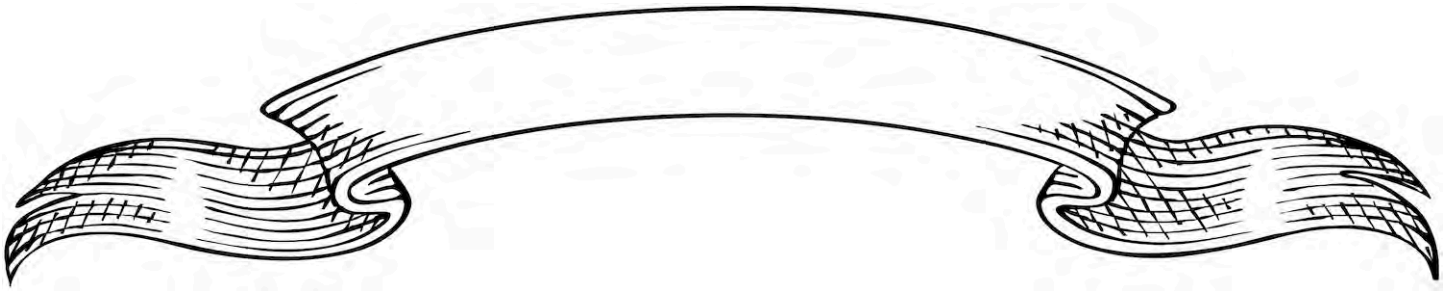


Ballads
Op. 54 No. 1

Beside the ungathered rice he lay

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor
(1875-1912)

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912) was born in 1875 in London. His parents were Dr. Daniel Peter Hughes Taylor, a Sierra Leonean Creole, and Alice Hare Martin, an English woman. Dr. Taylor returned to Africa not knowing he had a son in London. His middle name Coleridge was after the poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge and he later assumed the name Coleridge-Taylor. He was raised in Croydon (London) by his mother and her father. Taylor studied violin at the Royal College of Music and composition under Charles Villiers Stanford. He was appointed a professor at the Crystal Palace School of Music and conducted the orchestra at the Croydon Conservatoire. Coleridge-Taylor earned a reputation as a composer and was later helped by Edward Elgar. Music editor and critic August Jaeger considered Taylor was "a genius." Coleridge-Taylor made three tours of the United States, which increased his interest in his racial heritage, and at one stage seriously considered migrating there. In 1904, he was received by President Theodore Roosevelt at the White House, an unusual honor in those days for a man of African descent and appearance. He was given the title "the African Mahler" from the white orchestral musicians in New York in 1910. Coleridge-Taylor was greatly admired by African Americans; in 1901, a 200-voice African-American chorus was founded in Washington, D.C., named the Samuel Coleridge-Taylor Society. Coleridge-Taylor's greatest success was his cantata *Hiawatha's Wedding-feast.* He composed orchestral works, chamber music, anthems, part-songs and other works. He died of pneumonia at age 37.

Beside the ungathered rice He lay,
His sickle in his hand;
His breast was bare, his matted hair
Was buried in the sand.
Again, in the mist and shadow of sleep,
He saw his native land.

Wide through the landscape of his dreams
The lordly Niger flowed;
Beneath the palm-trees on the plain
Once more a king he strode;
And heard the tinkling caravans
Descend the mountain-road.

He saw once more his dark-eyed queen
Among her children stand;
They clasped his neck, they kissed his cheeks,
They held him by the hand!—
A tear burst from the sleeper's lids
And fell into the sand.

And then at furious speed he rode
Along the Niger's bank;
His bridle-reins were golden chains,
And, with a martial clank,
At each leap he could feel his scabbard of steel
Smiting his stallion's flank.

Before him, like a blood-red flag,
The bright flamingoes flew:
From morn till night he follow'd their flight,
O'er plains where the tamarind grew,
Till he saw the roofs of Caffre huts,
And the ocean rose to view.

At night he heard the lion roar,
And the hyena scream,
And the river-horse, as he crushed the reeds
Beside some hidden stream;
And it passed, like a glorious roll of drums,
Through the triumph, of his dream.

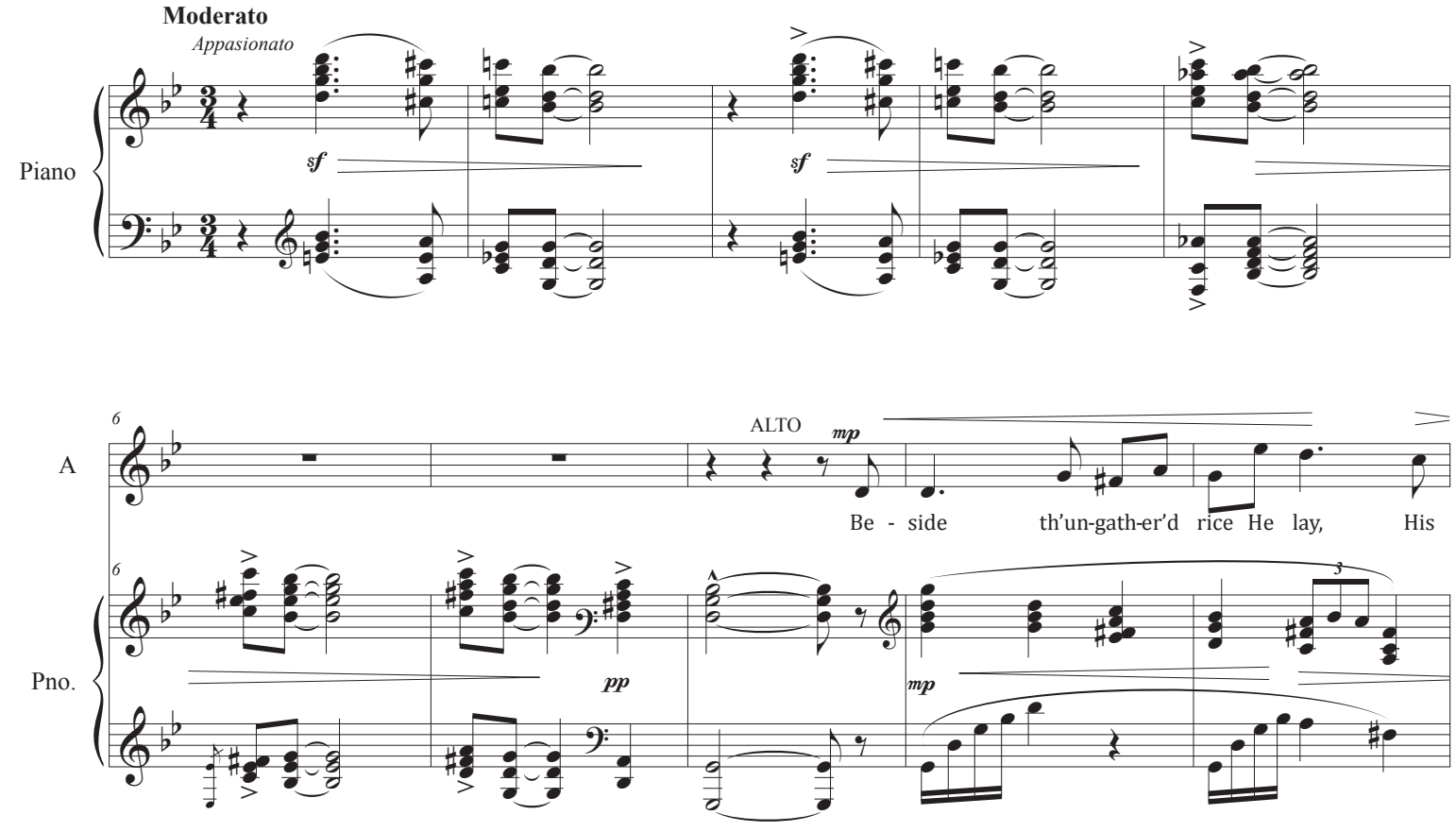
The forests, with their myriad tongues,
Shouted of liberty;
And the Blast of the Desert cried aloud,
With a voice so wild and free,
That he started in his sleep and smiled
At their tempestuous glee.

He did not feel the driver's whip,
Nor the burning heat of day;
For Death had illumined the Land of Sleep,
And his lifeless body lay
A worn-out fetter, that the soul
Had broken and thrown away!

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (18071882)

Beside the ungathered rice he lay

S. Coleridge-Taylor



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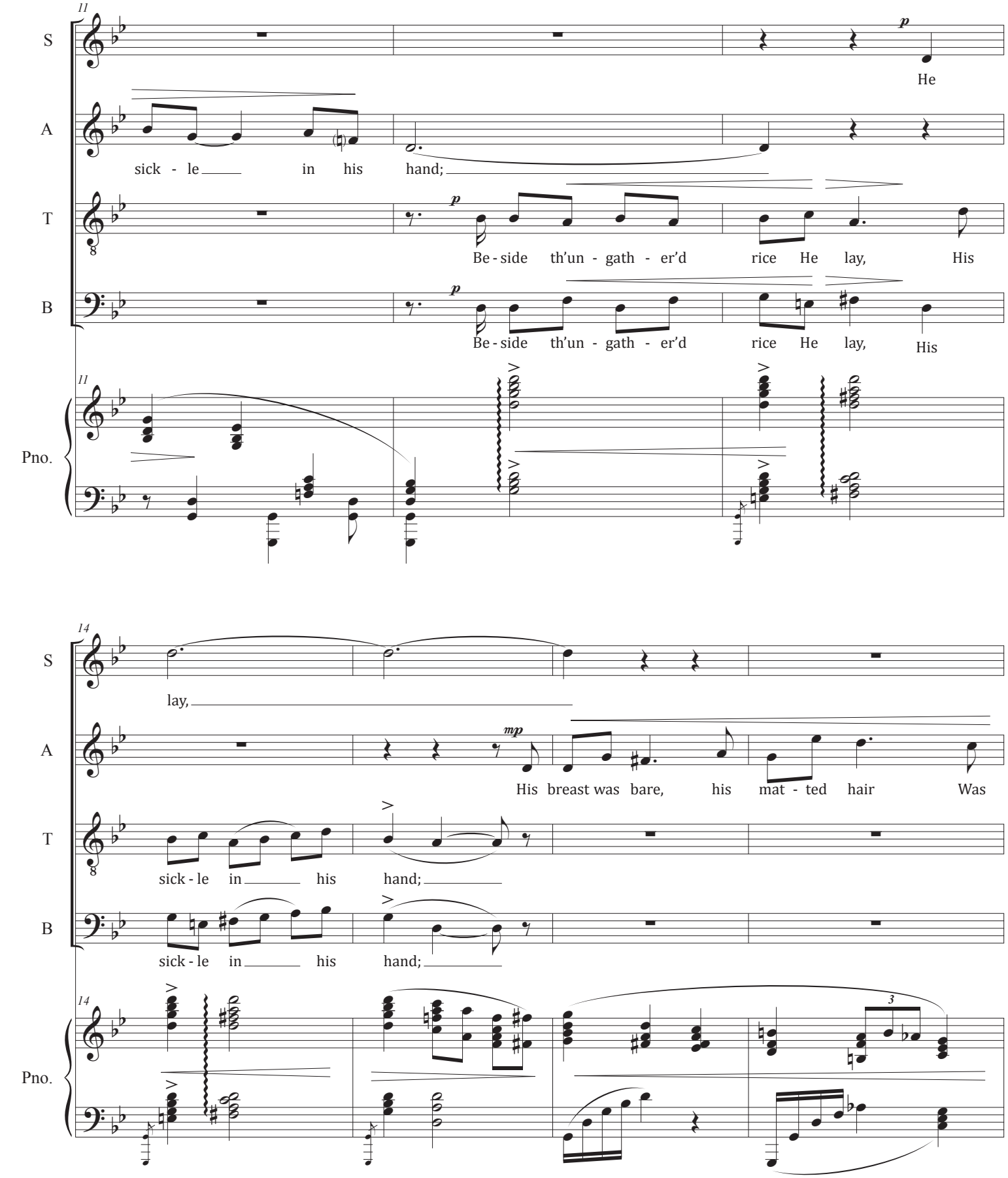
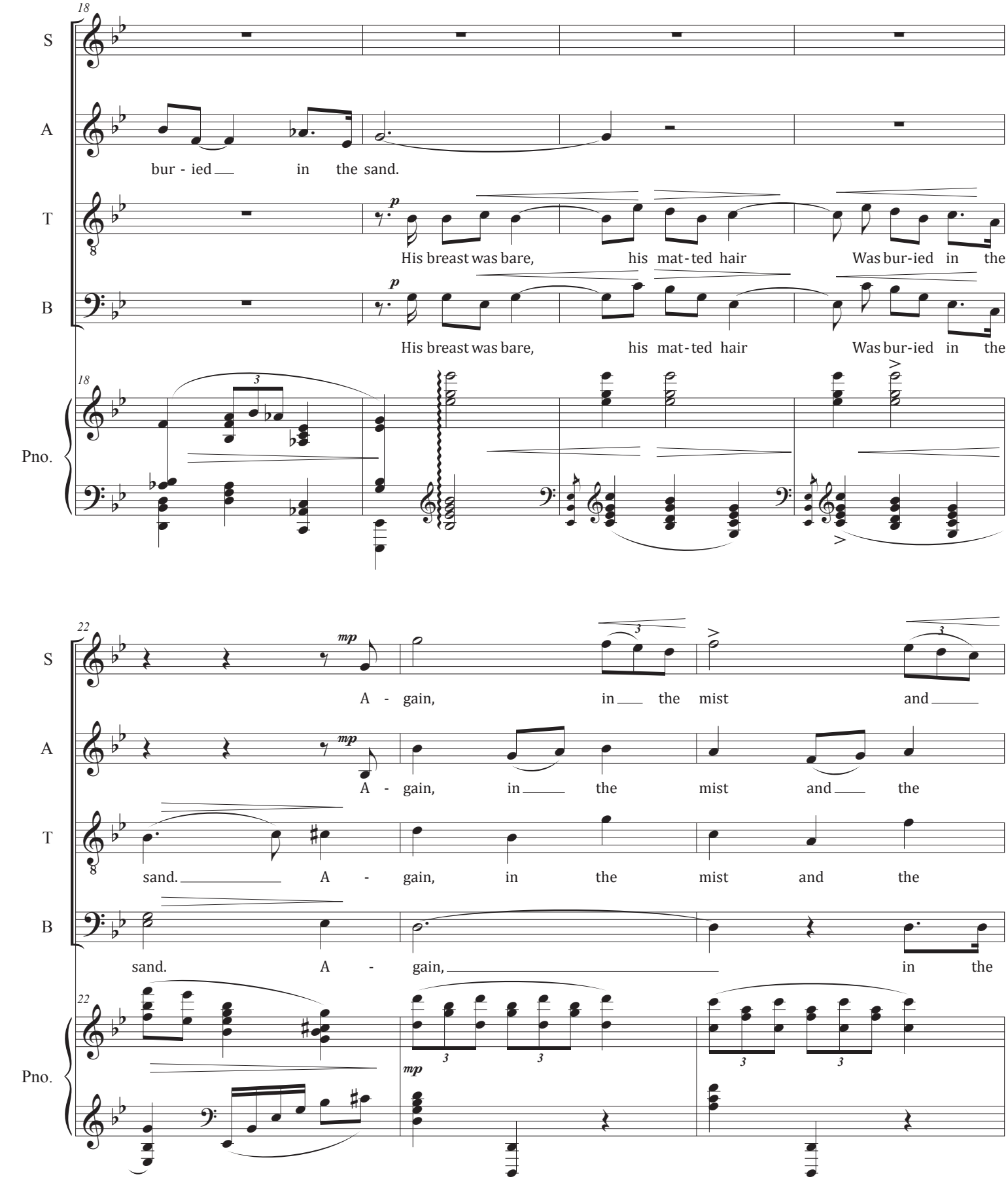
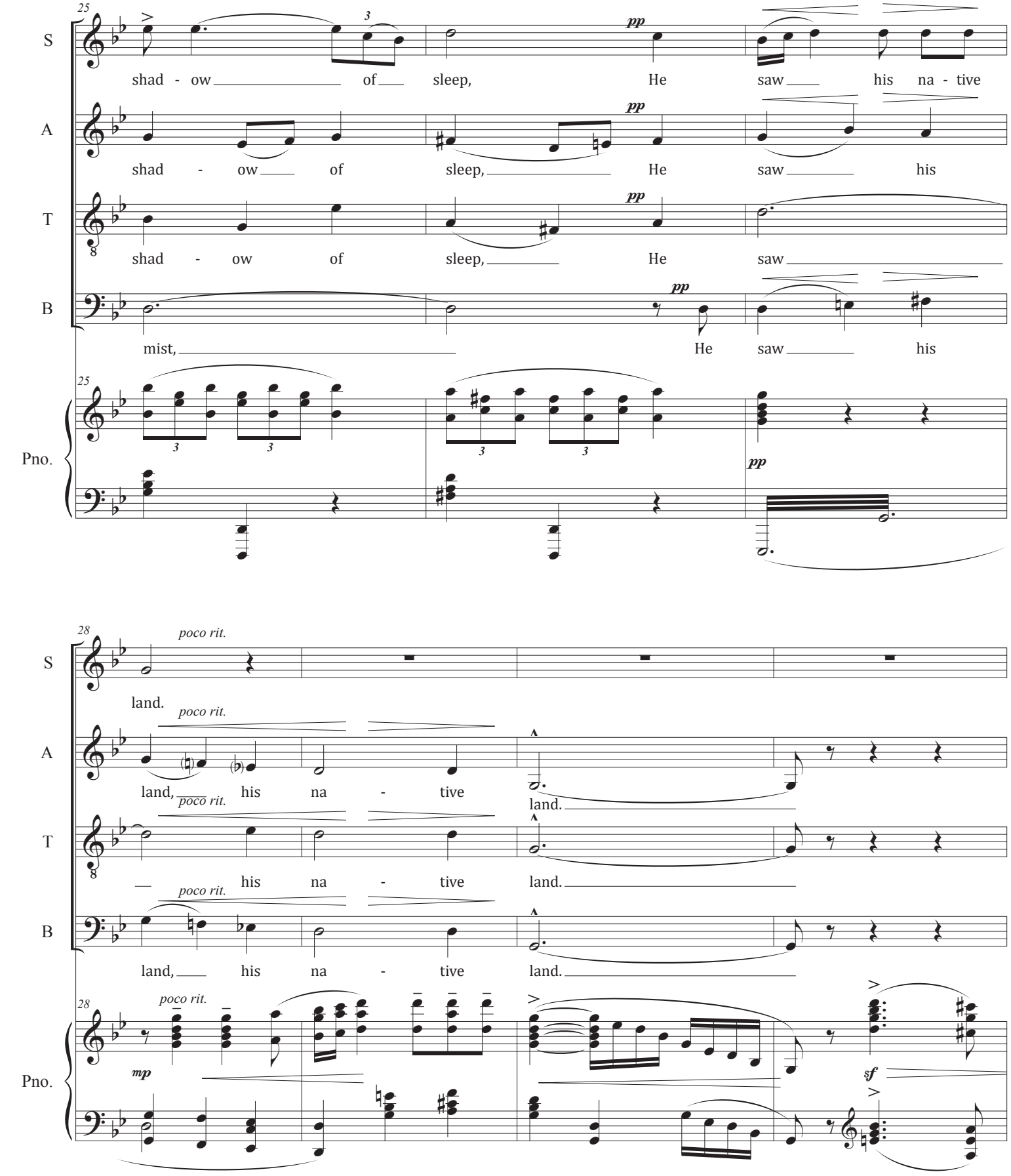
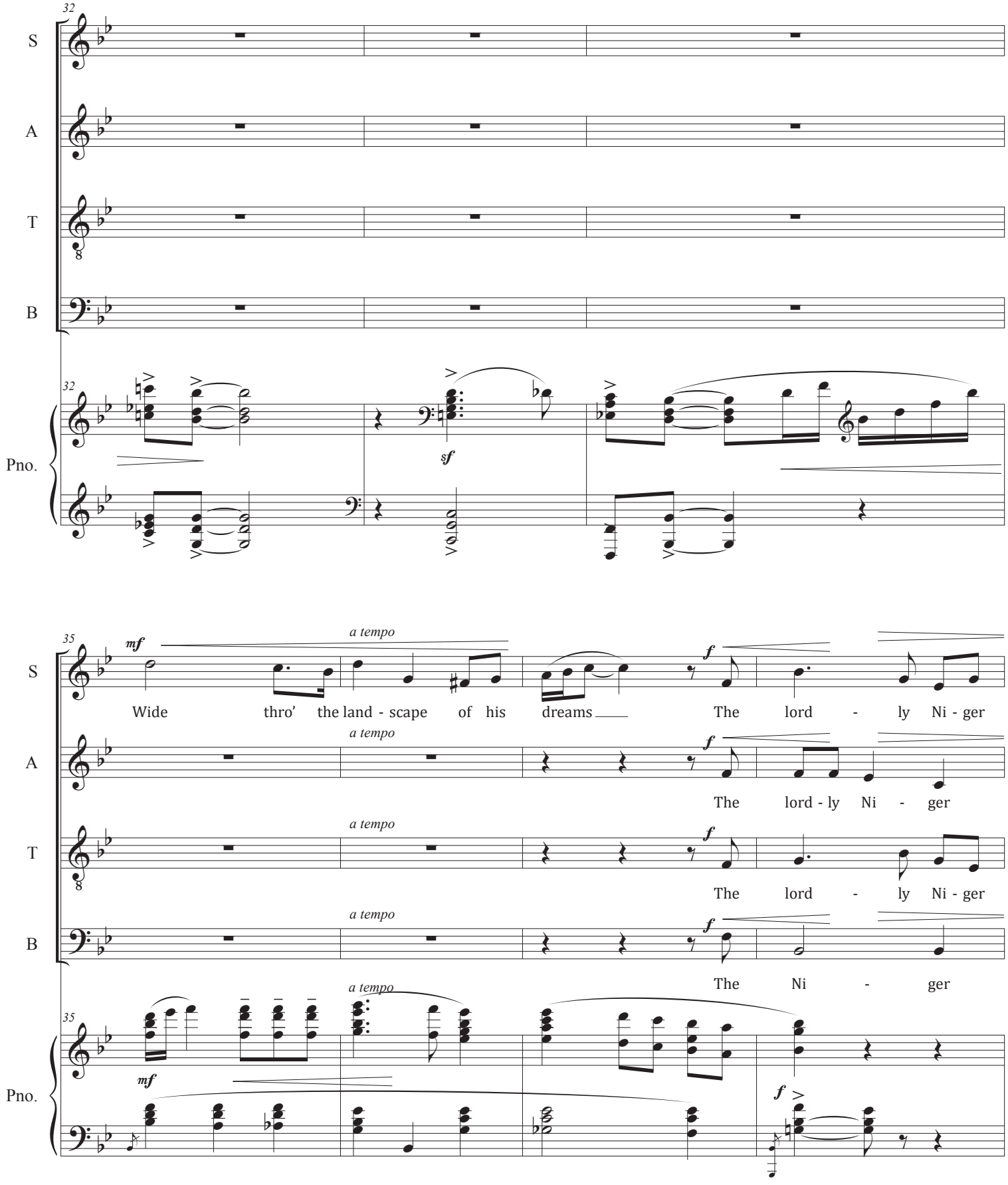
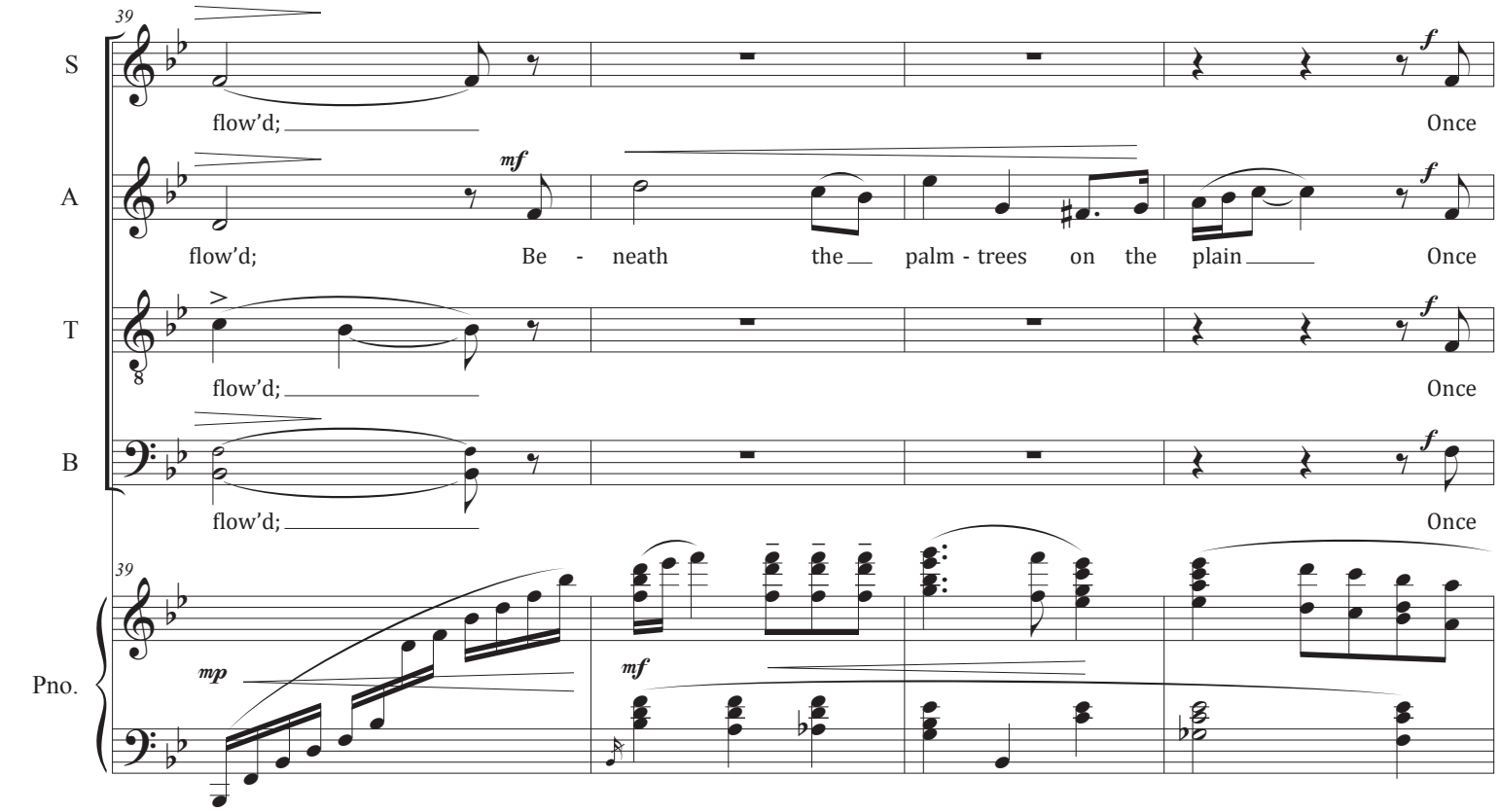
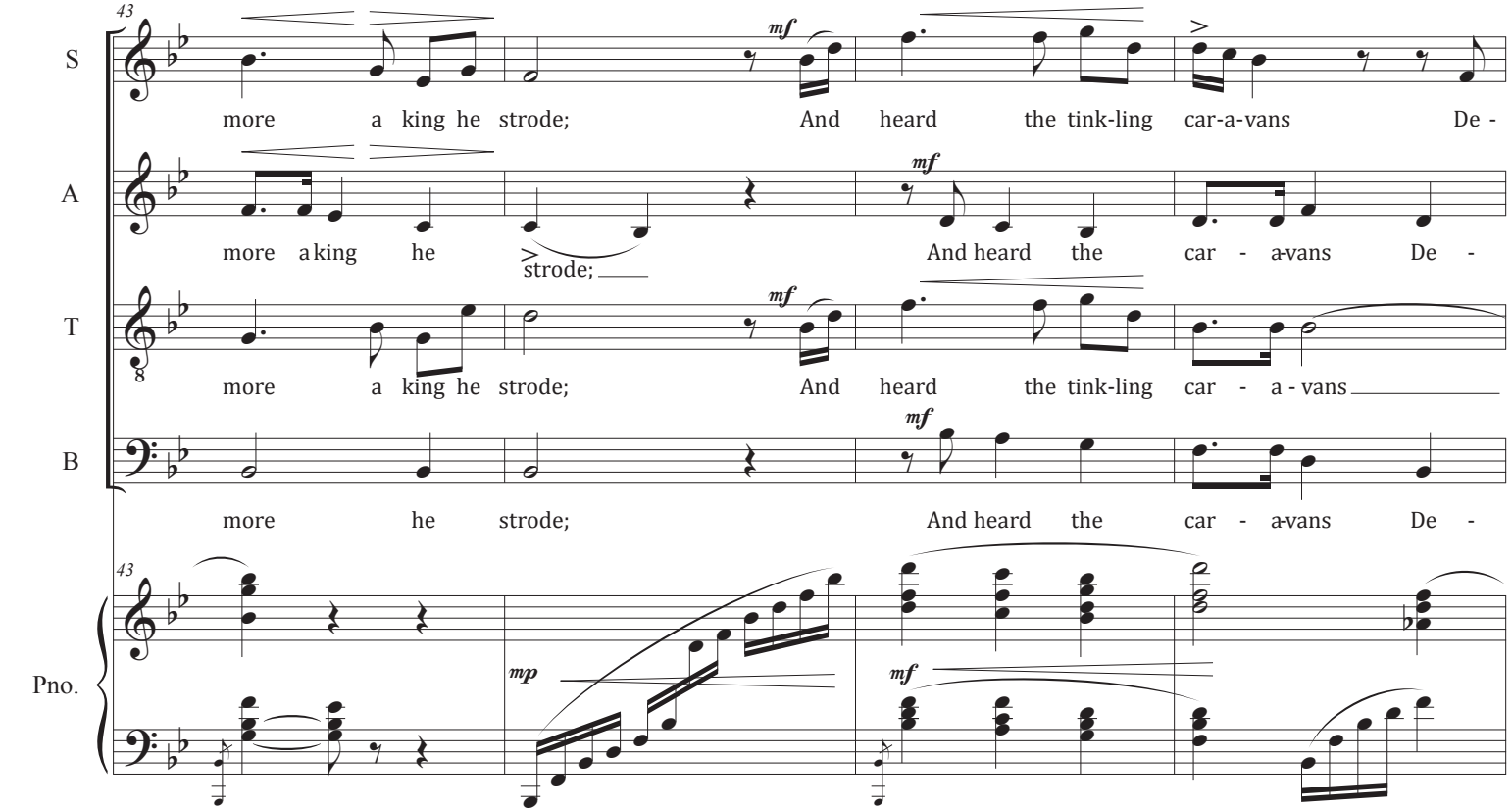

11
S
A
T
B
Pno.
p
He
sick - le in his hand;
Be - side th'un - gath - er'd rice He lay, His
Be - side th'un - gath - er'd rice He lay, His
14
lay,
mp
His breast was bare, his mat - ted hair Was
sick - le in his hand;
sick - le in his hand;
3

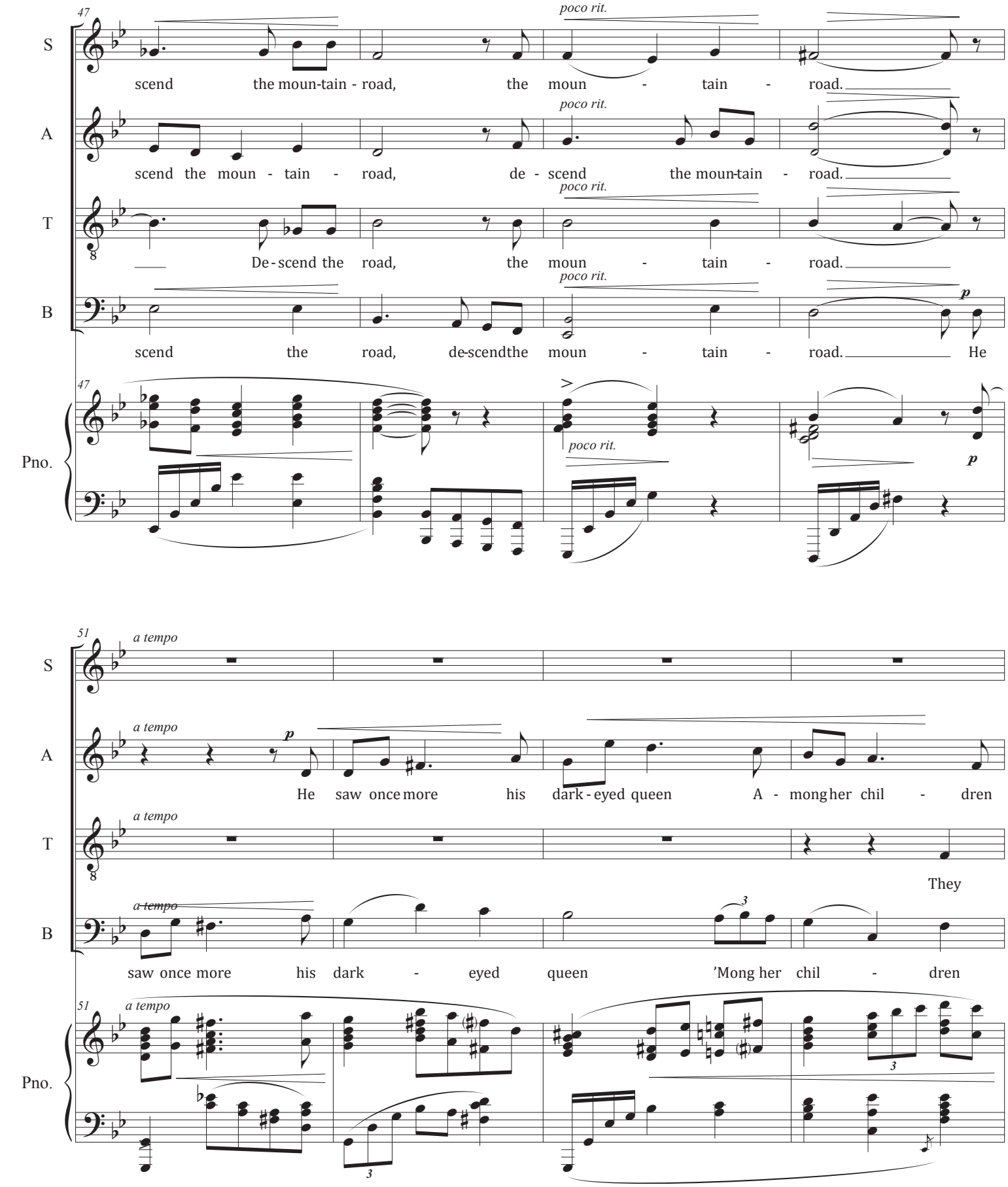

18
S
A
T
B
Pno.
bur - ied in the sand.
His breast was bare, his mat-ted hair Was bur-ied in the
His breast was bare, his mat-ted hair Was bur-ied in the
22
A - gain, in the mist and
A - gain, in the mist and the
sand. A - gain, in the mist and the
sand. A - gain, in the

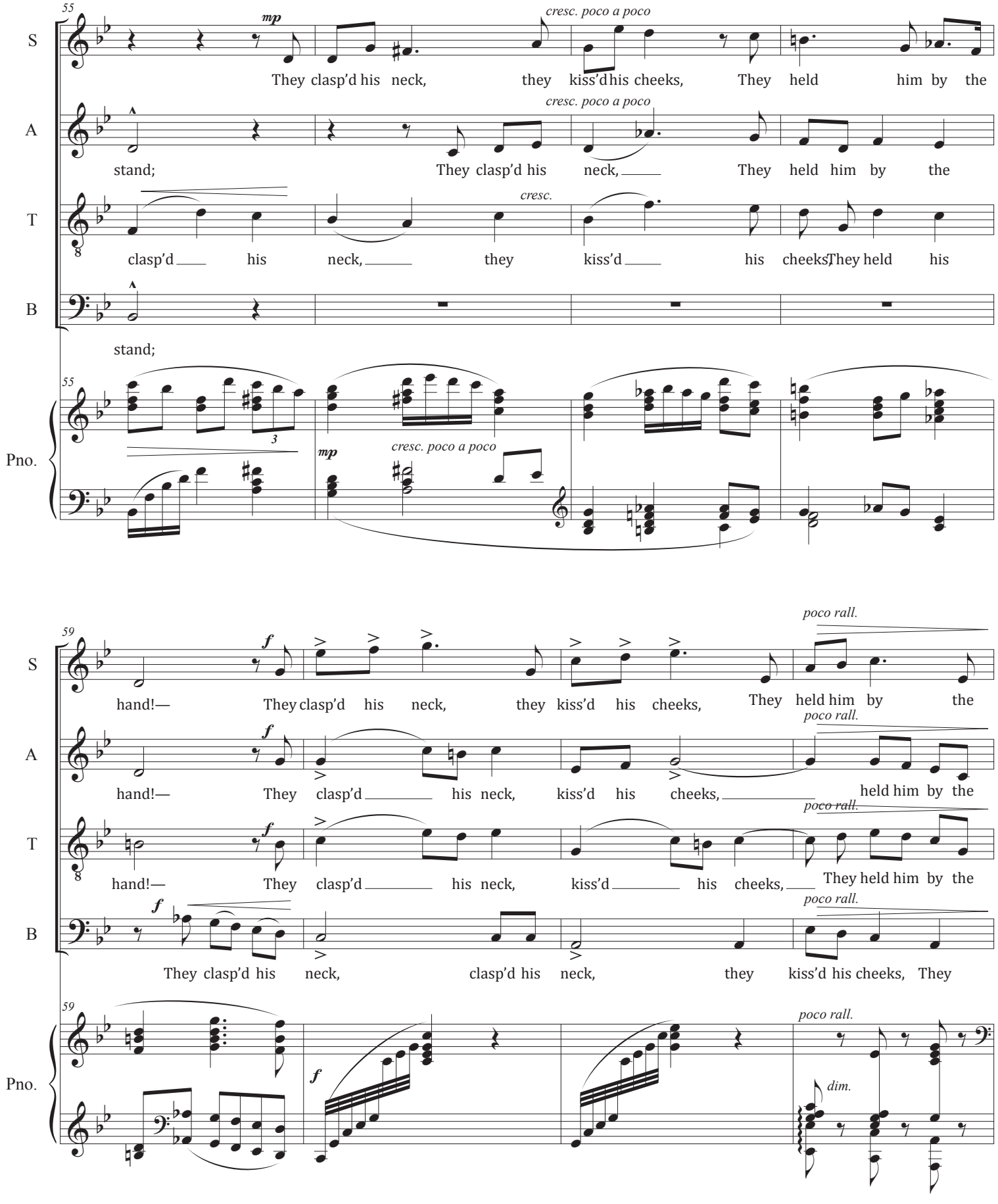

25
S
shad - ow of sleep, He saw his na - tive
A
shad - ow of sleep, He saw his
T
shad - ow of sleep, He saw
B
mist, He saw his
Pno.
pp
28
poco rit.
land.
land, his na - tive land.
mp
sf

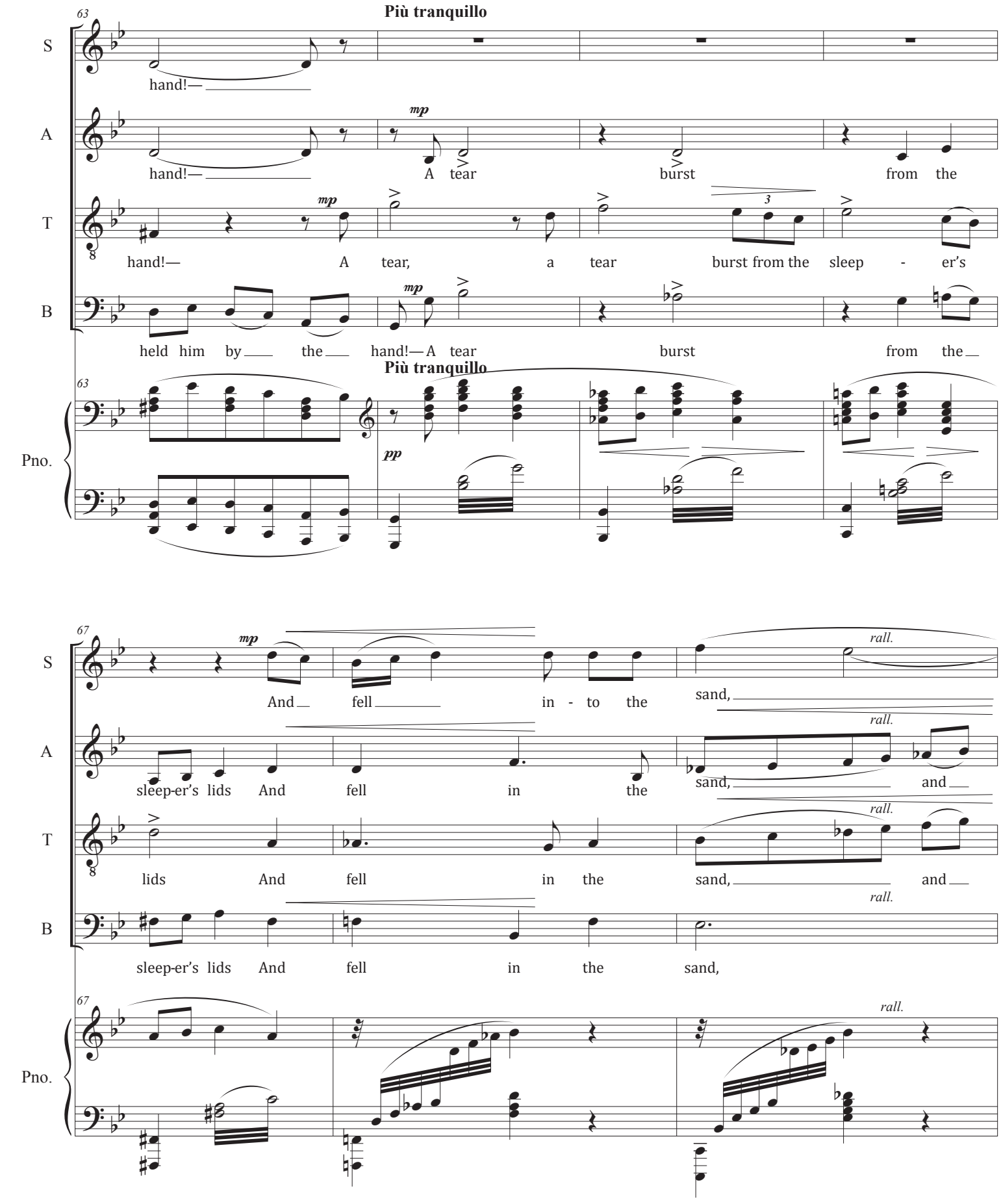

32
S
A
T
B
Pno.
sf
35
mf
a tempo
Wide thro' the land - scape of his dreams
f
The lord - ly Ni - ger
The lord - ly Ni - ger
The lord - ly Ni - ger
The Ni - ger

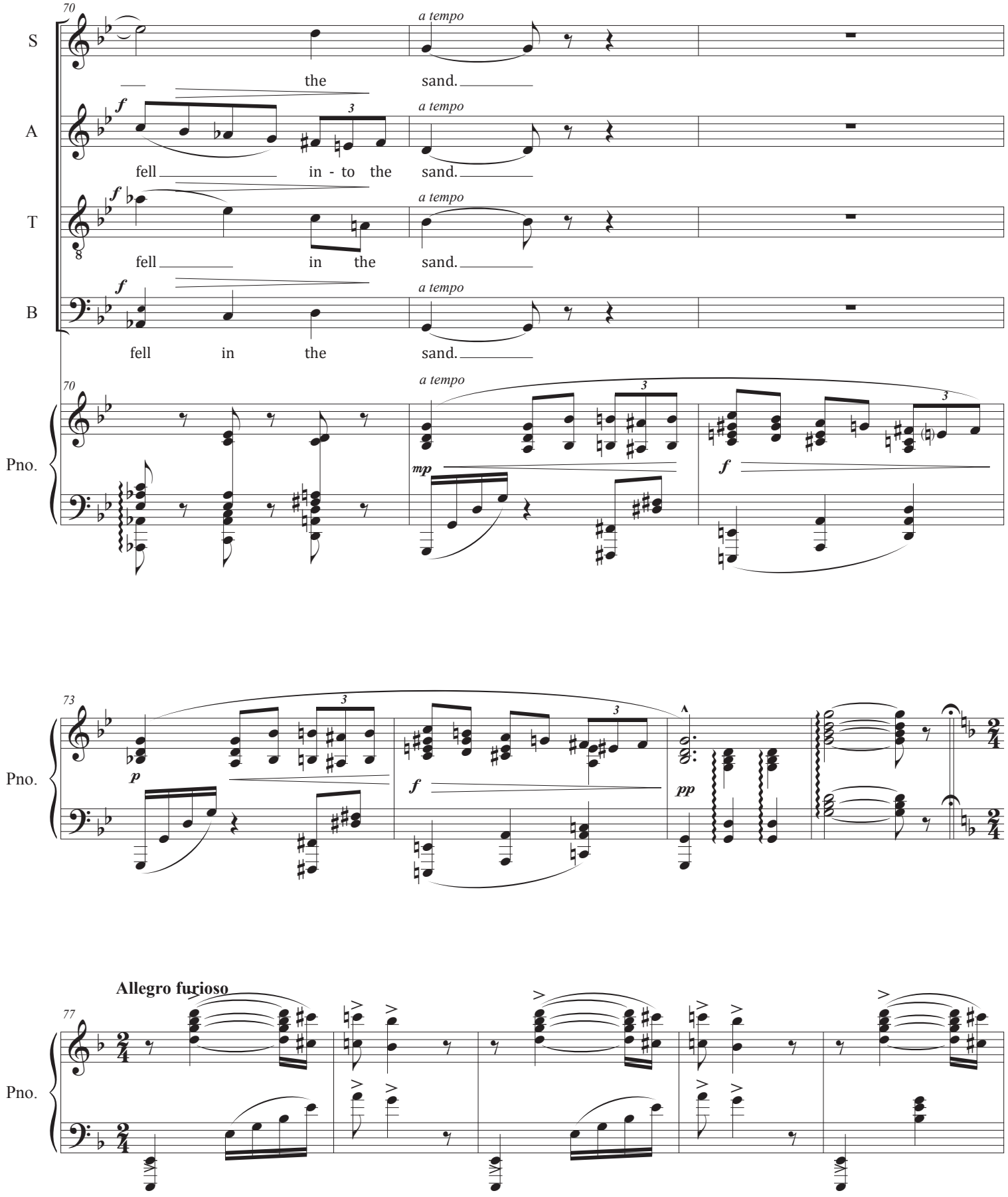

39
S
flow'd;
Once
A
mf
flow'd; Be - neath the palm - trees on the plain Once
T
flow'd;
Once
B
flow'd;
Once
Pno.
mp
mf

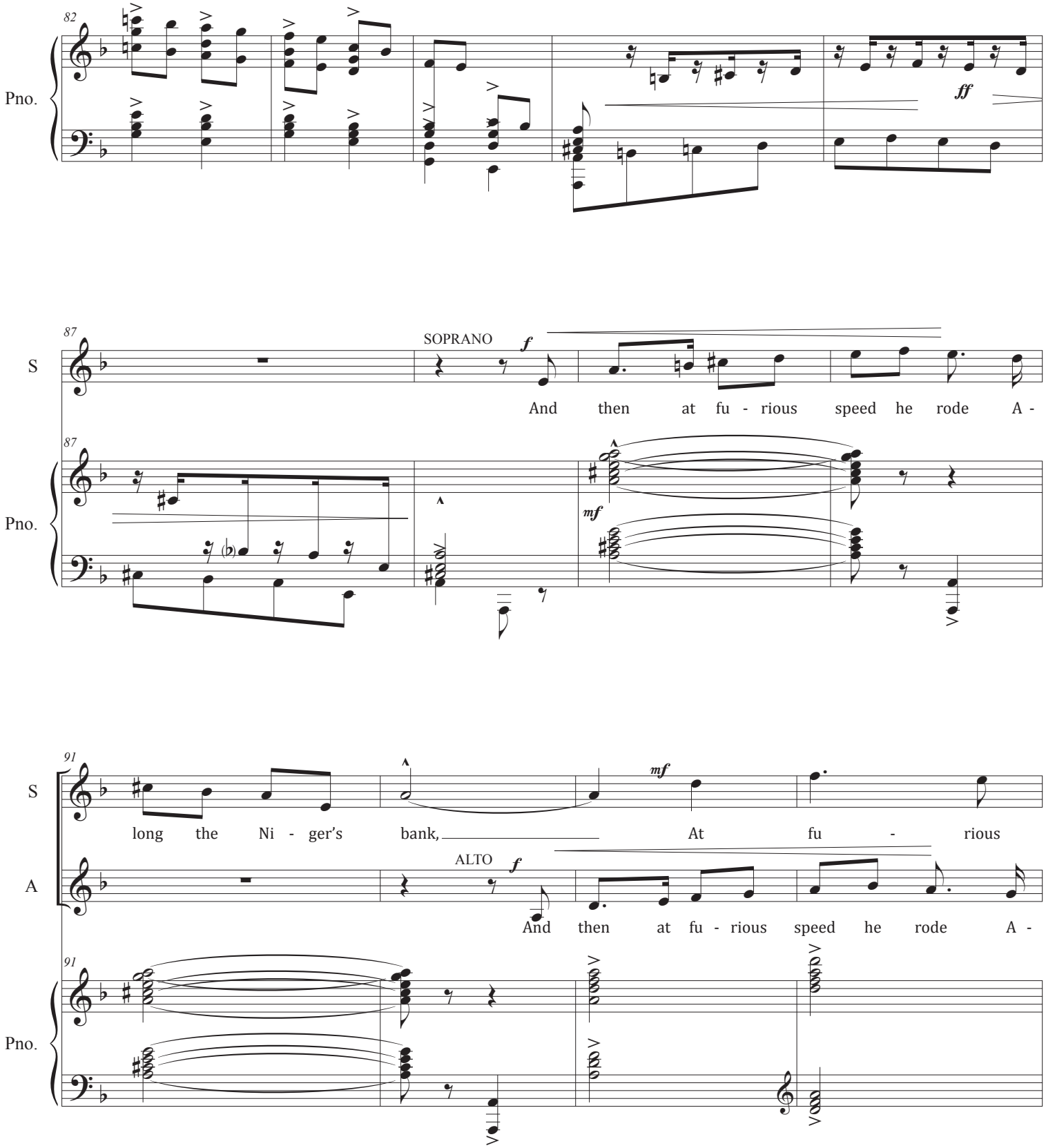

43
S
more a king he strode; And heard the tink-ling car-a-vans De -
A
more a king he strode; And heard the car - a-vans De -
T
more a king he strode; And heard the tink-ling car - a - vans
B
more he strode; And heard the car - a-vans De -
Pno.
mp
mf

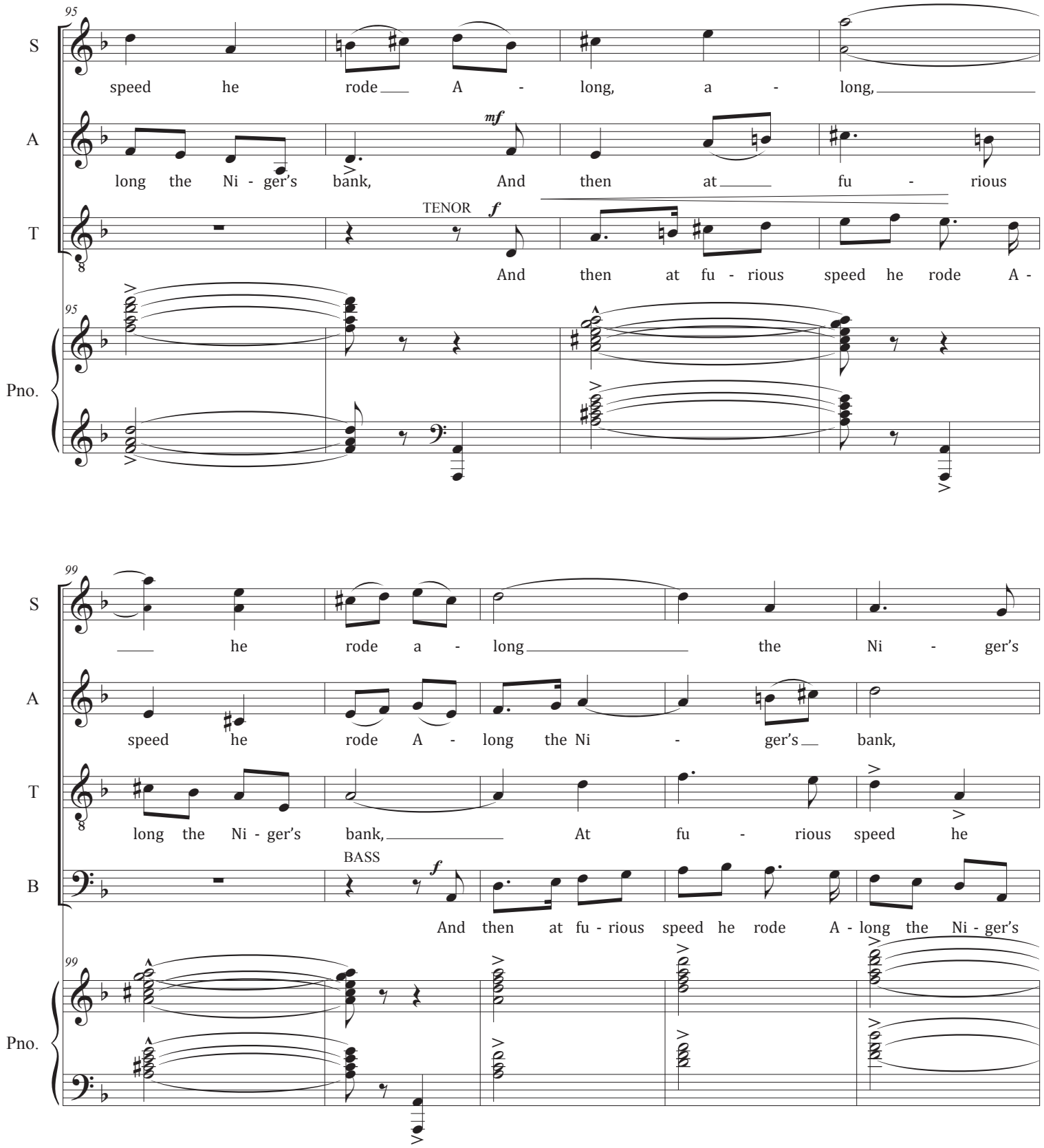

47
poco rit.
S
scend the moun-tain - road, the moun - tain - road.
A
scend the moun - tain - road, de - scend the moun-tain - road.
T
De - scend the road, the moun - tain - road.
B
scend the road, de-scendthe moun - tain - road. He
Pno.
51
a tempo
p
He saw once more his dark - eyed queen A - mong her chil - dren
They
saw once more his dark - eyed queen 'Mong her chil - dren

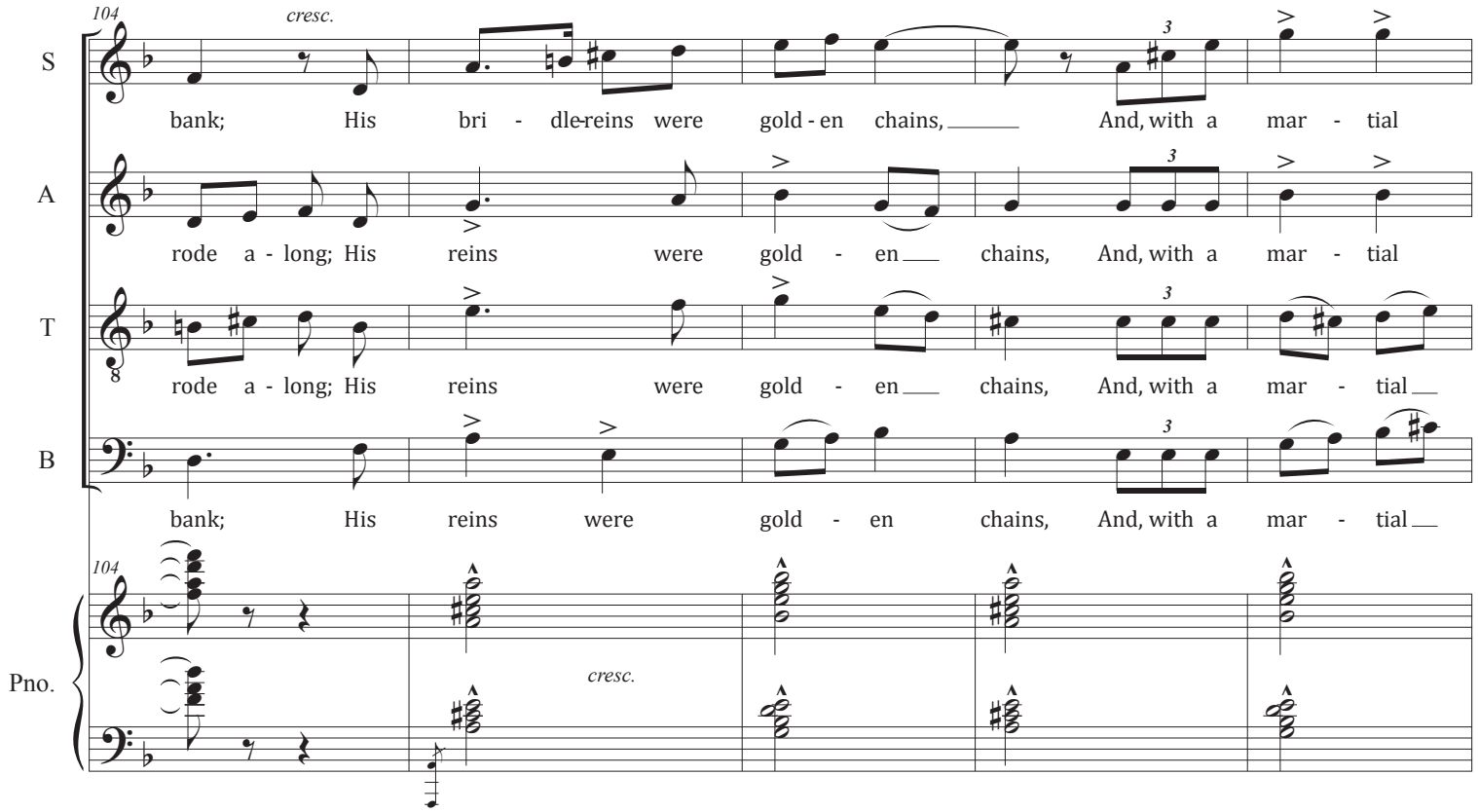

55
S
A
T
B
Pno.
mp
cresc. poco a poco
They clasp'd his neck, they kiss'd his cheeks, They held him by the
stand; They clasp'd his neck, They held him by the
cresc.
clasp'd his neck, they kiss'd his cheeks, They held his
stand;
59
f
poco rall.
hand!— They clasp'd his neck, they kiss'd his cheeks, They held him by the
hand!— They clasp'd his neck, kiss'd his cheeks, held him by the
hand!— They clasp'd his neck, kiss'd his cheeks, They held him by the
They clasp'd his neck, clasp'd his neck, they kiss'd his cheeks, They
dim.

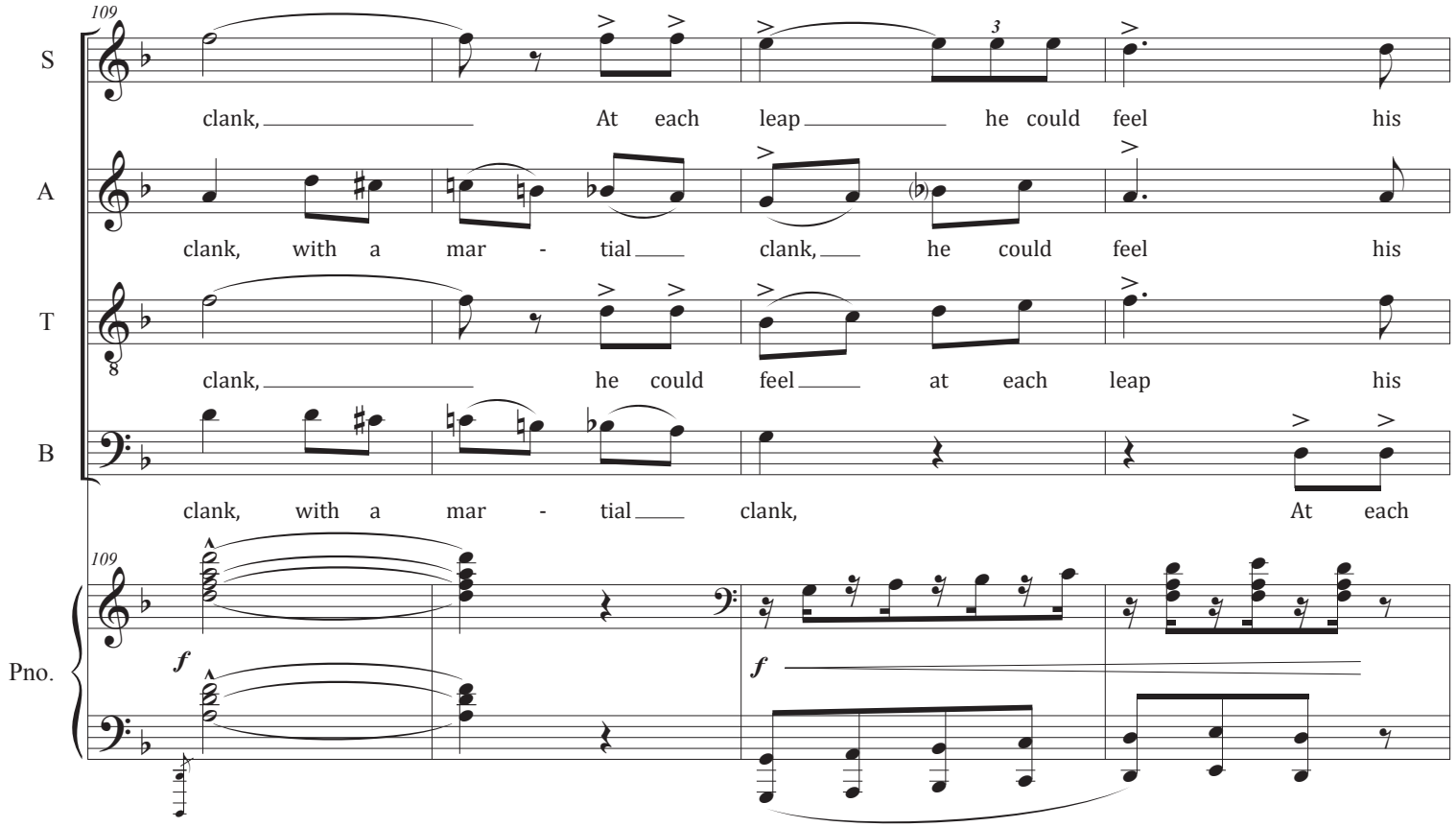

63
Più tranquillo
S
hand!—
A
mp
hand!— A tear burst from the
T
mp
hand!— A tear, a tear burst from the sleep - er's
B
mp
held him by the hand!— A tear burst from the
Più tranquillo
63
Pno.
pp
67
mp
S
And fell in - to the sand,
rall.
A
sleep-er's lids And fell in the sand, and
rall.
T
lids And fell in the sand, and
rall.
B
sleep-er's lids And fell in the sand,
rall.
67
Pno.
rall.

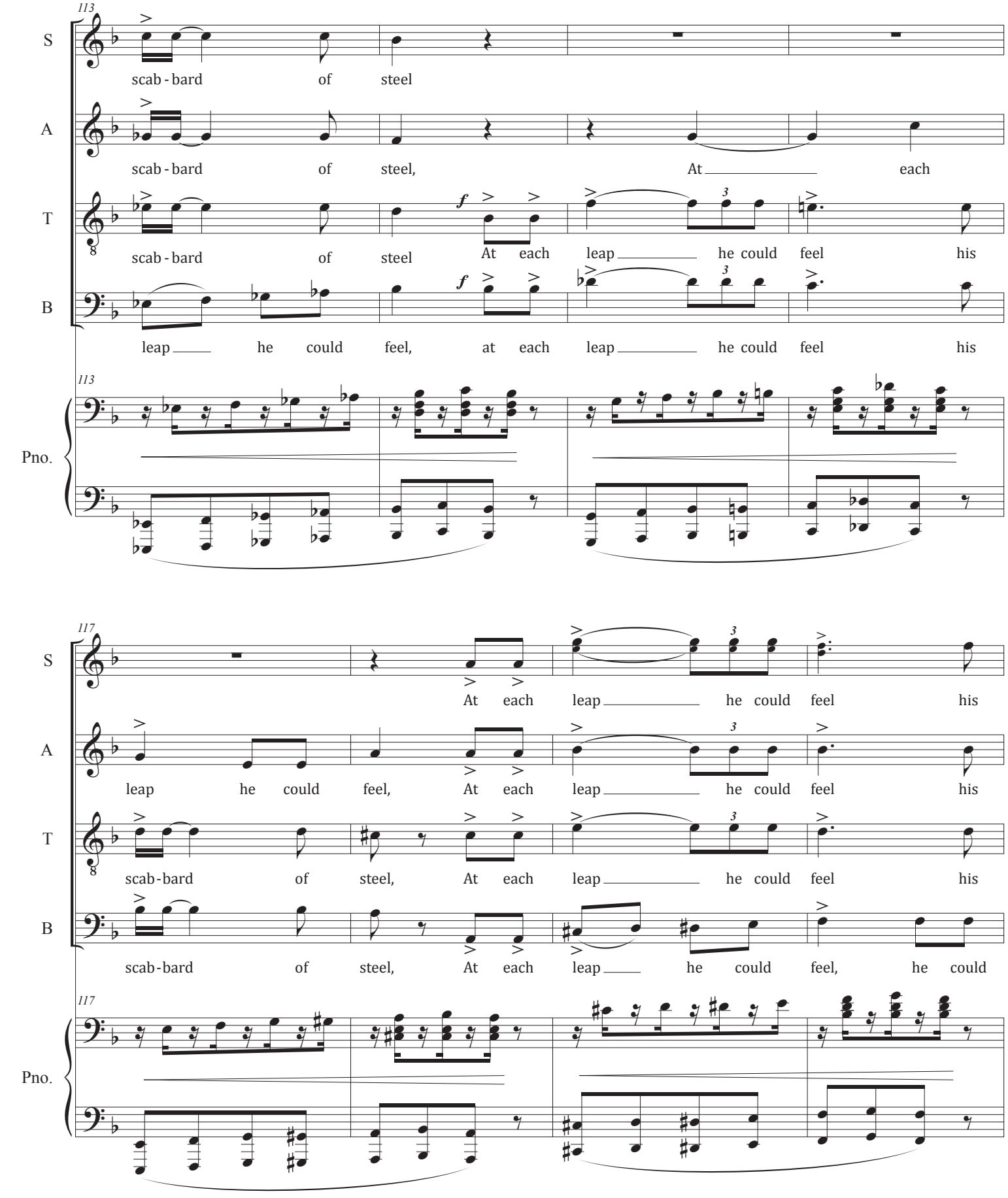

70
S
A
T
B
Pno.
a tempo
the sand.
fell in - to the sand.
fell in the sand.
fell in the sand.
f
mp
73
p
pp
77
Allegro furioso

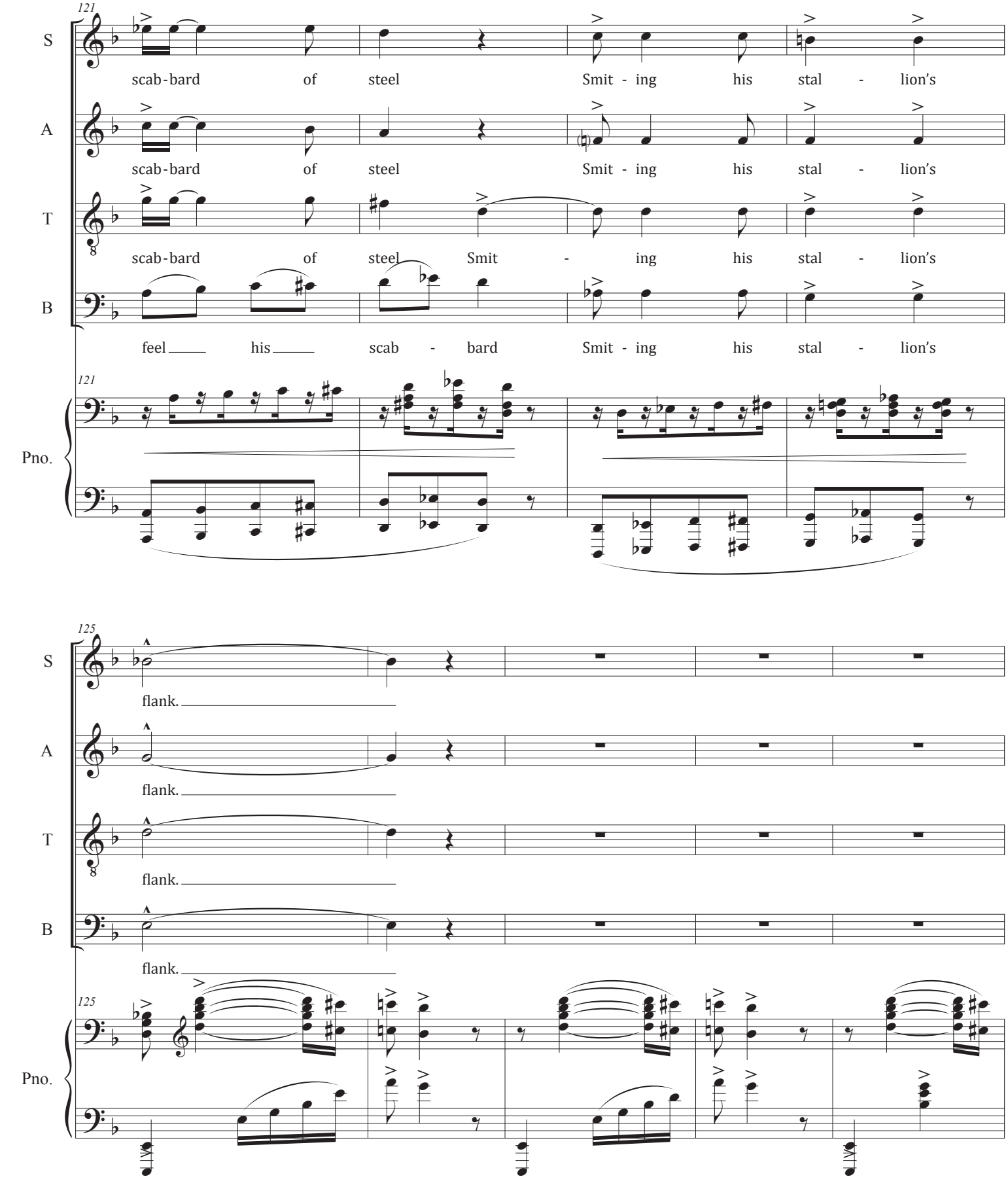

82
Pno.
ff
87
S
SOPRANO
f
And then at fu - rious speed he rode A -
87
Pno.
mf
91
S
mf
long the Ni - ger's bank, At fu - rious
A
ALTO
f
And then at fu - rious speed he rode A -
91
Pno.

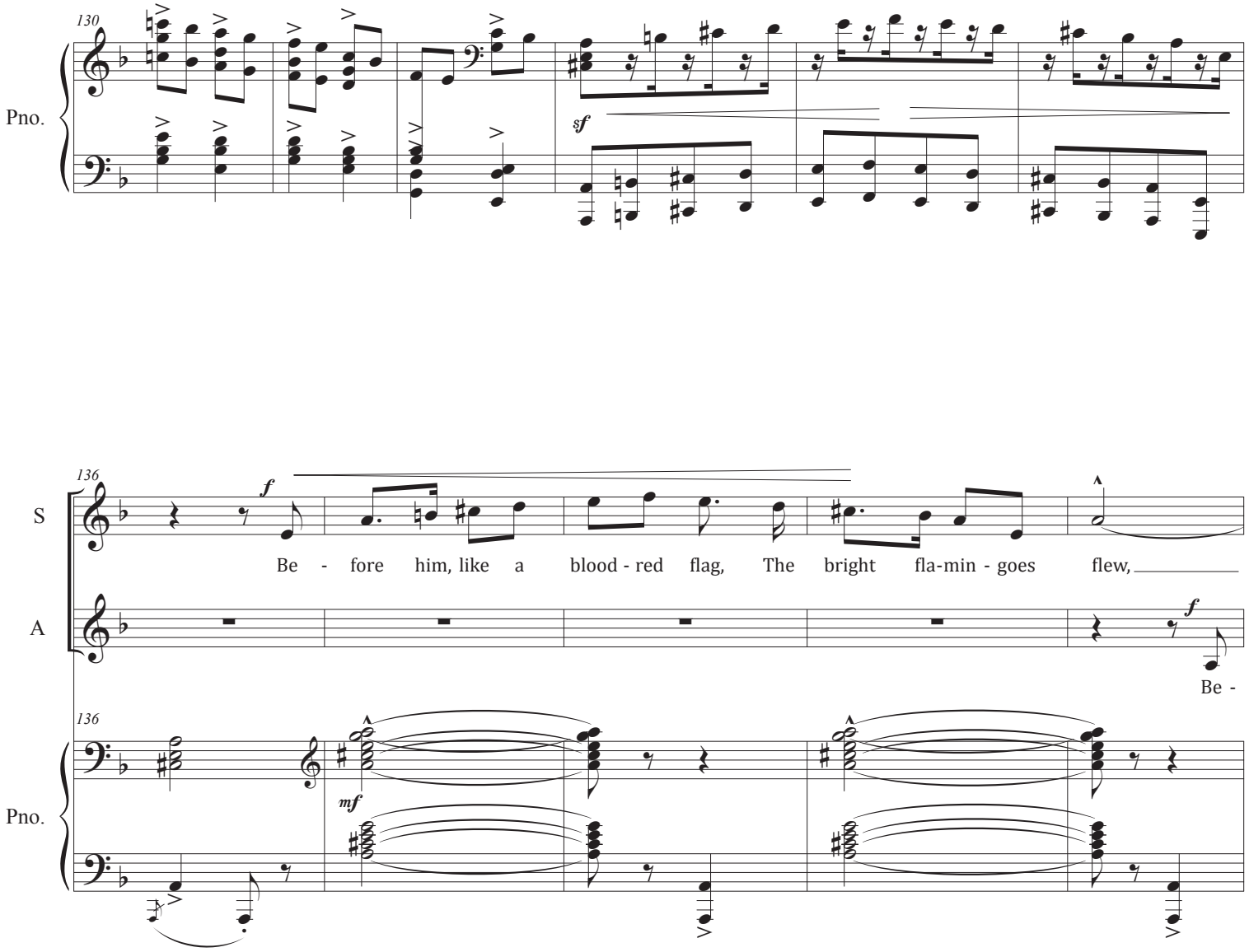

95
S
speed he rode A - long, a - long,
A
mf
long the Ni - ger's bank, And then at fu - rious
T
TENOR
f
And then at fu - rious speed he rode A -
Pno.
99
S
he rode a - long the Ni - ger's
A
speed he rode A - long the Ni - ger's bank,
T
long the Ni - ger's bank, At fu - rious speed he
B
BASS
f
And then at fu - rious speed he rode A - long the Ni - ger's
Pno.

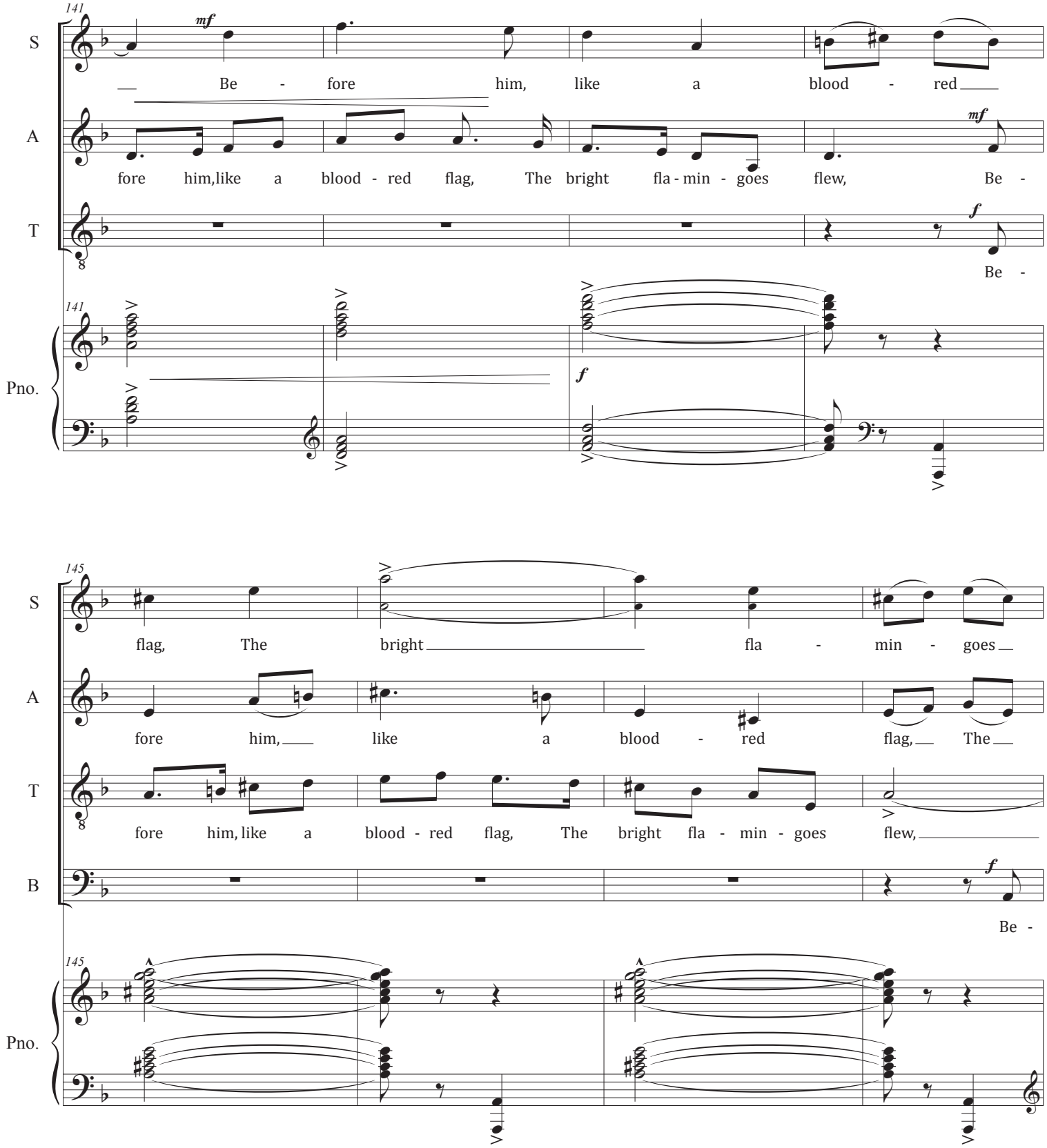

104
cresc.
S
bank; His bri - dle-reins were gold - en chains, And, with a mar - tial
A
rode a - long; His reins were gold - en chains, And, with a mar - tial
T
rode a - long; His reins were gold - en chains, And, with a mar - tial
B
bank; His reins were gold - en chains, And, with a mar - tial
104
Pno.
cresc.

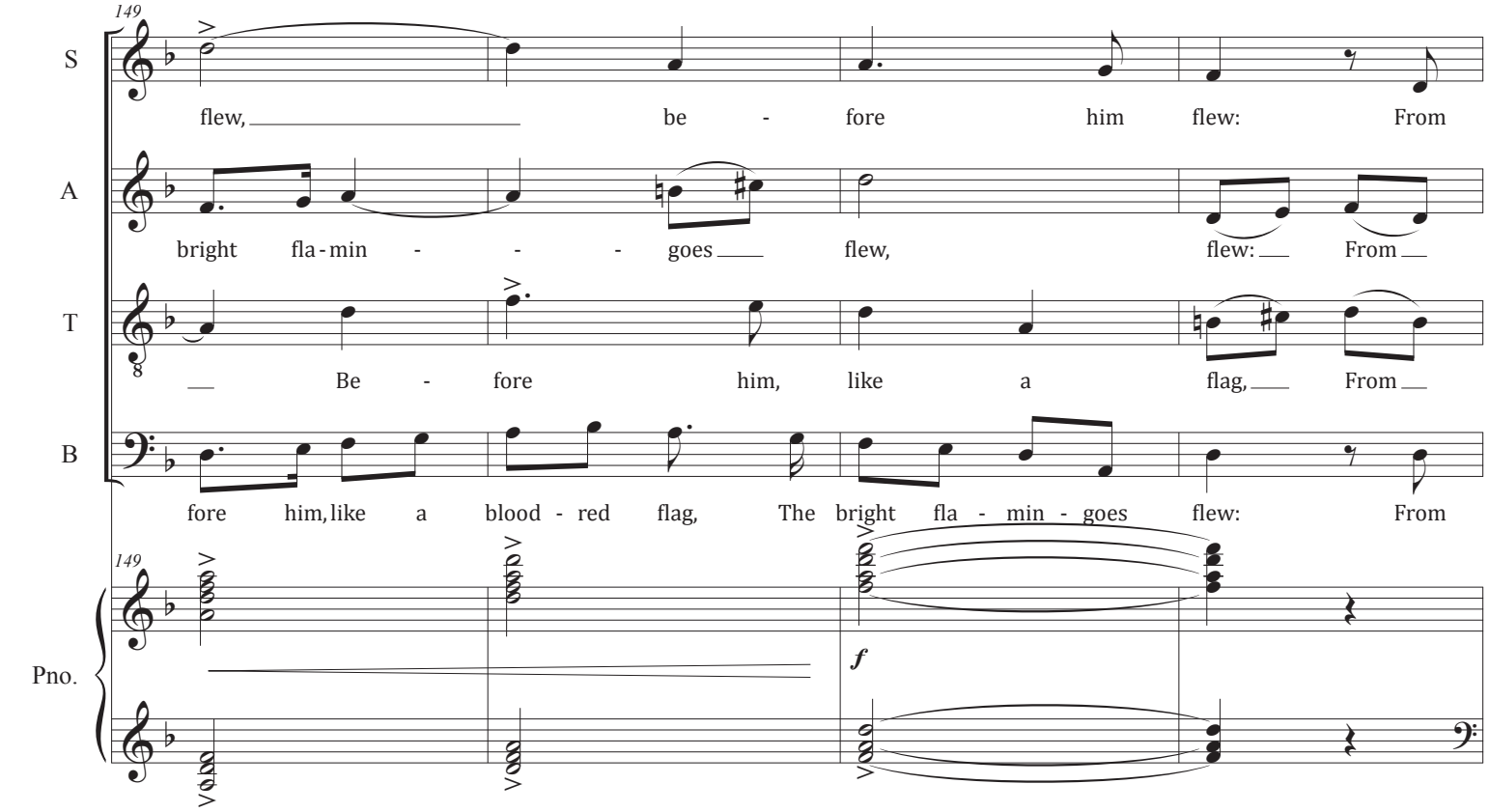

109
S
clank, At each leap he could feel his
A
clank, with a mar - tial clank, he could feel his
T
clank, he could feel at each leap his
B
clank, with a mar - tial clank, At each
109
Pno.
f
f

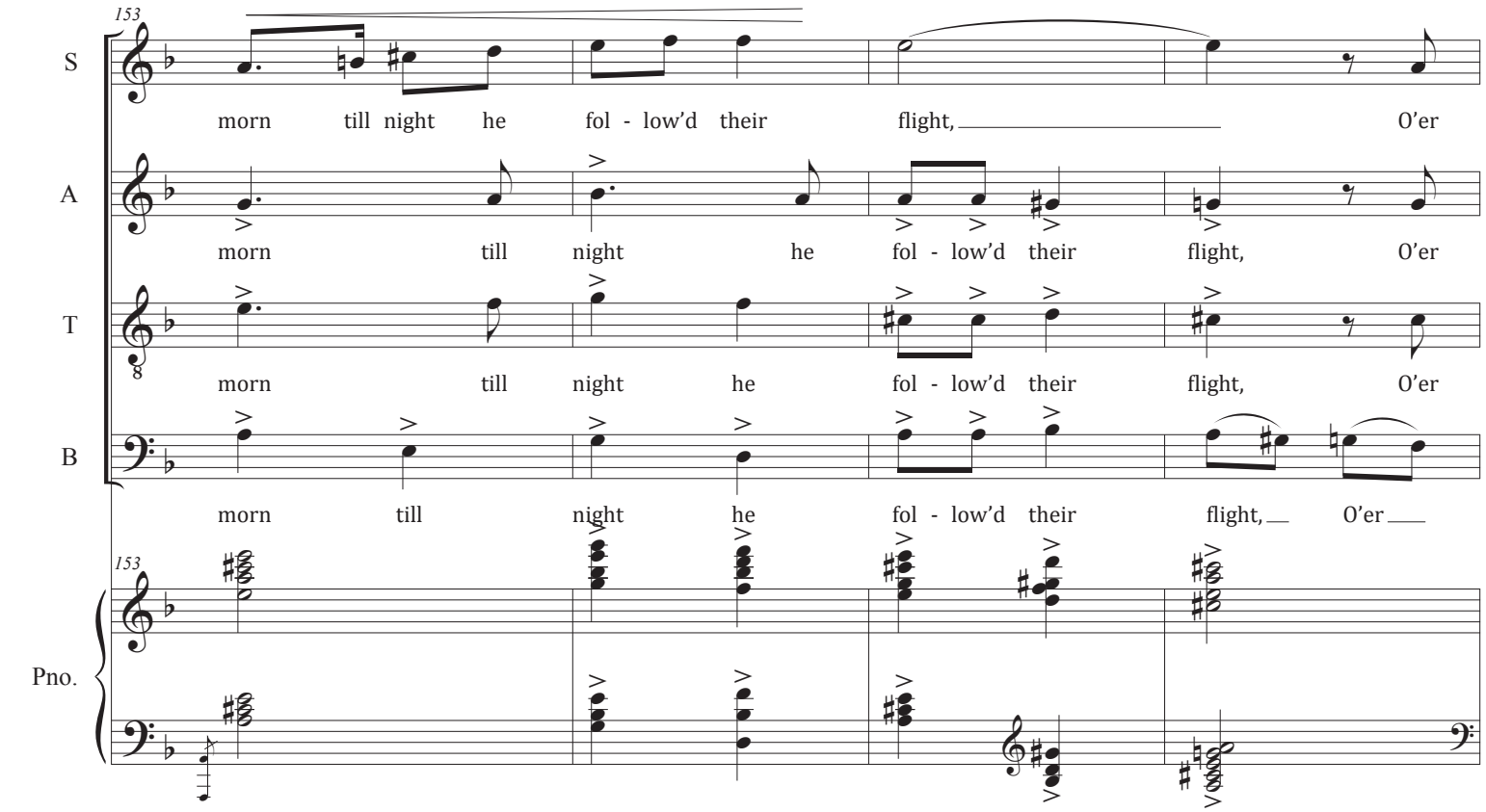

113
S
scab - bard of steel
A
scab - bard of steel, At each
T
scab - bard of steel At each leap he could feel his
B
leap he could feel, at each leap he could feel his
Pno.
117
S
At each leap he could feel his
A
leap he could feel, At each leap he could feel his
T
scab - bard of steel, At each leap he could feel his
B
scab - bard of steel, At each leap he could feel, he could
Pno.

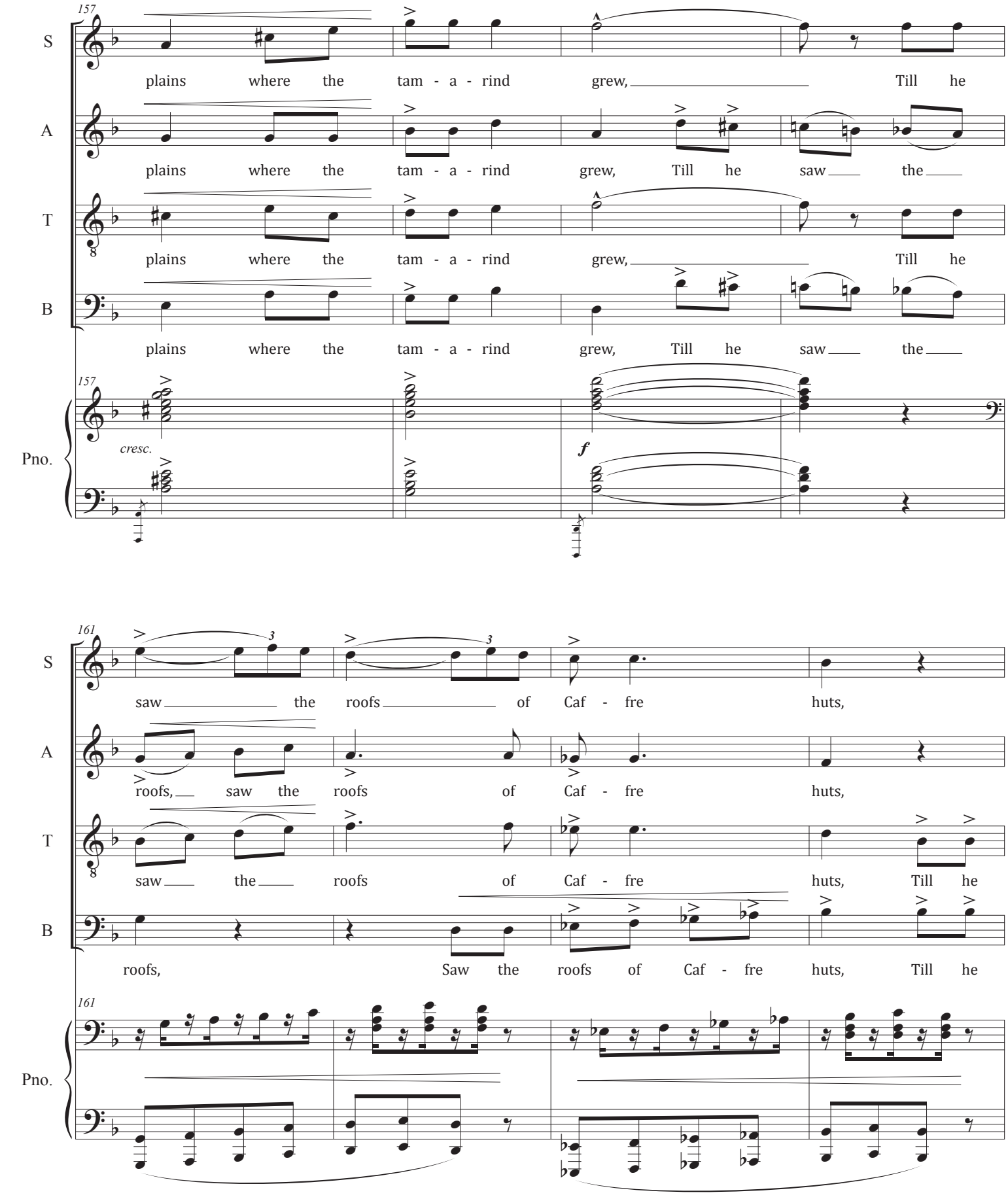

121
S
scab-bard of steel Smit - ing his stal - lion's
A
scab-bard of steel Smit - ing his stal - lion's
T
scab-bard of steel Smit - ing his stal - lion's
B
feel his scab - bard Smit - ing his stal - lion's
Pno.
125
S
flank.
A
flank.
T
flank.
B
flank.
Pno.

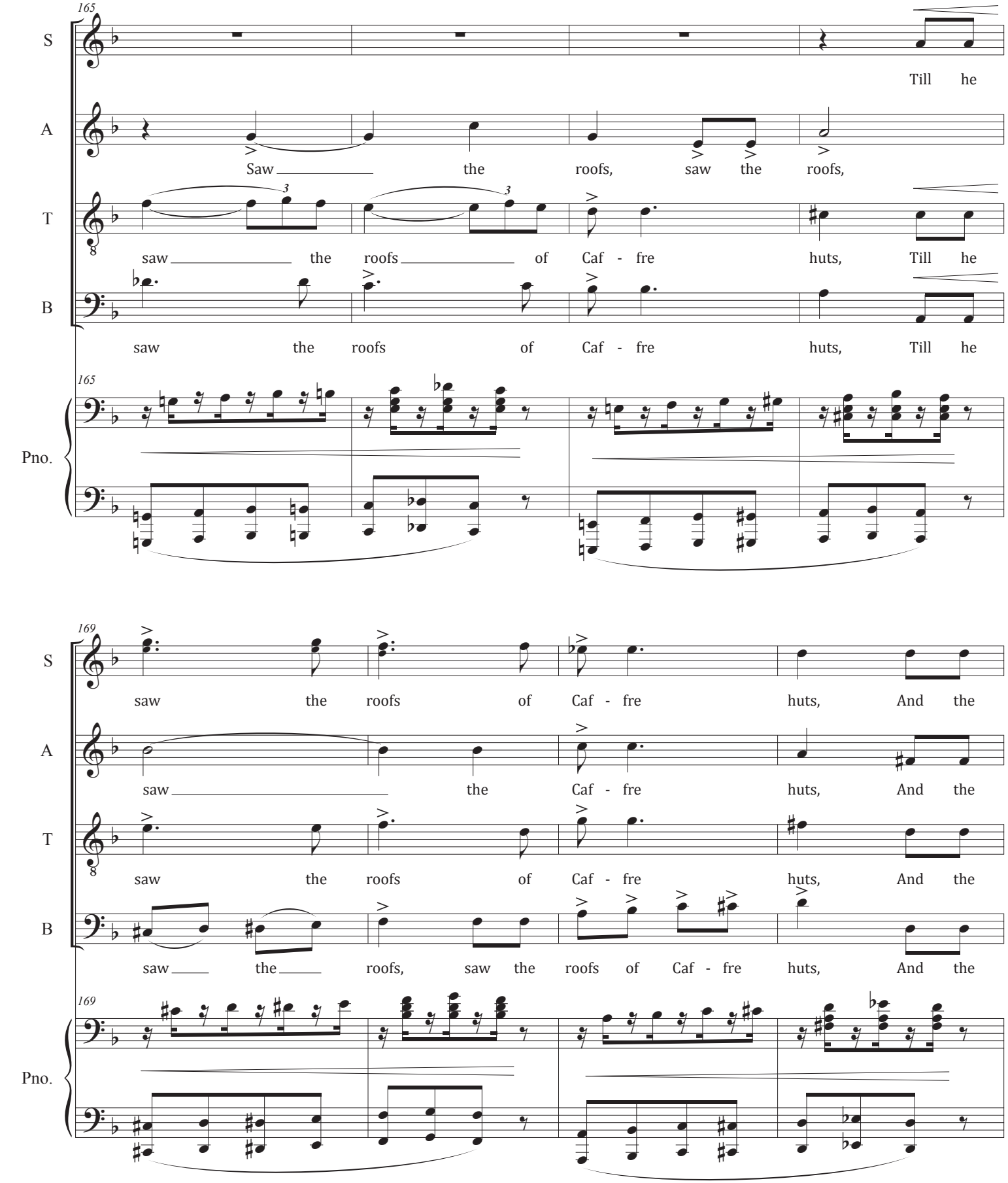

130
Pno.
sf
136
S
f
Be - fore him, like a blood - red flag, The bright fla-min - goes flew,
A
f
Be -
136
Pno.
mf

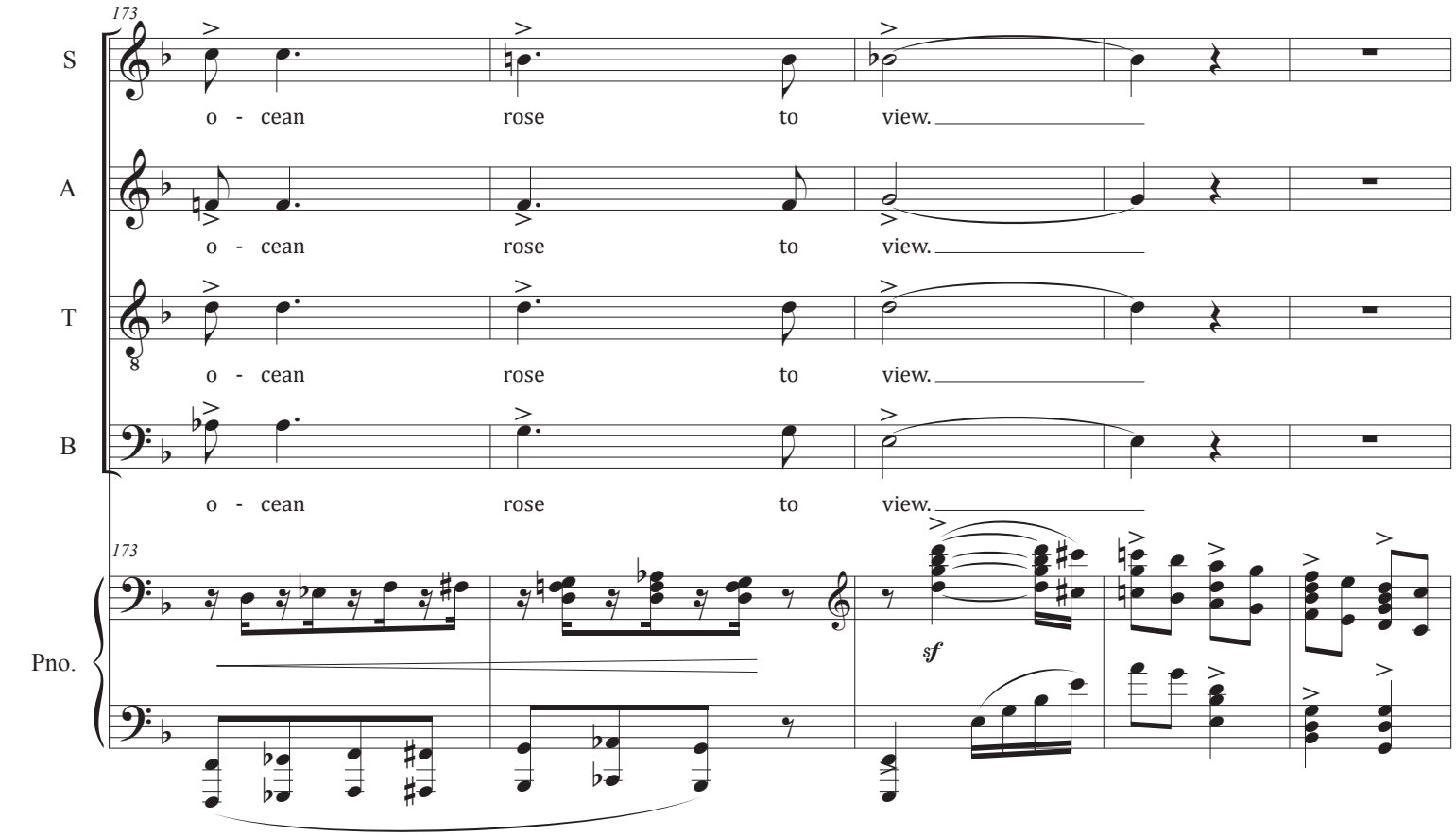

141
S
A
T
Pno.
mf
Be - fore him, like a blood - red
fore him,like a blood - red flag, The bright fla - min - goes flew, Be -
f
Be -
145
flag, The bright fla - min - goes
fore him, like a blood - red flag, The
fore him, like a blood - red flag, The bright fla - min - goes flew,
B
Be -

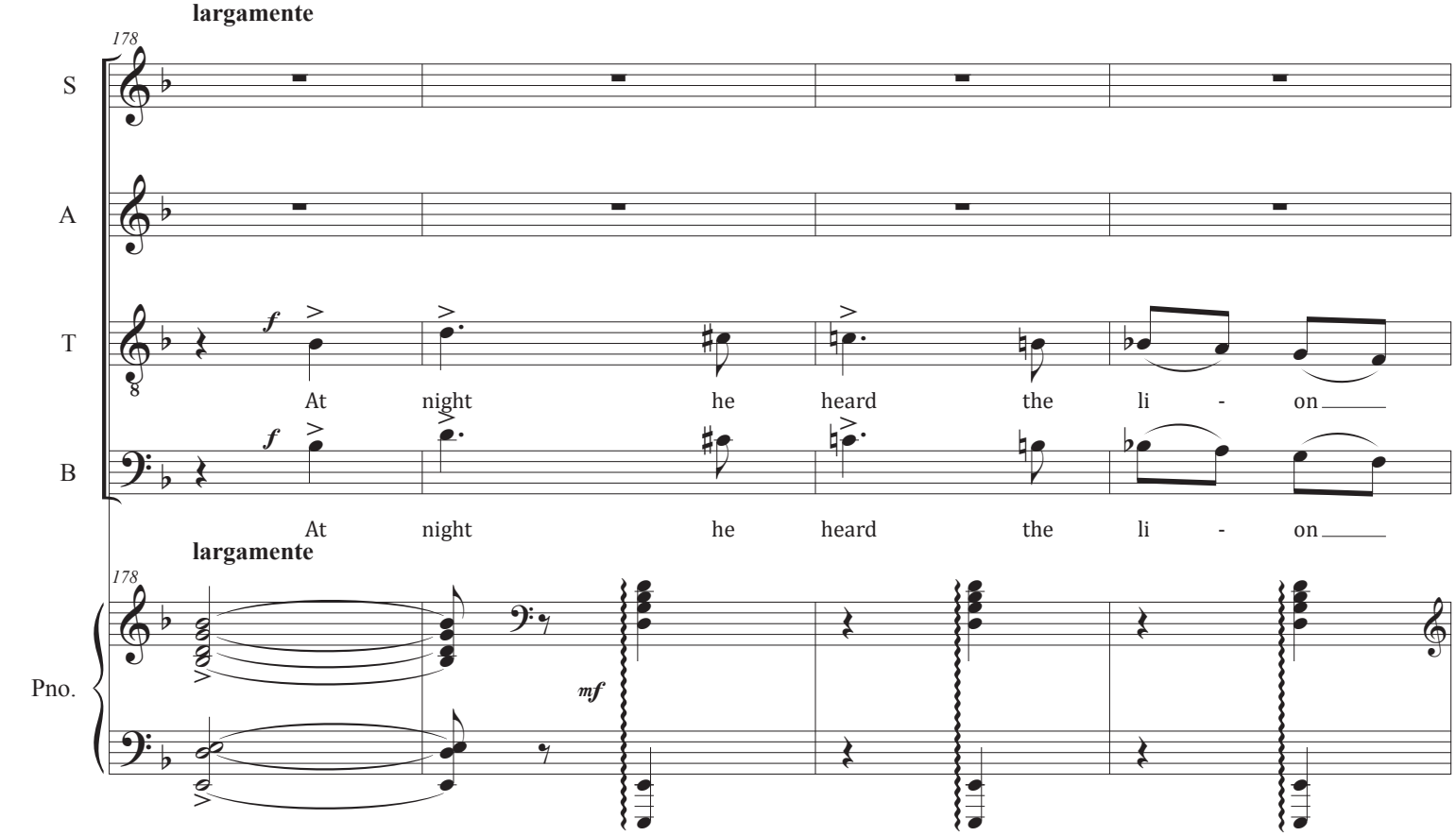

149
S
flew, be - fore him flew: From
A
bright fla-min - - - goes flew, flew: From
T
Be - fore him, like a flag, From
B
fore him, like a blood - red flag, The bright fla - min - goes flew: From
Pno.
f

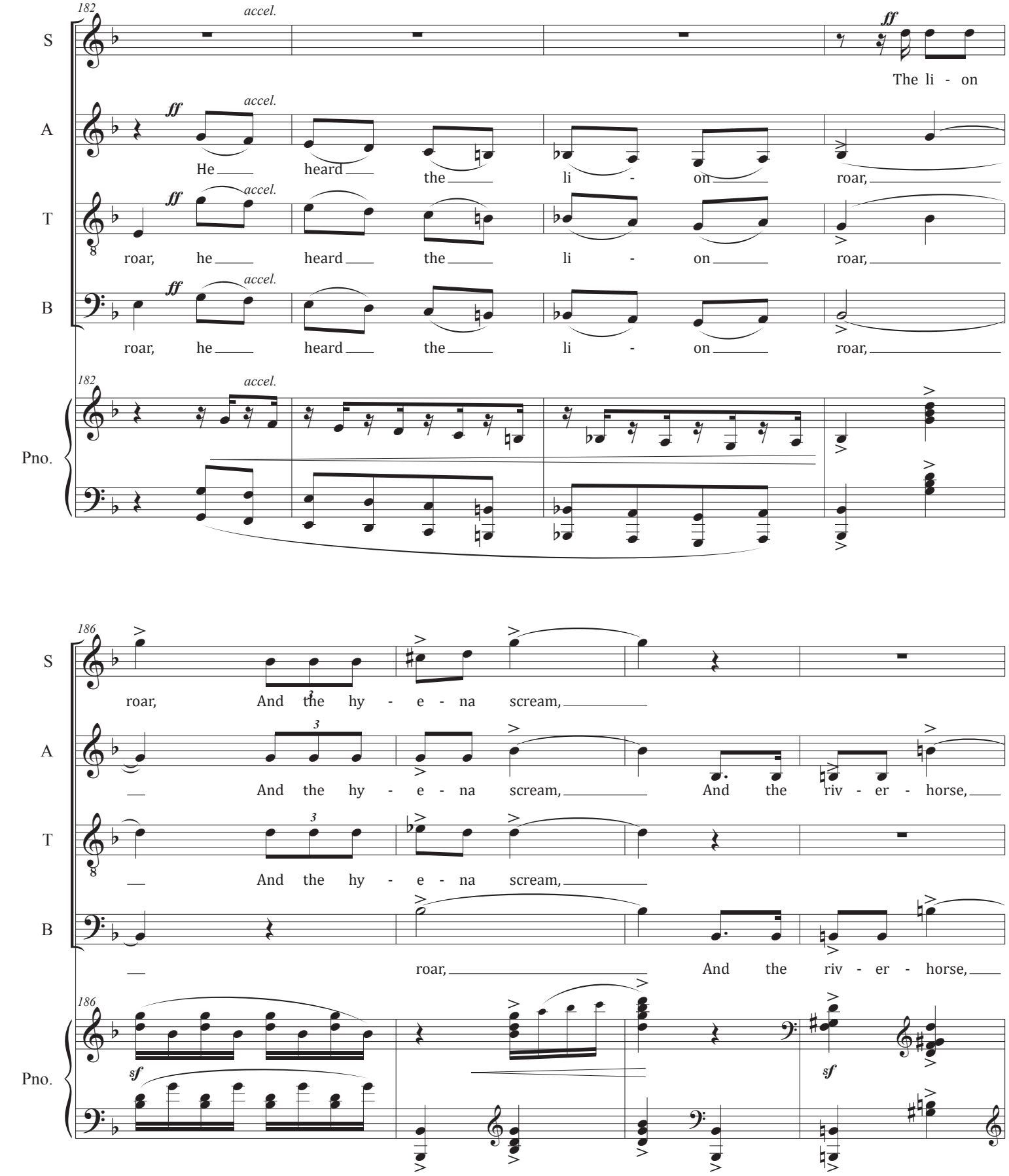

153
S
morn till night he fol - low'd their flight, O'er
A
morn till night he fol - low'd their flight, O'er
T
morn till night he fol - low'd their flight, O'er
B
morn till night he fol - low'd their flight, O'er
Pno.

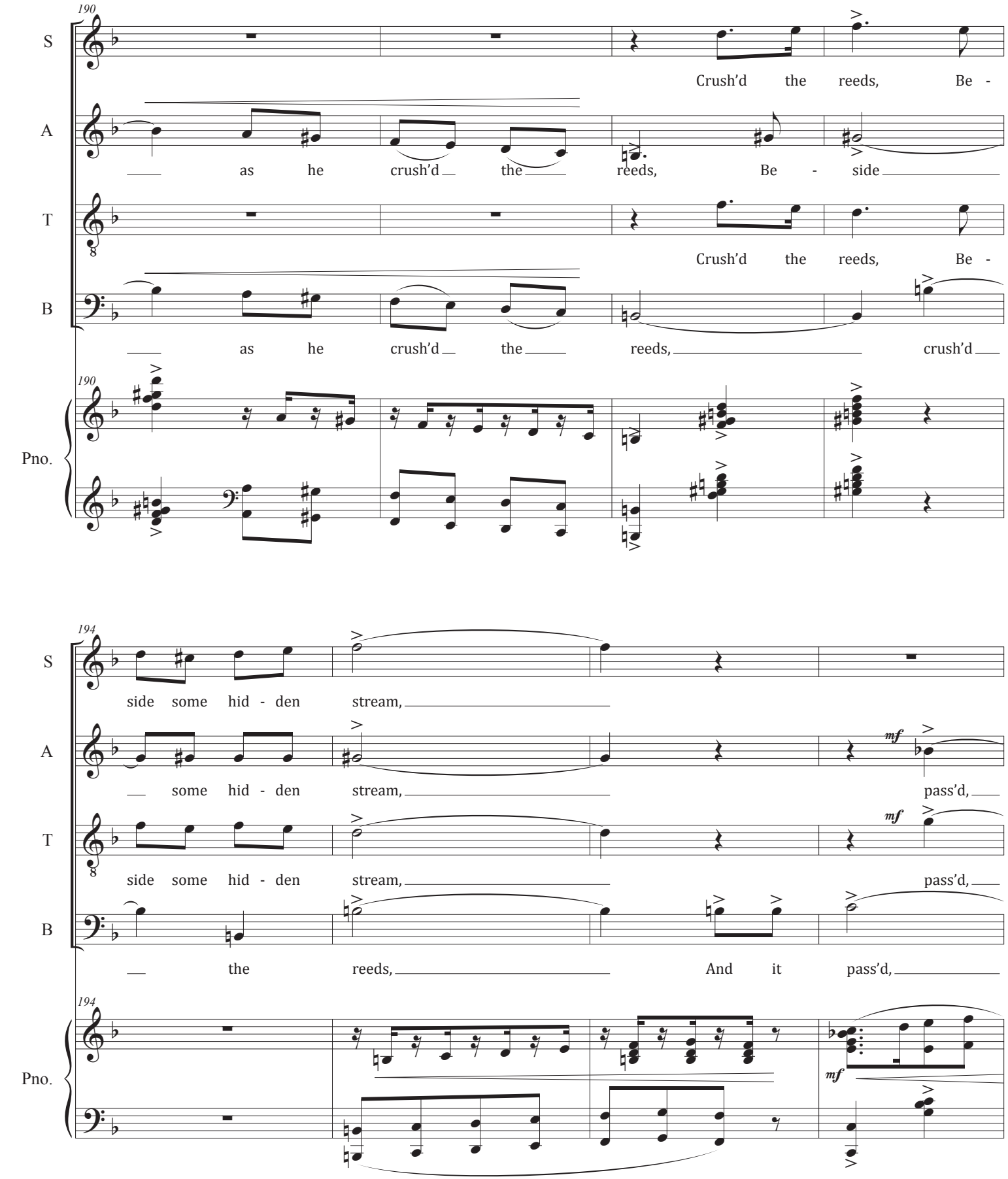

157
S
plains where the tam - a - rind grew, Till he
A
plains where the tam - a - rind grew, Till he saw the
T
plains where the tam - a - rind grew, Till he
B
plains where the tam - a - rind grew, Till he saw the
Pno.
cresc.
f
161
S
saw the roofs of Caf - fre huts,
A
roofs, saw the roofs of Caf - fre huts,
T
saw the roofs of Caf - fre huts, Till he
B
roofs, Saw the roofs of Caf - fre huts, Till he
Pno.

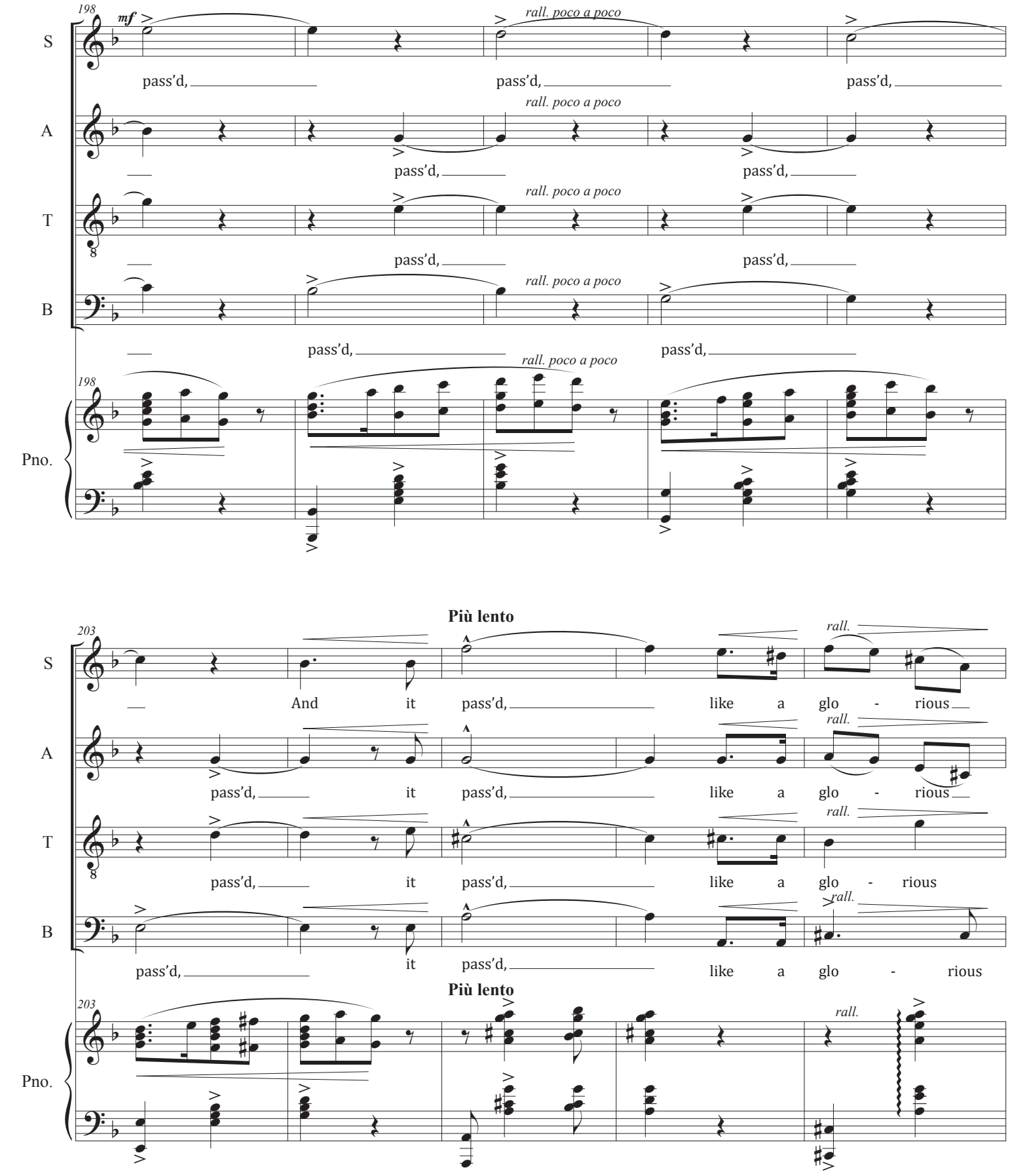

165
S
Till he
A
Saw the roofs, saw the roofs,
T
saw the roofs of Caf - fre huts, Till he
B
saw the roofs of Caf - fre huts, Till he
Pno.
169
S
saw the roofs of Caf - fre huts, And the
A
saw the Caf - fre huts, And the
T
saw the roofs of Caf - fre huts, And the
B
saw the roofs, saw the roofs of Caf - fre huts, And the
Pno.

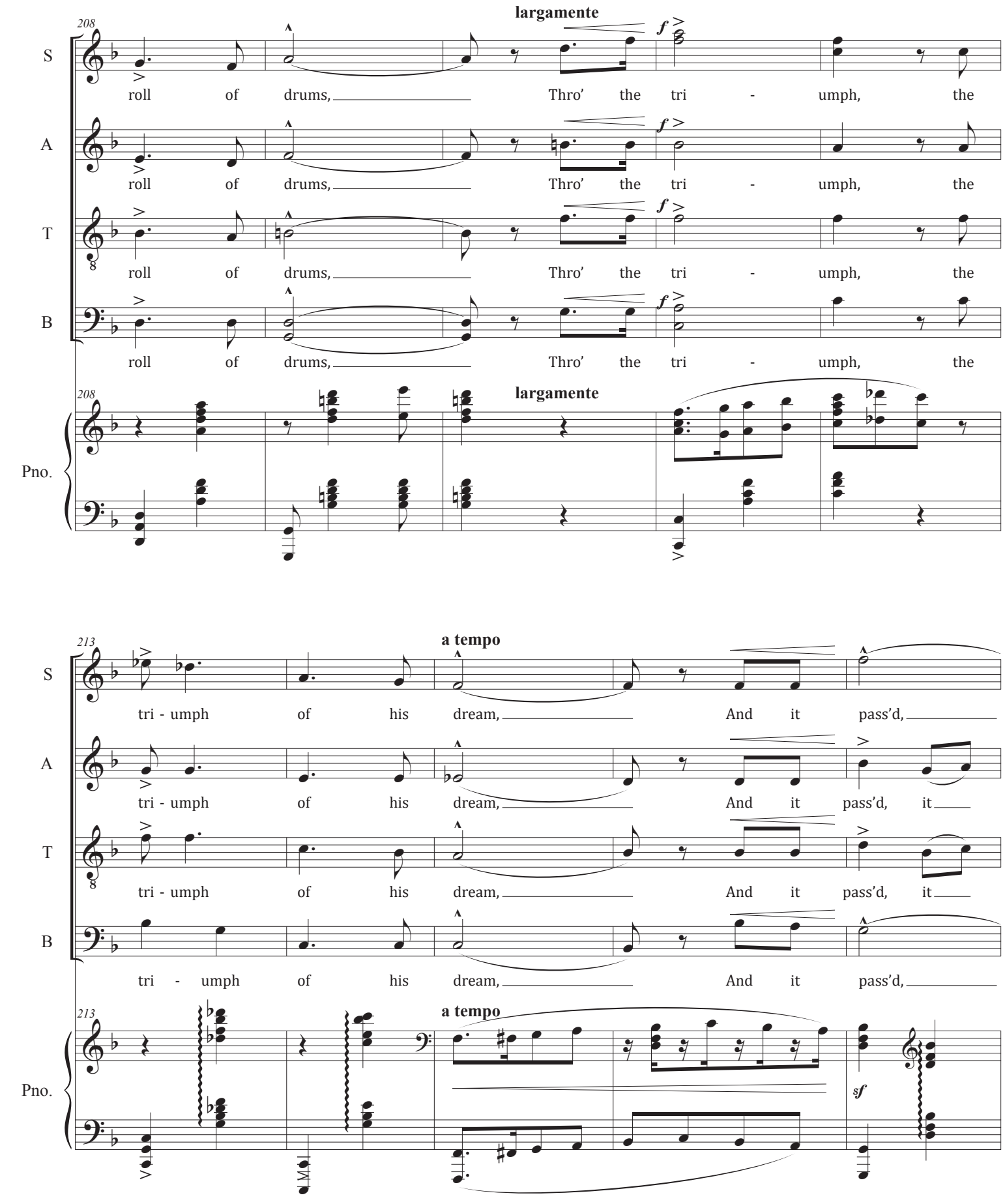

173
S
o - cean rose to view.
A
o - cean rose to view.
T
o - cean rose to view.
B
o - cean rose to view.
173
Pno.
sf

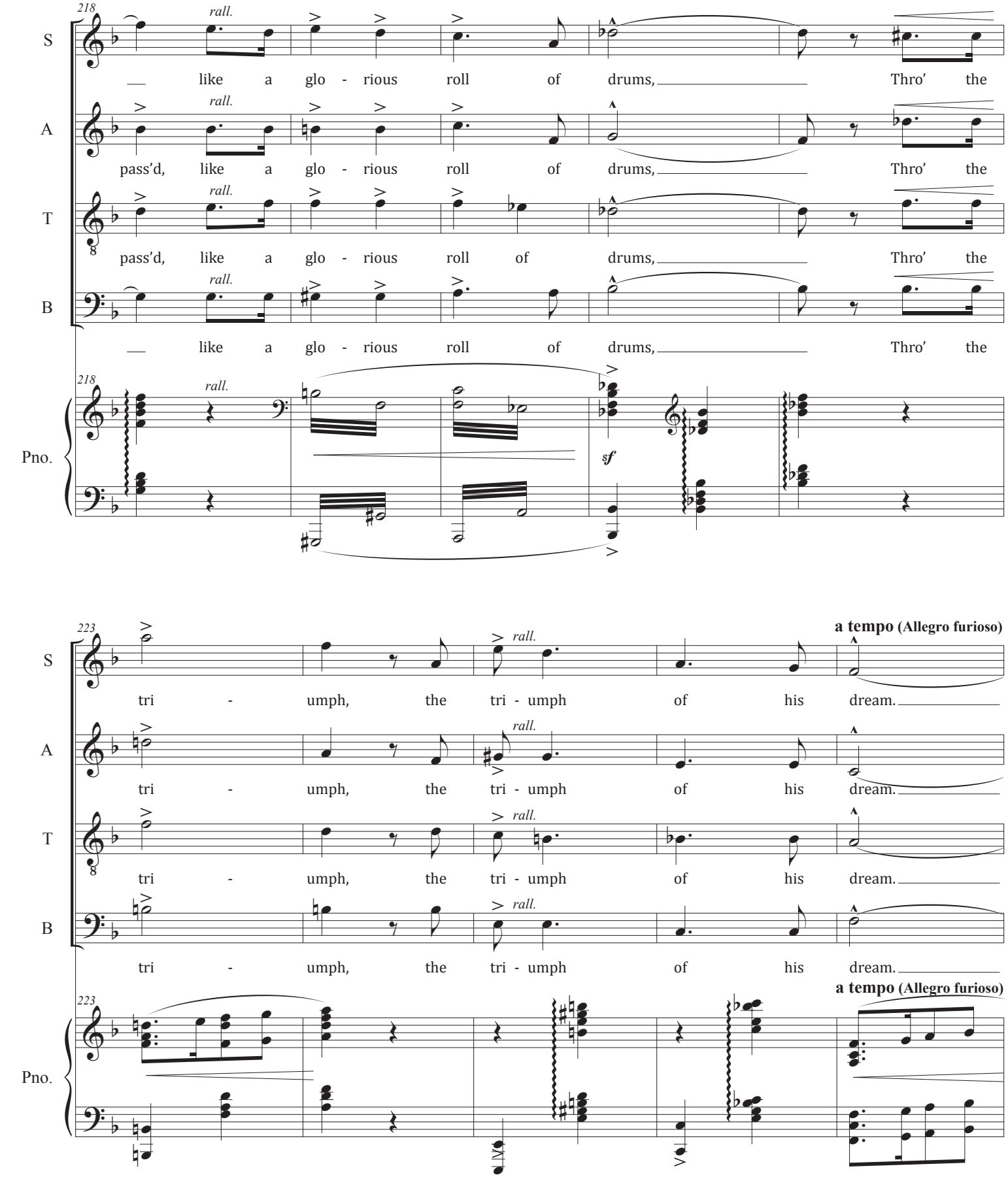

largamente
178
S
A
T
f
At night he heard the li - on
B
At night he heard the li - on
largamente
178
Pno.
mf

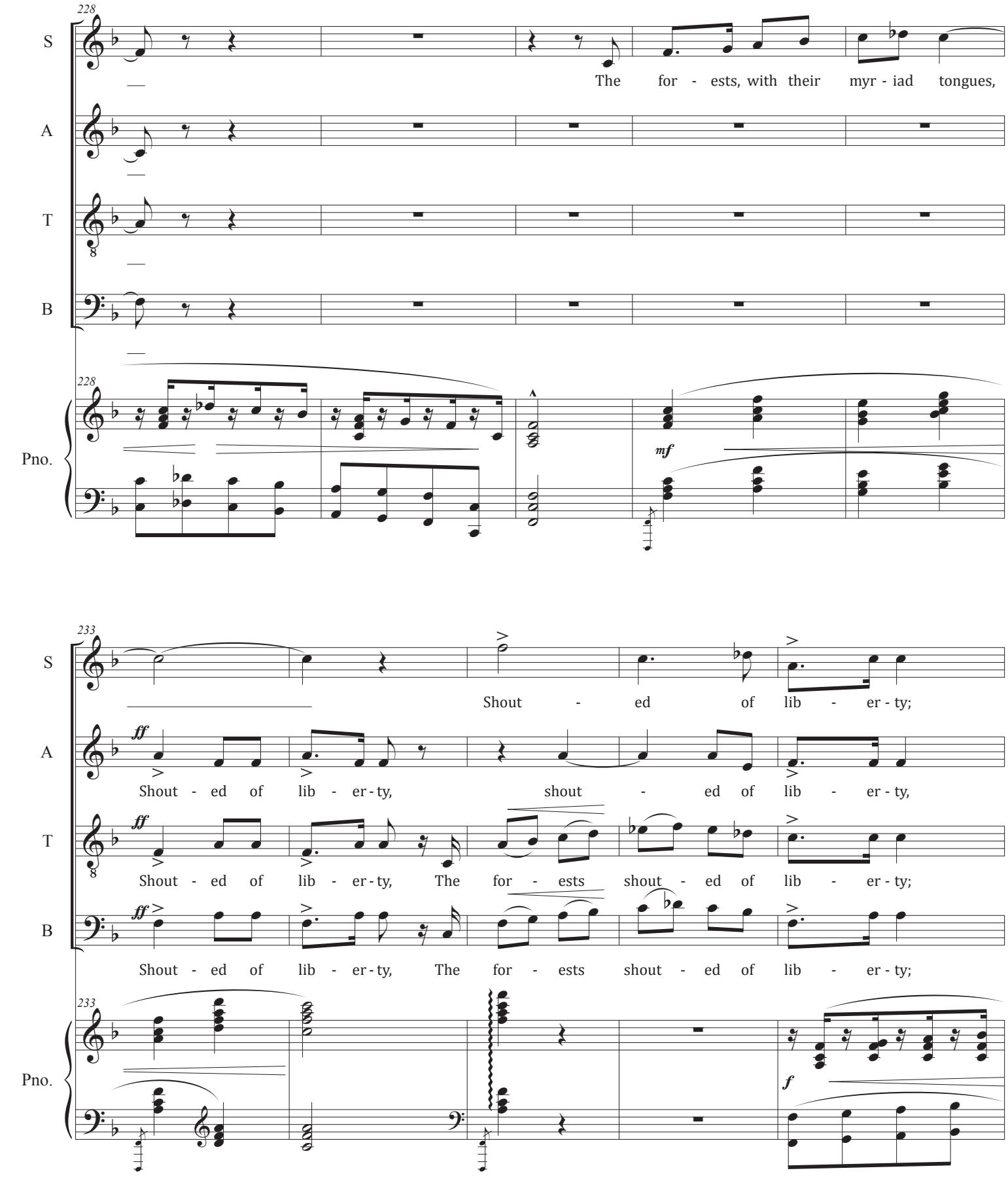

182
accel.
ff
S
The li - on
A
He heard the li - on roar,
T
roar, he heard the li - on roar,
B
roar, he heard the li - on roar,
Pno.
186
roar, And the hy - e - na scream,
And the hy - e - na scream, And the riv - er - horse,
And the hy - e - na scream,
roar, And the riv - er - horse,
sf

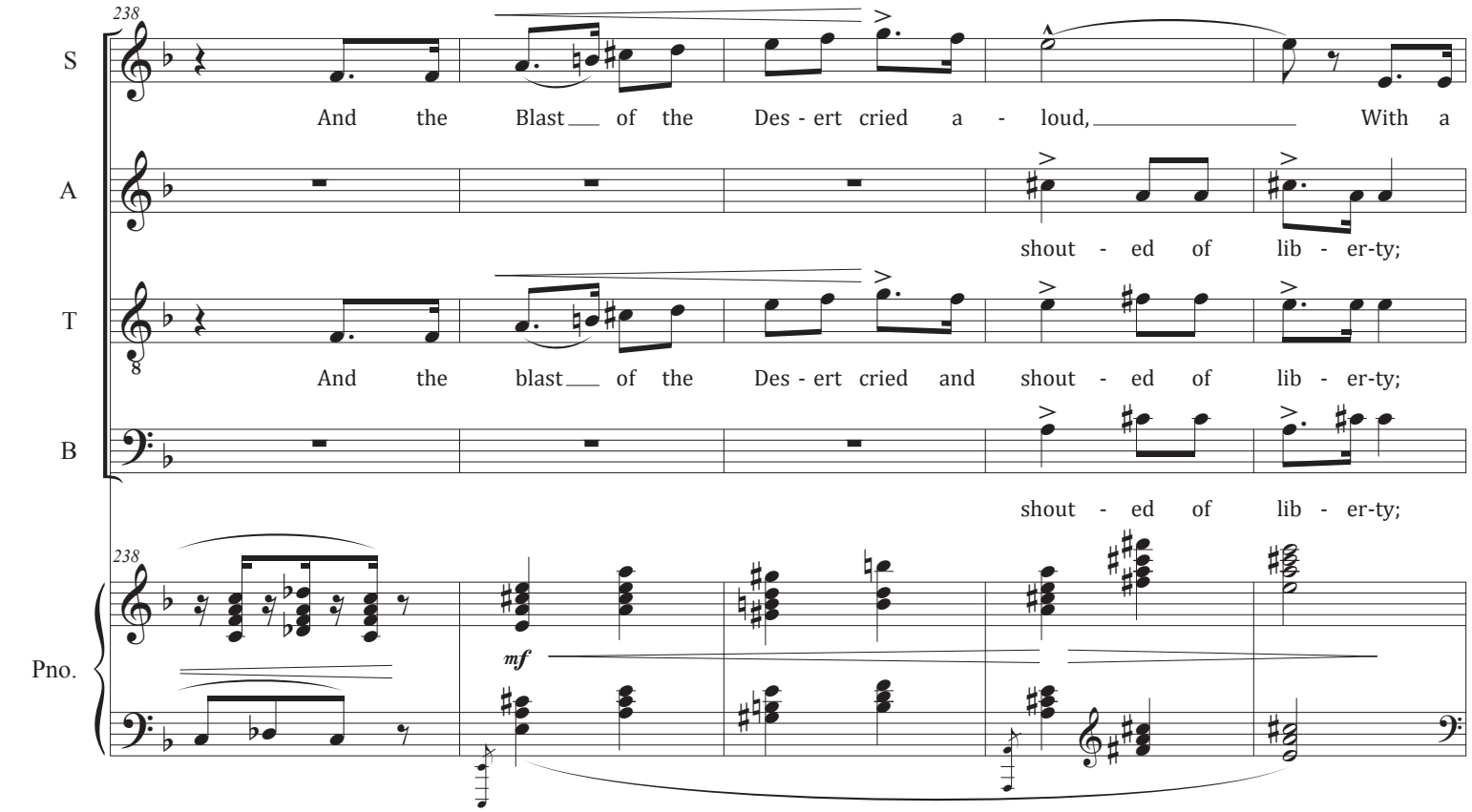

190
S
Crush'd the reeds, Be -
A
as he crush'd the reeds, Be - side
T
Crush'd the reeds, Be -
B
as he crush'd the reeds, crush'd
Pno.
194
S
side some hid - den stream,
A
some hid - den stream, pass'd,
mf
T
side some hid - den stream, pass'd,
mf
B
the reeds, And it pass'd,
Pno.
mf

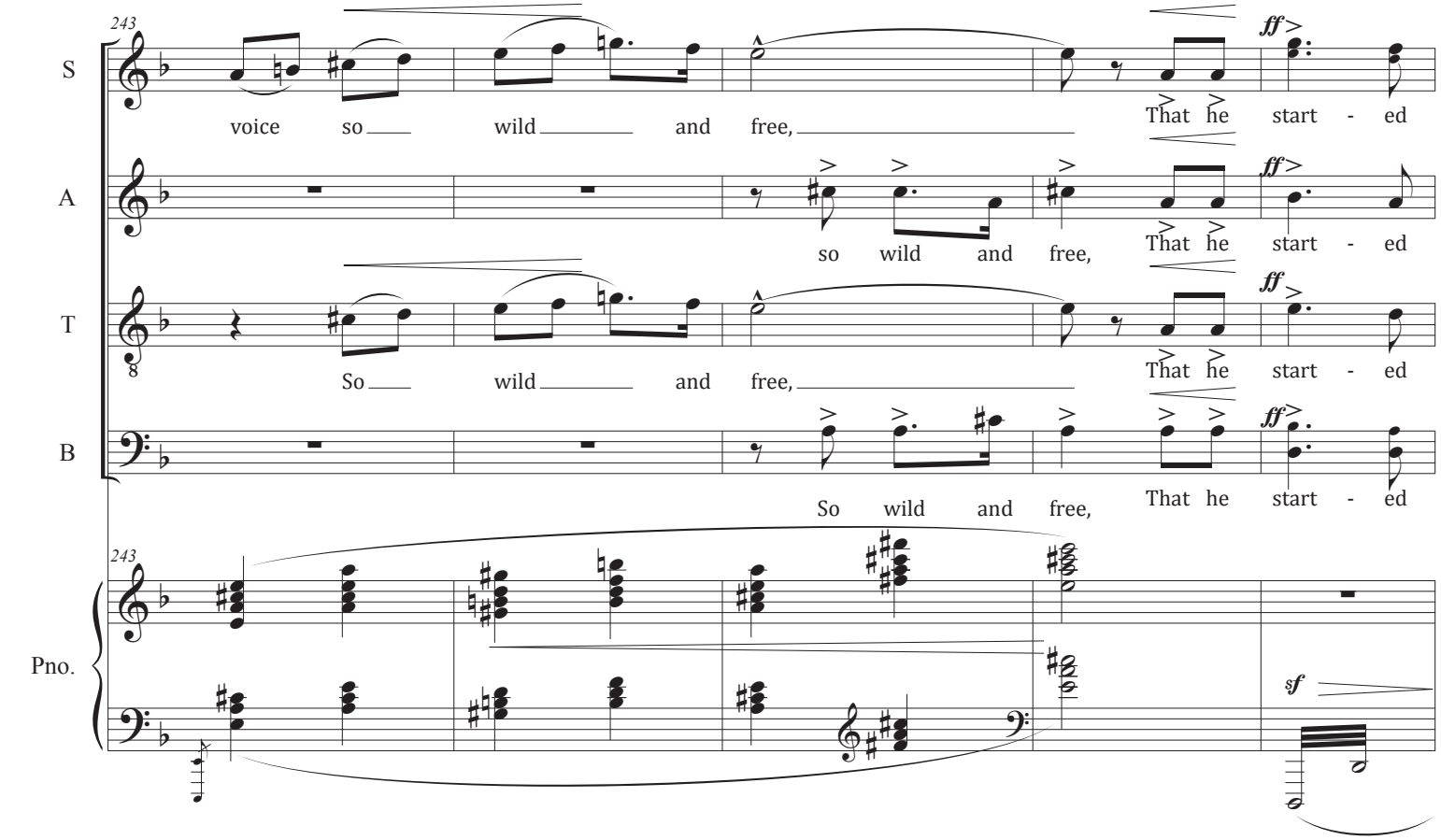

198
mf
rall. poco a poco
S
pass'd,
pass'd,
pass'd,
A
pass'd,
pass'd,
T
pass'd,
pass'd,
B
pass'd,
pass'd,
Pno.
Più lento
203
And it pass'd, like a glo - rious
pass'd, it pass'd, like a glo - rious
pass'd, it pass'd, like a glo - rious
pass'd, it pass'd, like a glo - rious
rall.

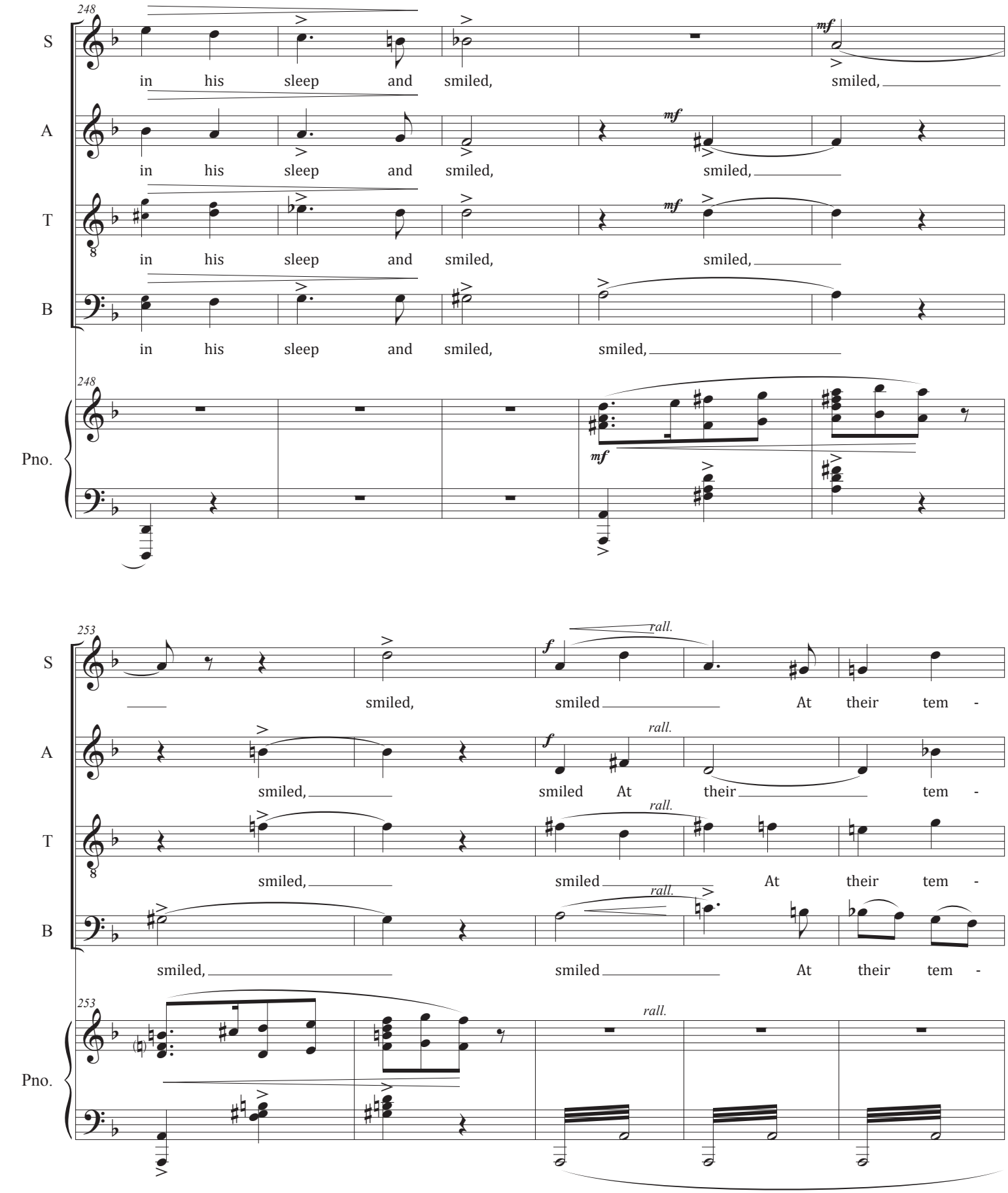

largamente
208
S
roll of drums, Thro' the tri - umph, the
A
roll of drums, Thro' the tri - umph, the
T
roll of drums, Thro' the tri - umph, the
B
roll of drums, Thro' the tri - umph, the
Pno.
largamente
a tempo
213
tri - umph of his dream, And it pass'd,
tri - umph of his dream, And it pass'd, it
tri - umph of his dream, And it pass'd, it
tri - umph of his dream, And it pass'd,
a tempo
sf

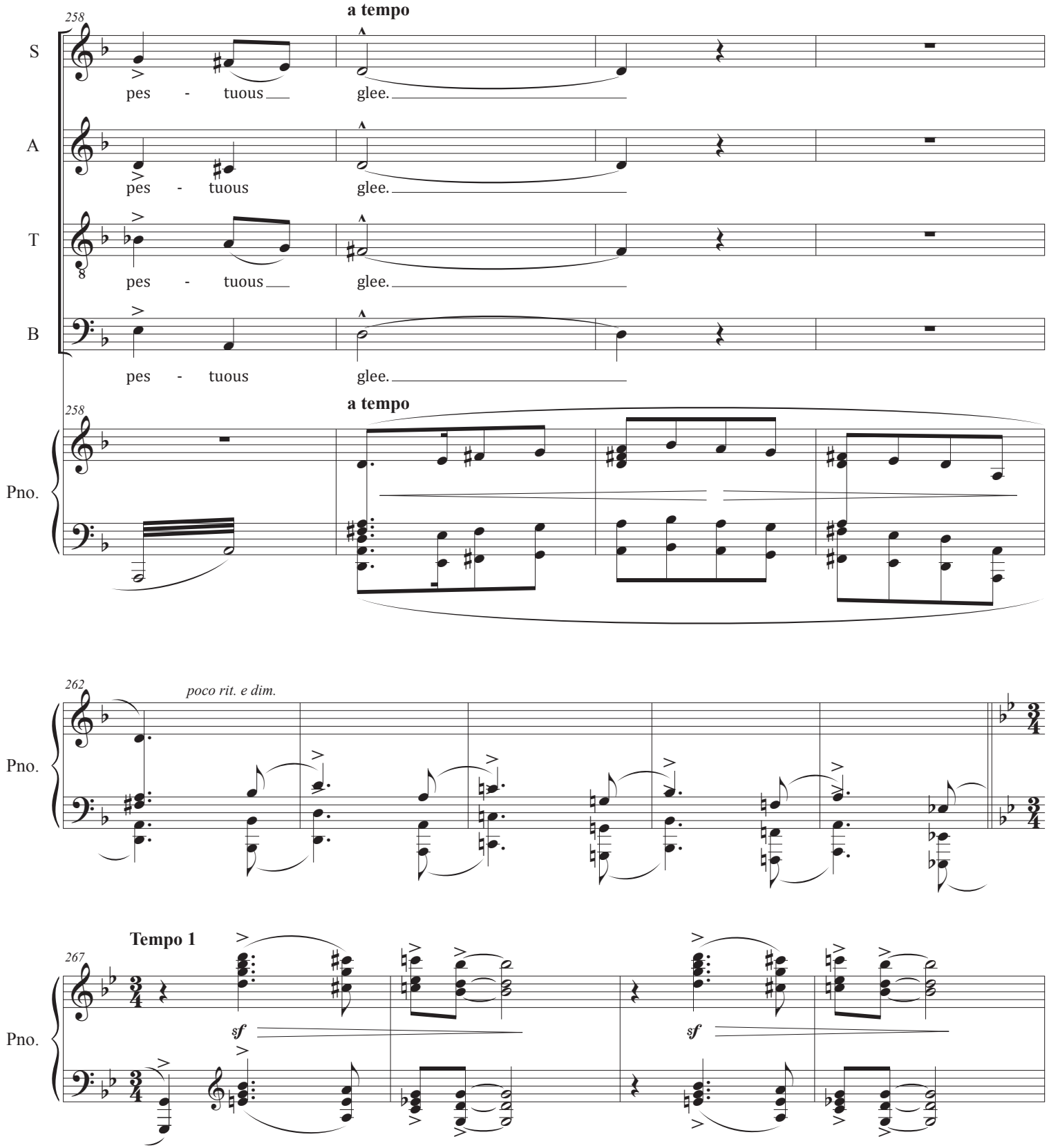

218
rall.
S
like a glo - rious roll of drums, Thro' the
A
pass'd, like a glo - rious roll of drums, Thro' the
T
pass'd, like a glo - rious roll of drums, Thro' the
B
like a glo - rious roll of drums, Thro' the
Pno.
sf
223
rall.
a tempo (Allegro furioso)
tri - umph, the tri - umph of his dream.

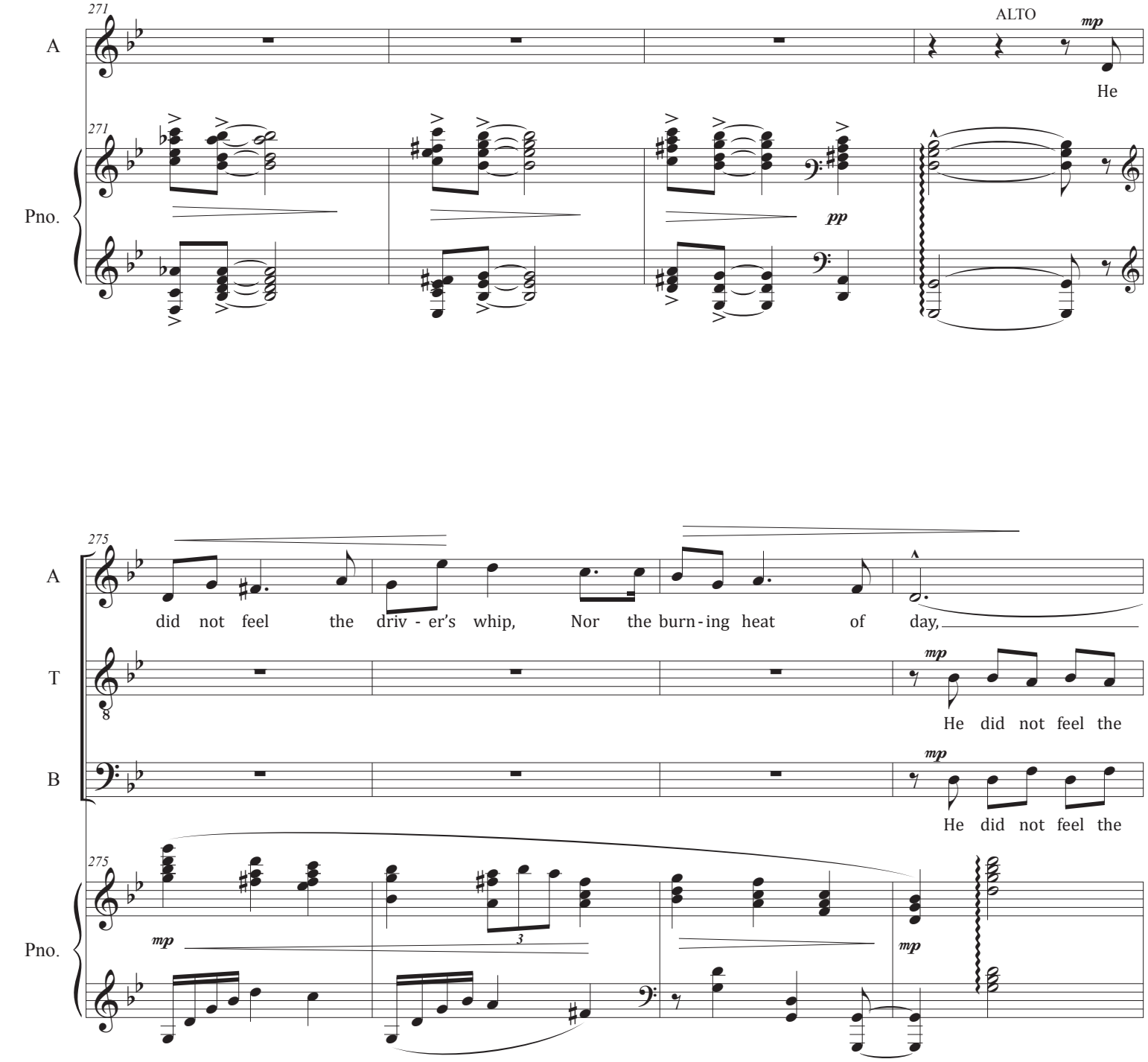

228
S
The for - ests, with their myr - iad tongues,
A
T
B
228
Pno.
mf
233
S
Shout - ed of lib - er - ty;
A
ff
Shout - ed of lib - er - ty, shout - ed of lib - er - ty,
T
ff
Shout - ed of lib - er - ty, The for - ests shout - ed of lib - er - ty;
B
ff
Shout - ed of lib - er - ty, The for - ests shout - ed of lib - er - ty;
233
Pno.
f

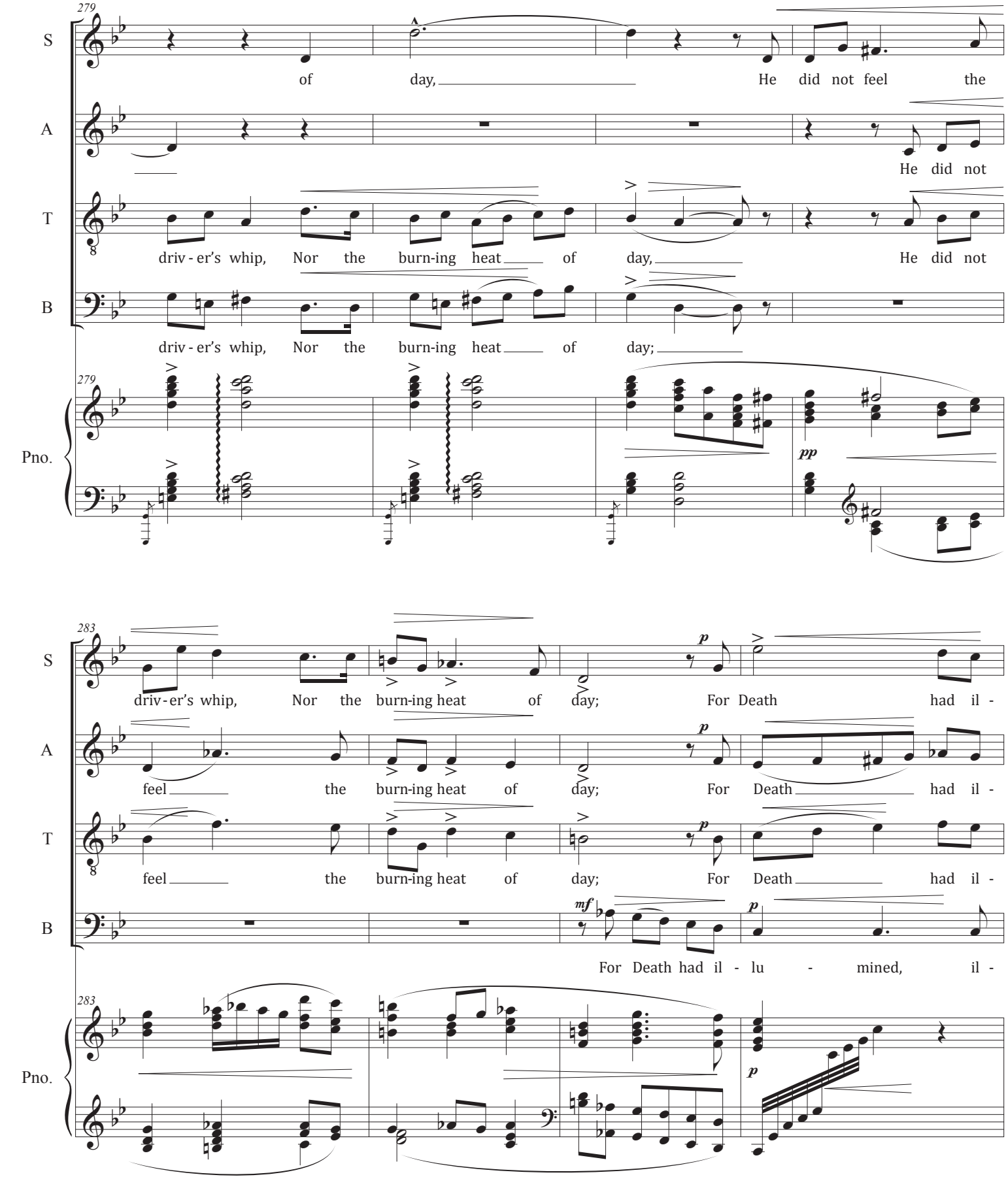

238
S
And the Blast of the Des - ert cried a - loud, With a
A
shout - ed of lib - er-ty;
T
And the blast of the Des - ert cried and shout - ed of lib - er-ty;
B
shout - ed of lib - er-ty;
Pno.
mf

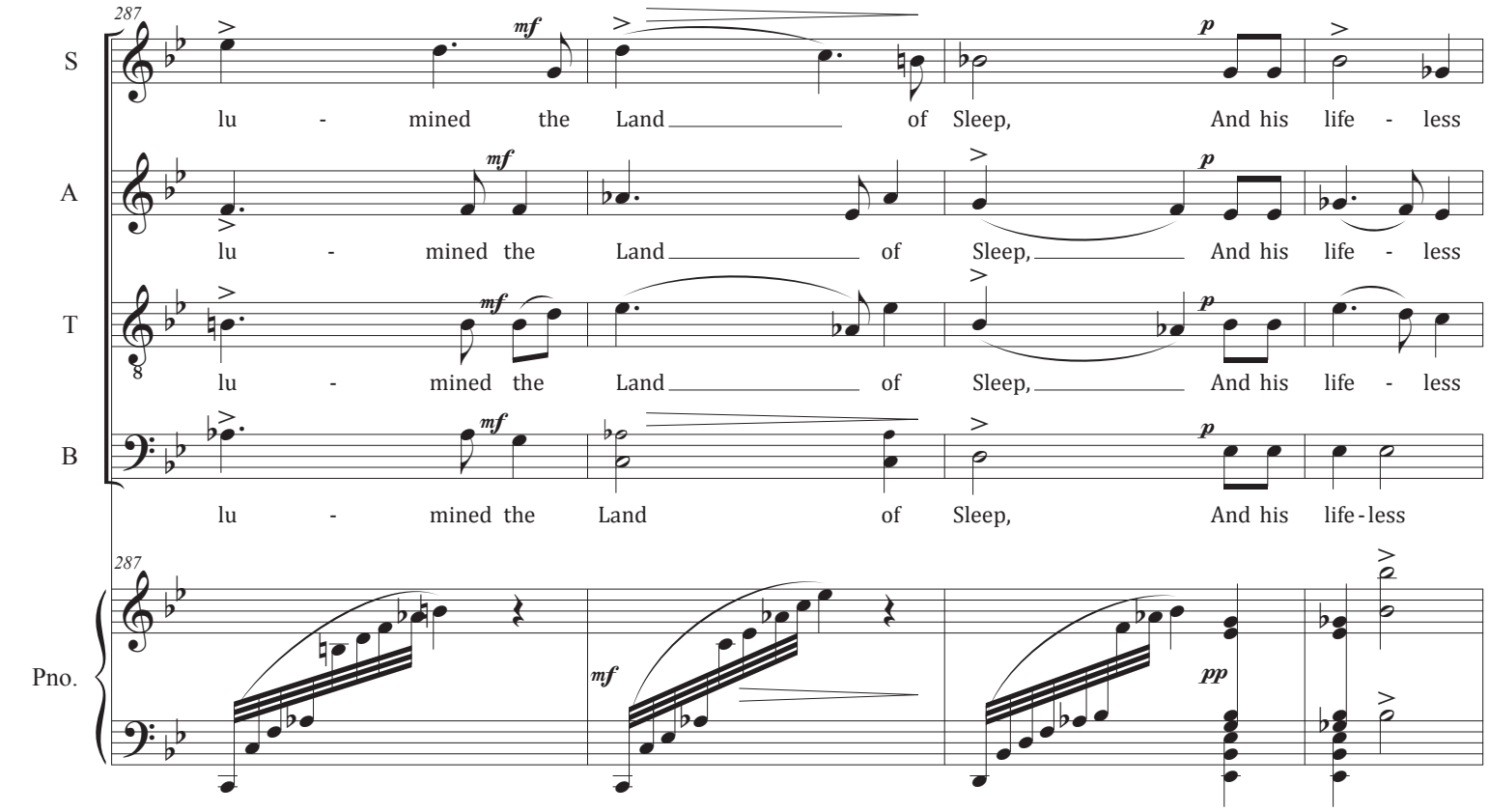

243
S
voice so wild and free, That he start - ed
A
so wild and free, That he start - ed
T
So wild and free, That he start - ed
B
So wild and free, That he start - ed
Pno.
ff
sf

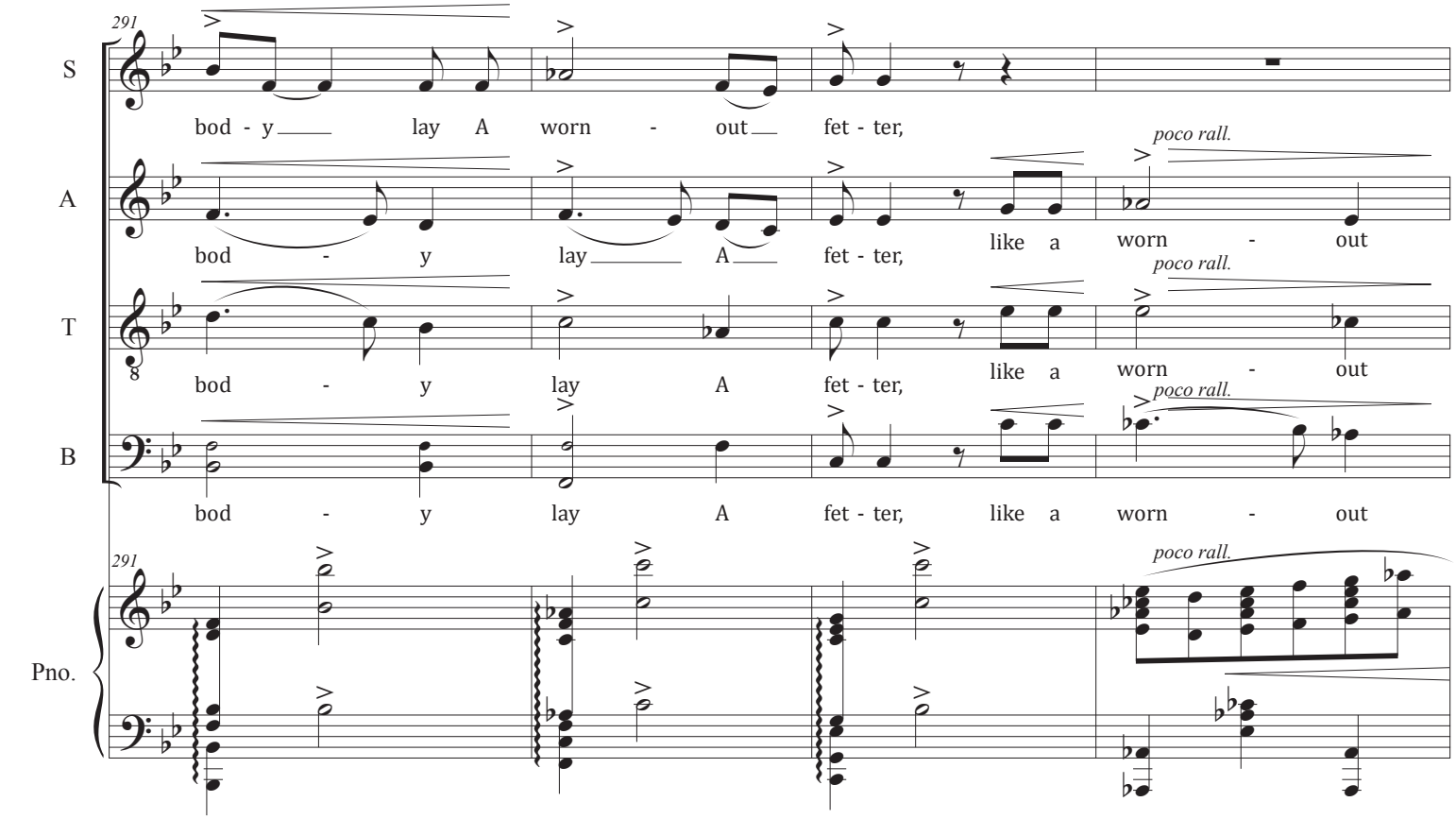

248
S
A
T
B
Pno.
in his sleep and smiled, smiled,
mf
253
rall.
f
smiled, smiled At their tem -

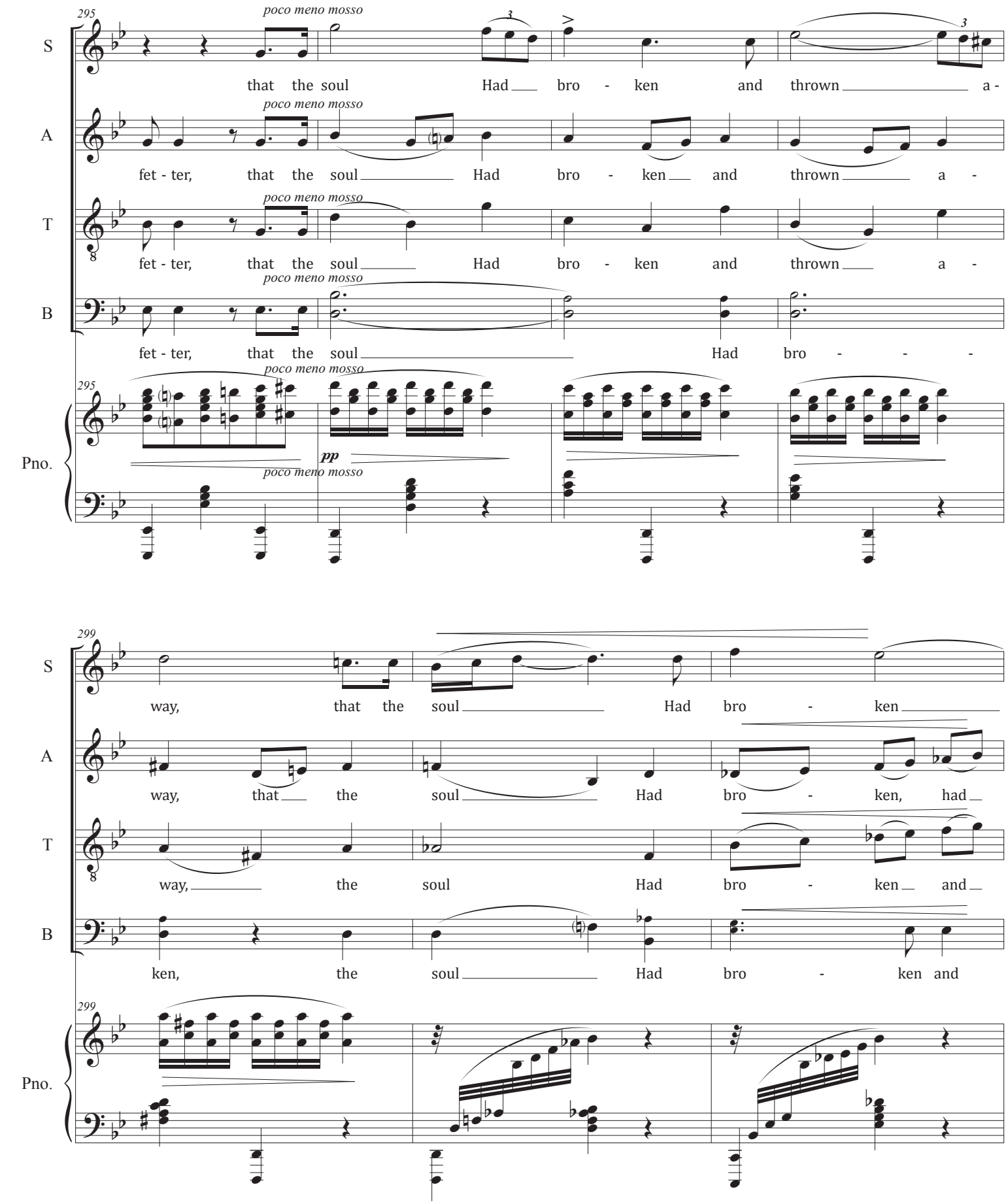

258
a tempo
S
pes - tuous glee.
A
pes - tuous glee.
T
pes - tuous glee.
B
pes - tuous glee.
Pno.
262
poco rit. e dim.
Pno.
Tempo 1
267
sf
sf
Pno.

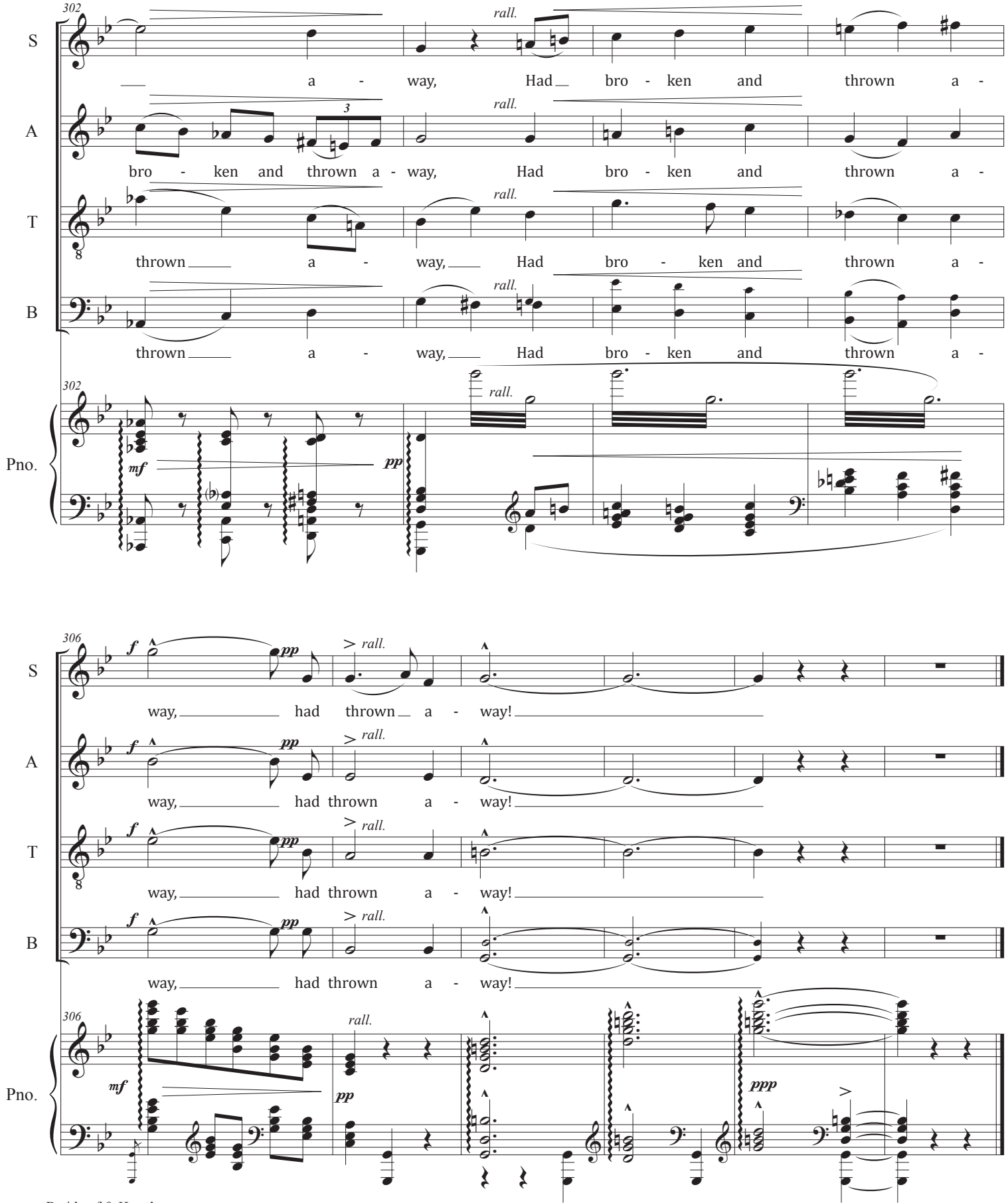

271
A
ALTO
mp
He
271
Pno.
pp
275
A
did not feel the driv - er's whip, Nor the burn - ing heat of day,
T
mp
He did not feel the
B
mp
He did not feel the
275
Pno.
mp
3
mp


279
S
of day, He did not feel the
A
He did not
T
driv - er's whip, Nor the burn-ing heat of day, He did not
B
driv - er's whip, Nor the burn-ing heat of day;
Pno.
pp
283
S
driv - er's whip, Nor the burn-ing heat of day; For Death had il -
A
feel the burn-ing heat of day; For Death had il -
T
feel the burn-ing heat of day; For Death had il -
B
For Death had il - lu - mined, il -
Pno.


287
S
lu - mined the Land of Sleep, And his life - less
A
lu - mined the Land of Sleep, And his life - less
T
lu - mined the Land of Sleep, And his life - less
B
lu - mined the Land of Sleep, And his life-less
Pno.


291
S
bod - y lay A worn - out fet - ter,
A
bod - y lay A fet - ter, like a worn - out
poco rall.
T
bod - y lay A fet - ter, like a worn - out
poco rall.
B
bod - y lay A fet - ter, like a worn - out
poco rall.
Pno.


295
poco meno mosso
S
that the soul Had bro - ken and thrown a -
A
fet - ter, that the soul Had bro - ken and thrown a -
T
fet - ter, that the soul Had bro - ken and thrown a -
B
fet - ter, that the soul Had bro - - -
Pno.
pp
poco meno mosso
299
S
way, that the soul Had bro - ken
A
way, that the soul Had bro - ken, had
T
way, the soul Had bro - ken and
B
ken, the soul Had bro - ken and
Pno.



Breitkopf & Härtel
(1904)

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