Two City Songs:
Preludes and Time-Stone

Ryan Harper

Text by T.S. Eliot and Lola Ridge

SSAATTBB

2008

Preludes
T.S. Eliot

IV.

His soul stretched tight across the skies
That fade behind a city block,
Or trampled by insistent feet
At four and five and six o'clock;
And short square fingers stuffing pipes,
And evening newspapers, and eyes
Assured of certain certainties,
The conscience of a blackened street
Impatient to assume the world.

I am moved by fancies that are curled
Around these images, and cling:
The notion of some infinitely gentle
Infinitely suffering thing.

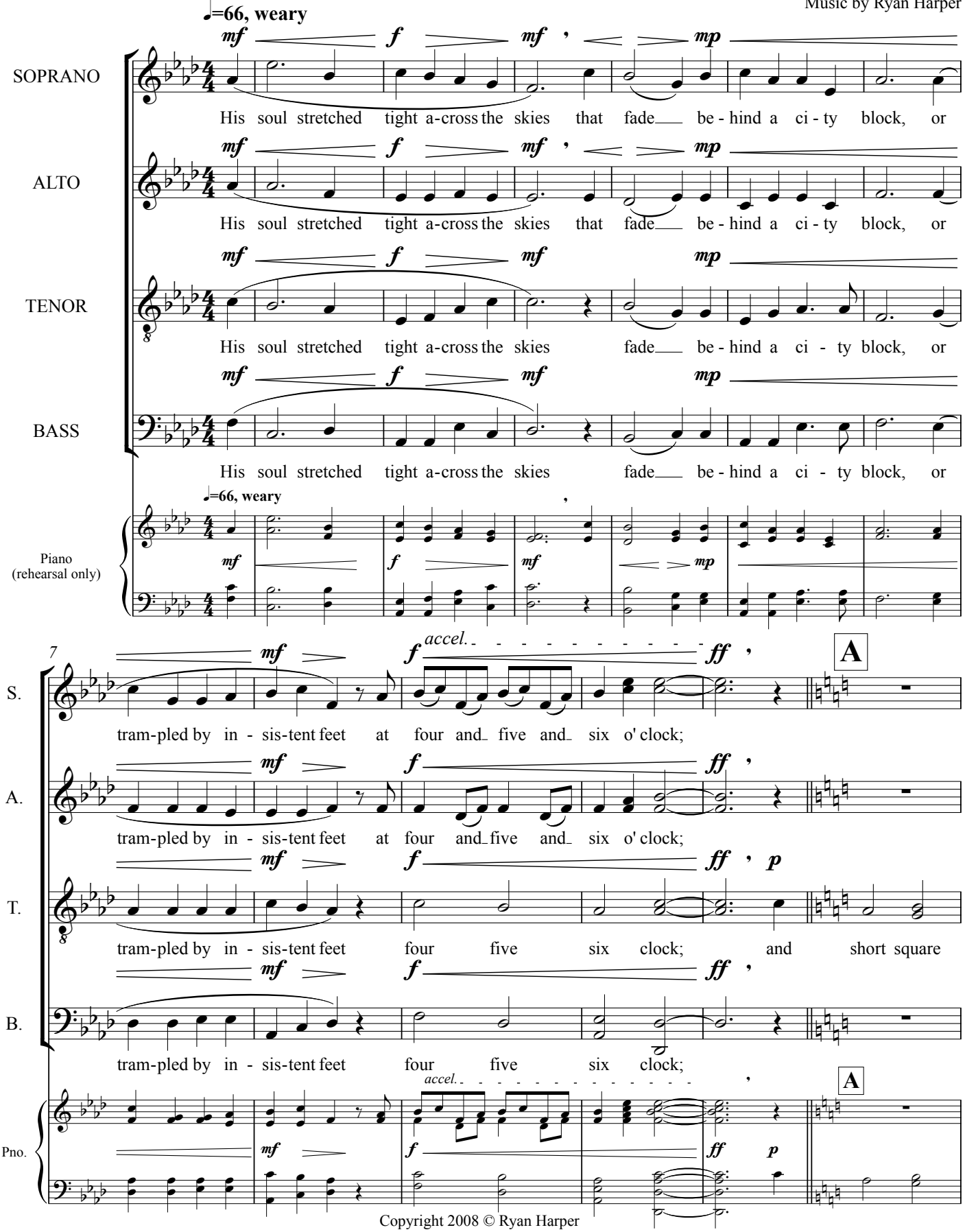
Wipe your hand across your mouth, and laugh;
The worlds revolve like ancient women
Gathering fuel in vacant lots.

Time-Stone
Lola Ridge

Hallo, Metropolitan-
Ubiquitous windows staring all ways,
Red eye notching the darkness.
No use to ogle that slip of a moon.
This midnight the moon,
Playing virgin after all her encounters,
Will break another date with you.
You fuss an awful lot,
You flight of ledger books,
Overrun with multiple ant-black figures
Dancing on spindle legs
An interminable can-can.
But I'd rather… like the cats in the alley… count time
By the silver whistle of a moonbeam
Falling between my stoop-shouldered walls,
Than all your tally of the sunsets,
Metropolitan, ticking among stars.

Preludes

Text by T.S. Eliot
Music by Ryan Harper



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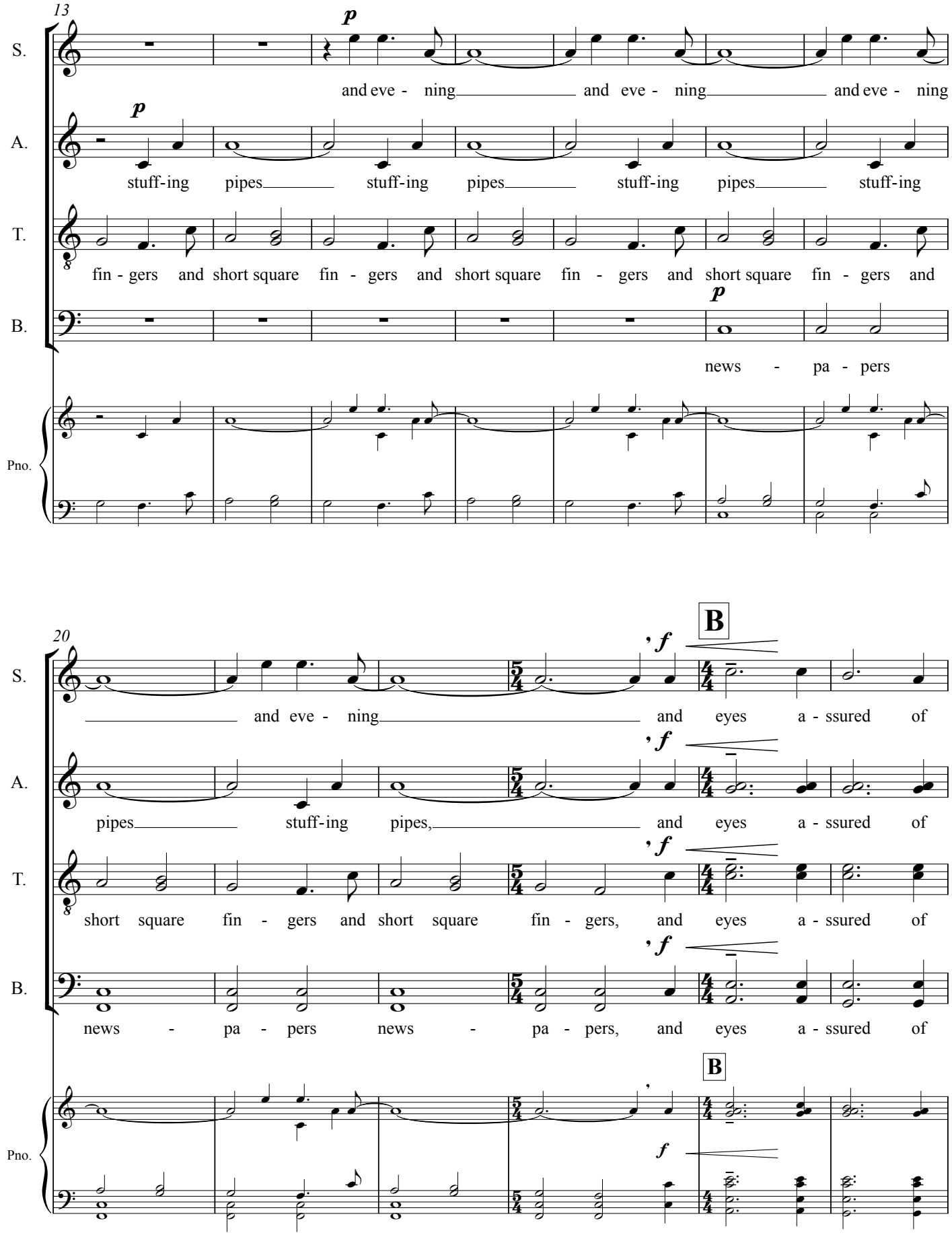
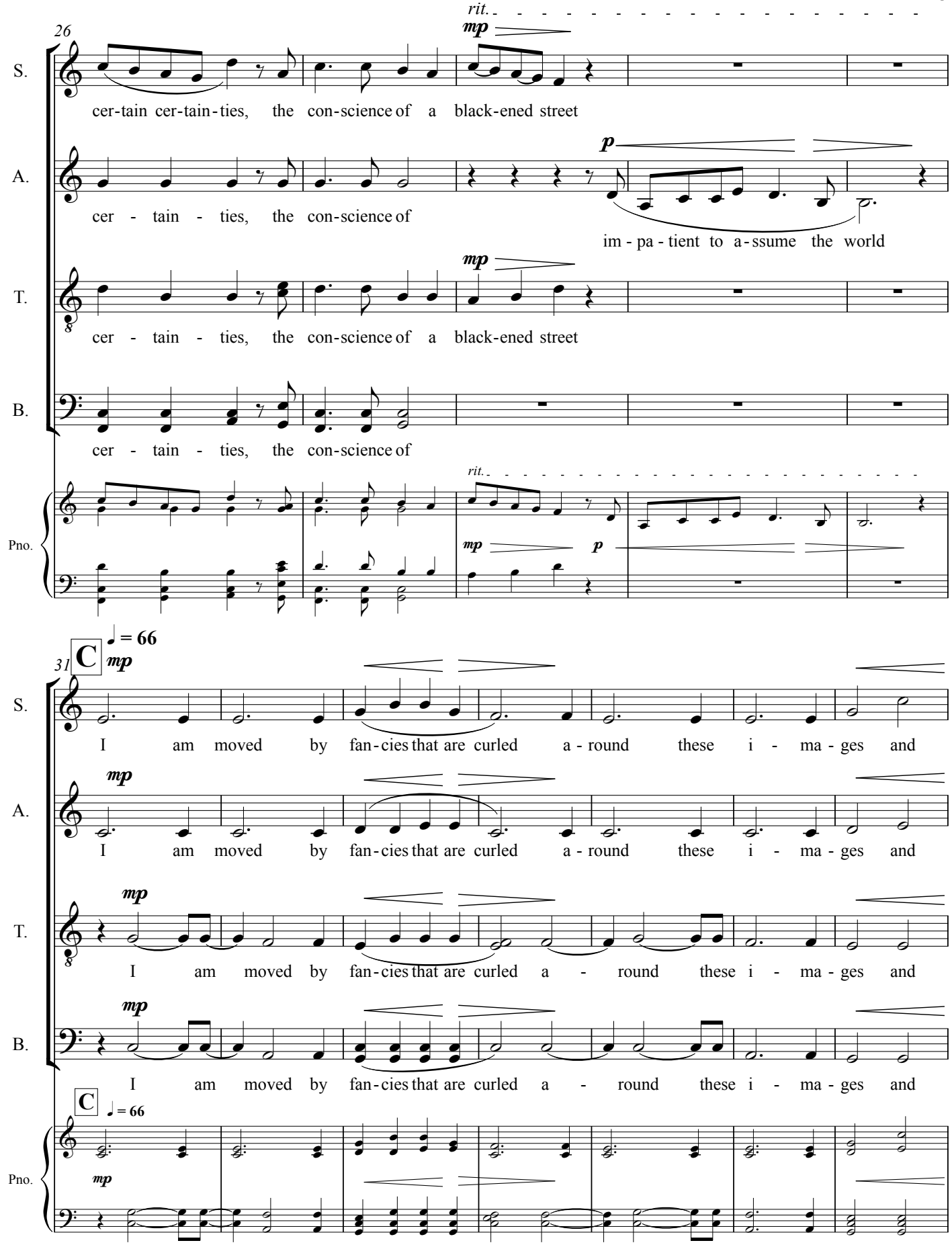
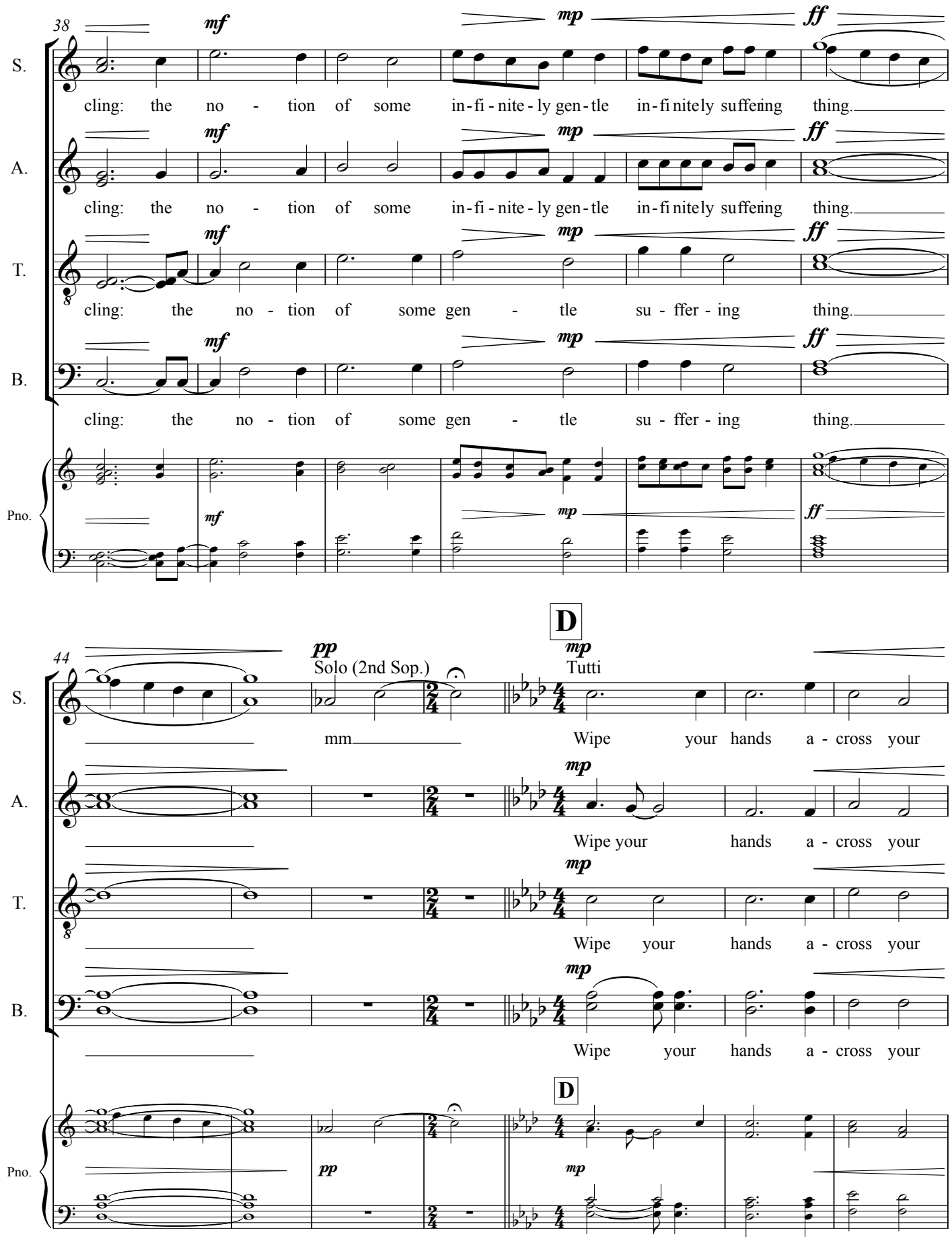
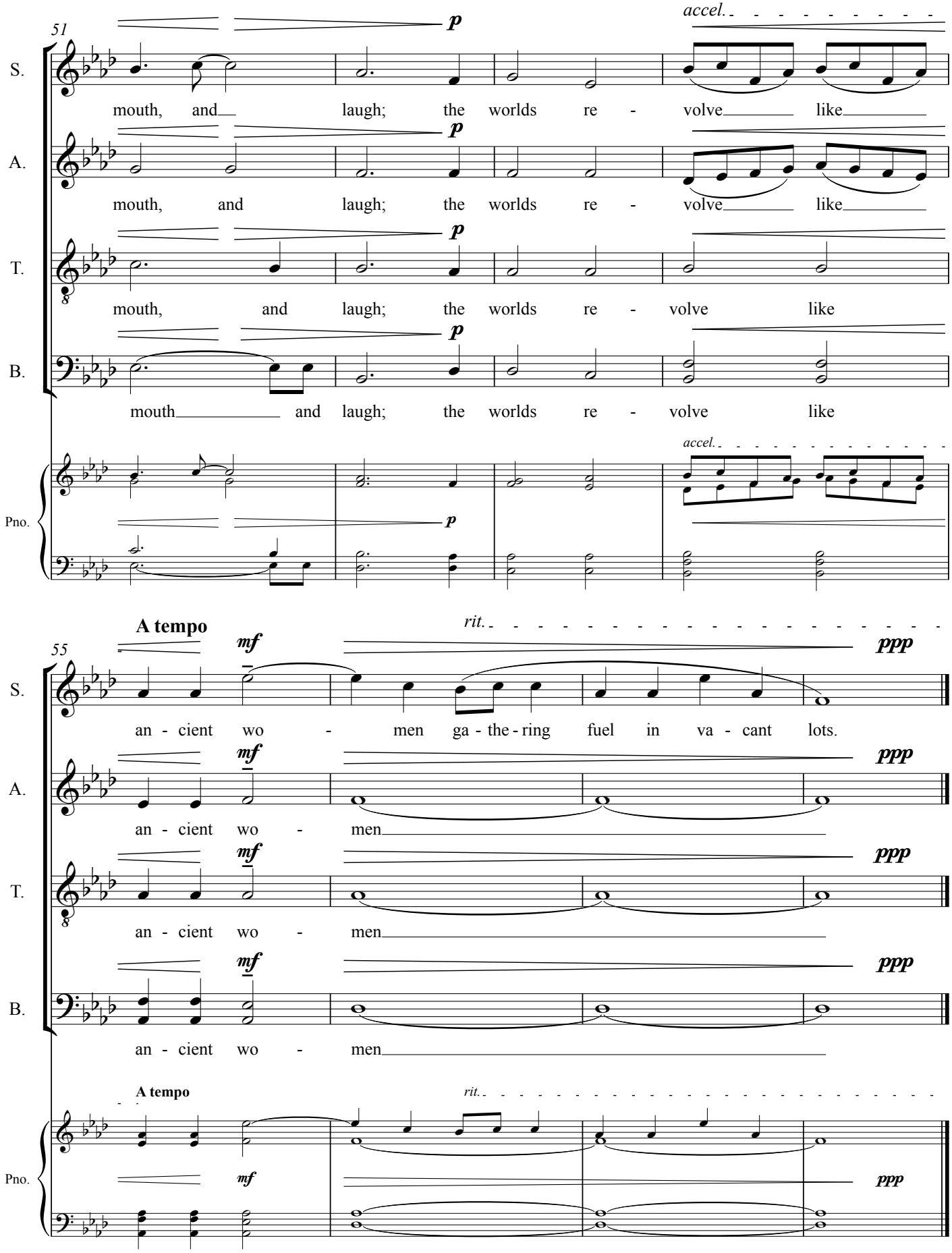

13
S.
A.
T.
B.
Pno.
p
and eve - ning and eve - ning and eve - ning
stuff-ing pipes stuff-ing pipes stuff-ing pipes stuff-ing
fin - gers and short square fin - gers and short square fin - gers and short square fin - gers and
news - pa - pers
20
B
f
and eve - ning and eyes a - ssured of
pipes stuff-ing pipes, and eyes a - ssured of
short square fin - gers and short square fin - gers, and eyes a - ssured of
news - pa - pers news - pa - pers, and eyes a - ssured of

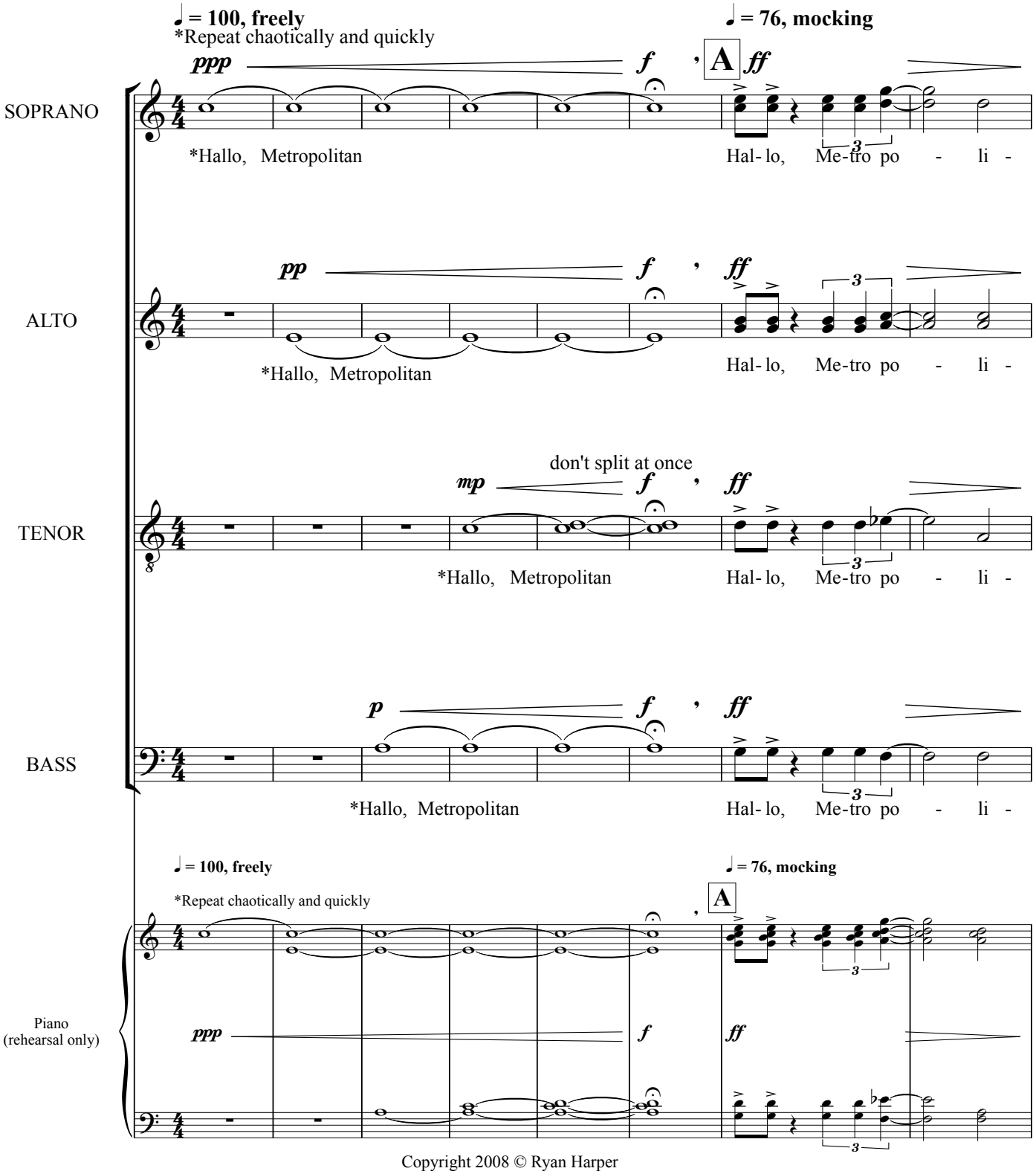

26
rit.
mp
S.
cer-tain cer-tain-ties, the con-science of a black-ened street
A.
p
cer - tain - ties, the con-science of
im - pa - tient to a-ssume the world
T.
mp
cer - tain - ties, the con-science of a black-ened street
B.
cer - tain - ties, the con-science of
Pno.
rit.
mp
p
31
C
♩ = 66
mp
S.
I am moved by fan-cies that are curled a-round these i - ma - ges and
A.
mp
I am moved by fan-cies that are curled a-round these i - ma - ges and
T.
mp
I am moved by fan-cies that are curled a - round these i - ma - ges and
B.
mp
I am moved by fan-cies that are curled a - round these i - ma - ges and
C
♩ = 66
Pno.
mp


38
S.
A.
T.
B.
Pno.
mf
mp
ff
cling: the no - tion of some in-fi-nite-ly gen-tle in-fi nitely suffering thing.
cling: the no - tion of some gen - tle su - ffer - ing thing.
44
D
pp
Solo (2nd Sop.)
mm
Tutti
Wipe your hands a - cross your


51
S.
A.
T.
B.
Pno.
p
accel.
mouth, and laugh; the worlds re - volve like
mouth, and laugh; the worlds re - volve like
mouth, and laugh; the worlds re - volve like
mouth and laugh; the worlds re - volve like
55
A tempo
mf
rit.
ppp
an - cient wo - men ga - the - ring fuel in va - cant lots.
an - cient wo - men
an - cient wo - men
an - cient wo - men

Time-Stone

Text by Lola Ridge
Music by Ryan Harper



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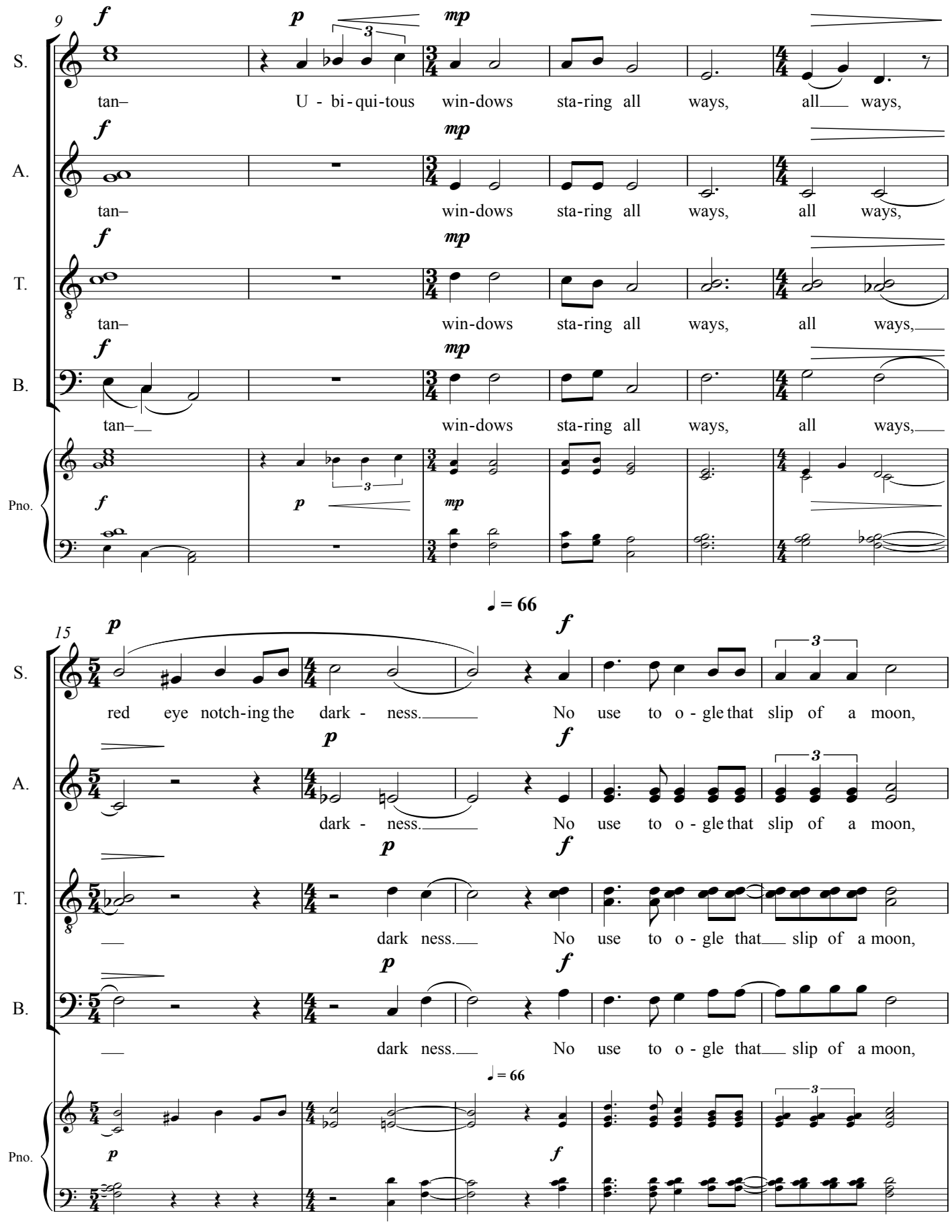
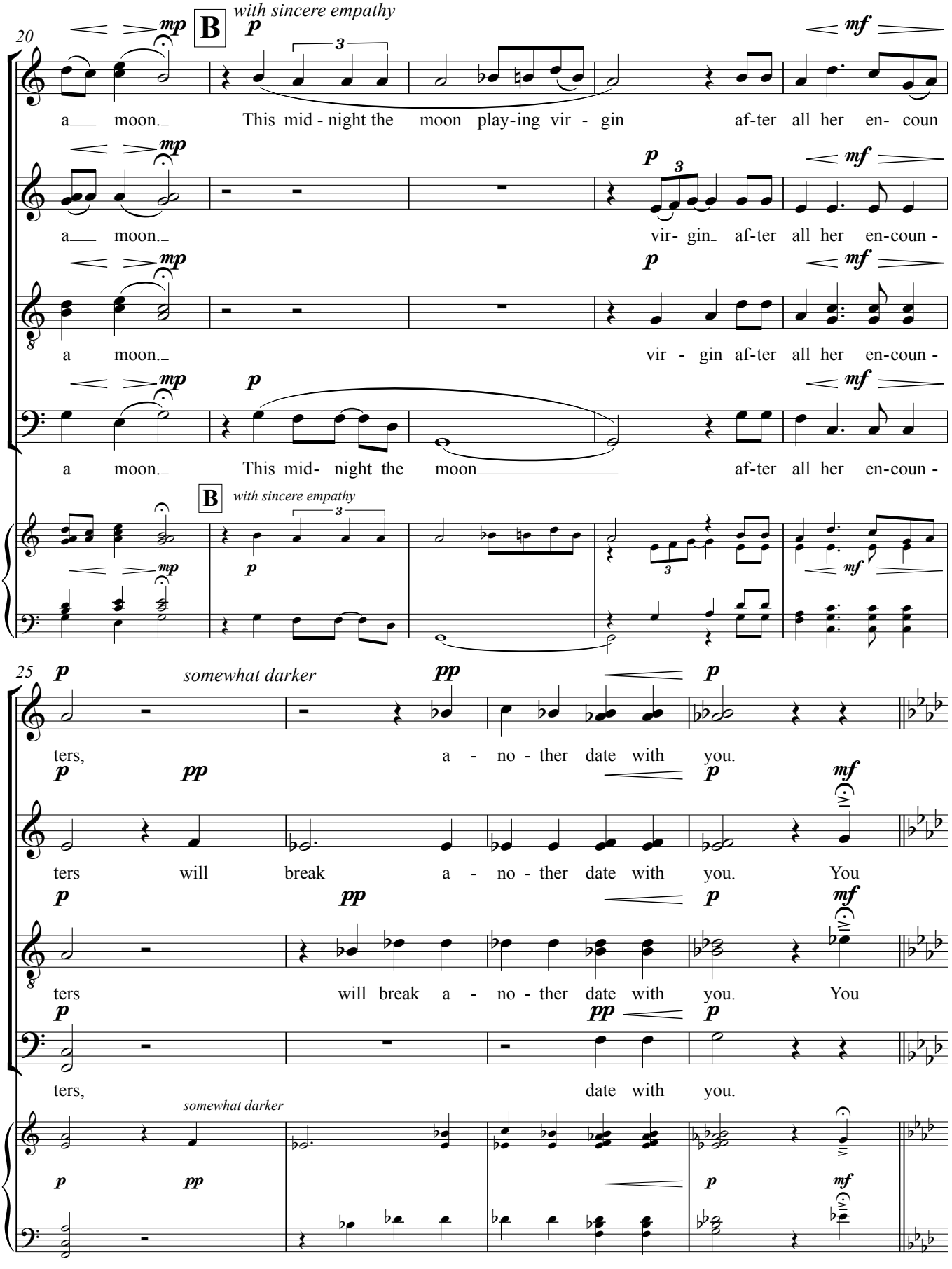
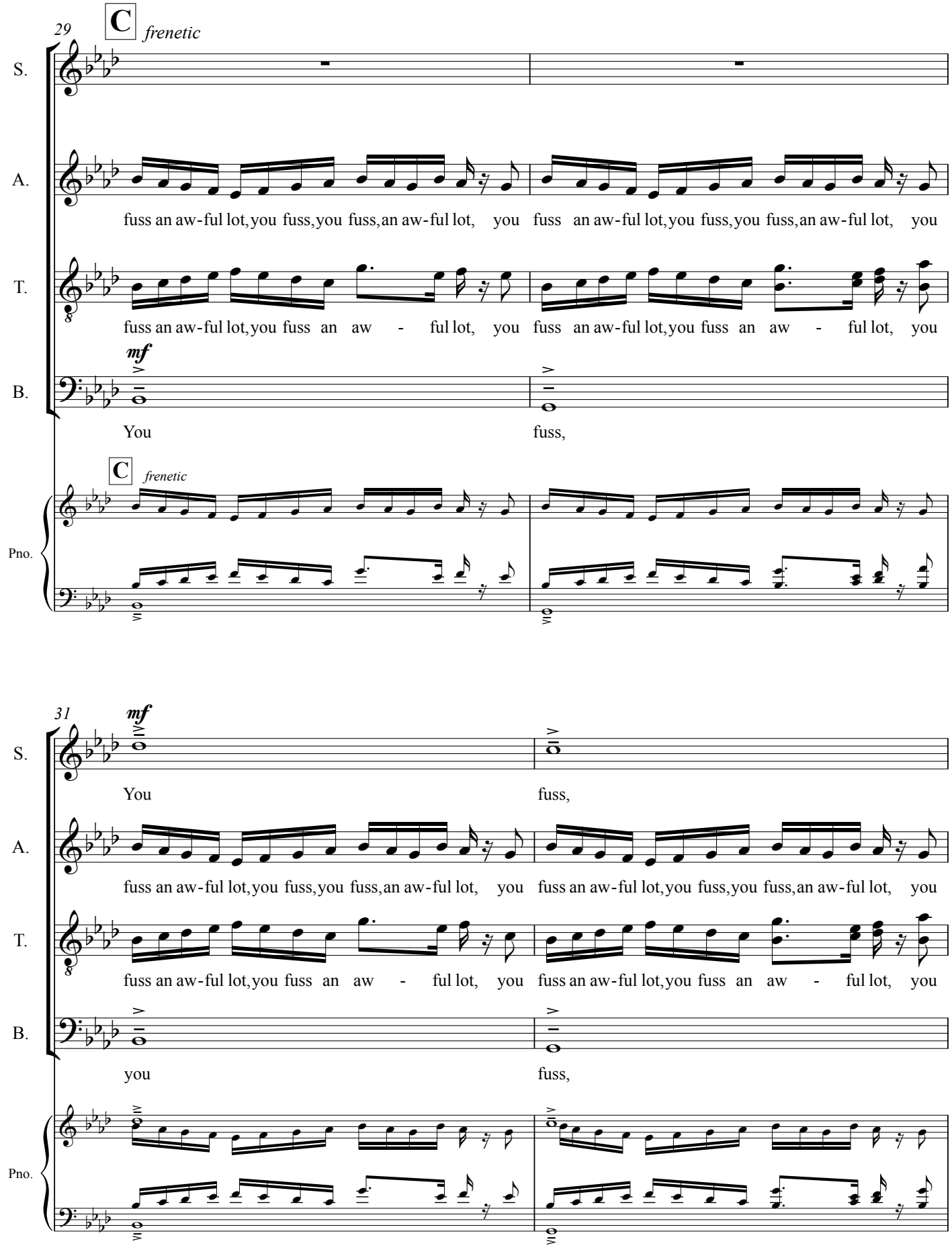
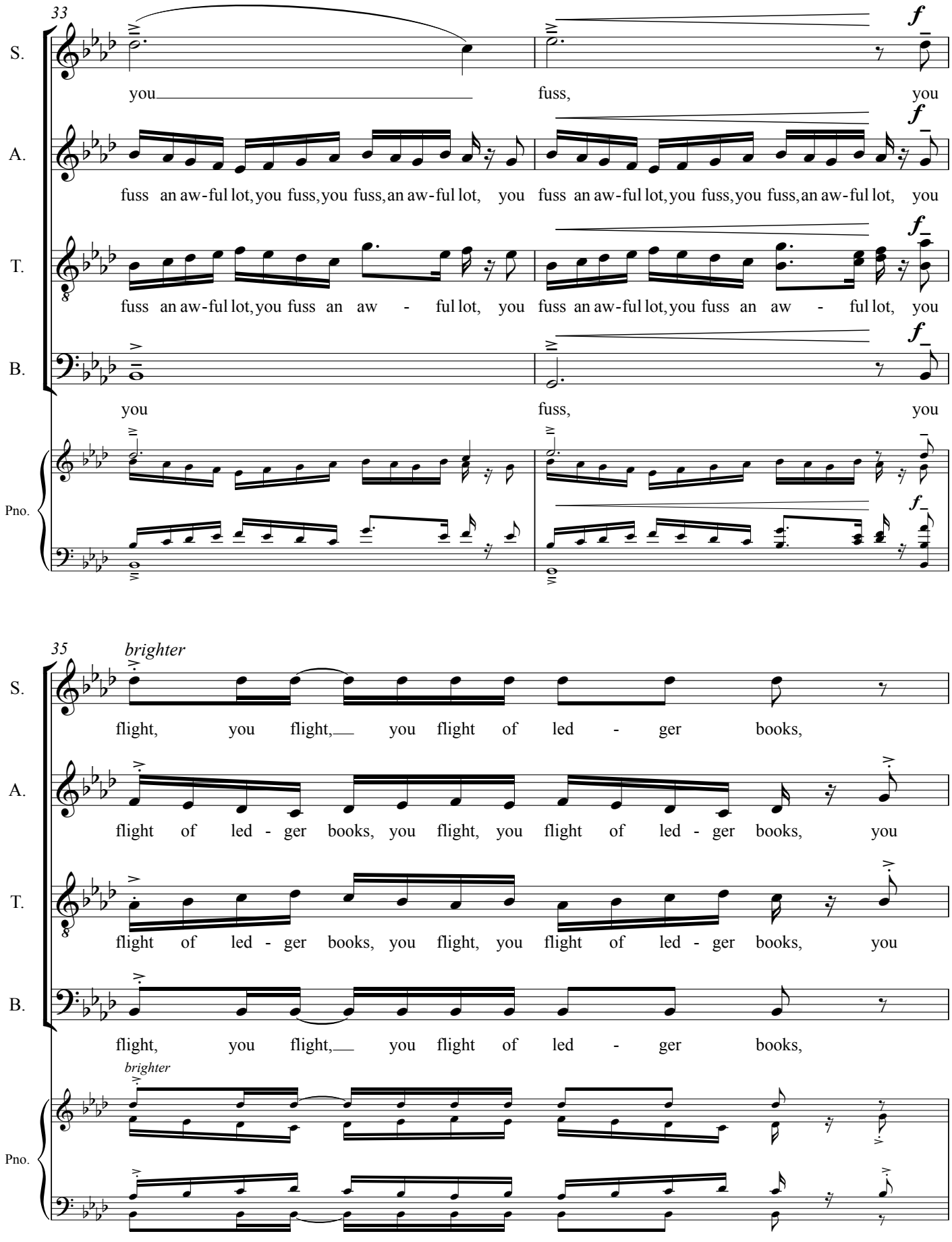
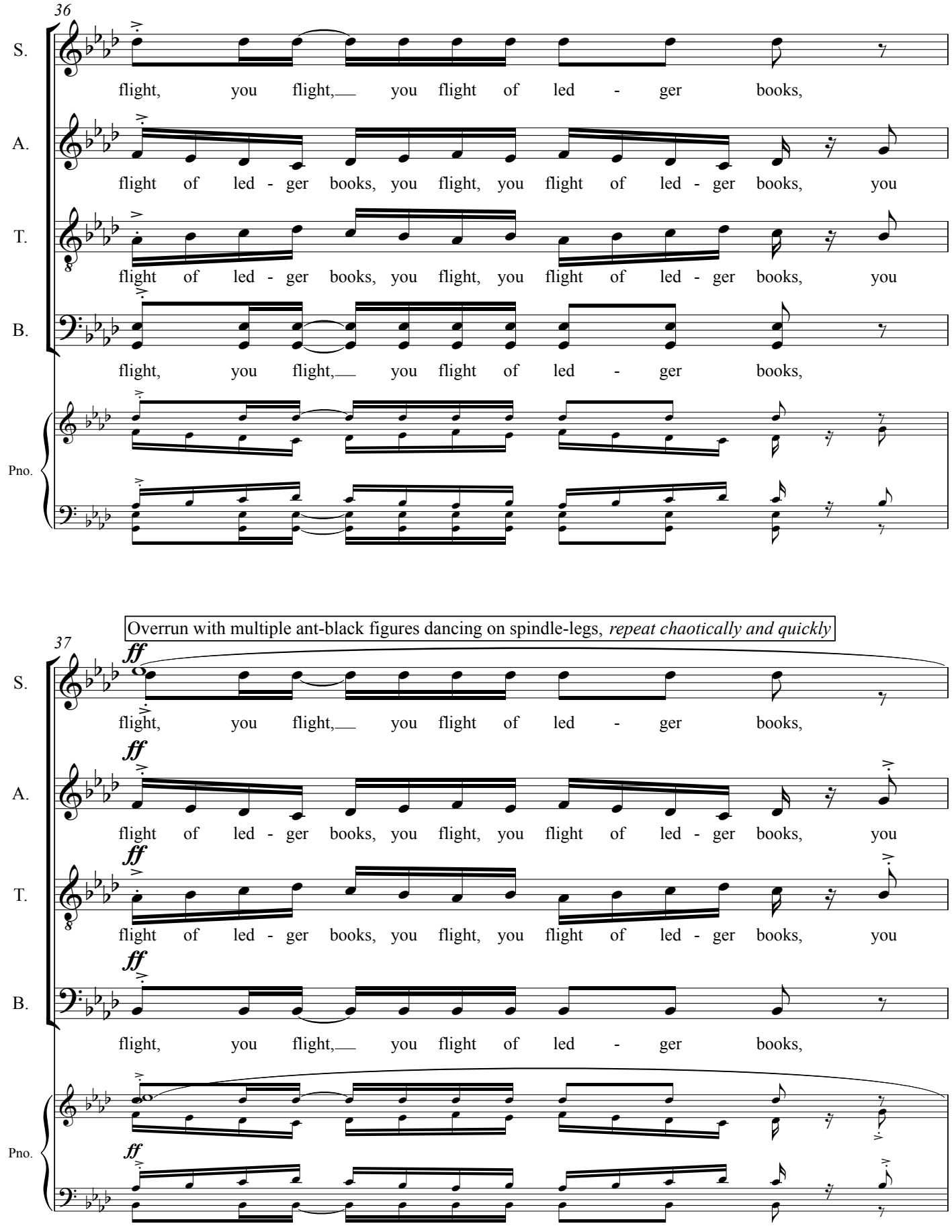

9
S.
A.
T.
B.
Pno.
tan– U - bi - qui - tous win - dows sta - ring all ways, all ways,
tan– win - dows sta - ring all ways, all ways,
tan– win - dows sta - ring all ways, all ways,
tan– win - dows sta - ring all ways, all ways,
15
♩ = 66
red eye notch - ing the dark - ness. No use to o - gle that slip of a moon,
dark - ness. No use to o - gle that slip of a moon,
dark ness. No use to o - gle that slip of a moon,
dark ness. No use to o - gle that slip of a moon,

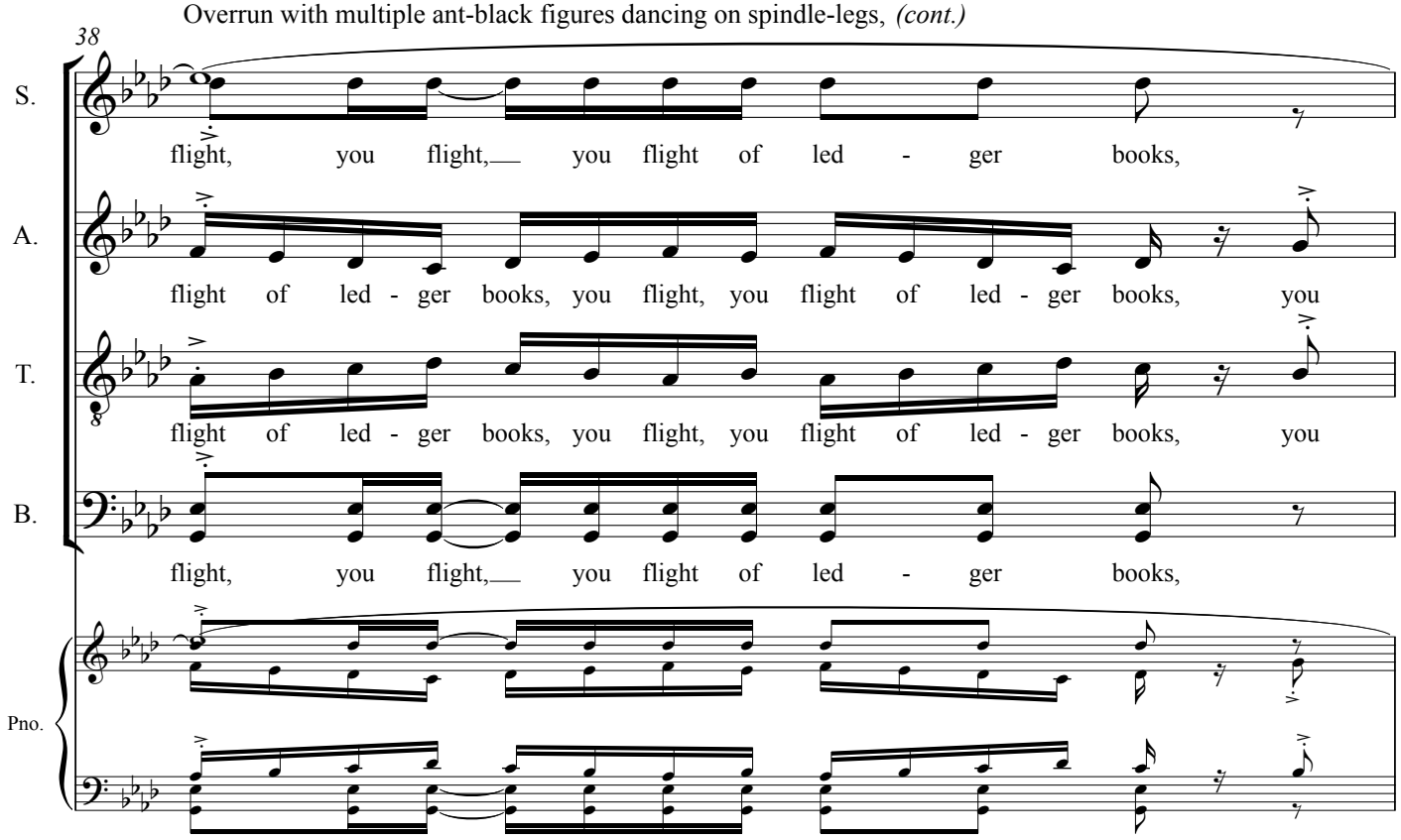

20
B
with sincere empathy
S.
A.
T.
B.
Pno.
a moon. This mid - night the moon play-ing vir - gin af-ter all her en- coun
a moon. vir- gin af-ter all her en-coun -
a moon. vir - gin af-ter all her en-coun -
a moon. This mid- night the moon af-ter all her en-coun -
25
somewhat darker
ters, a - no - ther date with you.
ters will break a - no - ther date with you. You
ters will break a - no - ther date with you. You
ters, date with you.


29
C
frenetic
S.
A.
fuss an aw-ful lot, you fuss, you fuss, an aw-ful lot, you fuss an aw-ful lot, you fuss, you fuss, an aw-ful lot, you
T.
fuss an aw-ful lot, you fuss an aw - ful lot, you fuss an aw-ful lot, you fuss an aw - ful lot, you
mf
B.
You
fuss,
C
frenetic
Pno.
31
mf
S.
You
fuss,
A.
fuss an aw-ful lot, you fuss, you fuss, an aw-ful lot, you fuss an aw-ful lot, you fuss, you fuss, an aw-ful lot, you
T.
fuss an aw-ful lot, you fuss an aw - ful lot, you fuss an aw-ful lot, you fuss an aw - ful lot, you
B.
you
fuss,
Pno.

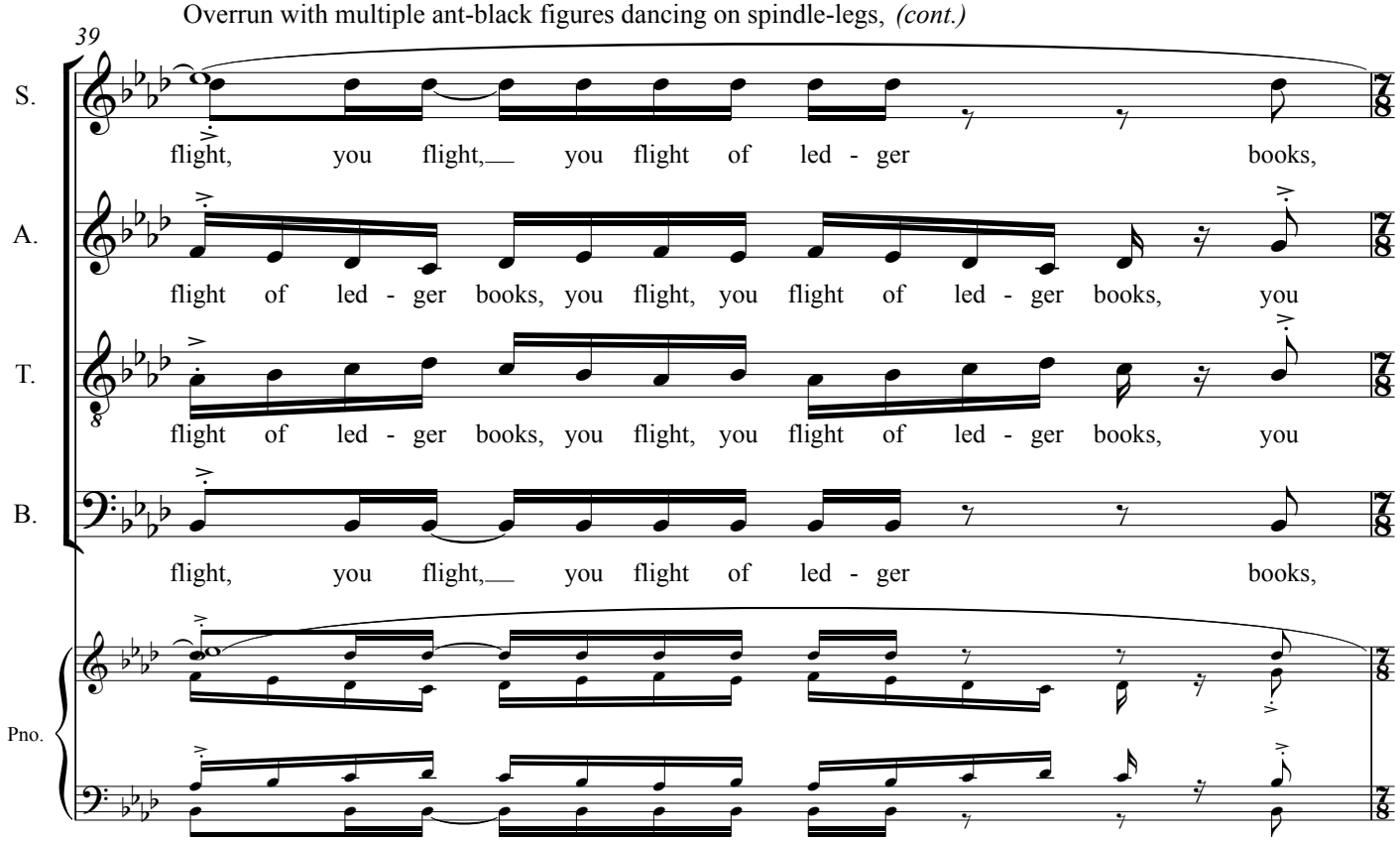

33
S.
you
fuss,
you
A.
fuss an aw-ful lot, you fuss, you fuss, an aw-ful lot, you fuss an aw-ful lot, you fuss, you fuss, an aw-ful lot, you
T.
fuss an aw-ful lot, you fuss an aw - ful lot, you fuss an aw-ful lot, you fuss an aw - ful lot, you
B.
you
fuss,
you
Pno.
35
brighter
S.
flight, you flight, you flight of led - ger books,
A.
flight of led - ger books, you flight, you flight of led - ger books, you
T.
flight of led - ger books, you flight, you flight of led - ger books, you
B.
flight, you flight, you flight of led - ger books,
brighter
Pno.

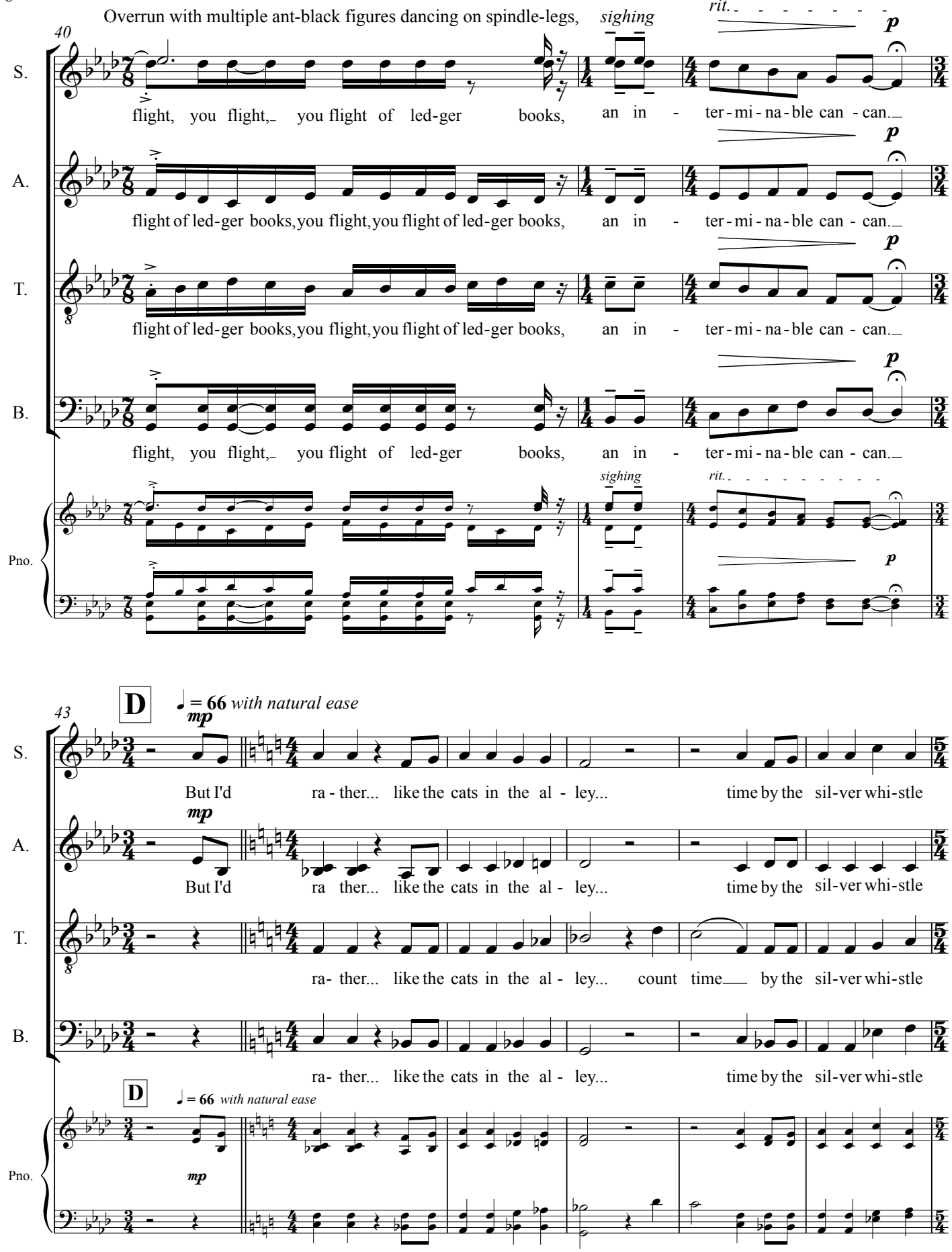

36
S.
flight, you flight, you flight of led - ger books,
A.
flight of led - ger books, you flight, you flight of led - ger books, you
T.
flight of led - ger books, you flight, you flight of led - ger books, you
B.
flight, you flight, you flight of led - ger books,
Pno.
Overrun with multiple ant-black figures dancing on spindle-legs, repeat chaotically and quickly
37
ff
S.
flight, you flight, you flight of led - ger books,
ff
A.
flight of led - ger books, you flight, you flight of led - ger books, you
ff
T.
flight of led - ger books, you flight, you flight of led - ger books, you
ff
B.
flight, you flight, you flight of led - ger books,
Pno.
ff

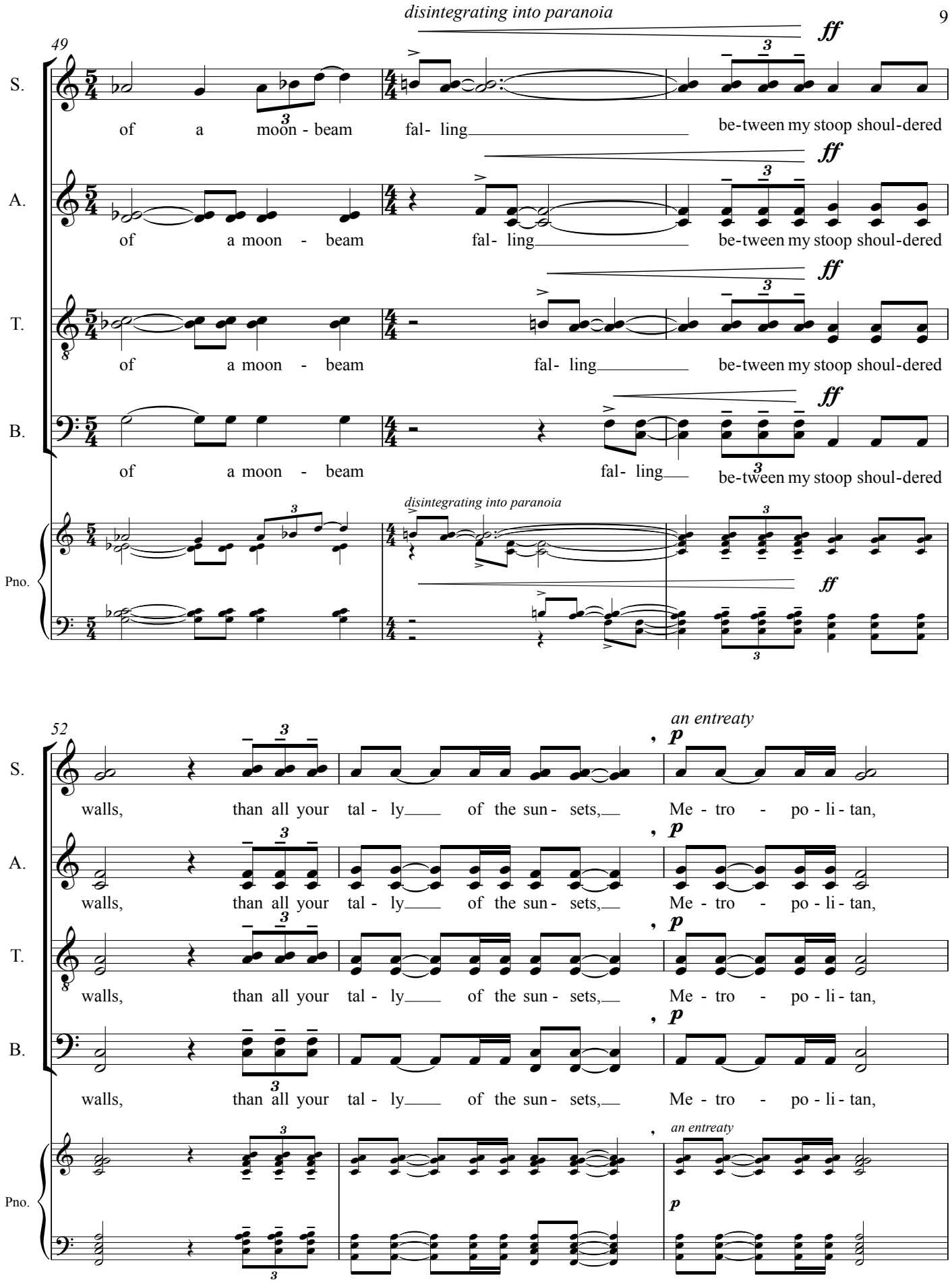
Overrun with multiple ant-black figures dancing on spindle-legs, *(cont.)*

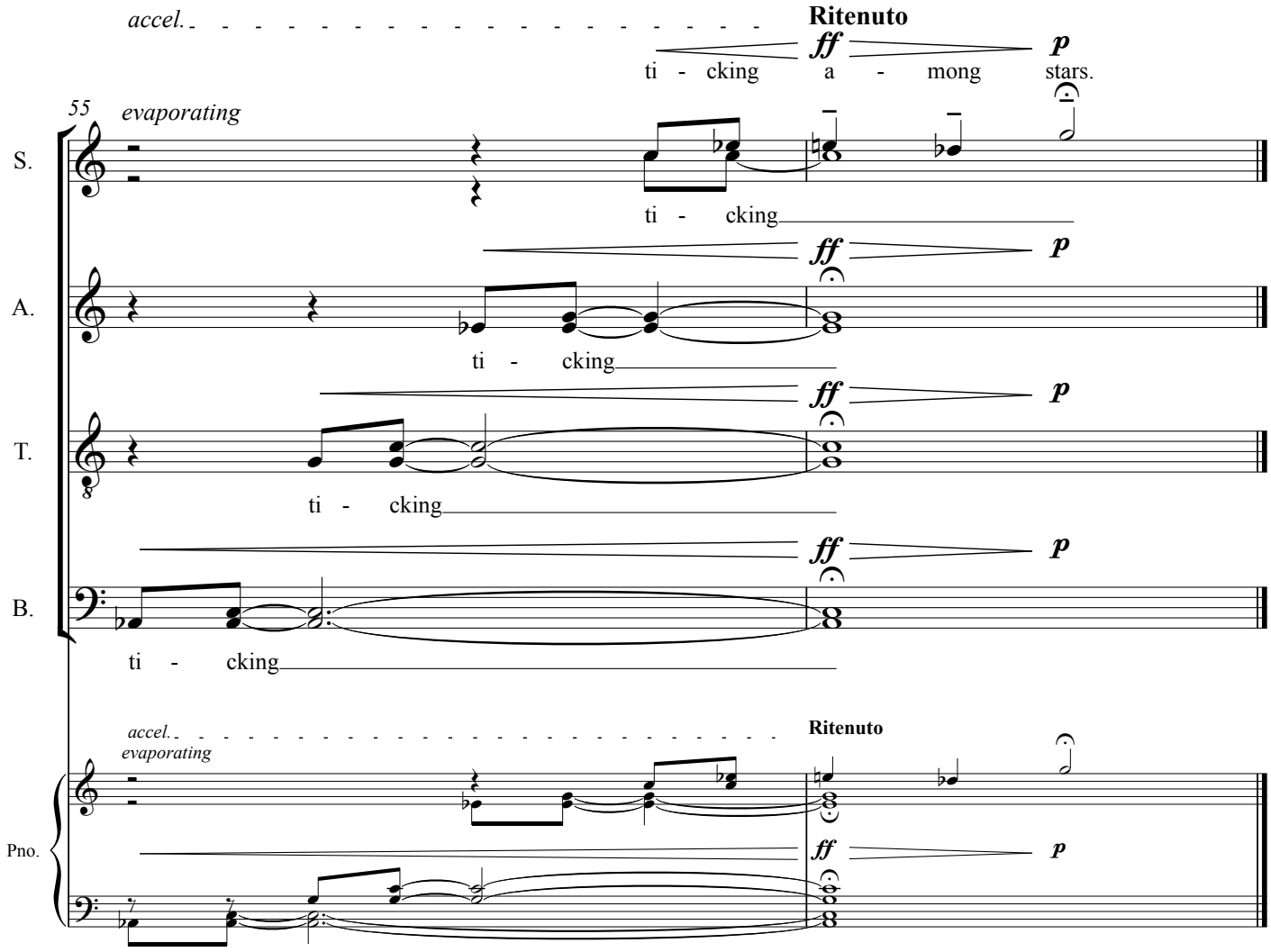


Overrun with multiple ant-black figures dancing on spindle-legs, *(cont.)*




Overrun with multiple ant-black figures dancing on spindle-legs,
sighing
rit.
40
S.
A.
T.
B.
Pno.
flight, you flight,_ you flight of led-ger books, an in - ter-mi-na-ble can - can._
flight of led-ger books, you flight, you flight of led-ger books, an in - ter-mi-na-ble can - can._
D
♩ = 66 with natural ease
43
But I'd ra - ther... like the cats in the al - ley... time by the sil-ver whi-stle
But I'd ra ther... like the cats in the al - ley... time by the sil-ver whi-stle
ra- ther... like the cats in the al - ley... count time___ by the sil-ver whi-stle
ra- ther... like the cats in the al - ley... time by the sil-ver whi-stle


disintegrating into paranoia
49
S.
A.
T.
B.
Pno.
ff
of a moon - beam fal- ling be-tween my stoop shoul-dered
disintegrating into paranoia
52
an entreaty
p
walls, than all your tal - ly of the sun - sets, Me - tro - po - li - tan,
an entreaty


accel.
Ritenuto
ff
p
ti - cking a - mong stars.
55
evaporating
S.
ti - cking
A.
ti - cking
T.
ti - cking
B.
ti - cking
accel.
evaporating
Ritenuto
Pno.