Be Thou My Vision

CJ MADSEN MUSIC

CJ Madsen (b. 1993)

Christopher Jed "CJ" Madsen is a first-year doctoral student at the University of Arizona, with an emphasis in choral conducting. CJ recently received a Master of Music degree from Brigham Young University (BYU), in Provo, Utah, with an emphasis in choral conducting. He also received a bachelor's degree in piano performance from BYU.

As a composer and arranger, CJ has had his works performed by all the auditioned BYU choirs. CJ's most recent large work, an opera entitled *He Shall Prepare a Way*, was staged in April 2022 and released as an album and concert video. In addition, CJ is the composer of *One Fold, One Shepherd*, a sacred work for choir and orchestra released in 2019.

CJ grew up in West Jordan, Utah, and was a volunteer missionary for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from 2012 to 2014 in North Carolina. Much of CJ's inspiration as a conductor, composer, and pianist come from his belief in Christ, his passion for people, his thirst for powerful music, and his love for his wife (Samm) and four children (Hollis, Charlotte, Jonathan, and Taran). For more information, see cjmadsenmusic.com.

Notes from the Arranger

This work is the eighth piece that I've written that was commissioned by Chris and Cosette Jones, a couple from Utah whom I met in early 2022. Cosette is a vocalist, and she and Chris want to create a series of music arrangements that showcase her talent as well as inspire others.

I have always found great strength and power in this old Irish hymn. Its history is deep: The original Old Irish text is attributed to Dallán Forgaill (560-640 A.D.). The best-known English version was translated in 1905 by Mary Elizabeth Byrne and then rendered poetically by Eleanor Hull in 1912. Since 1919 it has been commonly sung to an Irish folk tune noted as "Slane" in church hymnals.

For this arrangement, I sought to convey the joy that comes from following the Lord and allowing Him to be the most important influence in your life. The flute represents the beckoning, encouraging, and uplifting voice of the Spirit, which testifies of God and His Son and is an edifying and empowering force available to all who seek it through obedience to God. The final scripture cited at the end of the work reads in part, "Have ye spiritually been born of God? Have ye received His image in your countenances? Have ye experienced this mighty chance in your hearts?" (Alma 5:14)

As in a common theme with my written piano parts, ad-lib "beefing up" of the part is all right and in fact encouraged, with prudence (as I do this myself with the piano scores of works by other composers).

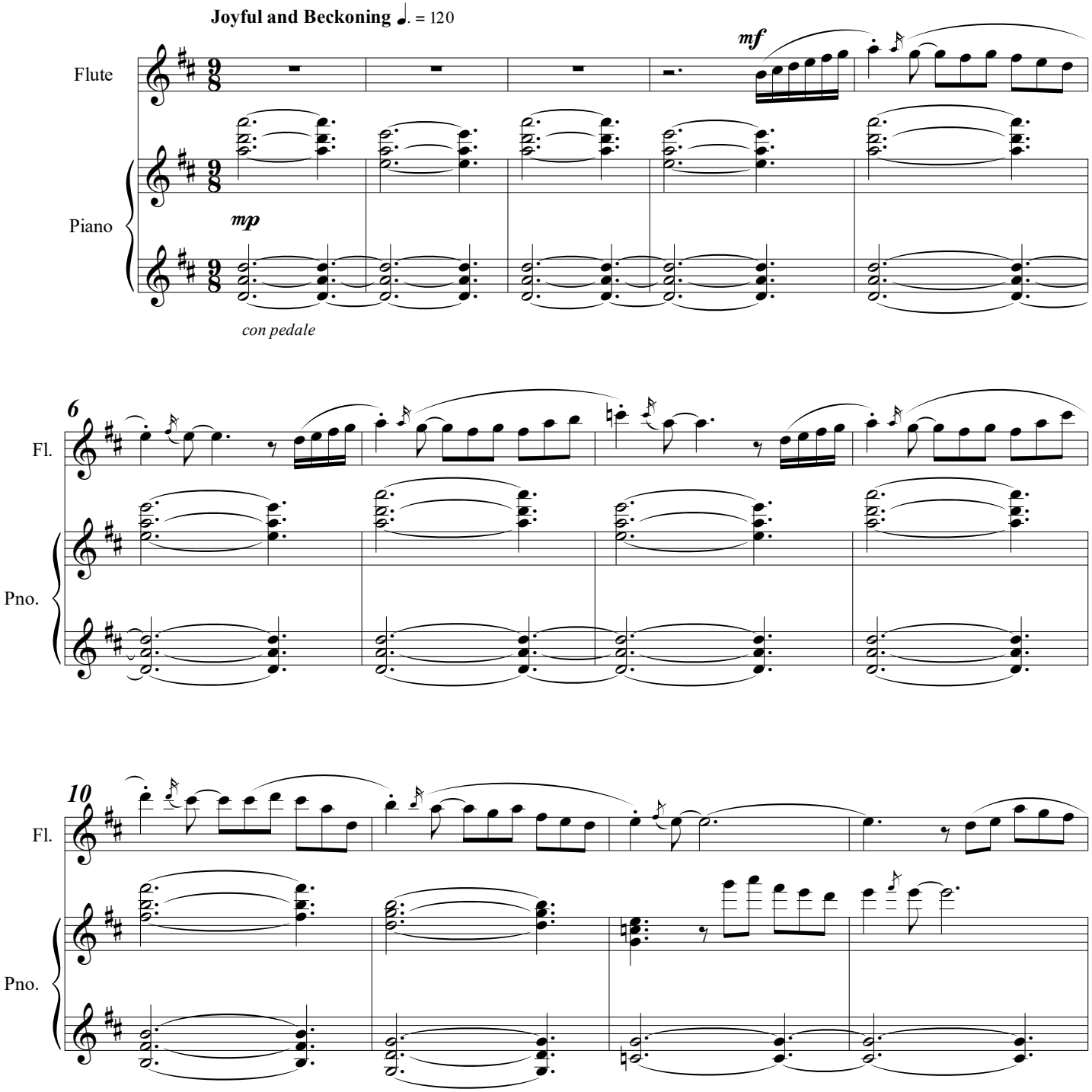
Score

for Chris and Cosette Jones

Be Thou My Vision

for Soprano, Flute, and Piano

Irish folk hymn
Poetic text by Eleanor Hull
arr. CJ Madsen



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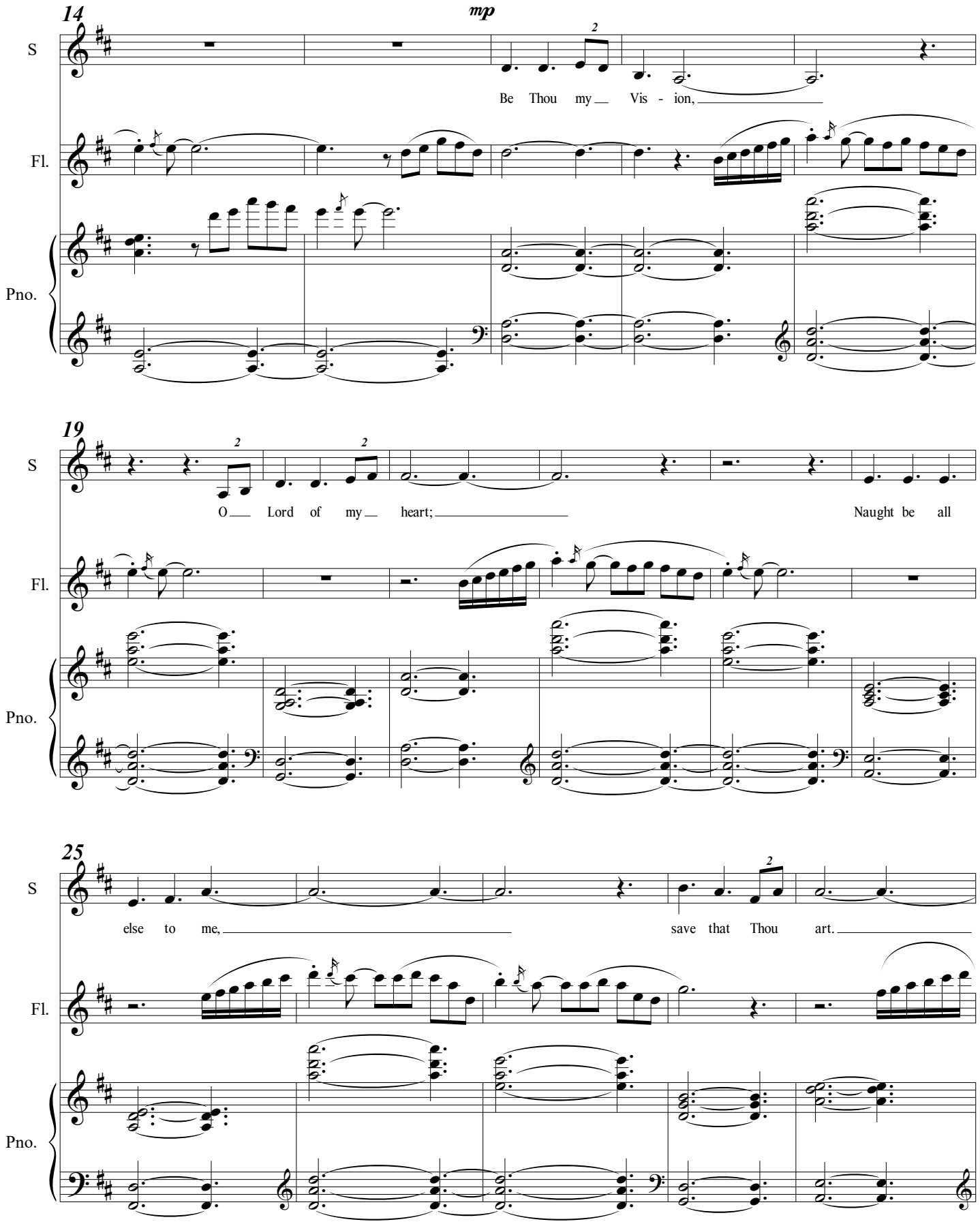
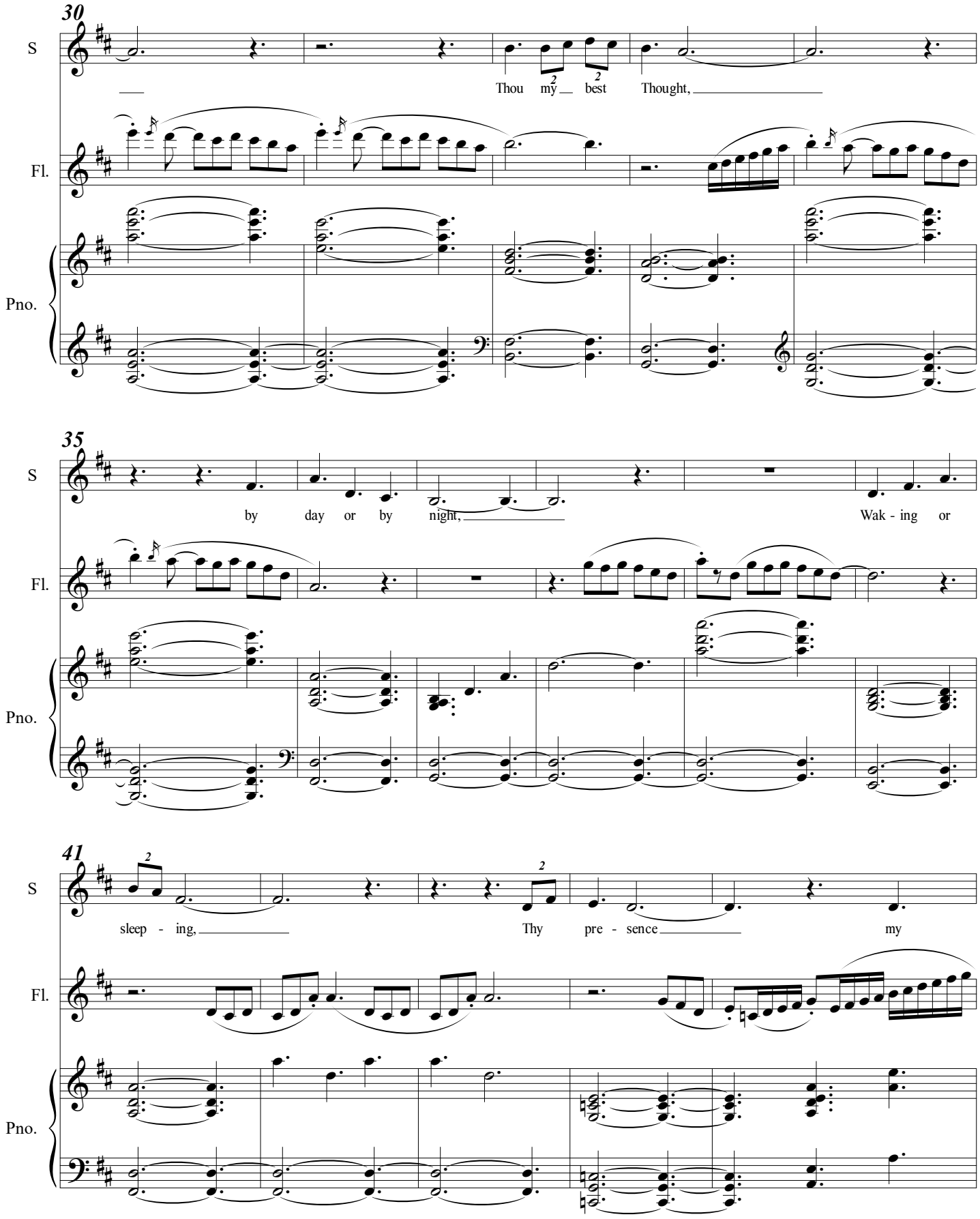
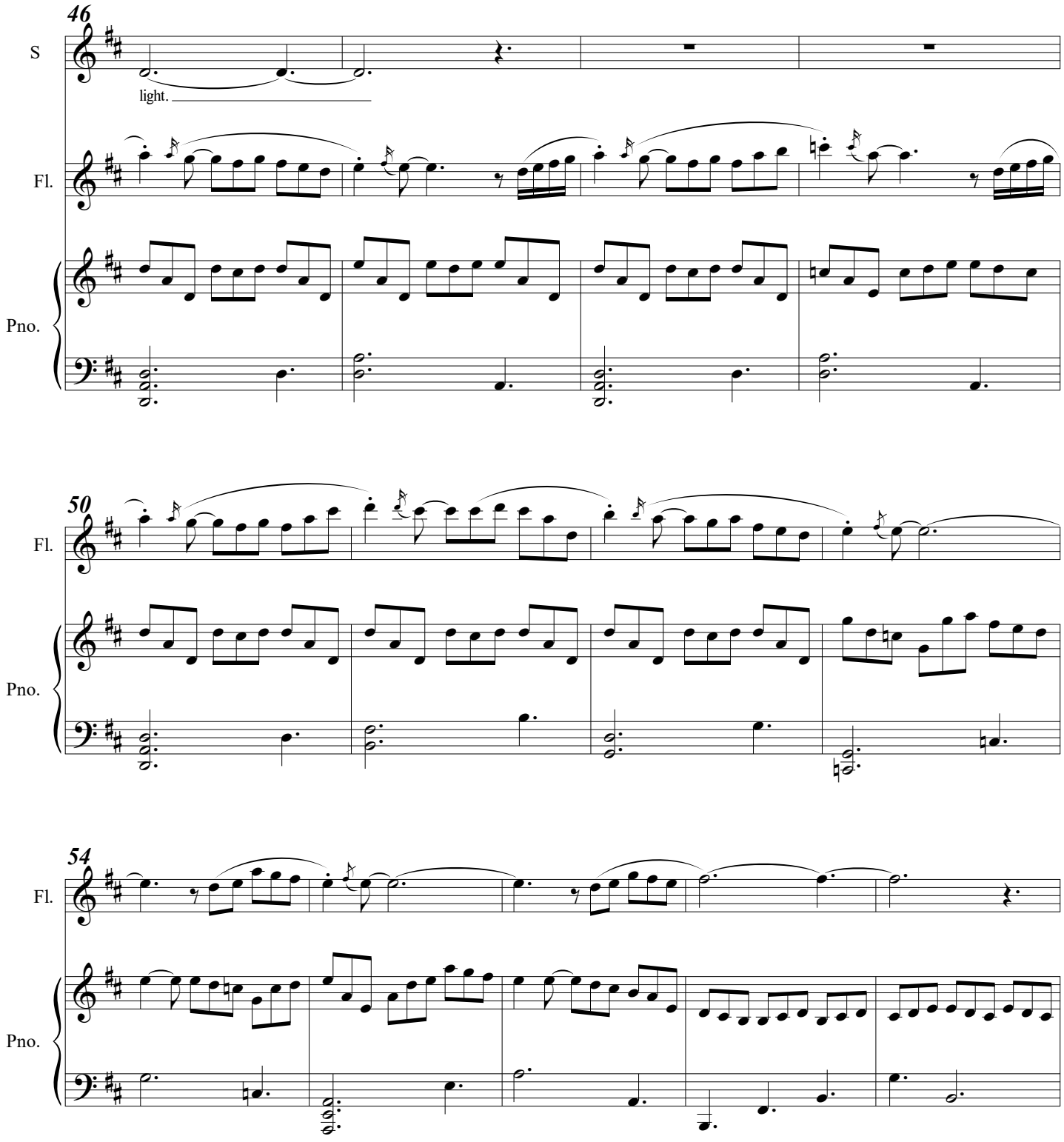
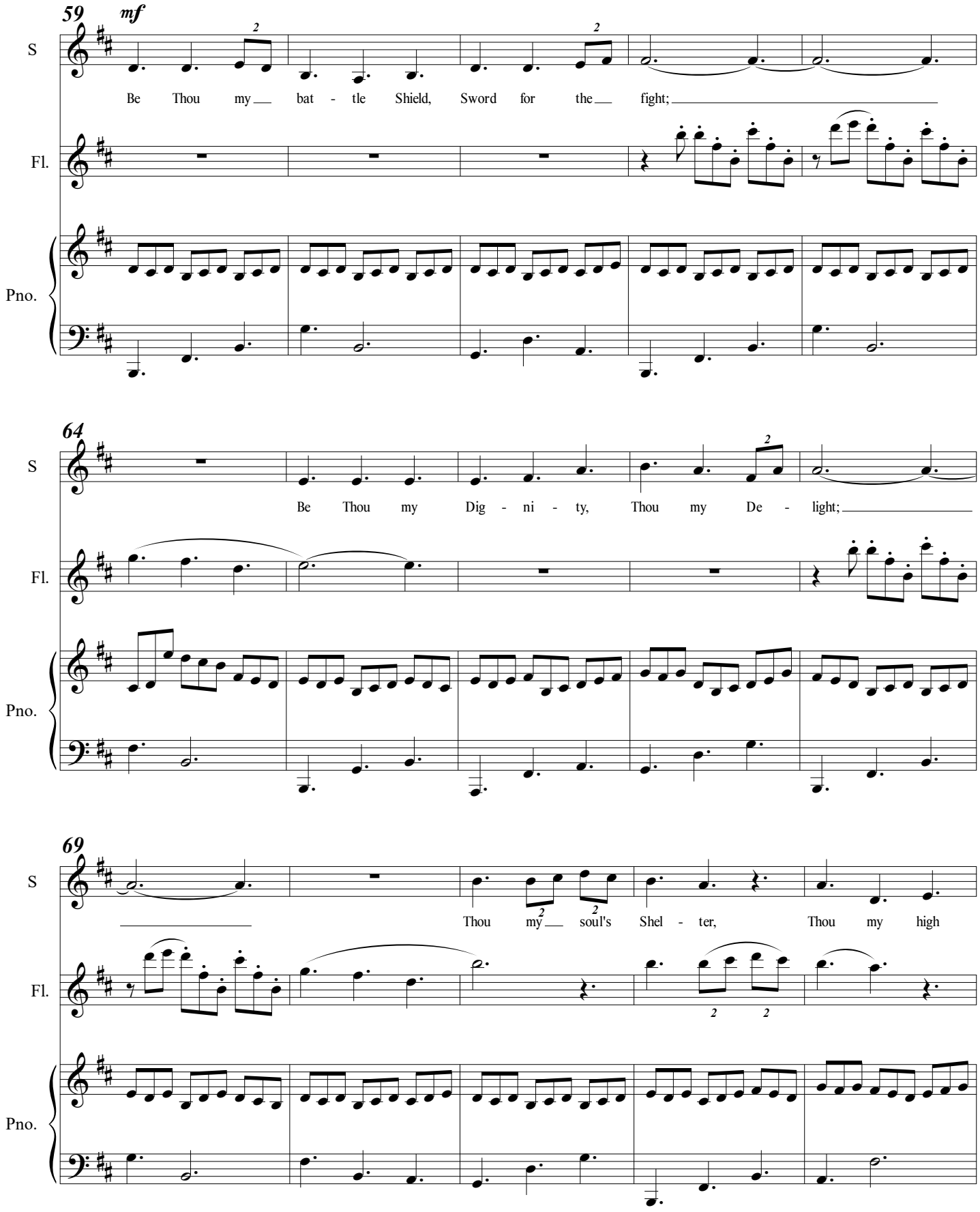
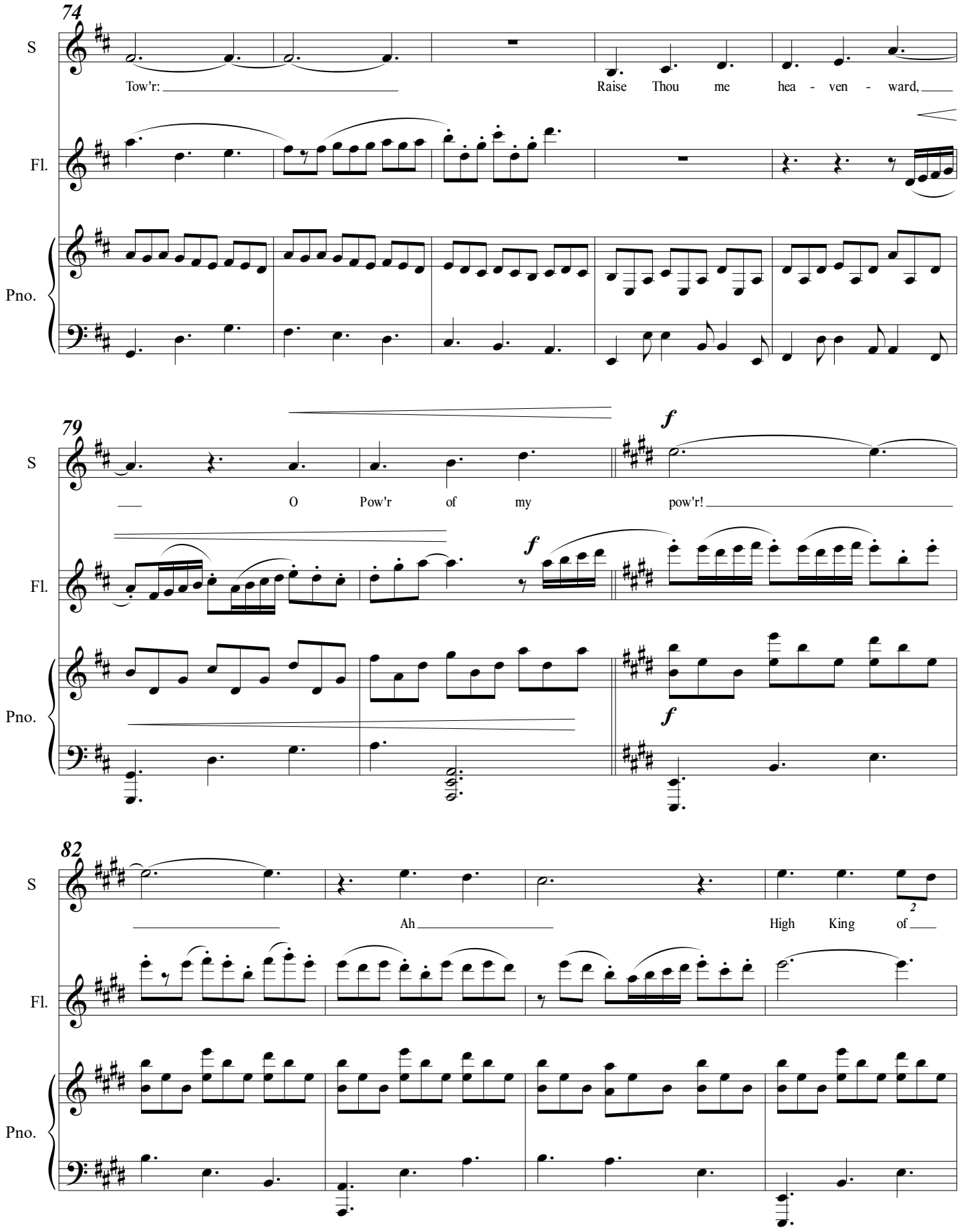
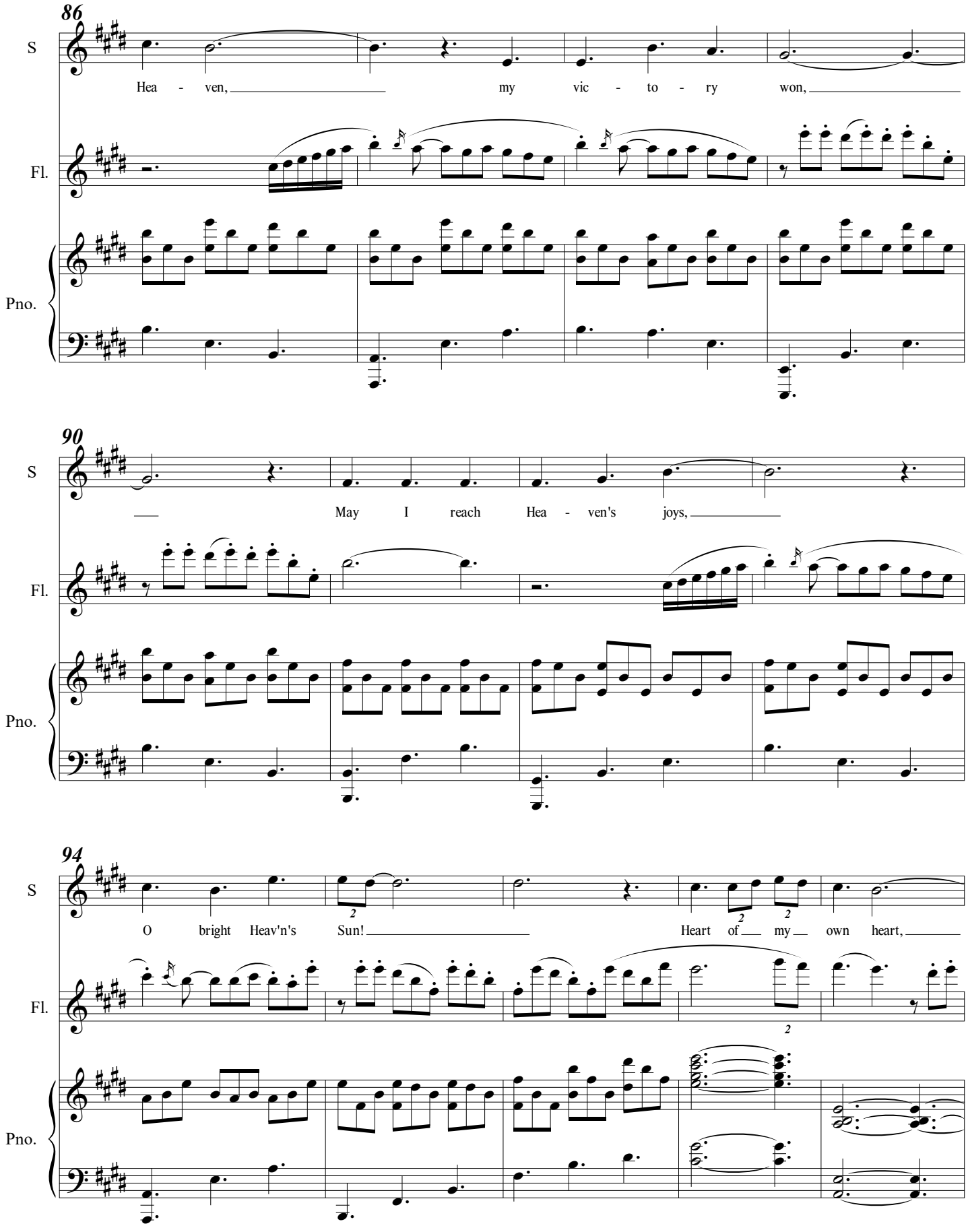

14
mp
S
Be Thou my Vis - ion,
Fl.
Pno.
19
S
O Lord of my heart; Naught be all
Fl.
Pno.
25
S
else to me, save that Thou art.
Fl.
Pno.

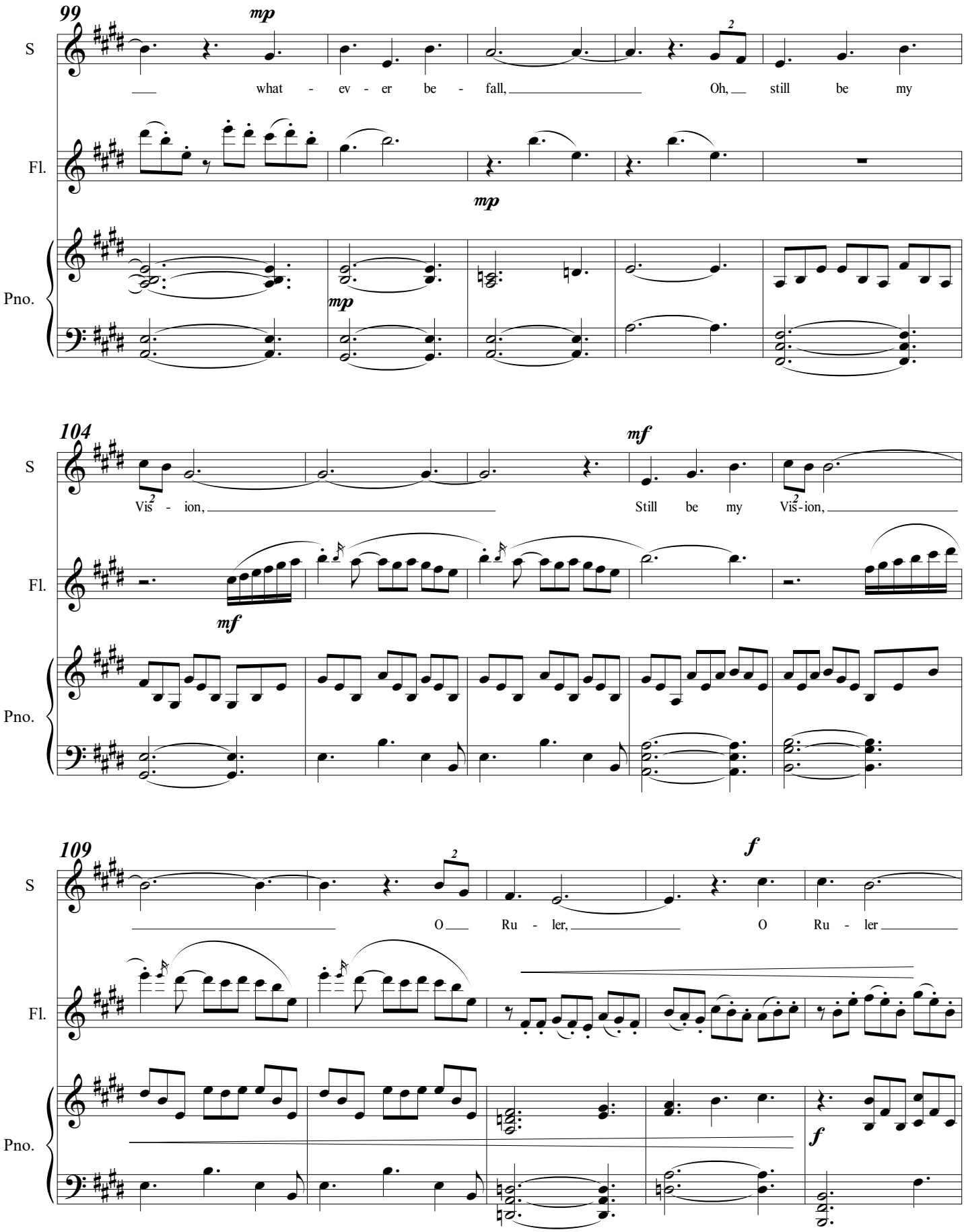

30
S
Thou my best Thought,
Fl.
Pno.
35
S
by day or by night,
Wak - ing or
Fl.
Pno.
41
S
sleep - ing,
Thy pre - sence
my
Fl.
Pno.

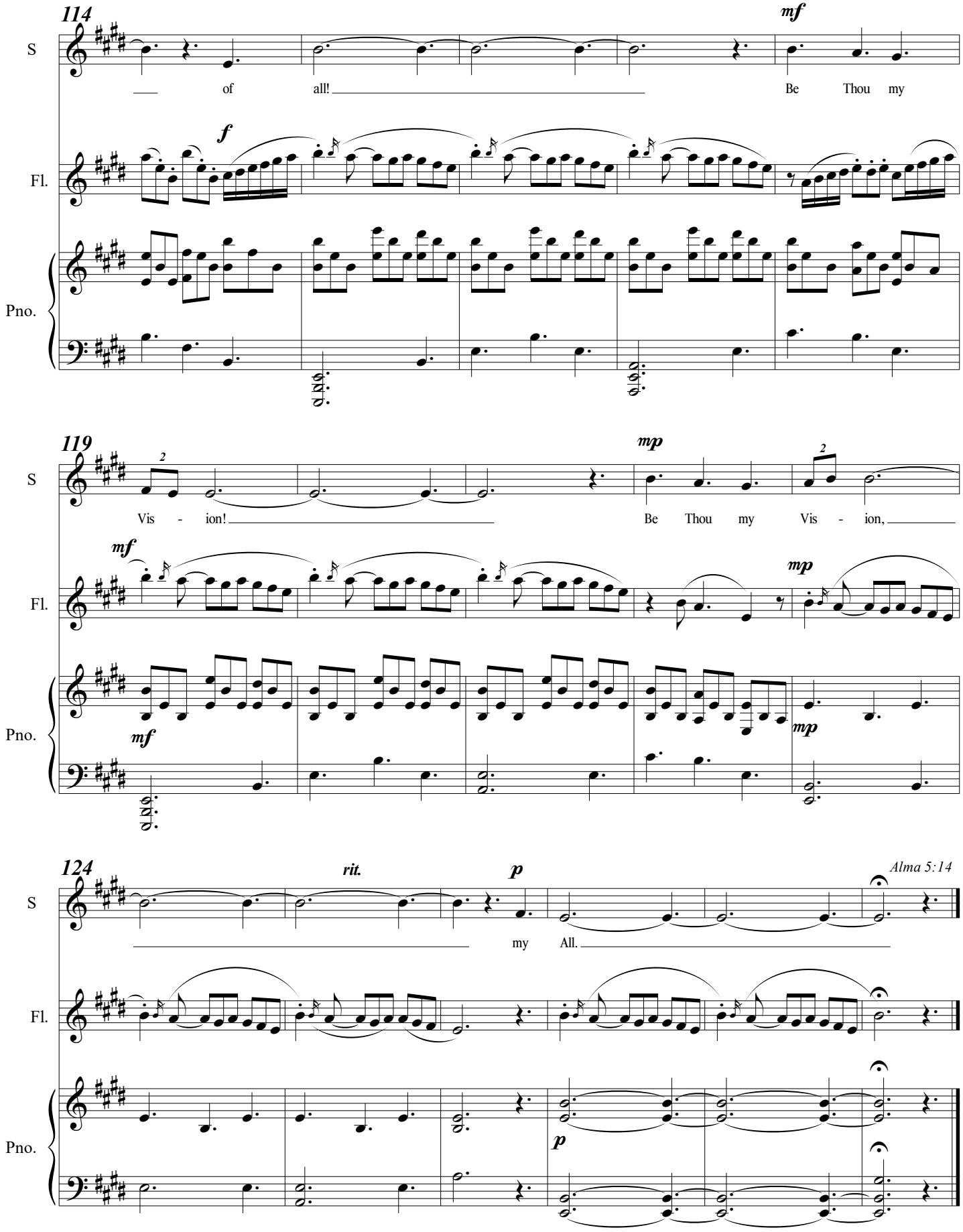

46
S
light.
Fl.
Pno.
50
Fl.
Pno.
54
Fl.
Pno.


59
mf
S
Be Thou my bat - tle Shield, Sword for the fight;
Fl.
Pno.
64
S
Be Thou my Dig - ni - ty, Thou my De - light;
Fl.
Pno.
69
S
Thou my soul's Shel - ter, Thou my high
Fl.
Pno.


74
S
Tow'r:
Raise Thou me hea - ven - ward,
Fl.
Pno.
79
S
O Pow'r of my
pow'r!
f
Fl.
f
Pno.
f
82
S
Ah
High King of
2
Fl.
Pno.


86
S
Hea - ven, my vic - to - ry won,
Fl.
Pno.
90
S
May I reach Hea - ven's joys,
Fl.
Pno.
94
S
O bright Heav'n's Sun! Heart of my own heart,
Fl.
Pno.


99
mp
S
what - ev - er be - fall, Oh, still be my
Fl.
mp
Pno.
mp
104
mf
S
Vis - ion, Still be my Vis - ion,
Fl.
mf
Pno.
109
f
S
O Ru - ler, O Ru - ler
Fl.
Pno.
f



November 23, 2022
Tucson, Arizona

Flute

for Chris and Cosette Jones

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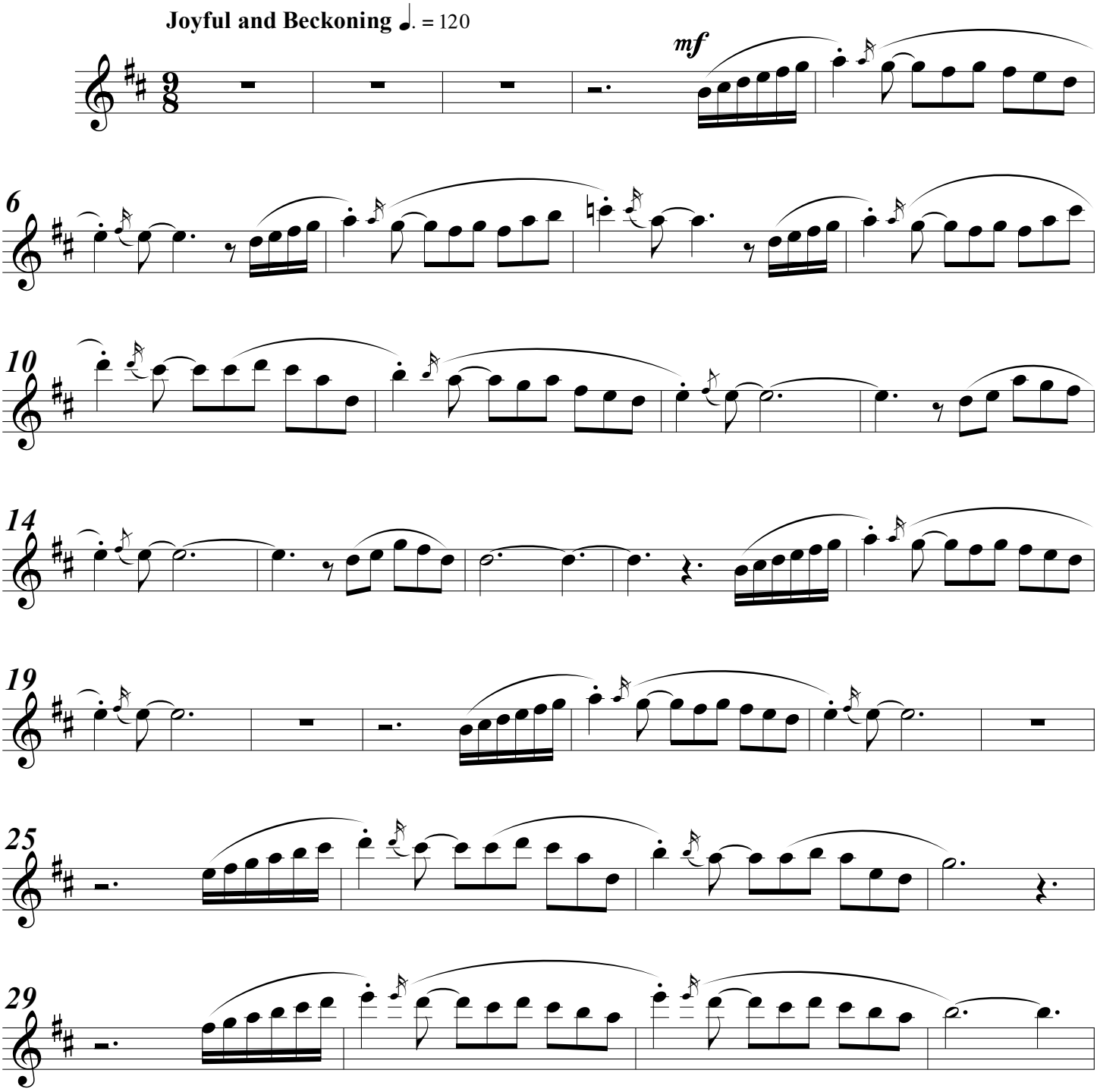
for Soprano, Flute, and Piano

Irish folk hymn
Poetic text by Eleanor Hull
arr. CJ Madsen



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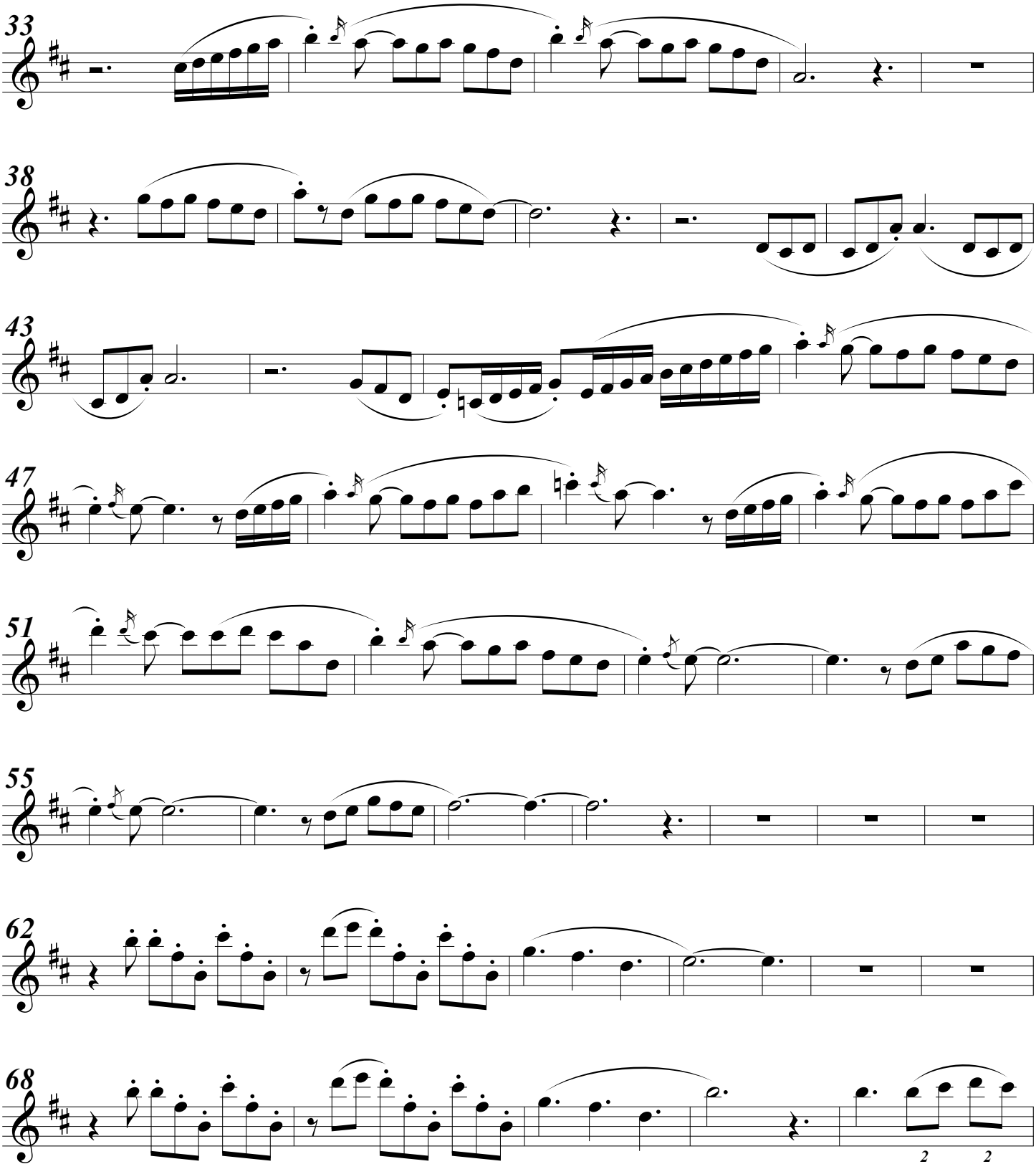
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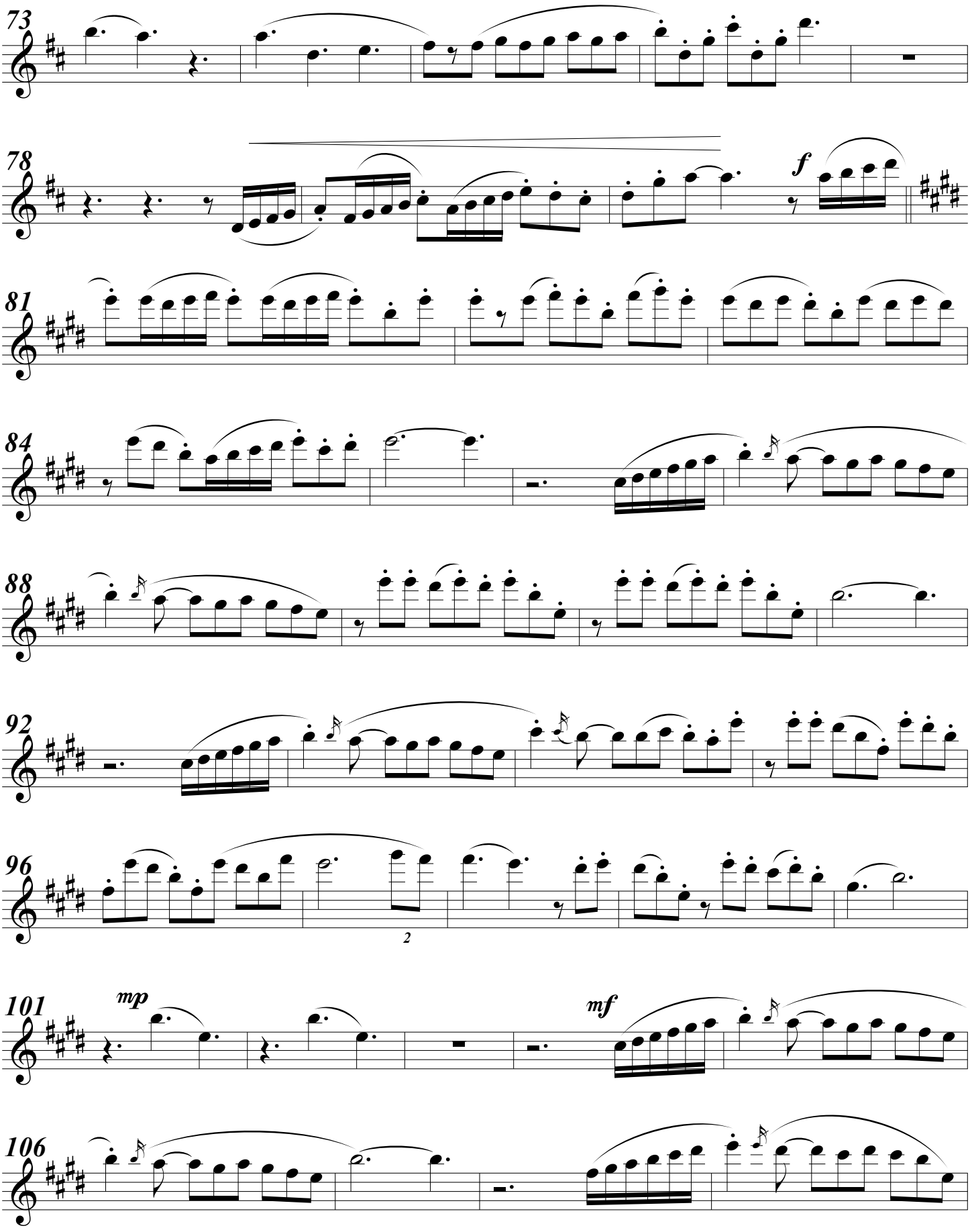
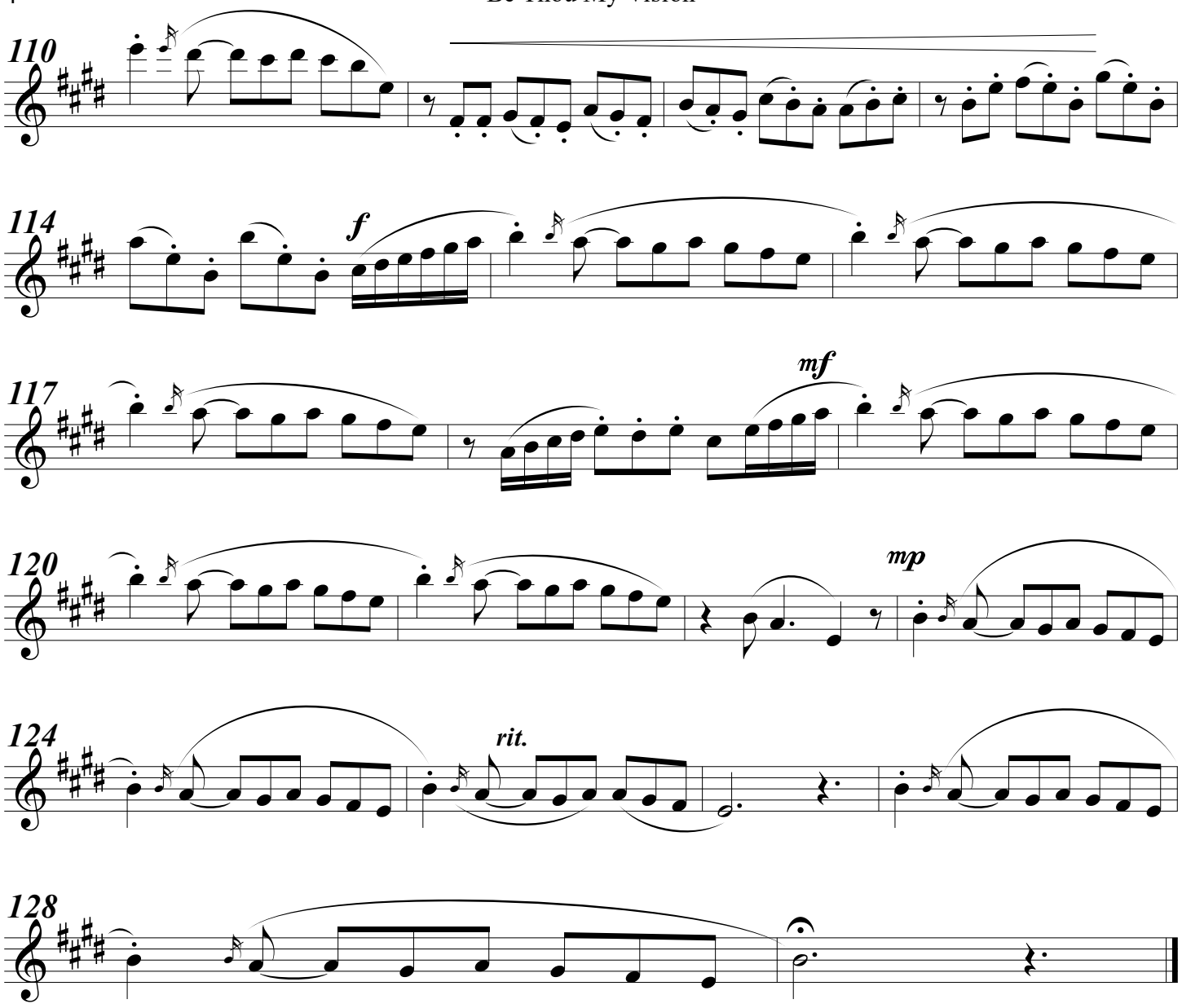
38
43
47
51
55
62
68


73
78
f
81
84
88
92
96
2
101
mp
mf
106


110
114
f
117
mf
120
mp
124
rit.
128