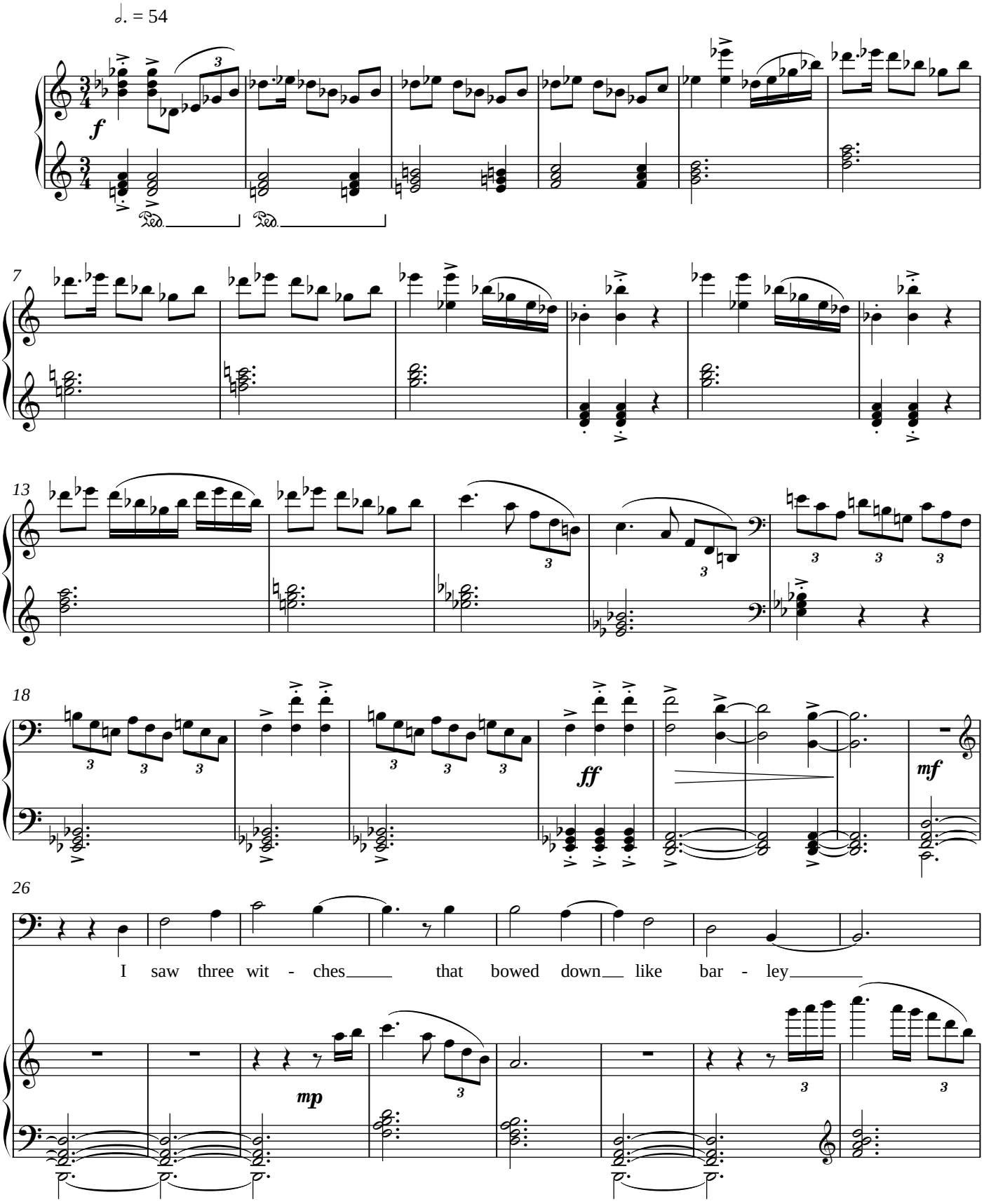
Walter de la Mare (1873-1956)

# I Saw Three Witches

Gary Bachlund

*for Michael and Ro Hancock-Child*

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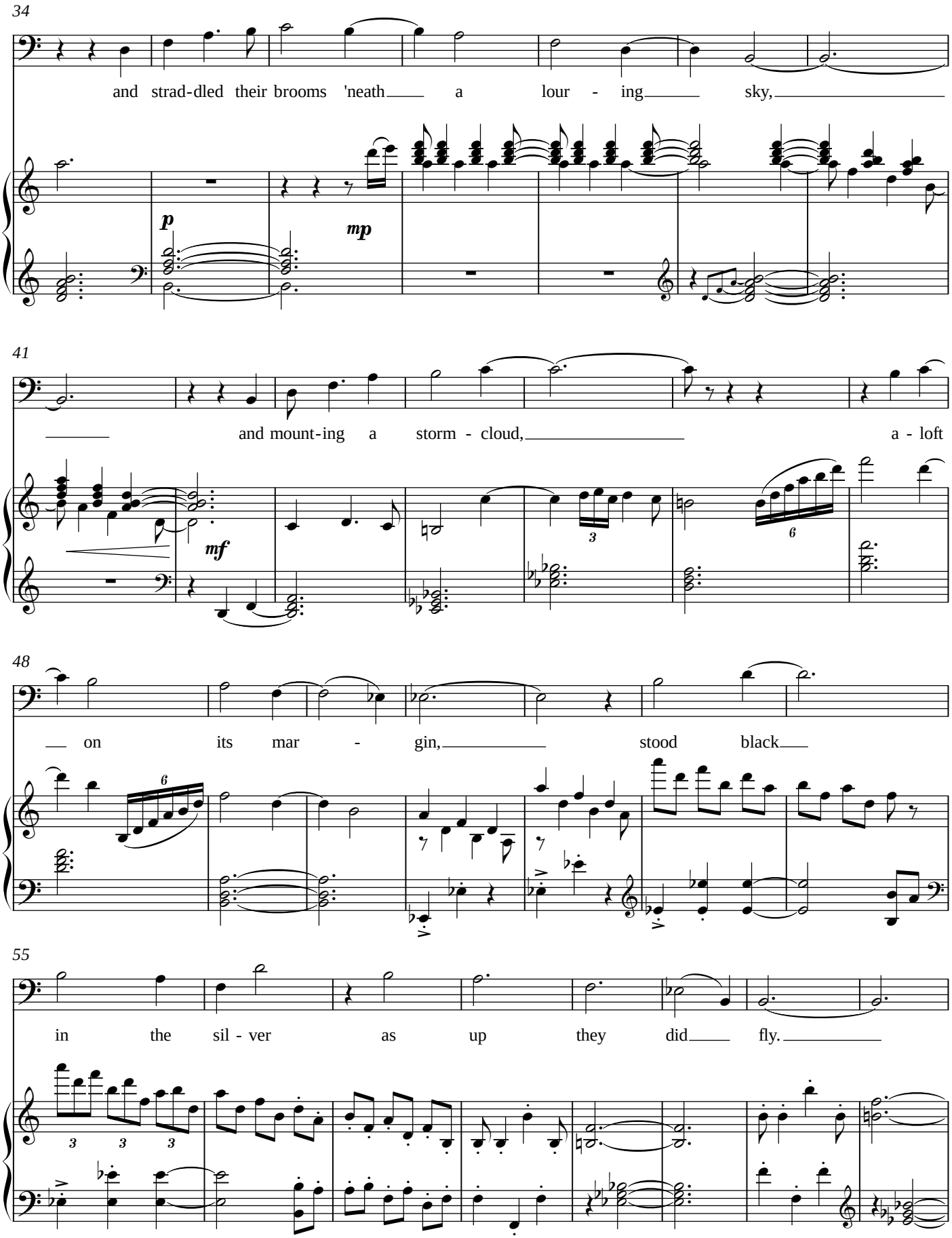
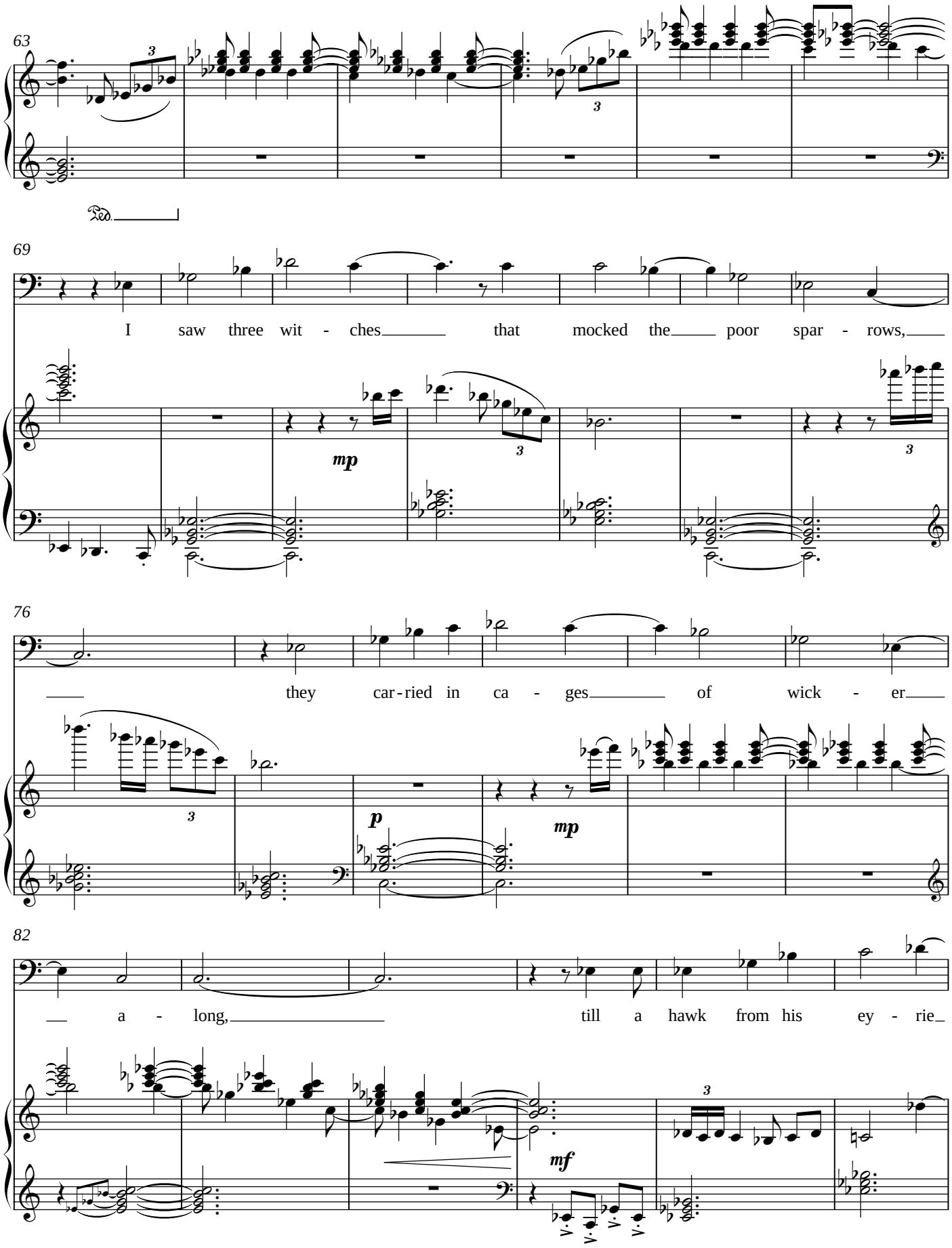
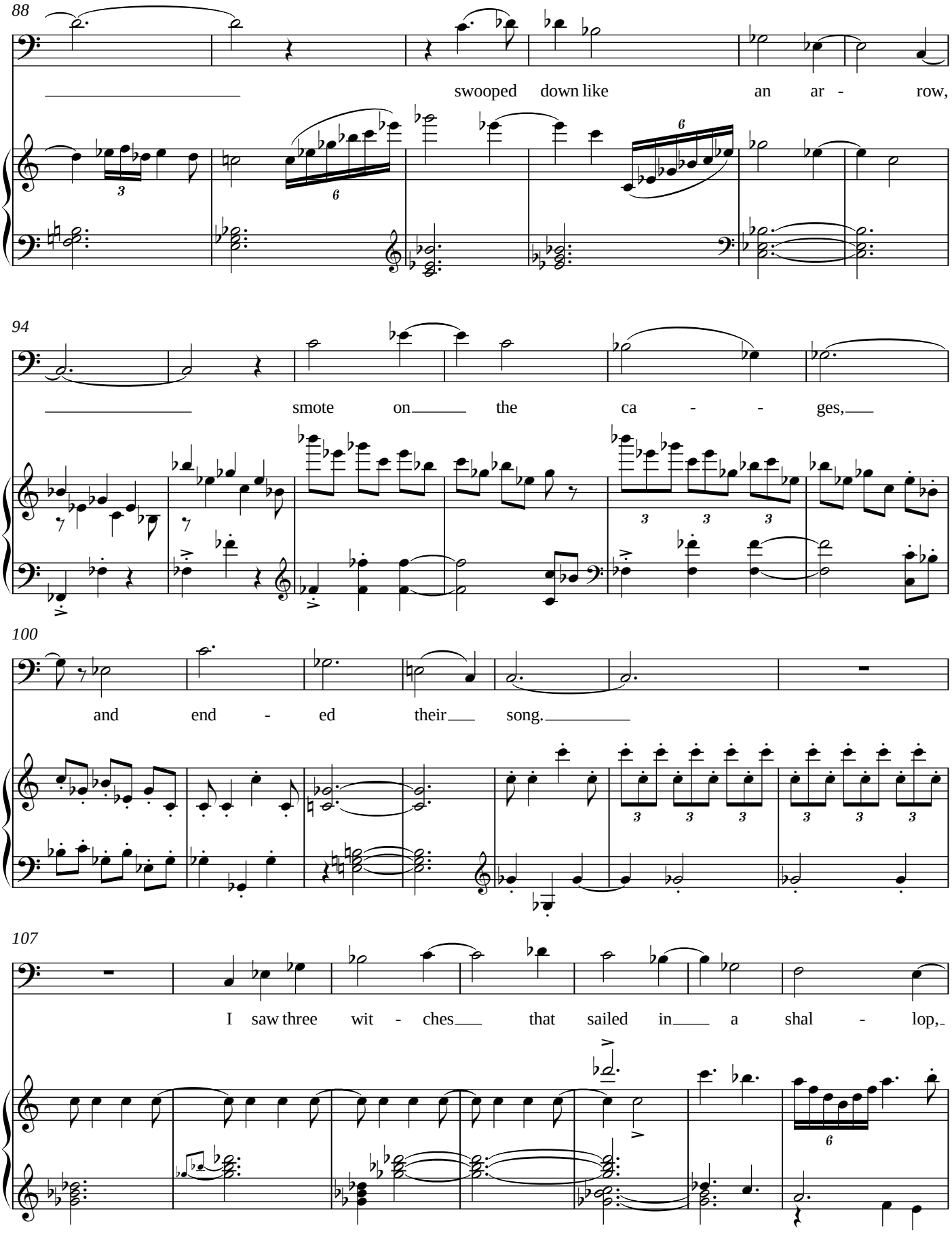
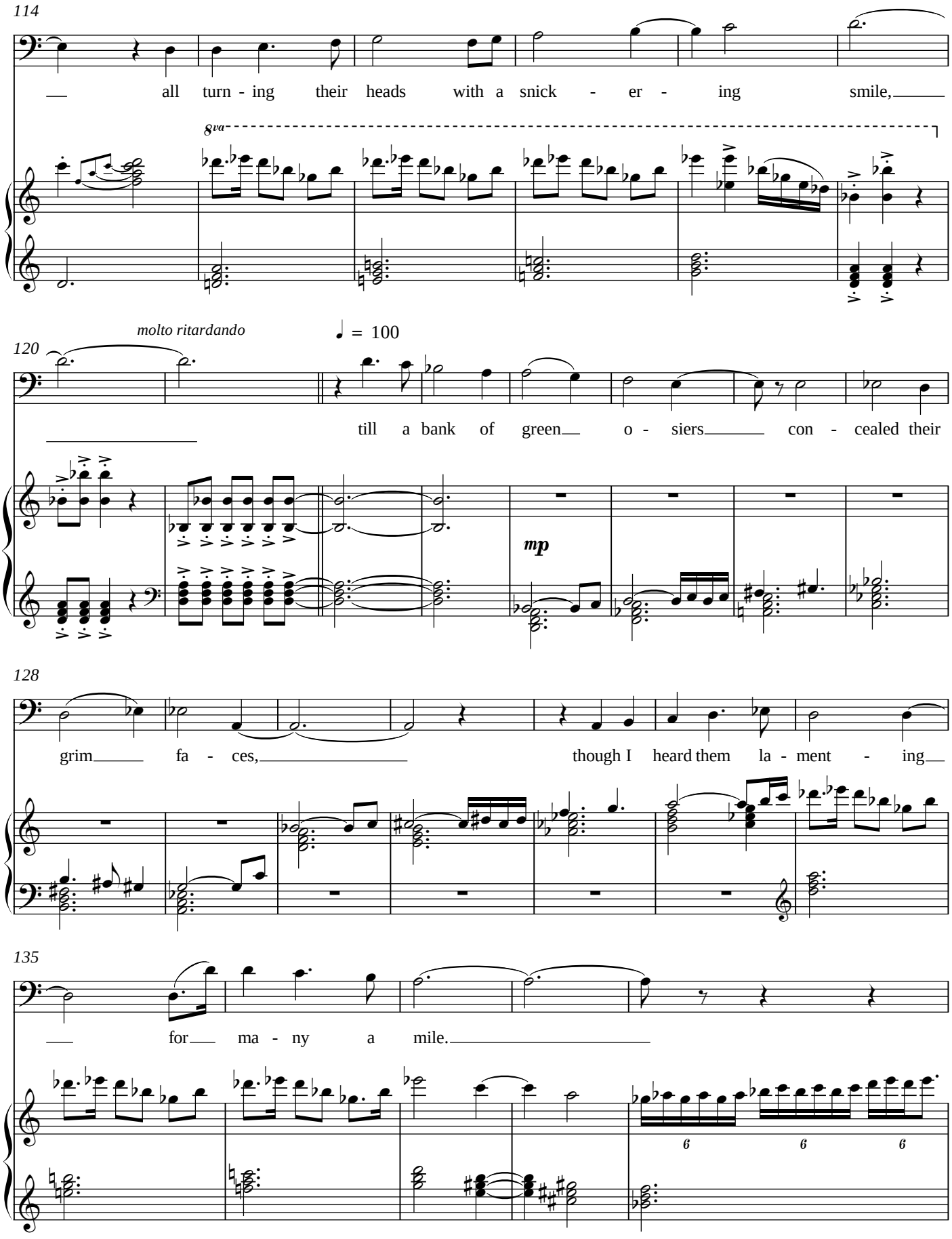
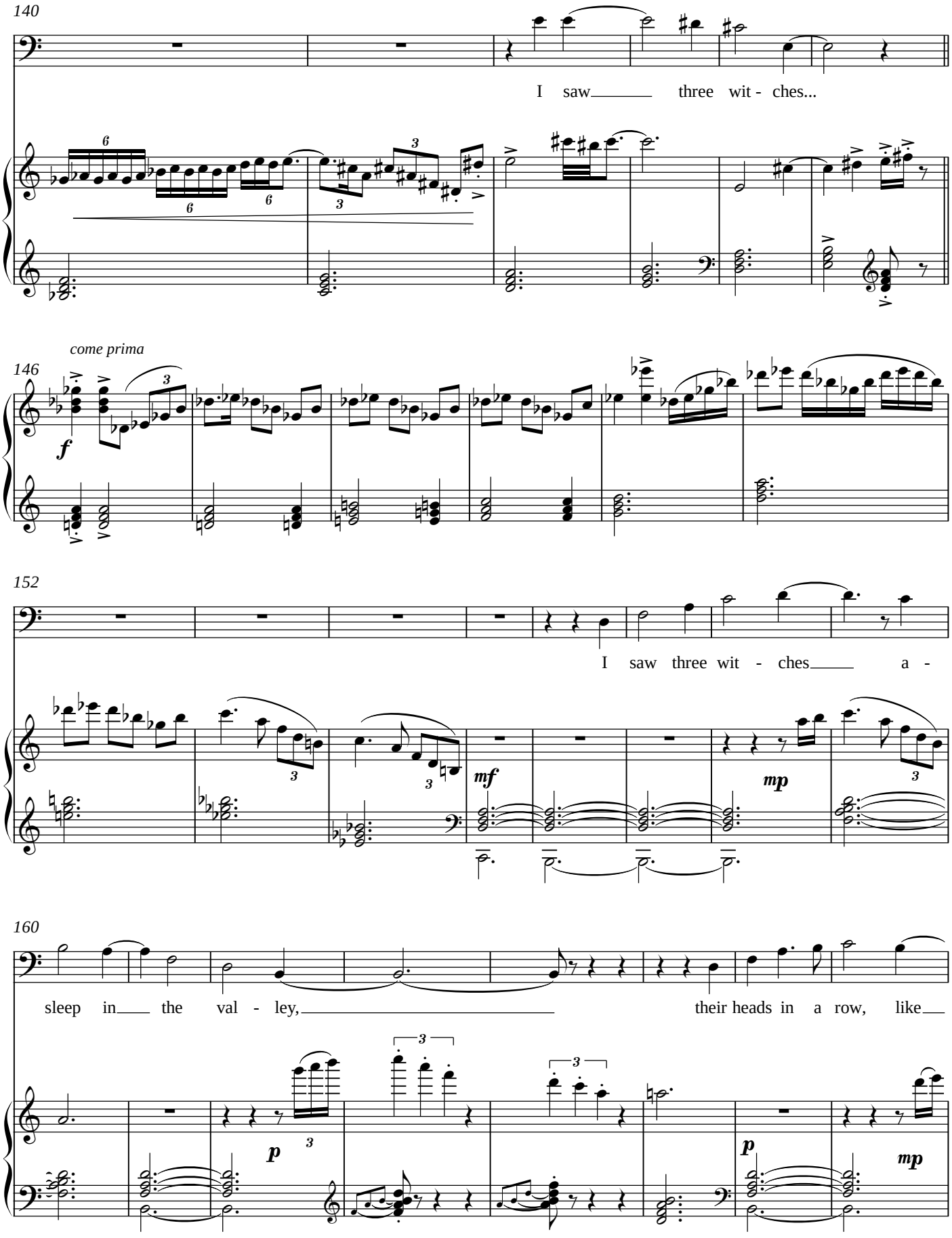
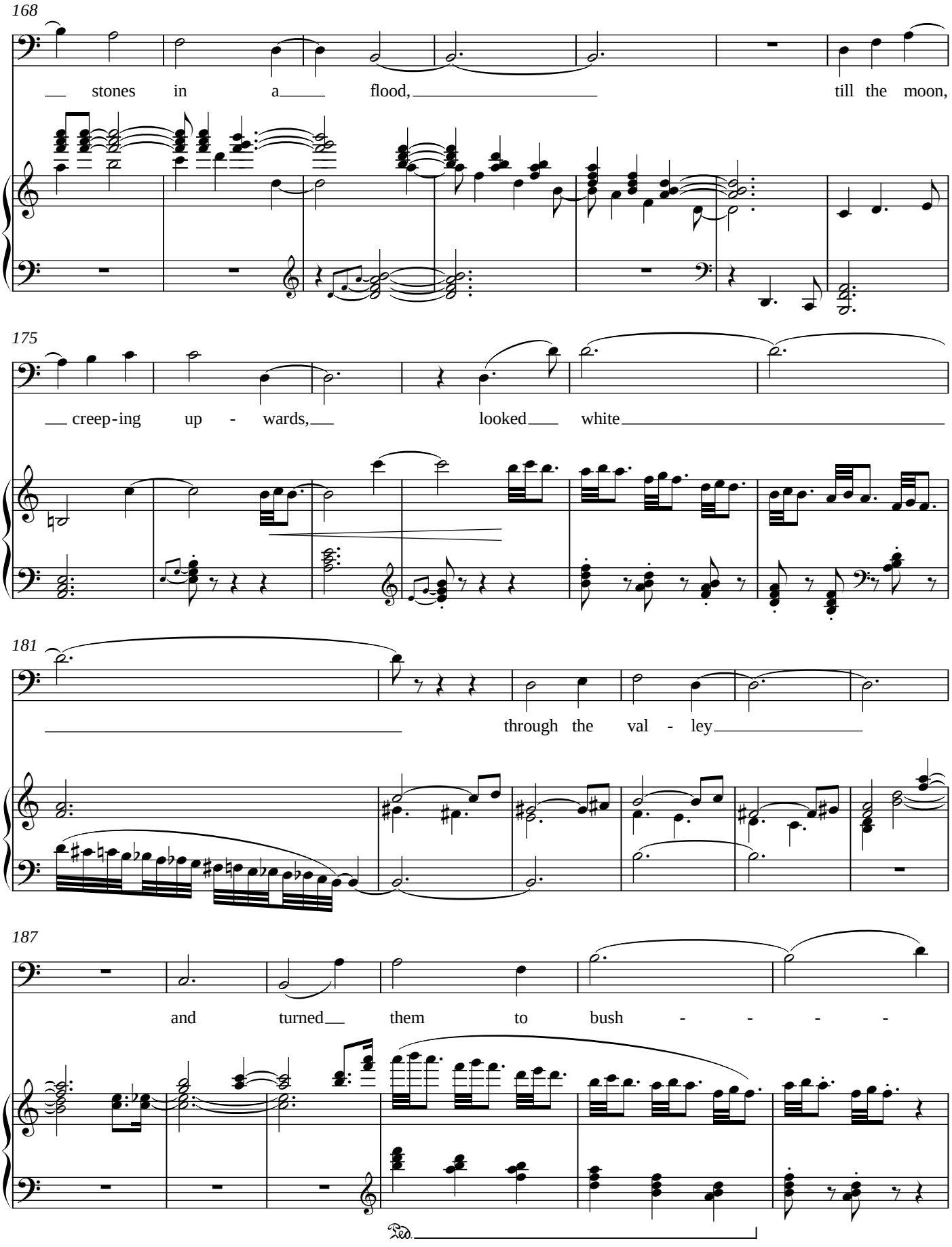

34
and strad-dled their brooms 'neath a lour - ing sky,
p
mp
41
and mount-ing a storm - cloud, a - loft
mf
48
on its mar - gin, stood black
55
in the sil - ver as up they did fly.

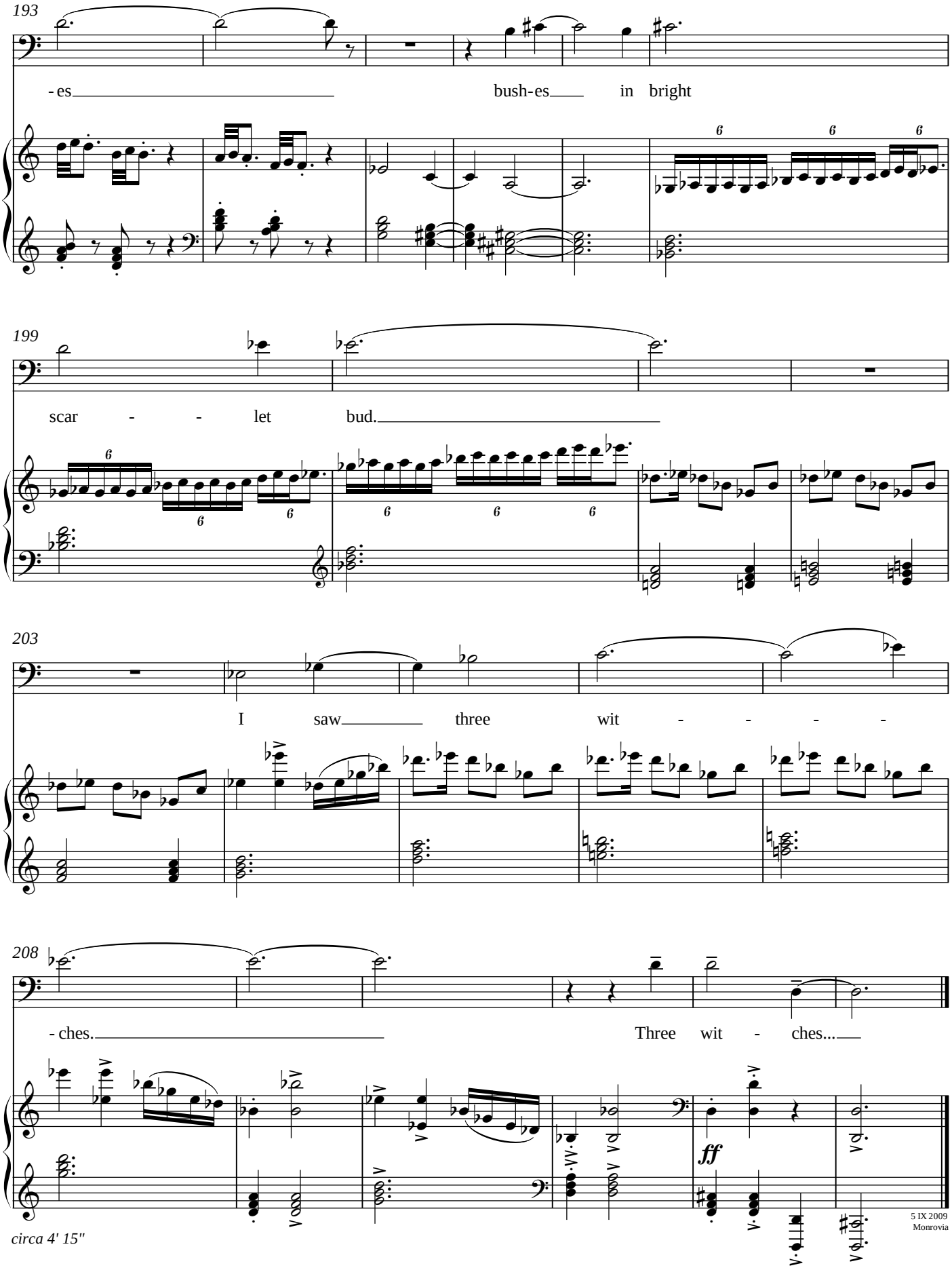

63
Ped.
69
I saw three wit - ches that mocked the poor spar - rows,
mp
76
they car-ried in ca - ges of wick - er
p
mp
82
a - long, till a hawk from his ey - rie
mf


88
swooped down like an ar - row,
94
smote on the ca - - ges,
100
and end - ed their song.
107
I saw three wit - ches that sailed in a shal - lop,


114
all turn - ing their heads with a snick - er - ing smile,
8va
molto ritardando
♩ = 100
120
till a bank of green o - siers con - cealed their
mp
128
grim fa - ces, though I heard them la - ment - ing
135
for ma - ny a mile.
6
6
6


140
I saw three wit - ches...
come prima
146
f
152
I saw three wit - ches a -
mf
mp
160
sleep in the val - ley, their heads in a row, like
p
p
mp


168
stones in a flood, till the moon,
175
creep-ing up - wards, looked white
181
through the val - ley
187
and turned them to bush - - - -


193
- es
bush- es
in bright
199
scar - - let bud.
203
I saw
three
wit - - - -
208
- ches.
Three wit - ches...
ff
circa 4' 15"
5 IX 2009
Monrovia