Two Songs of Passion

for Baritone and Synthesized Accompaniment

1. Pears

Words by

LINDA PASTAN

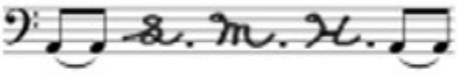
2. Her True Body

Words by

JERRED METZ

Music by

STANLEY M. HOFFMAN



Stanley M. Hoffman

www.stanleymhoffman.com

Pears
*by **Linda Pastan***

Some say
it was a pear
Eve ate.
Why else the shape
of the womb,
or of the cello
Whose single song is grief
for the parent tree?
Why else the fruit itself tawny and sweet
which your lover
over breakfast
lets go your pear-
shaped breast
to reach for?

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Her True Body
*by **Jerred Metz***

Her true body
(not the one hinted at by marble hands
and face or even the one behind clothes)
her true body (not the one imaged in dream)
her true body (beyond flesh and bone)
were it revealed to naked eye, would seem a
chart of ocean currents, accurate, detailed, perfect
for safe navigation. Even this
touches far from her true body, for all the grace of all
the waves and kelp moving
everywhere in all directions, the intricate
growth of coral, consequential play of sea on rock,
motion of fish, motion of sea birds hovering
still above the water cannot be
marked by numbers and cursive arrows.
Yet curve of thigh and breast, hair-fall's flow, seven
dark openings, and the eye mirroring oceans, though
touching far from her true body,
make the loveliest of maps.

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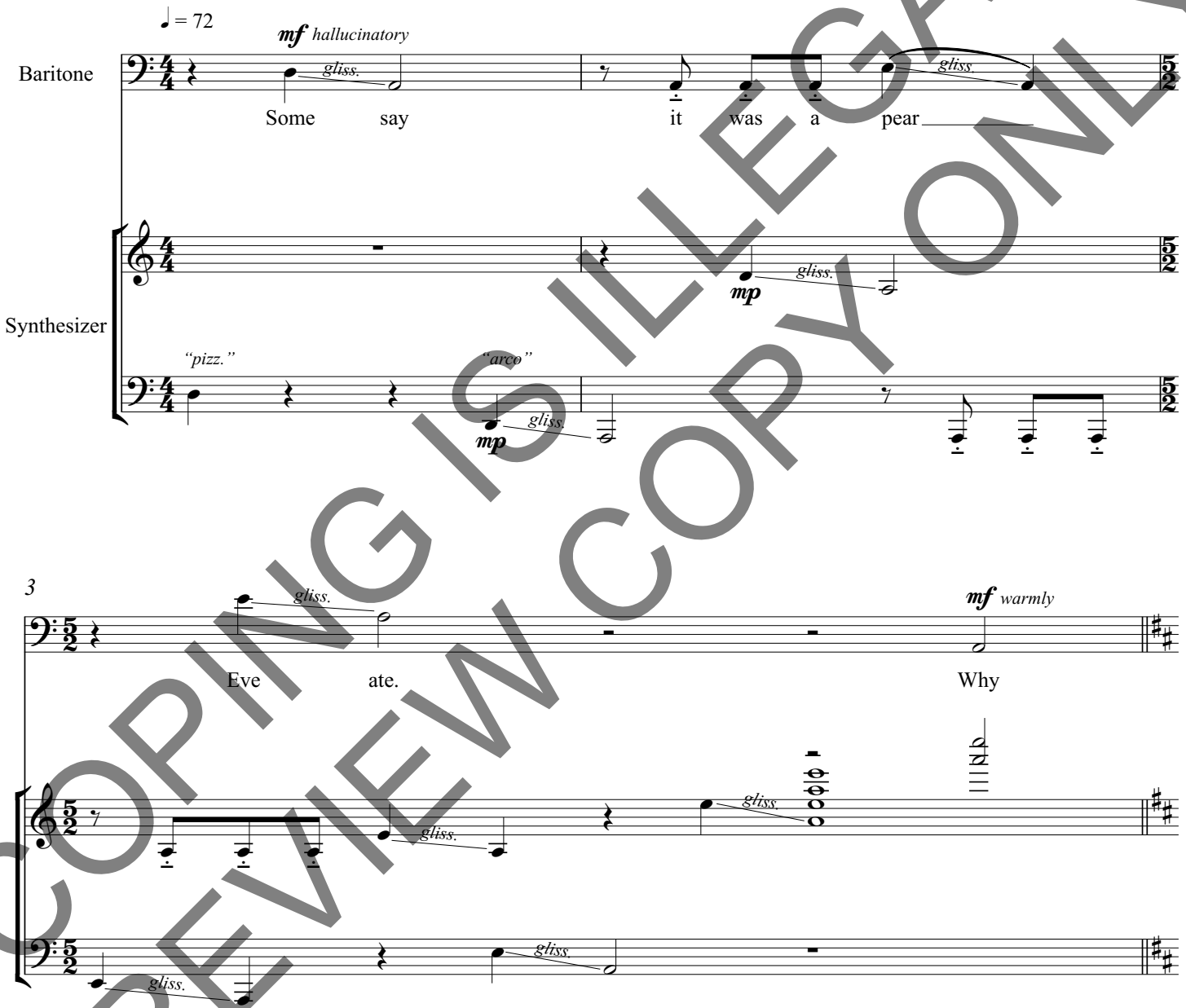
Two Songs of Passion

for Baritone and Electronic Accompaniment

1. Pears

Linda Pastan (b. 1932)

Stanley M. Hoffman (BMI)
(b. 1959)



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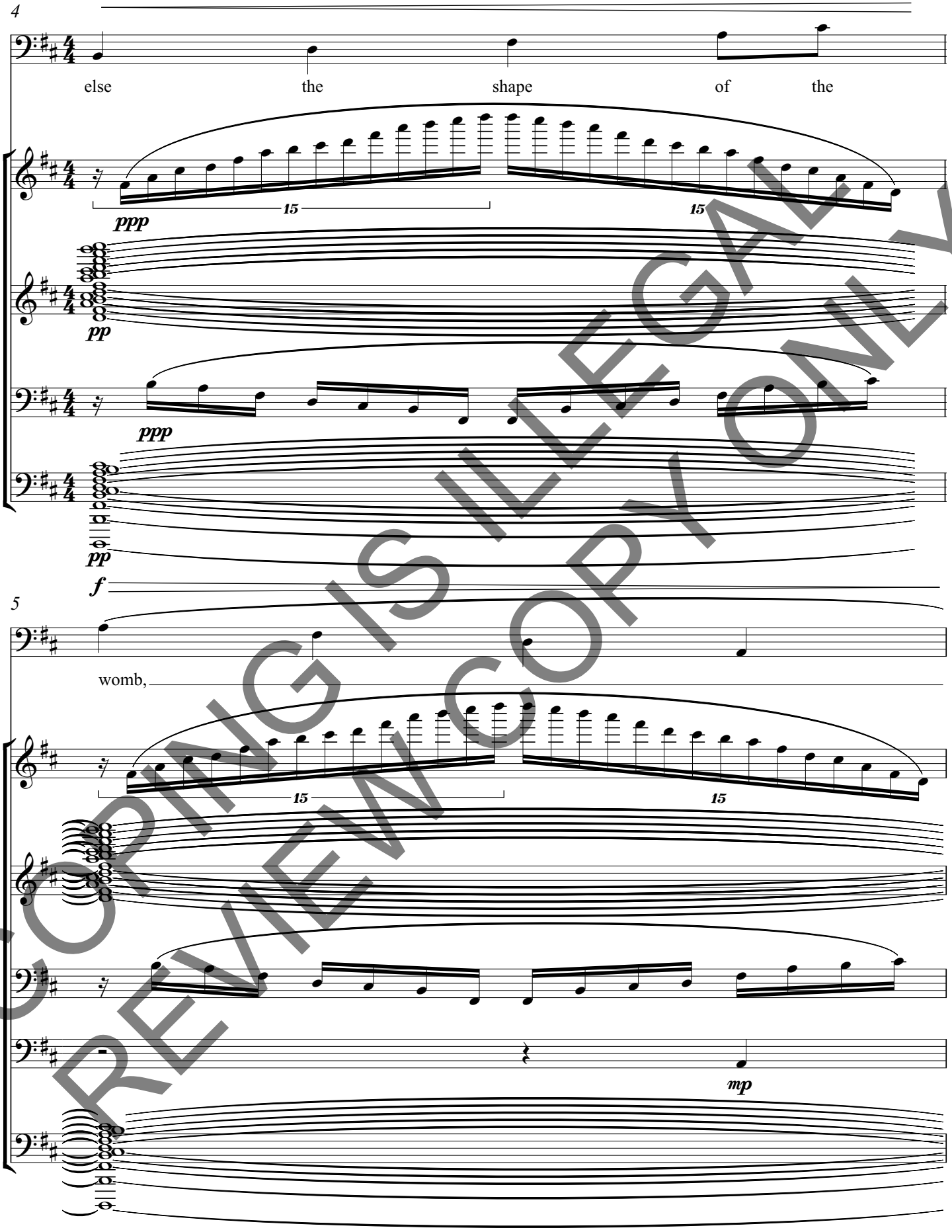

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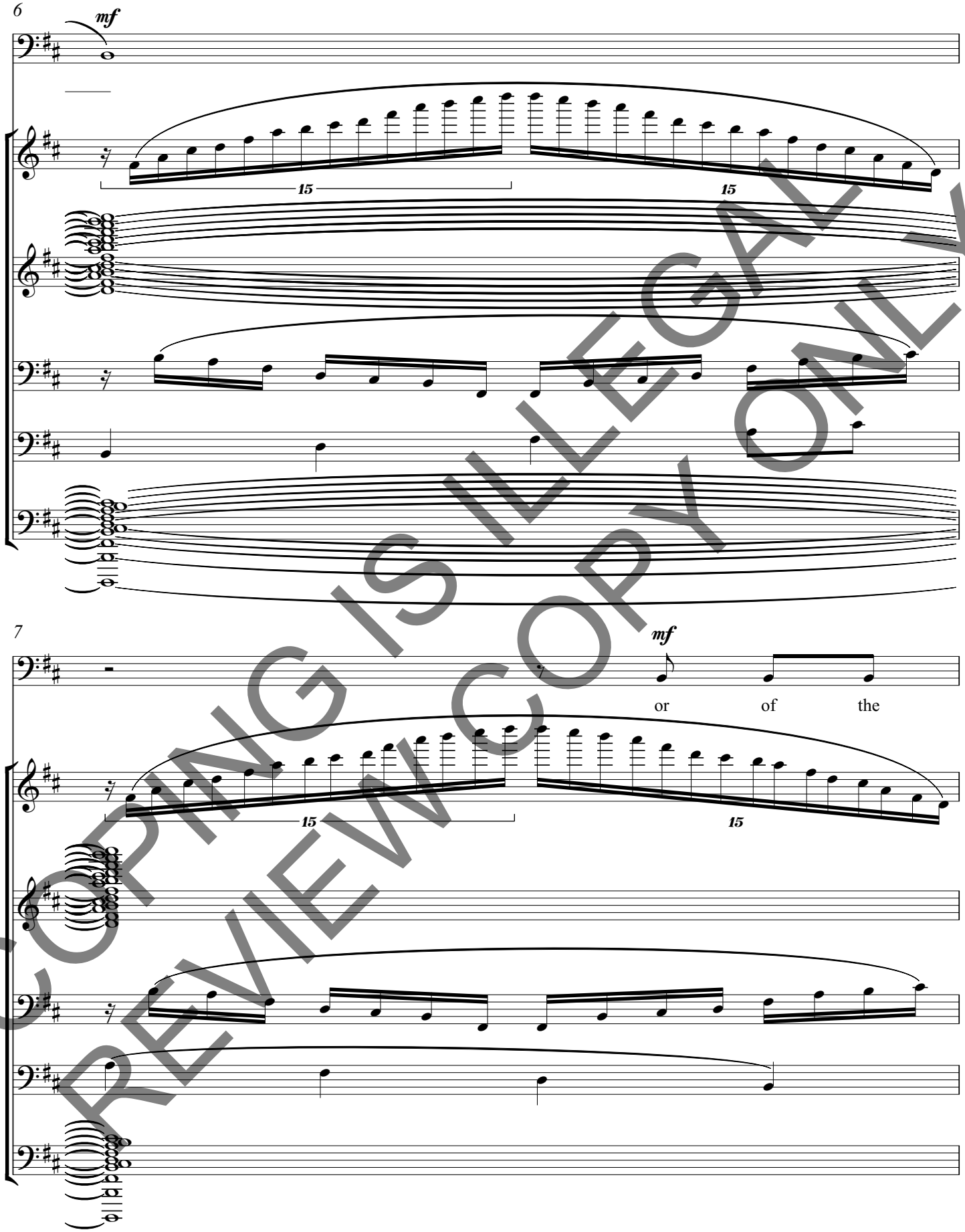

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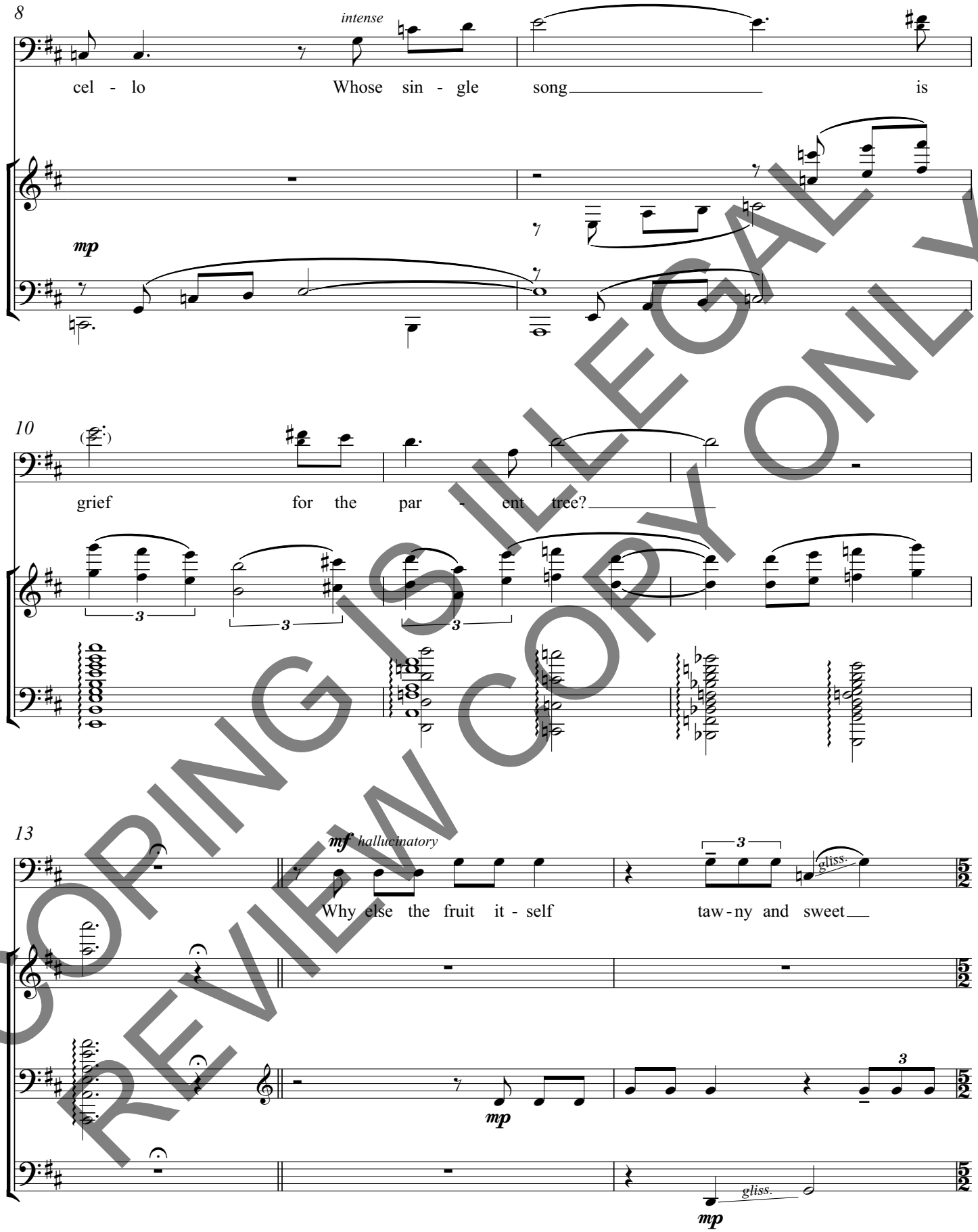

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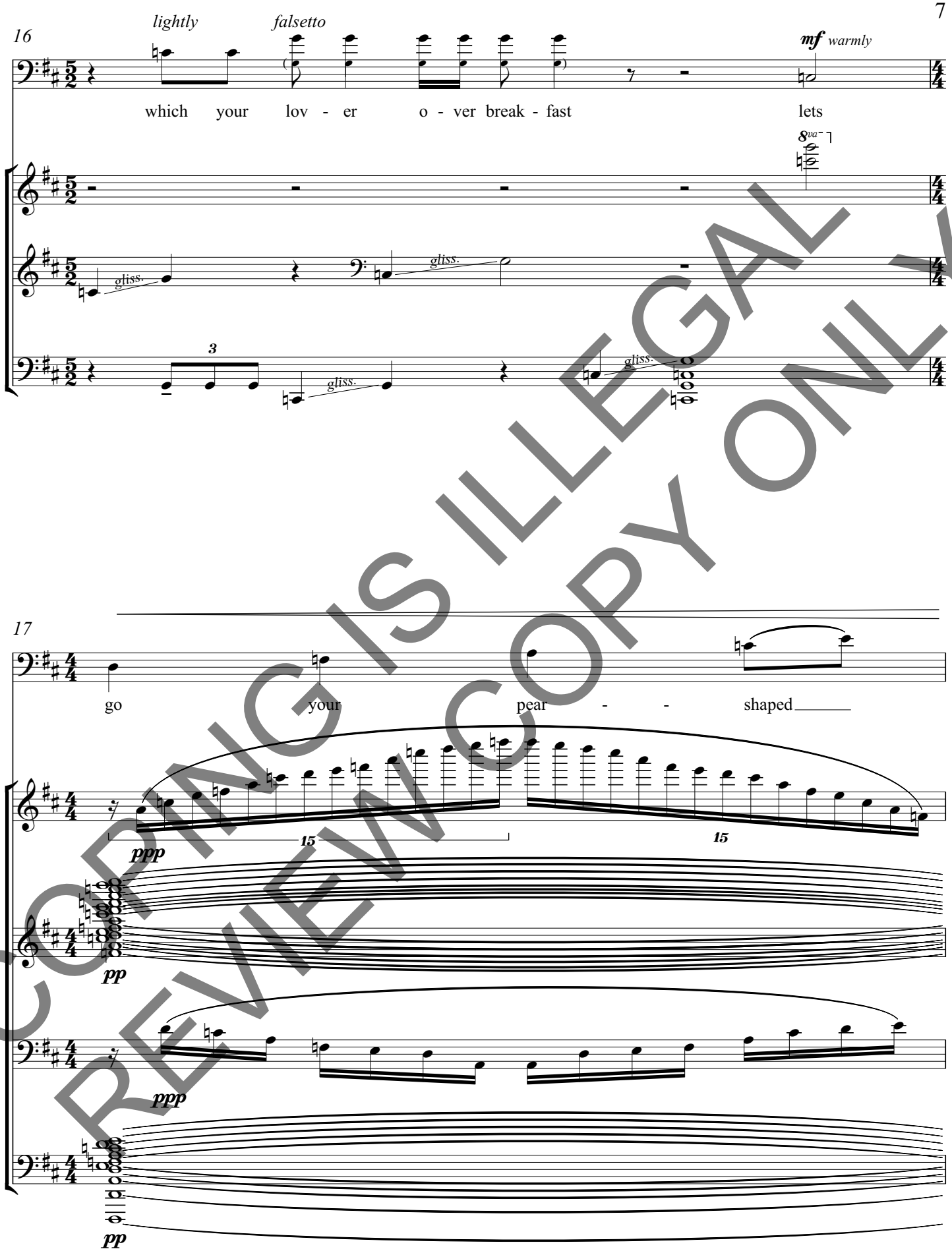

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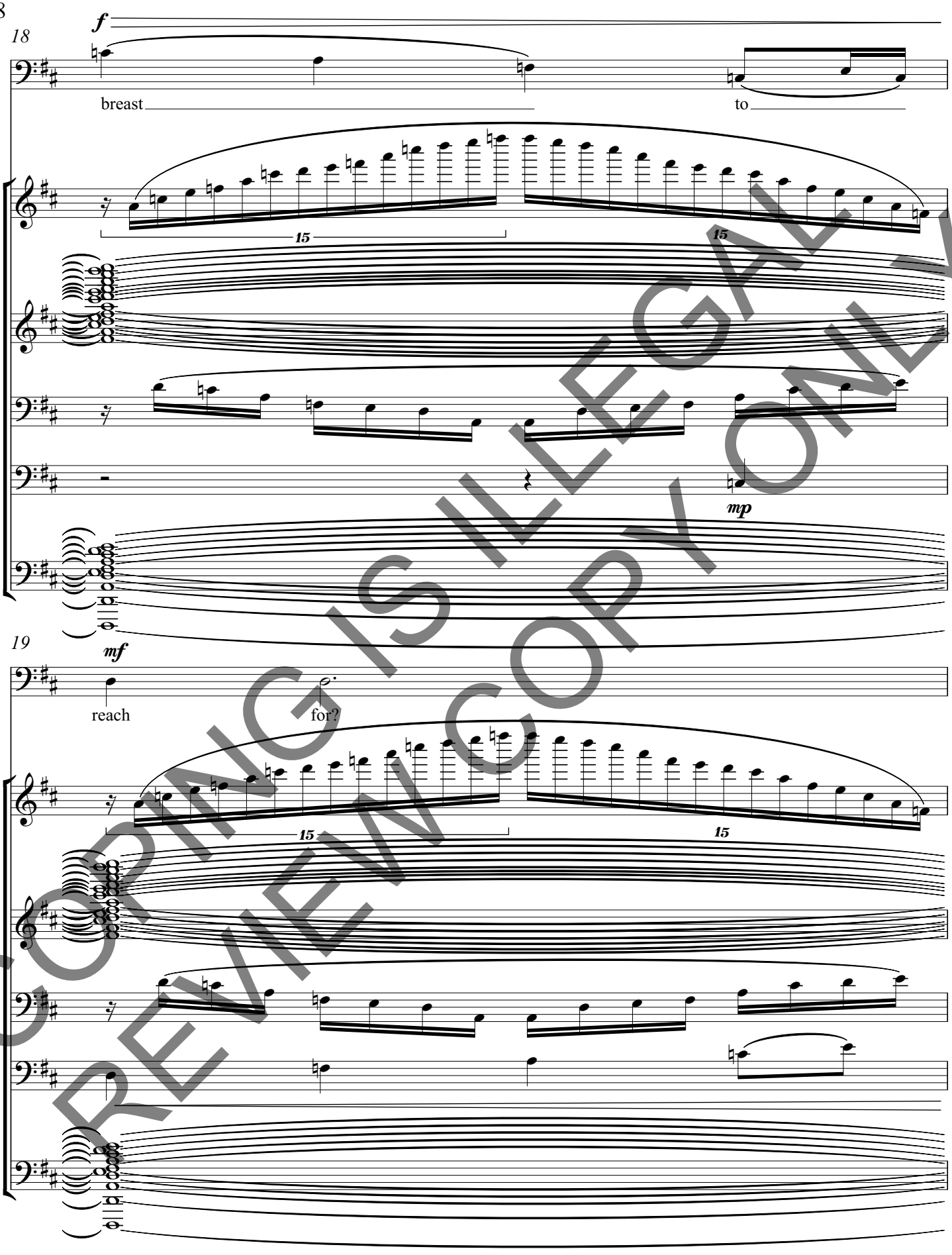

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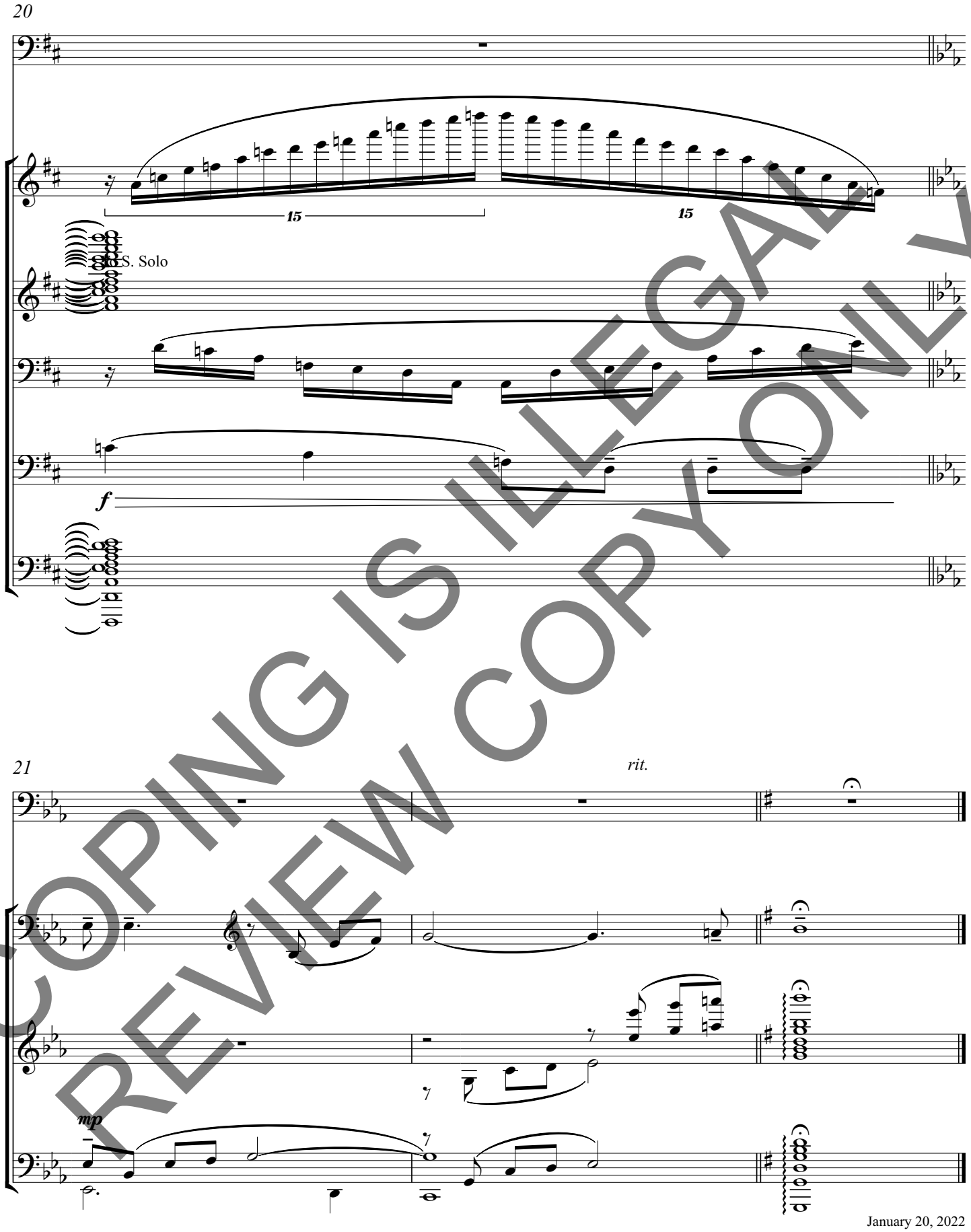

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January 20, 2022
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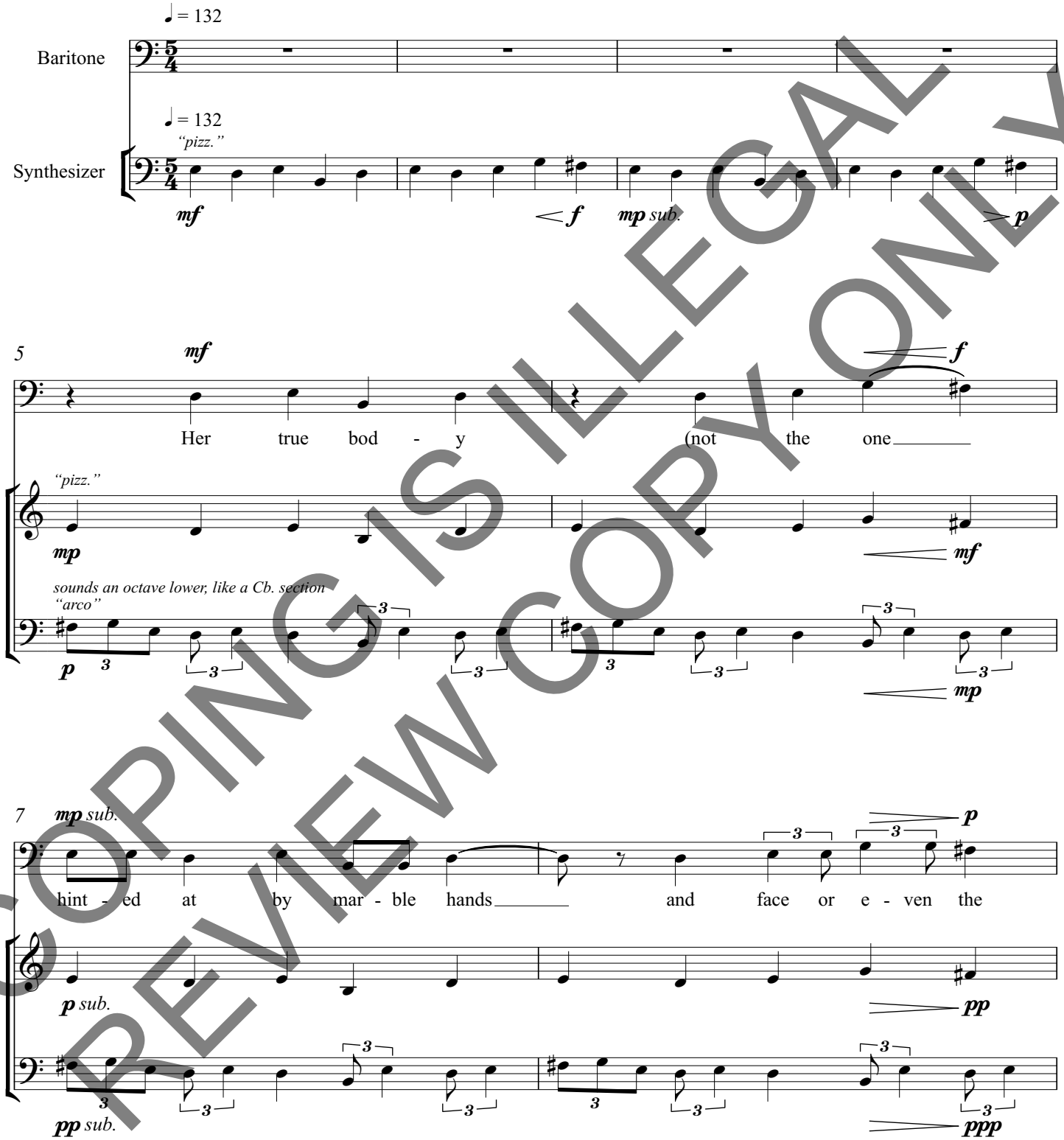
Dedicated to Dr. Andrew White

Her True Body

Jerred Metz (b. 1943)

Stanley M. Hoffman (BMI)
(b. 1959)



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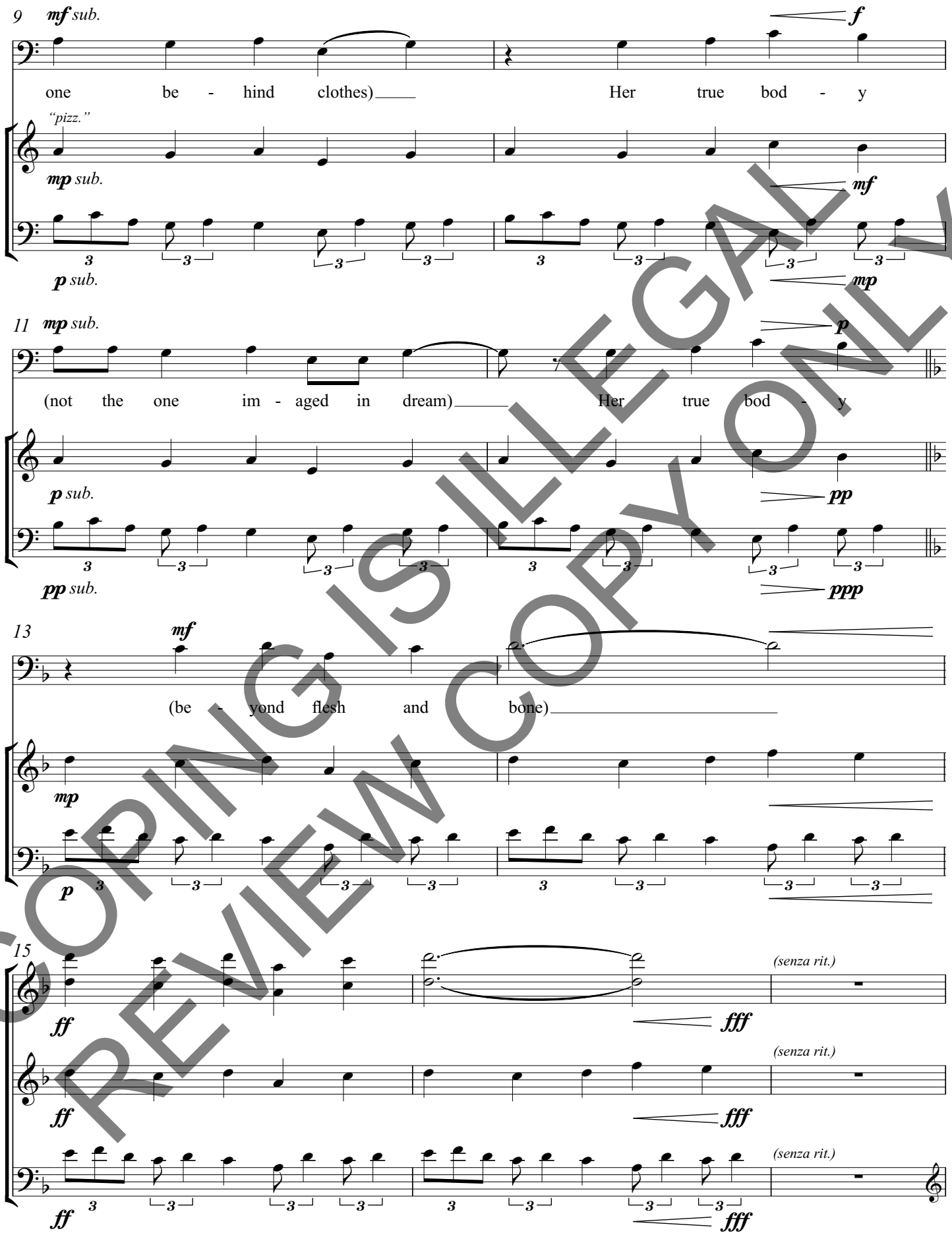

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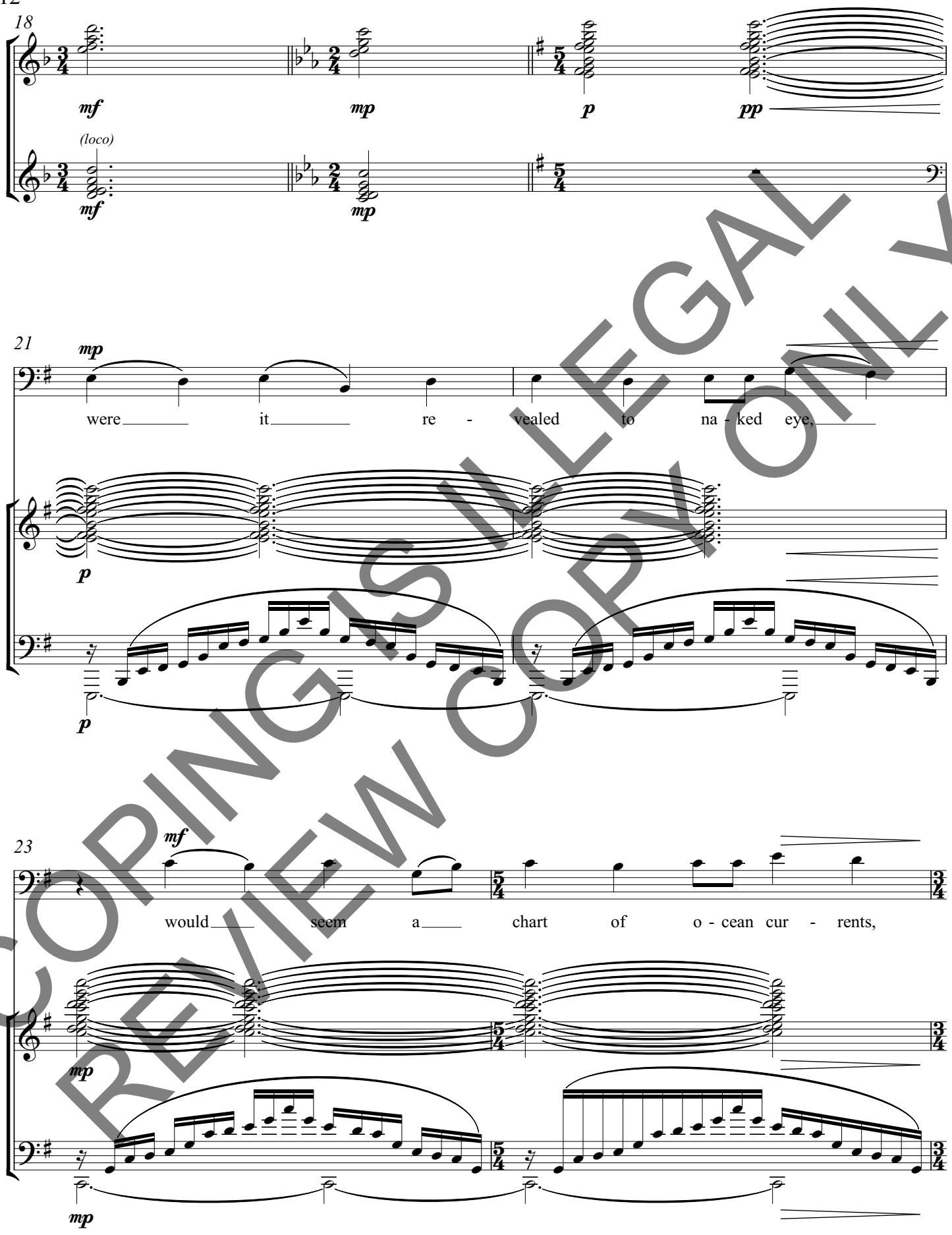

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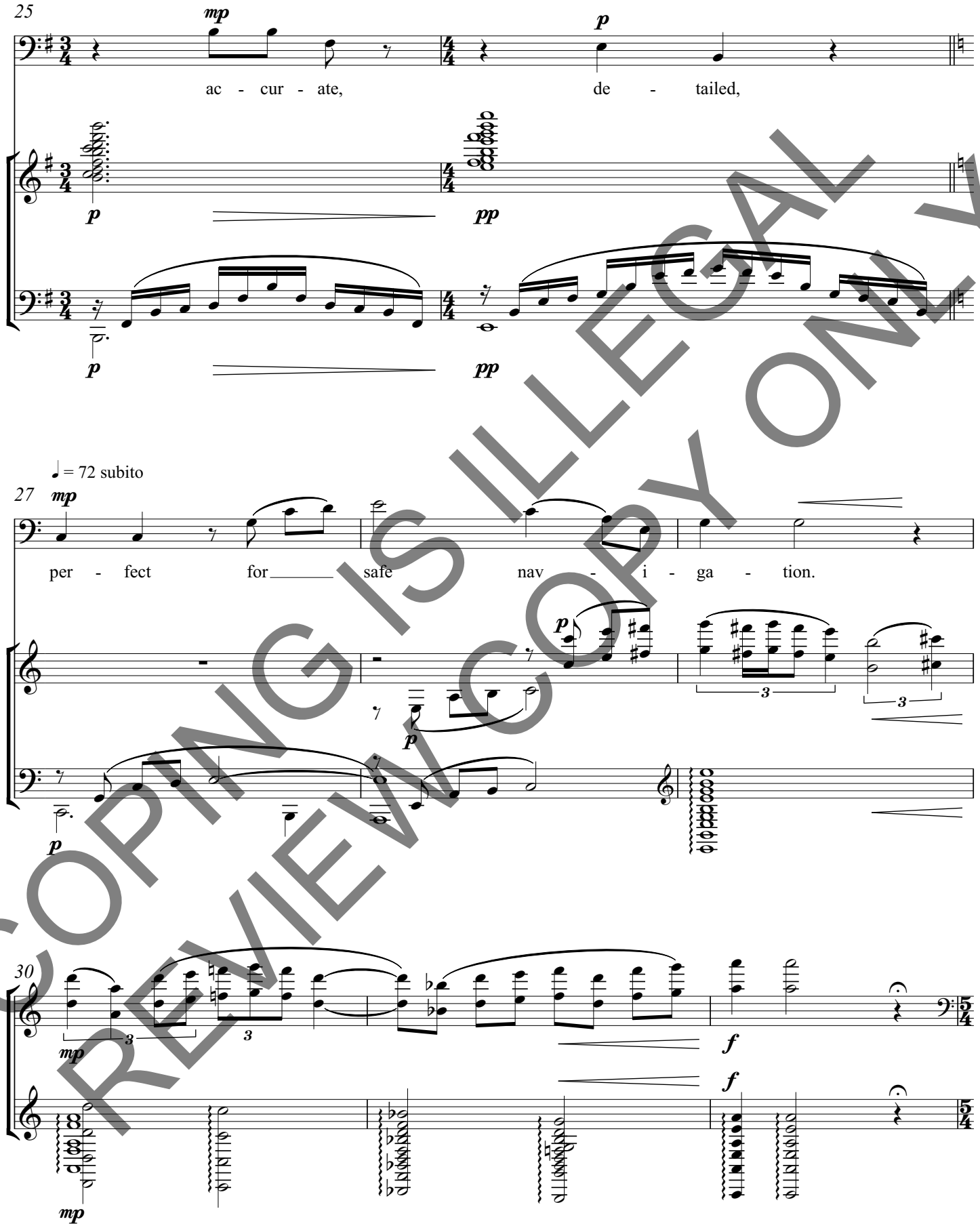

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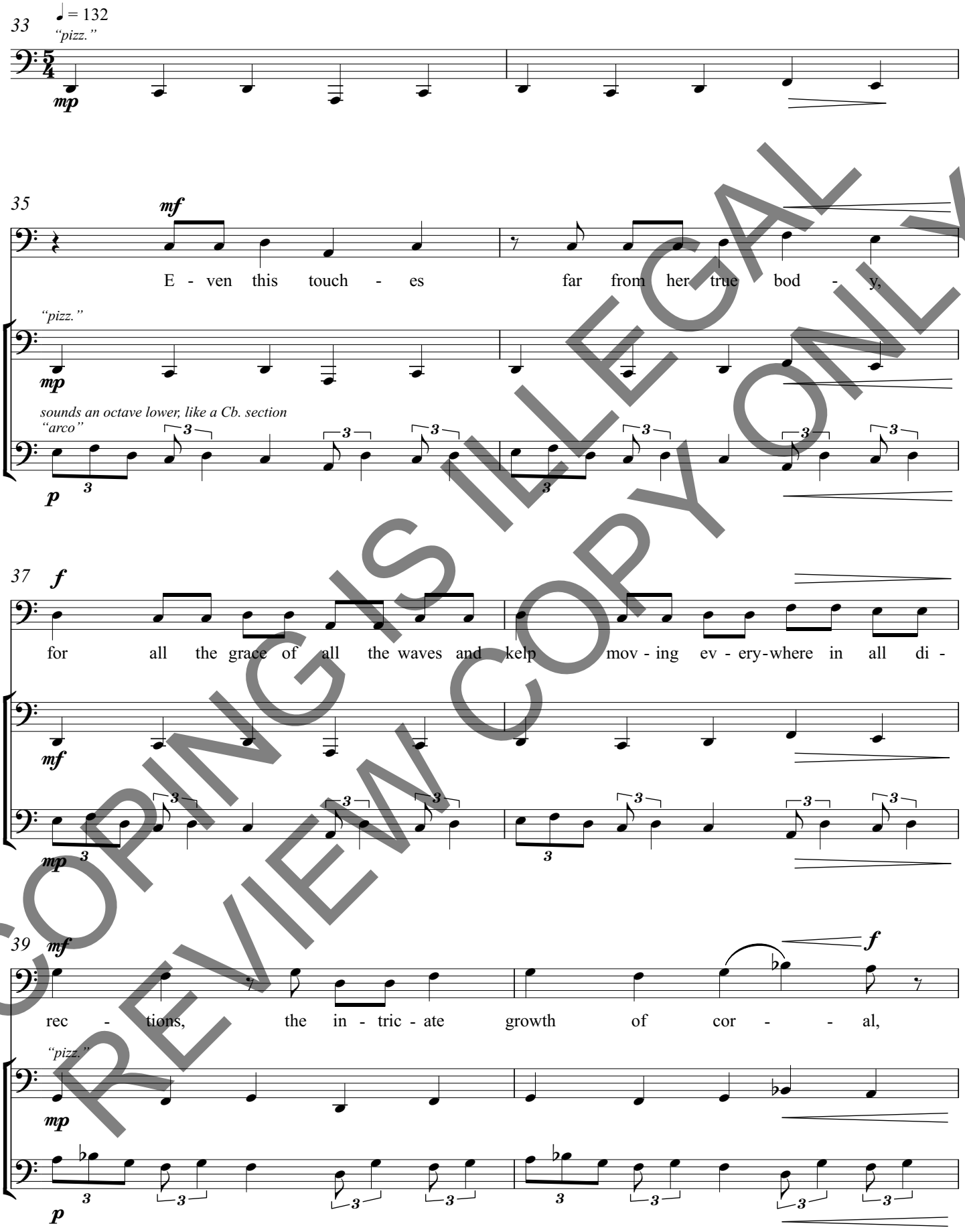

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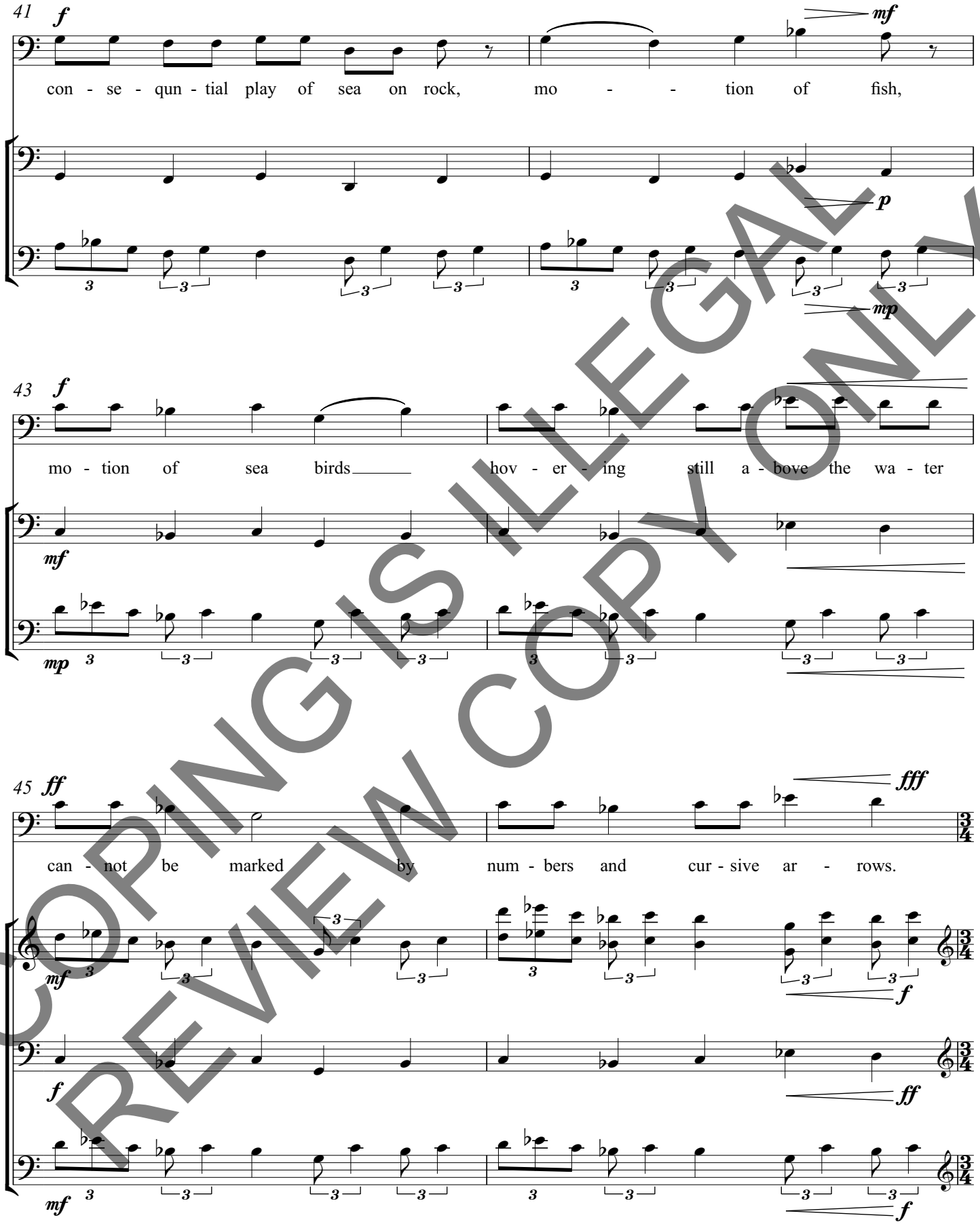

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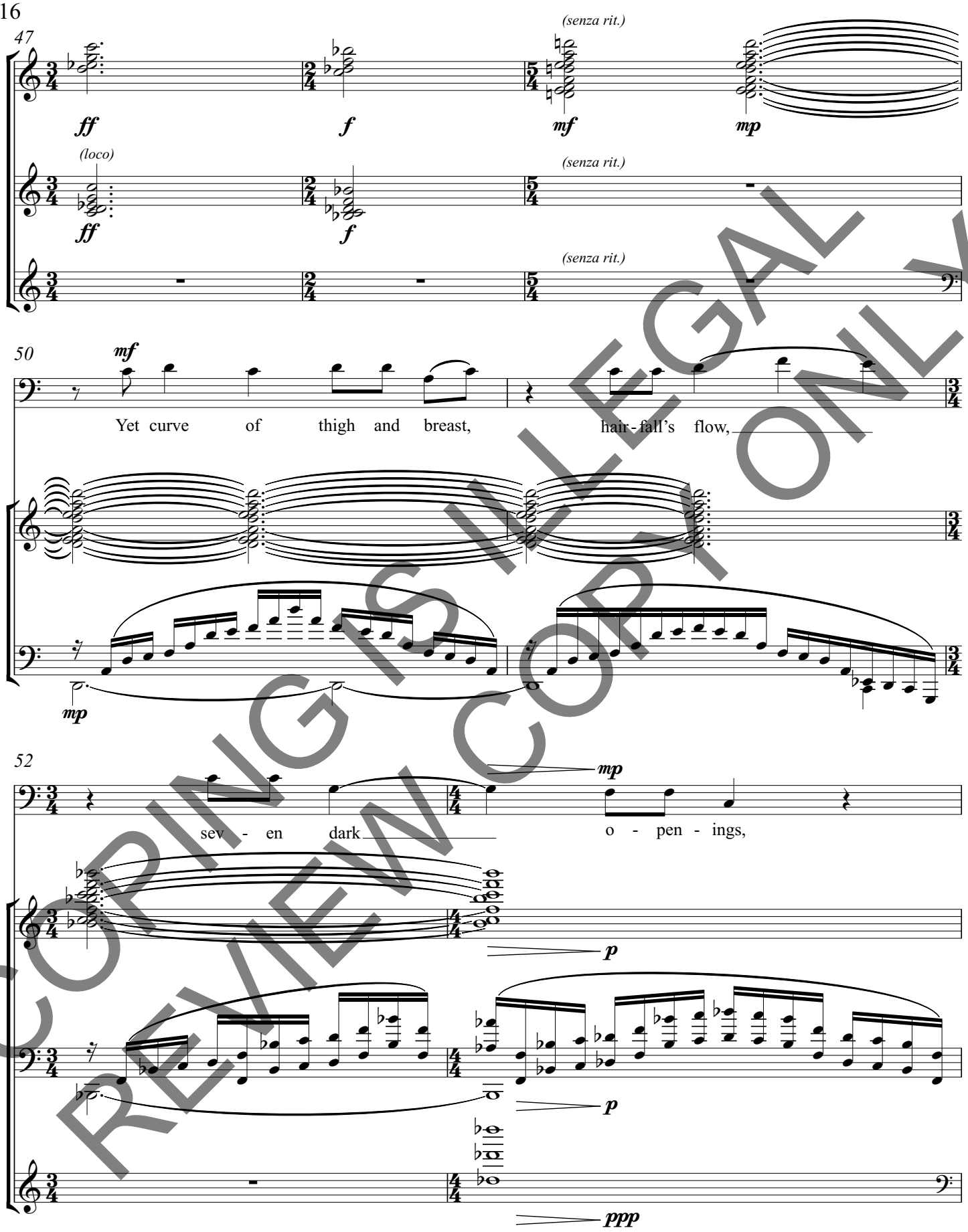

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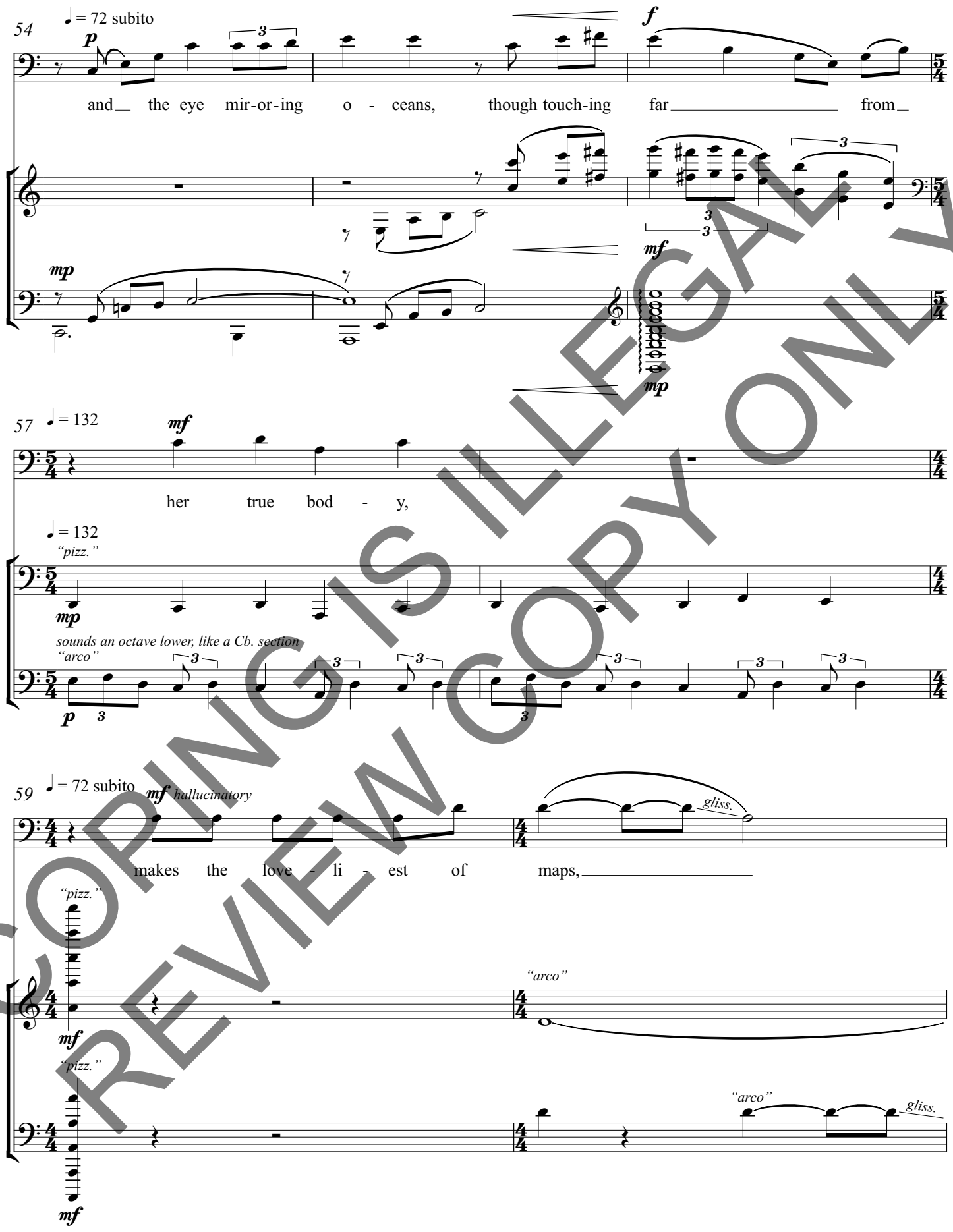

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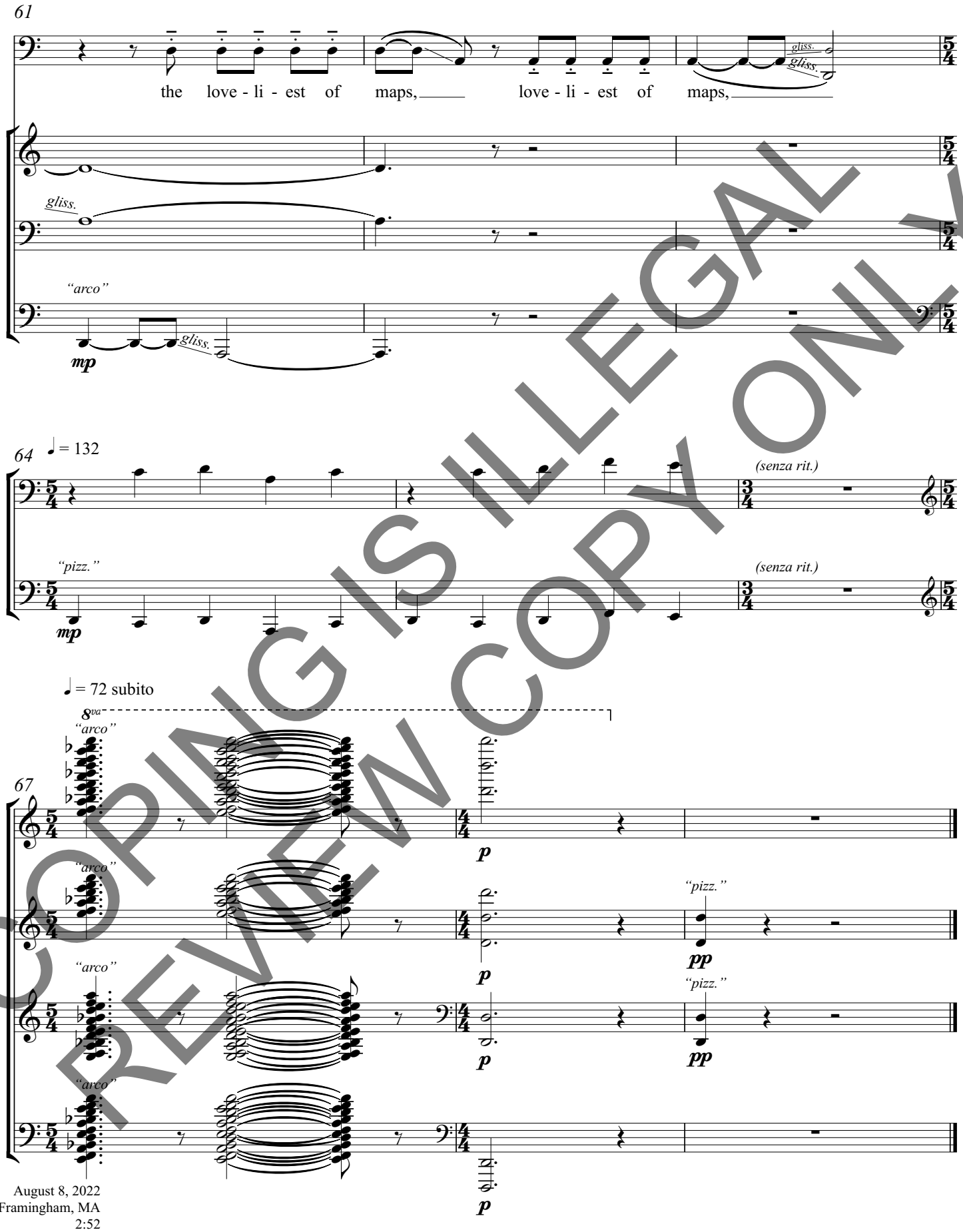

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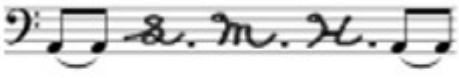

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