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The Two Coffins

(2011)

FOR TENOR & GRAND PIANO

Kyle Gullings

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The Two Coffins

(2011)

This composition is dedicated to my friend and colleague
Dr. Timothy Marshall Ballard, who gave its premiere in 2011.

Text from: *Songs and Other Verse* (1896)
"The Two Coffins"
by Eugene Field

Accessed at Project Gutenberg, 06/06/2011
http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/9889

In yonder old cathedral
Two lovely coffins lie;
In one, the head of the state lies dead,
And a singer sleeps hard by.

Once had that King great power
And proudly ruled the land--
His crown e'en now is on his brow
And his sword is in his hand.

How sweetly sleeps the singer
With calmly folded eyes,
And on the breast of the bard at rest
The harp that he sounded lies.

The castle walls are falling
And war distracts the land,
But the sword leaps not from that mildewed spot
There in that dead king's hand.

But with every grace of nature
There seems to float along--
To cheer again the hearts of men
The singer's deathless song.

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Those interested in performing and/or recording this work should contact the composer directly:
gullings@gmail.com

For more details on CC21, including other no-cost PDF scores, visit:
http://www.kylegullings.com/cc21.php

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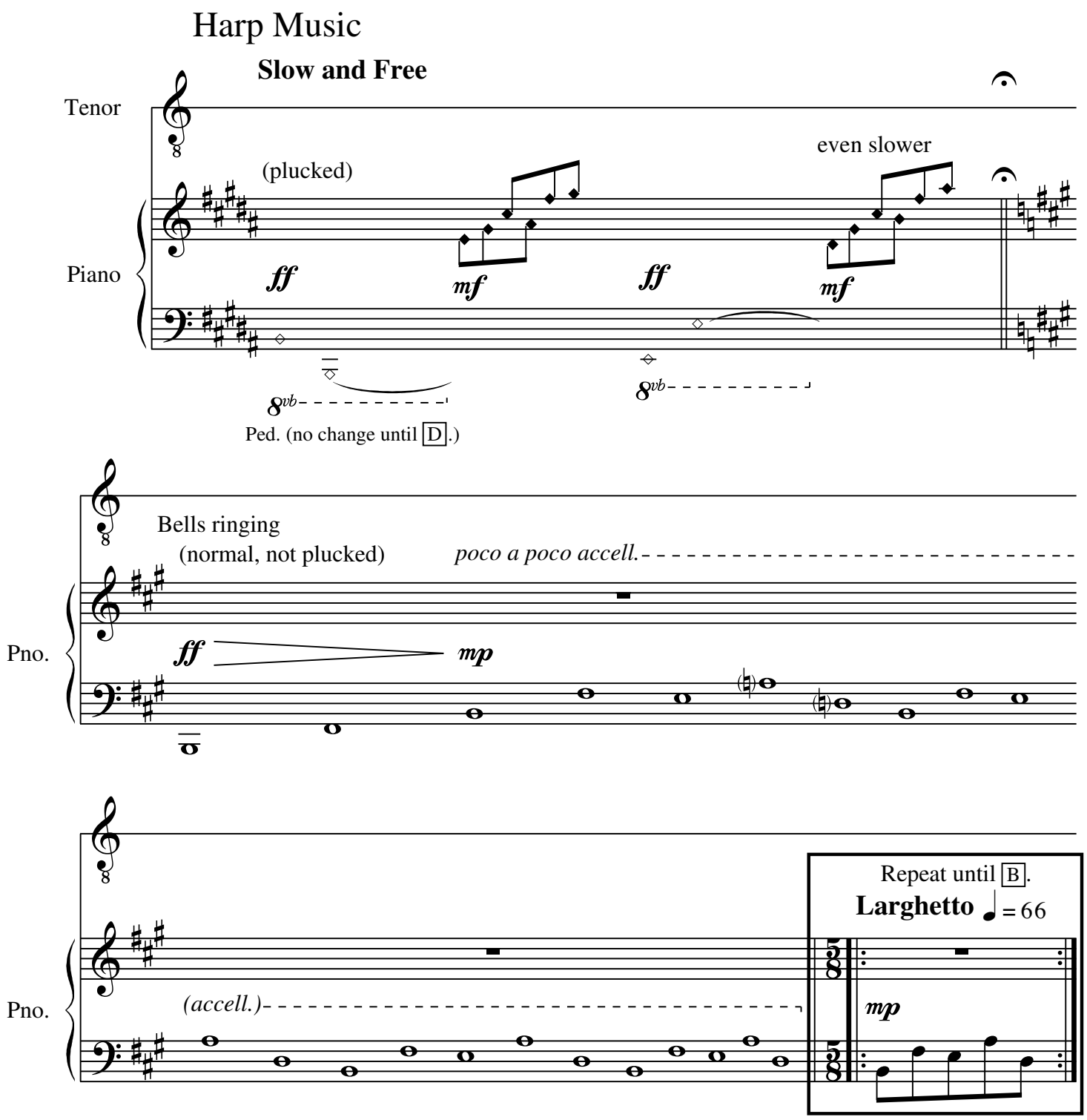
While this project ends October 15, 2011, future performances of this and other CC21 works are encouraged!

~Kyle Gullings, 2011

The Two Coffins

(2011)

Eugene Field **Kyle Gullings**



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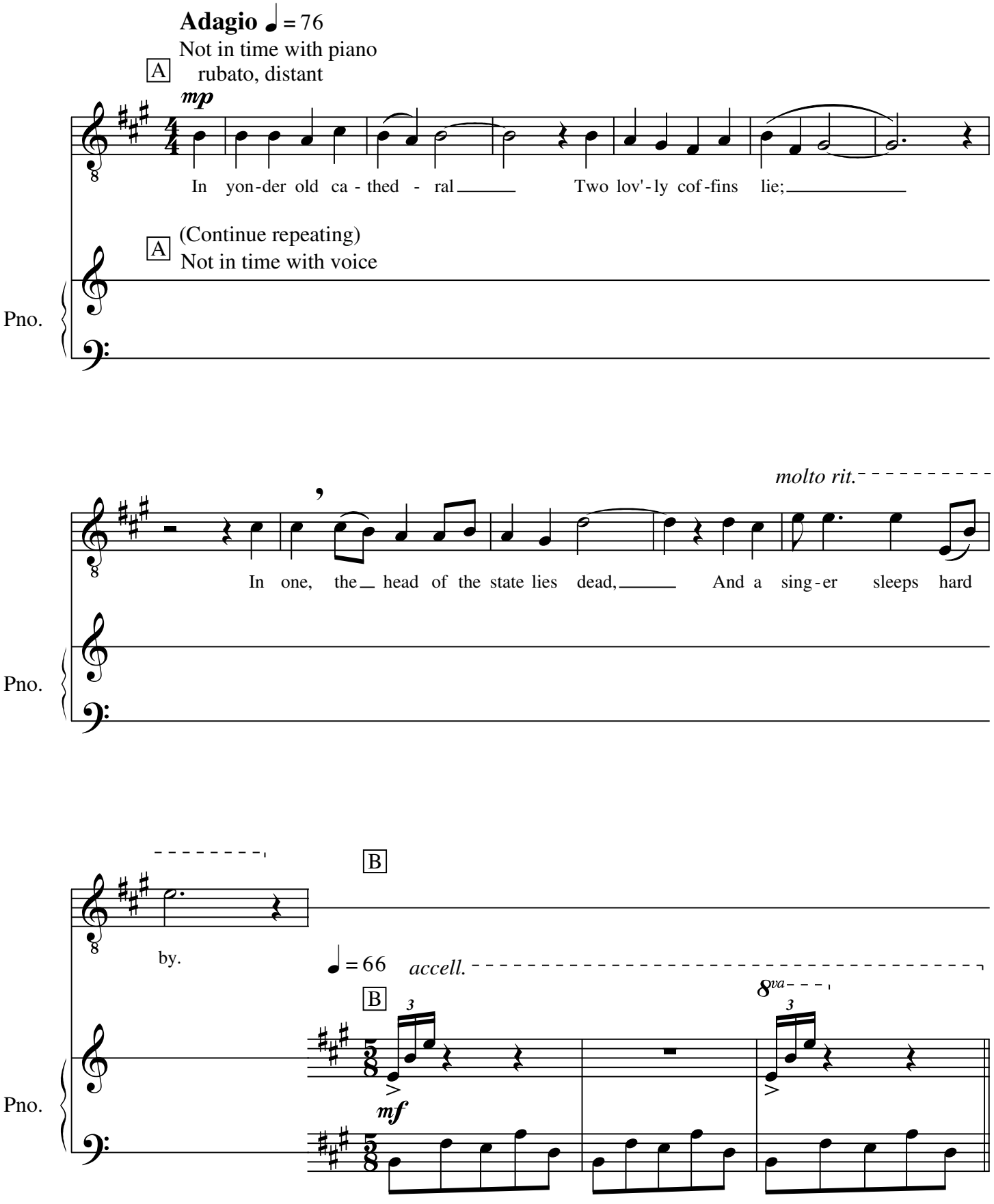
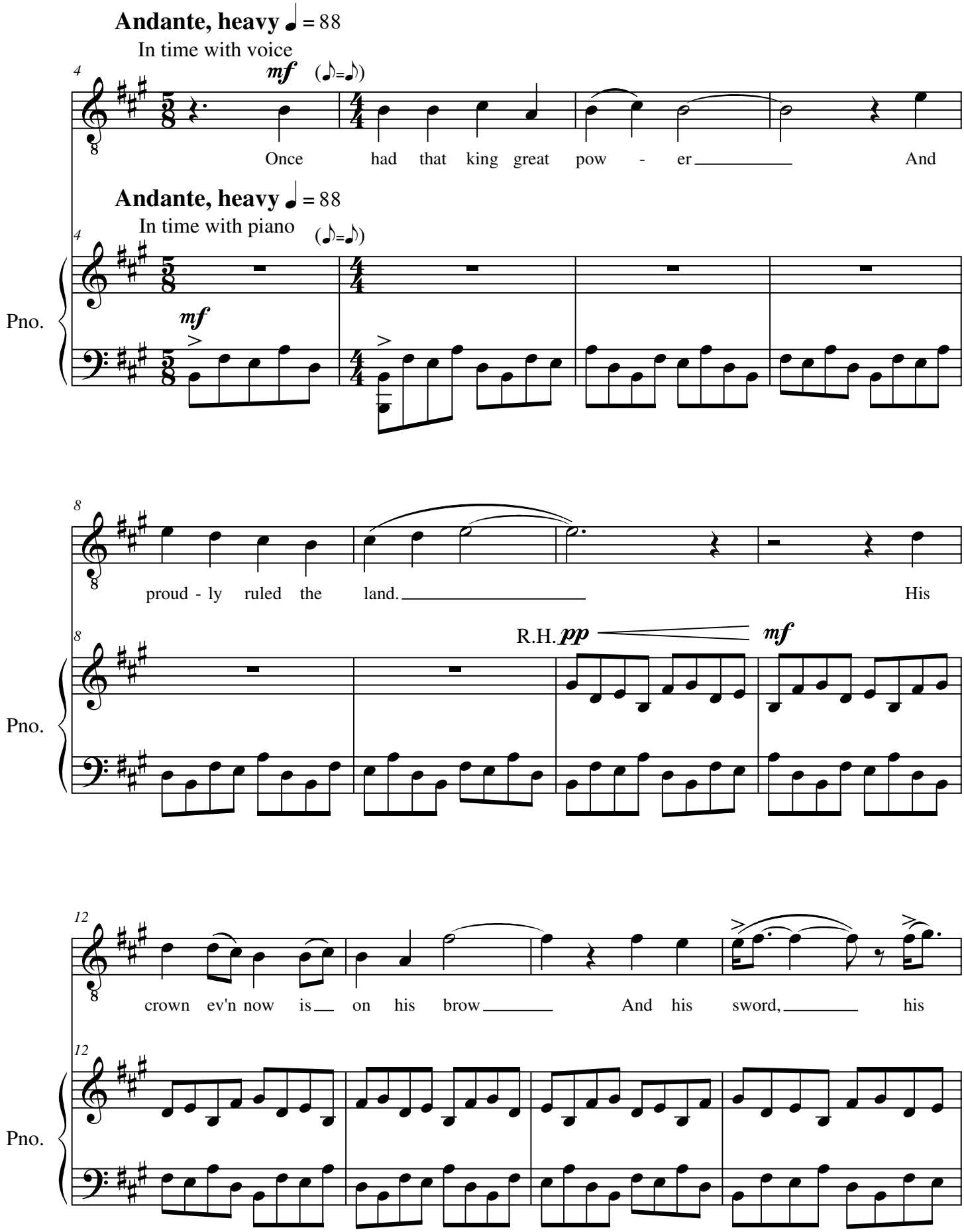
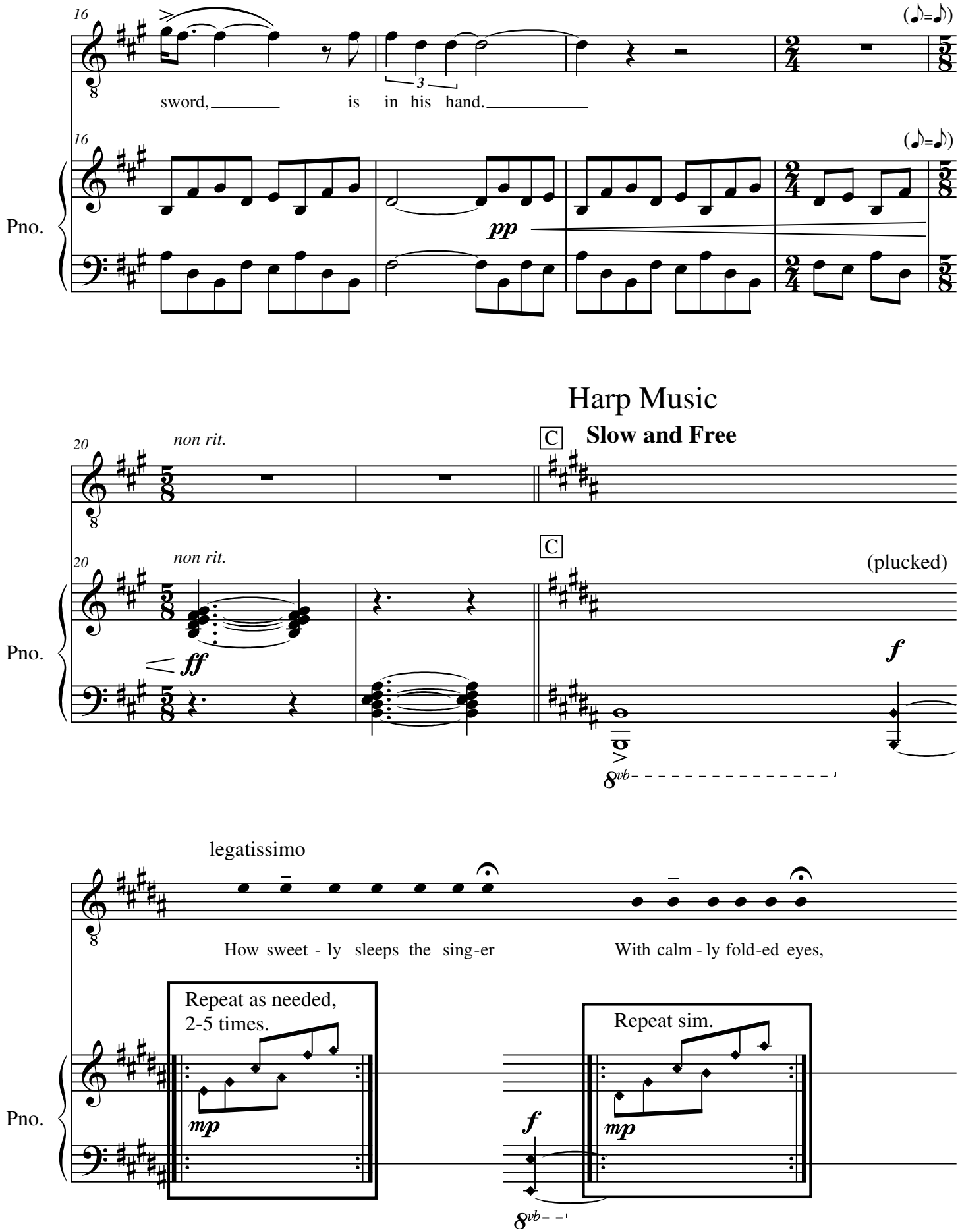
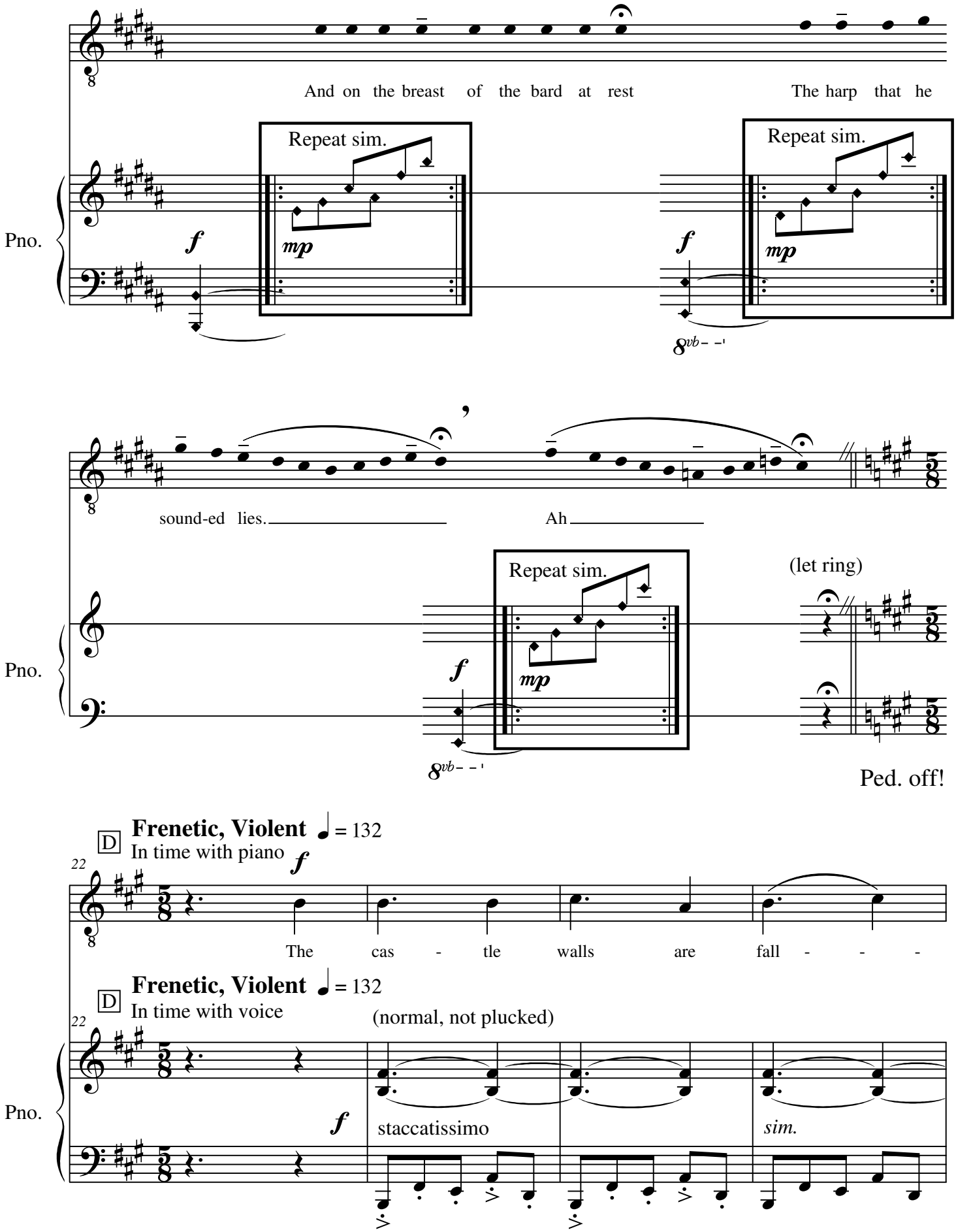
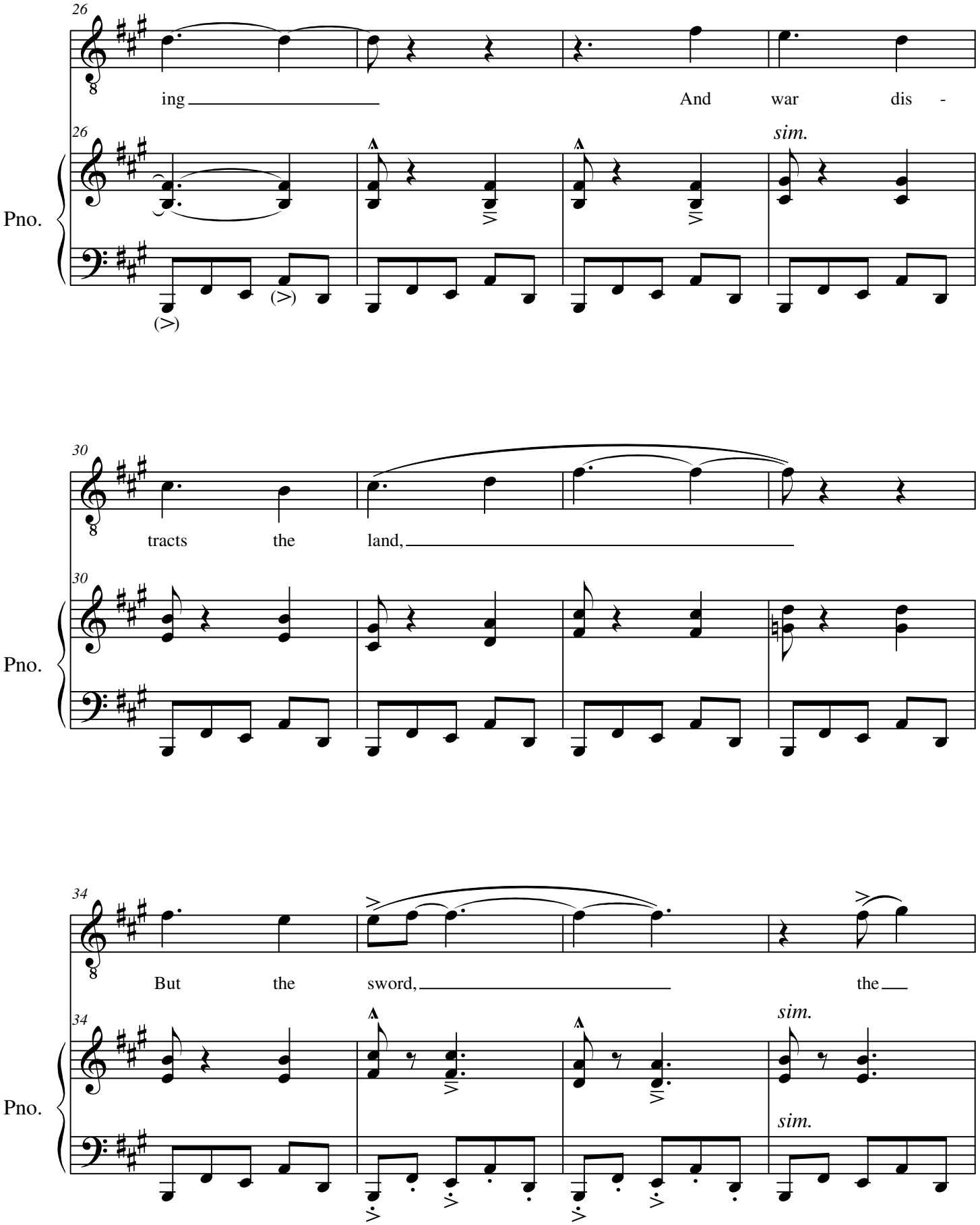
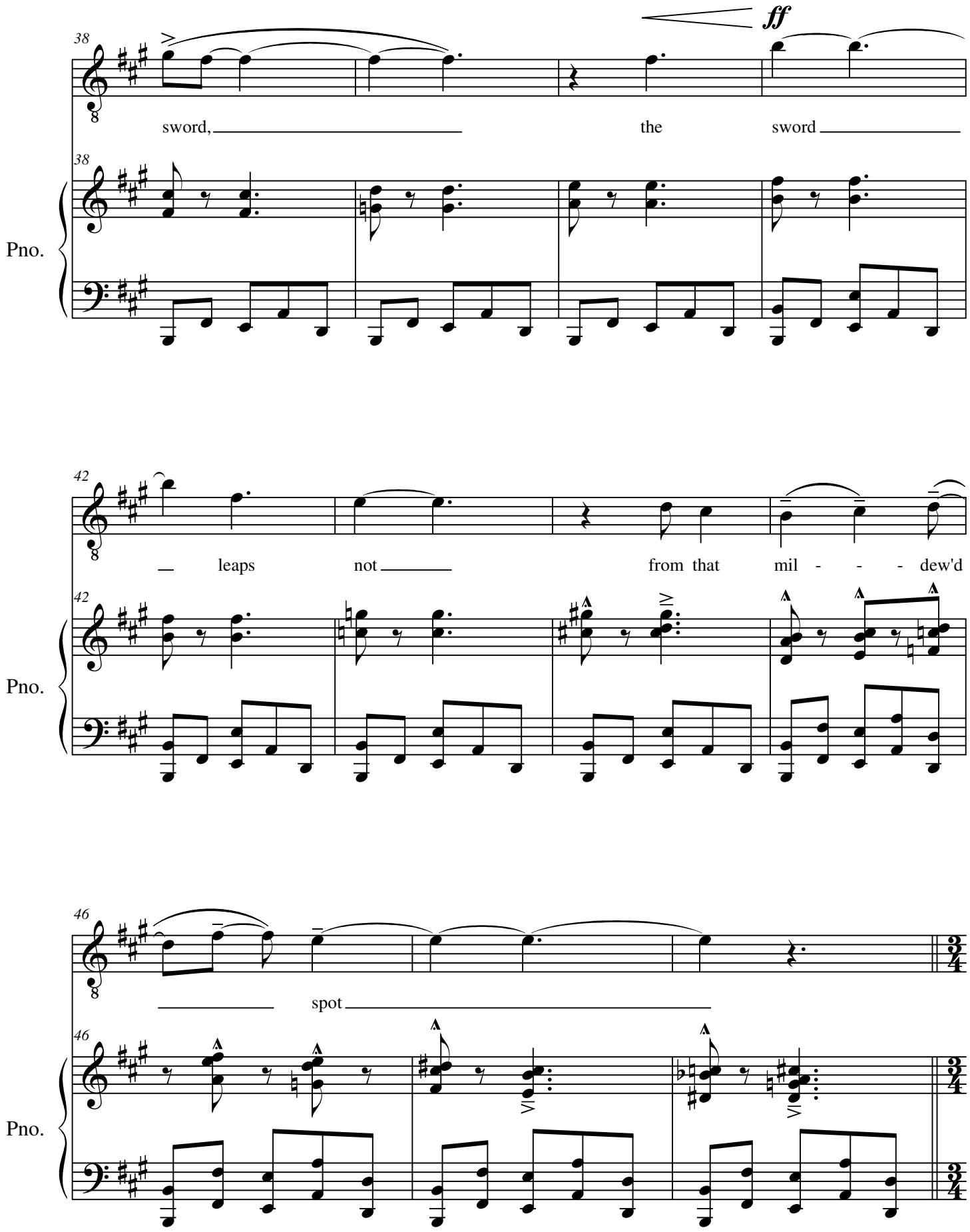

Adagio ♩ = 76
Not in time with piano
rubato, distant
A
mp
In yon-der old ca - thed - ral Two lov'-ly cof-fins lie;
A
(Continue repeating)
Not in time with voice
Pno.
molto rit.
In one, the head of the state lies dead, And a sing-er sleeps hard
Pno.
by.
B
♩ = 66
accell.
B
8va
3
3
mf
Pno.

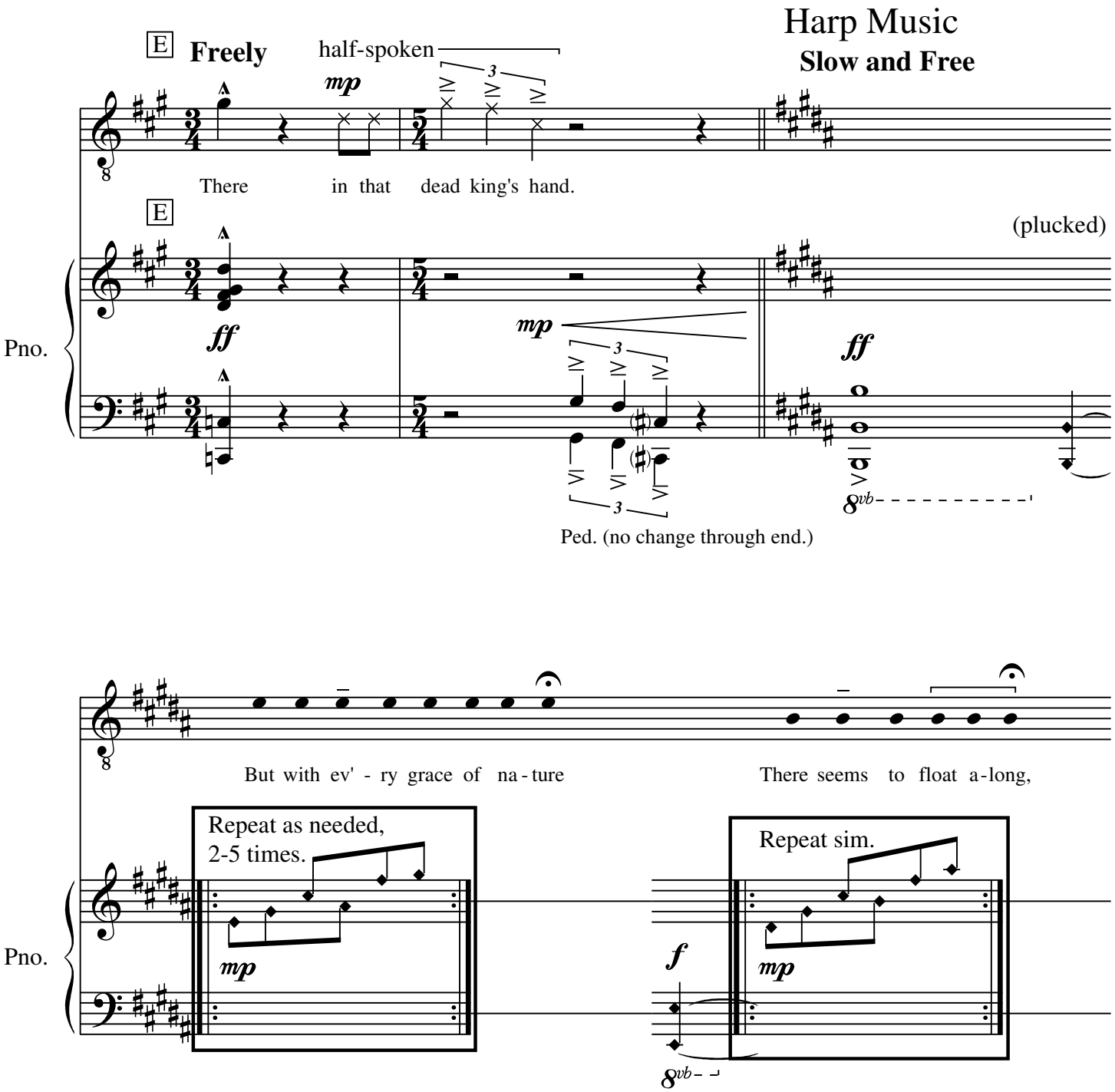

Andante, heavy ♩ = 88
In time with voice
mf
(♪=♪)
Once had that king great pow - er And
Andante, heavy ♩ = 88
In time with piano
(♪=♪)
Pno.
mf
proud - ly ruled the land. His
R.H. pp
mf
crown ev'n now is on his brow And his sword, his

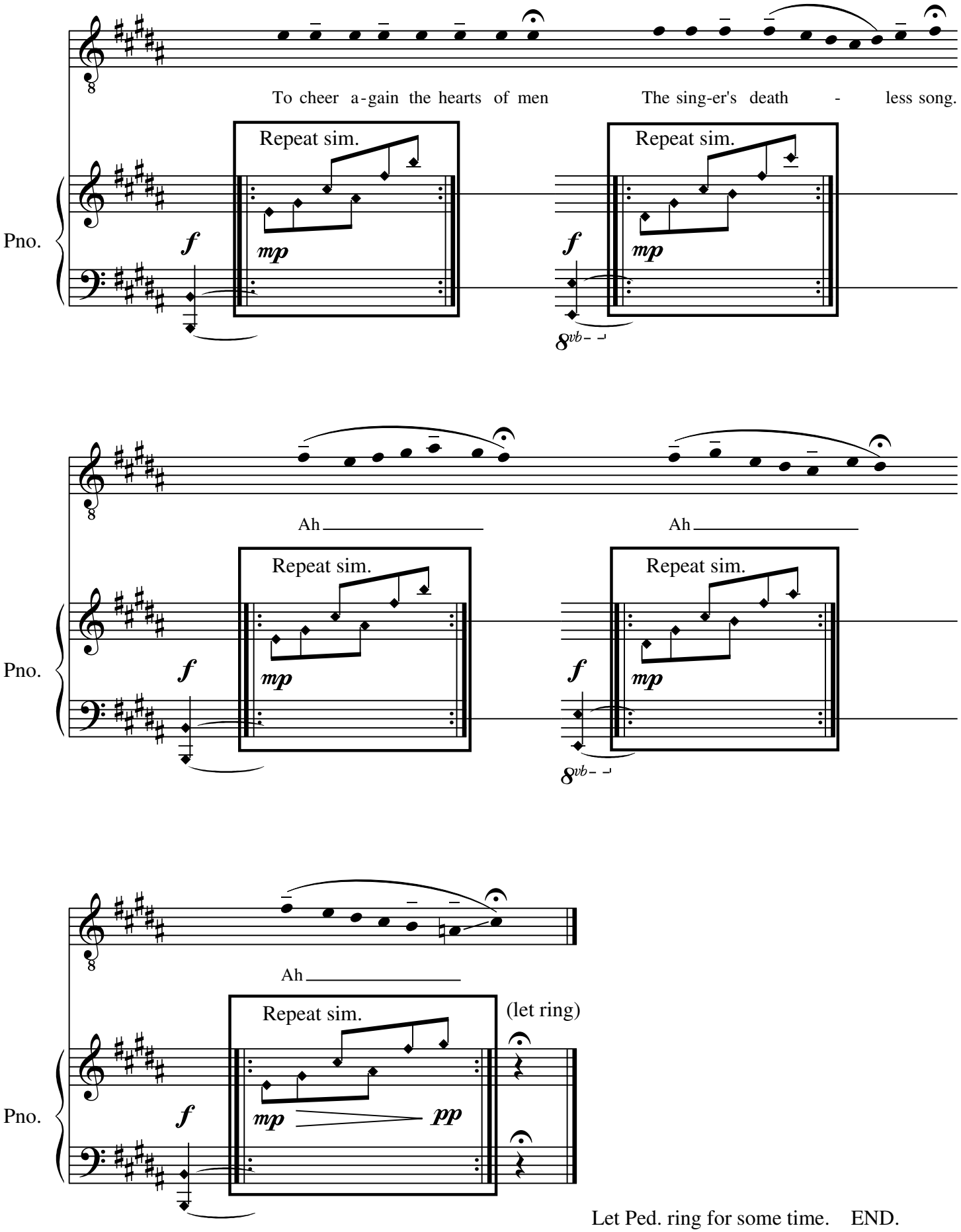

16
(♪=♪)
sword, is in his hand.
3
Pno.
pp
Harp Music
20
non rit.
C
Slow and Free
(plucked)
ff
f
8vb
legatissimo
How sweet - ly sleeps the sing-er
With calm - ly fold-ed eyes,
Repeat as needed,
2-5 times.
mp
Repeat sim.


And on the breast of the bard at rest
The harp that he
Repeat sim.
Repeat sim.
Pno.
f
mp
8vb
sound-ed lies.
Ah
Repeat sim.
(let ring)
Ped. off!
D
Frenetic, Violent
= 132
In time with piano
22
The cas - tle walls are fall - - -
D
Frenetic, Violent
= 132
In time with voice
(normal, not plucked)
staccatissimo
sim.


26
ing
And war dis -
sim.
Pno.
30
tracts the land,
Pno.
34
But the sword, the
sim.
sim.
Pno.


38
ff
sword, the sword
Pno.
42
leaps not from that mil - - - dew'd
Pno.
46
spot
Pno.


Harp Music
Slow and Free
E
Freely
half-spoken
mp
There in that dead king's hand.
E
(plucked)
Pno.
ff
mp
ff
8vb
Ped. (no change through end.)
But with ev' - ry grace of na - ture
There seems to float a - long,
Repeat as needed,
2-5 times.
Repeat sim.
Pno.
mp
f
mp
8vb



Let Ped. ring for some time. END.