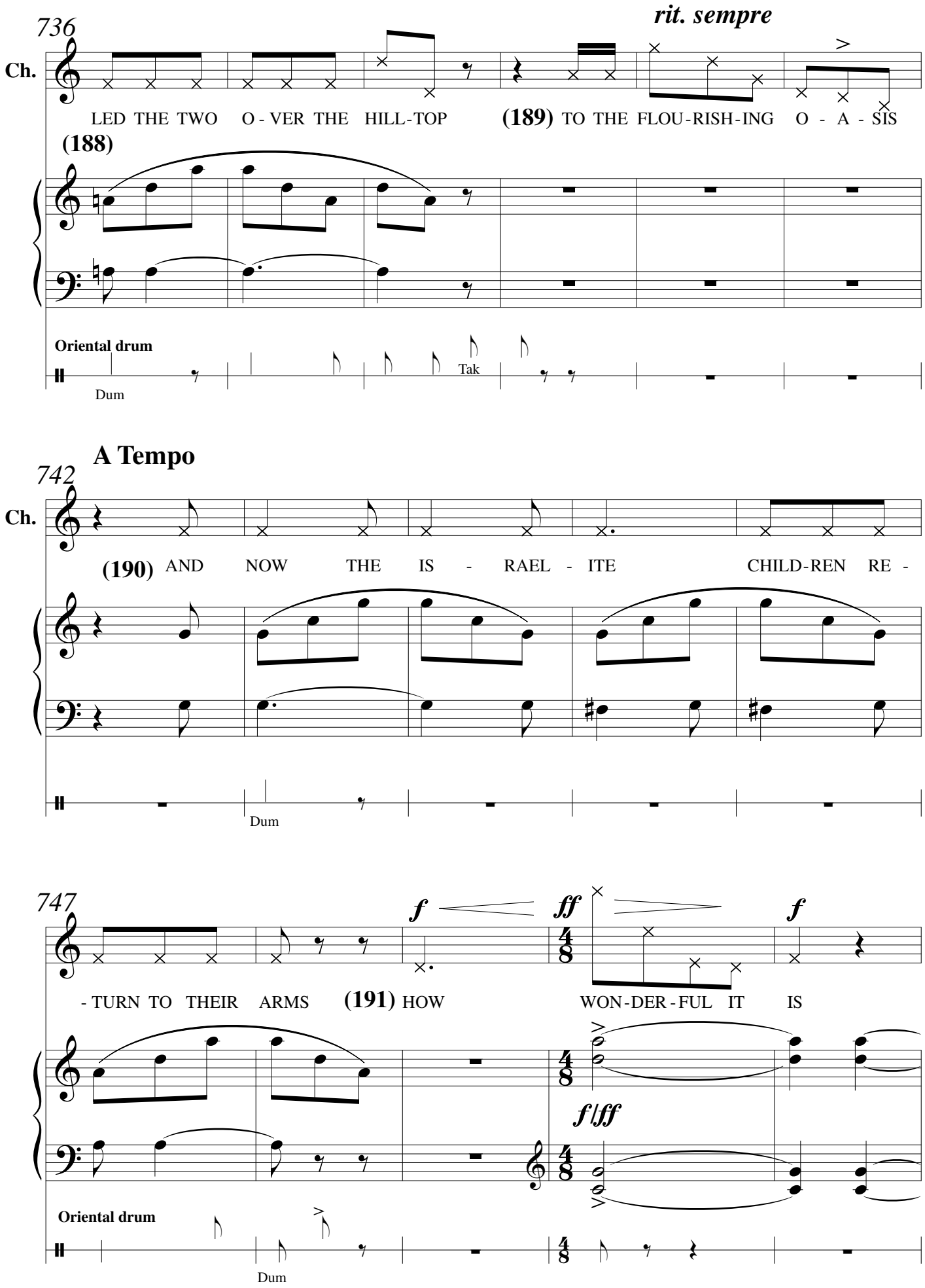


The Mantra of Wandering V (Chorus)





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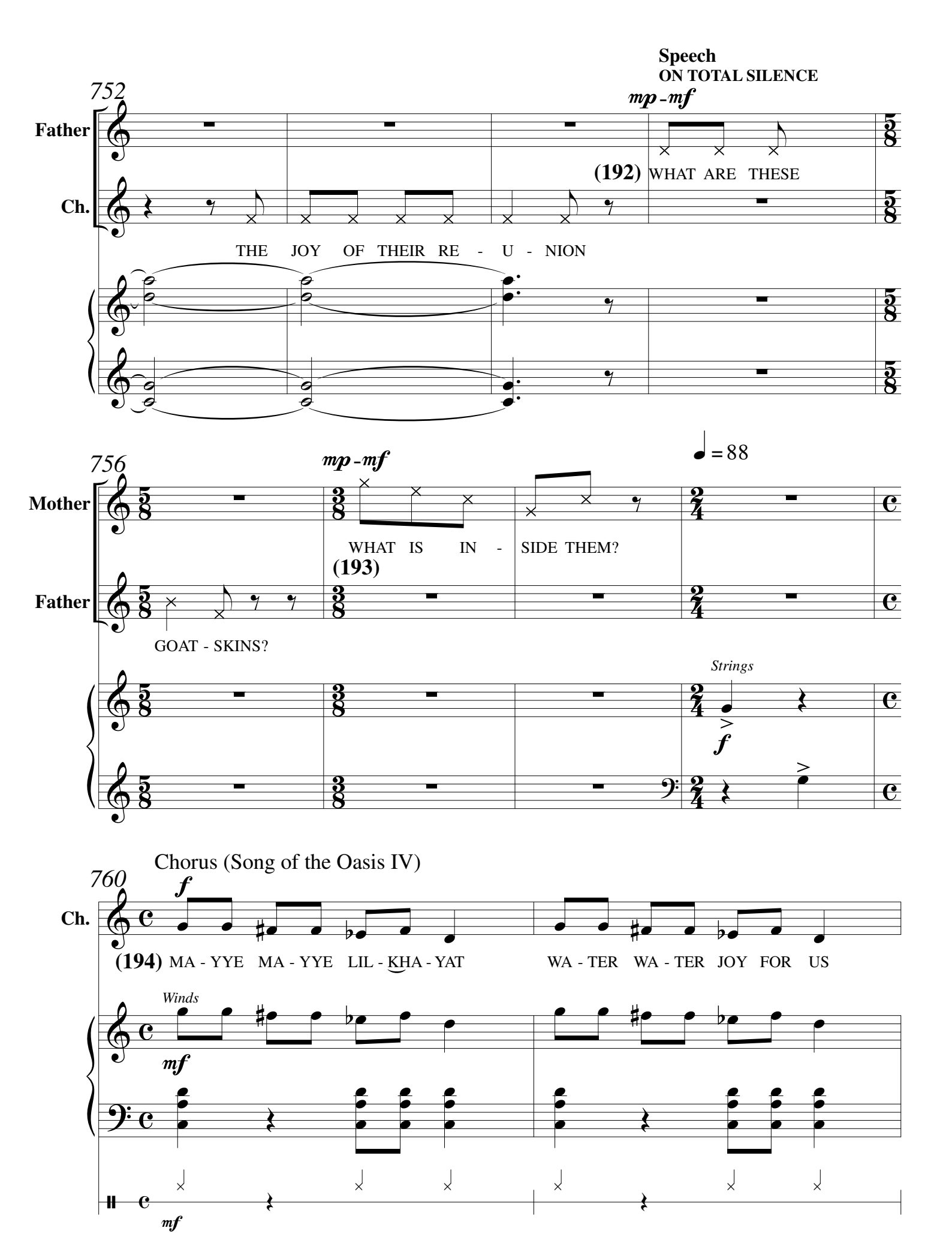
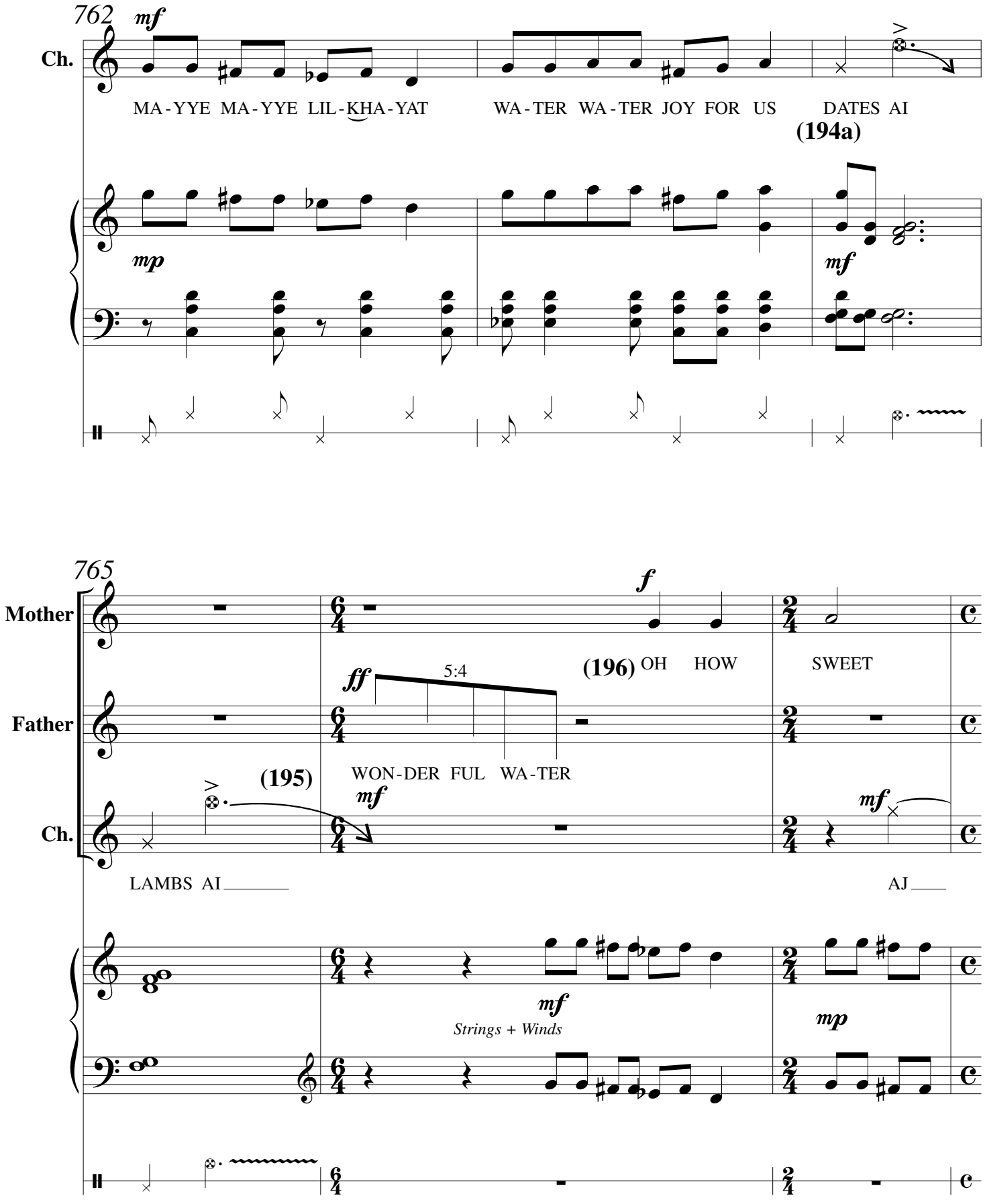
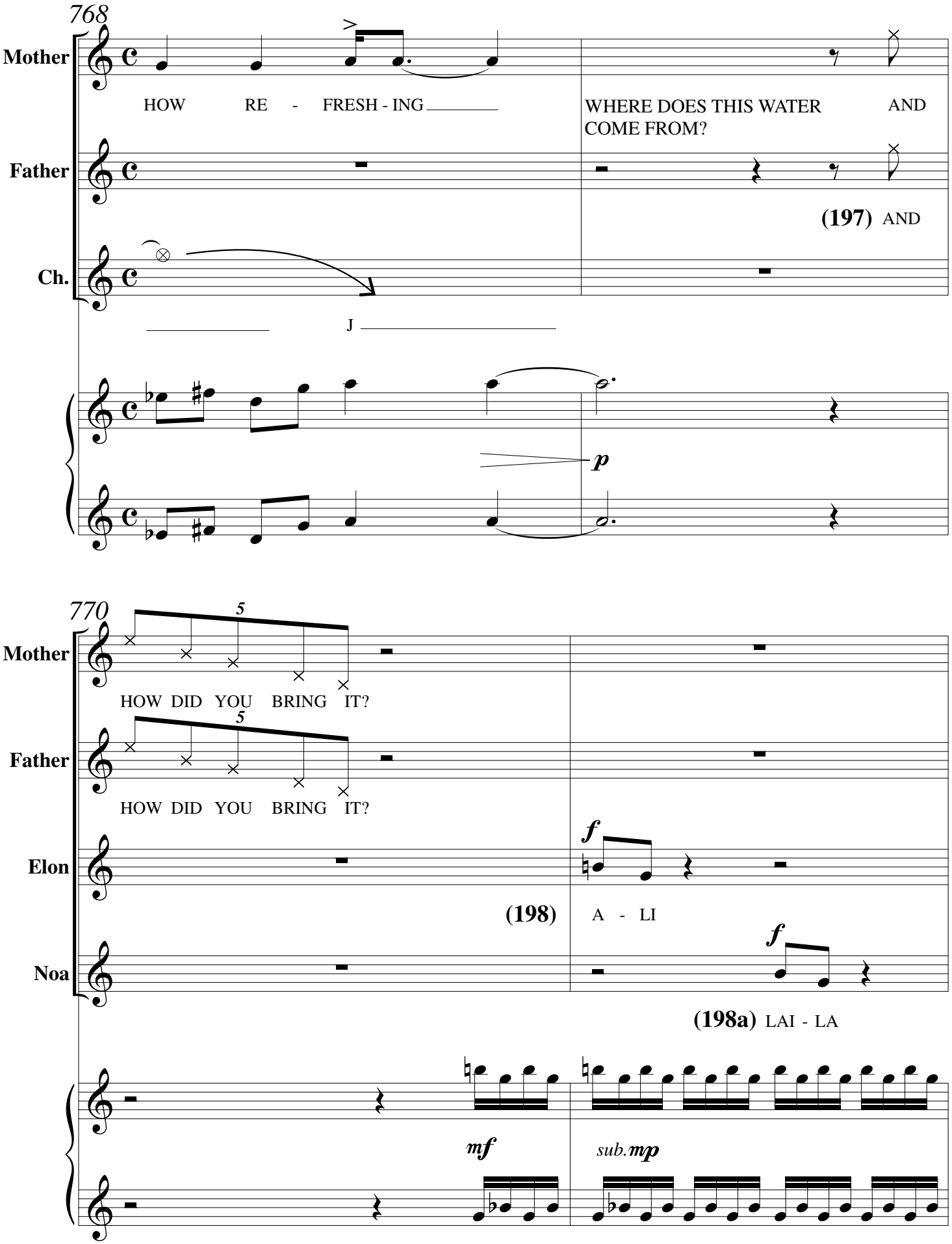
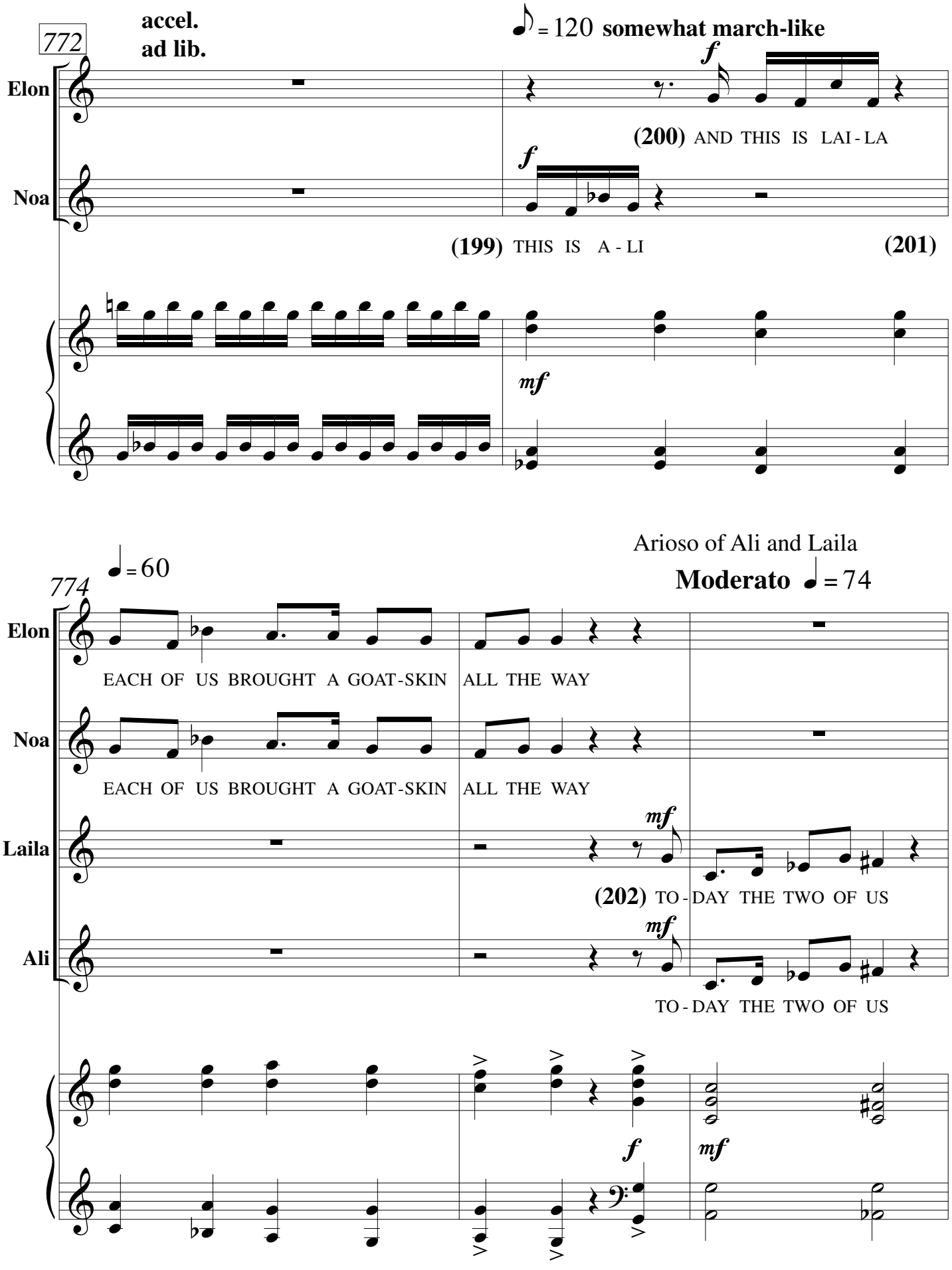

752
Speech
ON TOTAL SILENCE
mp - mf
Father
Ch.
(192) WHAT ARE THESE
THE JOY OF THEIR RE - U - NION
756
mp - mf
♩ = 88
Mother
WHAT IS IN - SIDE THEM?
(193)
Father
GOAT - SKINS?
Strings
f
Chorus (Song of the Oasis IV)
760
f
Ch.
(194) MA - YYE MA - YYE LIL - KHA - YAT
WA - TER WA - TER JOY FOR US
Winds
mf
mf



fue 26017 · ISMN: 979-0-50182-262-1


768
Mother
HOW RE - FRESH - ING
WHERE DOES THIS WATER AND COME FROM?
Father
(197) AND
Ch.
J
p
770
Mother
5
HOW DID YOU BRING IT?
Father
5
HOW DID YOU BRING IT?
Elon
f
(198)
A - LI
Noa
f
(198a) LAI - LA
mf
sub.mp



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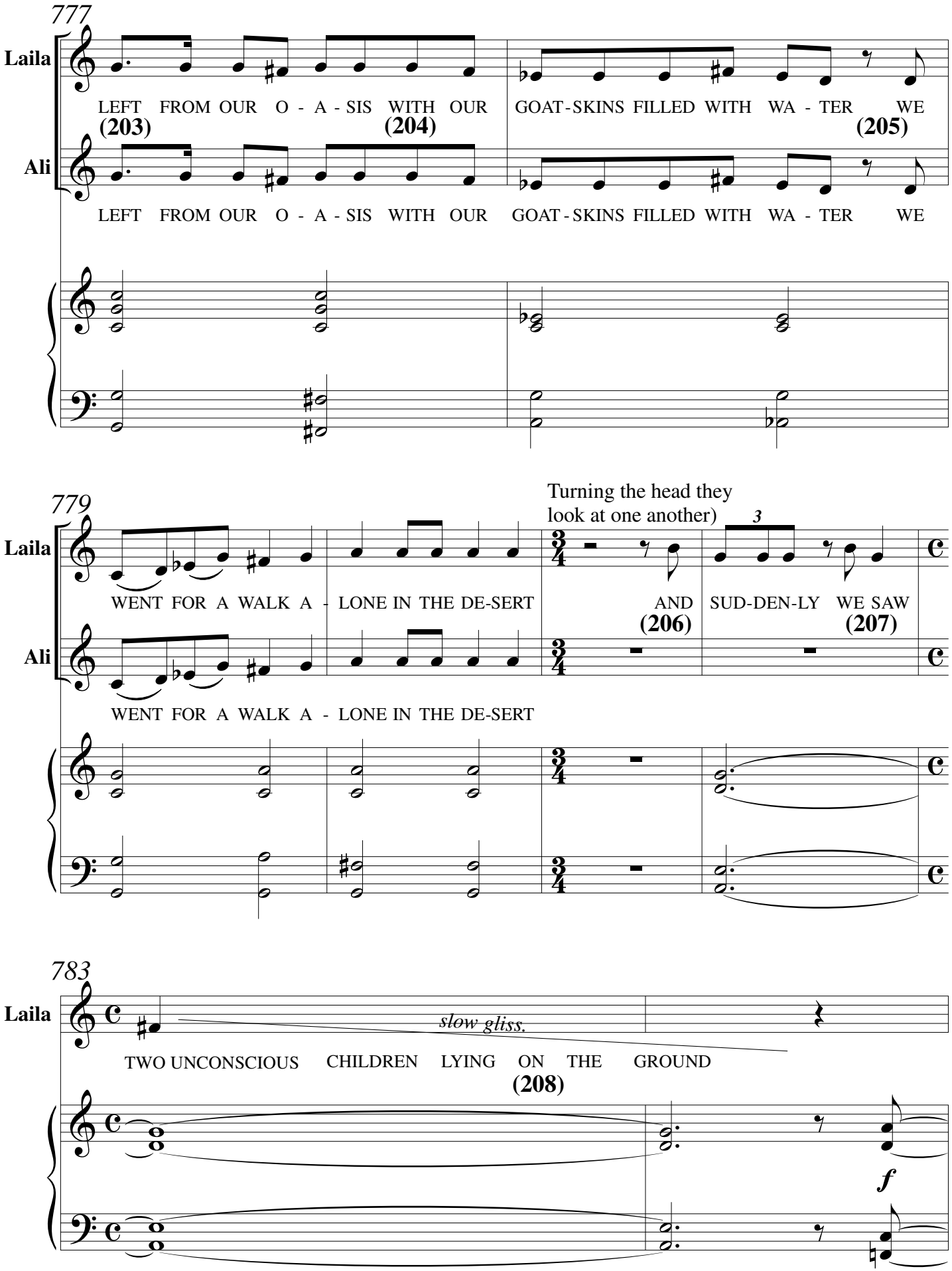
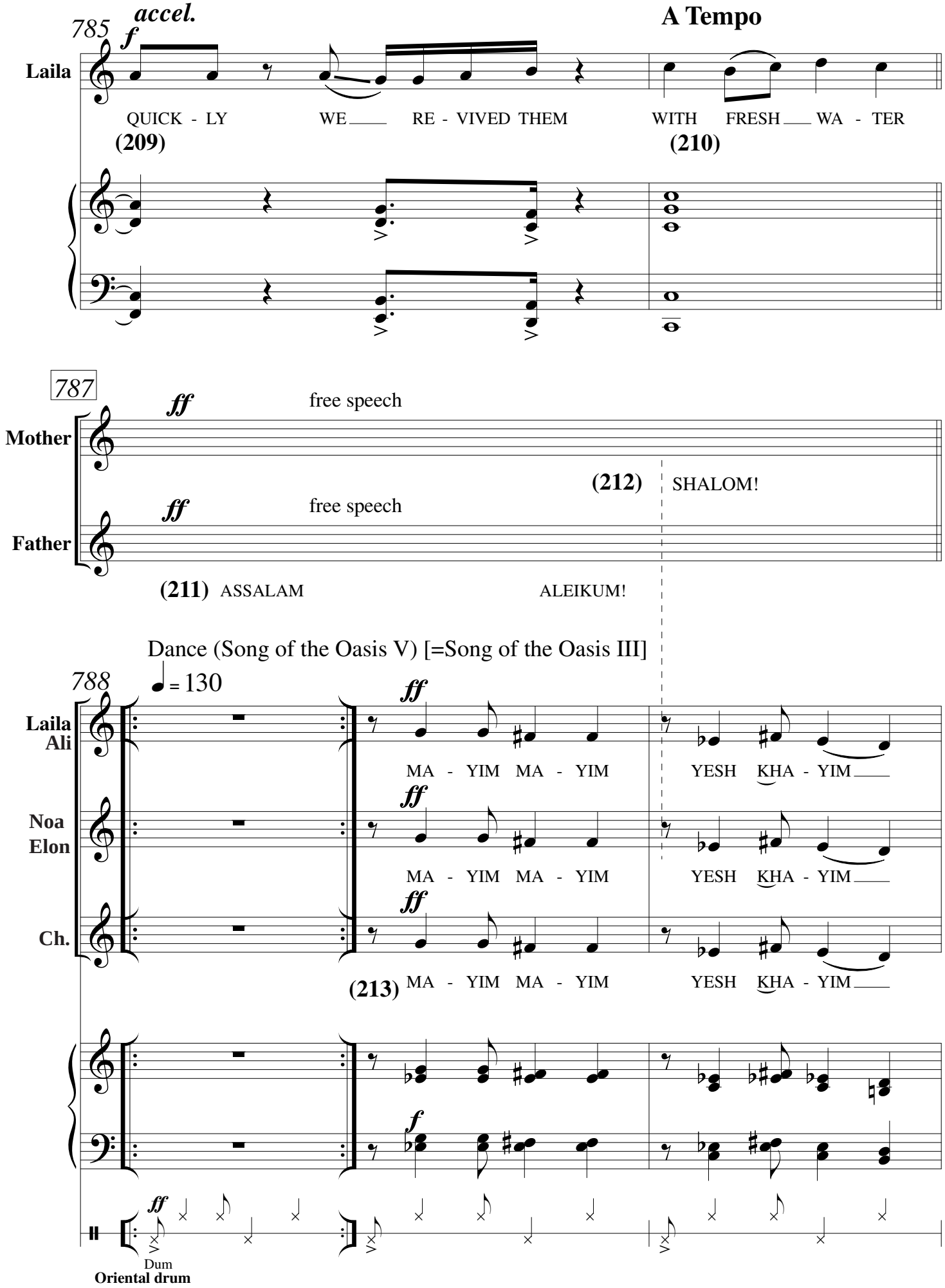

777
Laila
LEFT FROM OUR O - A - SIS WITH OUR
(203)
(204)
GOAT - SKINS FILLED WITH WA - TER WE
(205)
Ali
LEFT FROM OUR O - A - SIS WITH OUR
GOAT - SKINS FILLED WITH WA - TER WE
779
Turning the head they
look at one another)
3
Laila
WENT FOR A WALK A - LONE IN THE DE-SERT
AND
(206)
SUD-DEN-LY WE SAW
(207)
Ali
WENT FOR A WALK A - LONE IN THE DE-SERT
783
Laila
slow gliss.
TWO UNCONSCIOUS CHILDREN LYING ON THE GROUND
(208)
f



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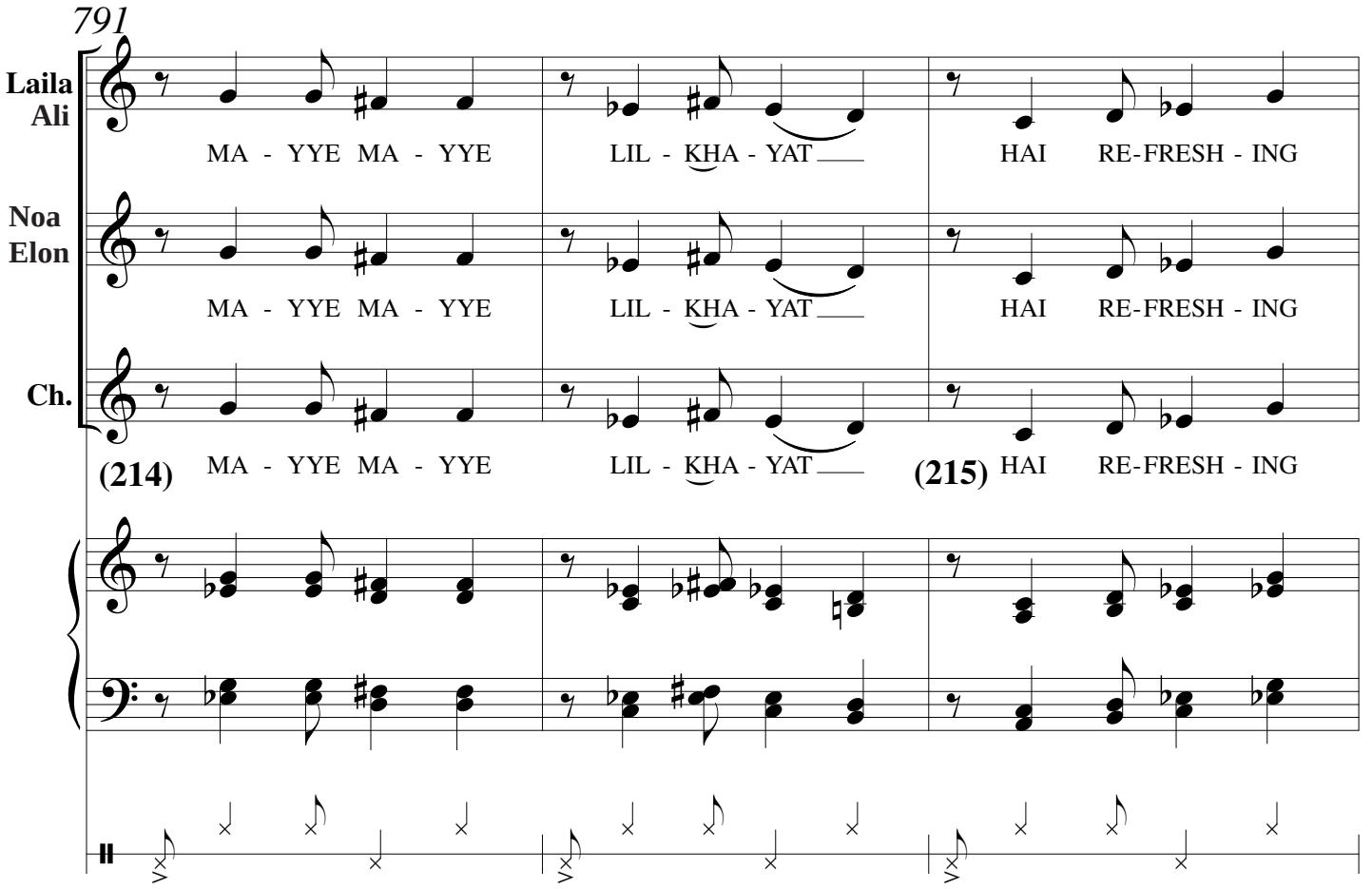
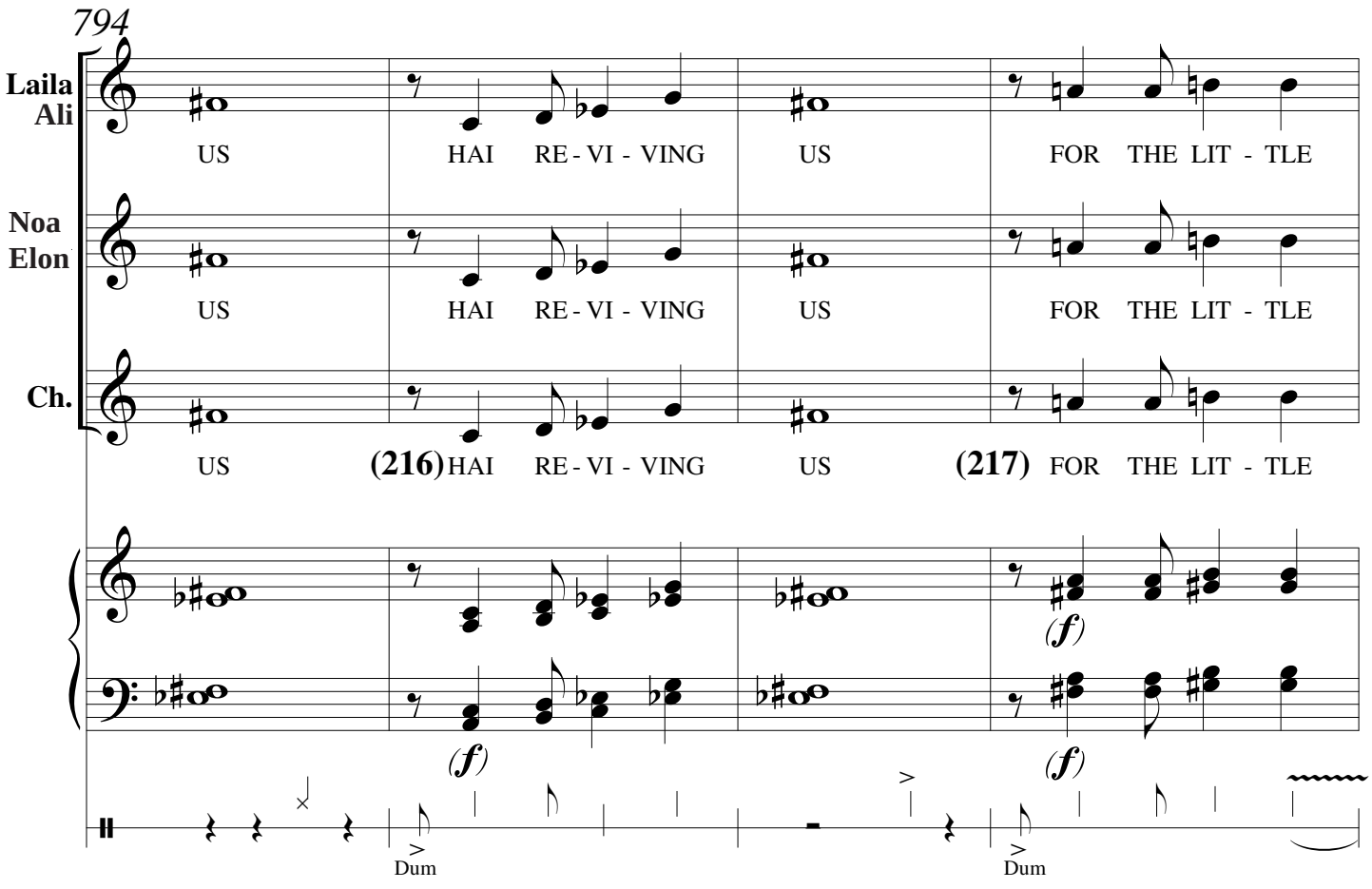
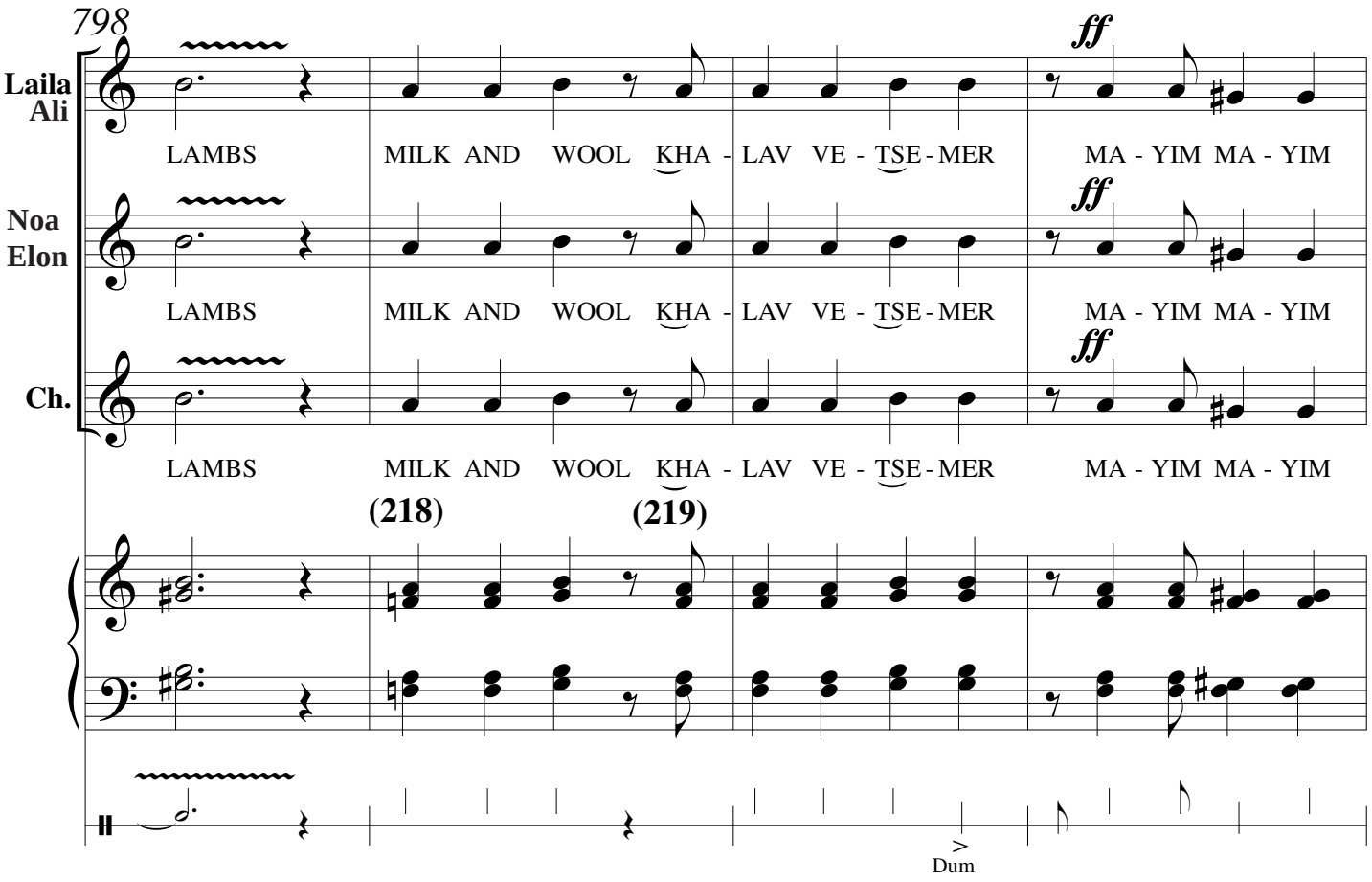
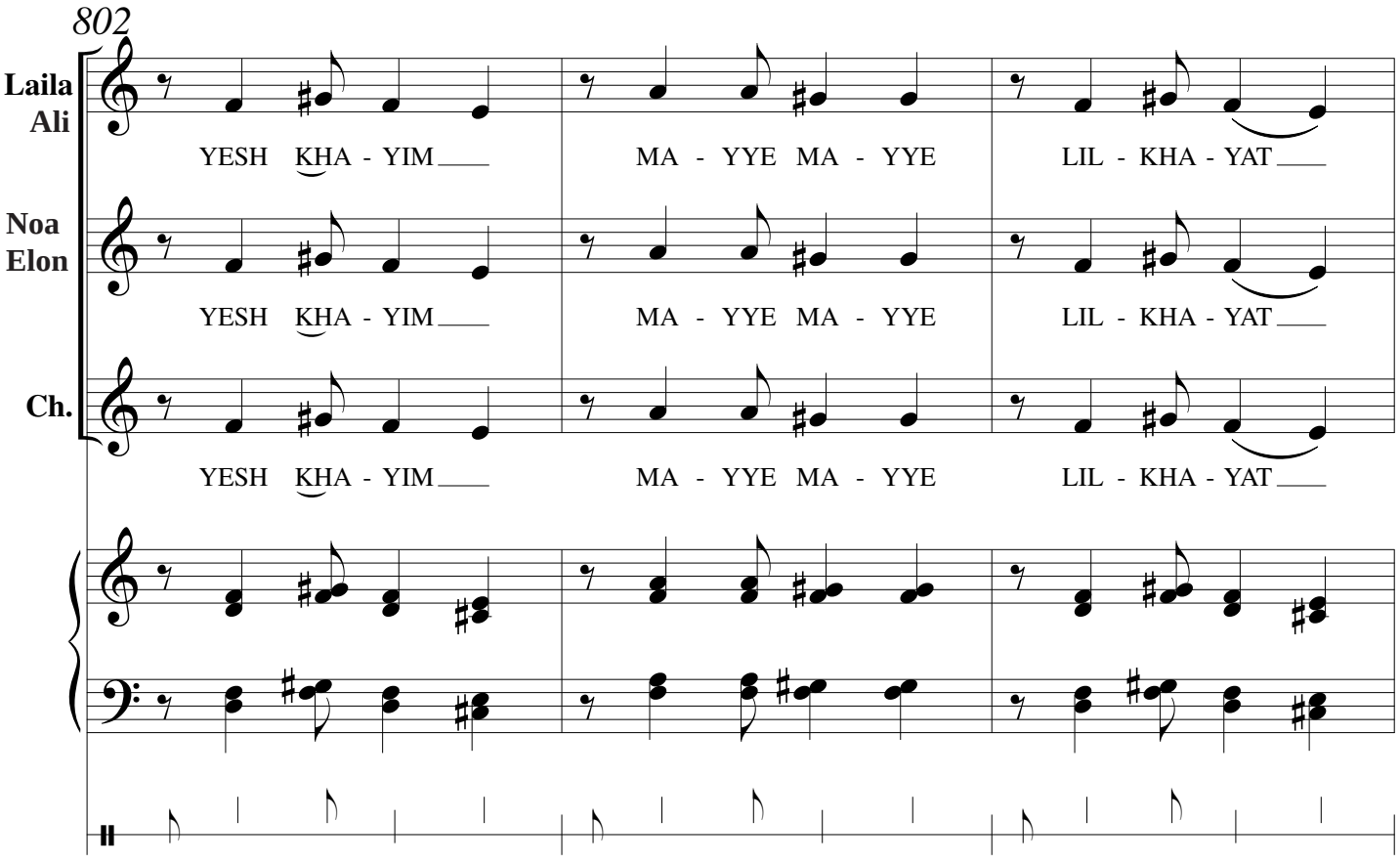
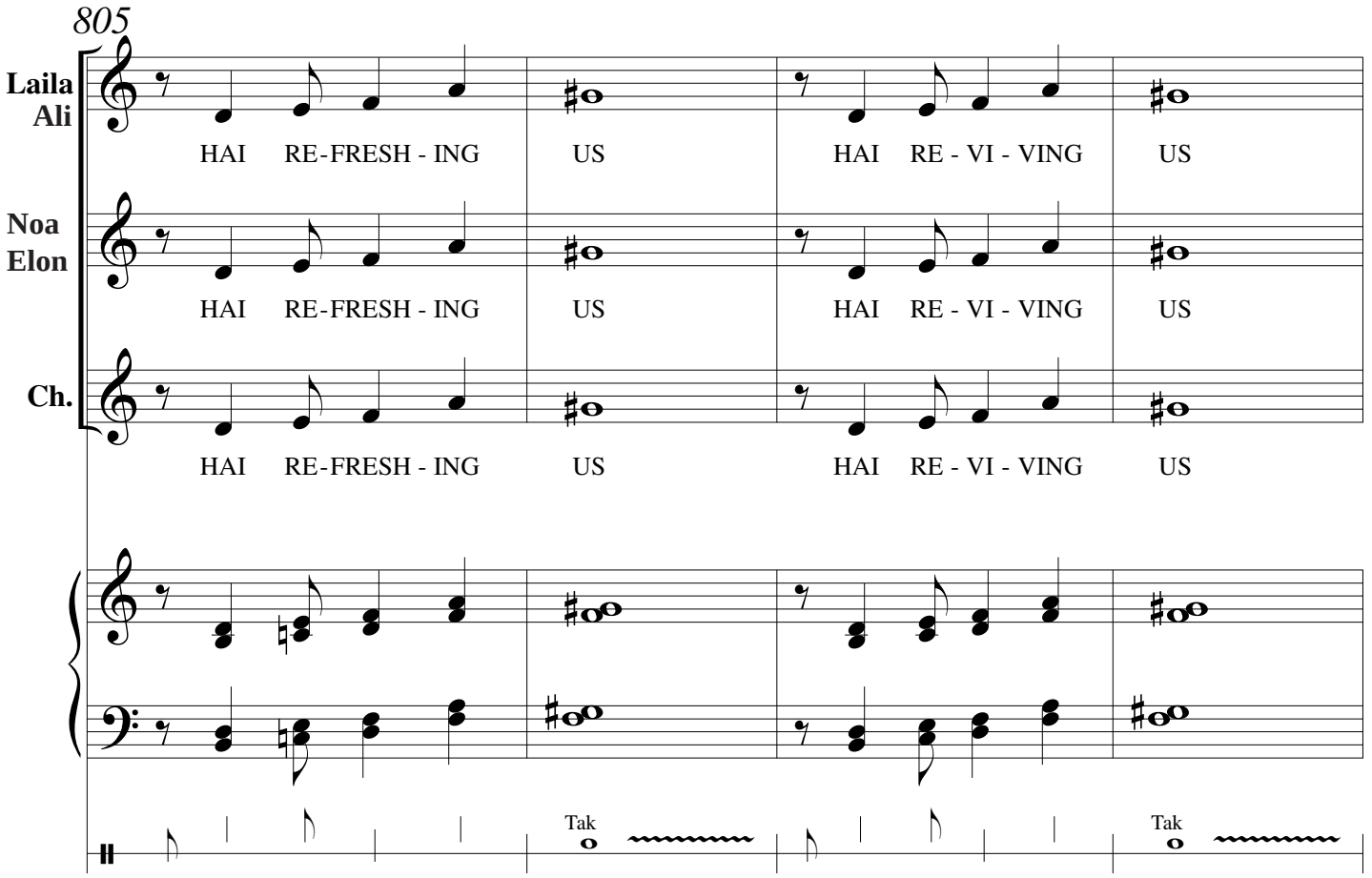

791
Laila Ali
Noa Elon
Ch.
MA - YYE MA - YYE LIL - KHA - YAT HAI RE-FRESH - ING
(214)
(215)

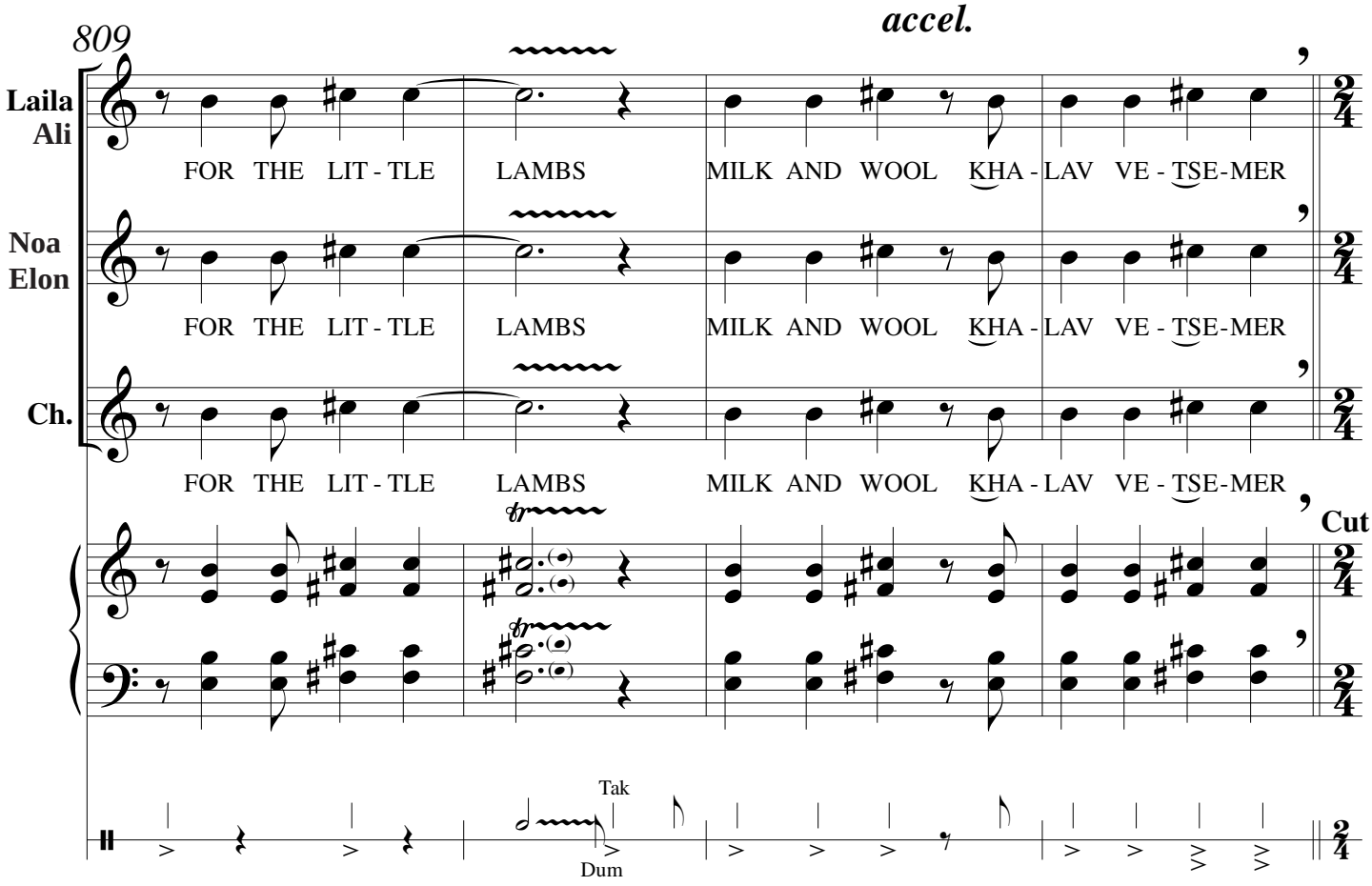

794
Laila Ali
Noa Elon
Ch.
US HAI RE - VI - VING US FOR THE LIT - TLE
(216)
(217)
(f)
Dum

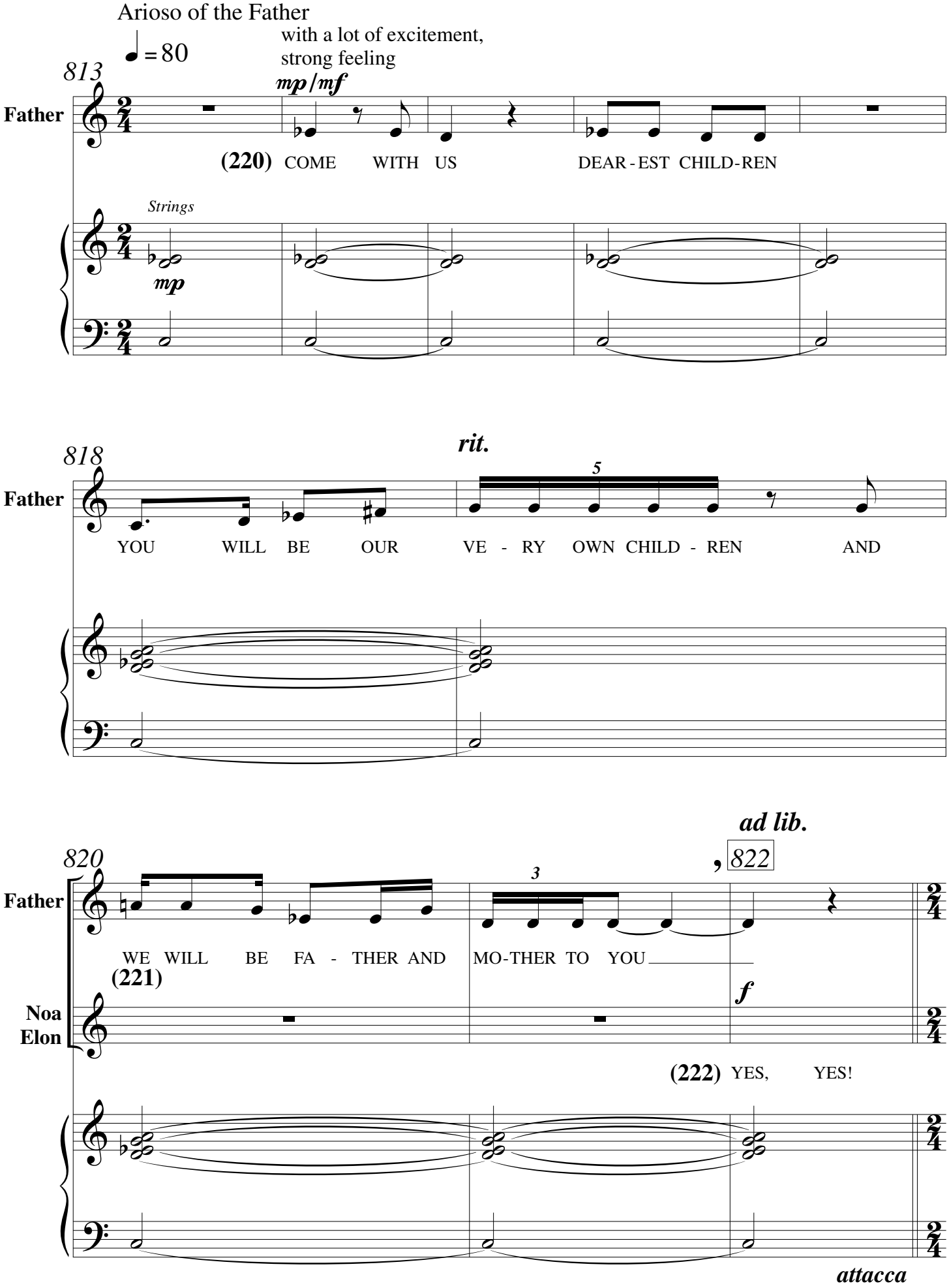




fue 26017 · ISMN: 979-0-50182-262-1


805
Laila Ali
Noa Elon
Ch.
HAI RE-FRESH - ING US HAI RE - VI - VING US
Tak
Tak


809
accel.
Laila Ali
Noa Elon
Ch.
FOR THE LIT - TLE LAMBS MILK AND WOOL KHA - LAV VE - TSE-MER
Cut
Tak
Dum



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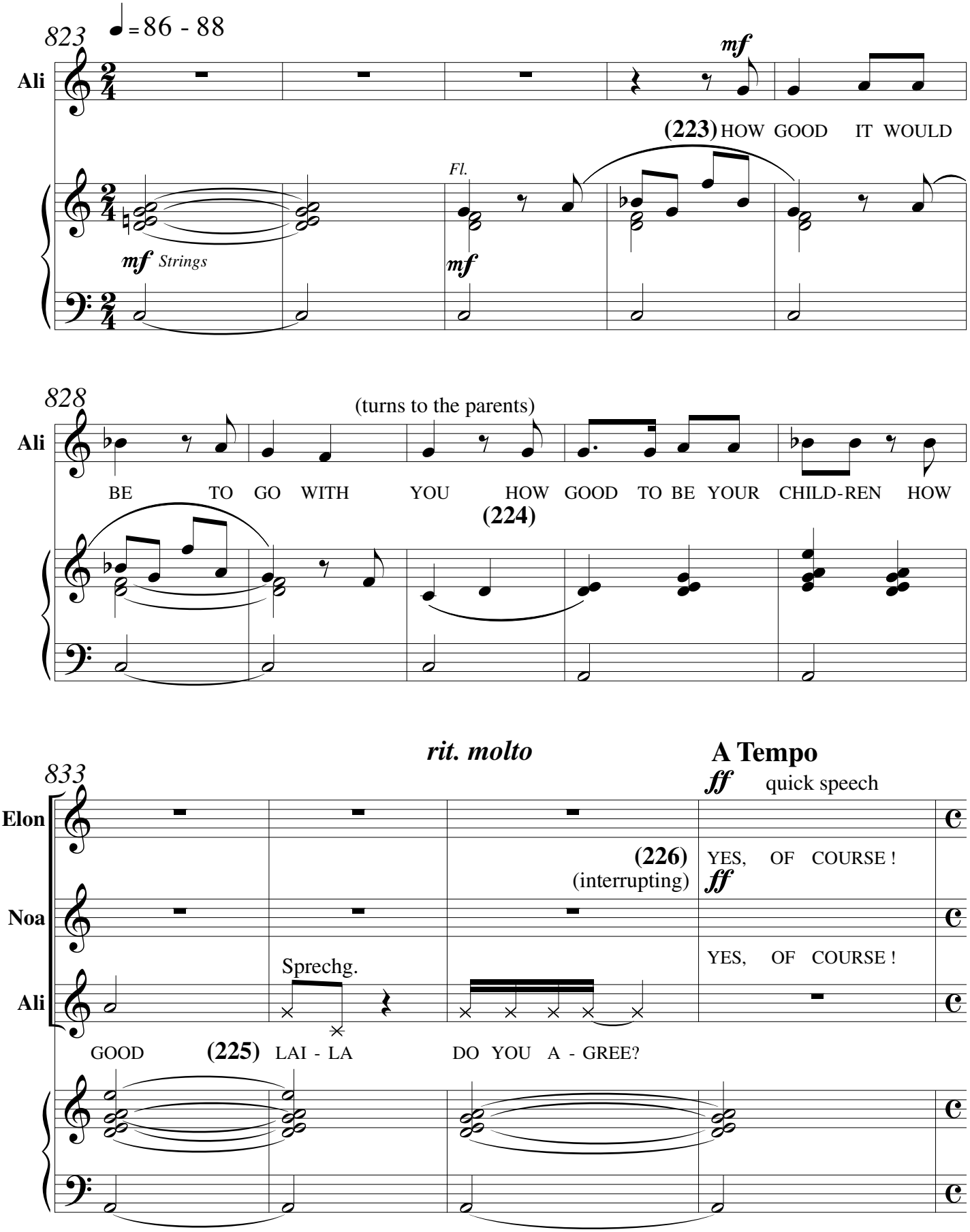
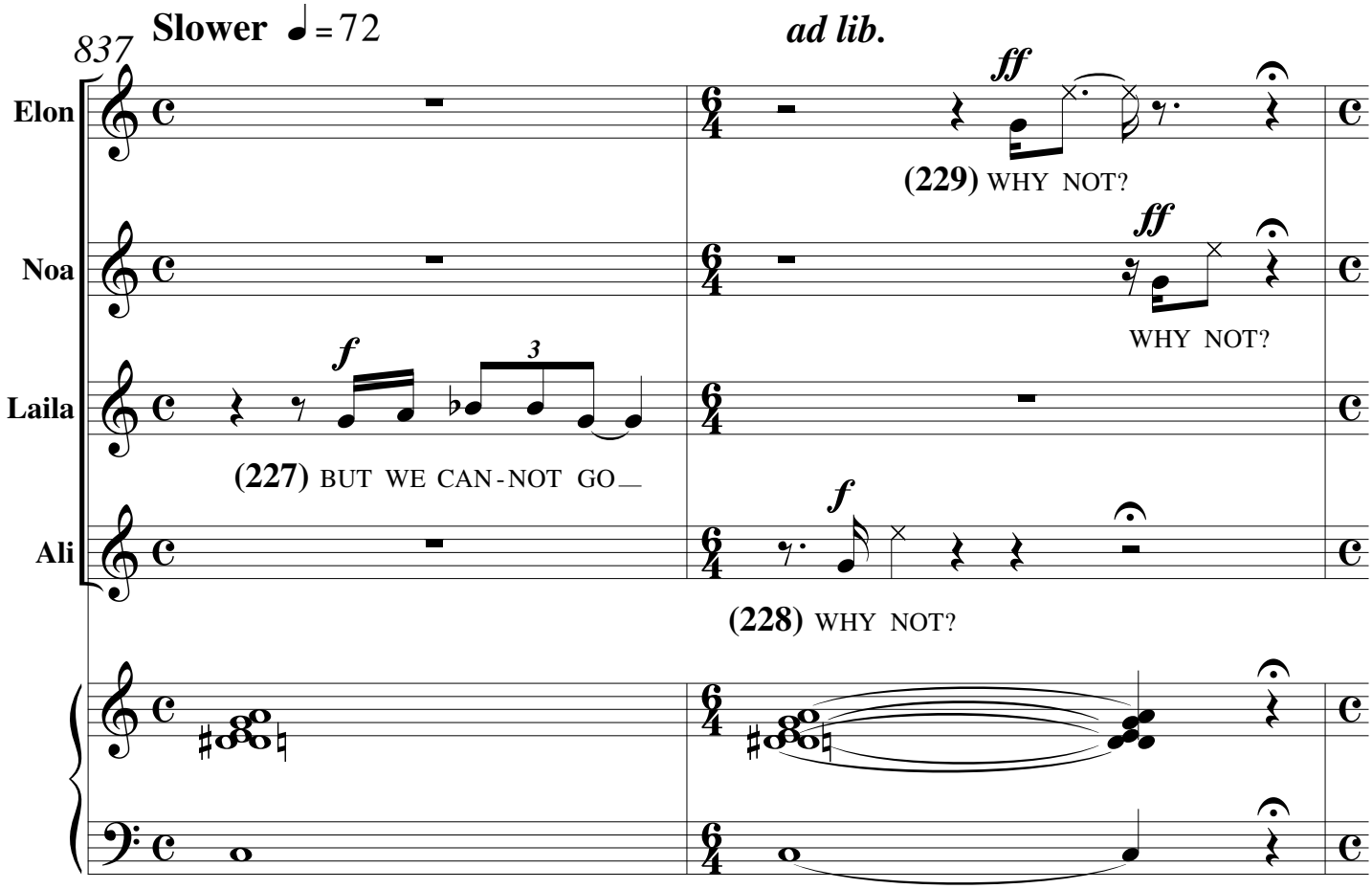
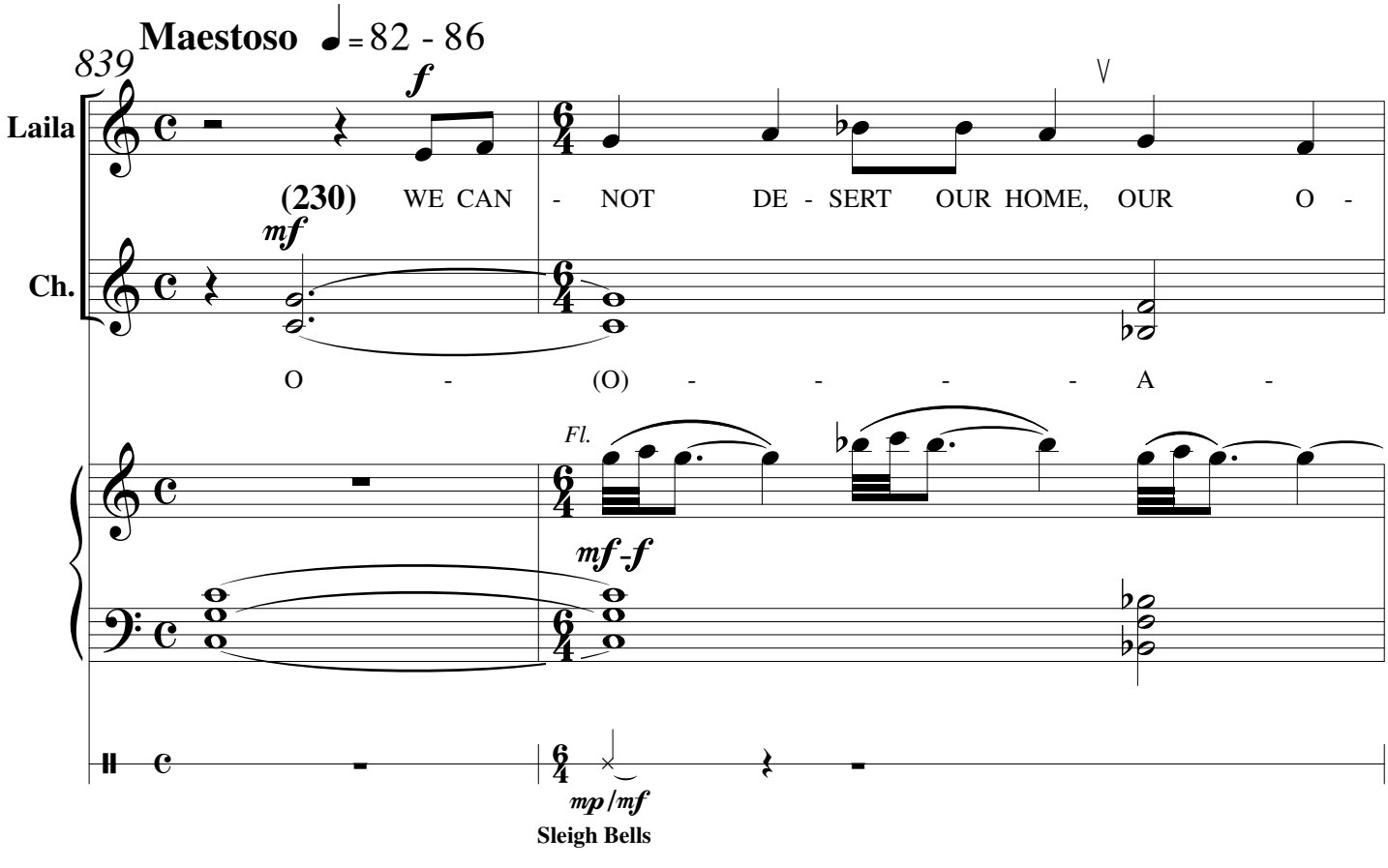
SCENE IV
The Parting

12. Towards the Parting
Duet in Arioso, Ali and Laila





Arietta of Laila ("Duty and Tradition" beginning)



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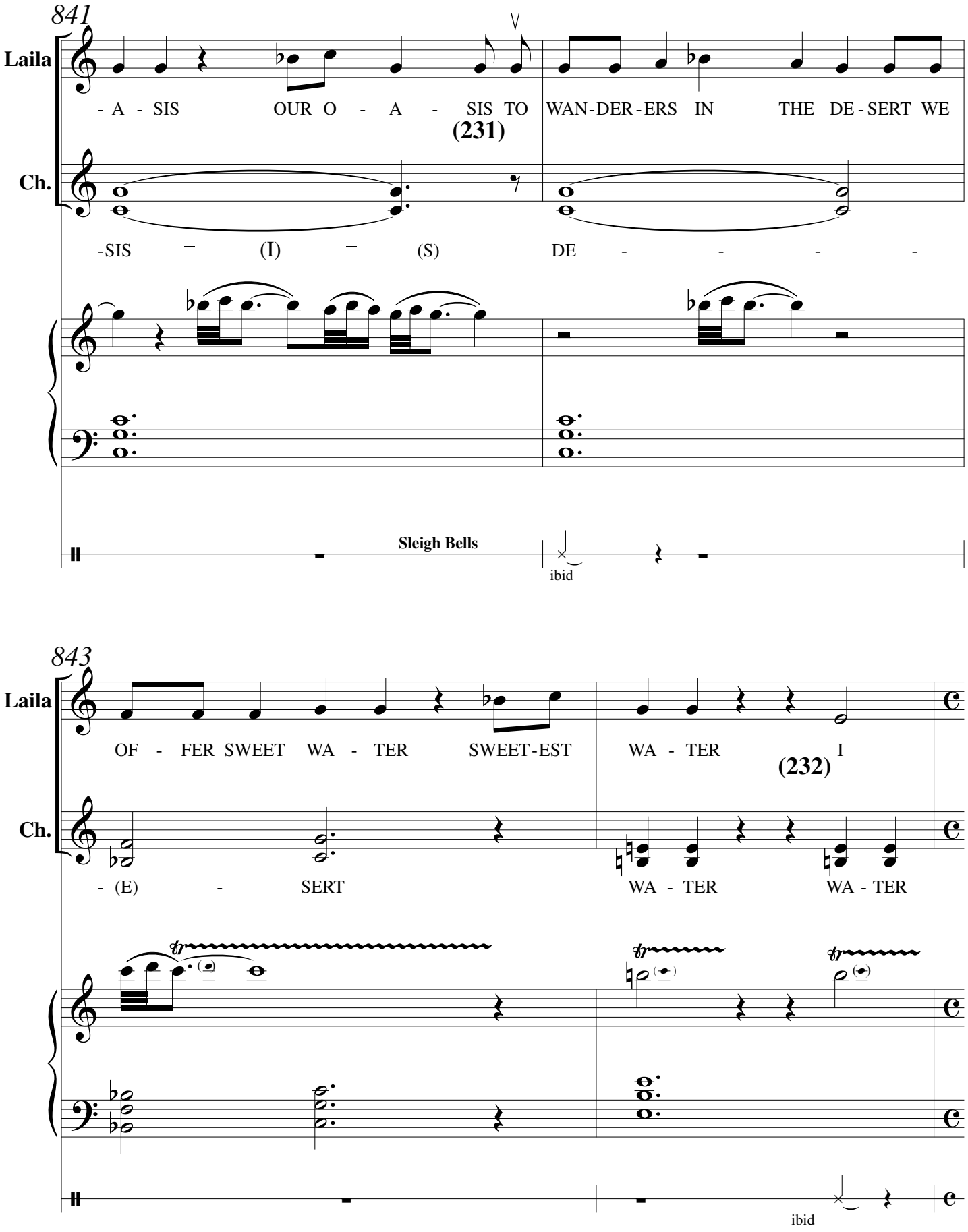
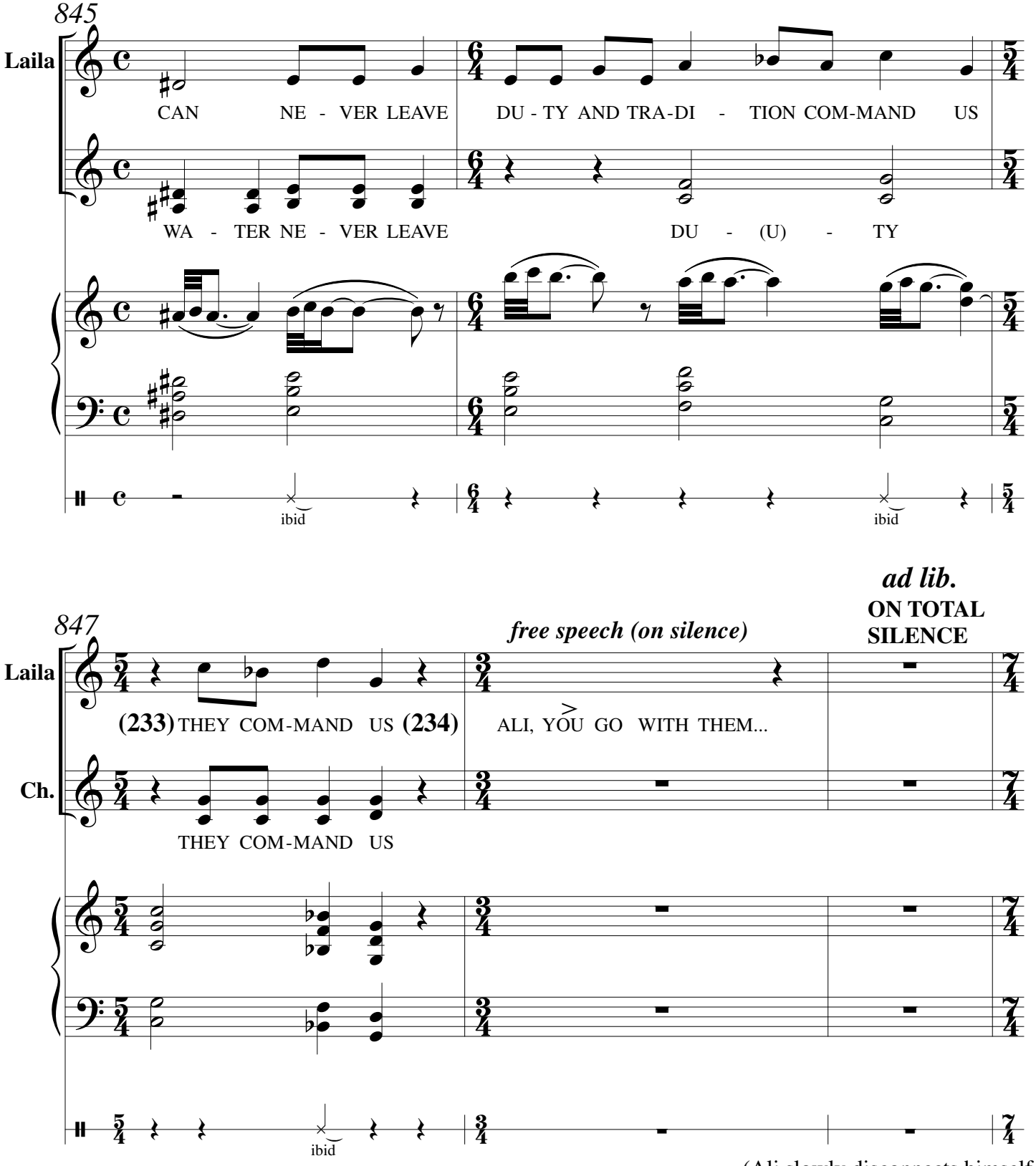

841
Laila
- A - SIS OUR O - A - SIS TO WAN-DER-ERS IN THE DE-SERT WE
(231)
Ch.
-SIS – (I) – (S) DE - - - -
Sleigh Bells
ibid
843
Laila
OF - FER SWEET WA - TER SWEET-EST WA - TER I
(232)
Ch.
- (E) - SERT WA - TER WA - TER
ibid



(Ali slowly disconnects himself from Elon and Noa, stands between Noa and Elon on the one side and Laila on the other, contemplates, hesitates, then turns towards Laila)

From the composer:
this bar should not exist in any recorded version

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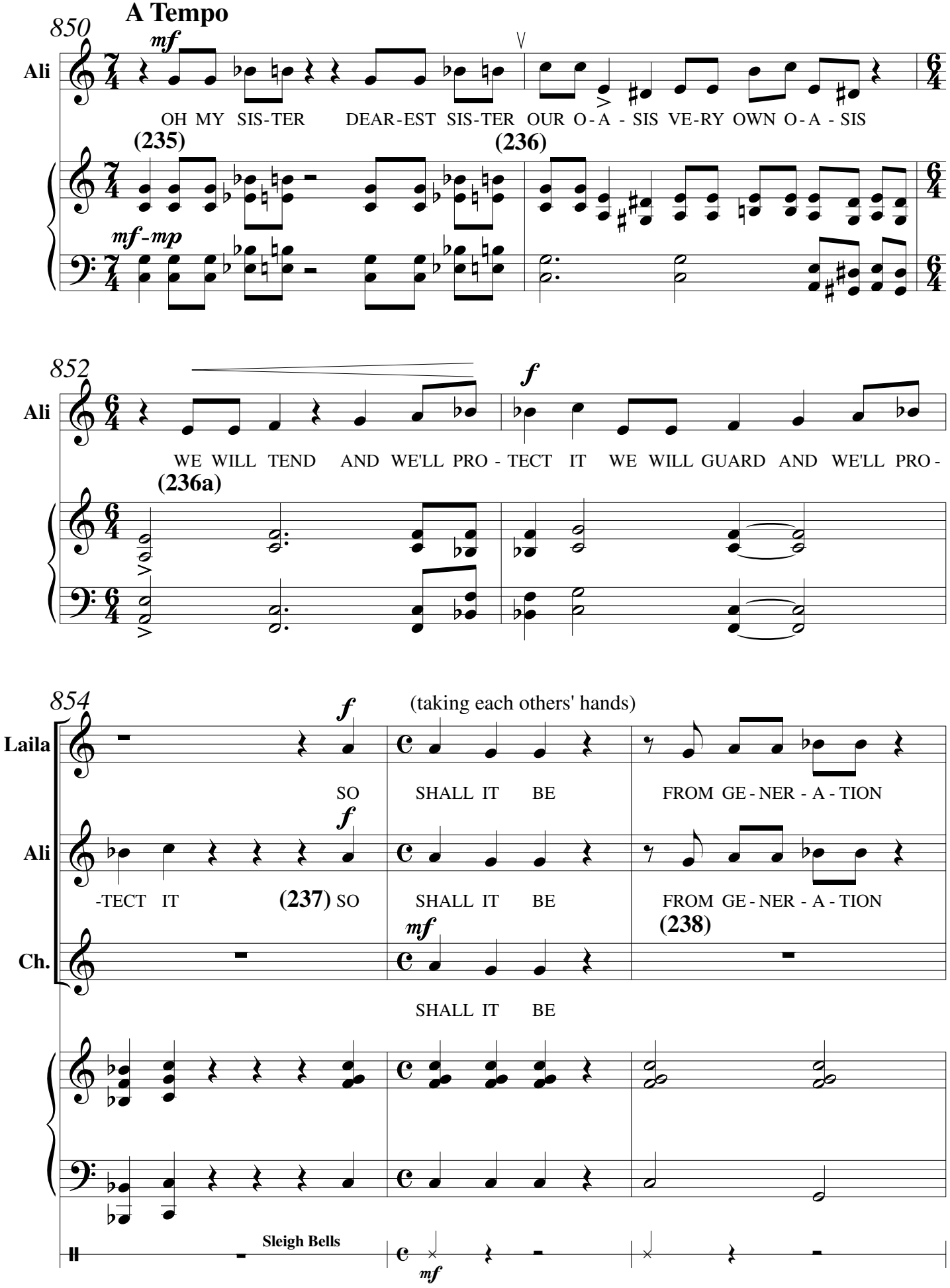
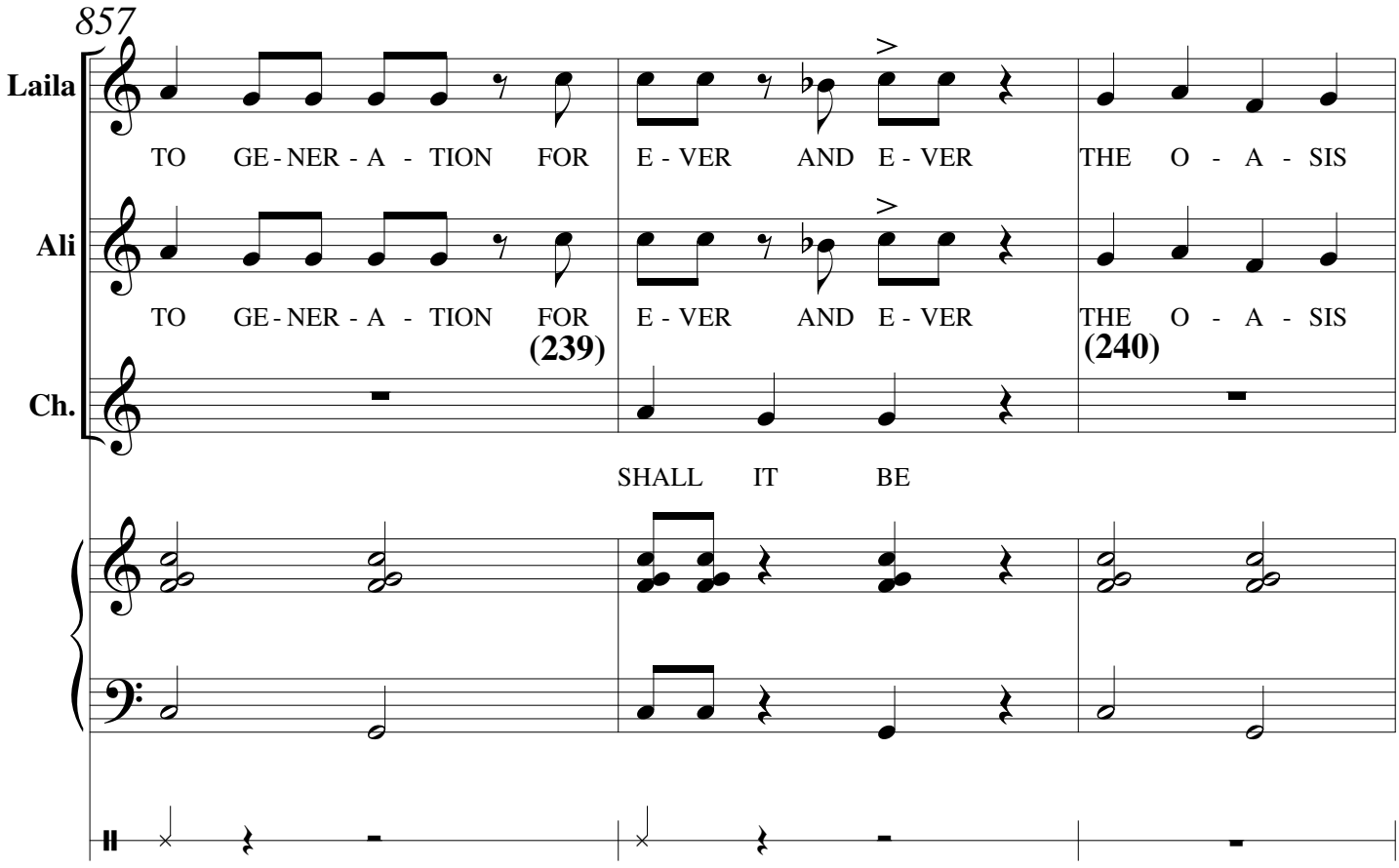
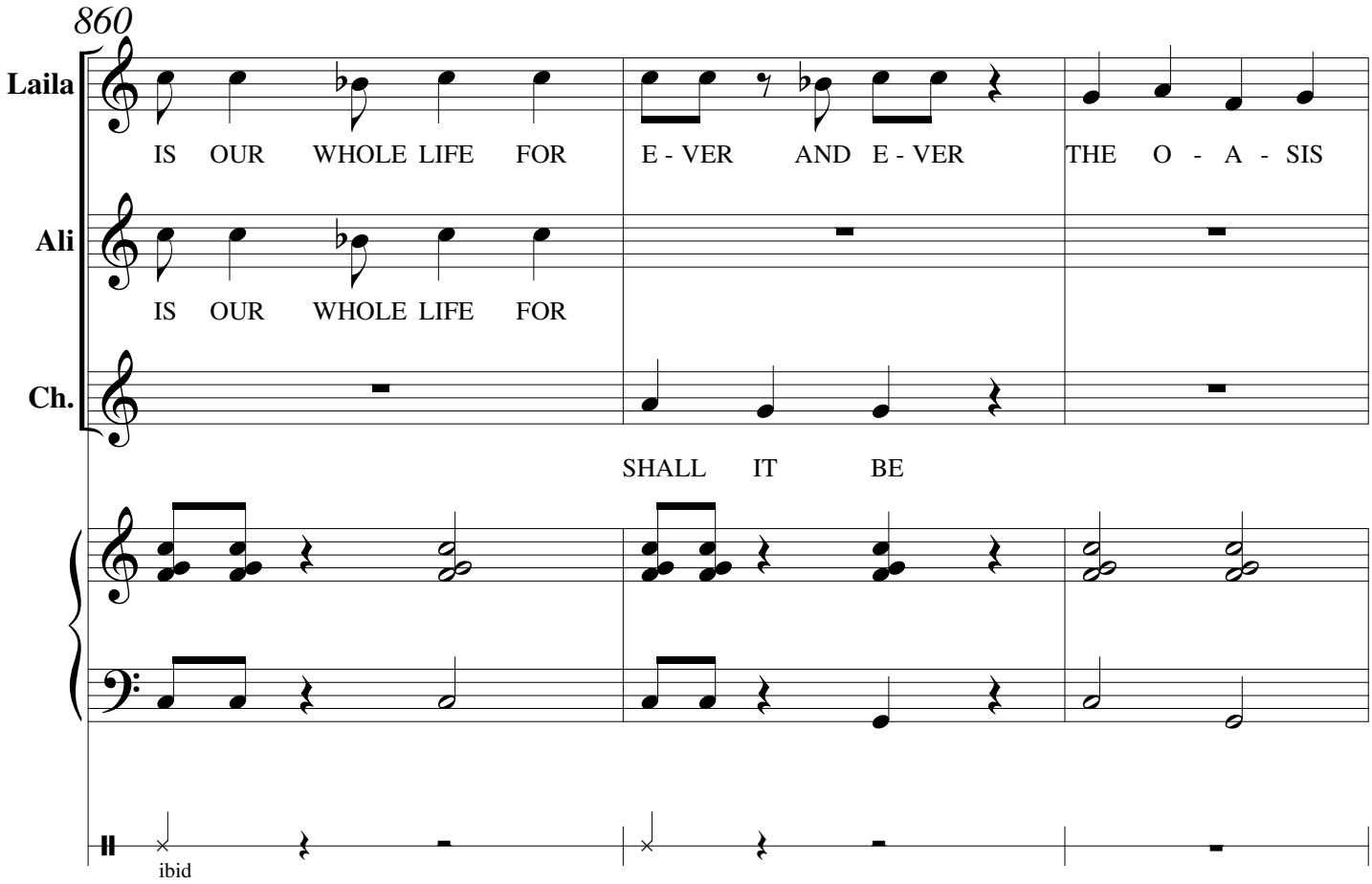

A Tempo
850
Ali
mf
OH MY SIS-TER DEAR-EST SIS-TER OUR O-A - SIS VE-RY OWN O-A - SIS
(235)
(236)
mf-mp
852
Ali
f
WE WILL TEND AND WE'LL PRO - TECT IT WE WILL GUARD AND WE'LL PRO -
(236a)
854
Laila
f
(taking each others' hands)
SO SHALL IT BE FROM GE - NER - A - TION
Ali
f
-TECT IT (237) SO SHALL IT BE FROM GE - NER - A - TION
(238)
Ch.
mf
SHALL IT BE
Sleigh Bells
mf





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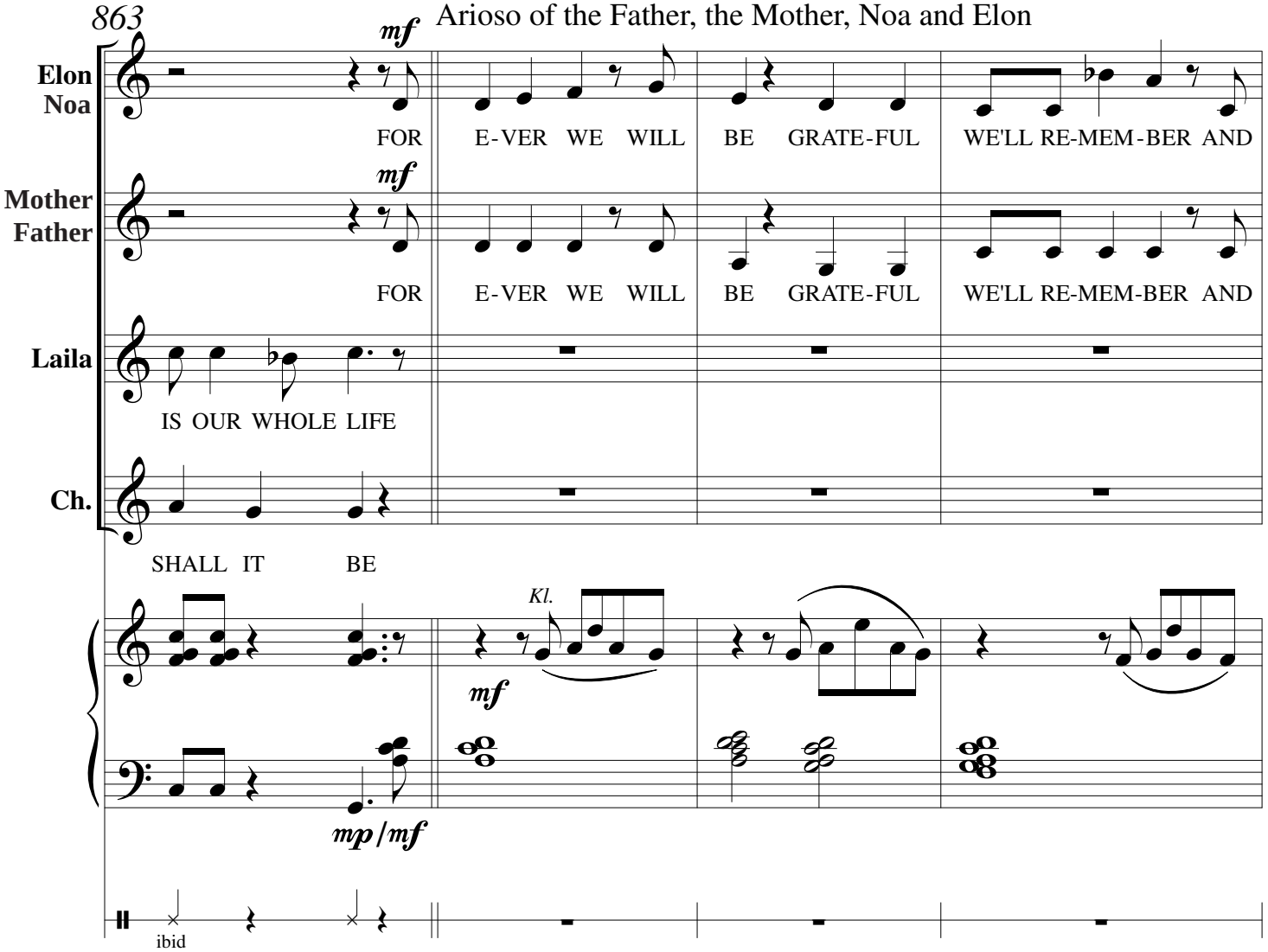
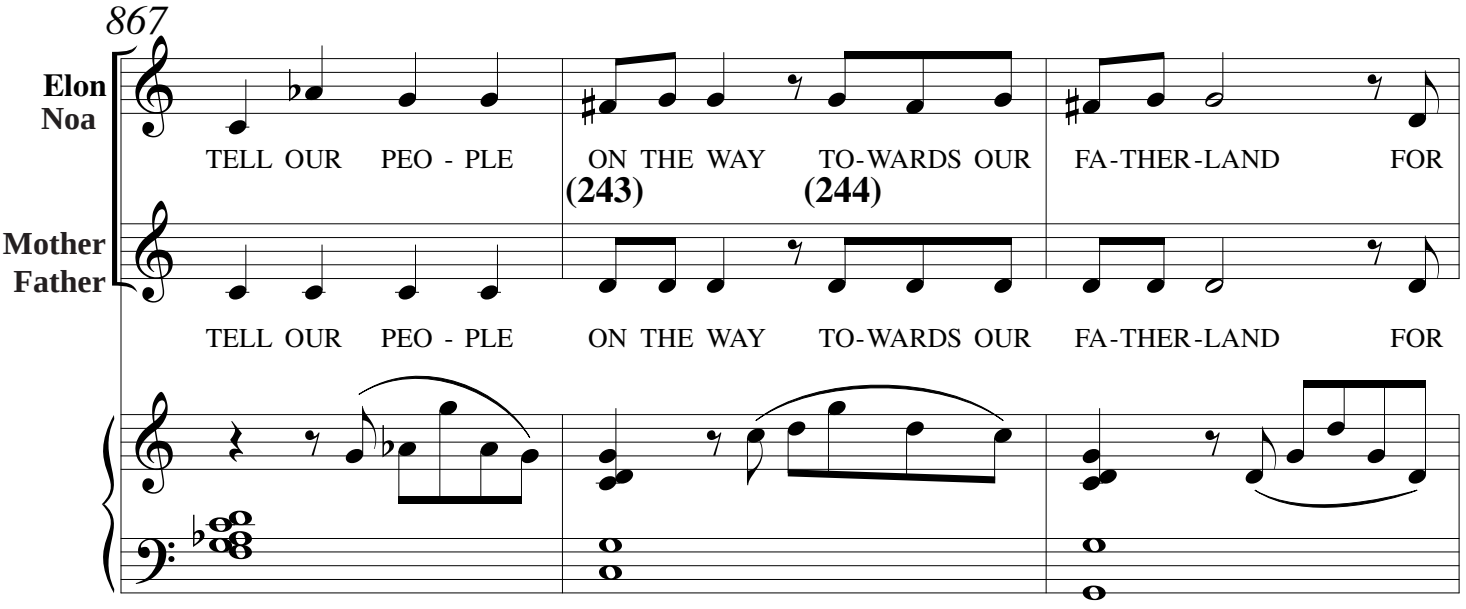
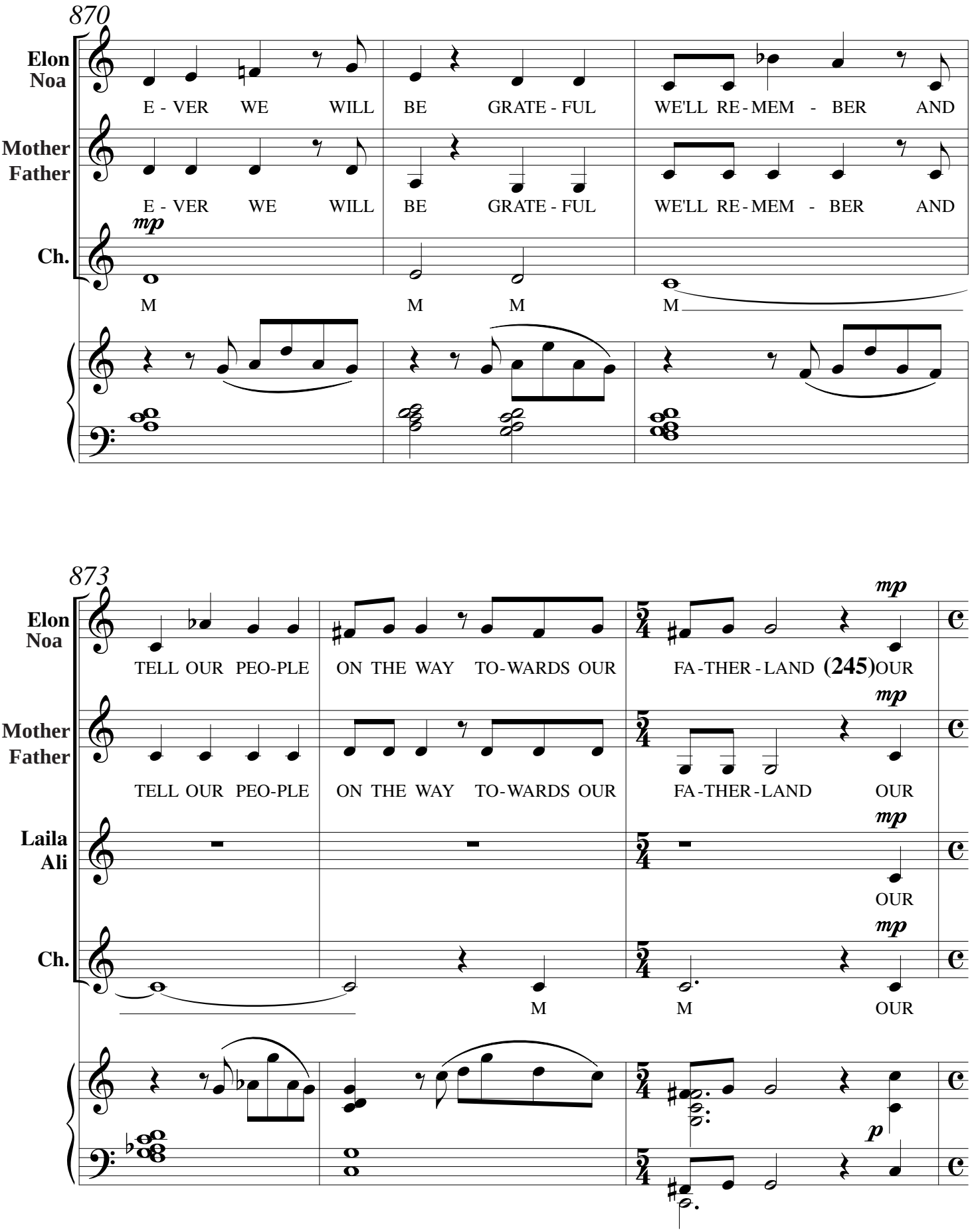
13. The Israelites describe their journey to the Land of their Fathers

Arioso of the Father, the Mother, Noa and Elon







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14. Finale - The Parting

The Father, the Mother, Noa, Elon, Ali, Laila, Chorus

876

Maestoso ♩ = 84 **or slower**

Mother
Father

mf

HEARTS ARE SORE OUR HEARTS ARE SORE SHA - LOM SA -

(246)

Elon
Noa
Laila
Ali

mf

HEARTS ARE SORE OUR HEARTS ARE SORE SHA - LOM SA -

Ch.

mf

HEARTS ARE SORE OUR HEARTS ARE SORE SHA - LOM SA -

mf

HEARTS ARE SORE OUR HEARTS ARE SORE OUR HEARTS ARE SORE OUR

mf-mp

879

Mother
Father

mf

- LAAM **(247)** HOW SAD IS THIS TIME OF PART - ING **(248)** OUR

Elon
Noa
Laila
Ali

mf

- LAAM HOW SAD IS THIS TIME OF PART - ING OUR

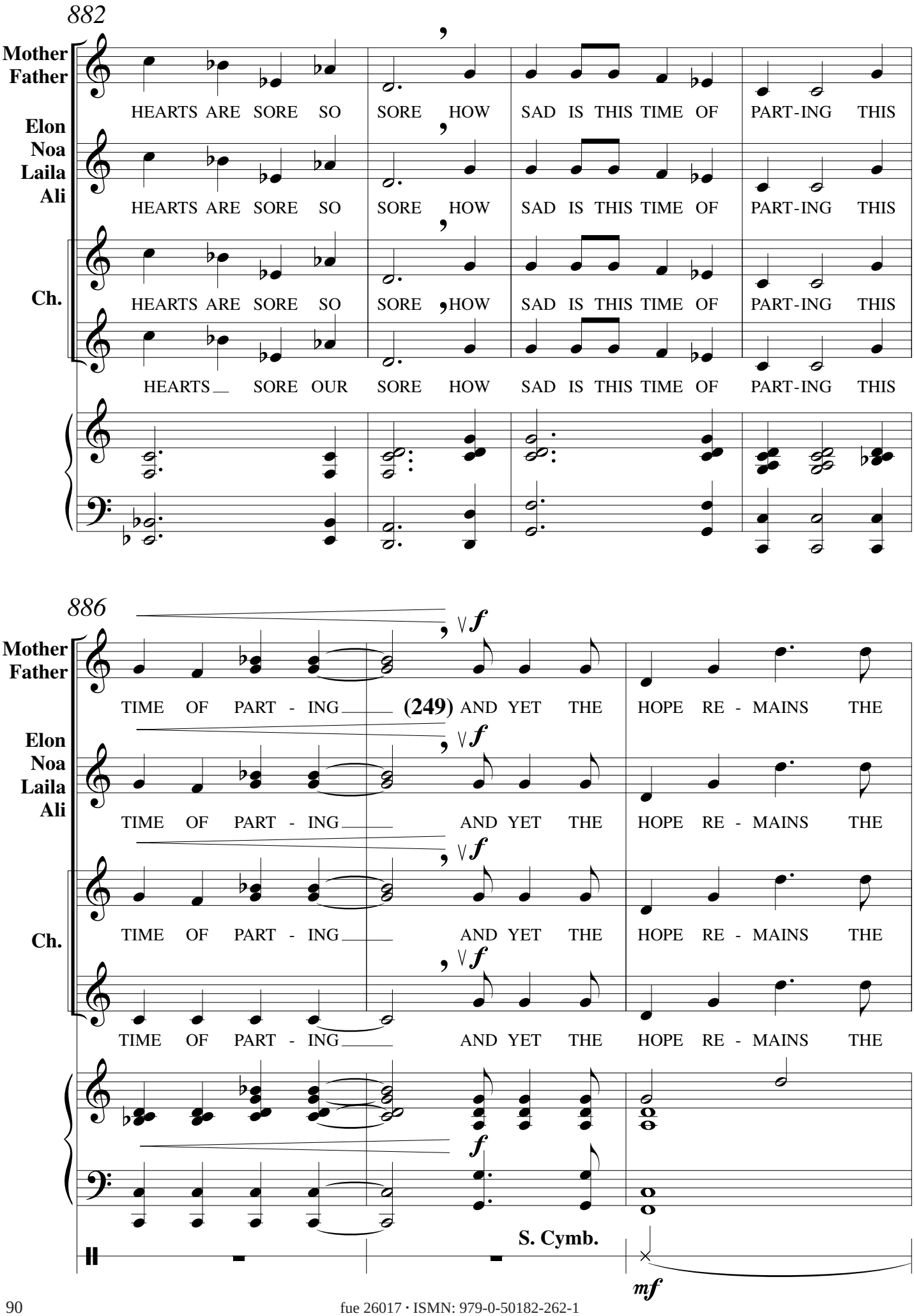
Ch.

mf

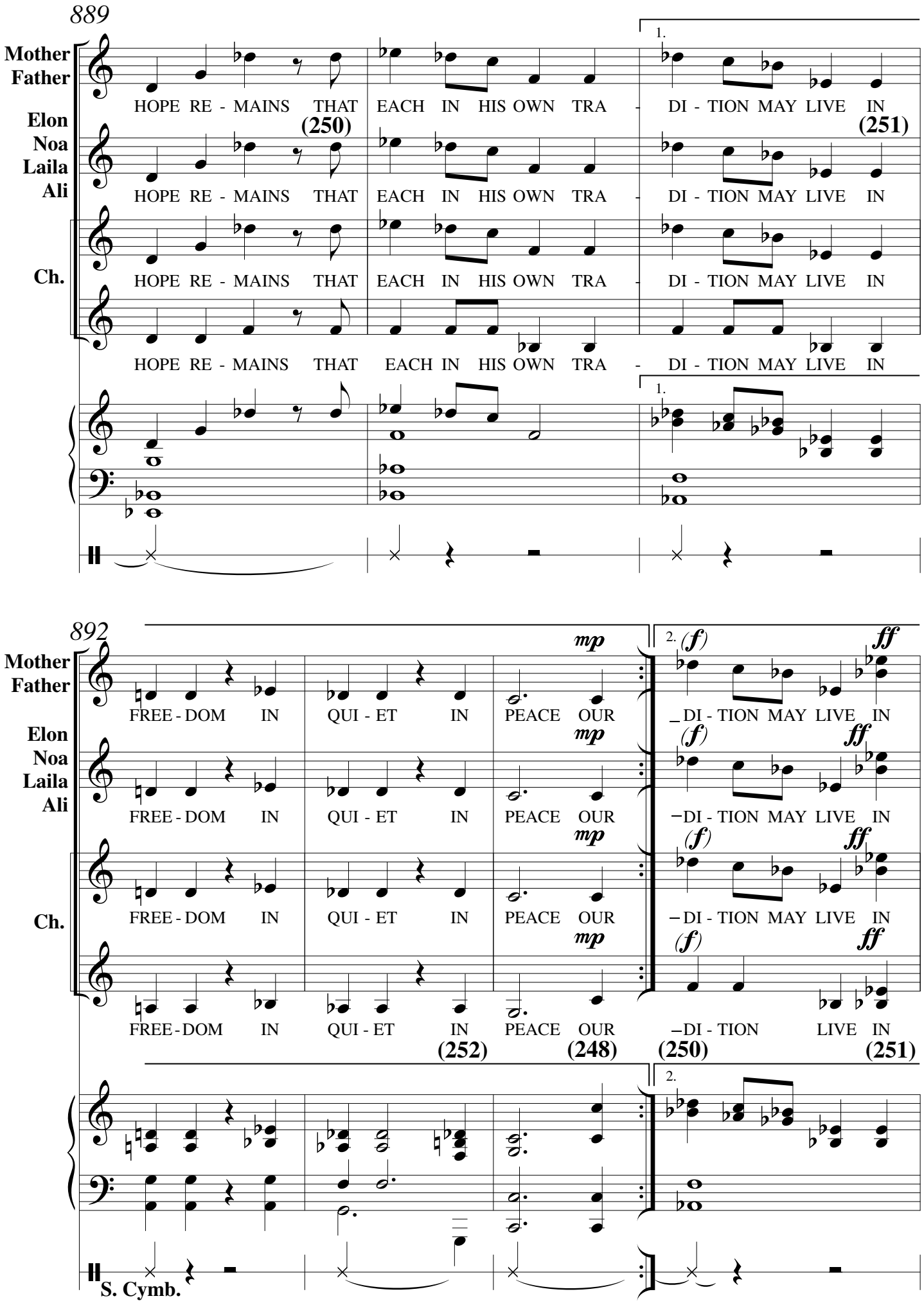
- LAAM HOW SAD IS THIS TIME OF PART - ING OUR

mf

HEARTS ARE SORE OUR HEARTS ARE SORE OUR HEARTS ARE SORE OUR



fue 26017 · ISMN: 979-0-50182-262-1


889
Mother
Father
Elon
Noa
Laila
Ali
Ch.
HOPE RE - MAINS THAT EACH IN HIS OWN TRA - DI - TION MAY LIVE IN
1.
(250)
(251)
892
FREE - DOM IN QUI - ET IN PEACE OUR
DI - TION MAY LIVE IN
mp
(f)
ff
2.
(252)
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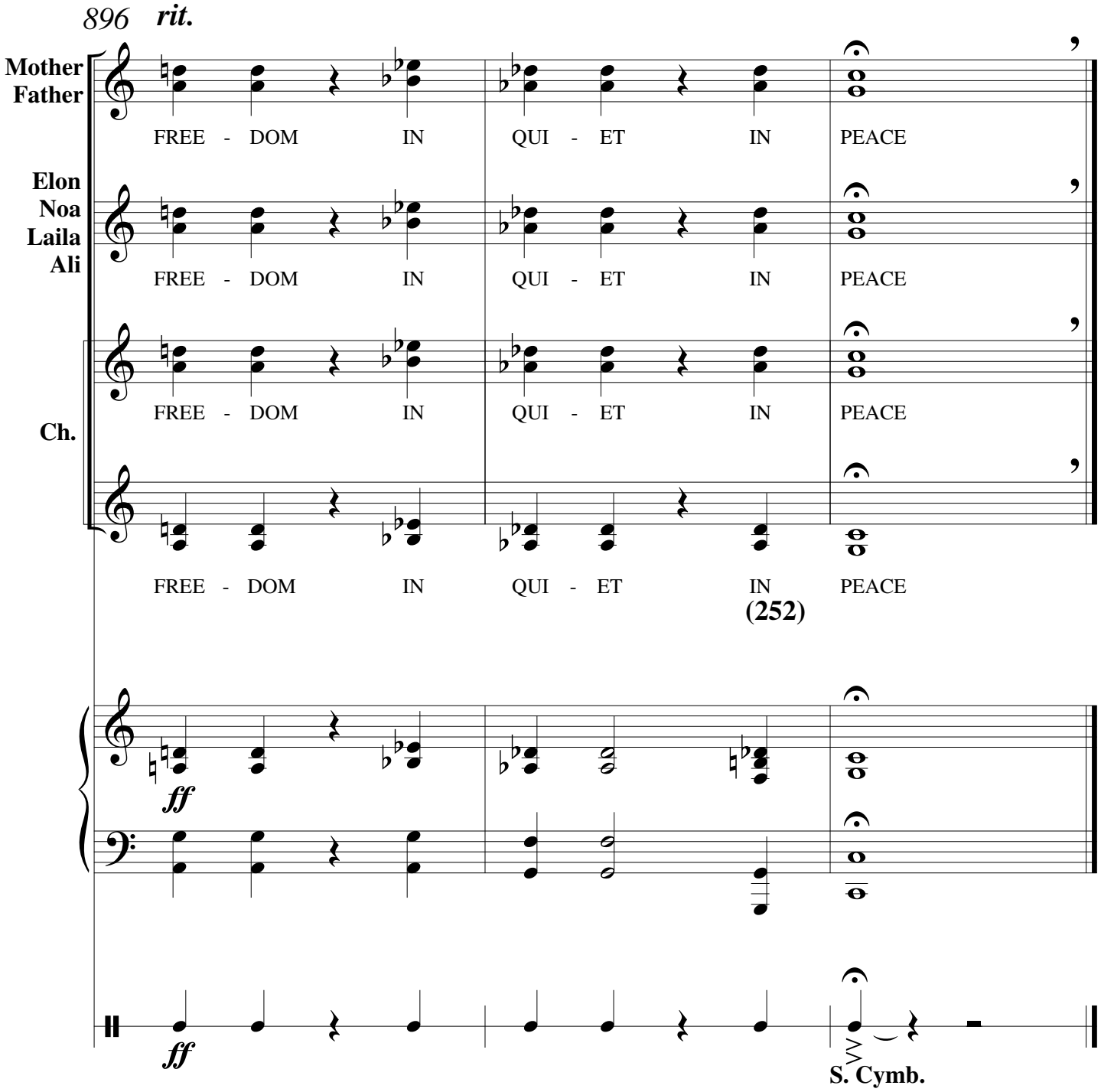
(251)
S. Cymb.



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