SUSANNA

AN ORATORIO

As it was perform'd at the

THEATRE-ROYAL in Covent Garden, London

1749

Set to Musick by GEORGE-FREDERICK HANDEL, Esq.

Edited by

Nicholas McGegan, John Roberts, and Eleanor Selfridge-Field

CONTINUO

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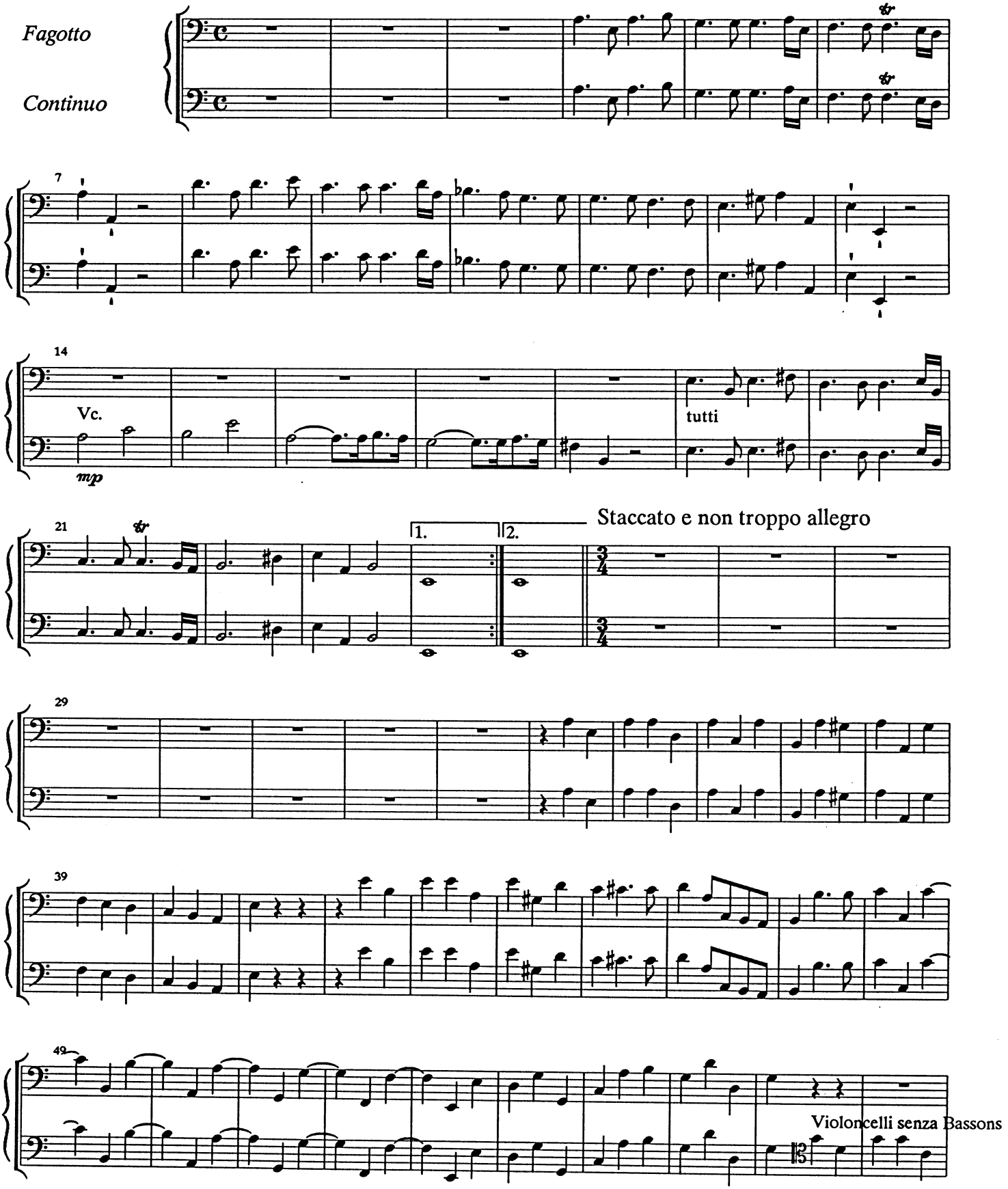
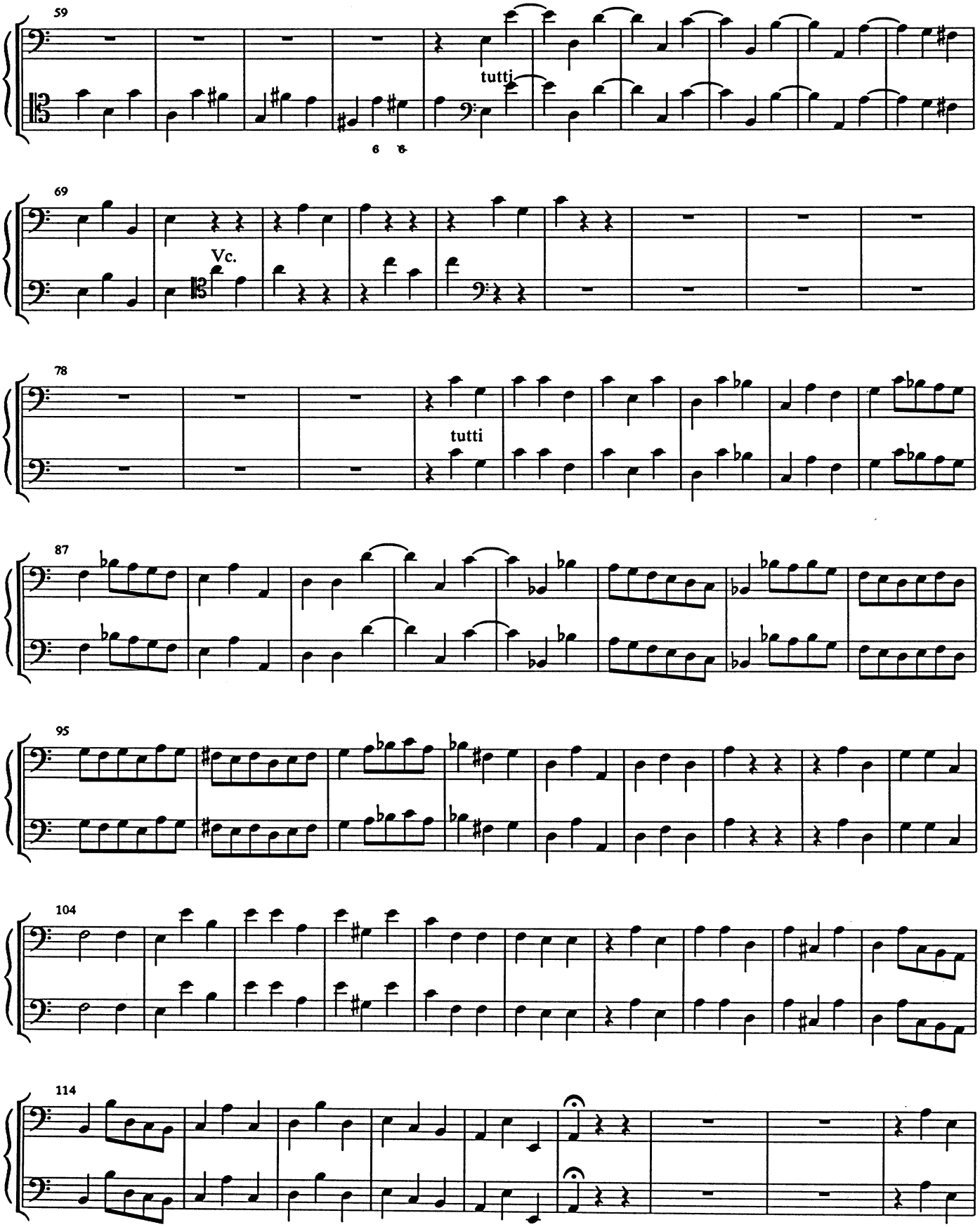
1. Overture


Fagotto
Continuo
7
14
Vc.
mp
tutti
21
1.
2.
Staccato e non troppo allegro
29
39
49
Violoncelli senza Bassons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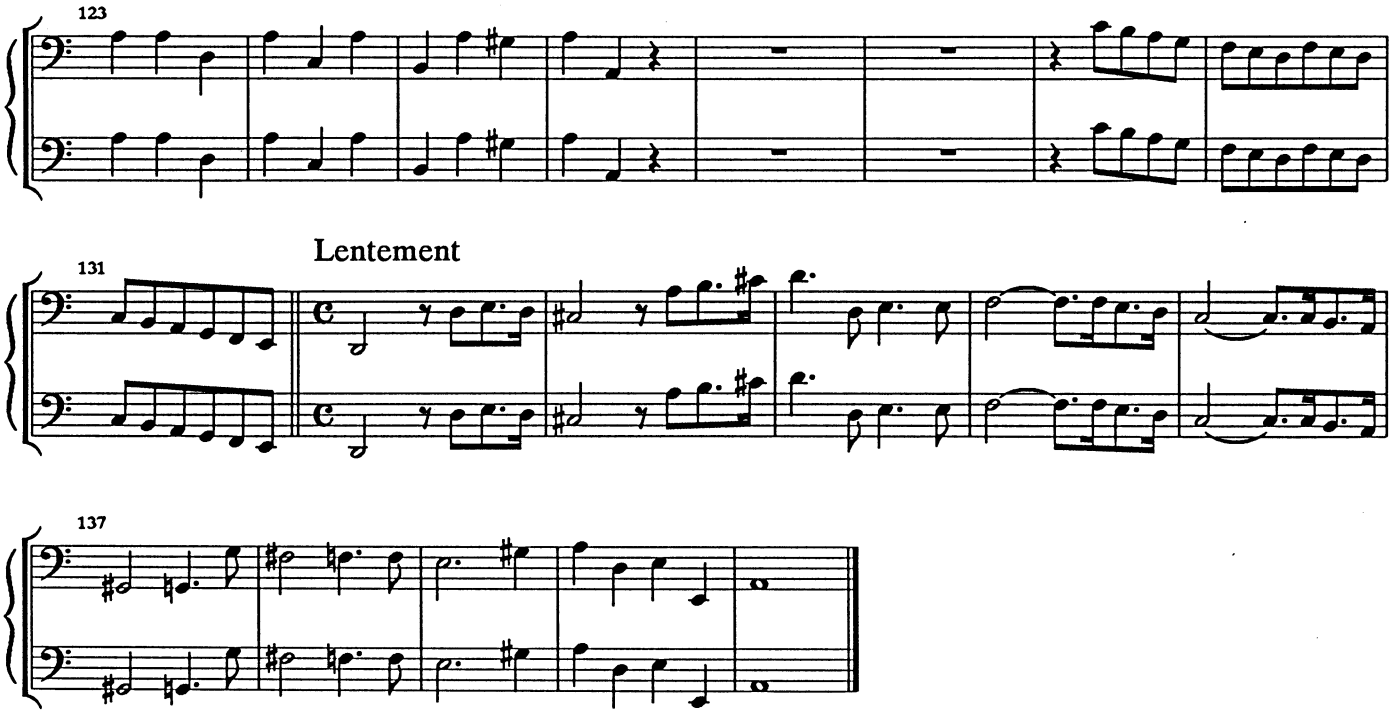
tutti
6 8
69
Vc.
78
tutti
87
95
104
114



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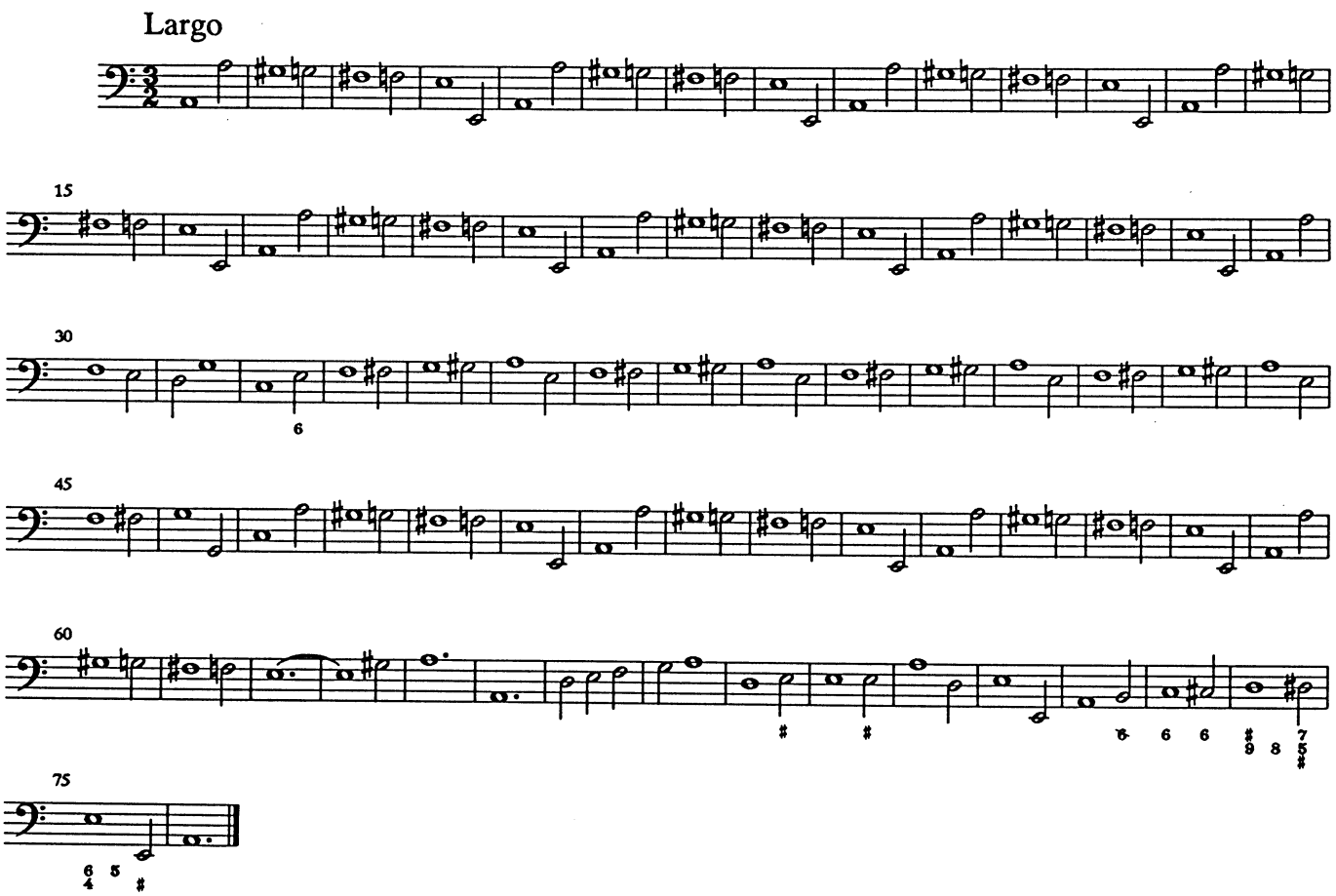

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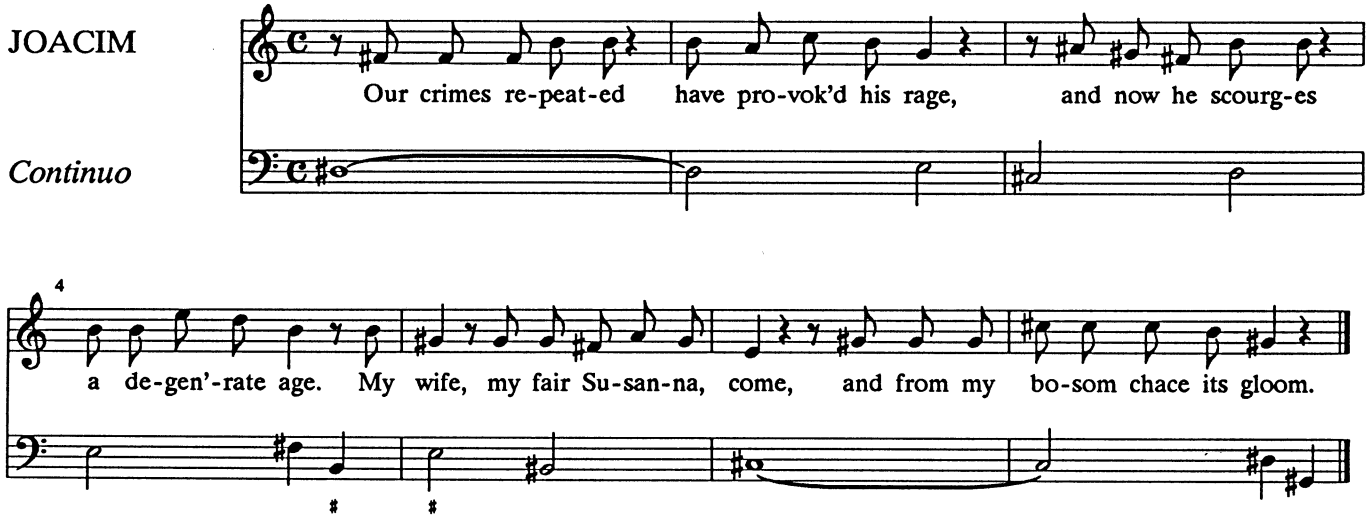

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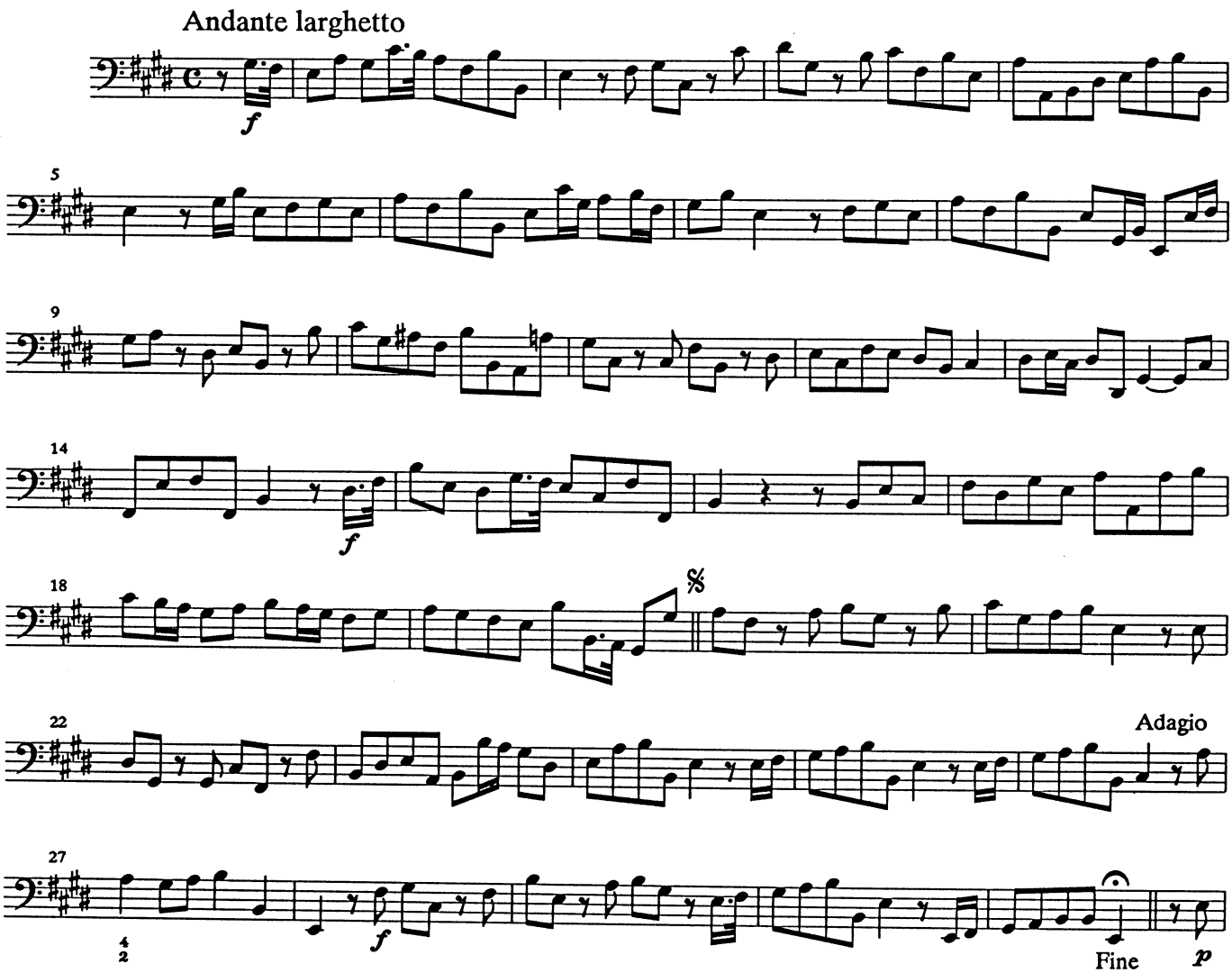

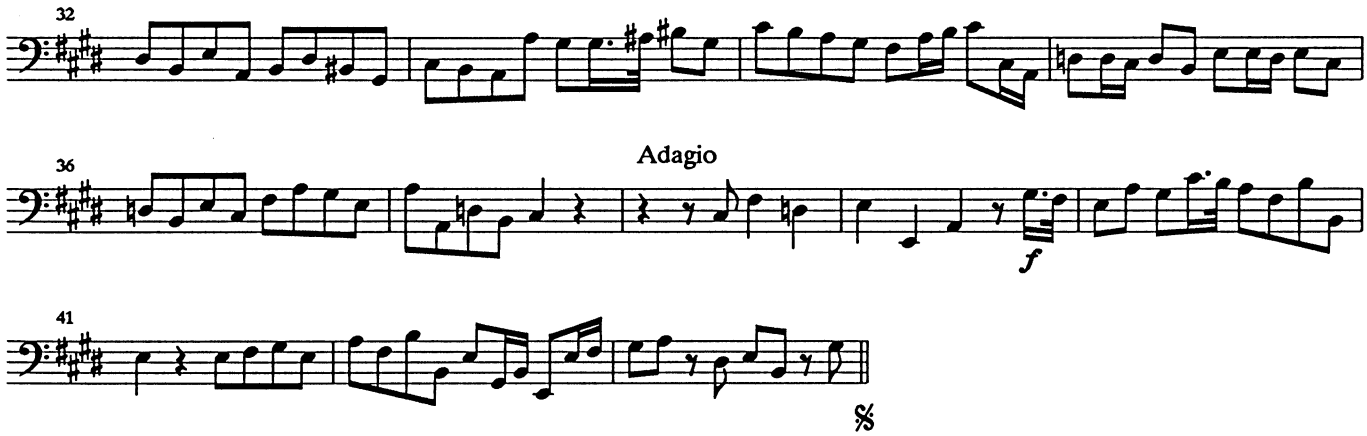

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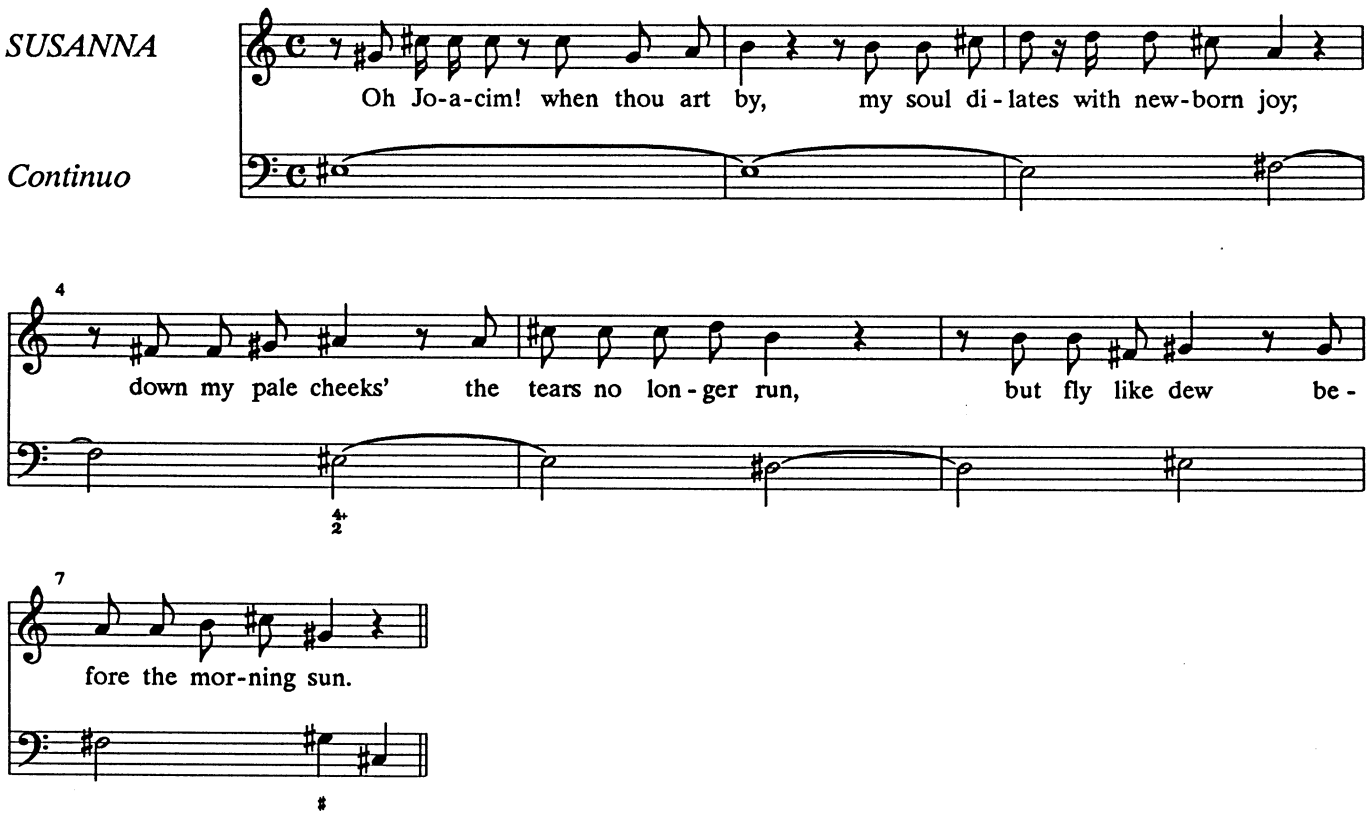
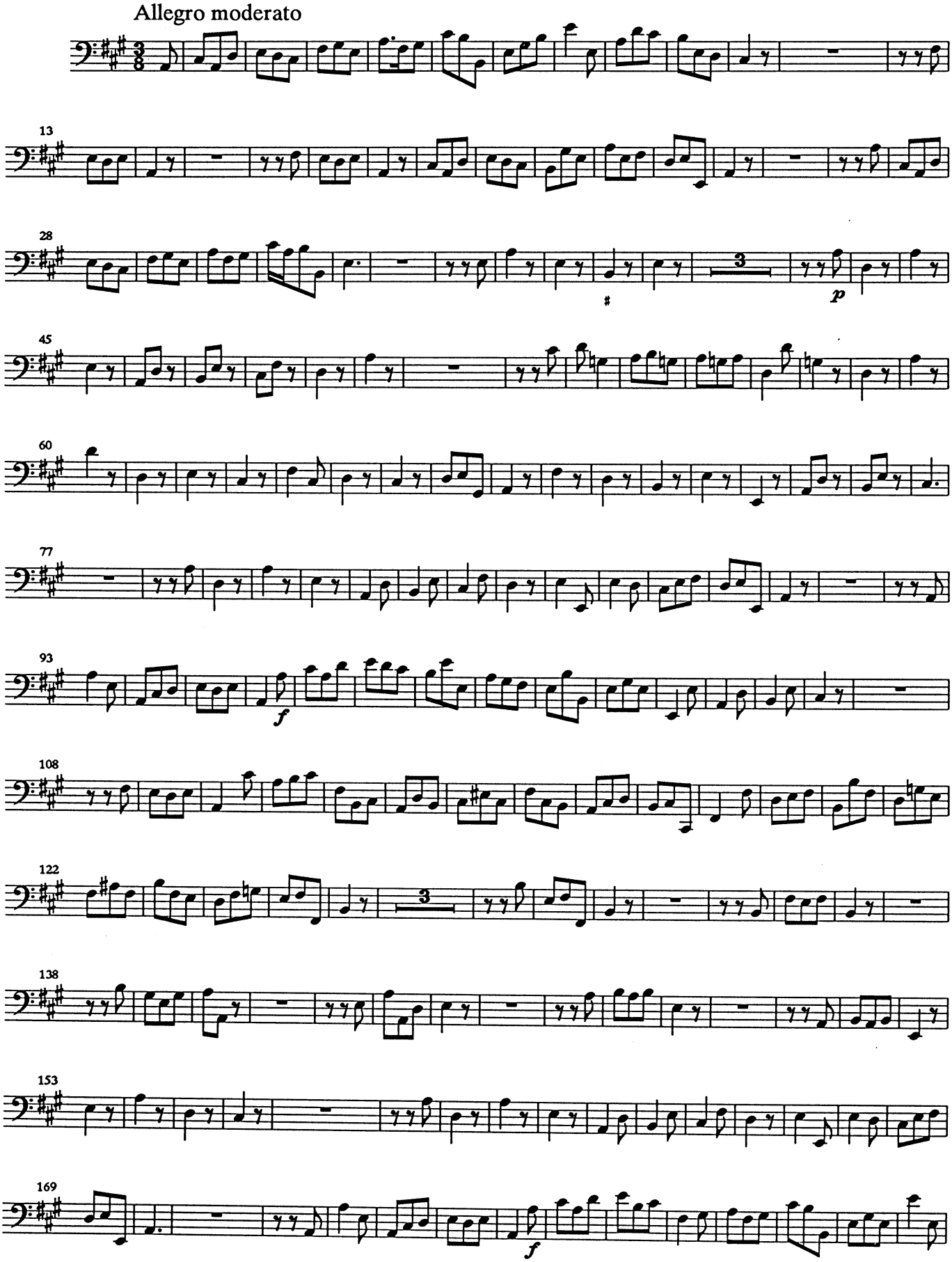
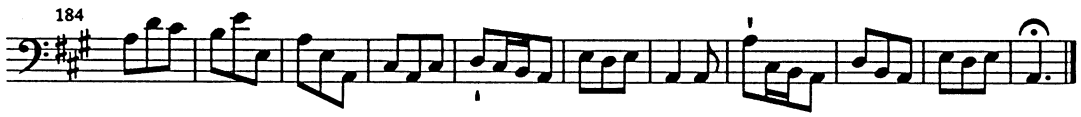


6. Duet

Allegro moderato





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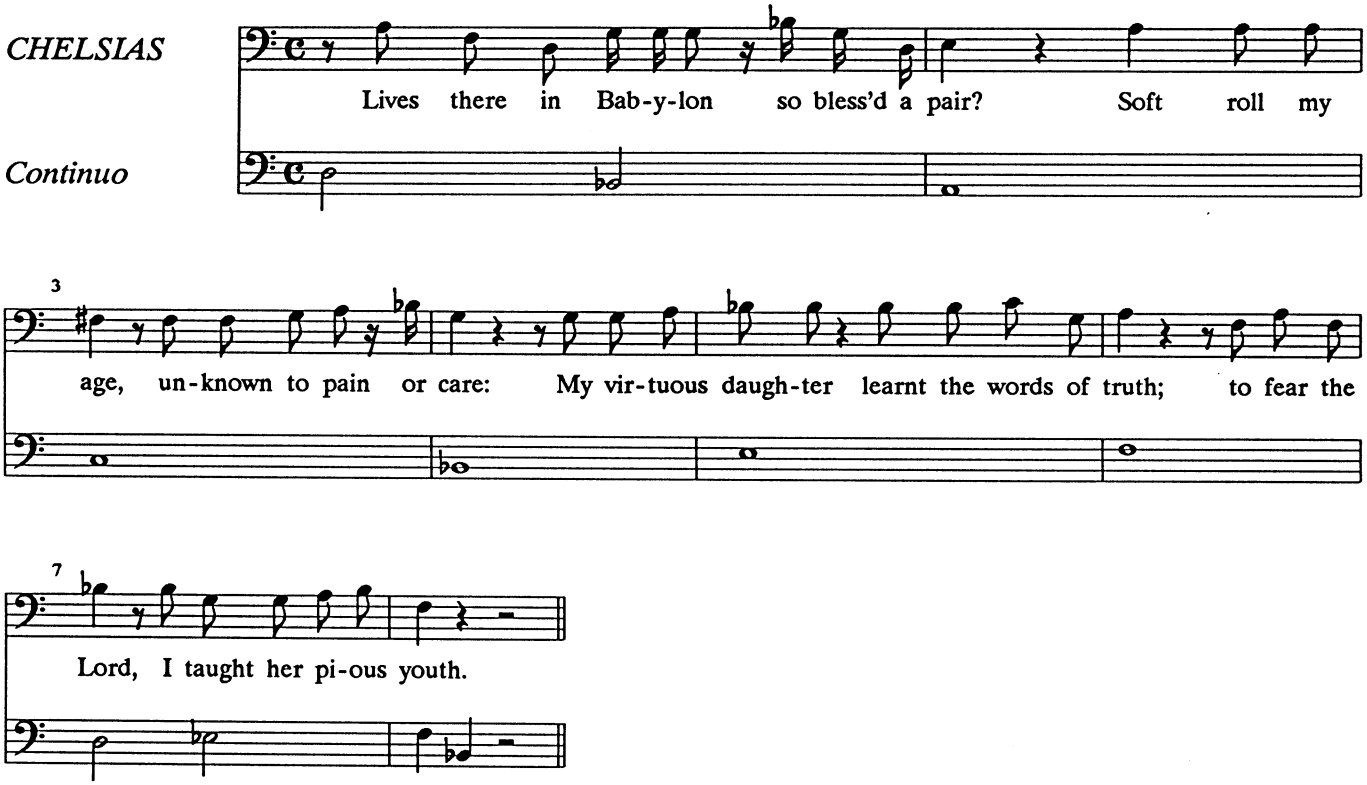

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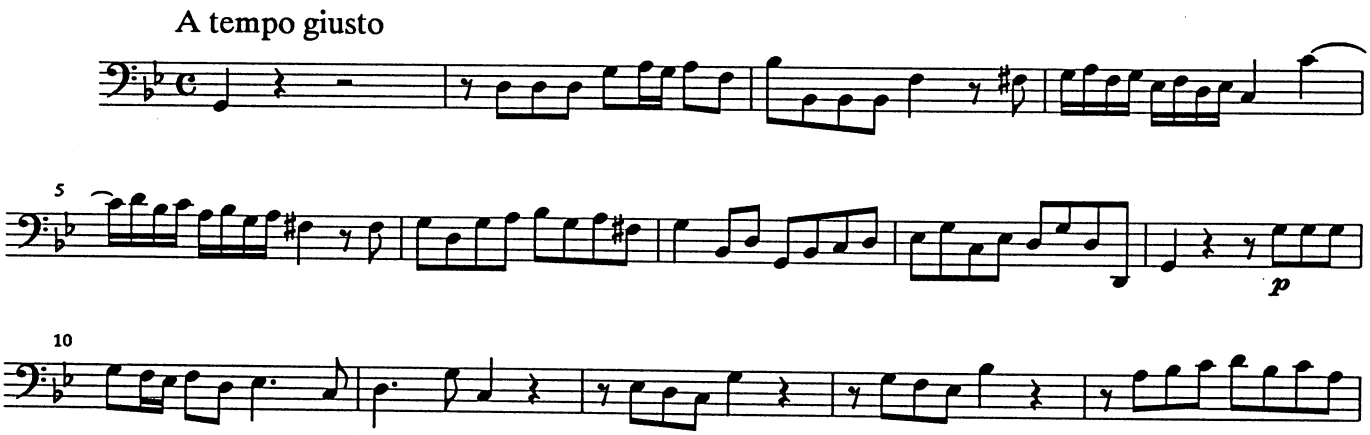
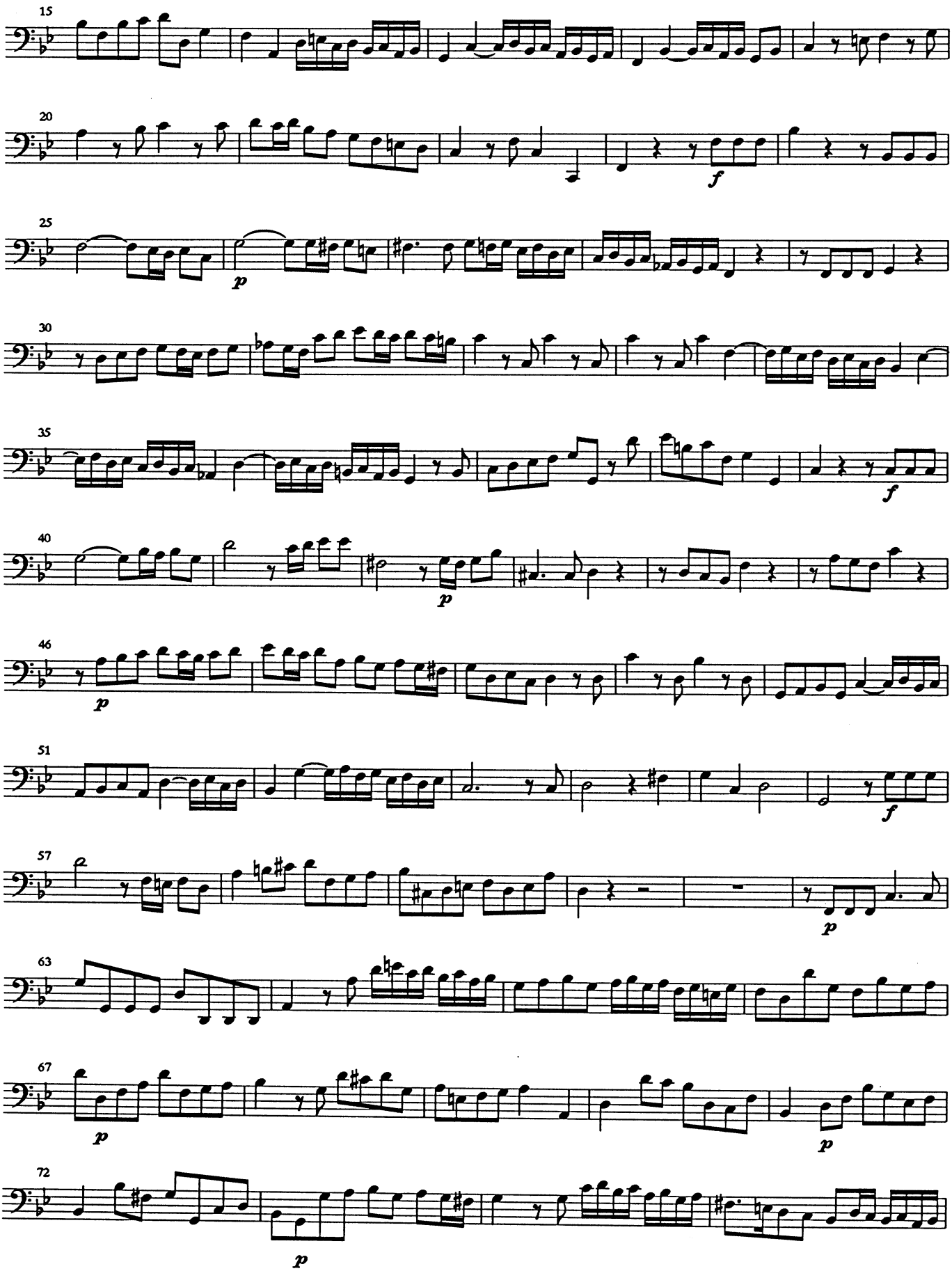
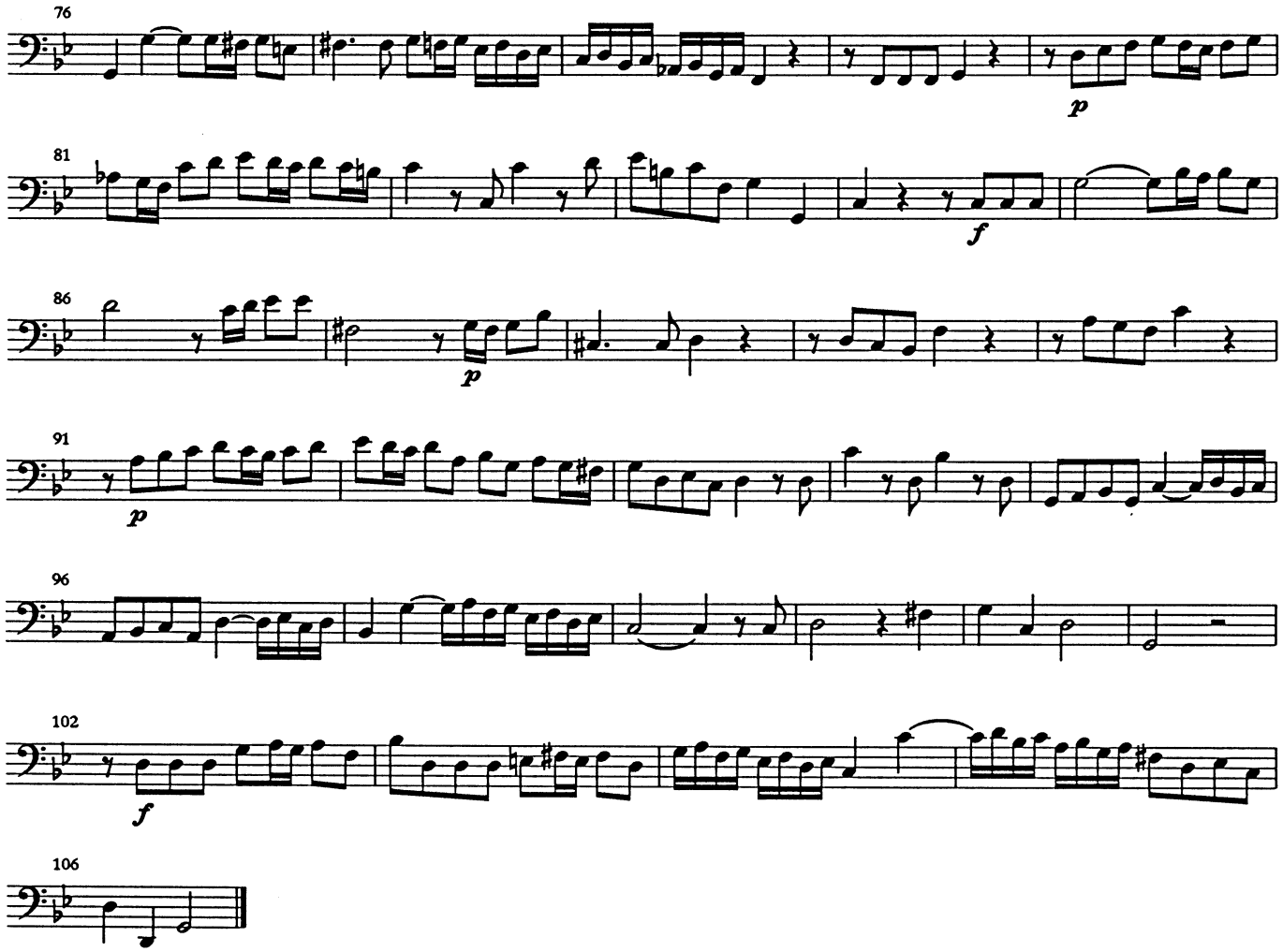



15
20
f
25
p
30
35
f
40
p
46
p
51
f
57
p
63
67
p
p
72
p



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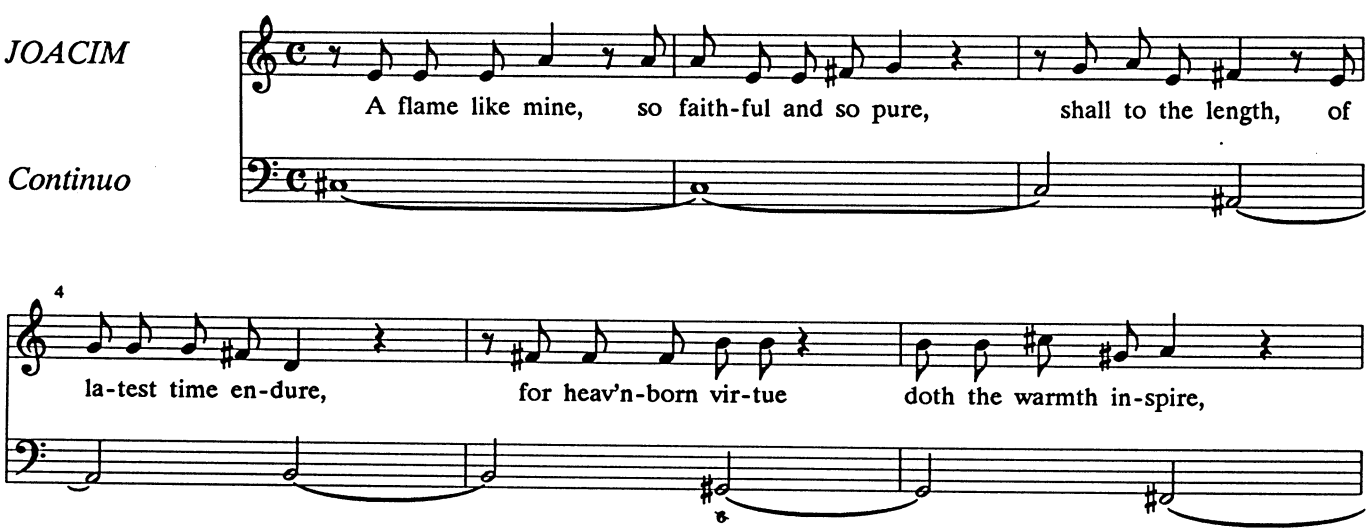
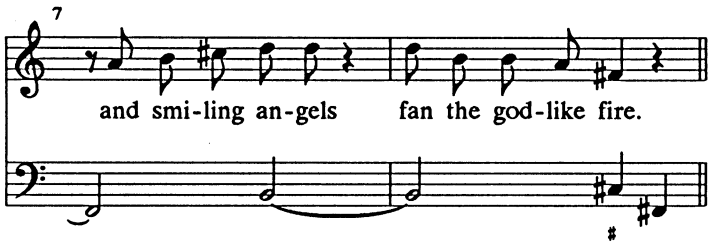
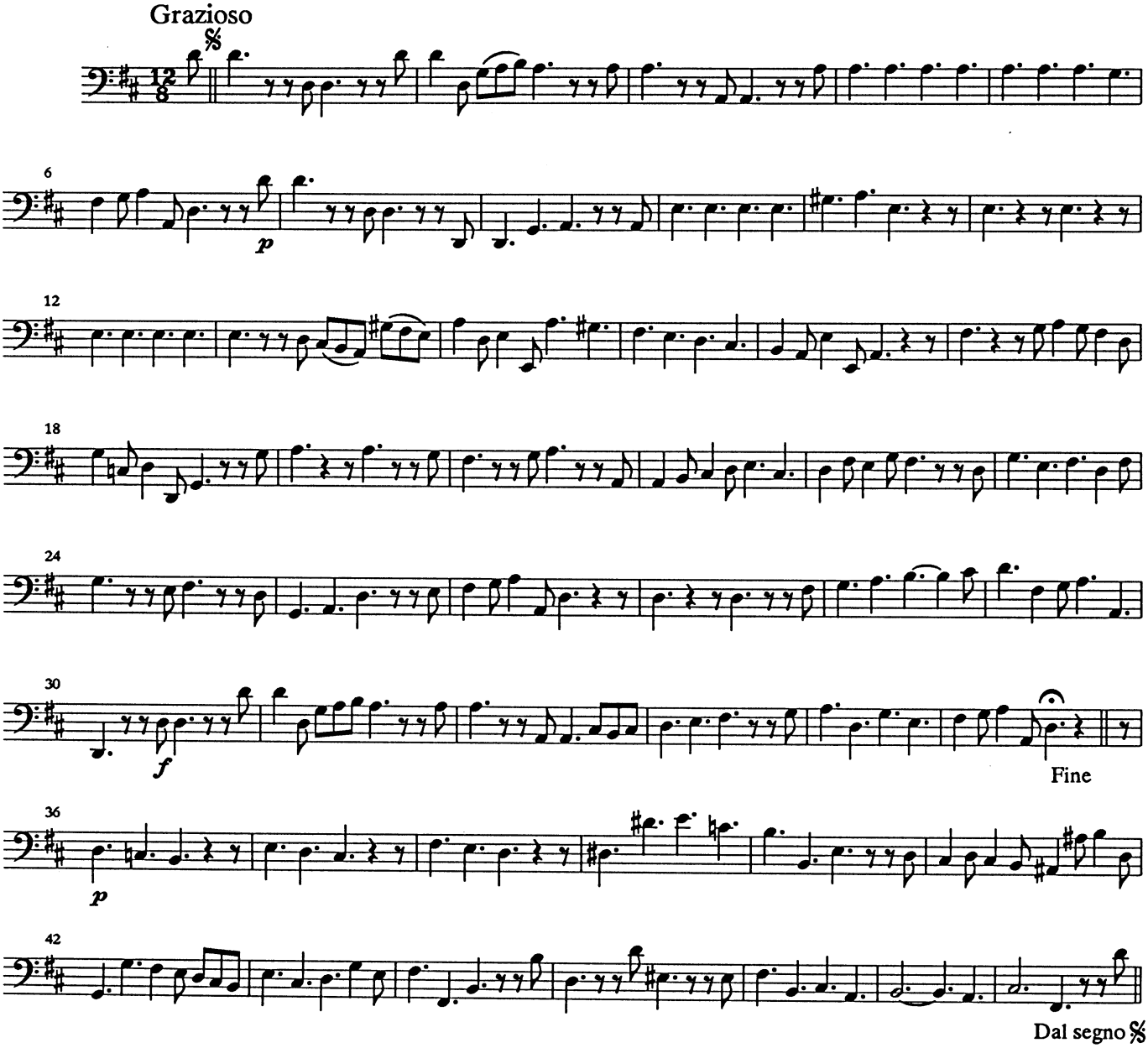
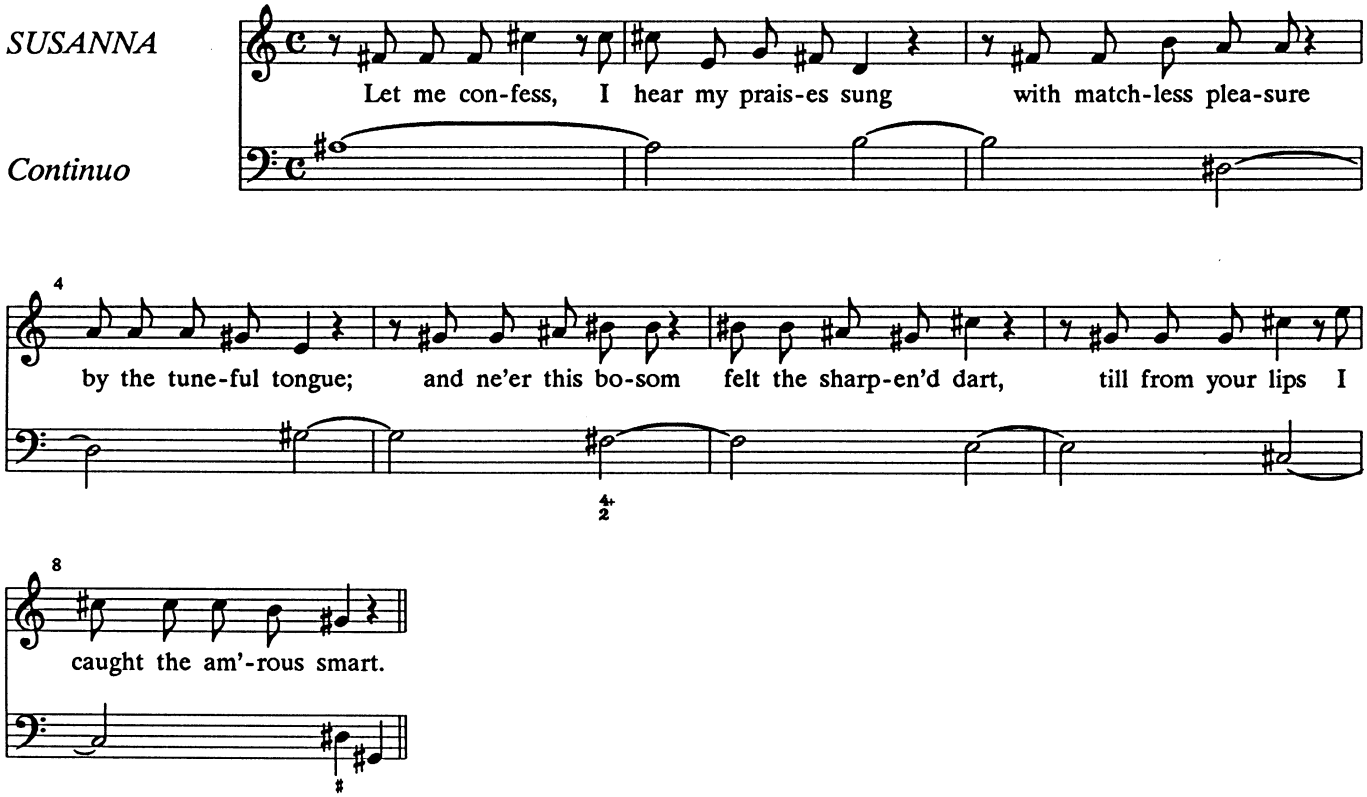



7
and smi-ling an-gels fan the god-like fire.

10. Air


Grazioso
12/8
p
f
Fine
Dal segno 𝄋

11. Recitative



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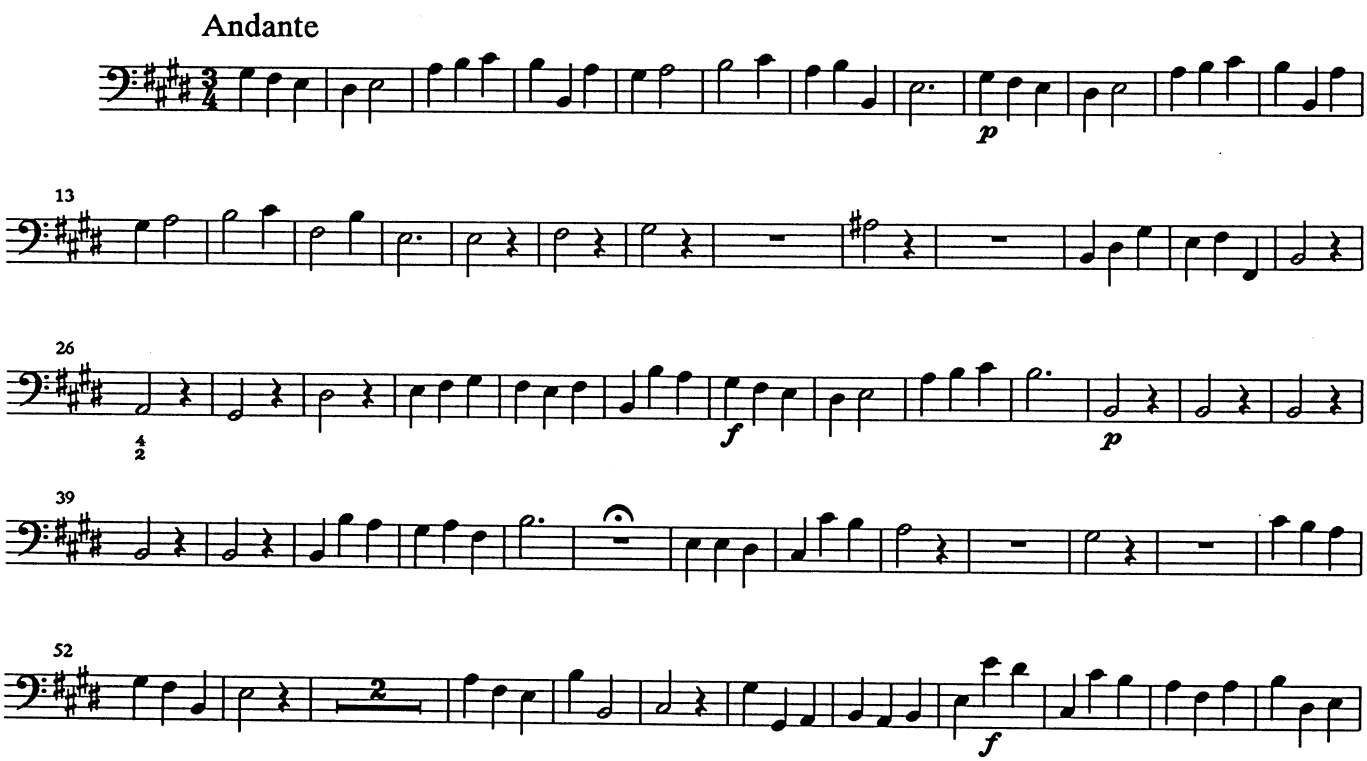

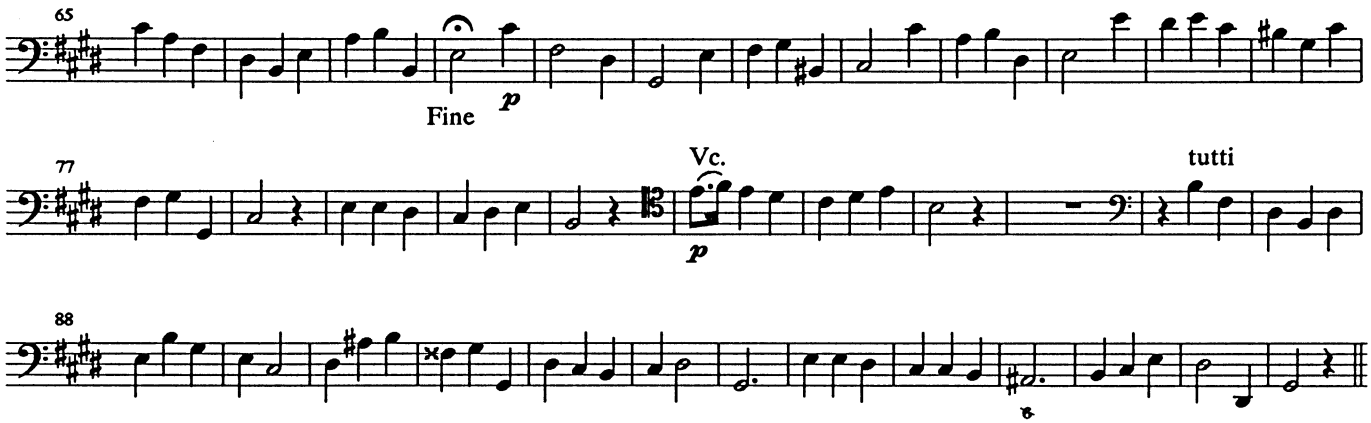

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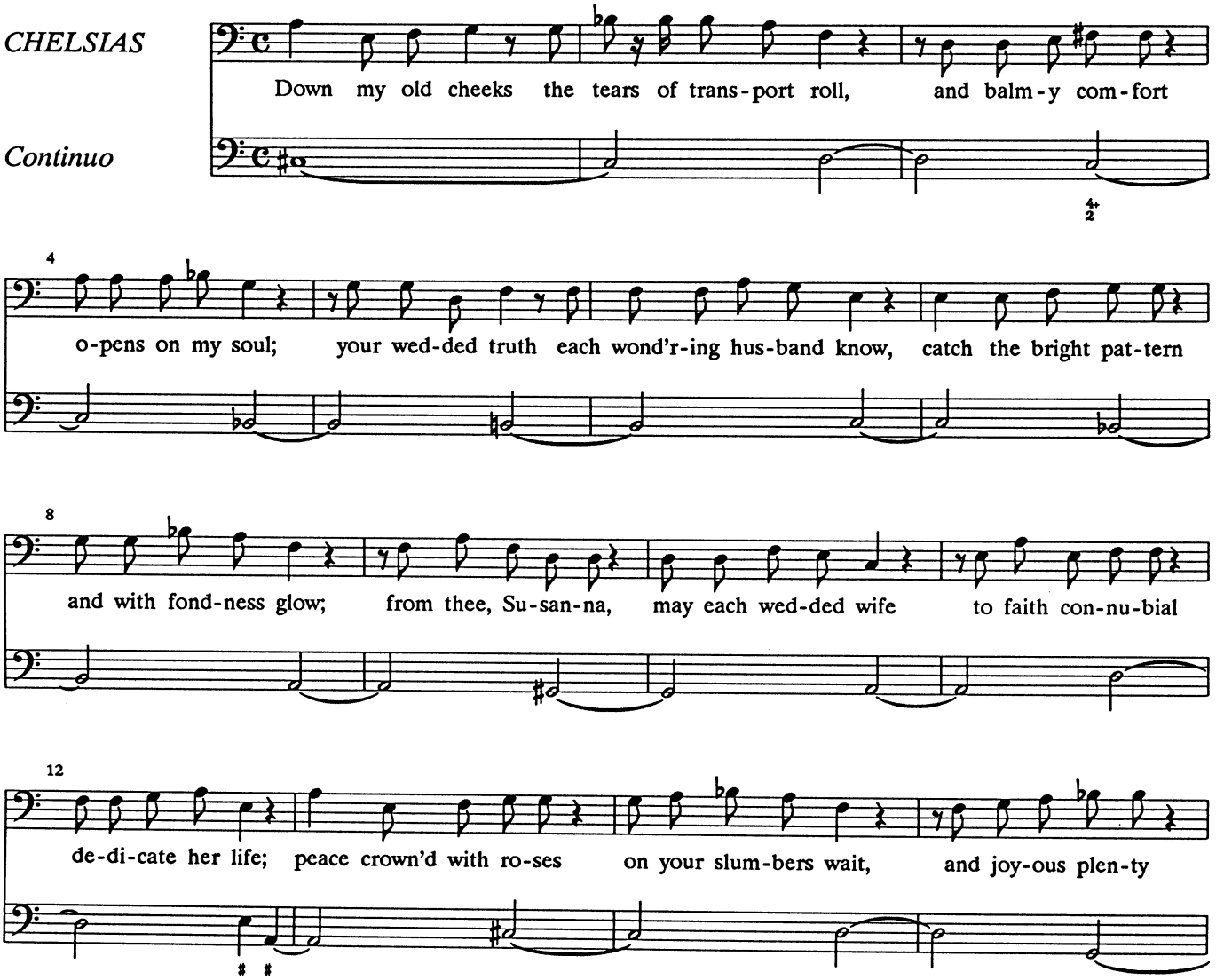

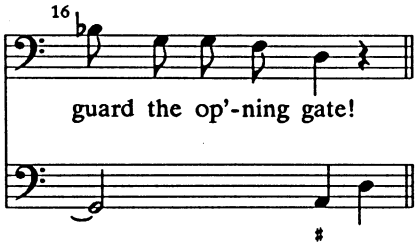

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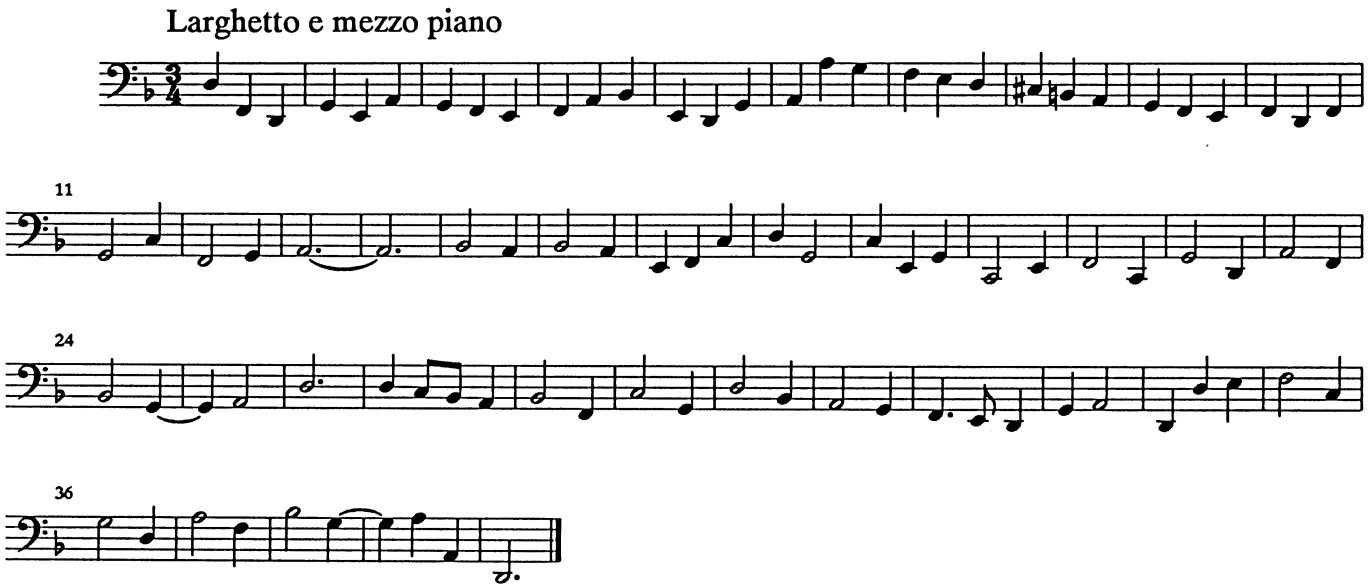

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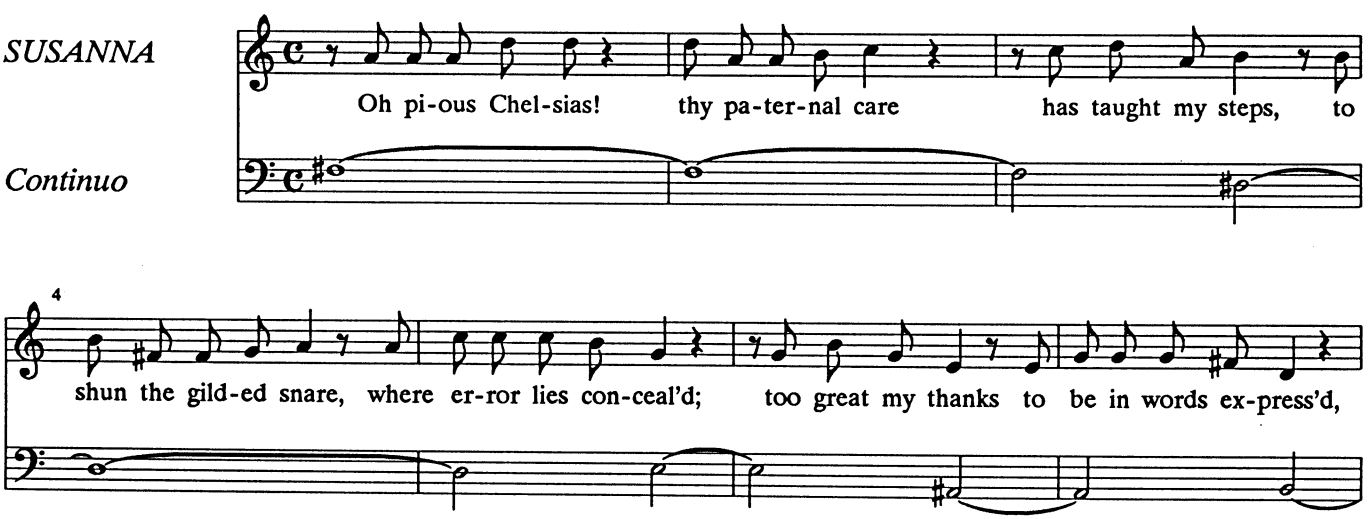
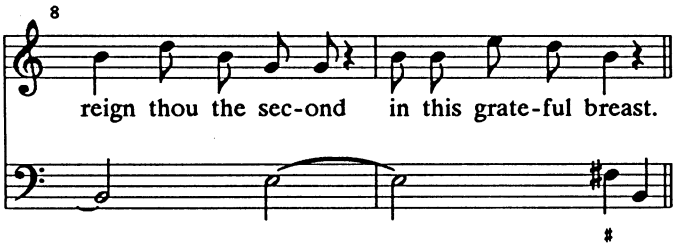
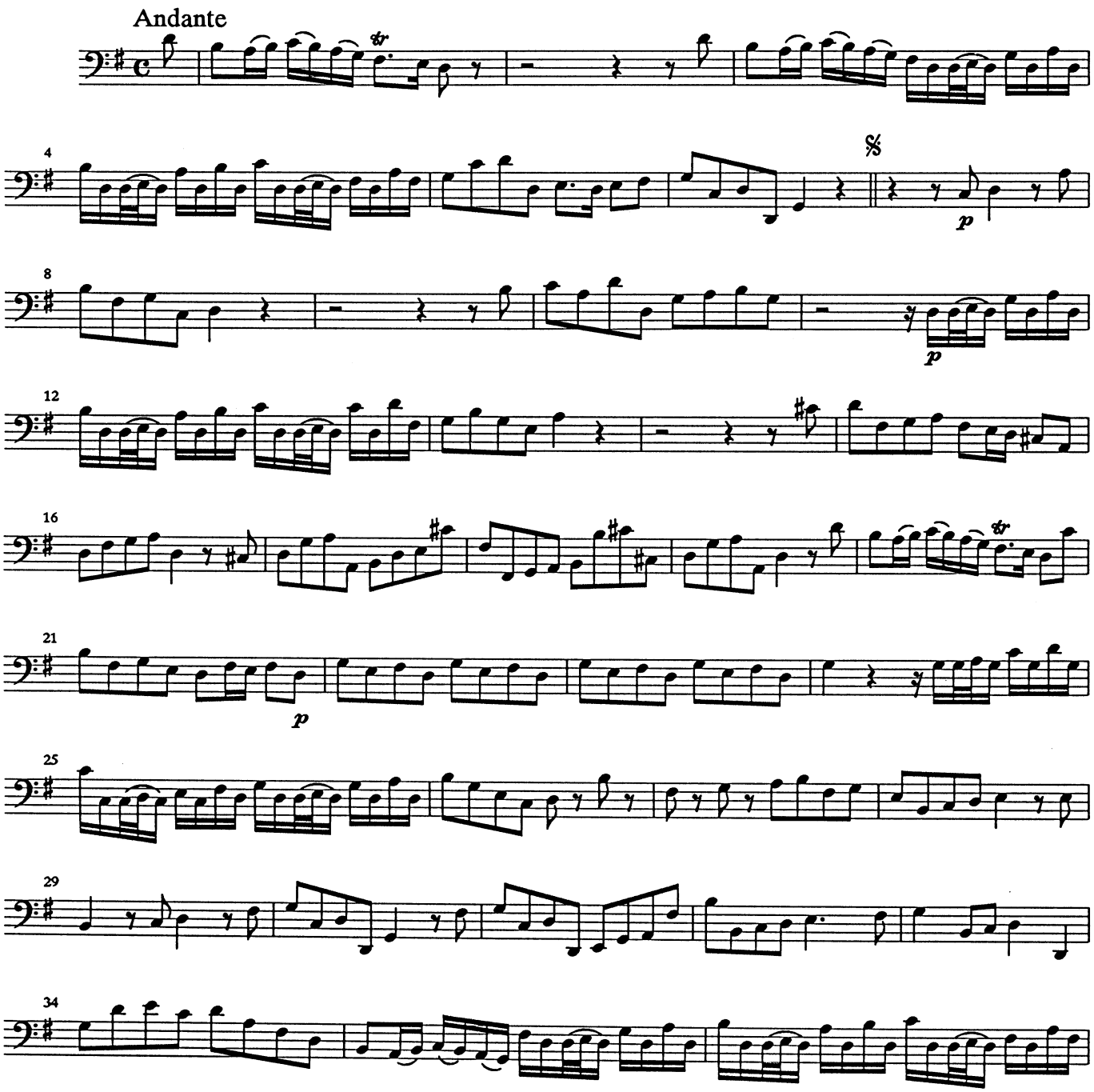
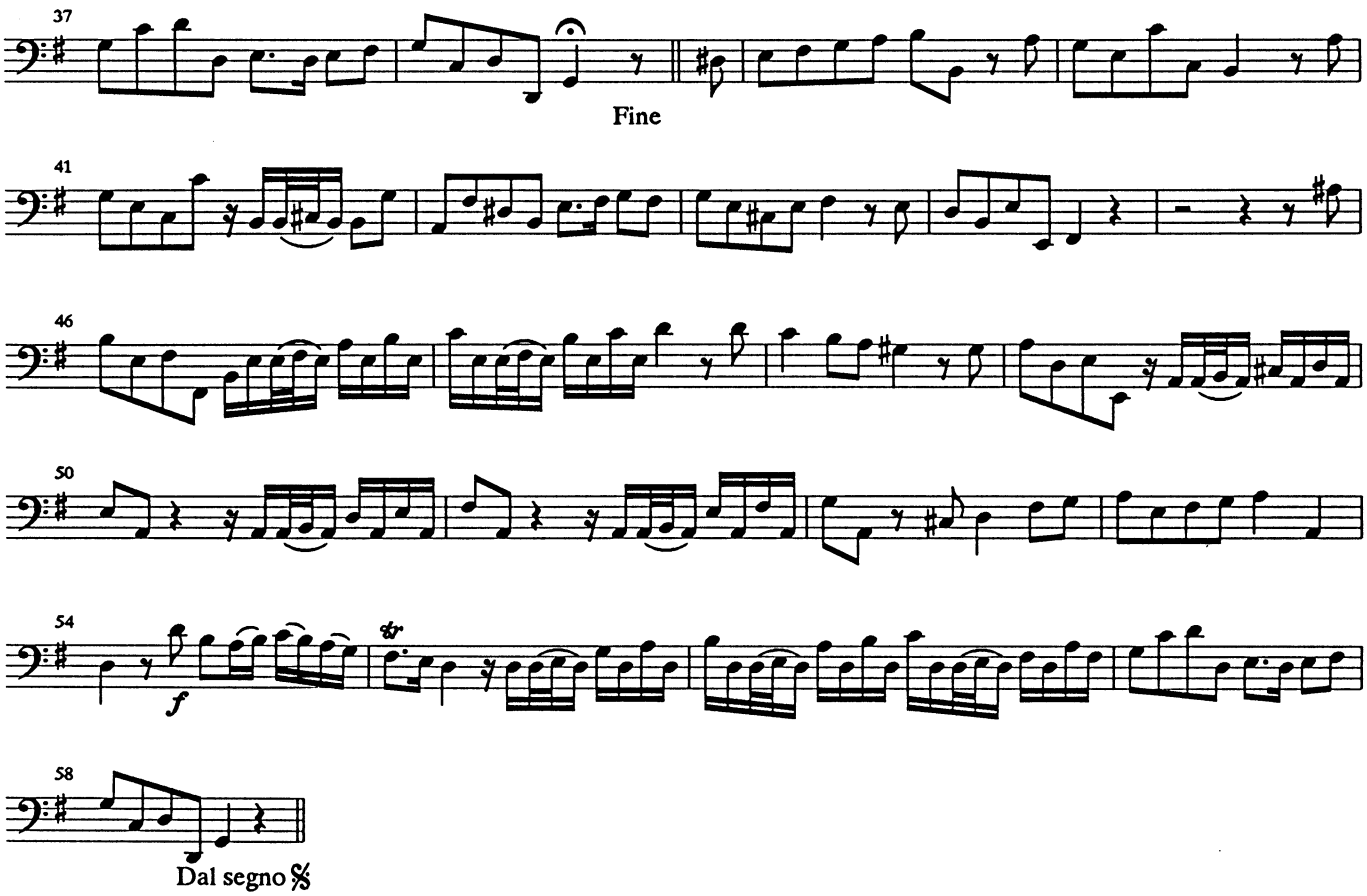



8
reign thou the sec-ond in this grate-ful breast.

16. Air


Andante
4
8
12
16
21
25
29
34



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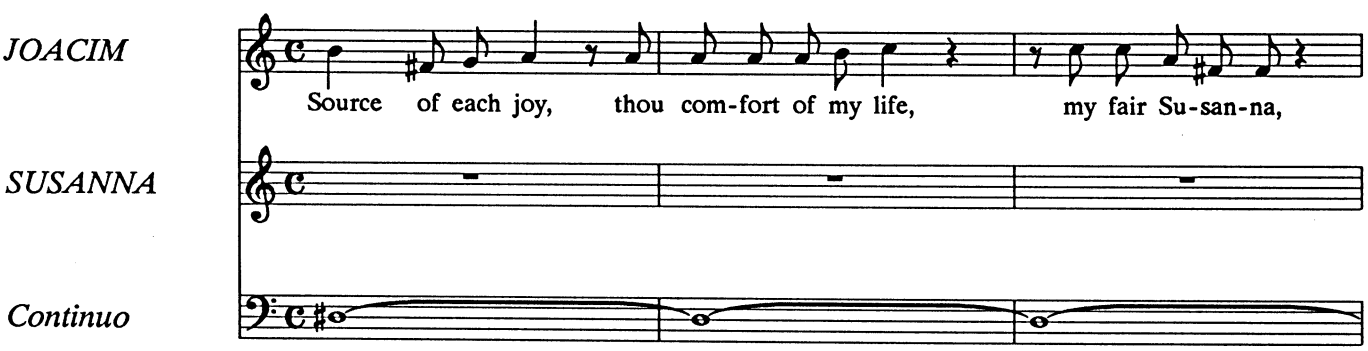
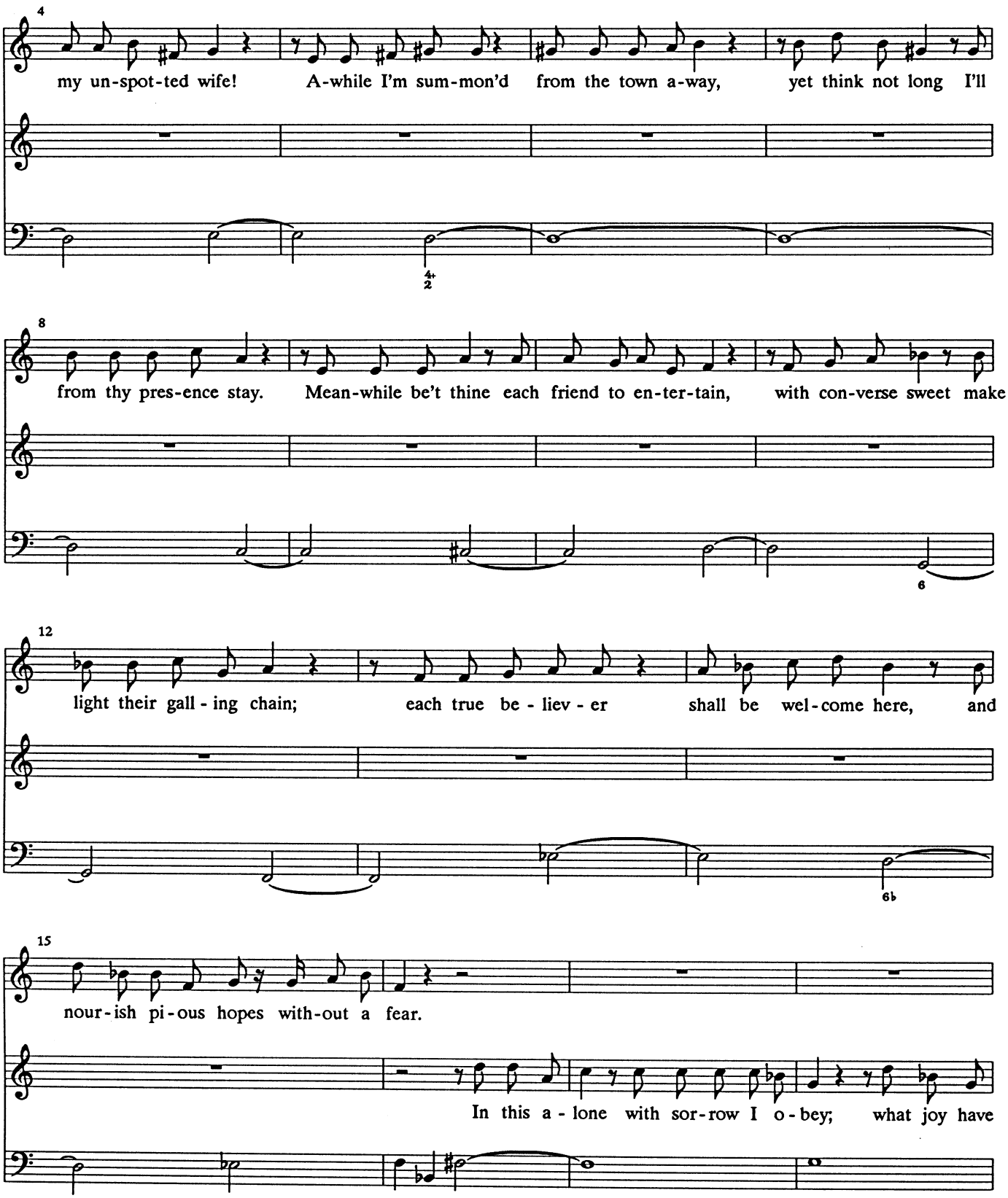
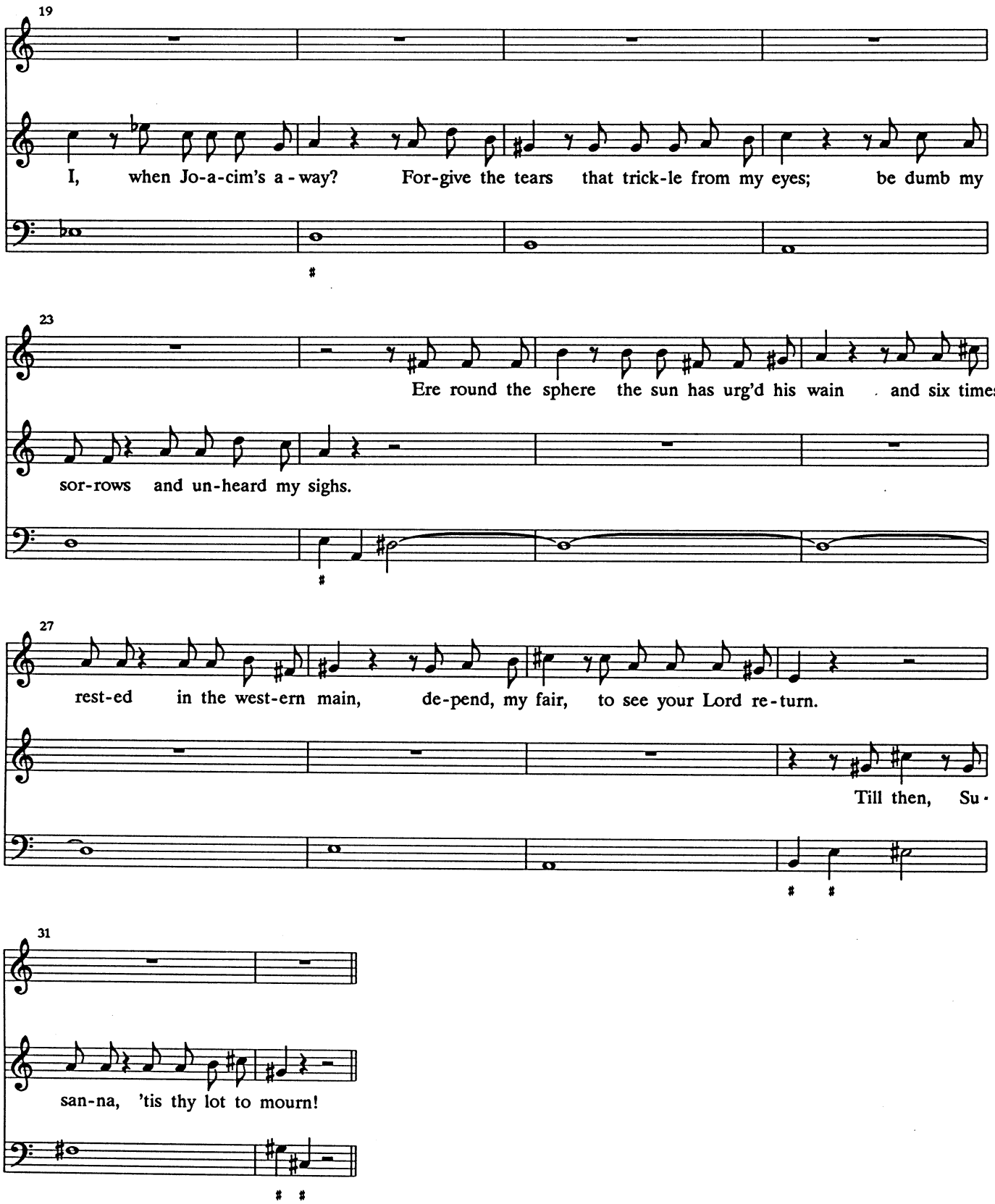
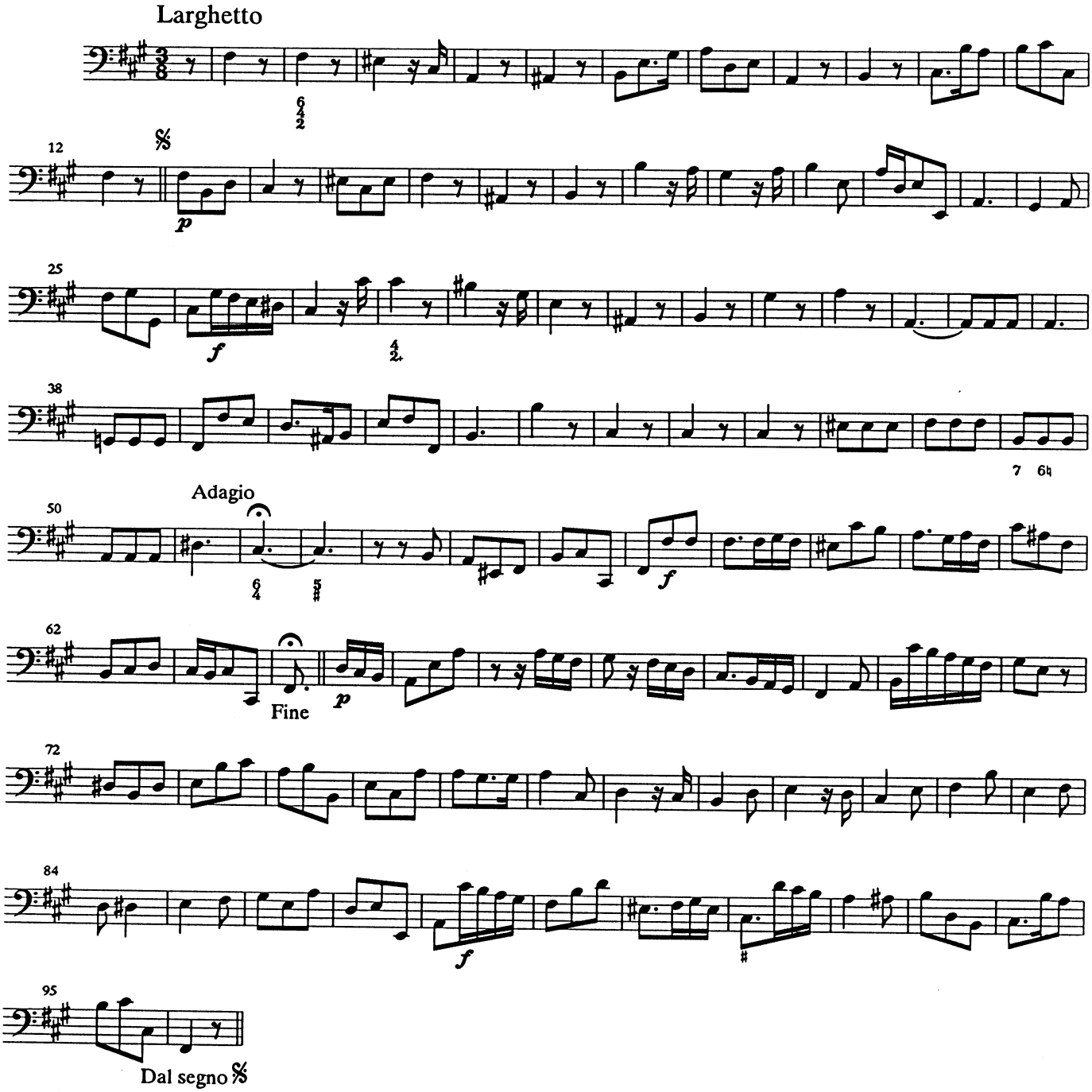



4
my un-spot-ted wife! A-while I'm sum-mon'd from the town a-way, yet think not long I'll
8
from thy pres-ence stay. Mean-while be't thine each friend to en-ter-tain, with con-verse sweet make
12
light their gall - ing chain; each true be - liev - er shall be wel-come here, and
15
nour-ish pi-ous hopes with-out a fear.
In this a - lone with sor-row I o - bey; what joy have


19
I, when Jo-a-cim's a - way? For-give the tears that trick-le from my eyes; be dumb my
23
Ere round the sphere the sun has urg'd his wain and six times
sor-rows and un-heard my sighs.
27
rest-ed in the west-ern main, de-pend, my fair, to see your Lord re-turn.
Till then, Su -
31
san-na, 'tis thy lot to mourn!

18. Air



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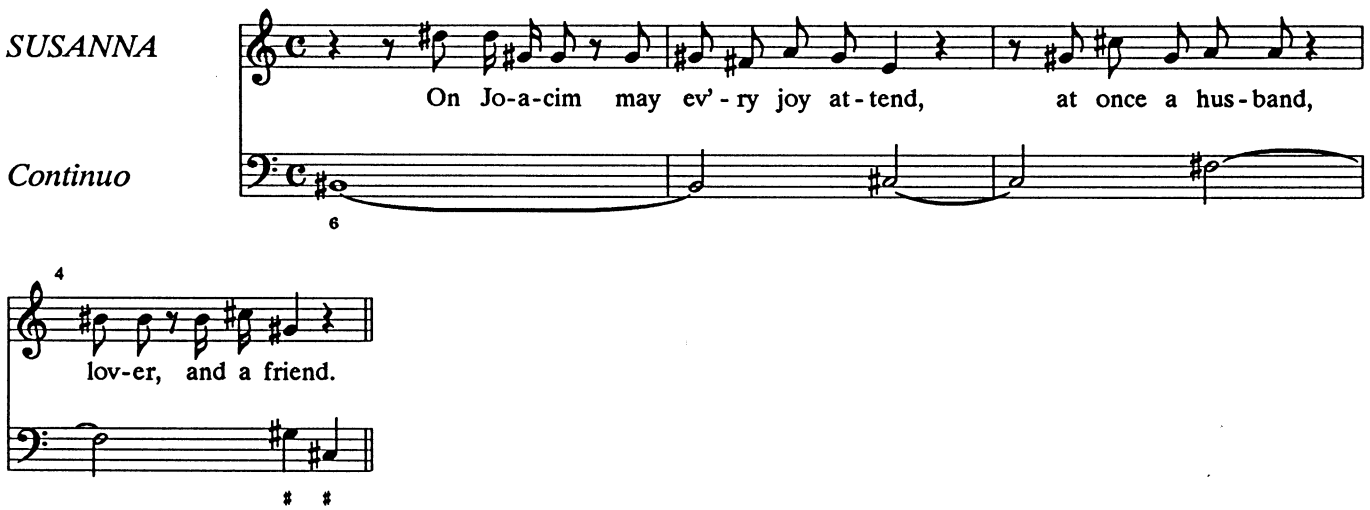

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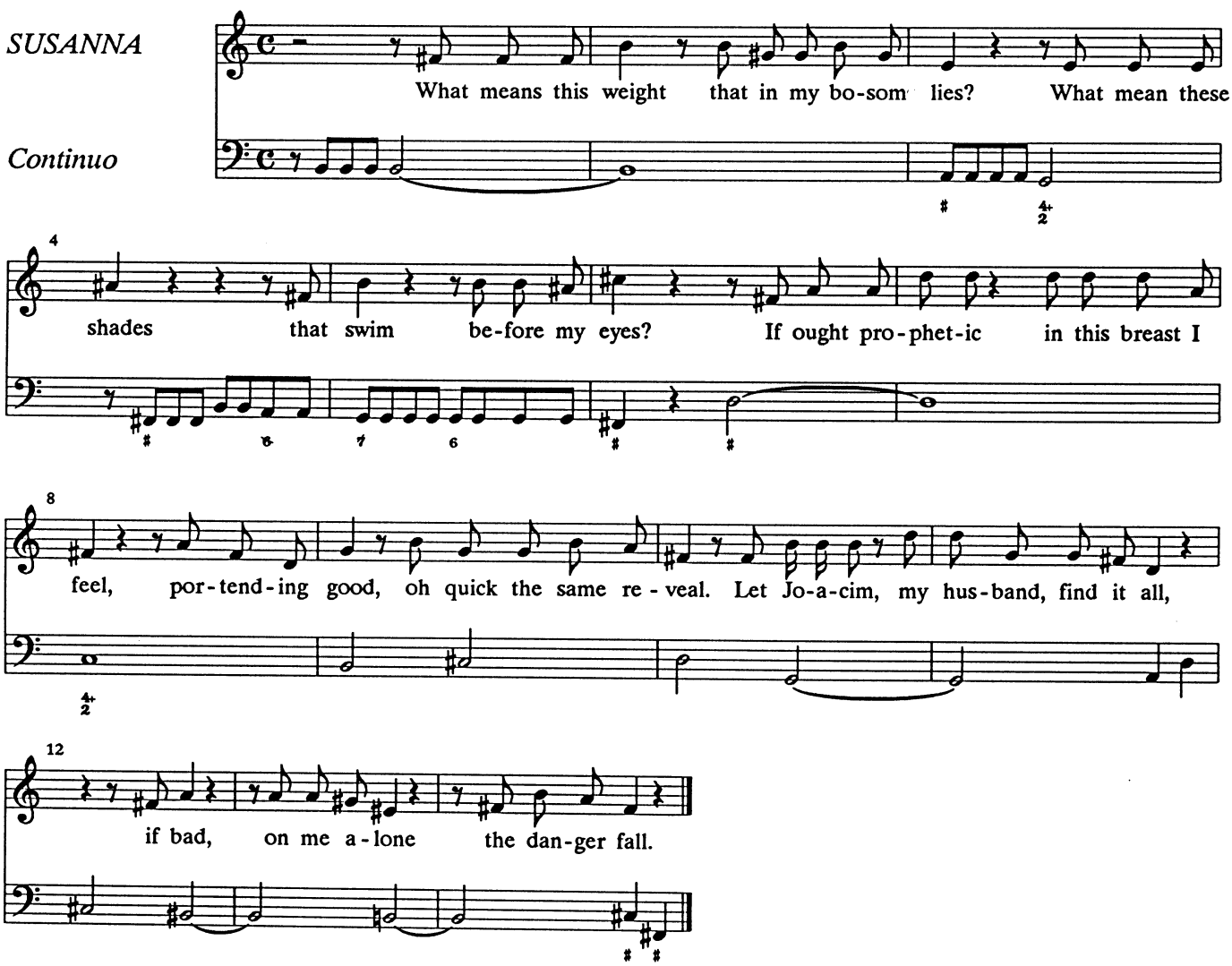

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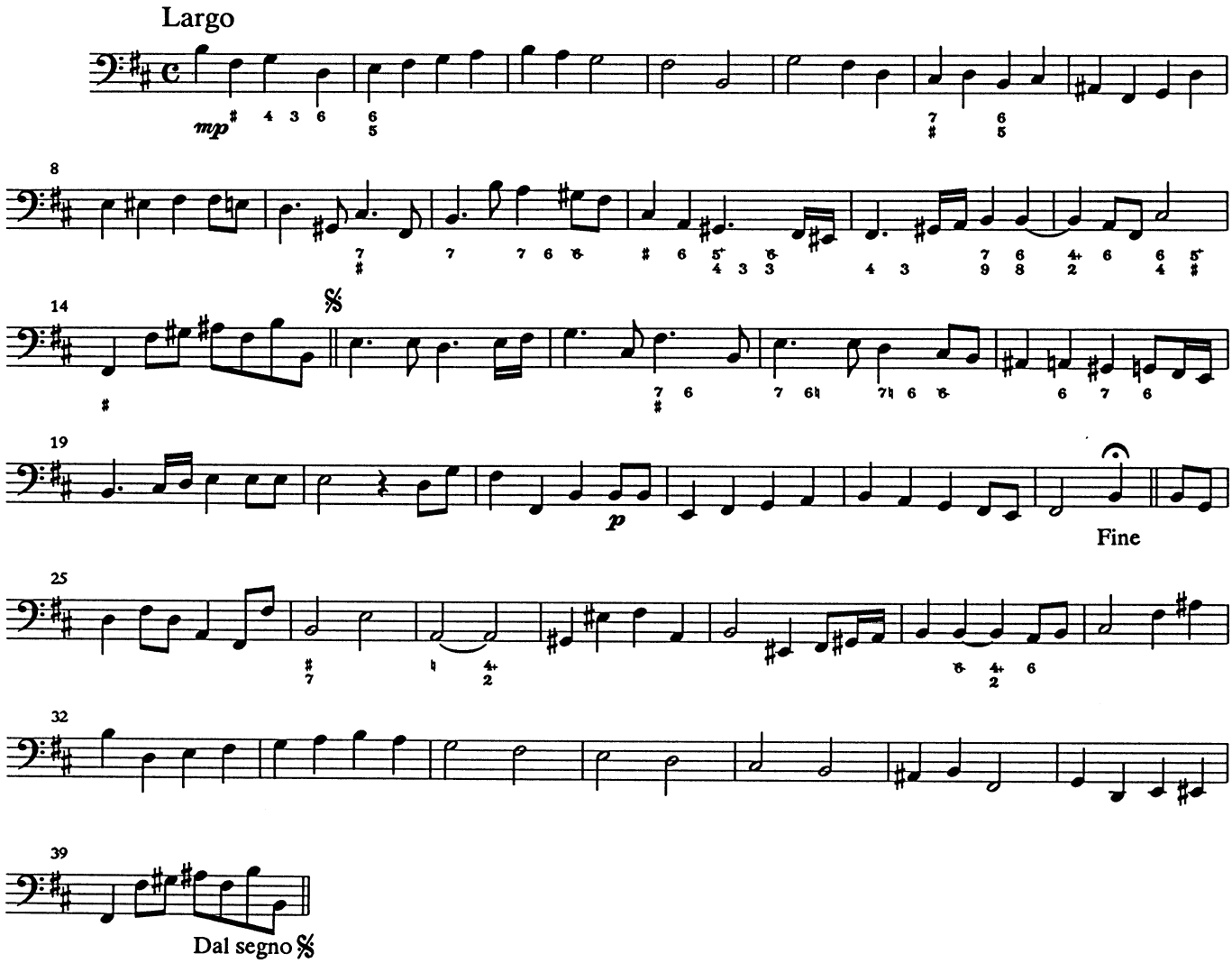

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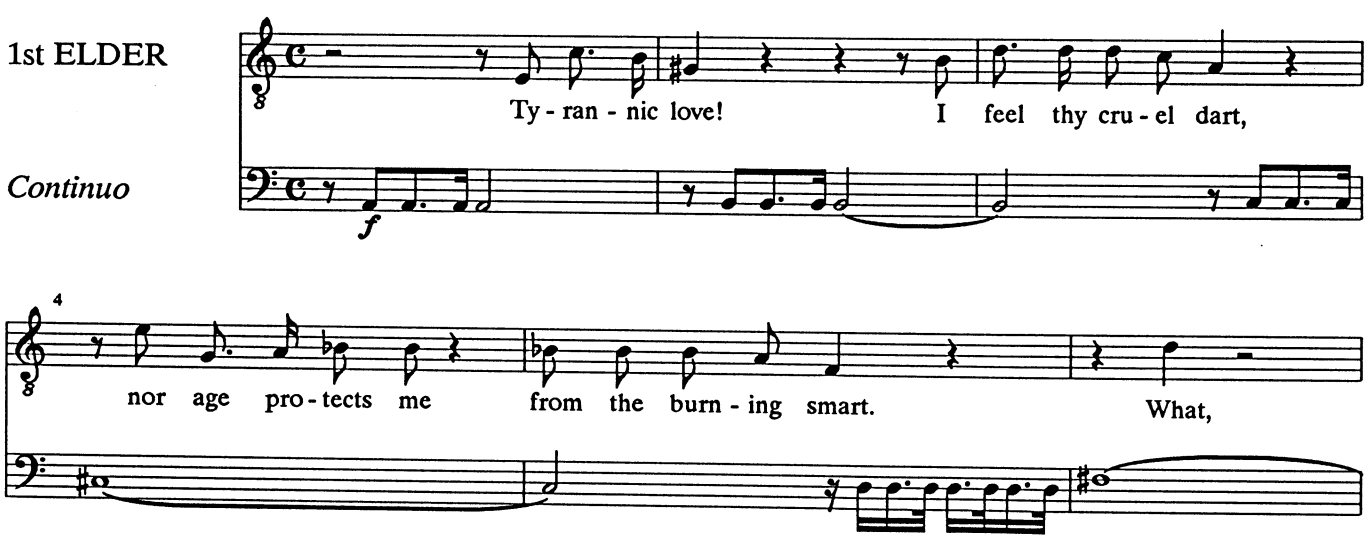
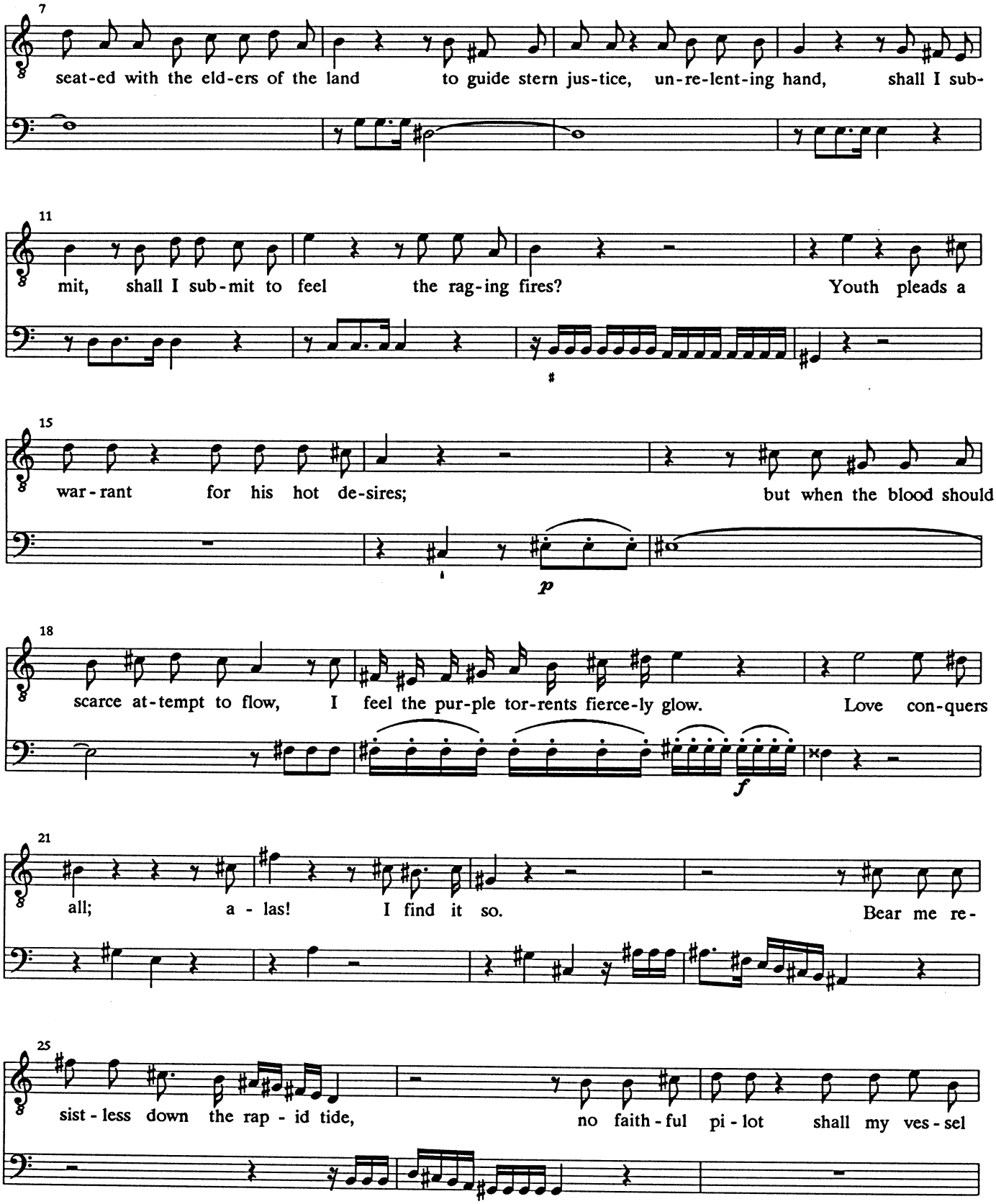
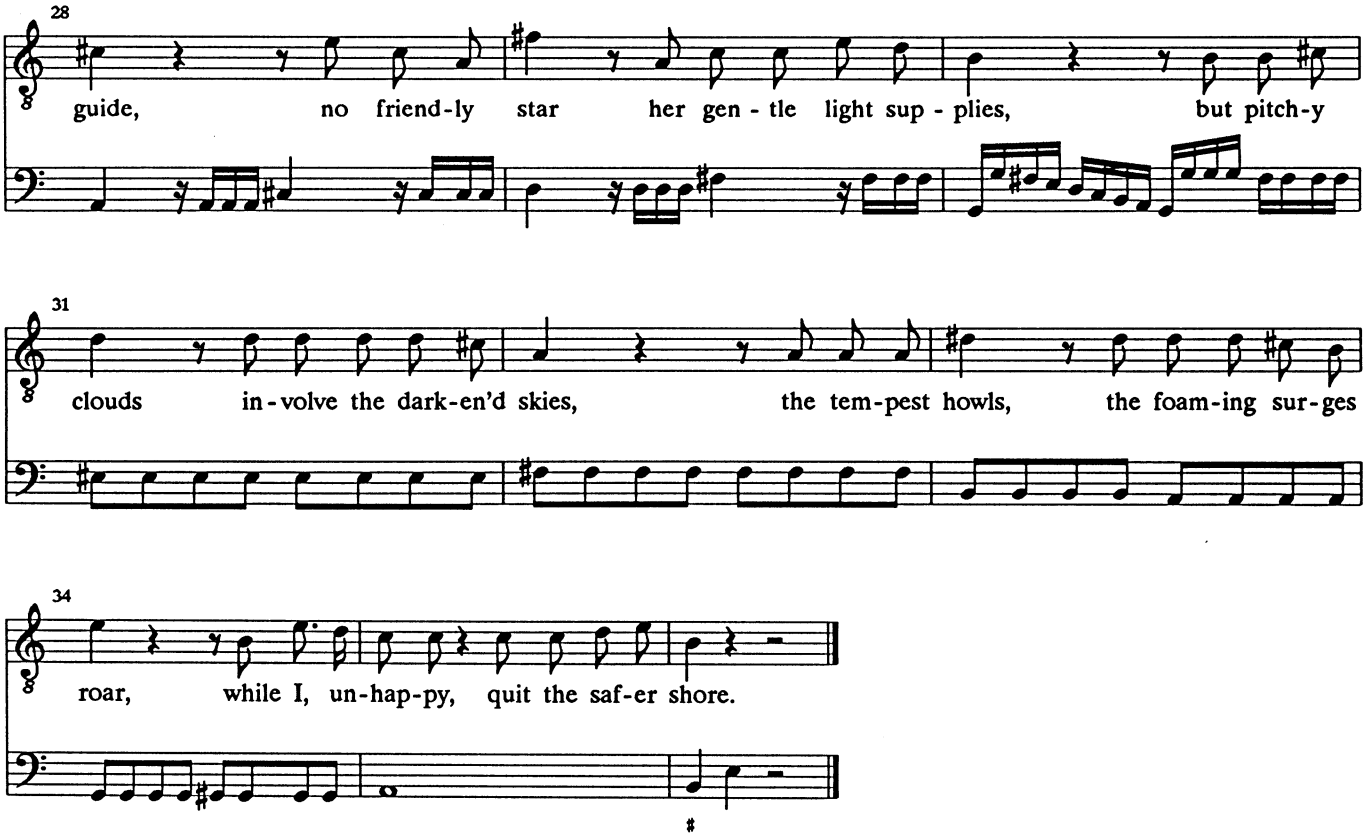
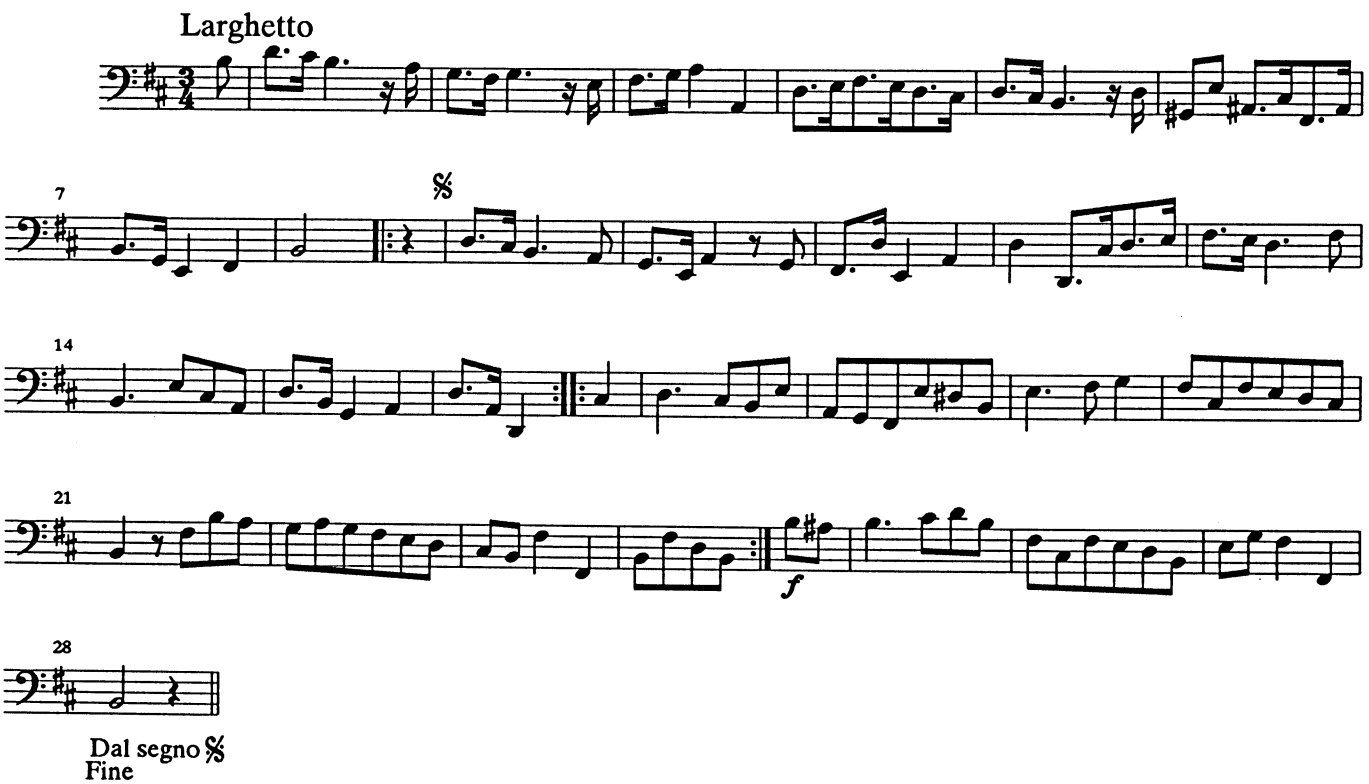


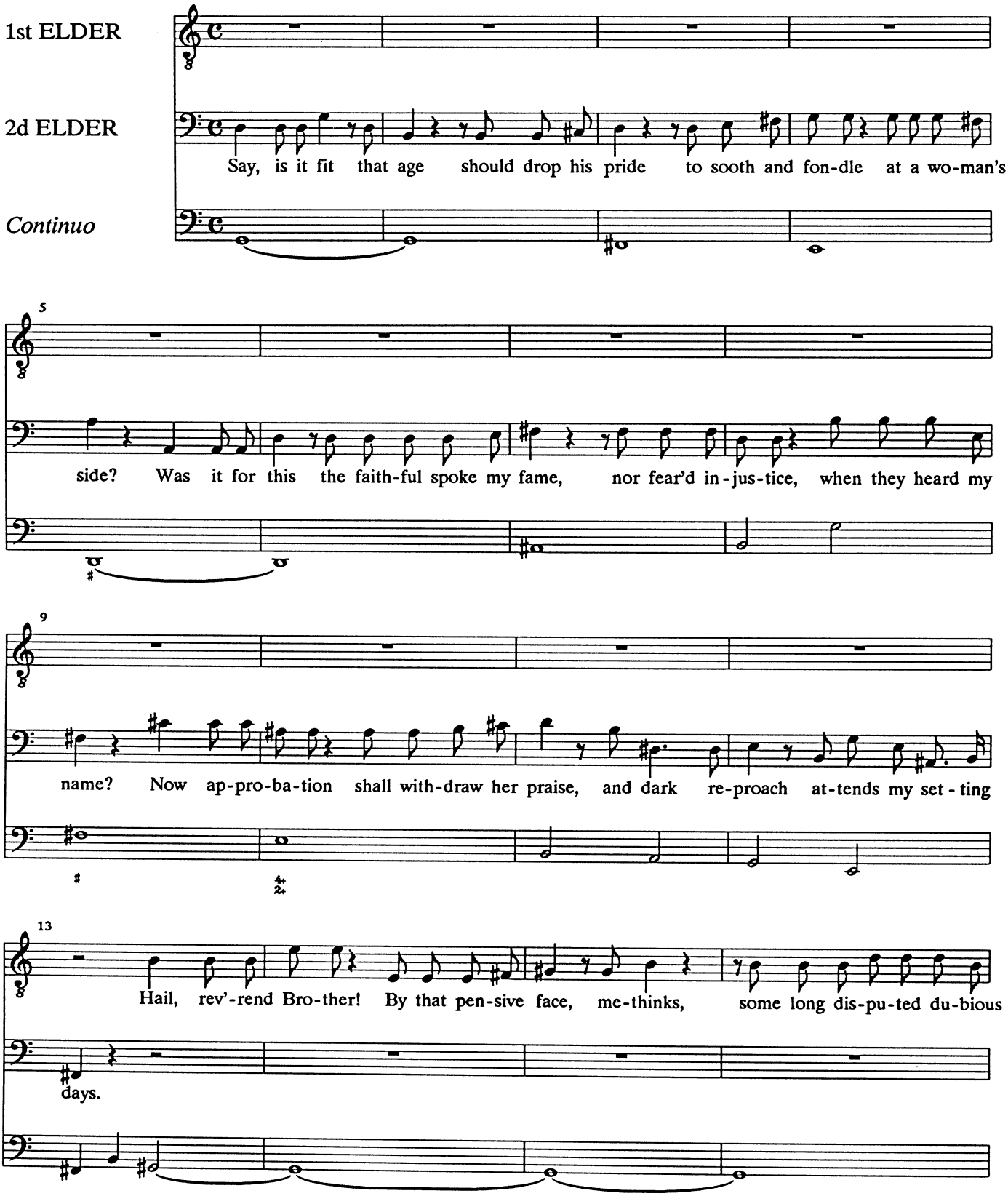

7
seat-ed with the eld-ers of the land to guide stern jus-tice, un-re-lent-ing hand, shall I sub-
11
mit, shall I sub-mit to feel the rag-ing fires? Youth pleads a
15
war-rant for his hot de-sires; but when the blood should
p
18
scarce at-tempt to flow, I feel the pur-ple tor-rents fierce-ly glow. Love con-quers
f
21
all; a - las! I find it so. Bear me re-
25
sist - less down the rap - id tide, no faith - ful pi - lot shall my ves - sel

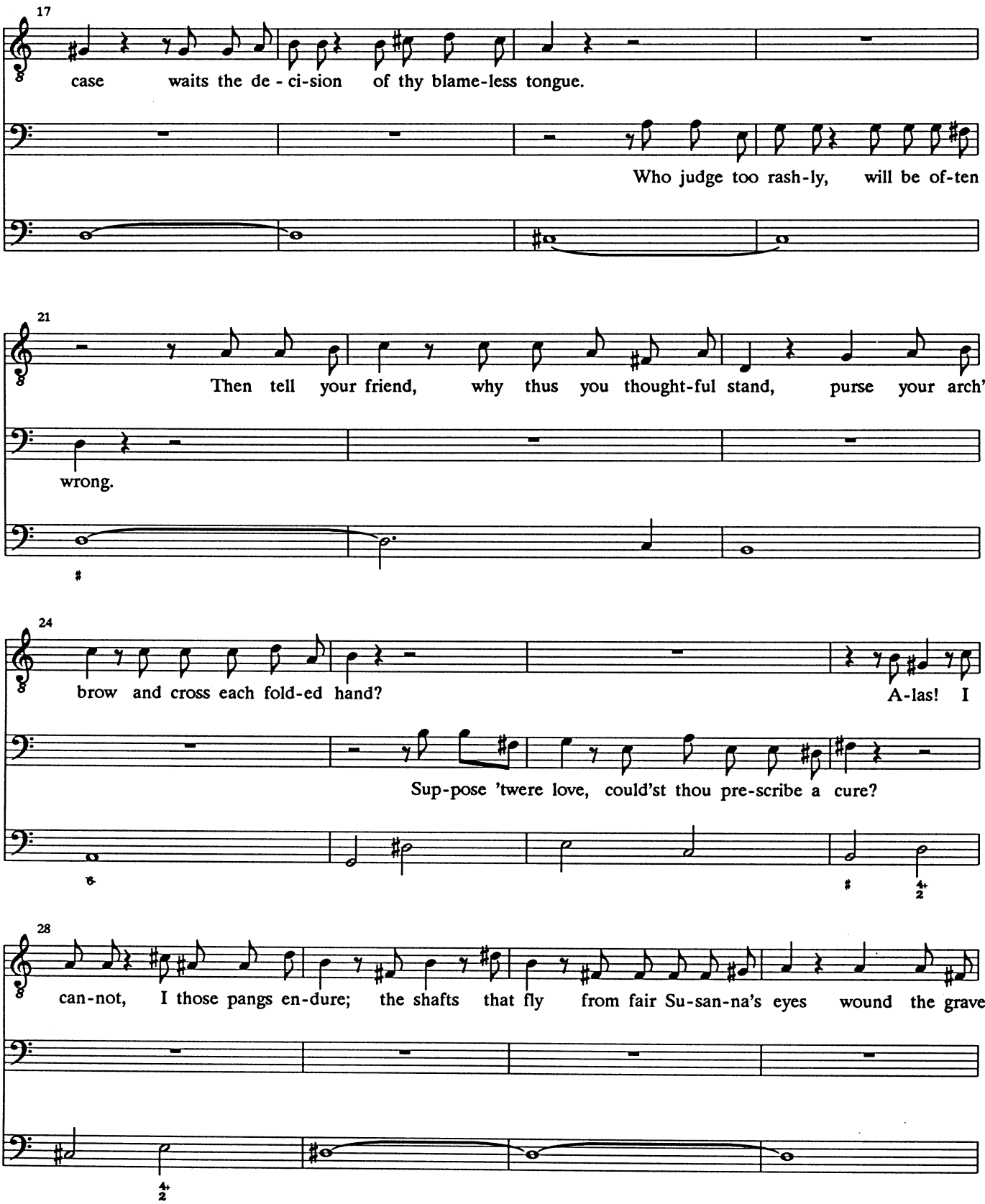

28
guide, no friend-ly star her gen - tle light sup - plies, but pitch-y
31
clouds in-volve the dark-en'd skies, the tem-pest howls, the foam-ing sur-ges
34
roar, while I, un-hap-py, quit the saf-er shore.

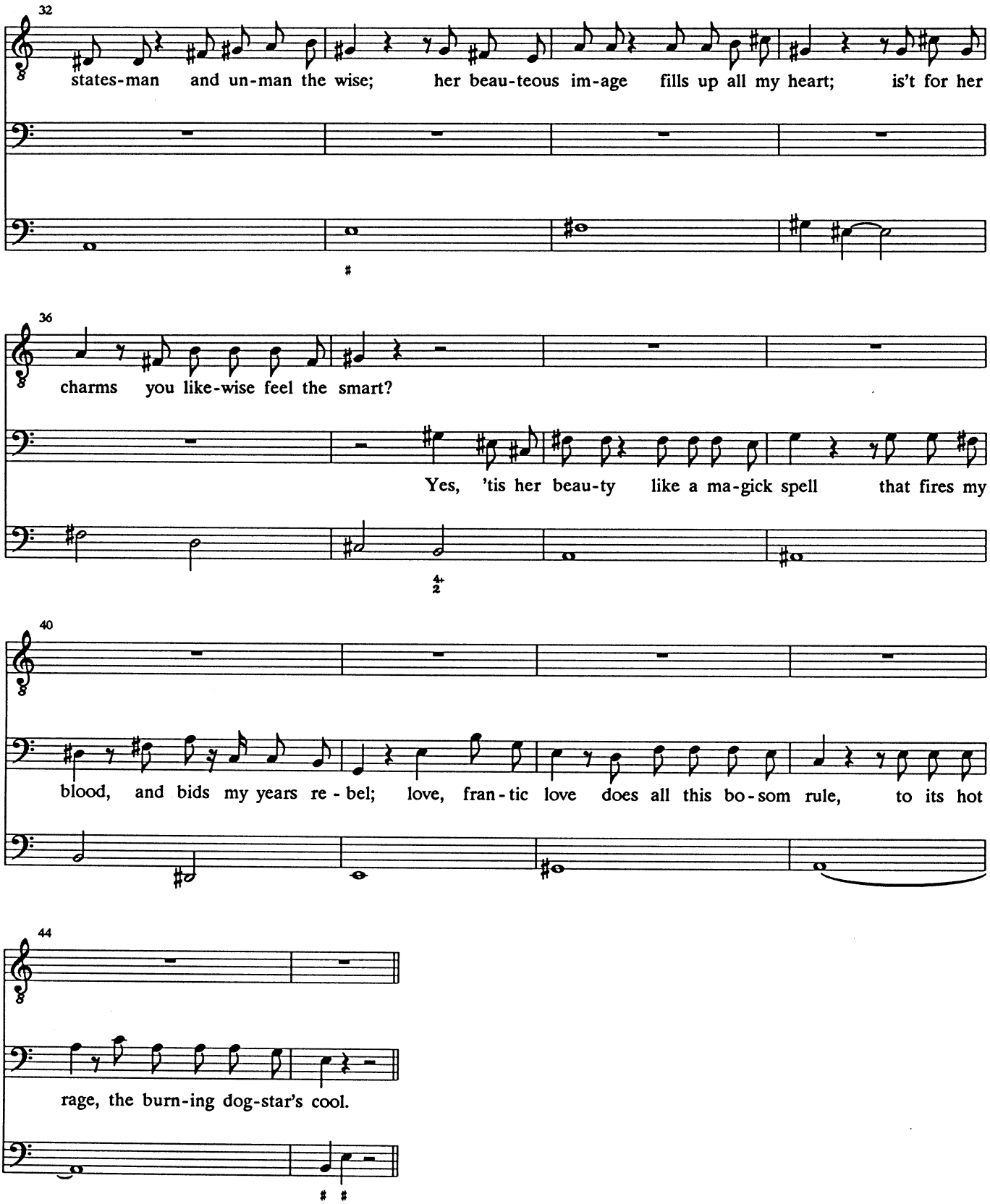
23. Air


Larghetto
7
14
21
f
28
Dal segno 𝄋
Fine

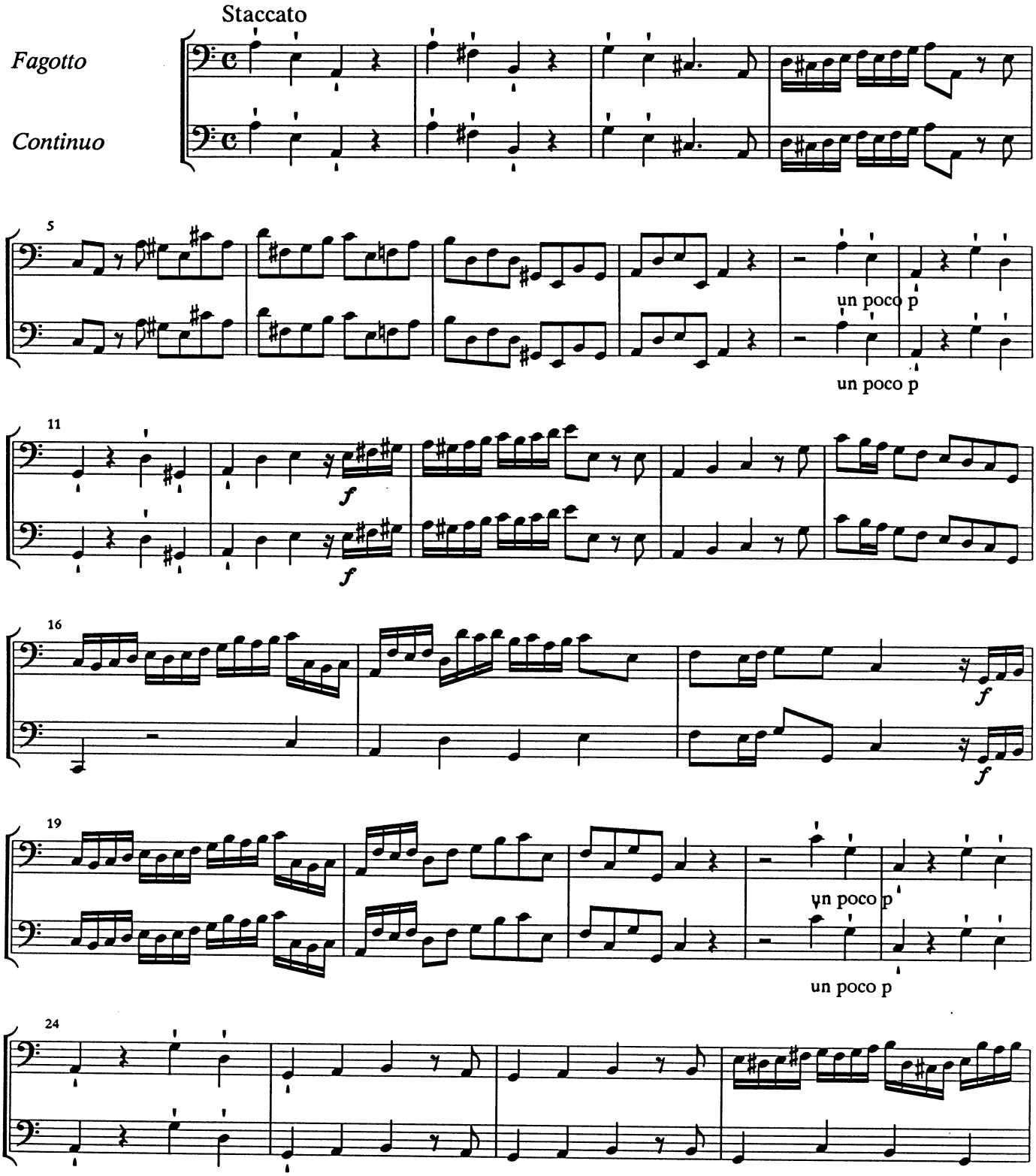
24. Recitative

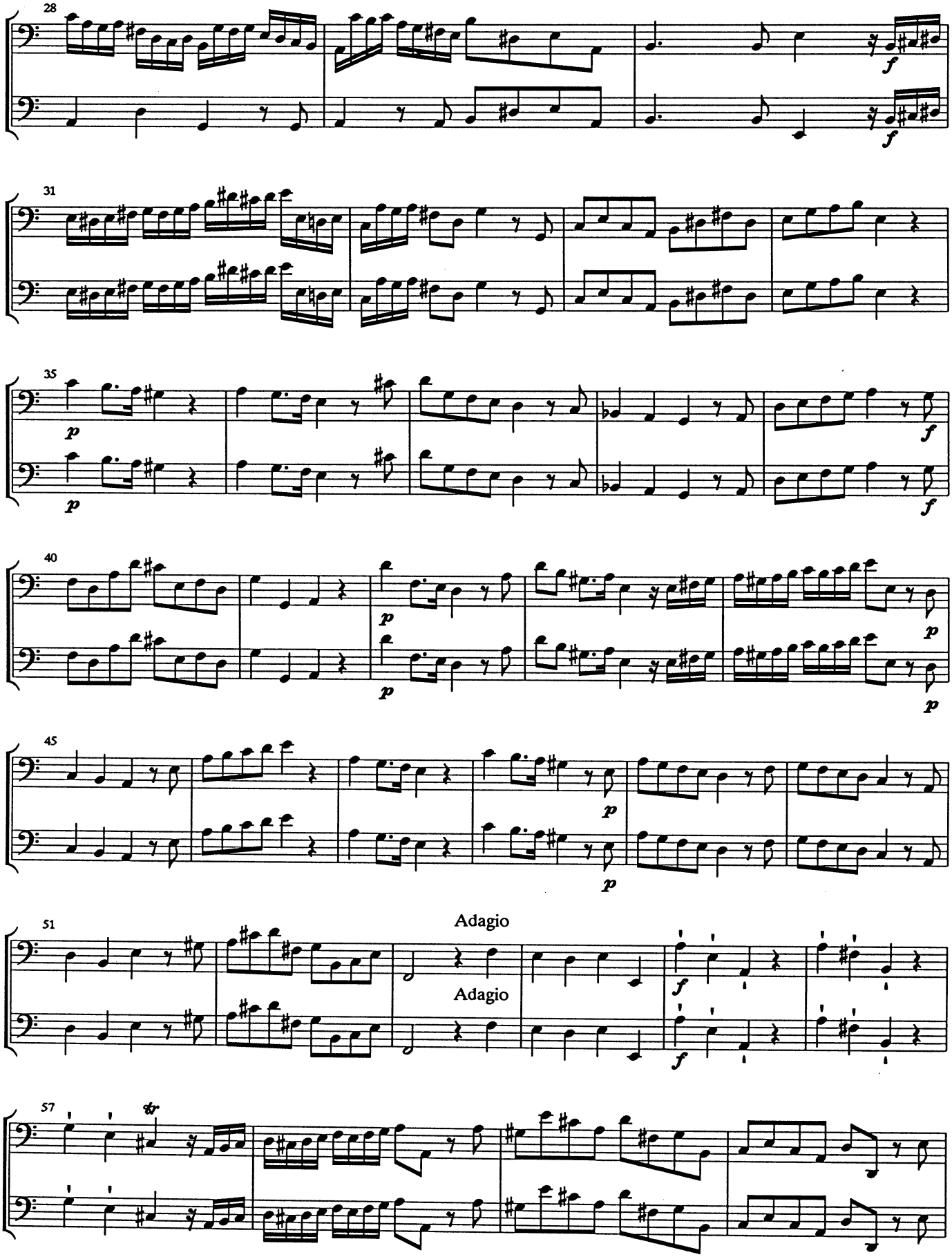


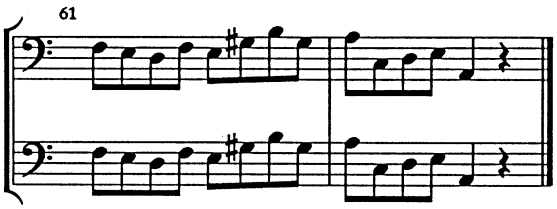

17
case waits the de - ci-sion of thy blame-less tongue.
Who judge too rash-ly, will be of-ten
21
Then tell your friend, why thus you thought-ful stand, purse your arch'd
wrong.
24
brow and cross each fold-ed hand?
A-las! I
Sup-pose 'twere love, could'st thou pre-scribe a cure?
28
can-not, I those pangs en-dure; the shafts that fly from fair Su-san-na's eyes wound the grave


32
states-man and un-man the wise; her beau-teous im-age fills up all my heart; is't for her
36
charms you like-wise feel the smart?
Yes, 'tis her beau-ty like a ma-gick spell that fires my
40
blood, and bids my years re - bel; love, fran-tic love does all this bo-som rule, to its hot
44
rage, the burn-ing dog-star's cool.

25. Air


Staccato
Fagotto
Continuo
5
un poco p
un poco p
11
f
f
16
f
f
19
un poco p
un poco p
24


28
31
35
40
45
51
Adagio
Adagio
57



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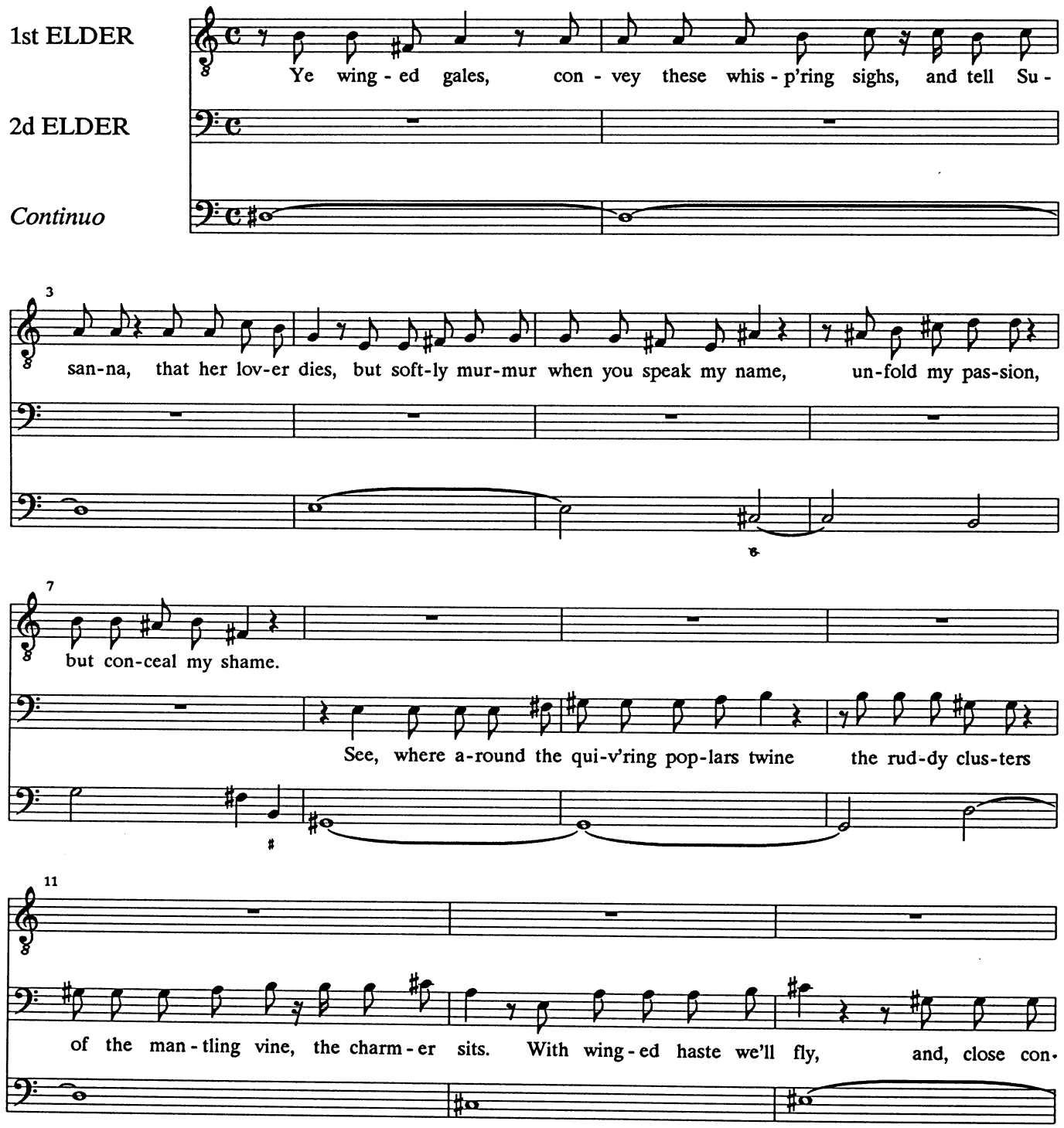
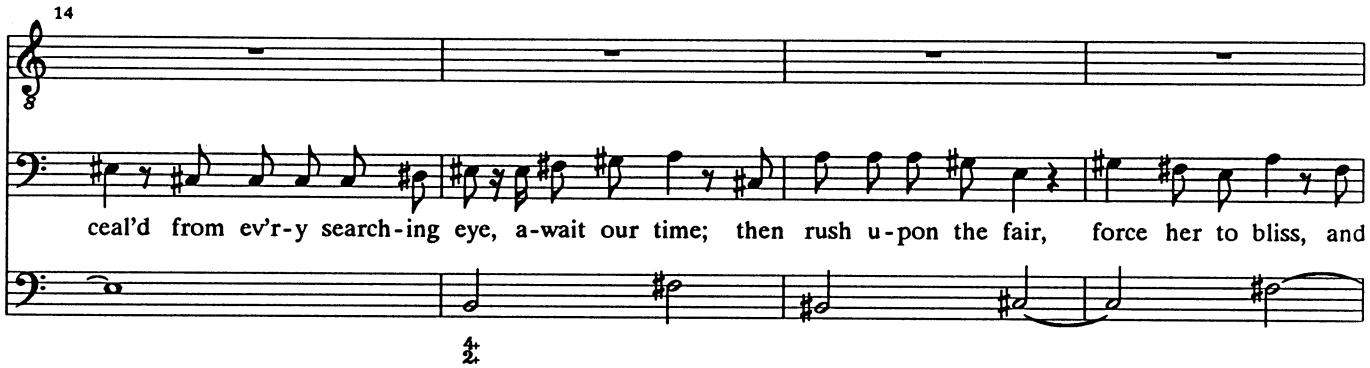
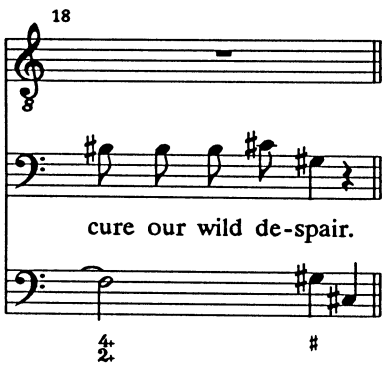
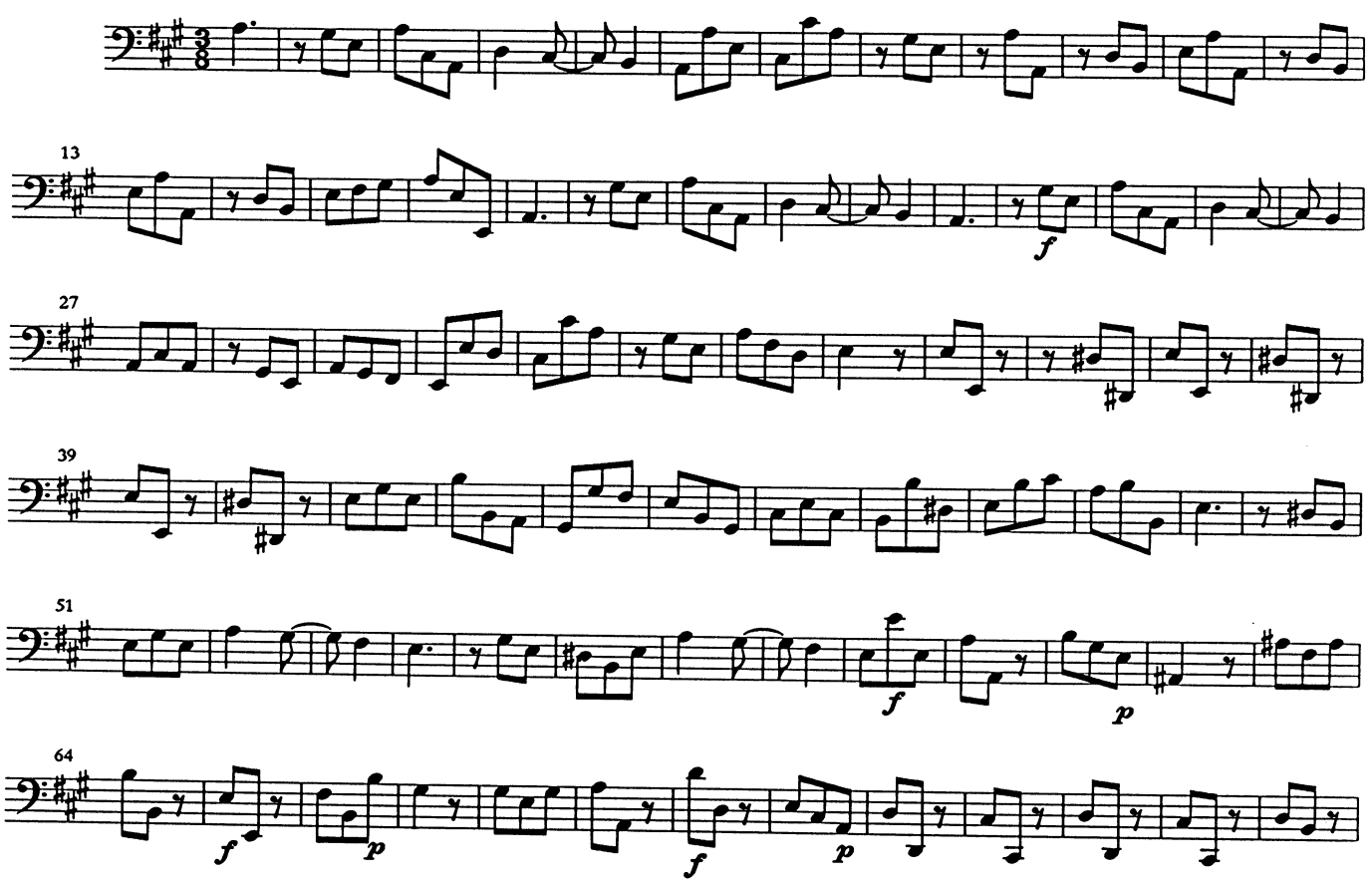


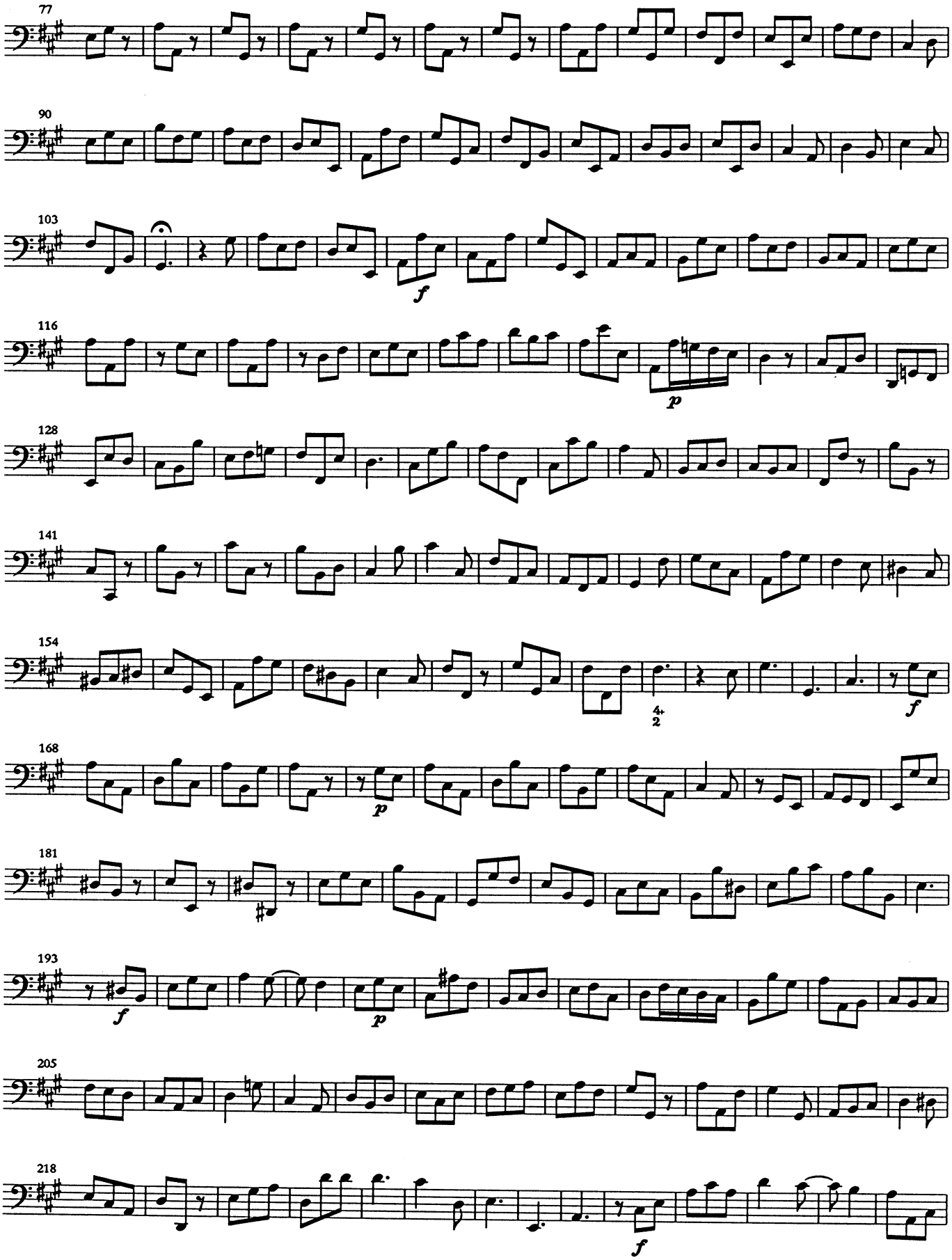


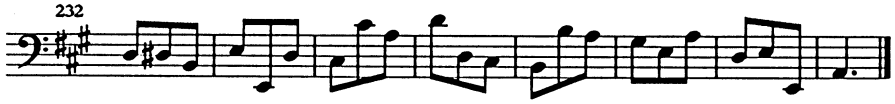


27. Air

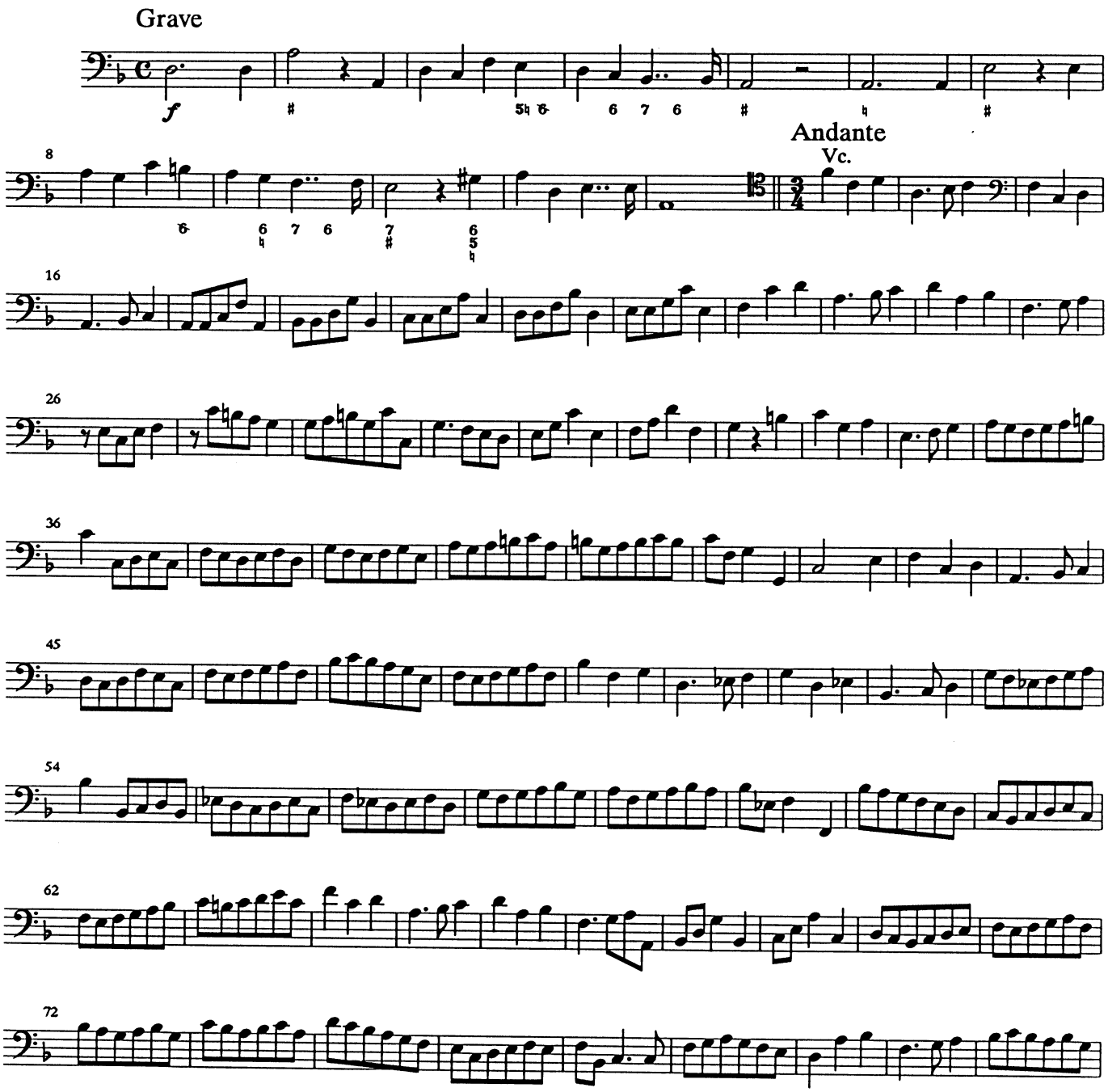
Andante

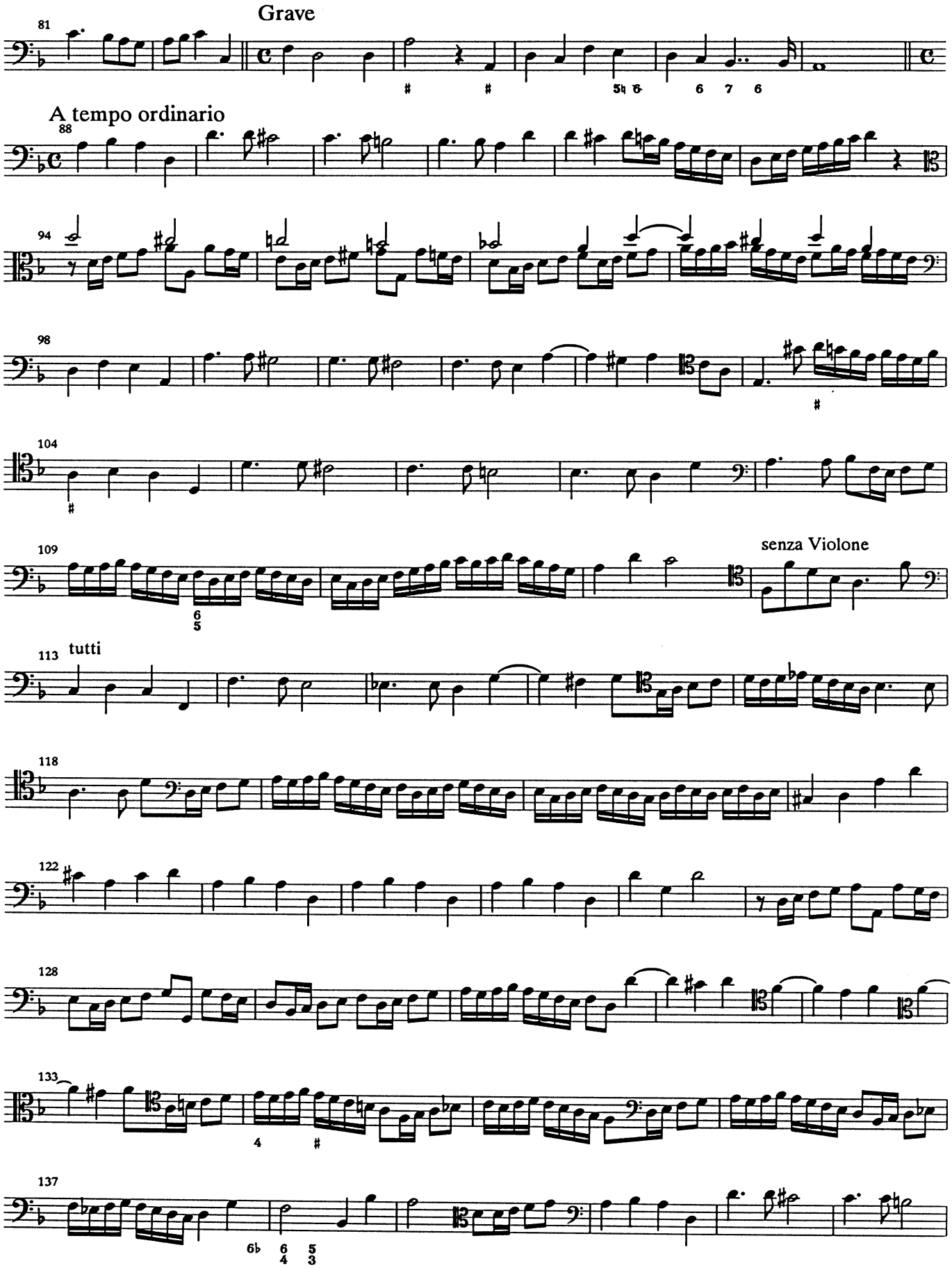


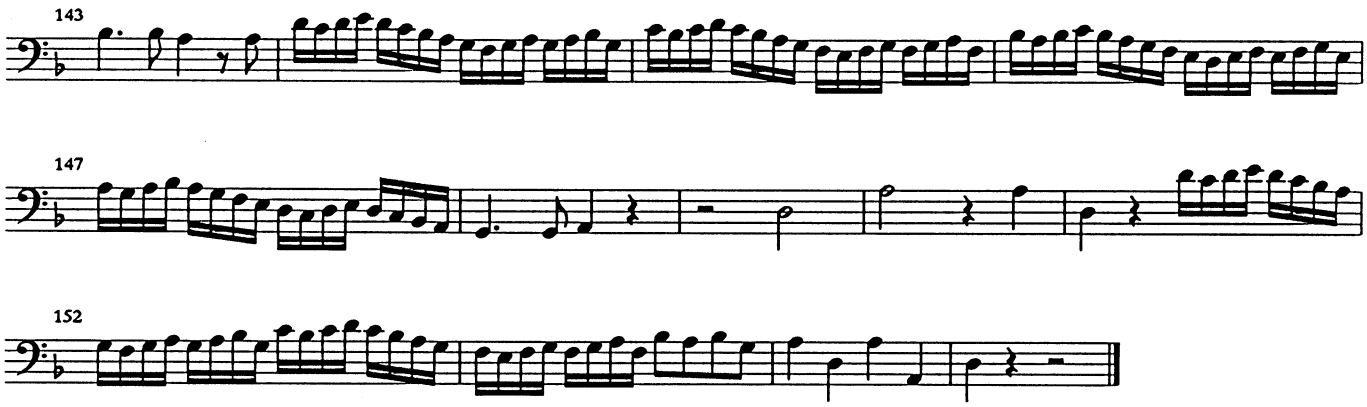

77
90
103
116
128
141
154
168
181
193
205
218



28. Chorus

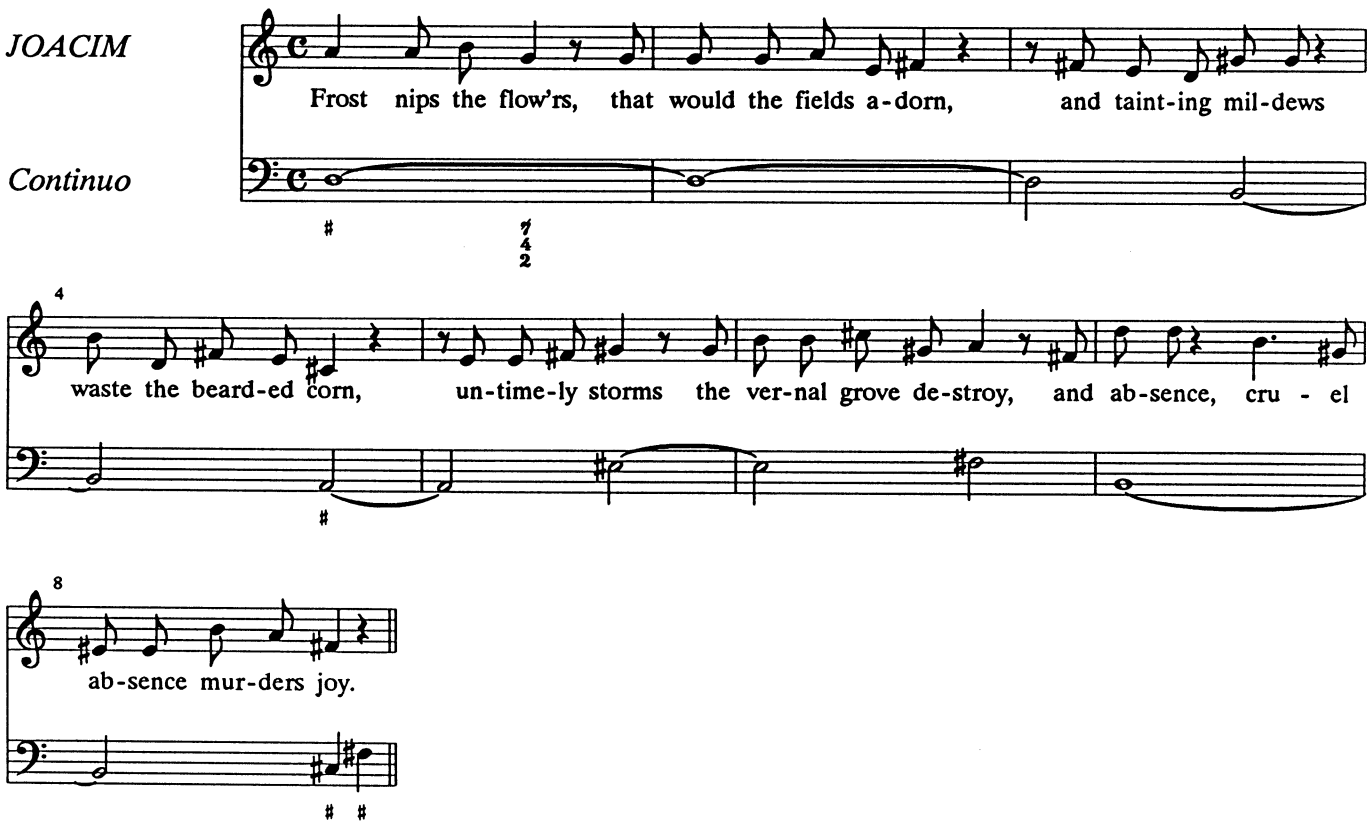



Grave
A tempo ordinario
senza Violone
tutti

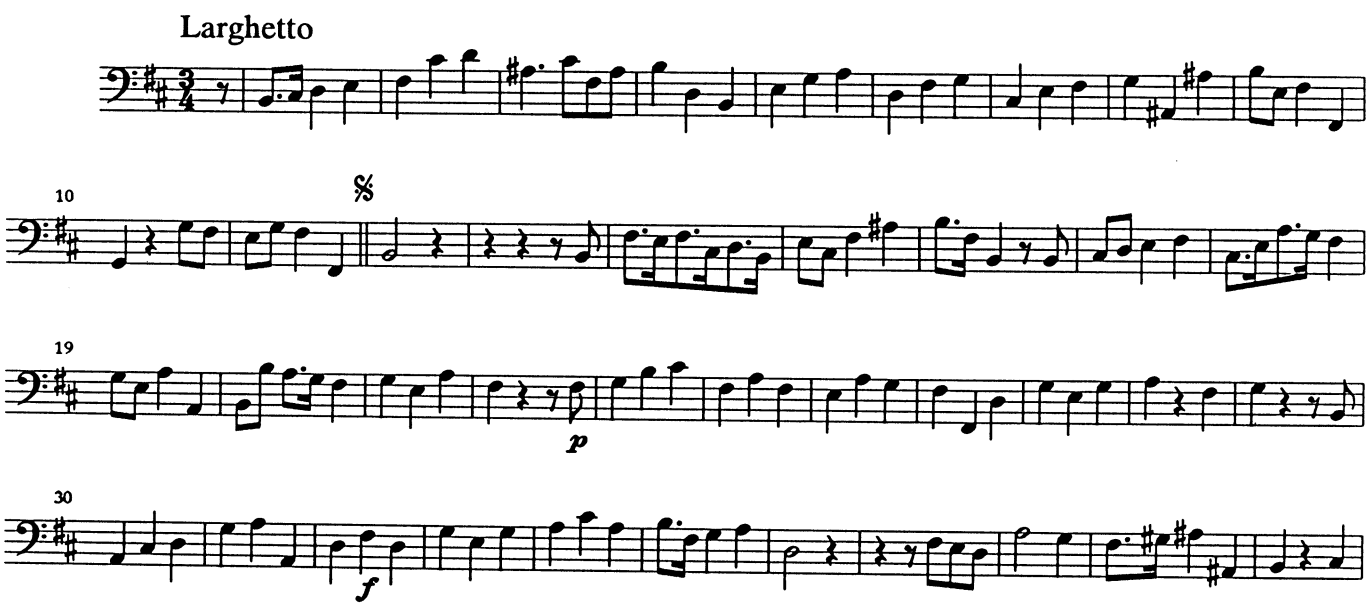

143
147
152

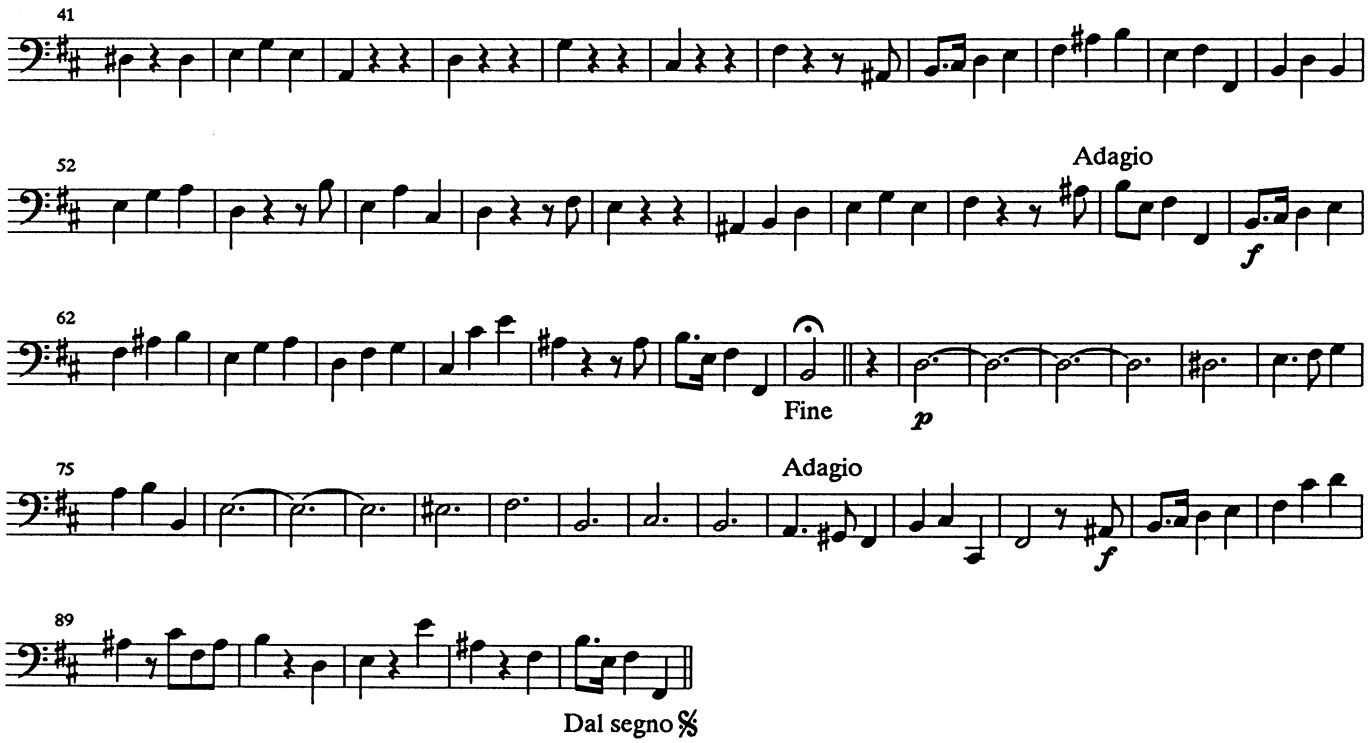
PART TWO

29. Recitative

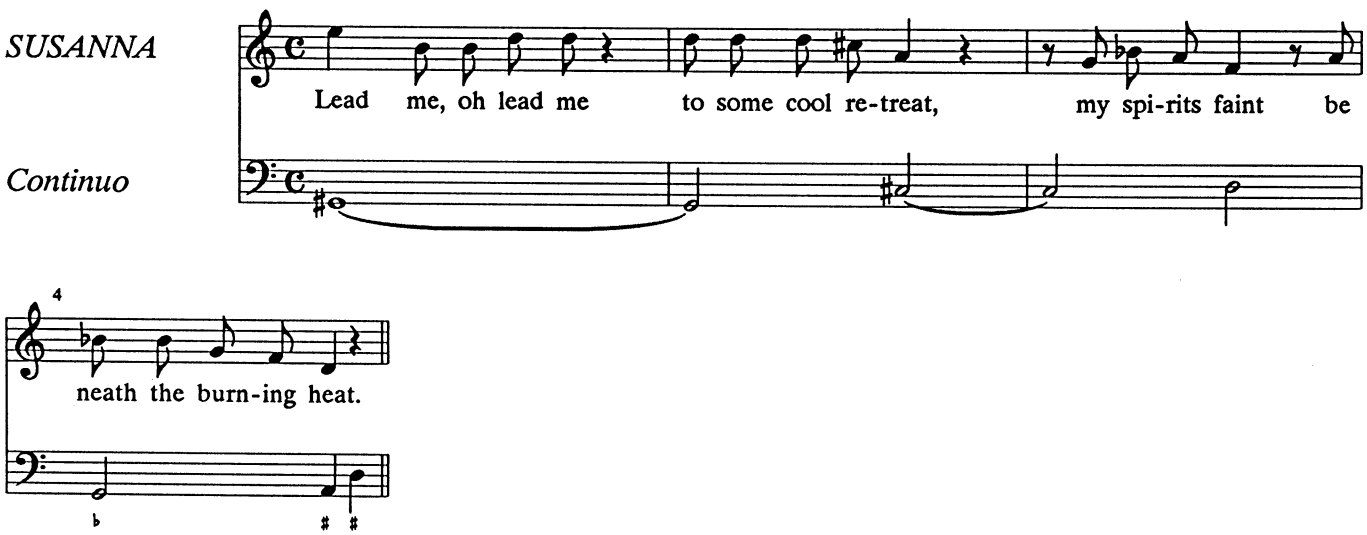


30. Air



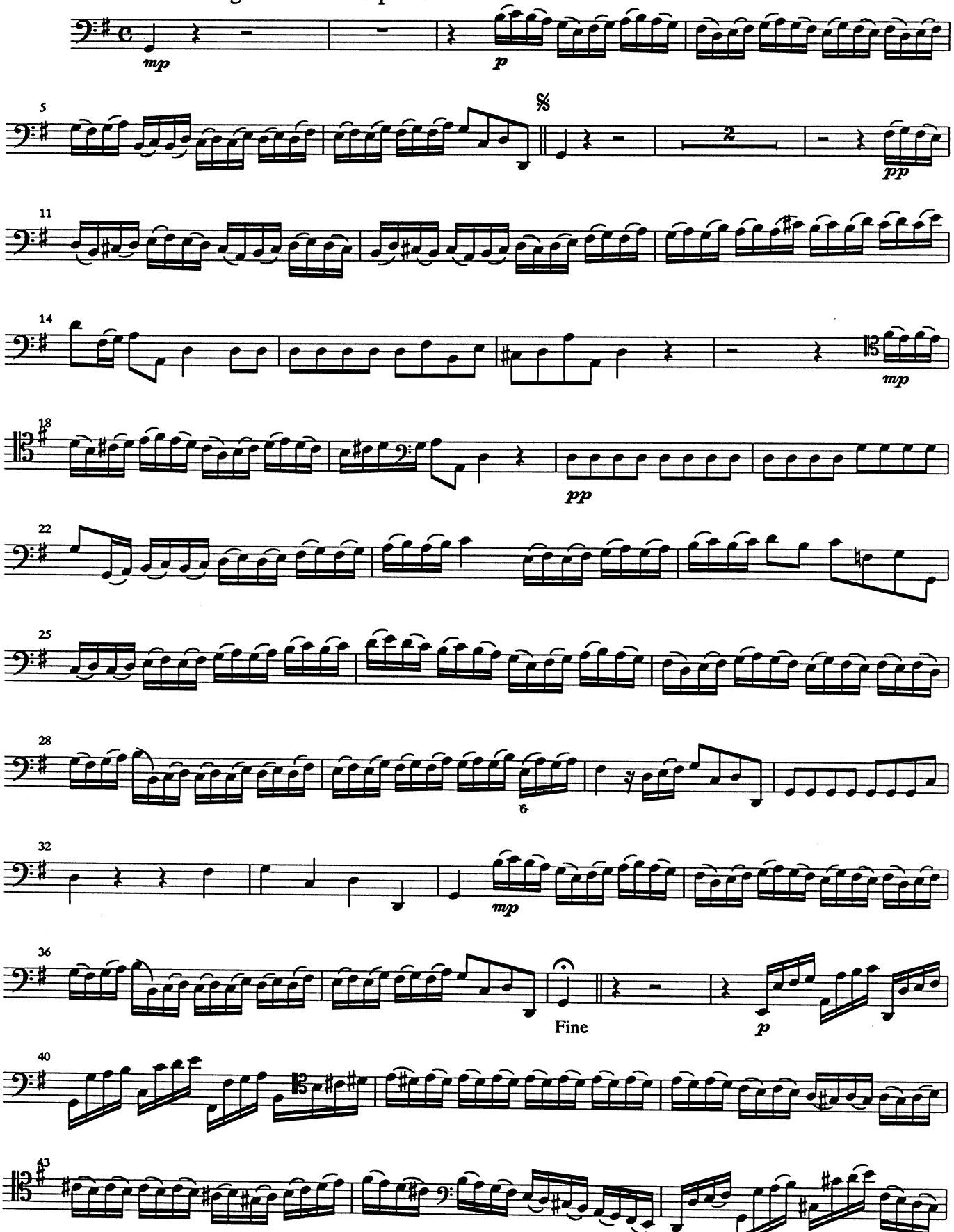


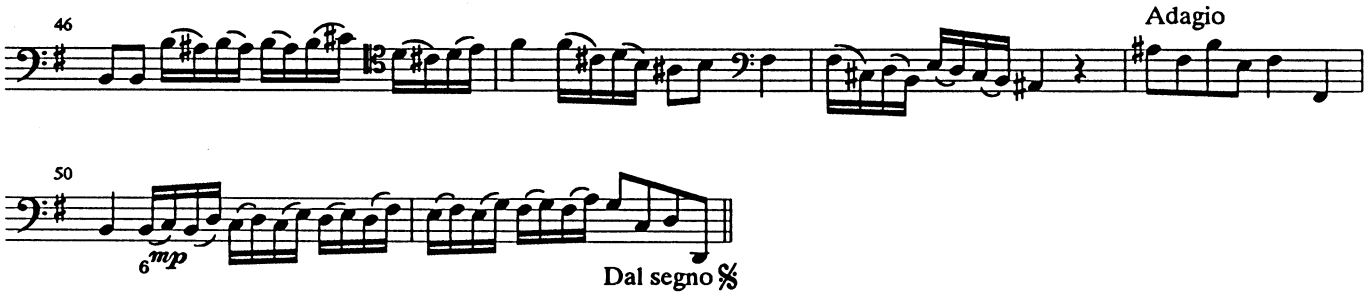
31. Recitative



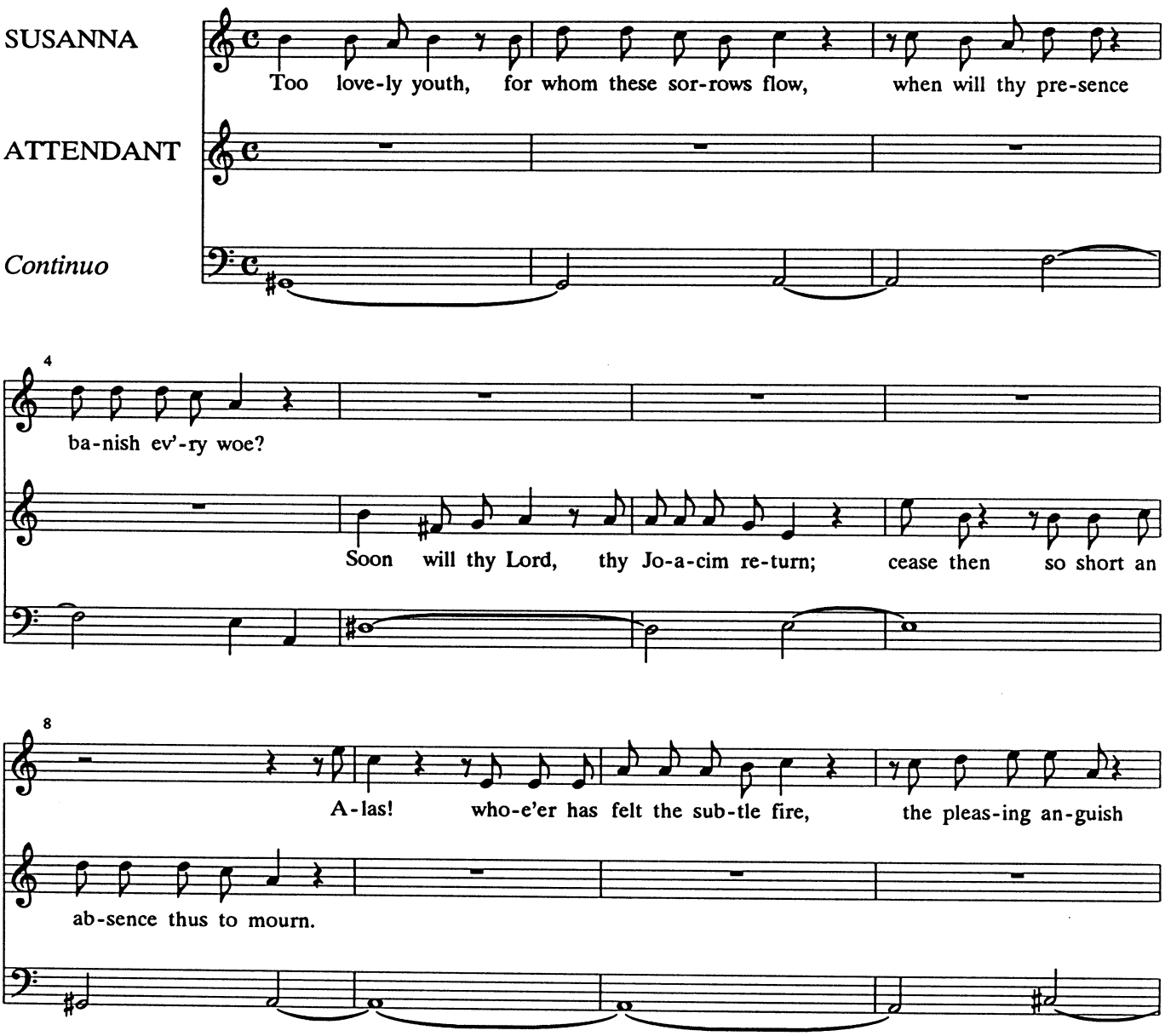
32. Air

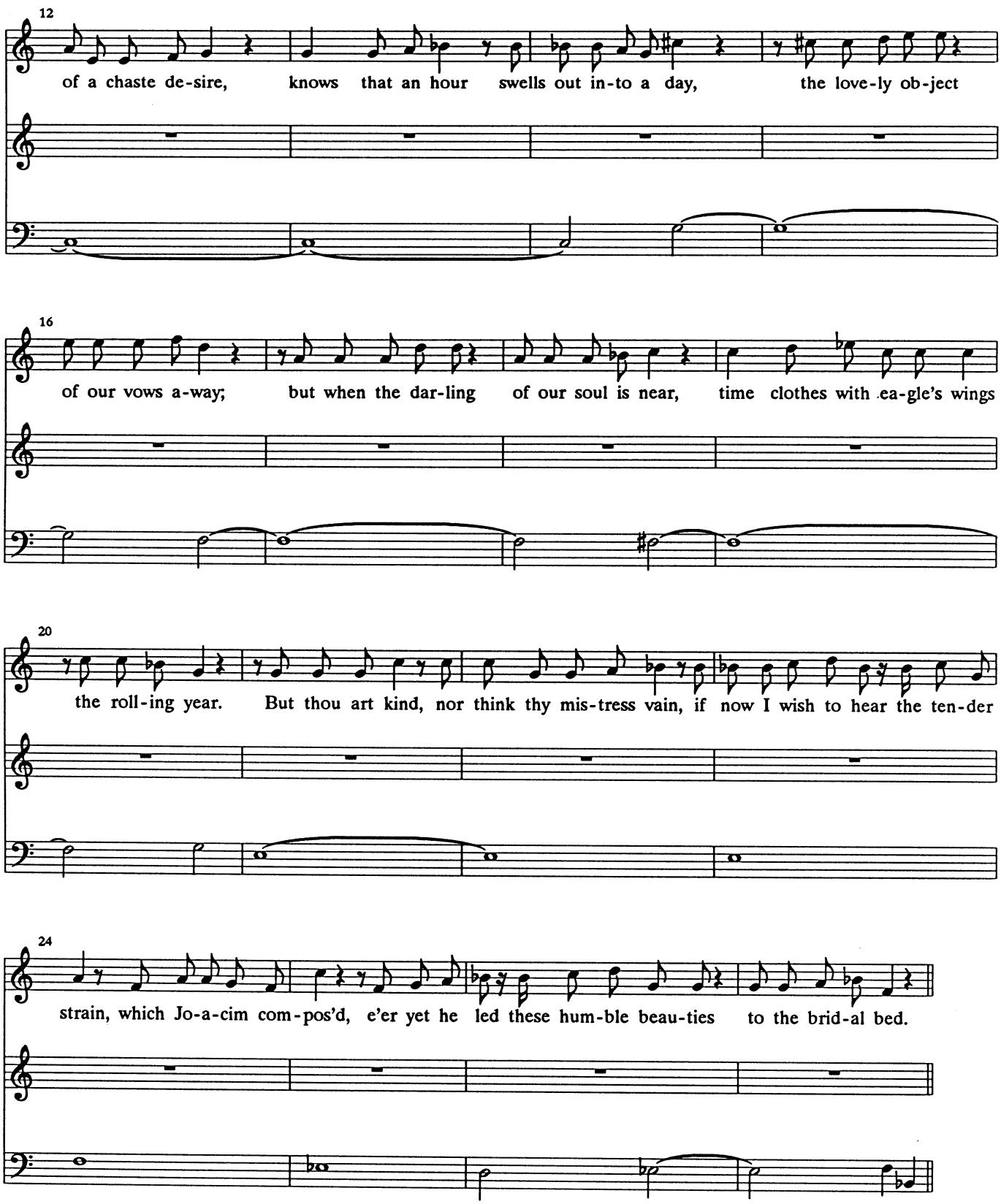
Andante larghetto e mezzo piano



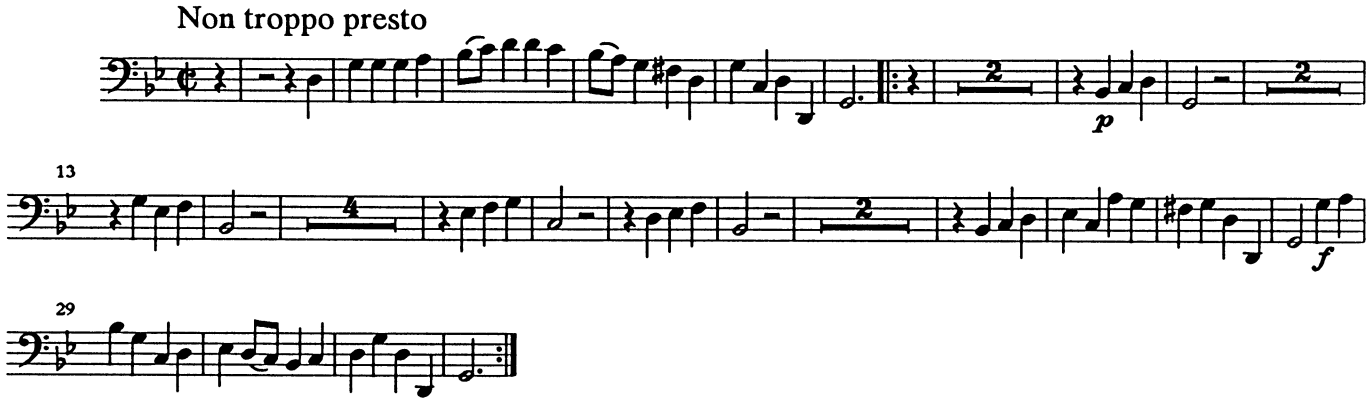


33. Recitative

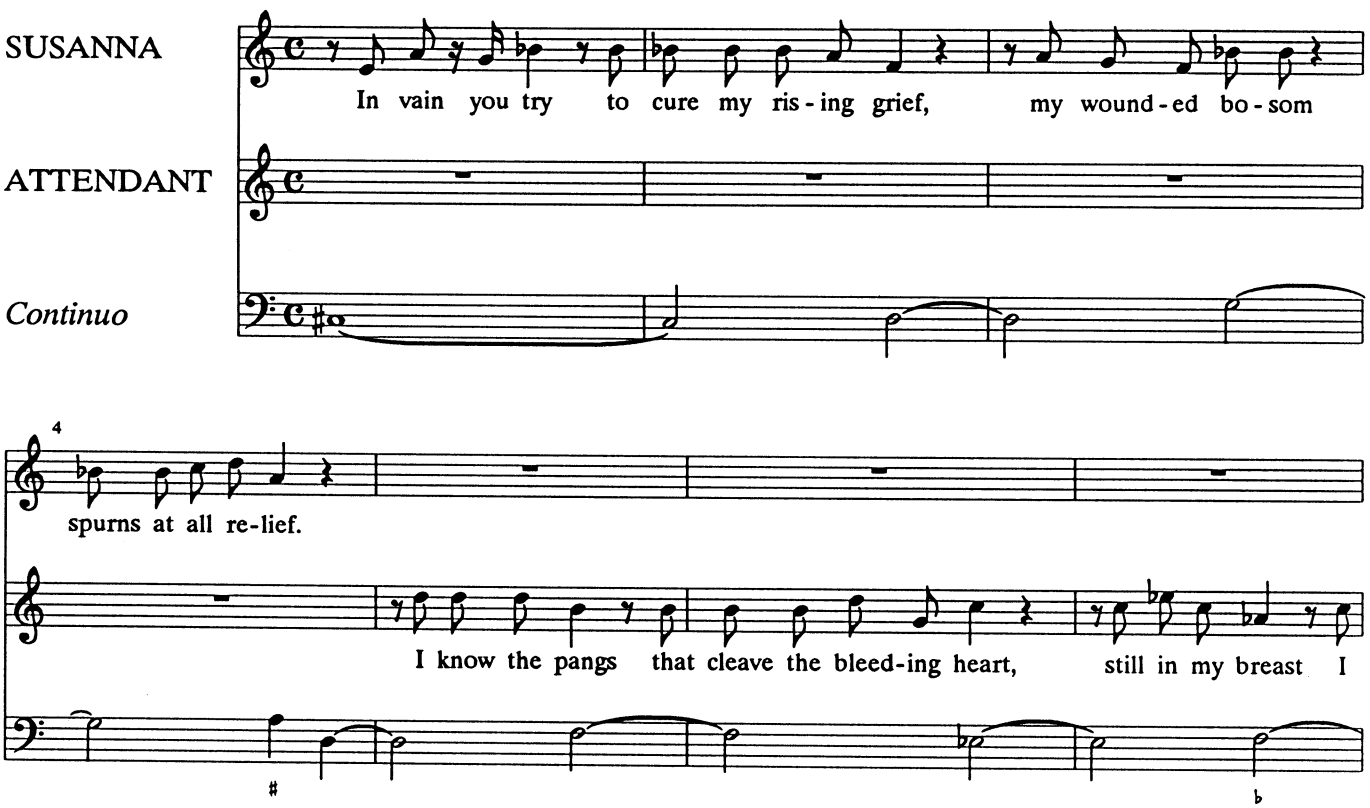


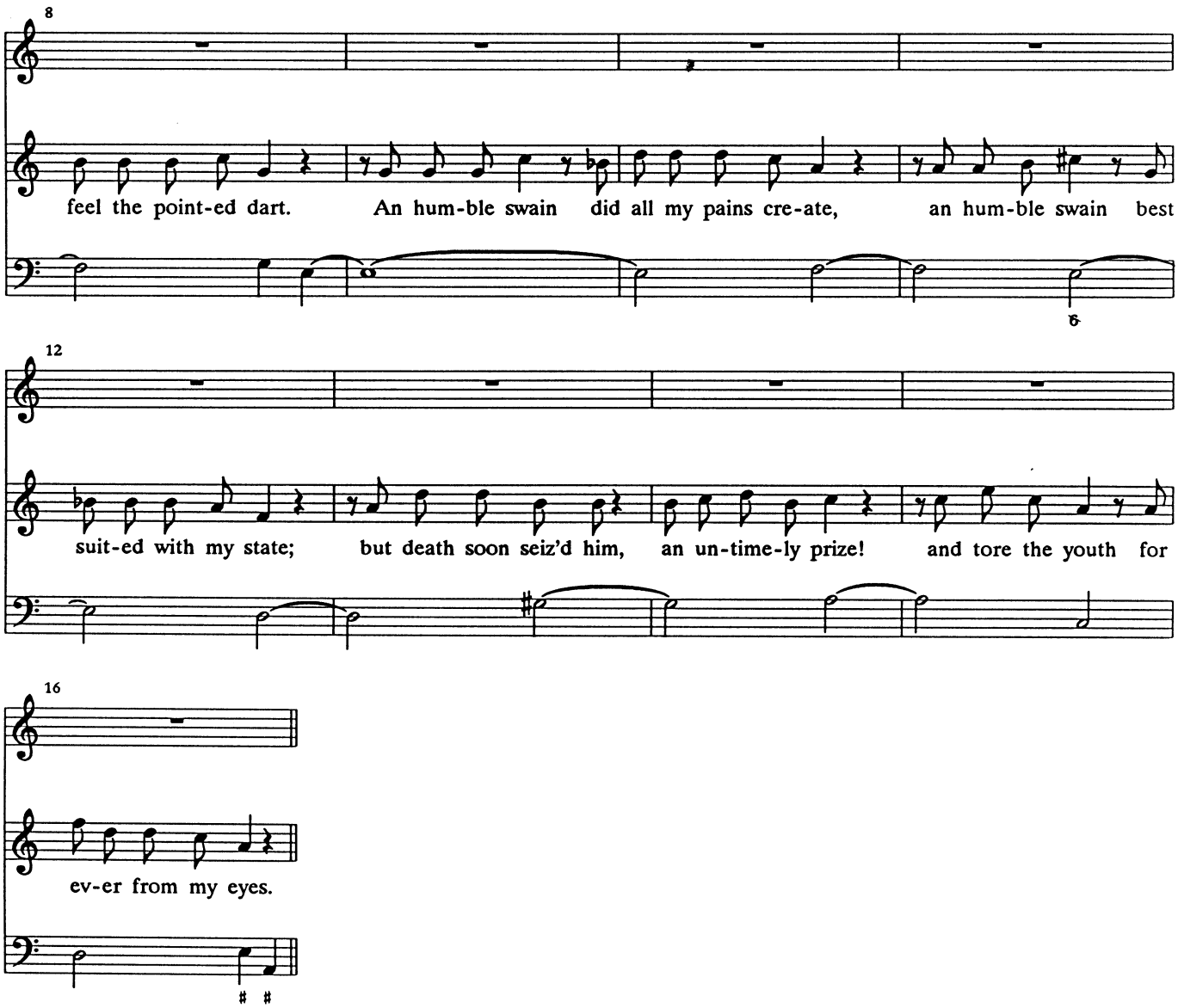

12
of a chaste de-sire, knows that an hour swells out in-to a day, the love-ly ob-ject
16
of our vows a-way; but when the dar-ling of our soul is near, time clothes with ea-gle's wings
20
the roll-ing year. But thou art kind, nor think thy mis-tress vain, if now I wish to hear the ten-der
24
strain, which Jo-a-cim com-pos'd, e'er yet he led these hum-ble beau-ties to the brid-al bed.

34. Air (with three verses)



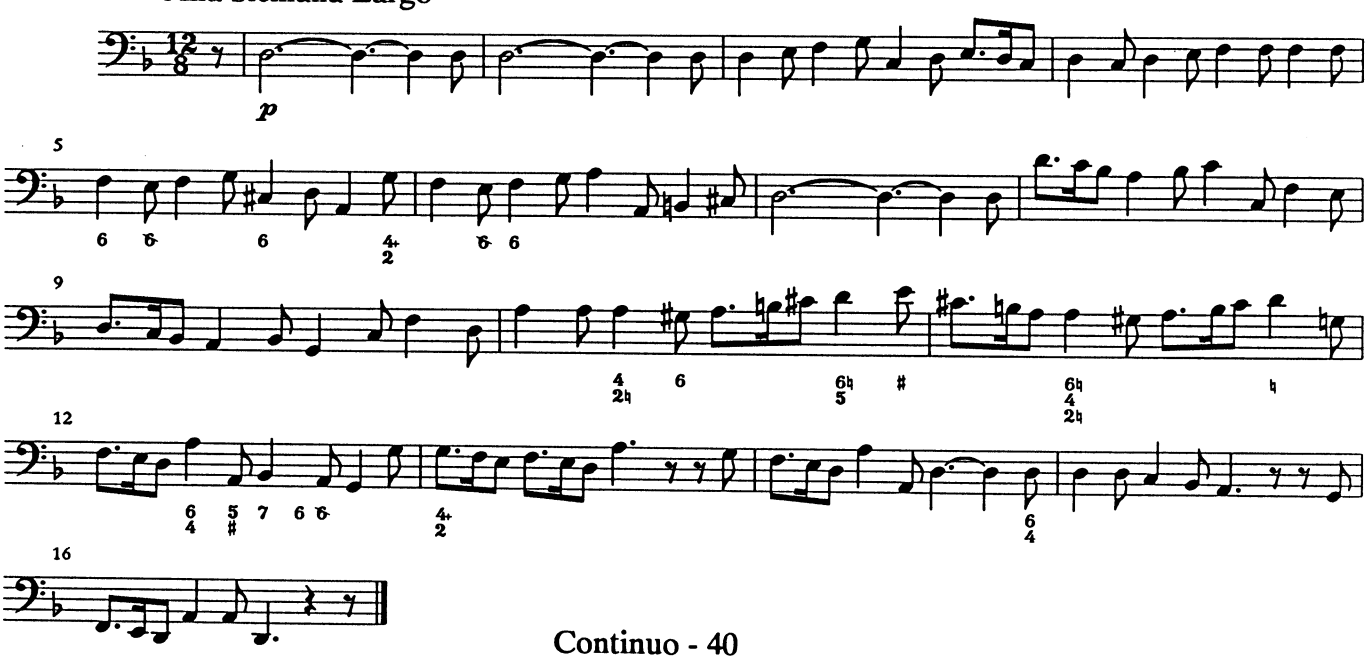
35. Recitative



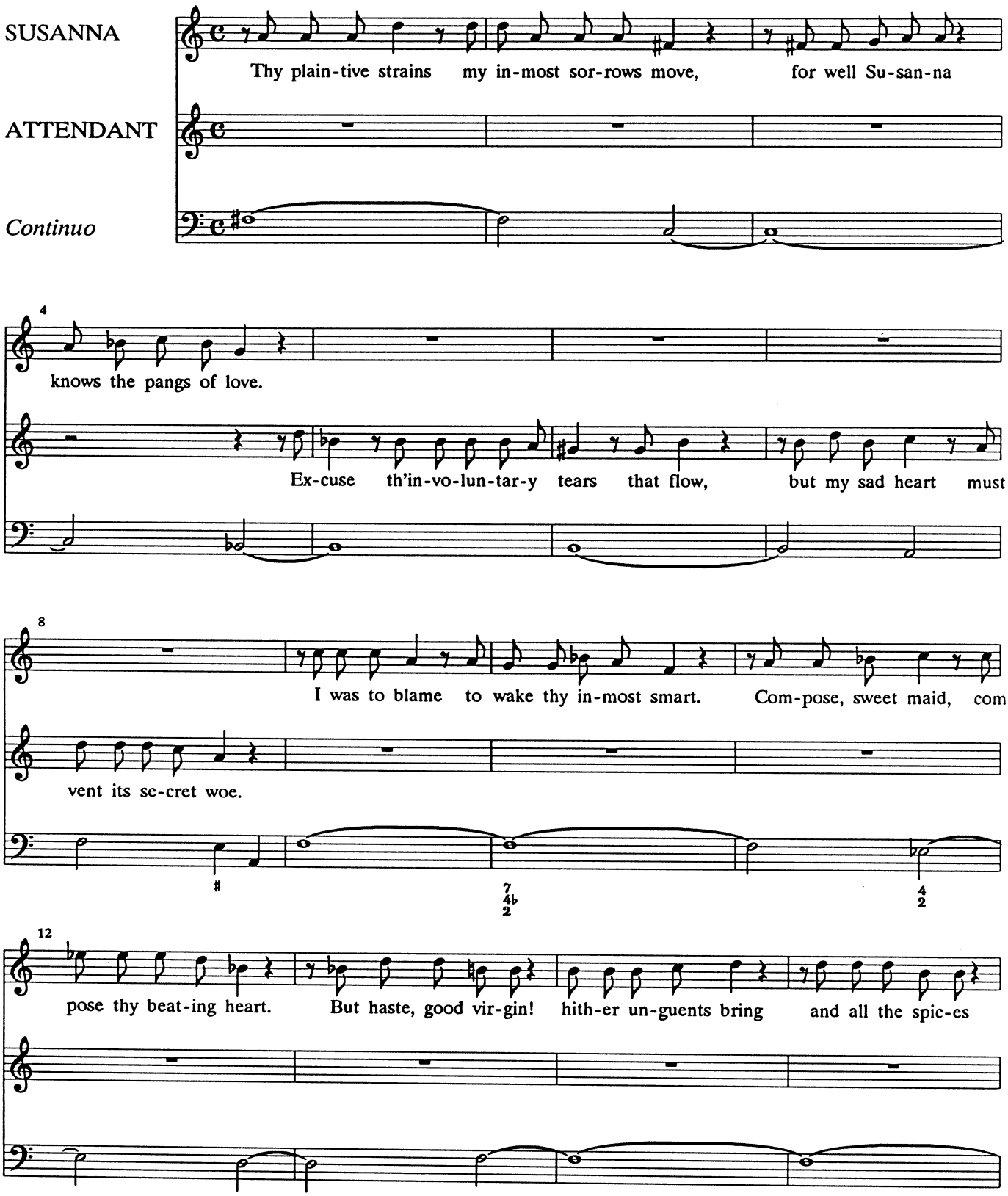


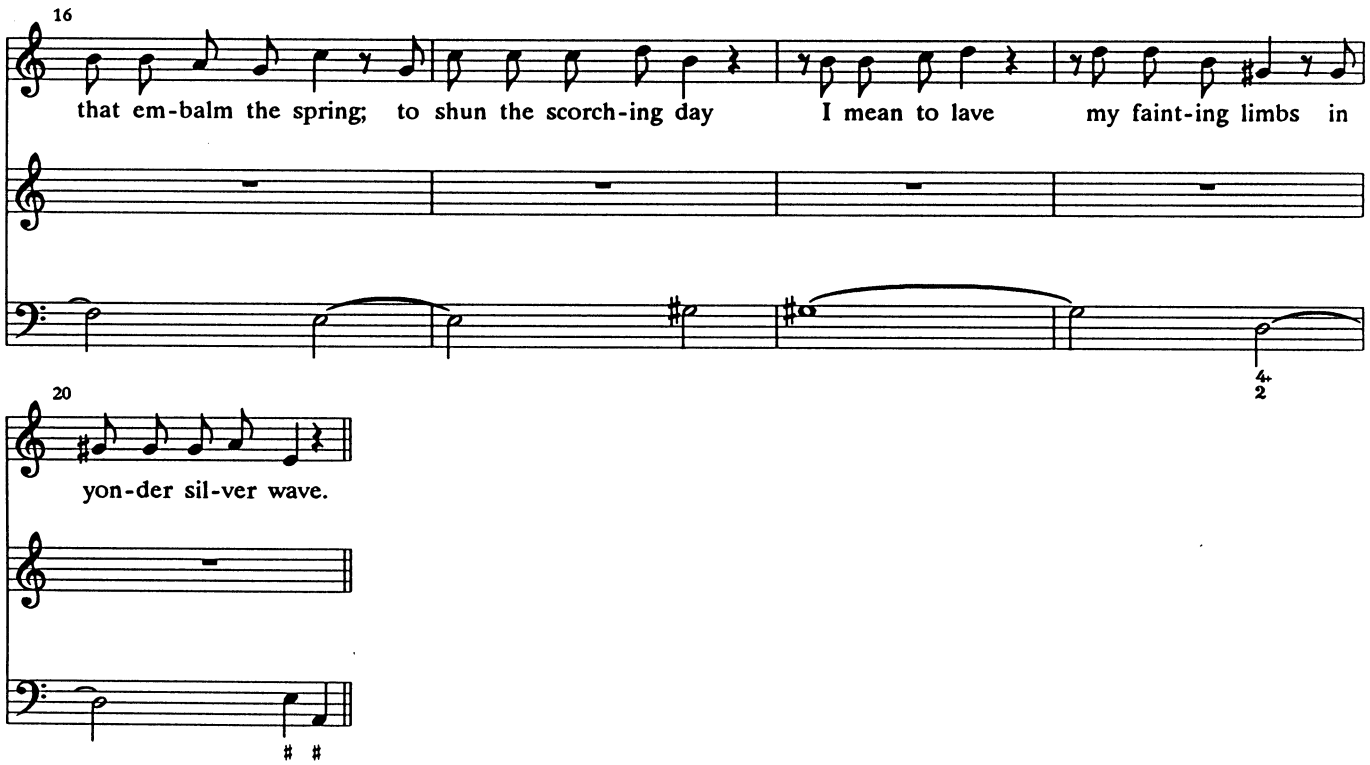
36. Air

Alla Siciliana Largo

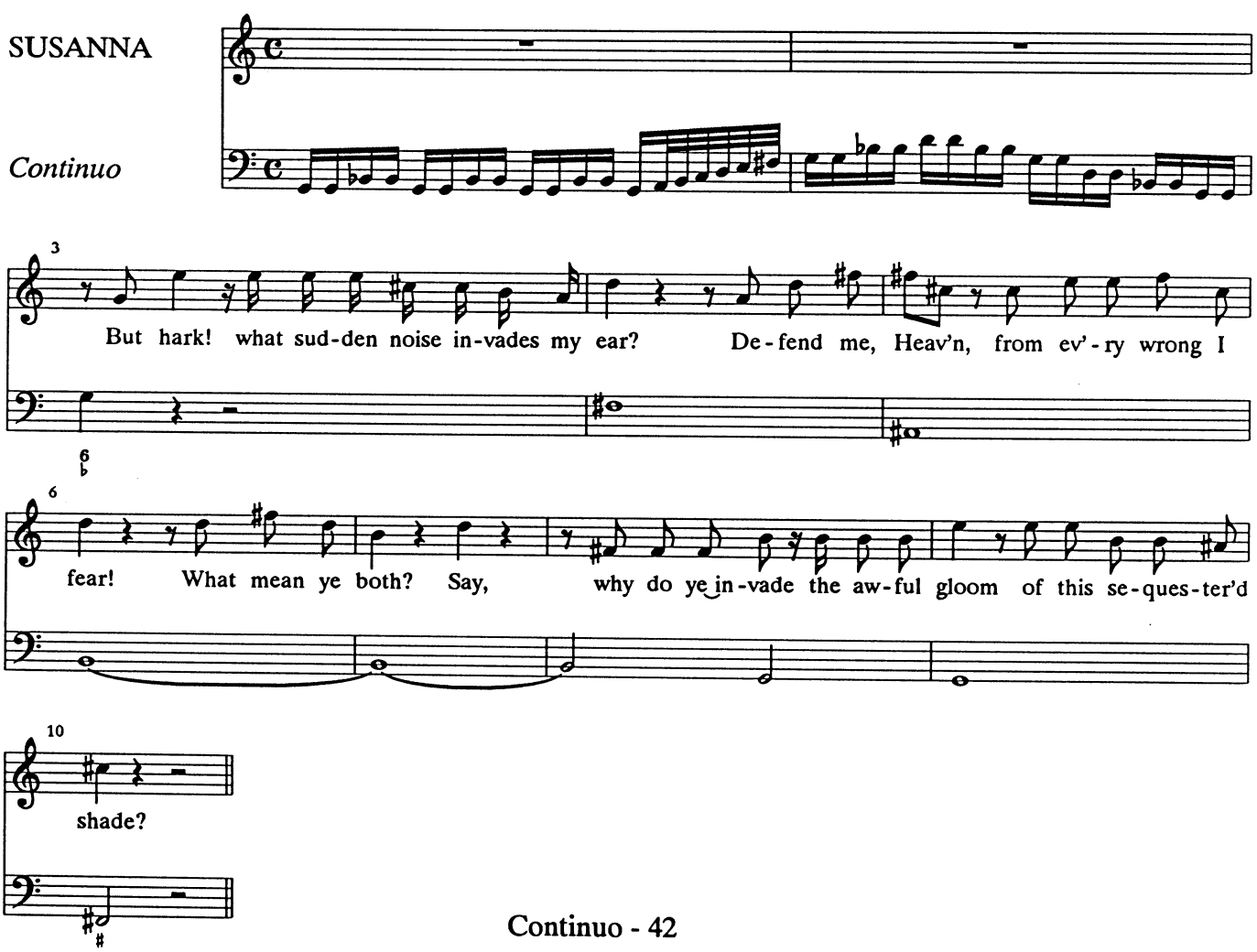


37. Recitative

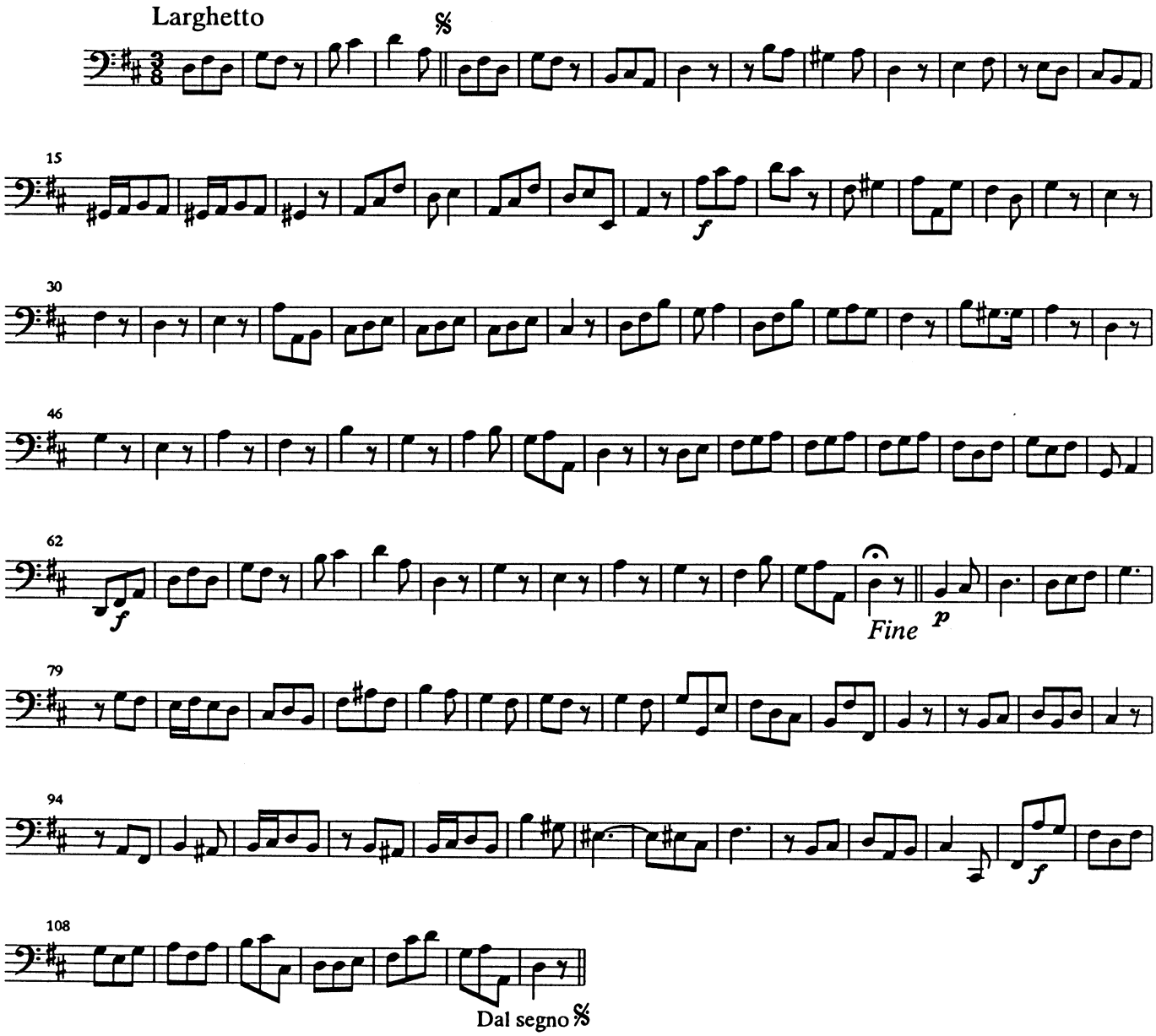




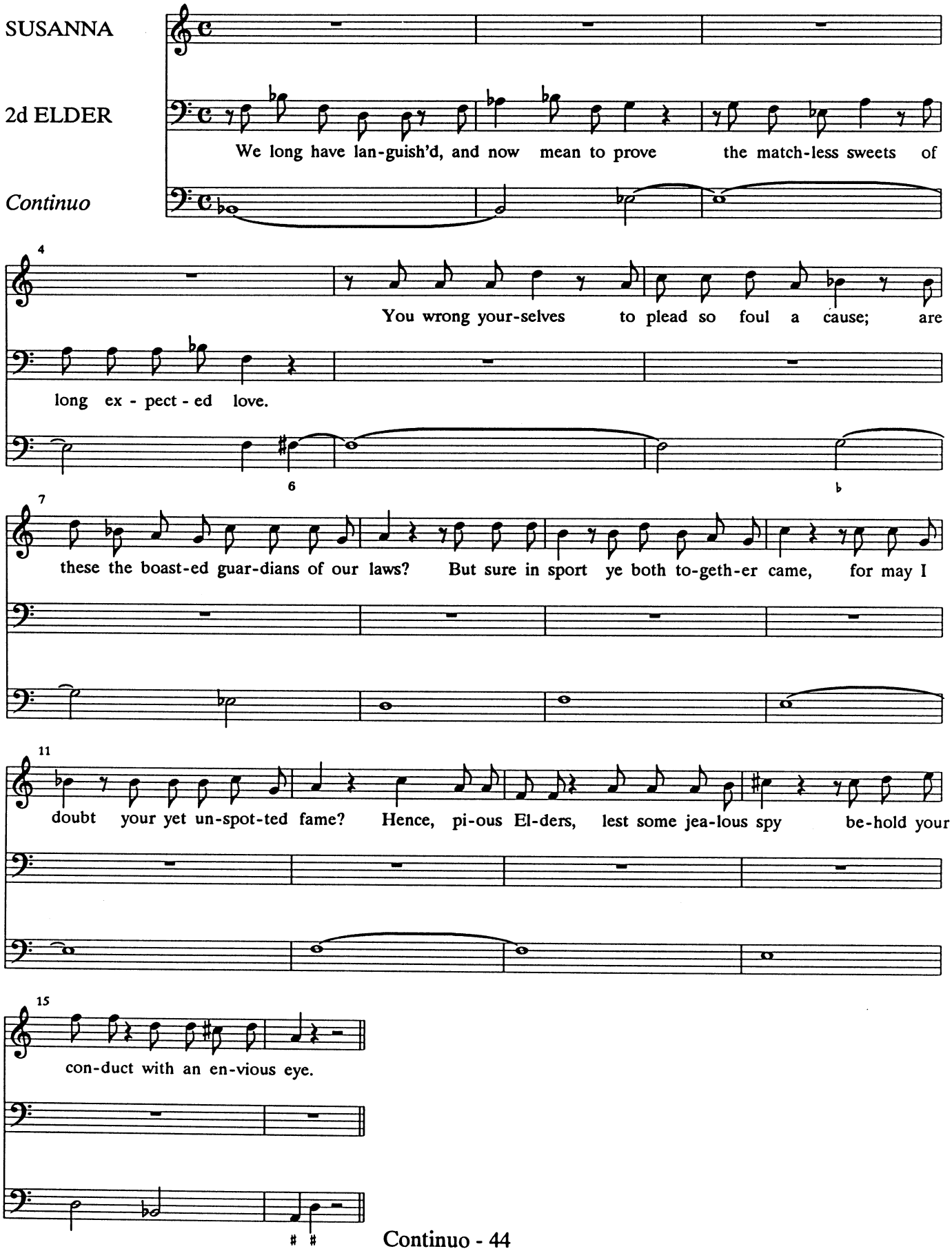
38. Recitative



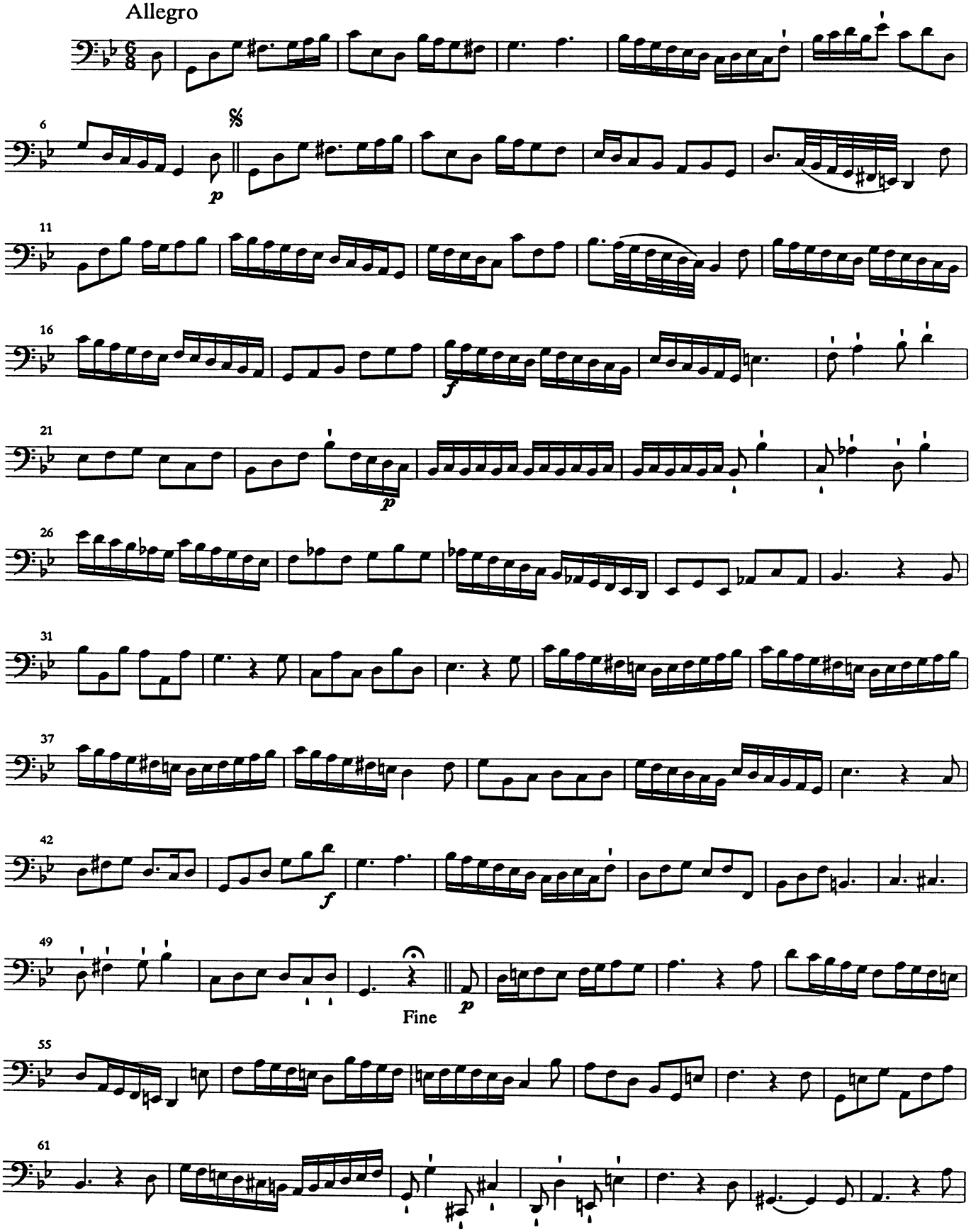
39. Air

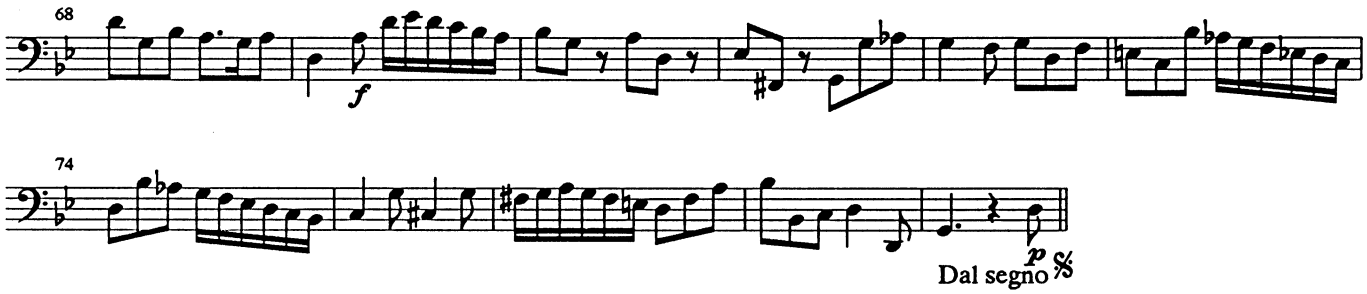


40. Recitative

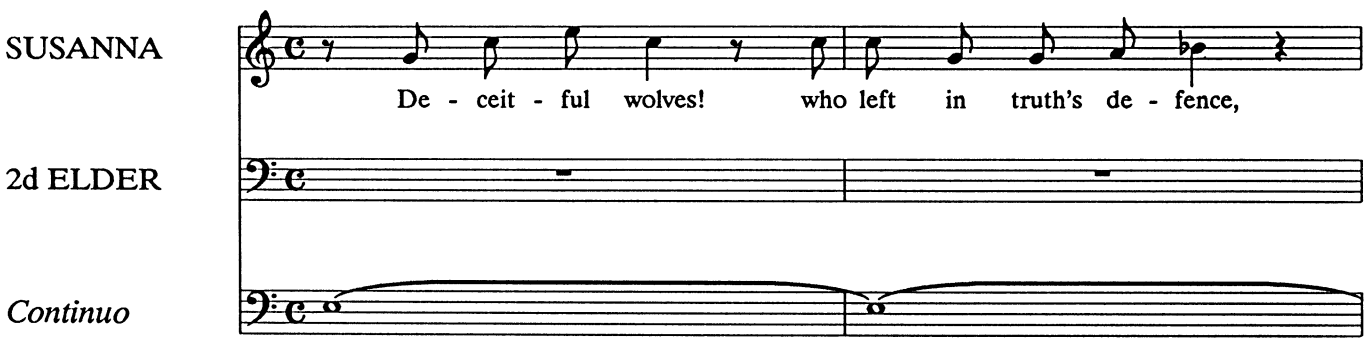


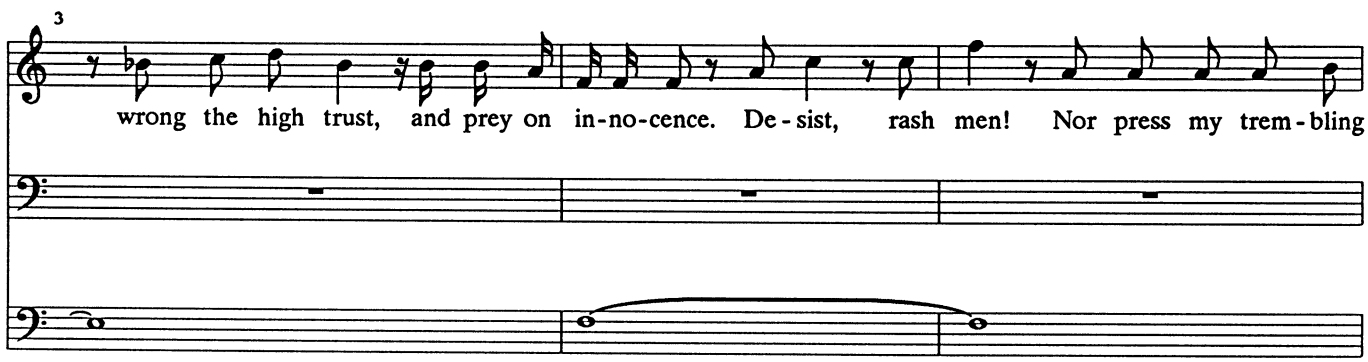
41. Air

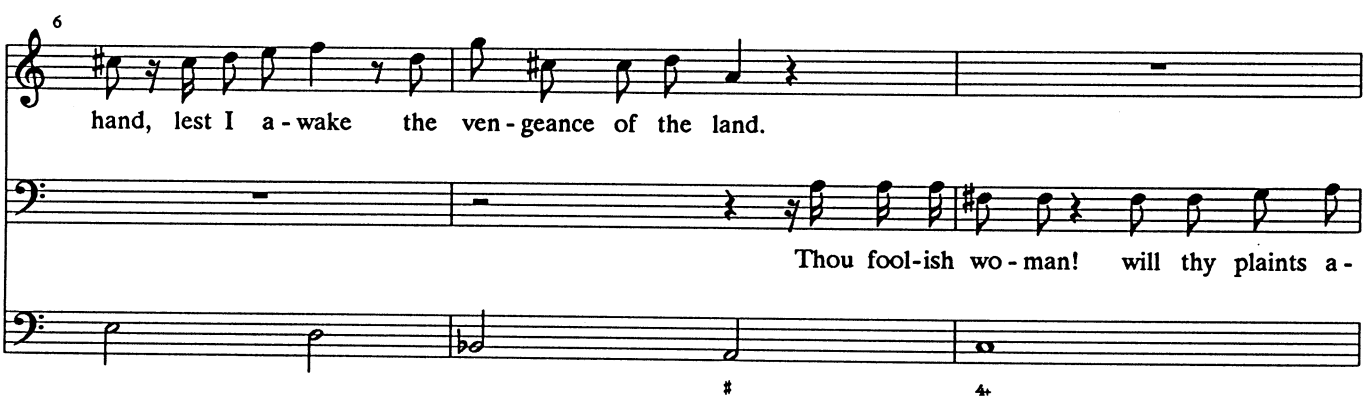


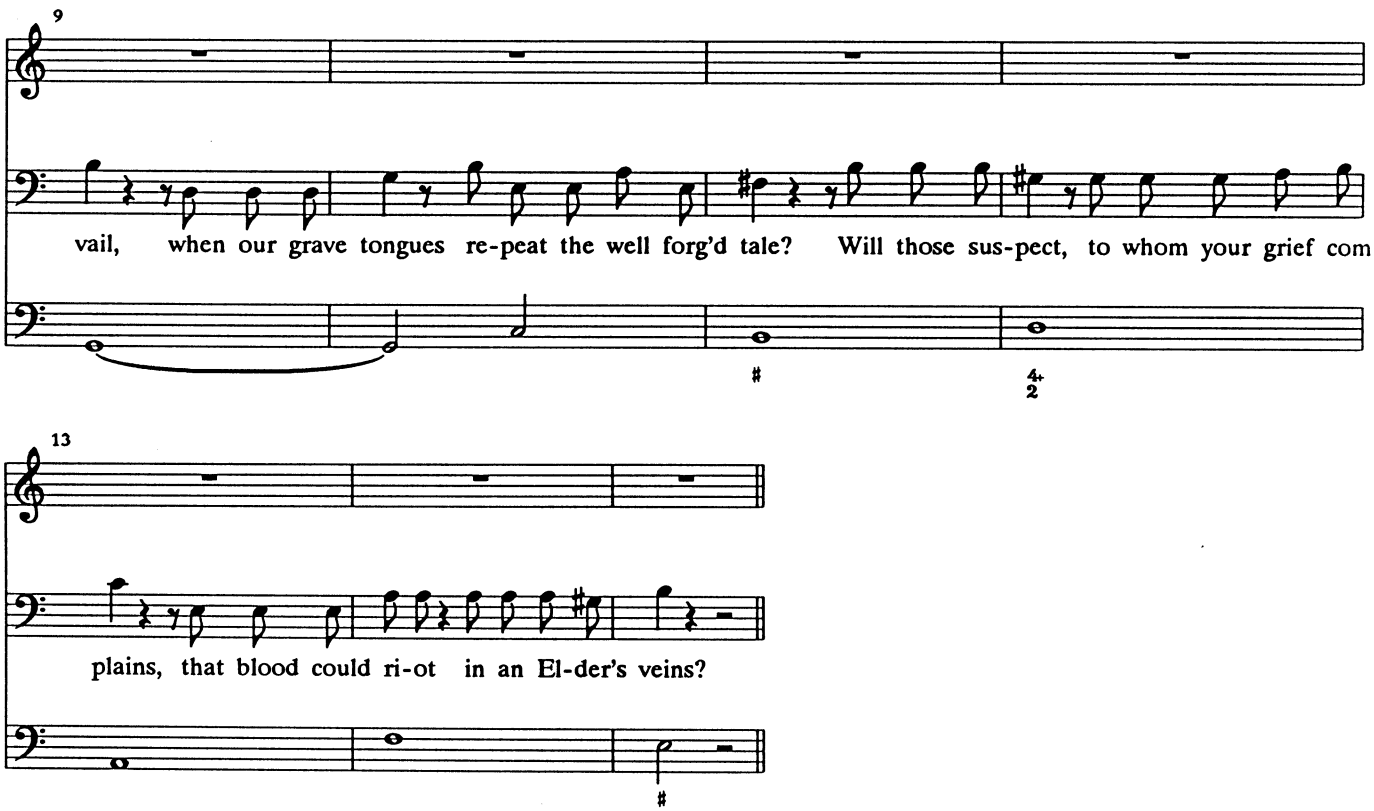


42. Recitative

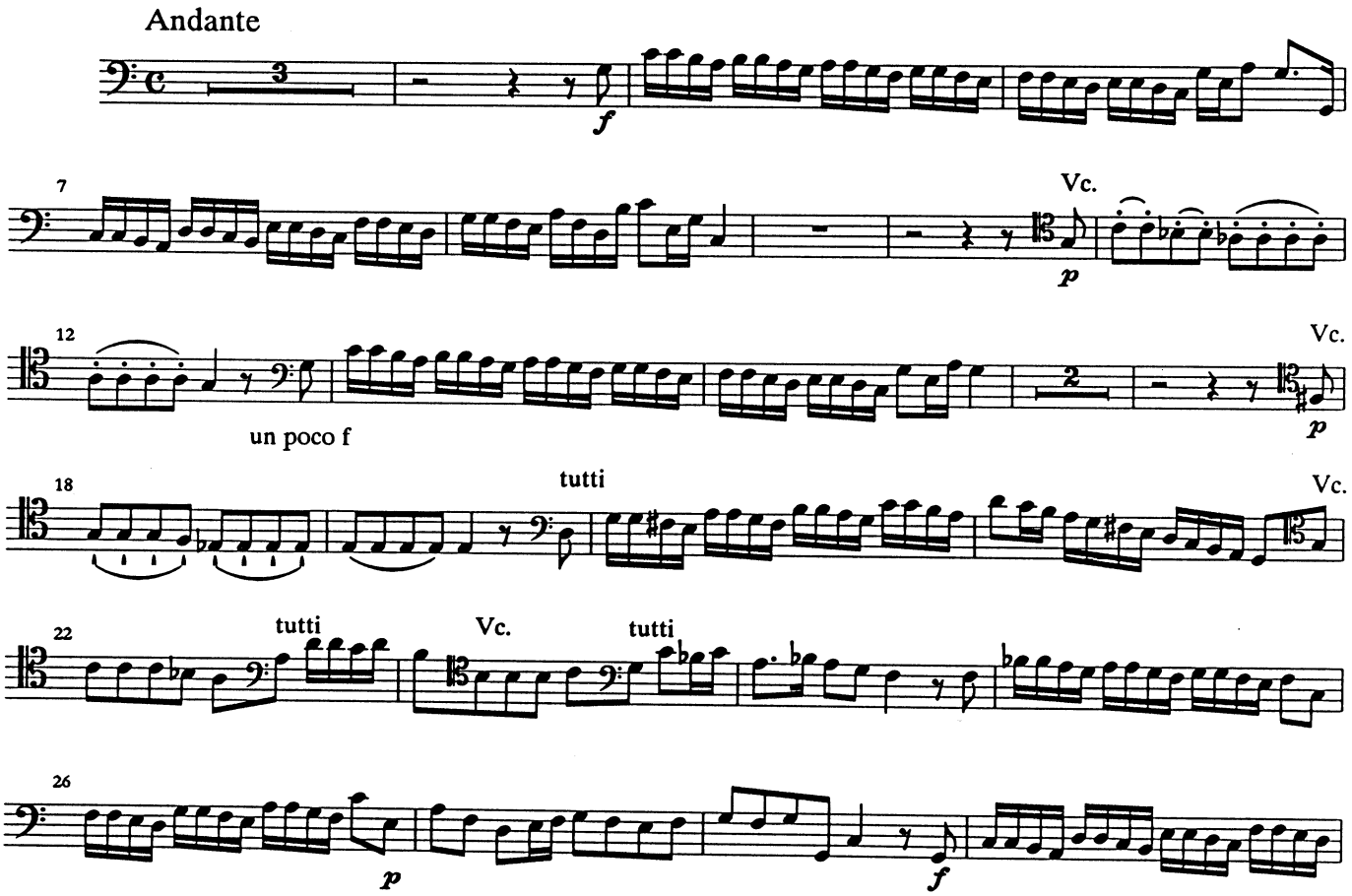


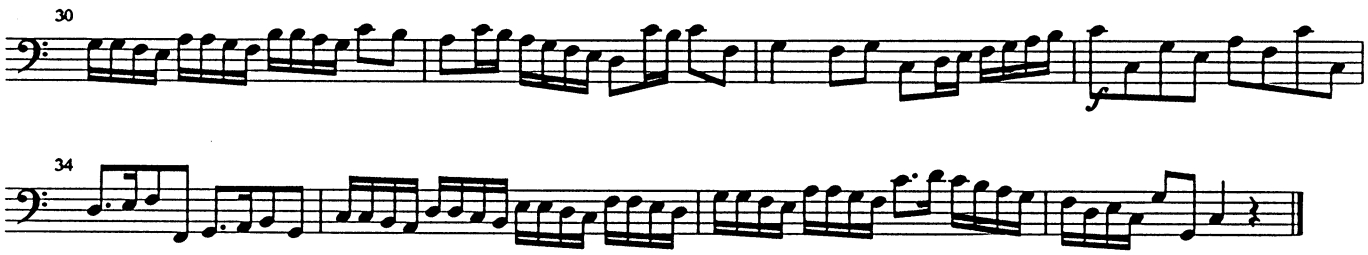




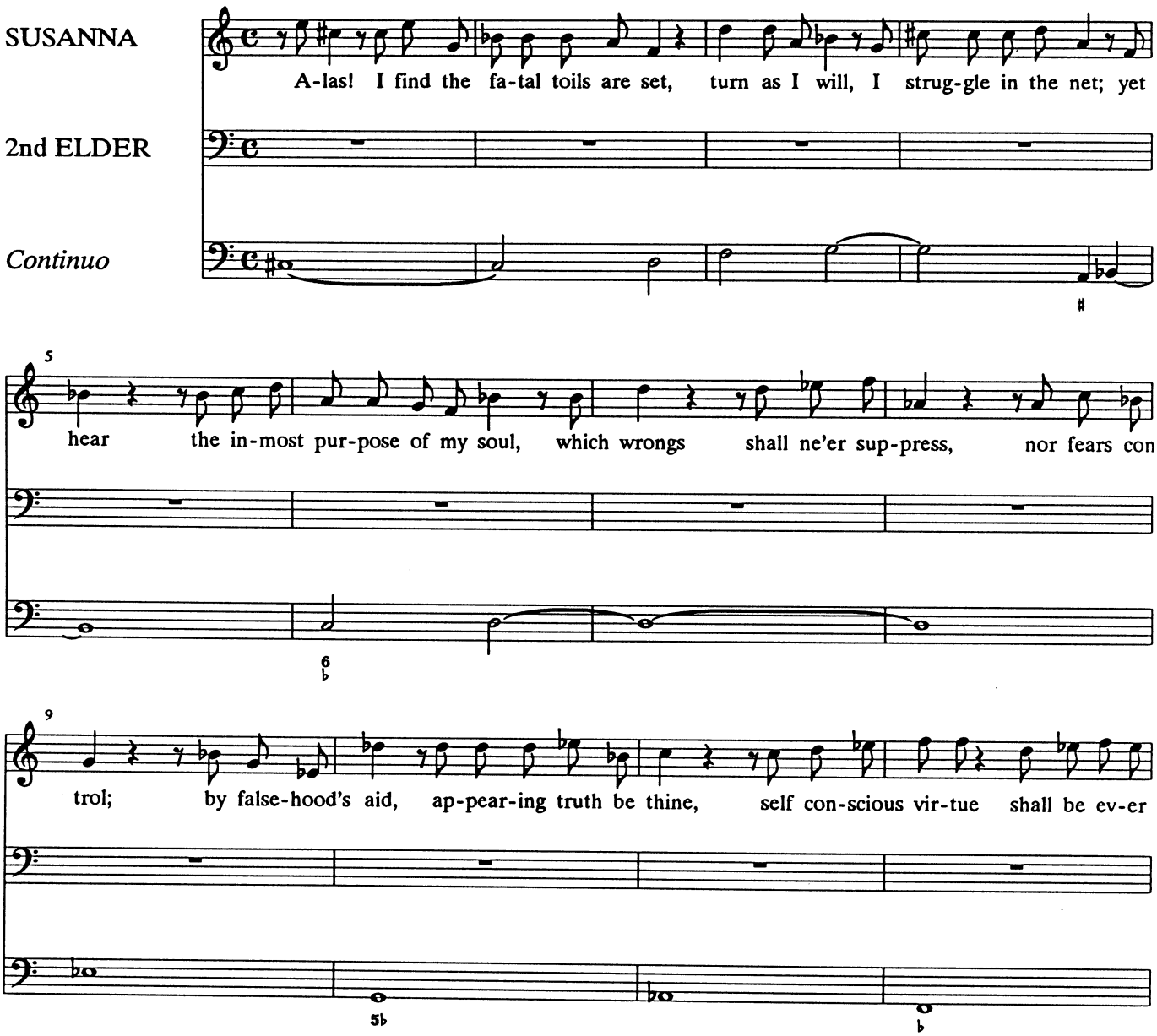

9
vail, when our grave tongues re-peat the well forg'd tale? Will those sus-pect, to whom your grief com
13
plains, that blood could ri-ot in an El-der's veins?

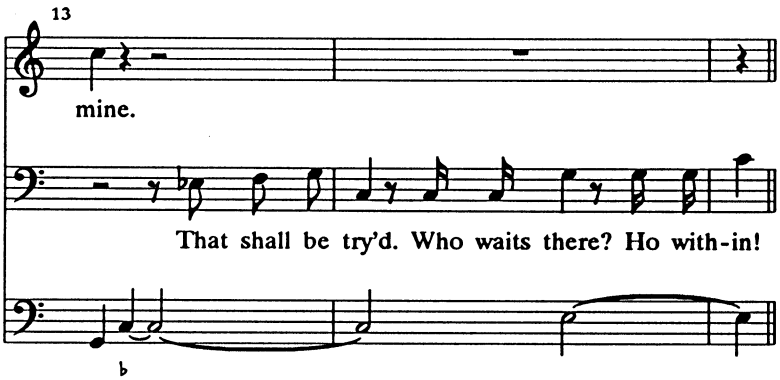
43. Trio


Andante
f
7
Vc.
p
12
Vc.
un poco f
p
18
tutti
Vc.
22
tutti
Vc.
tutti
26
p
f

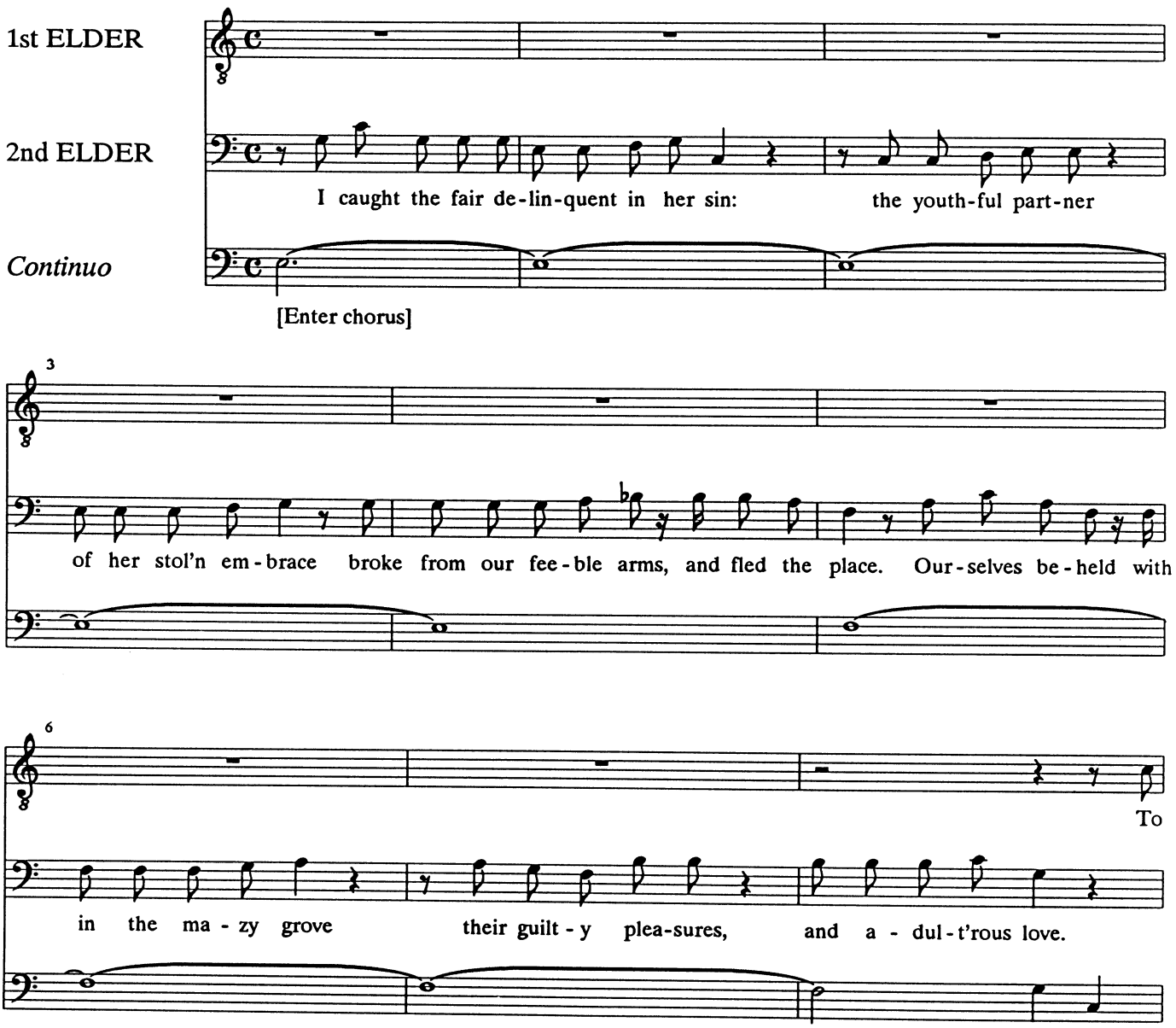


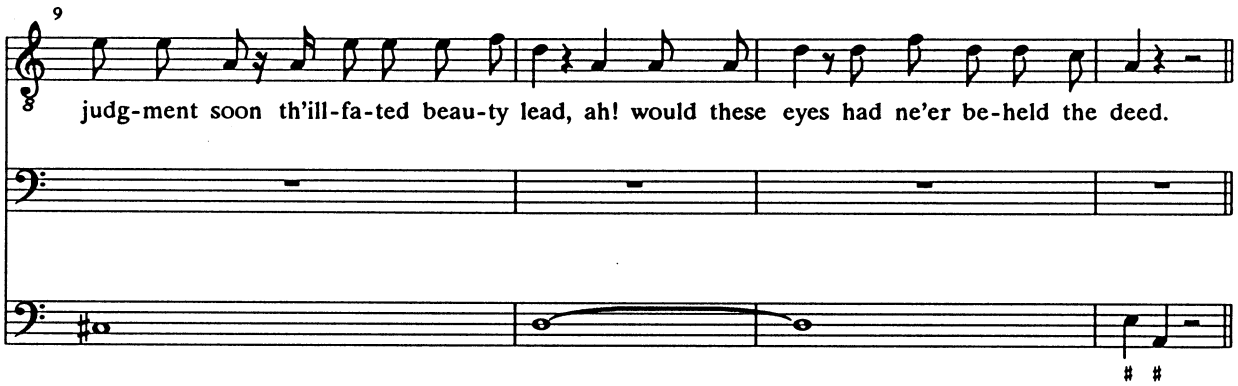
44. Recitative





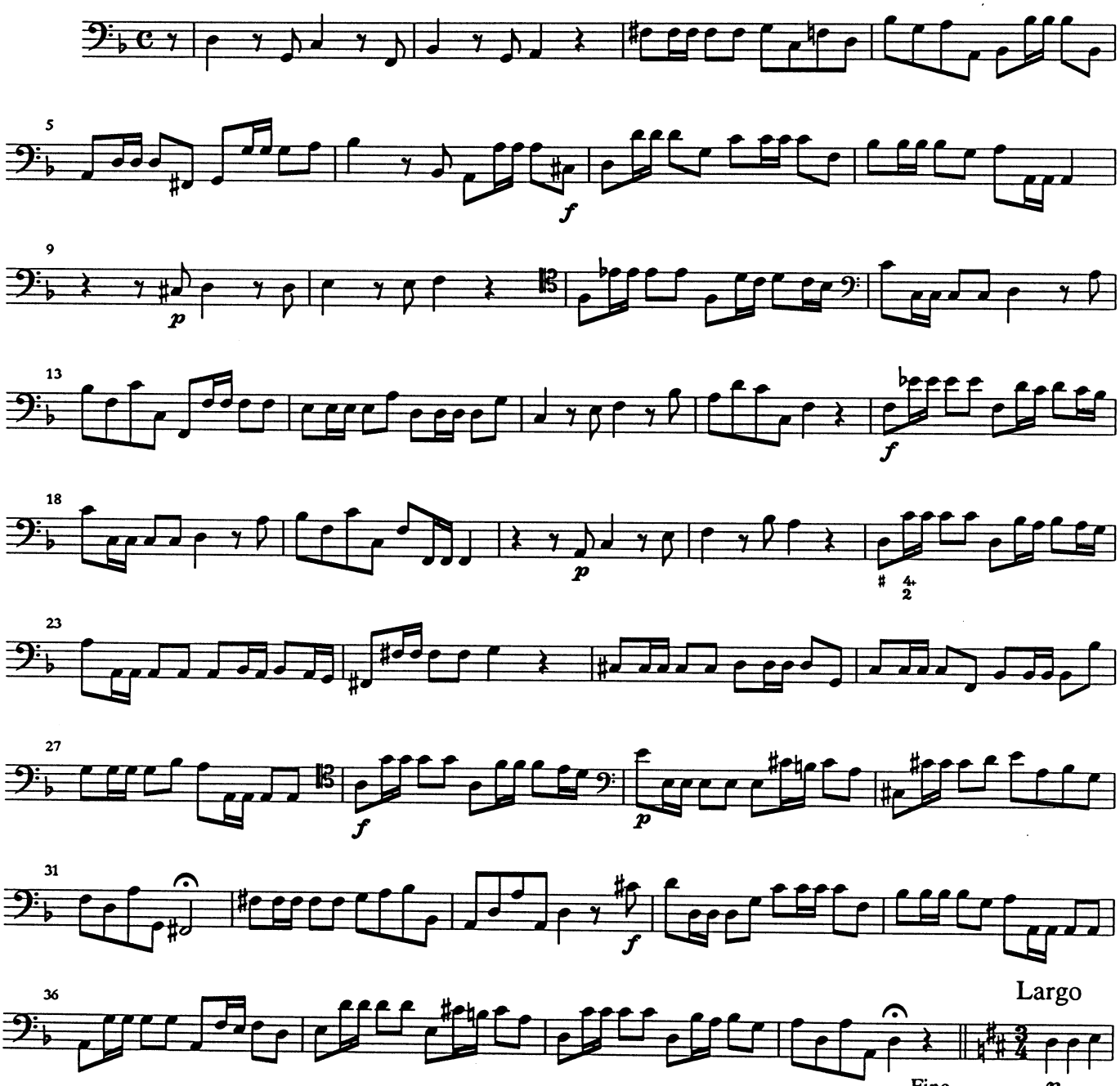
45. Recitative

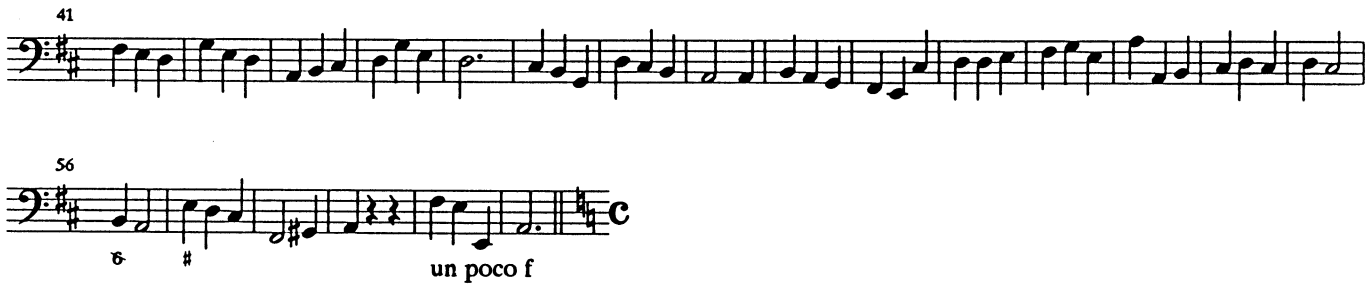




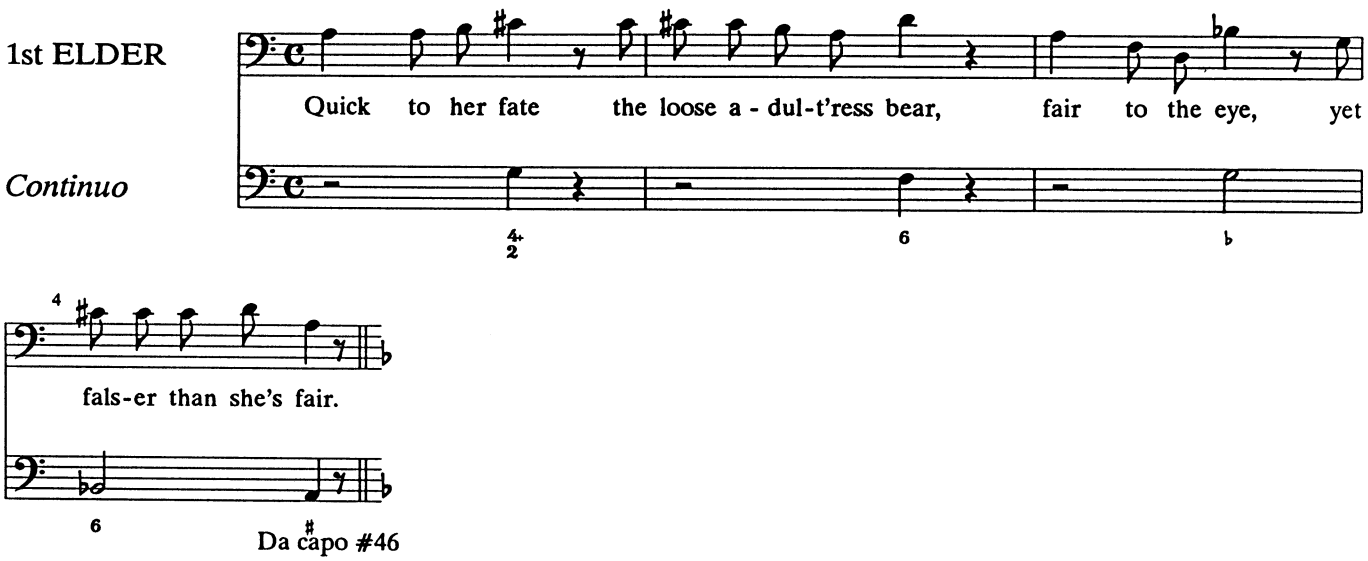
46. Air

Andante



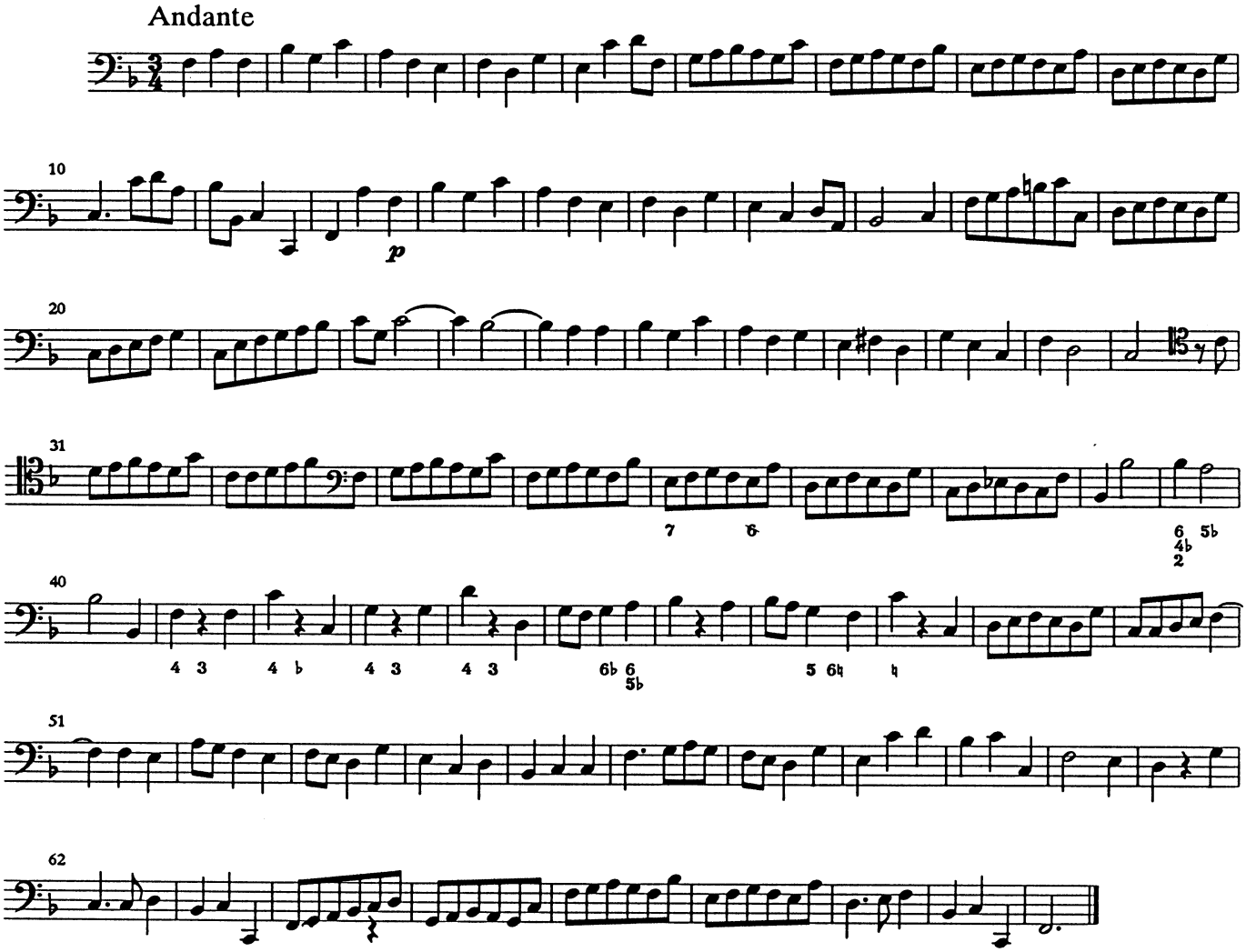


47. Recitative

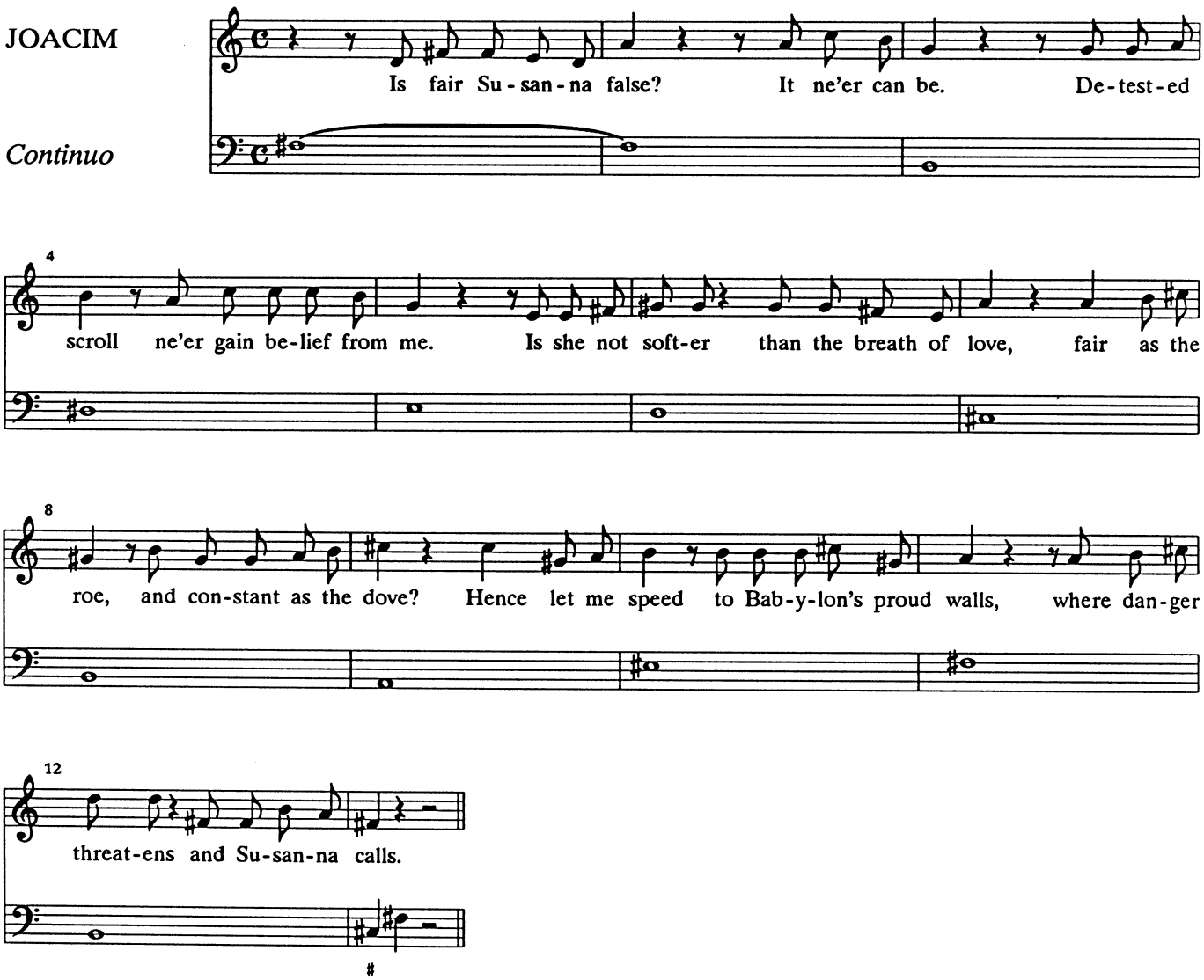


48. Chorus

Andante

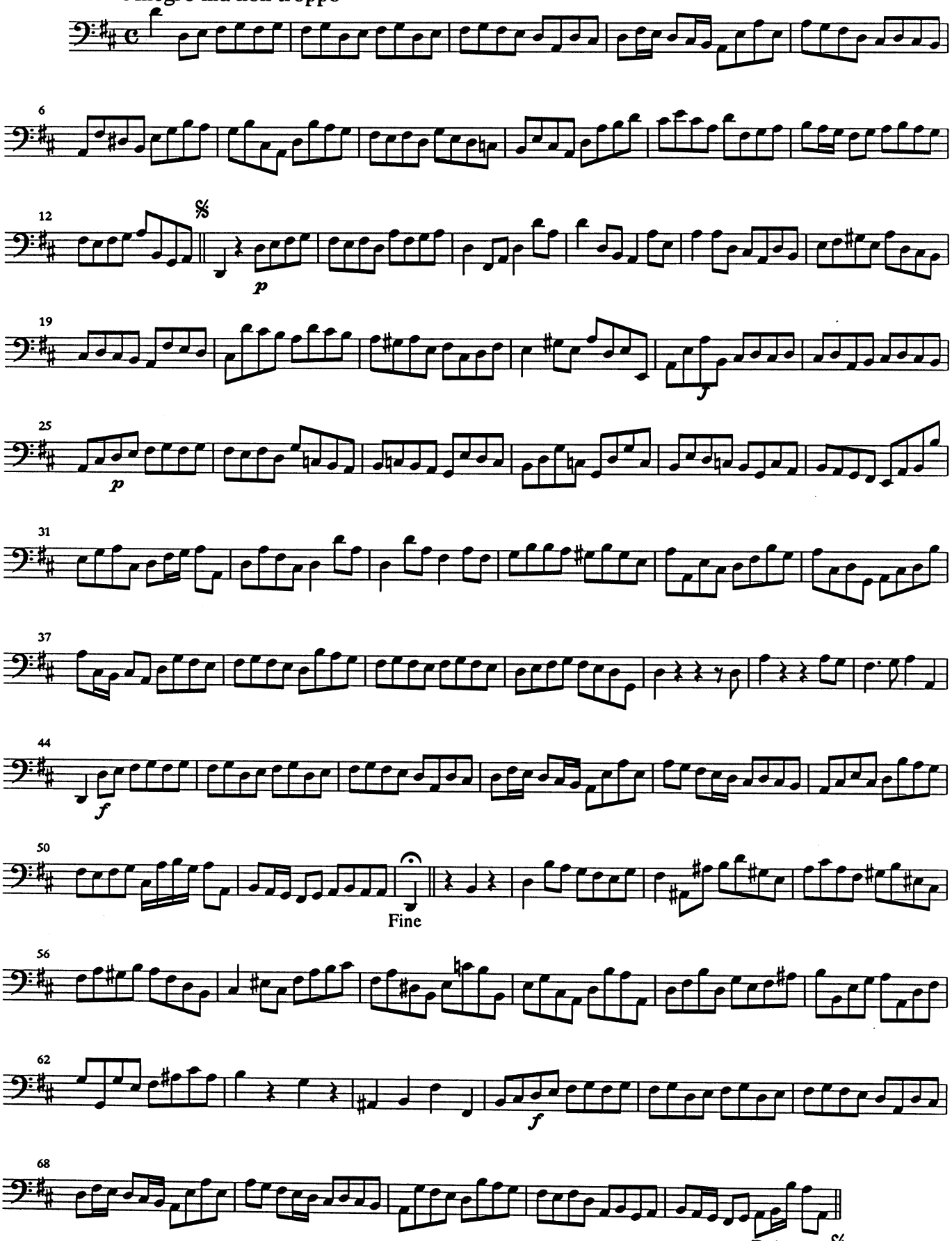


49. Recitative

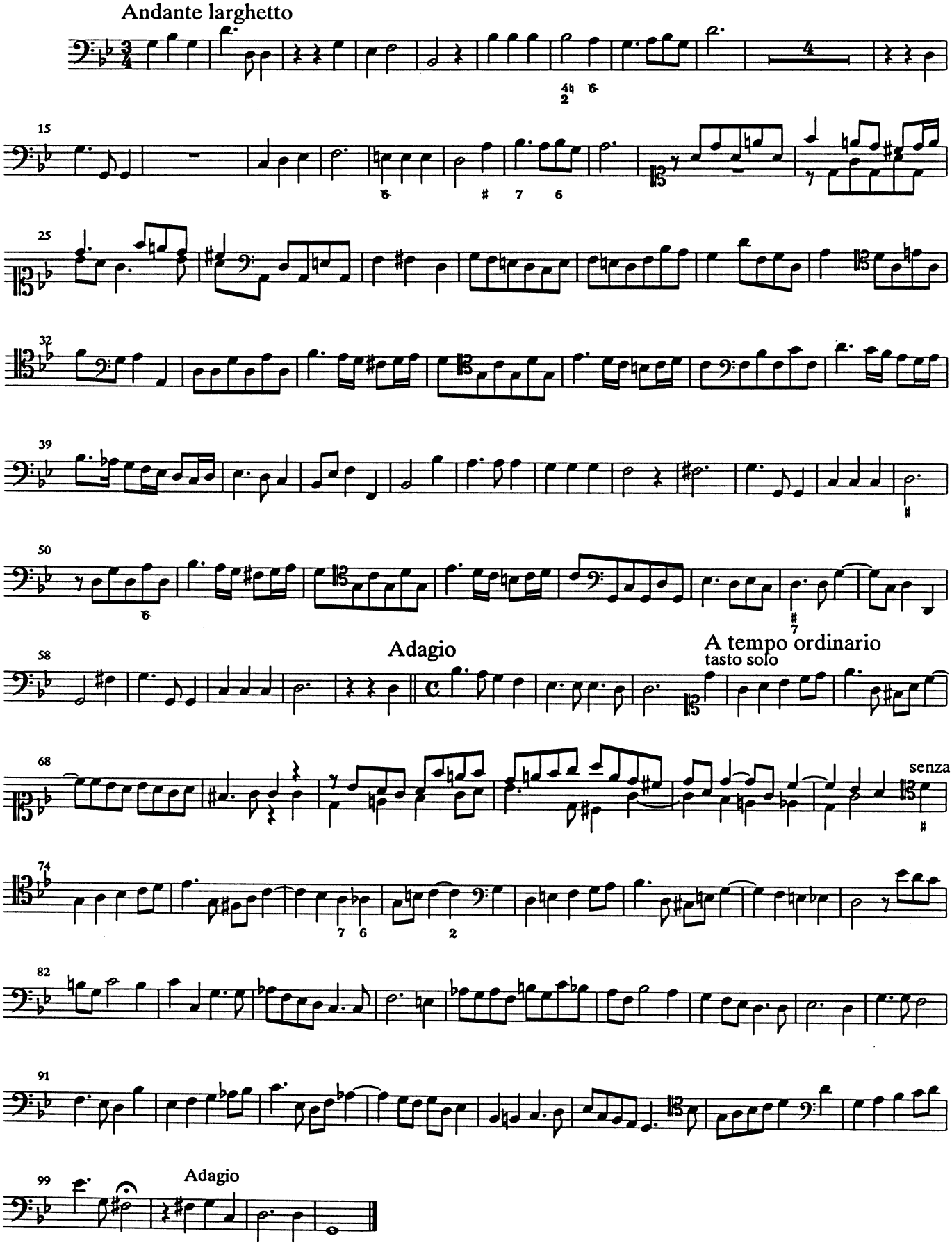


50. Air

Allegro ma non troppo

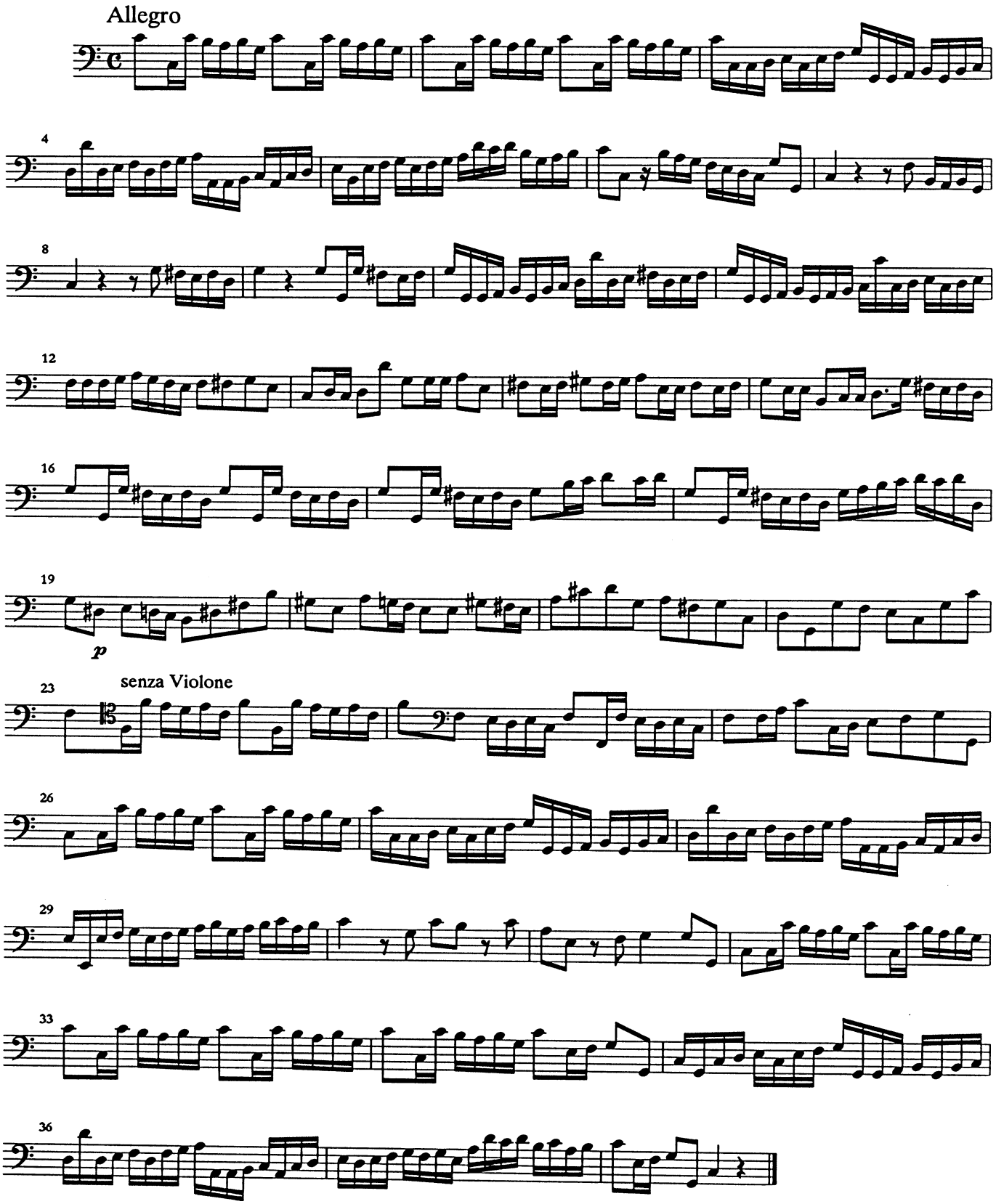


51. Chorus

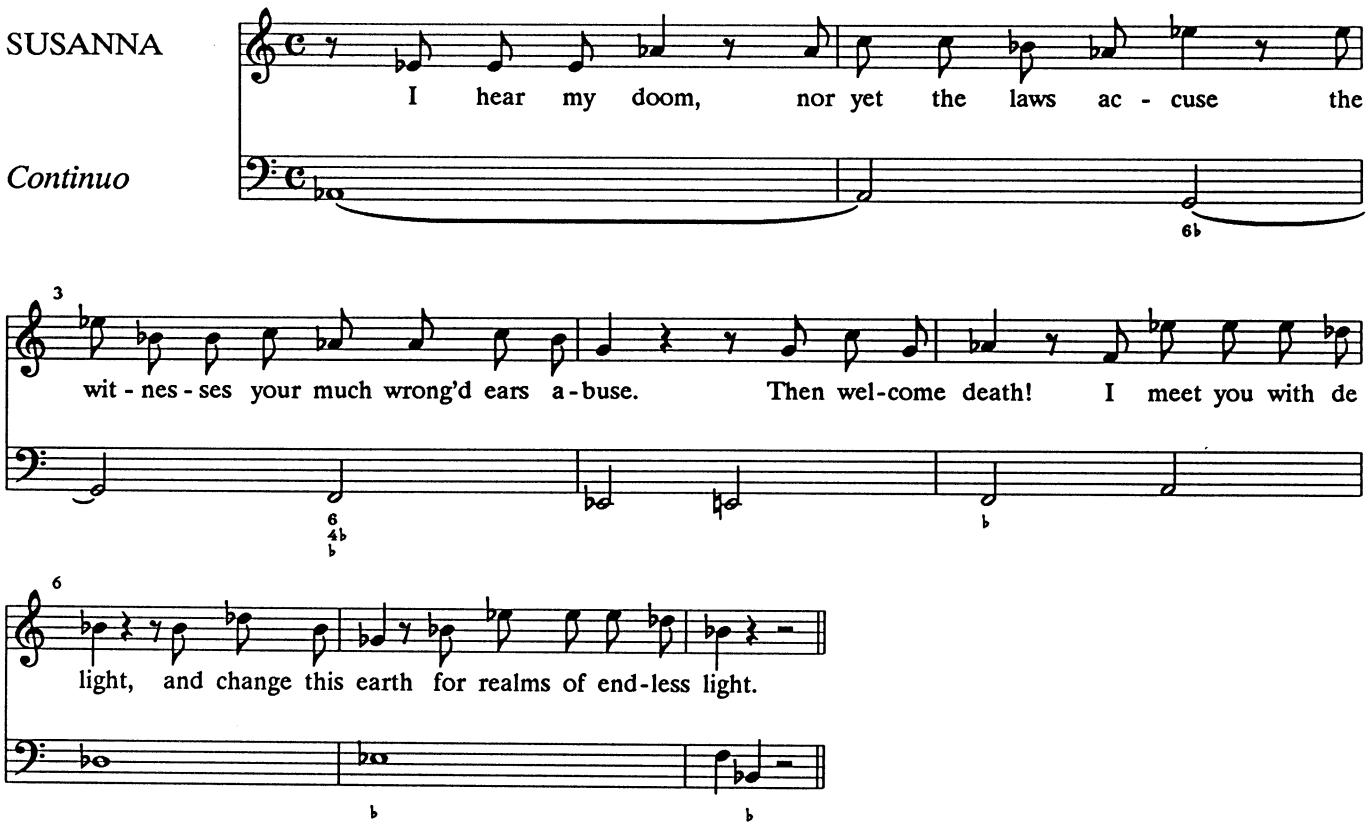

Andante larghetto
15
25
32
39
50
58
Adagio
A tempo ordinario
tasto solo
68
senza Violon
74
82
91
99
Adagio

PART THREE

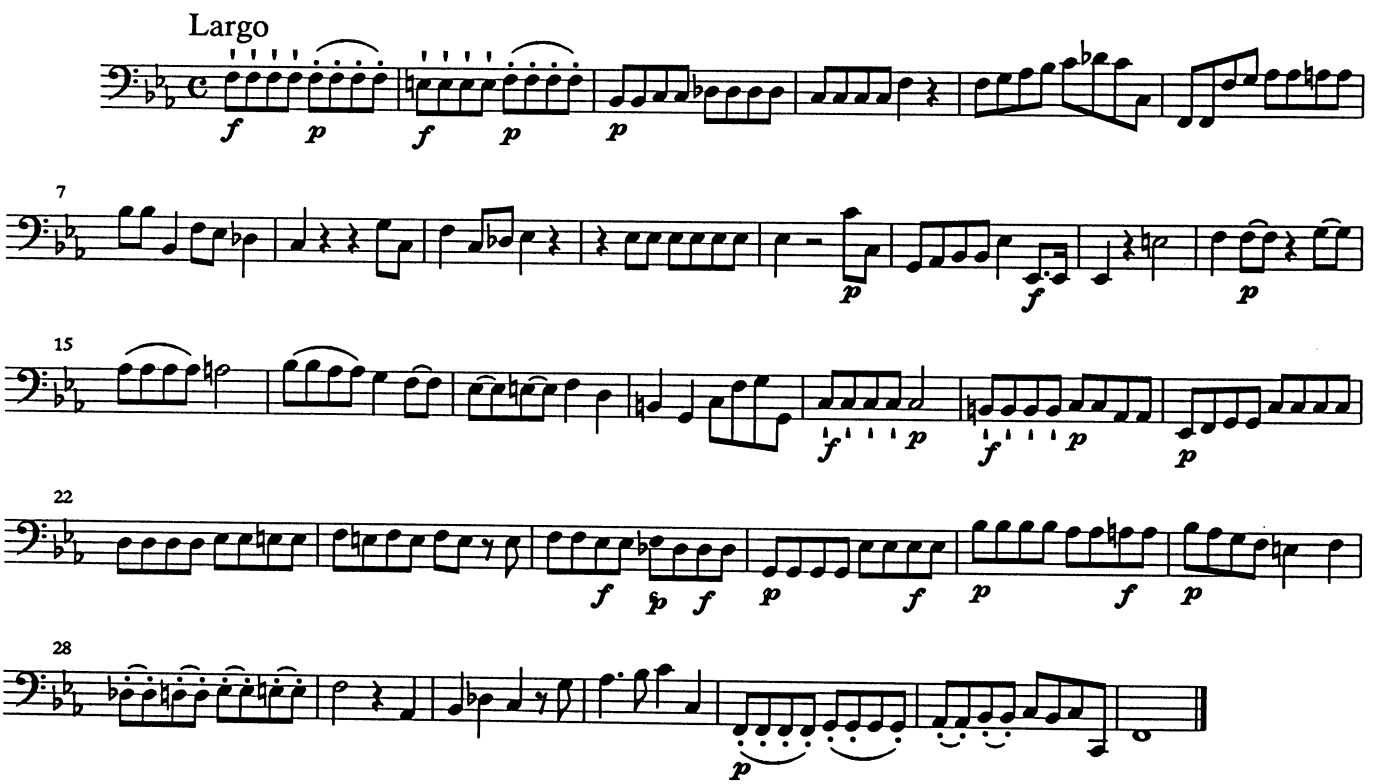
52. Chorus



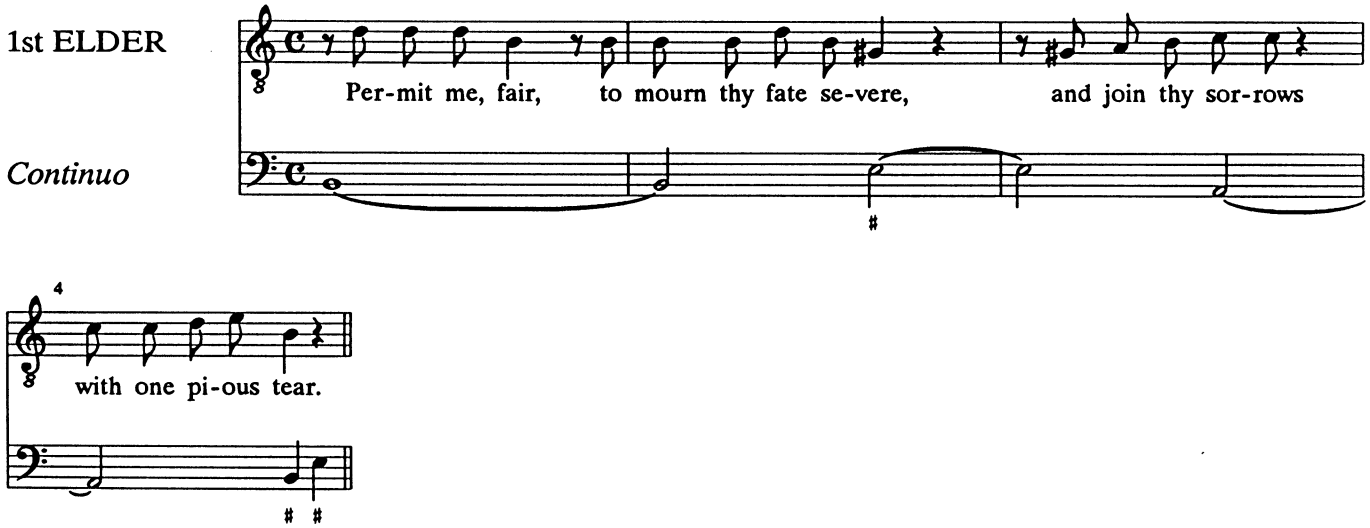
53. Recitative



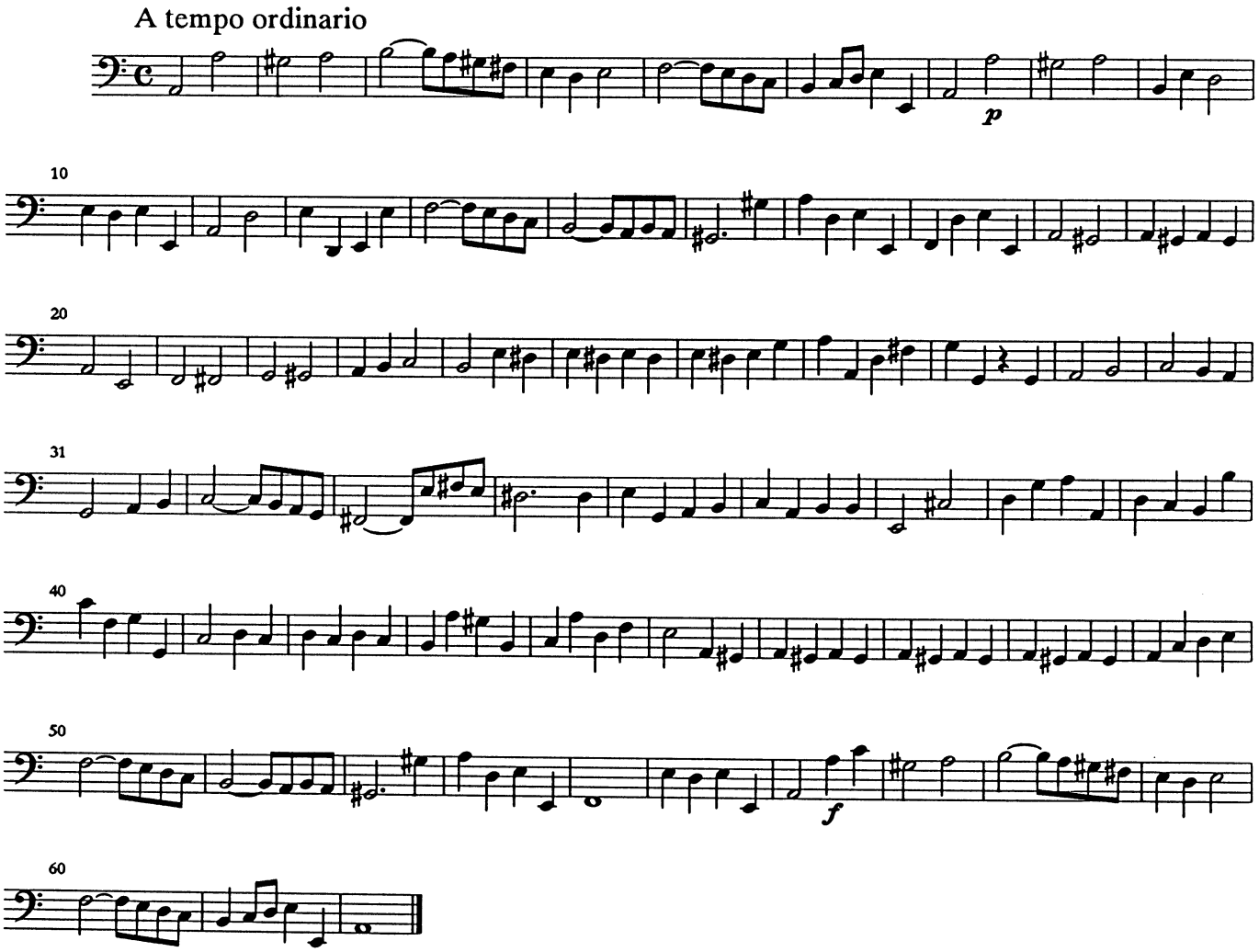
54. Air



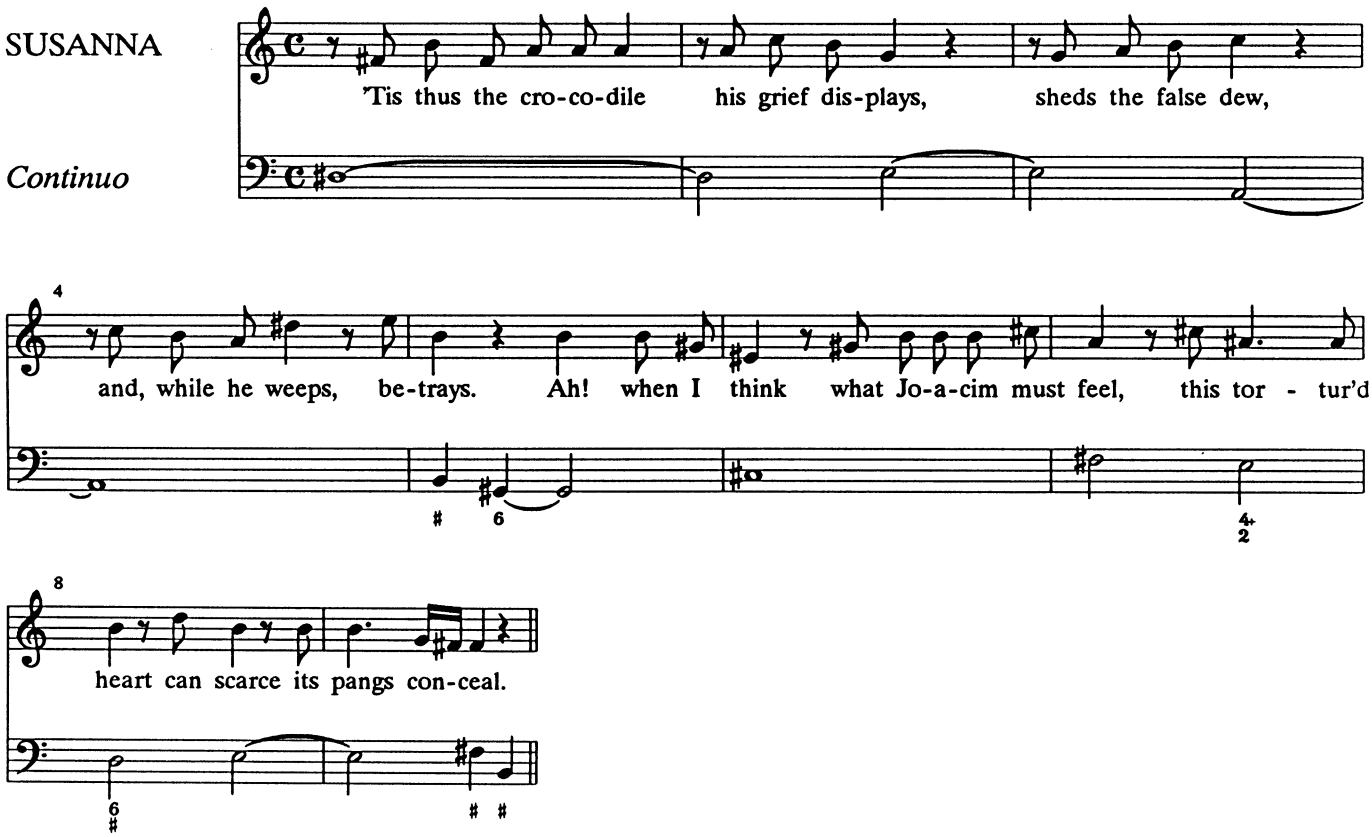
55. Recitative



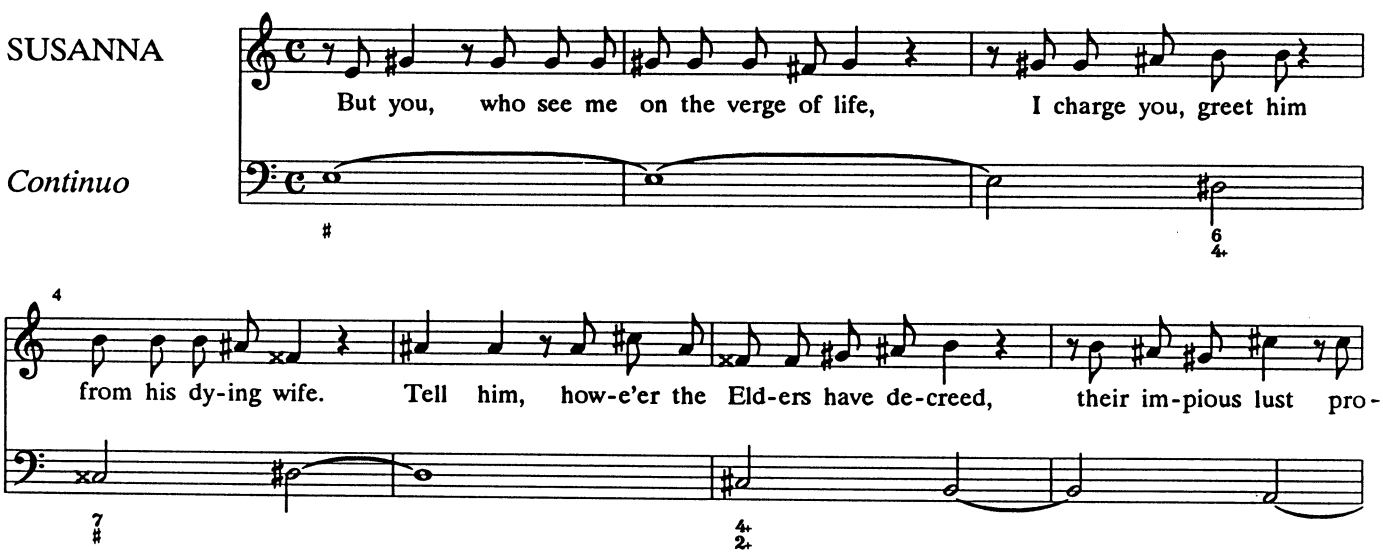
56. Air

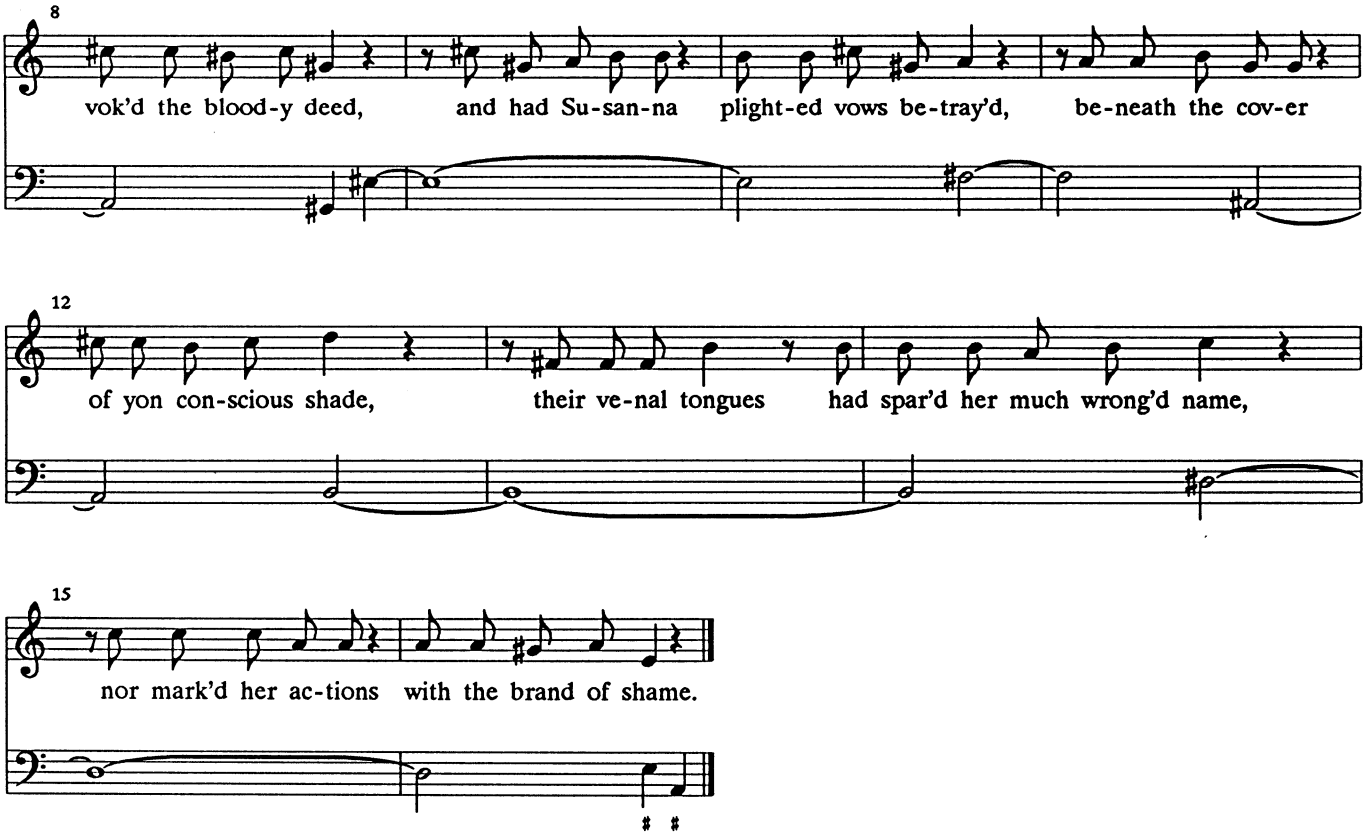


57. Recitative

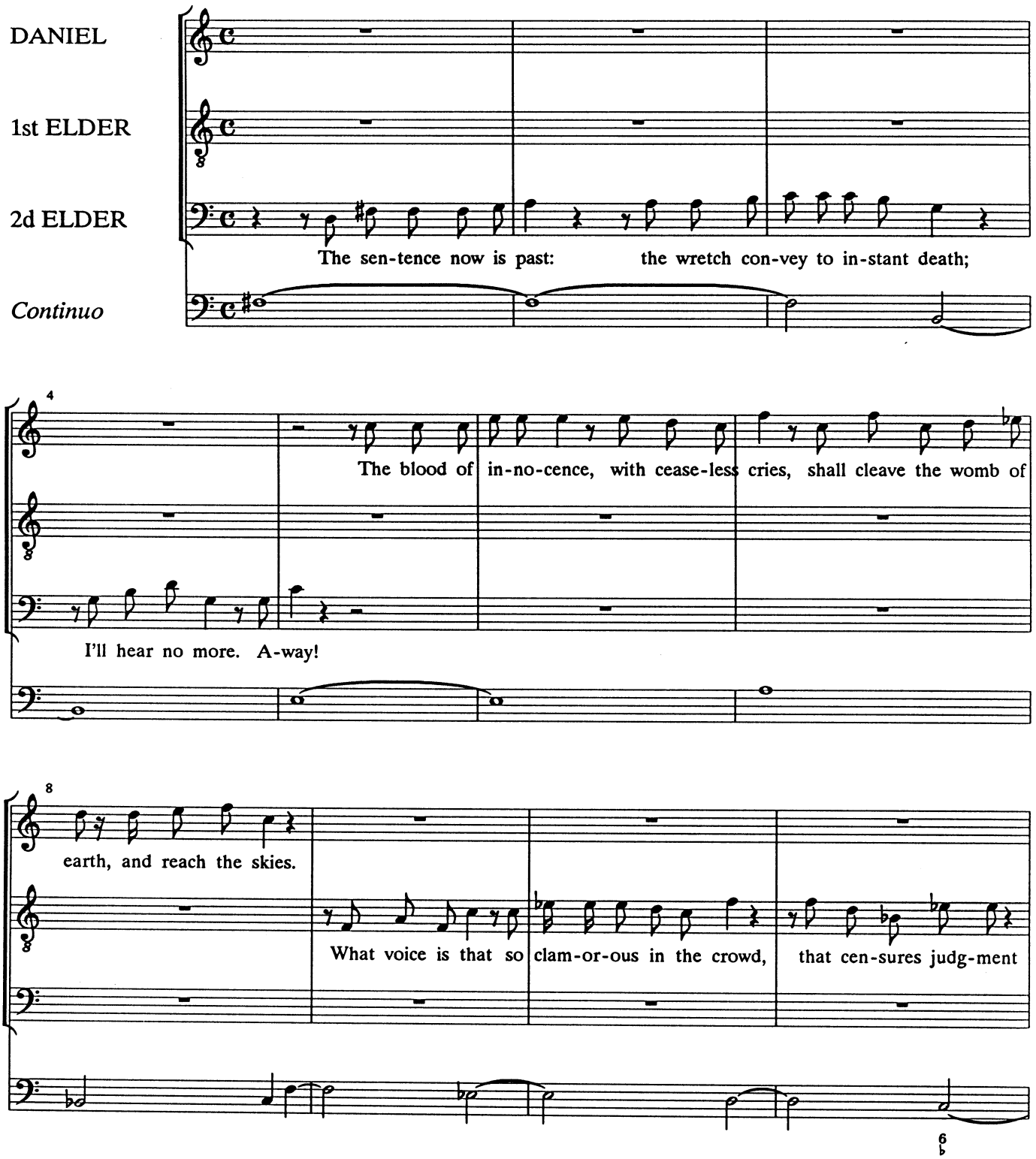


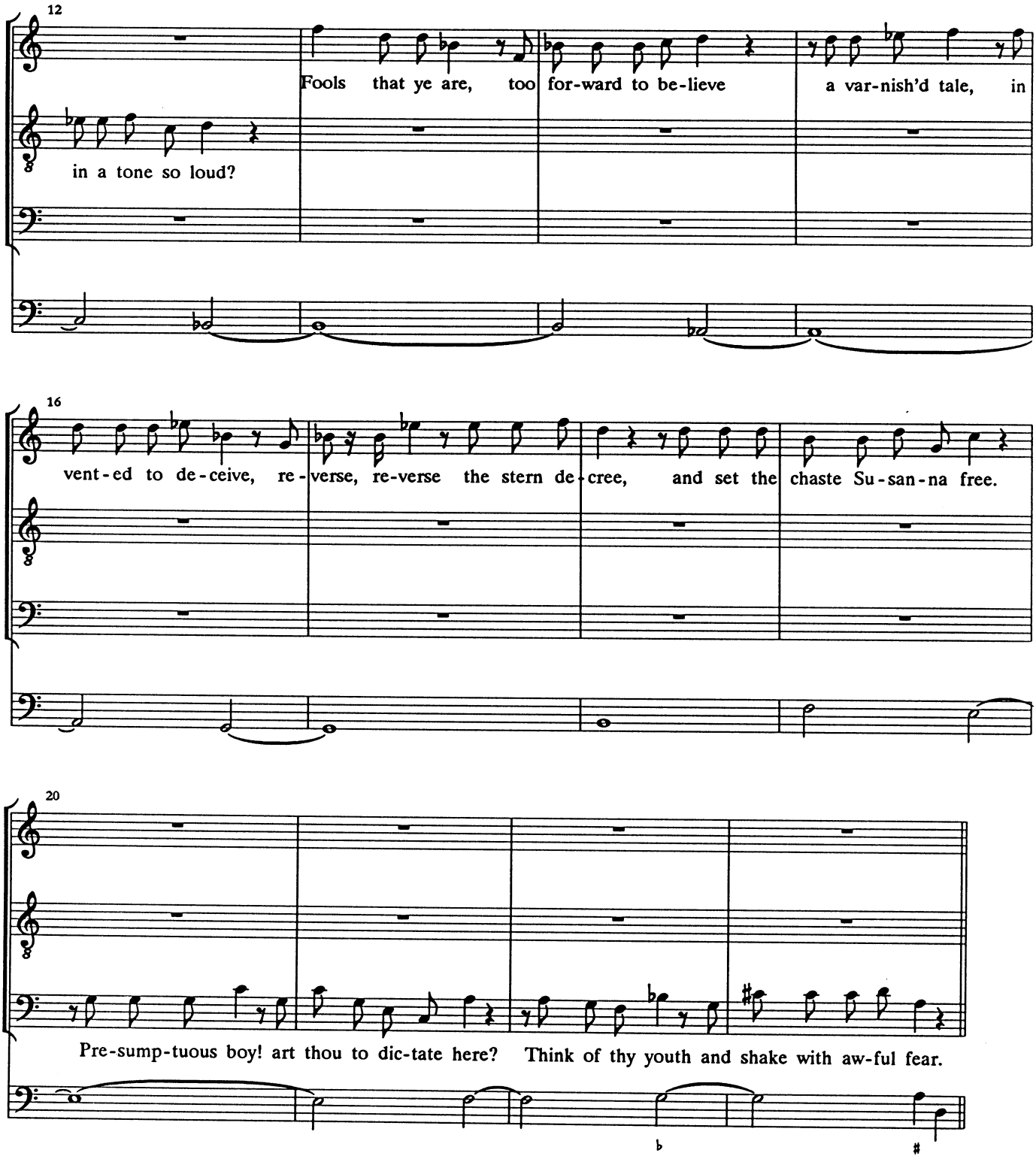
58. Recitative



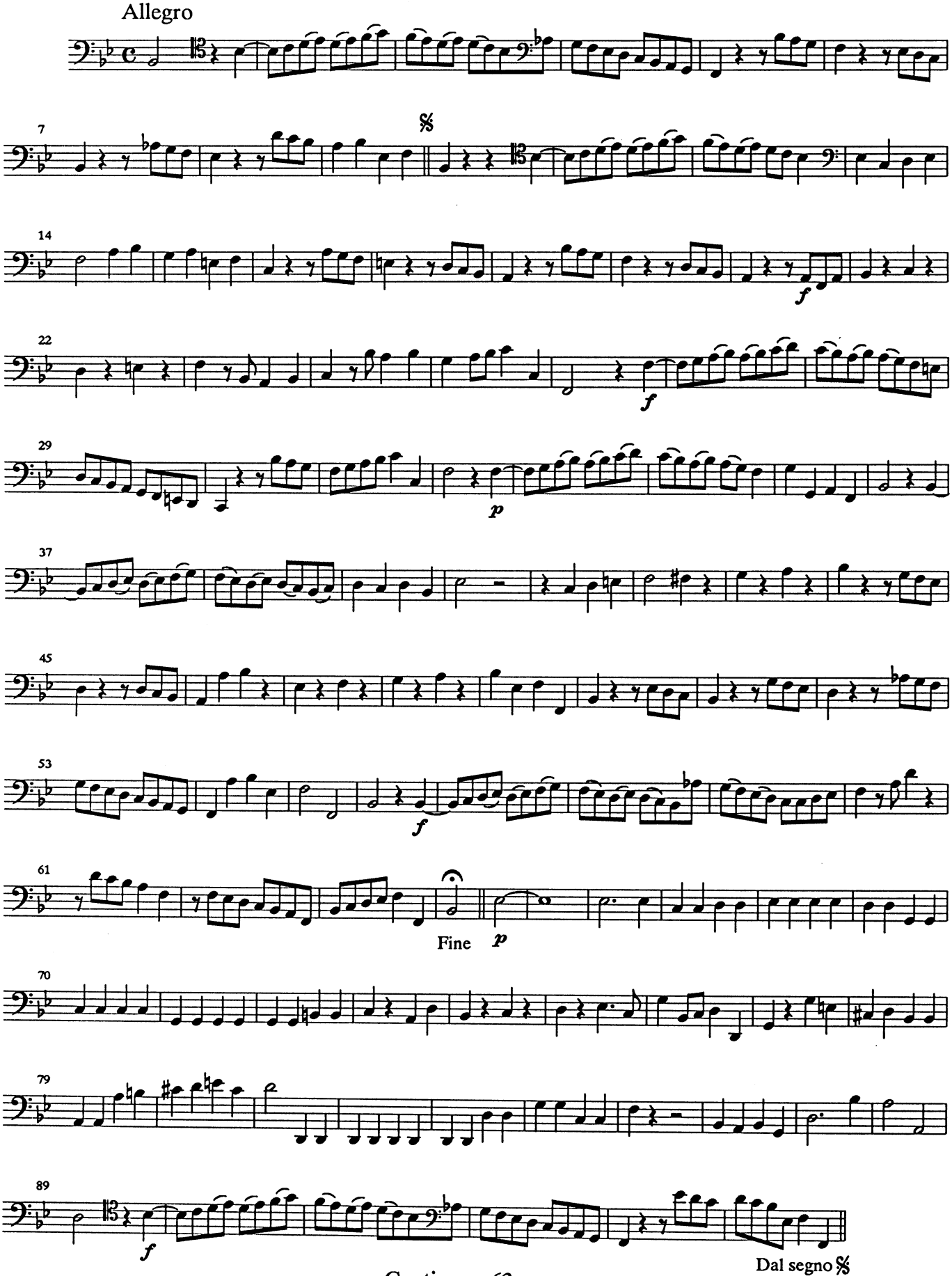

8
vok'd the blood-y deed, and had Su-san-na plight-ed vows be-tray'd, be-neath the cov-er
12
of yon con-scious shade, their ve-nal tongues had spar'd her much wrong'd name,
15
nor mark'd her ac-tions with the brand of shame.

59. Recitative

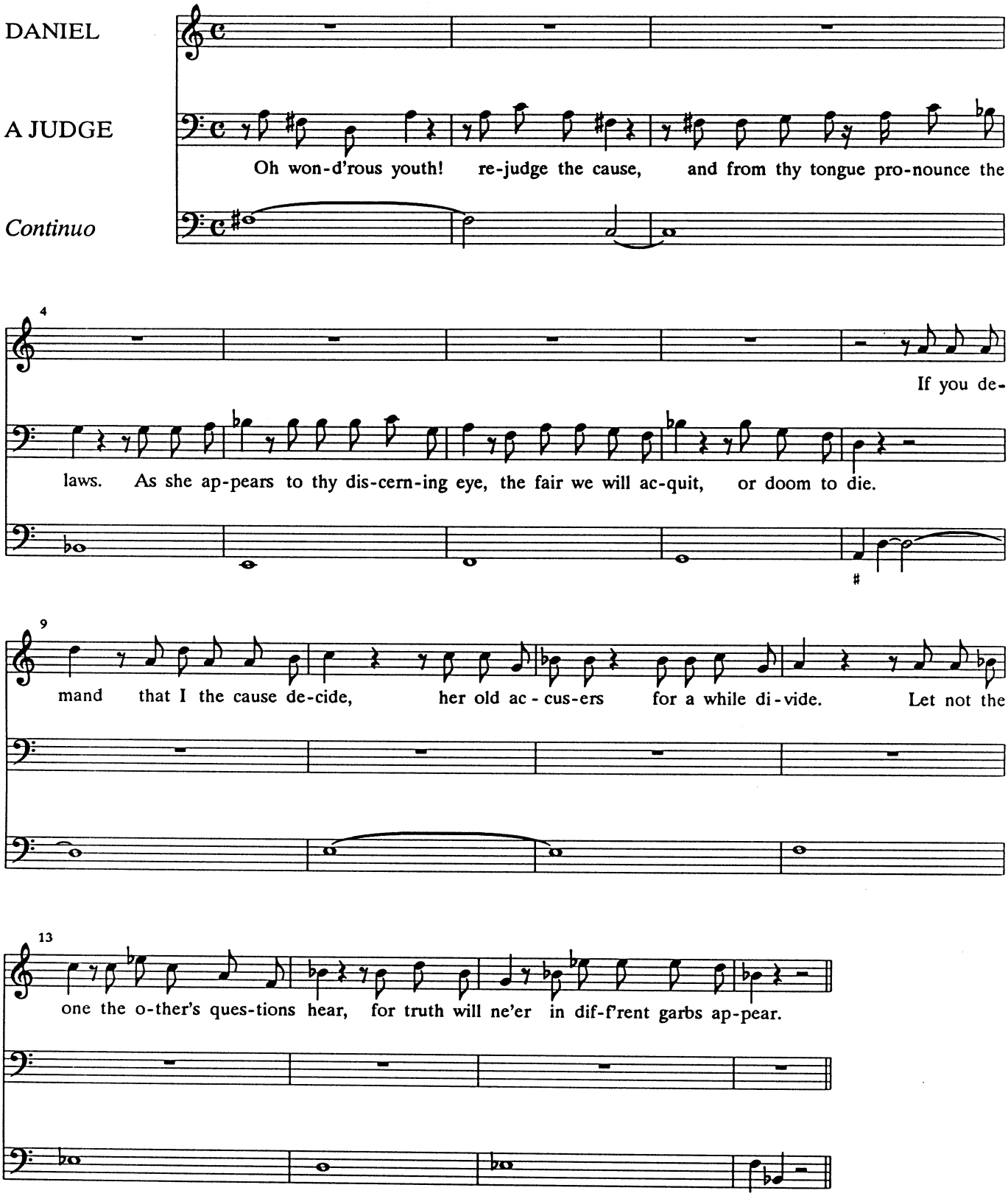



12
Fools that ye are, too for-ward to be-lieve a var-nish'd tale, in
in a tone so loud?
16
vent-ed to de-ceive, re-verse, re-verse the stern de-cree, and set the chaste Su-san-na free.
20
Pre-sump-tuous boy! art thou to dic-tate here? Think of thy youth and shake with aw-ful fear.

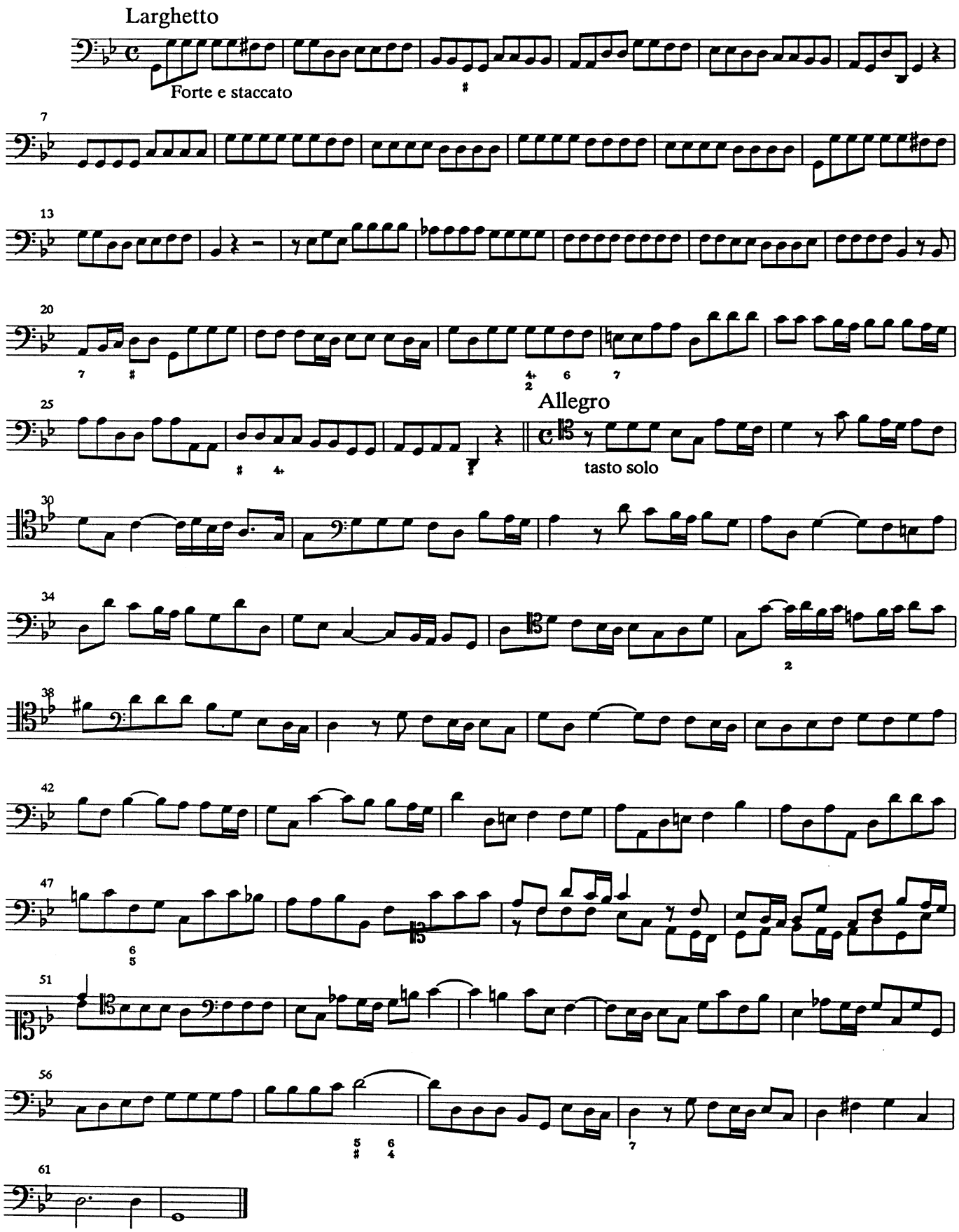
60. Air



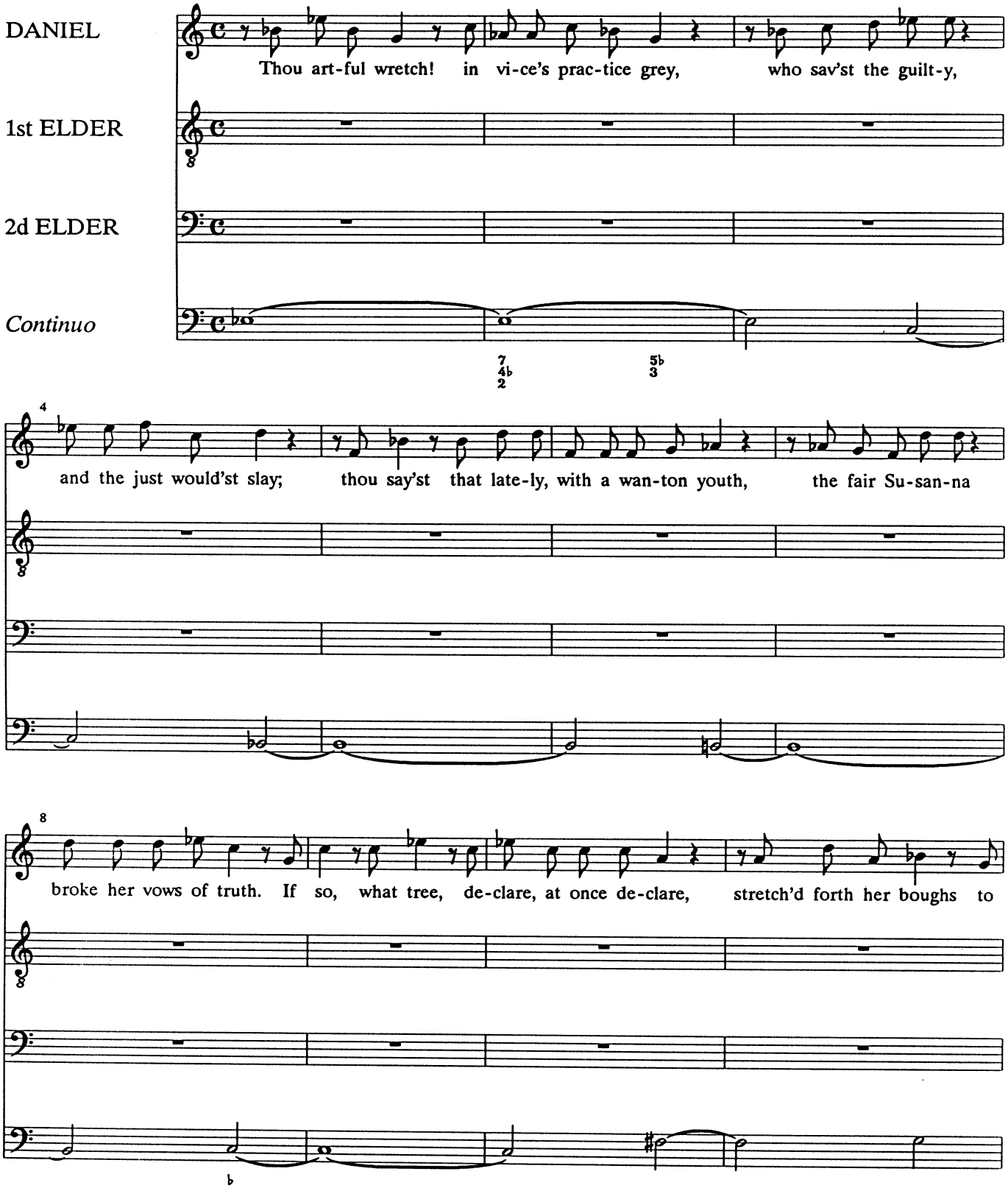
61. Recitative

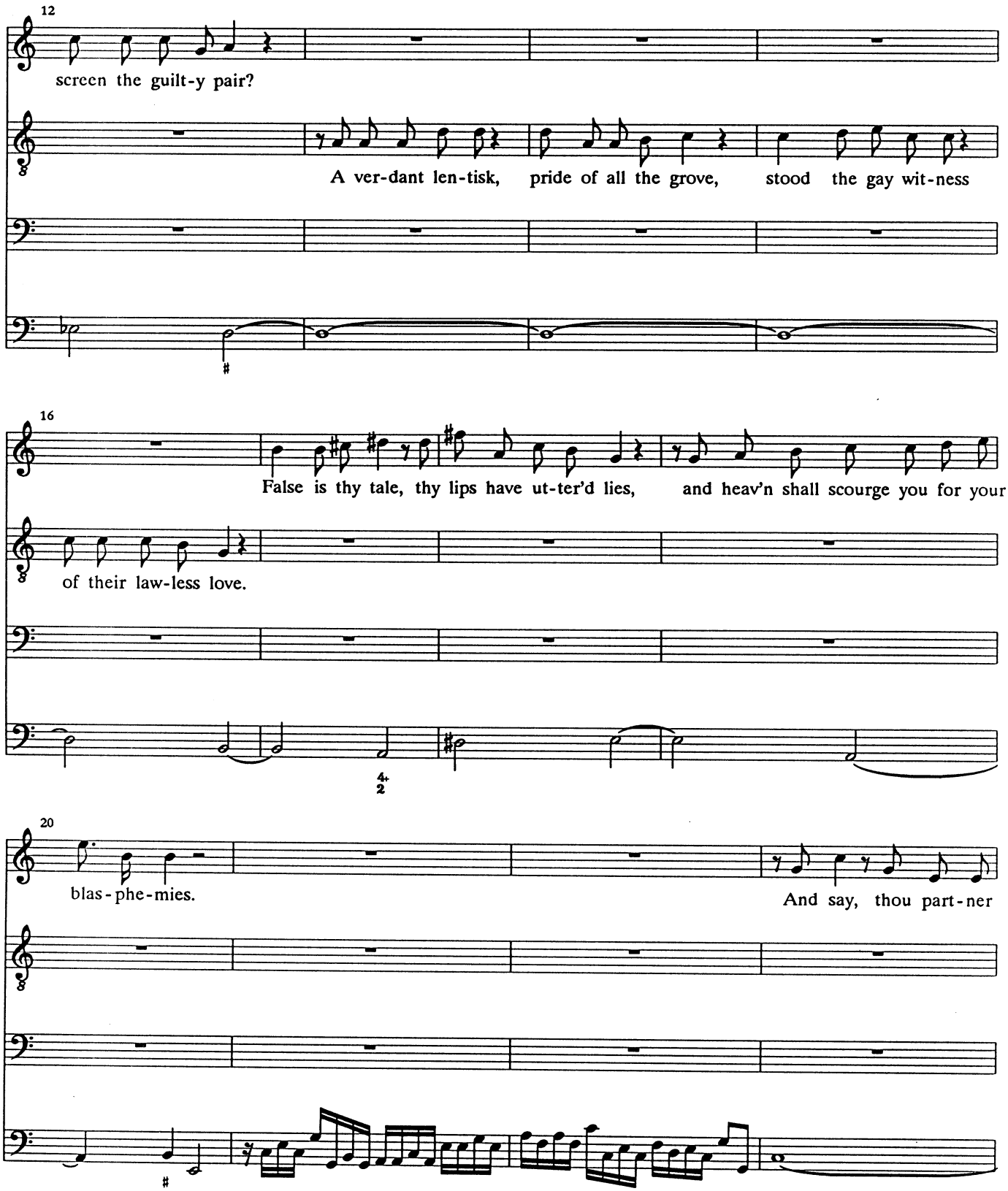


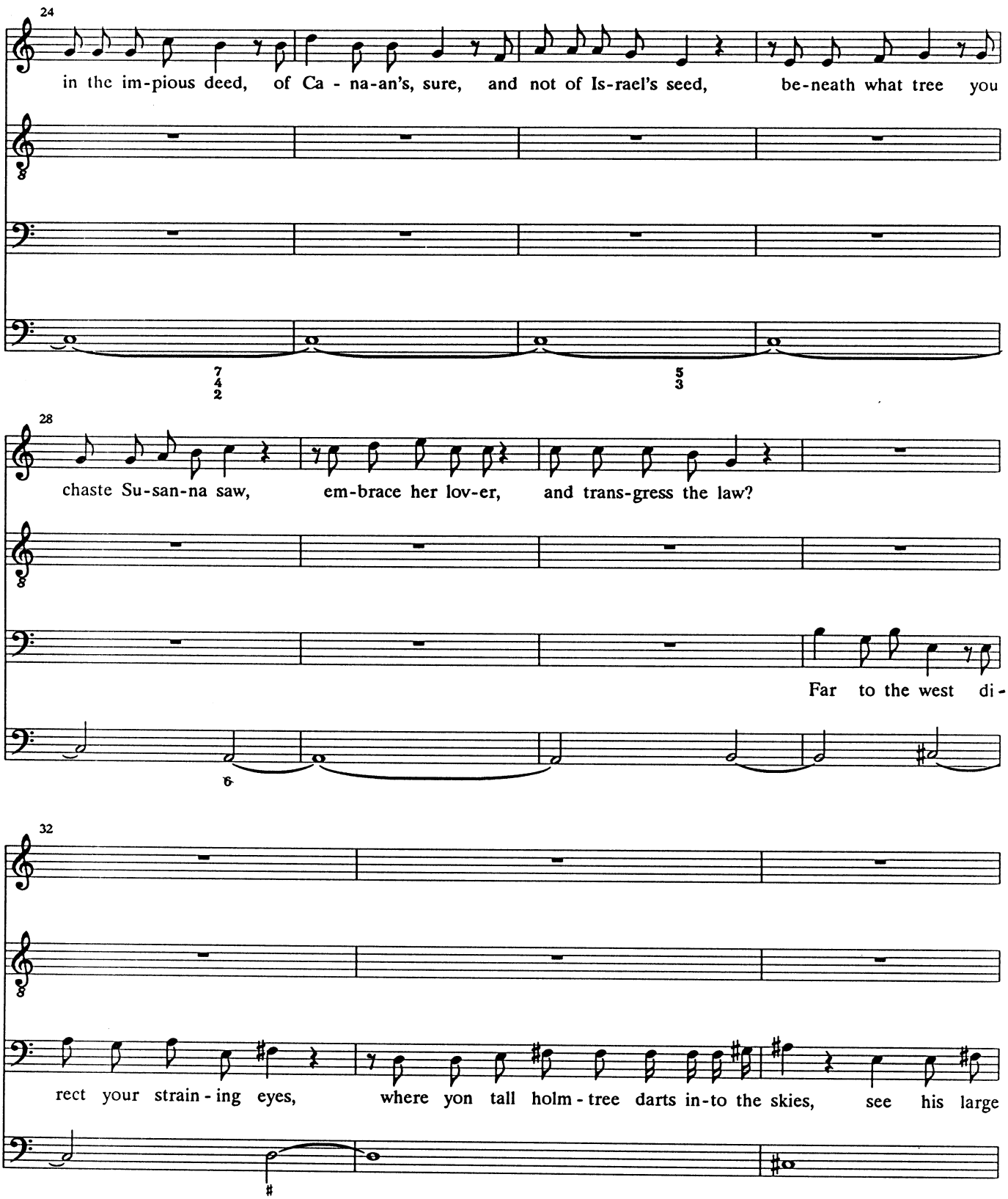
62. Chorus

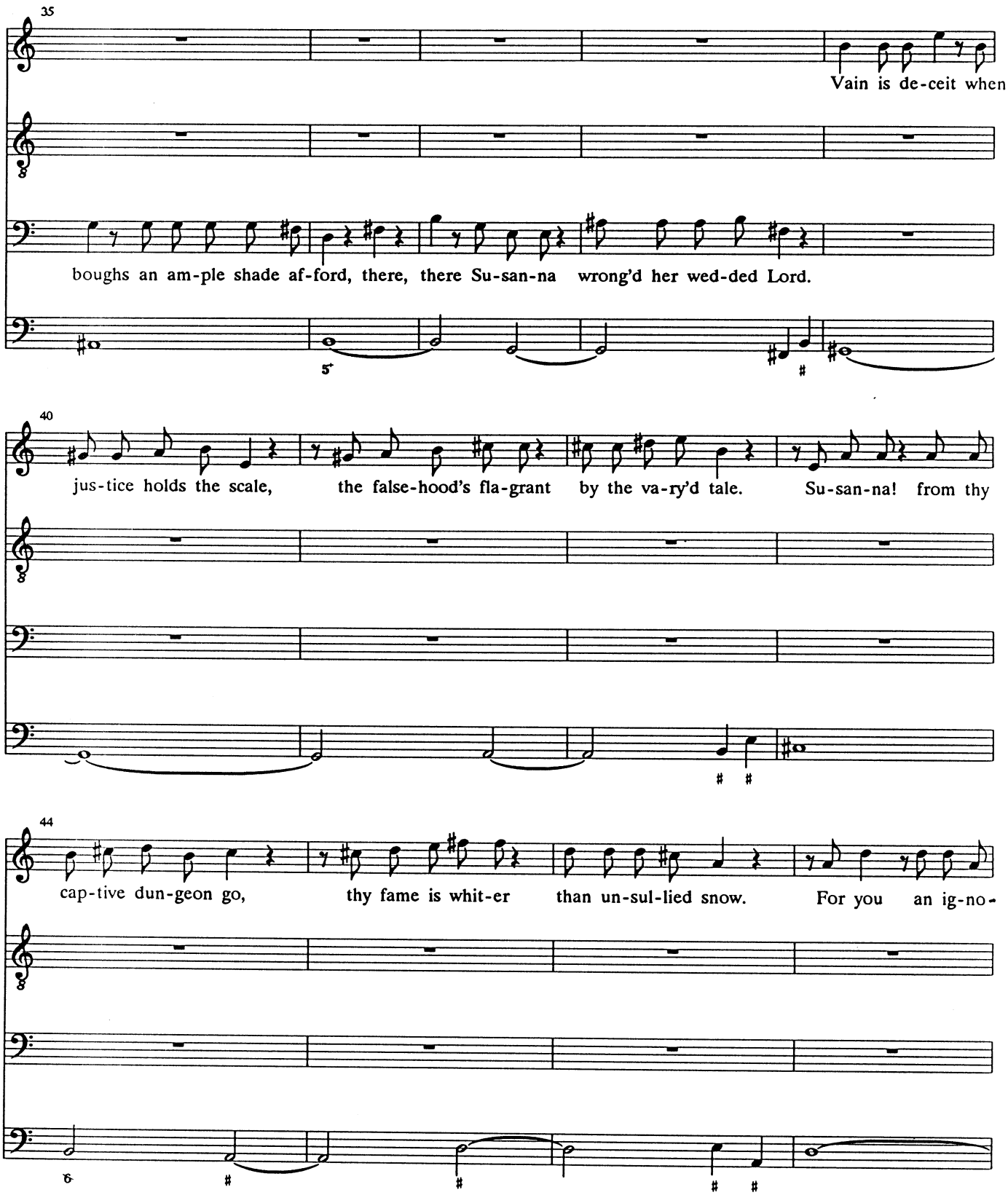


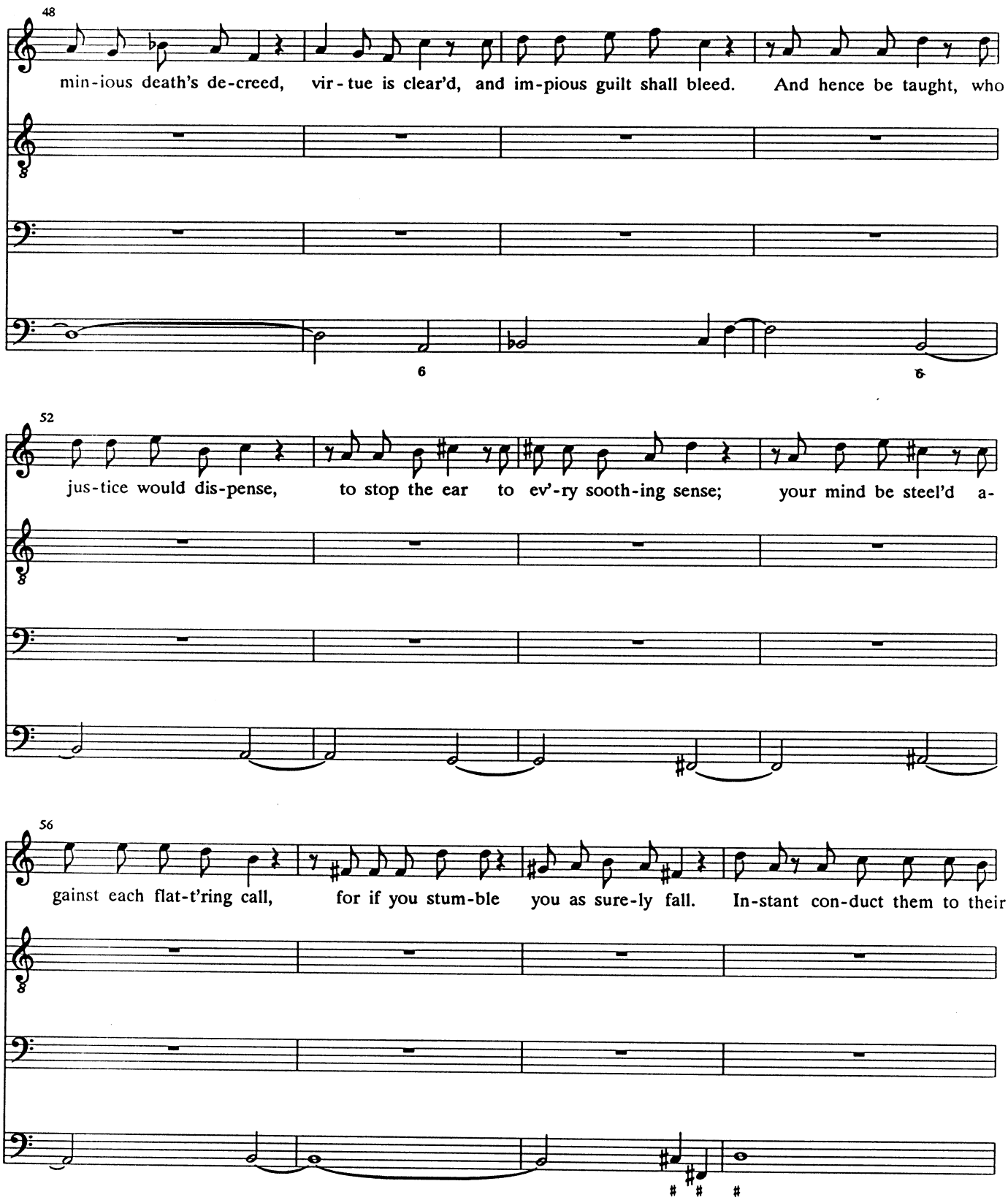
63. Recitative

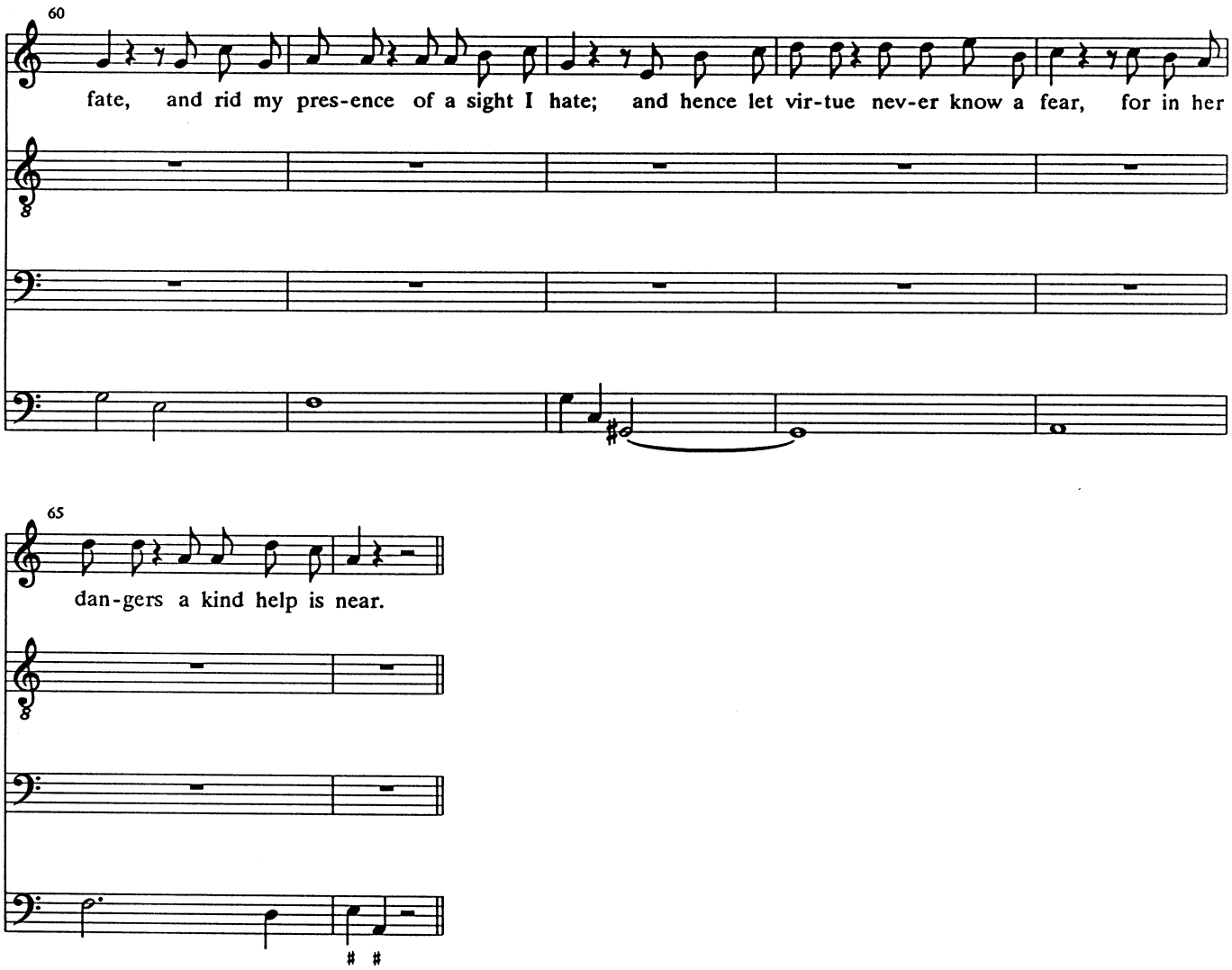



12
screen the guilt-y pair?
A ver-dant len-tisk, pride of all the grove, stood the gay wit-ness
16
False is thy tale, thy lips have ut-ter'd lies, and heav'n shall scourge you for your
of their law-less love.
20
blas-phe-mies.
And say, thou part-ner


24
in the im-pious deed, of Ca - na-an's, sure, and not of Is-rael's seed, be-neath what tree you
28
chaste Su-san-na saw, em-brace her lov-er, and trans-gress the law?
Far to the west di-
32
rect your strain-ing eyes, where yon tall holm-tree darts in-to the skies, see his large

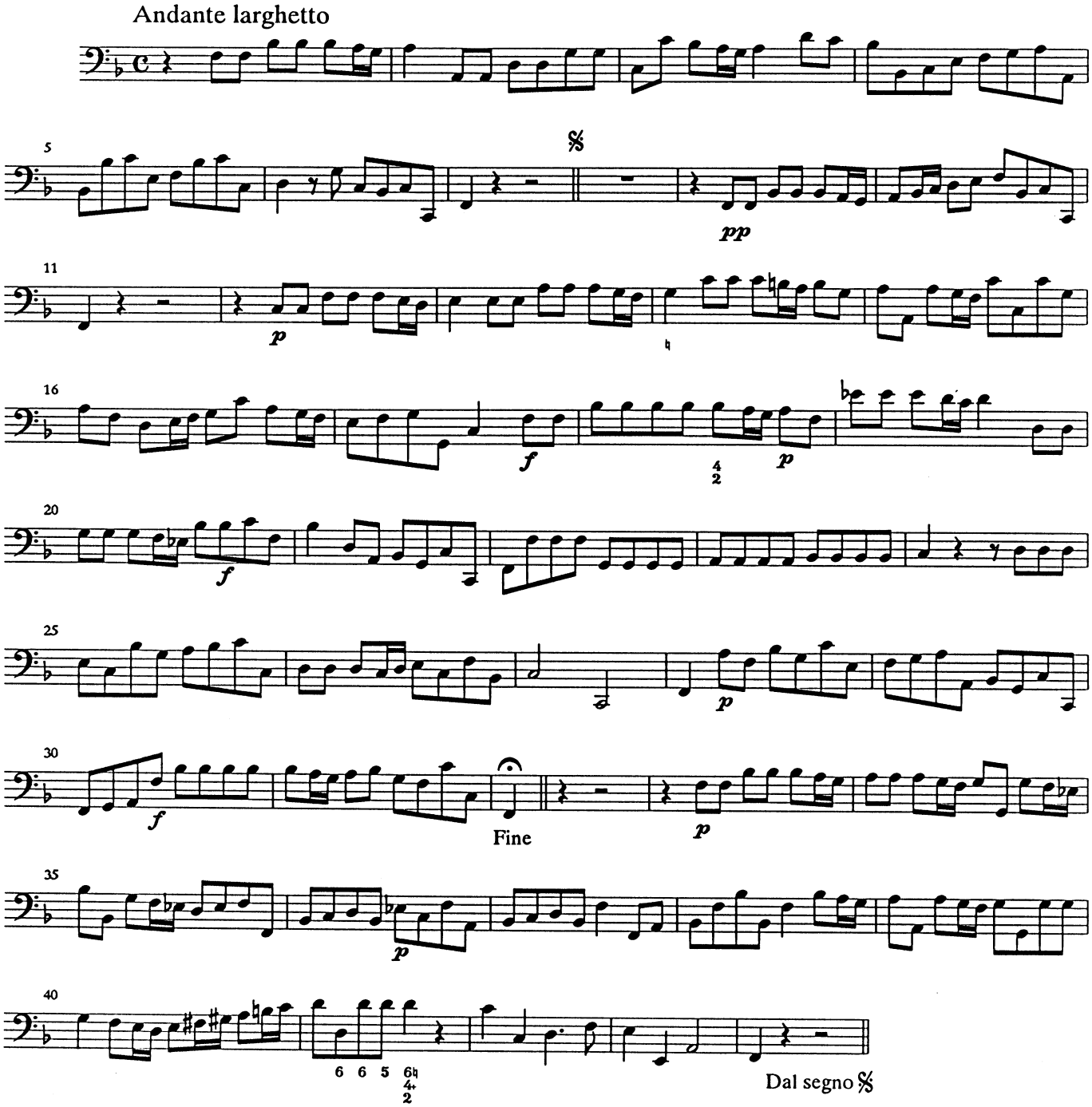

35
Vain is de-ceit when
boughs an am-ple shade af-ford, there, there Su-san-na wrong'd her wed-ded Lord.
40
jus-tice holds the scale, the false-hood's fla-grant by the va-ry'd tale. Su-san-na! from thy
44
cap-tive dun-geon go, thy fame is whit-er than un-sul-lied snow. For you an ig-no-


48
min-ious death's de-creed, vir-tue is clear'd, and im-pious guilt shall bleed. And hence be taught, who
6
6
52
jus-tice would dis-pense, to stop the ear to ev'-ry sooth-ing sense; your mind be steel'd a-
56
gainst each flat-t'ring call, for if you stum-ble you as sure-ly fall. In-stant con-duct them to their

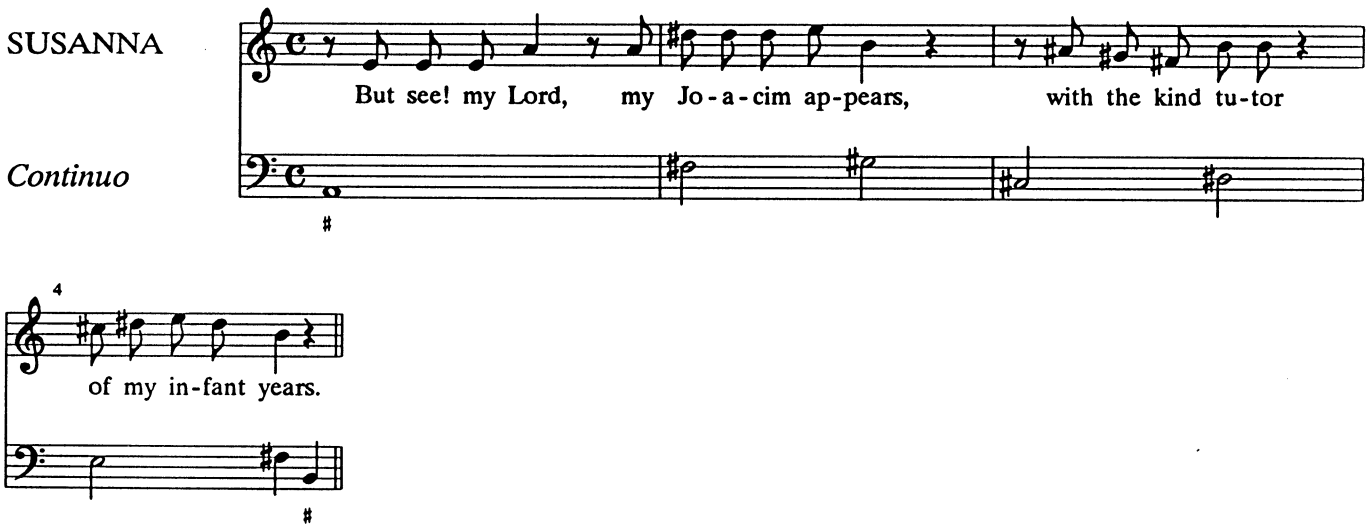

60
fate, and rid my pres-ence of a sight I hate; and hence let vir-tue nev-er know a fear, for in her
65
dan-gers a kind help is near.

64. Air

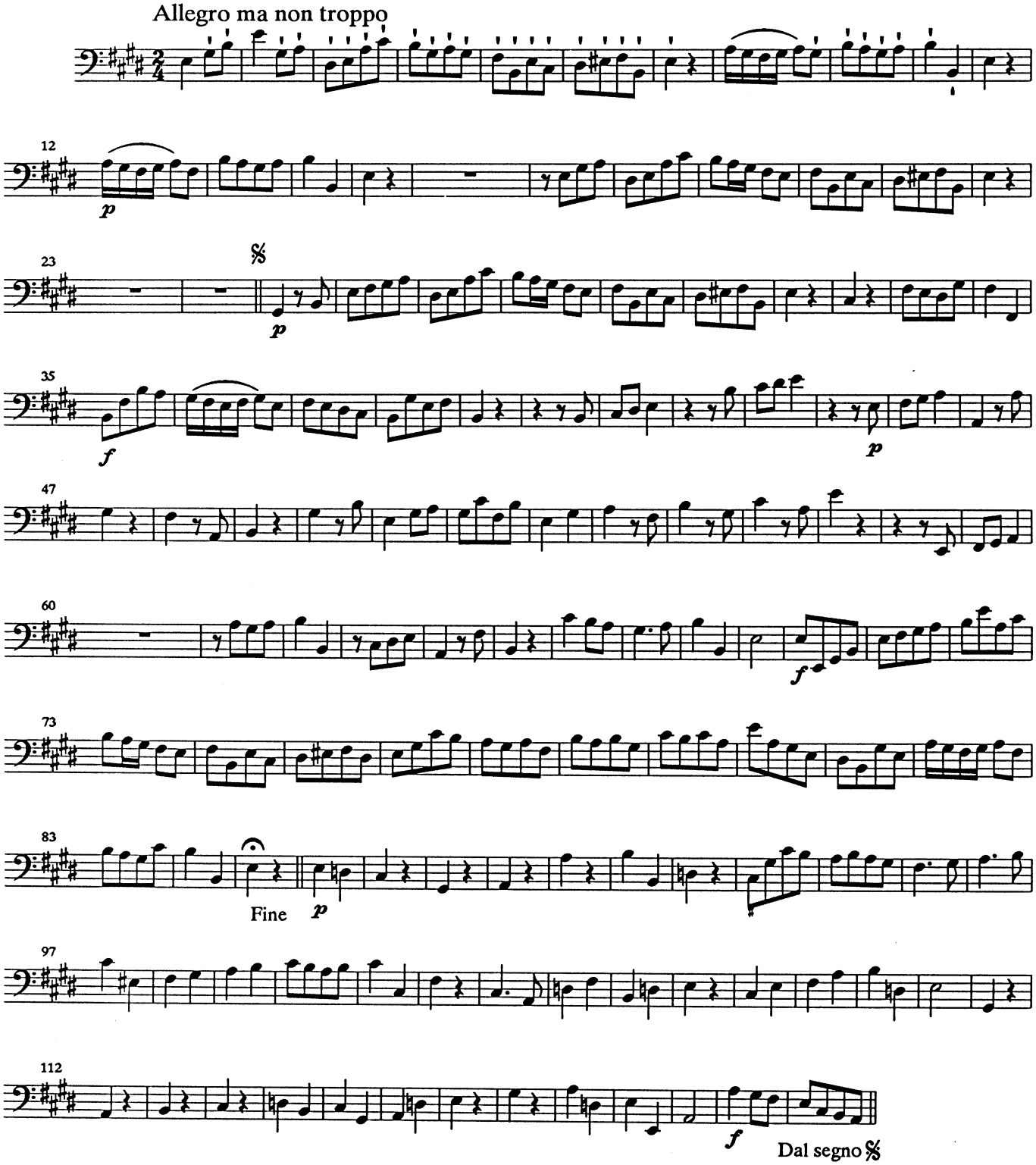
Andante larghetto



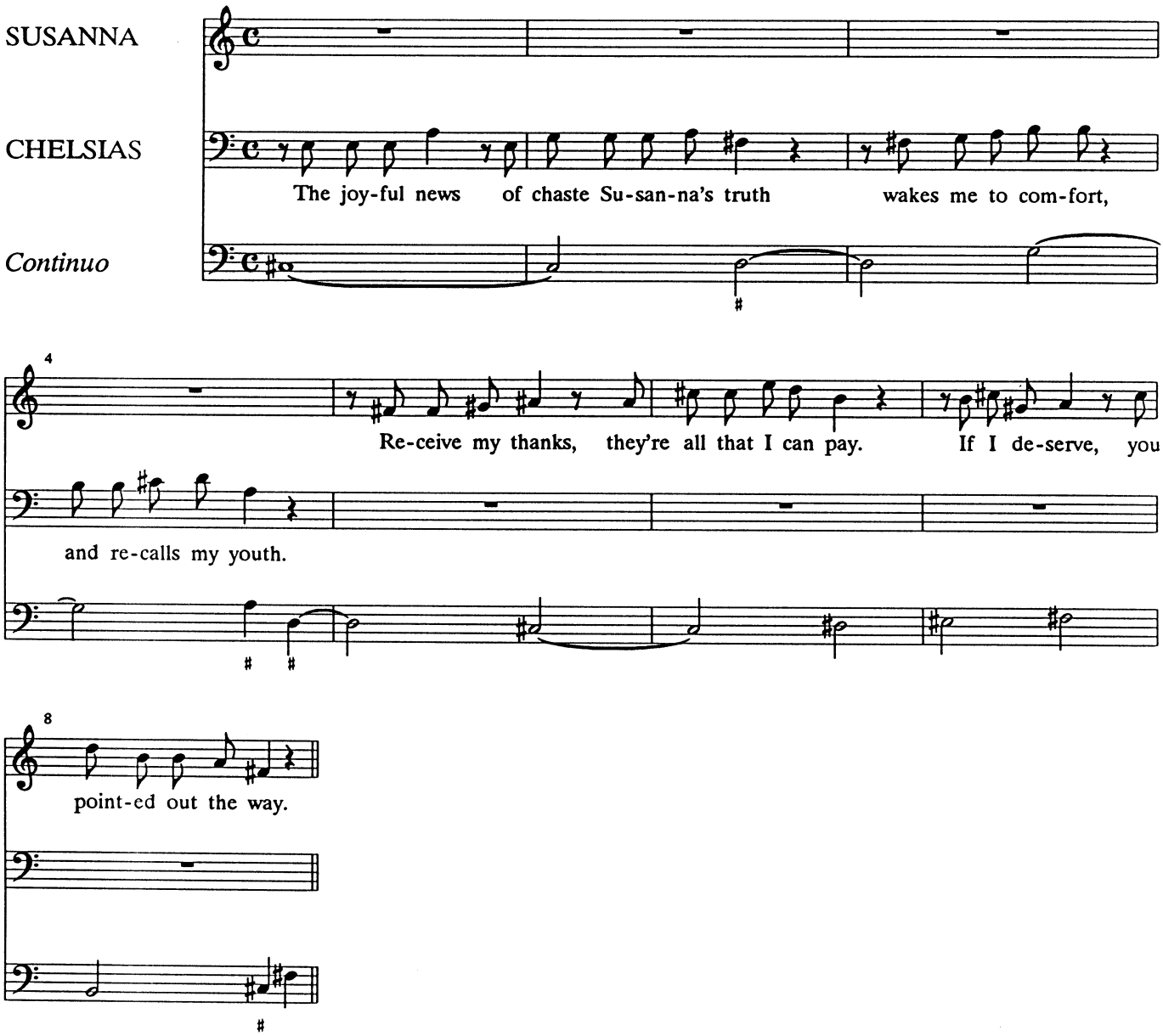
65. Recitative



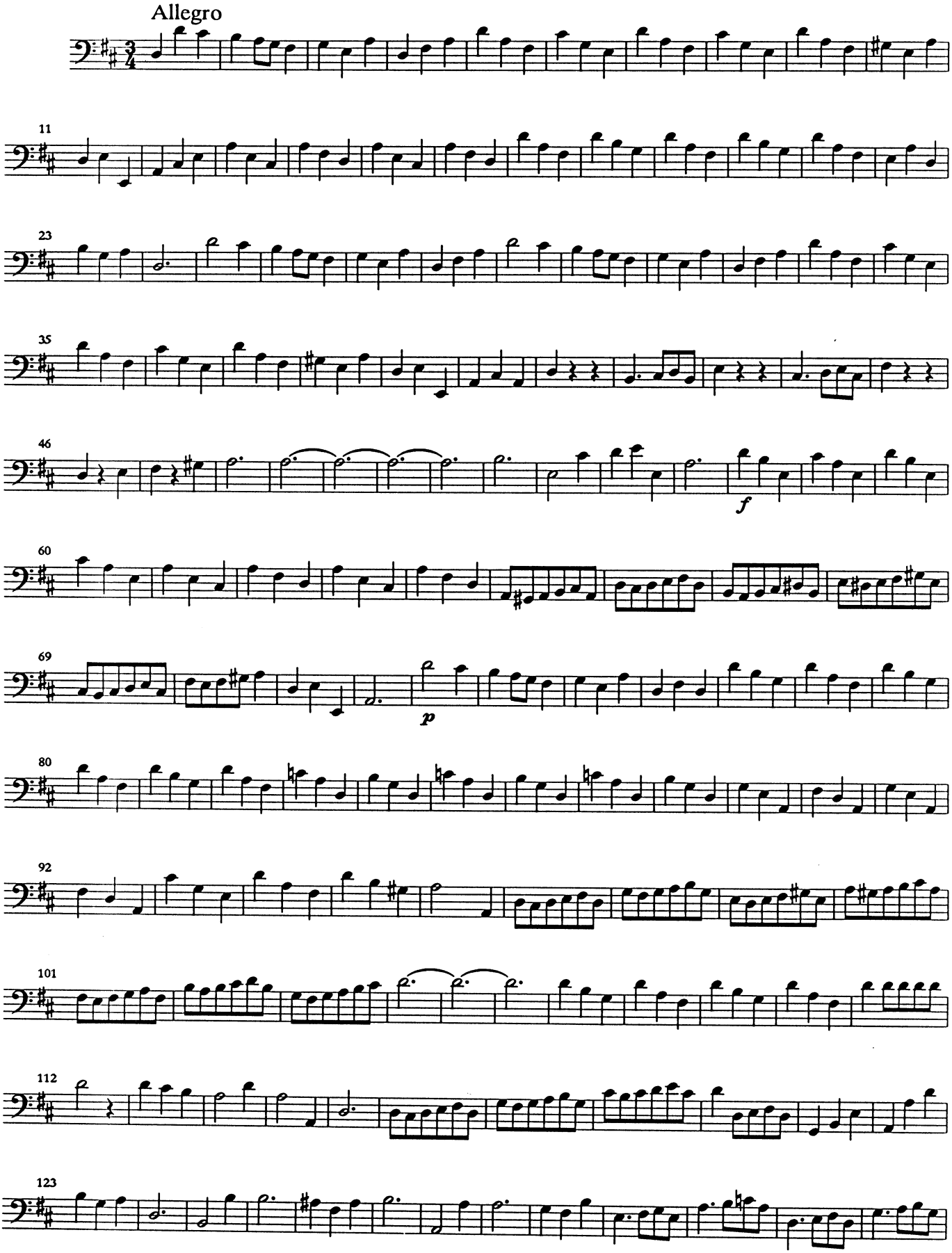
66. Air



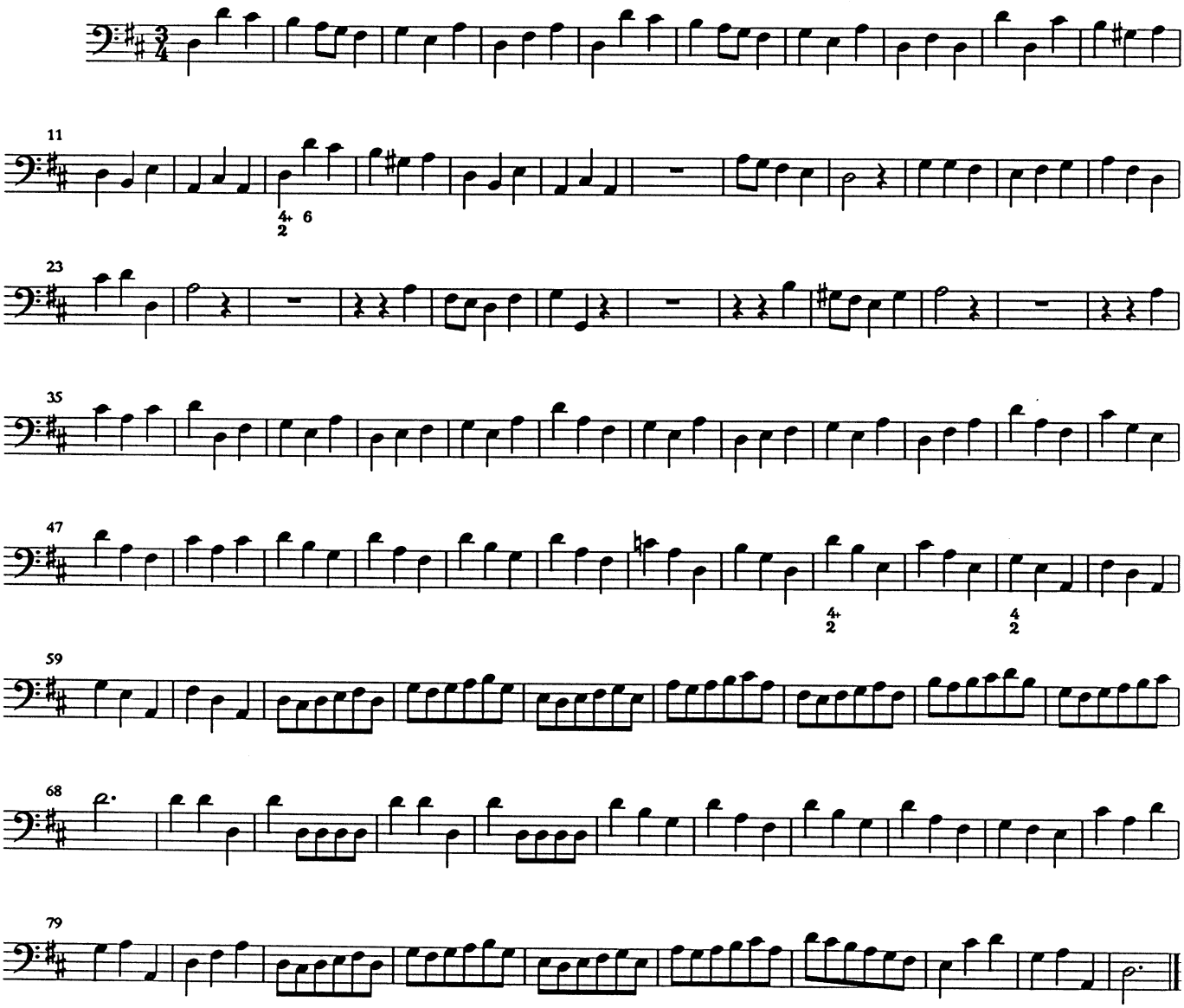
67. Recitative



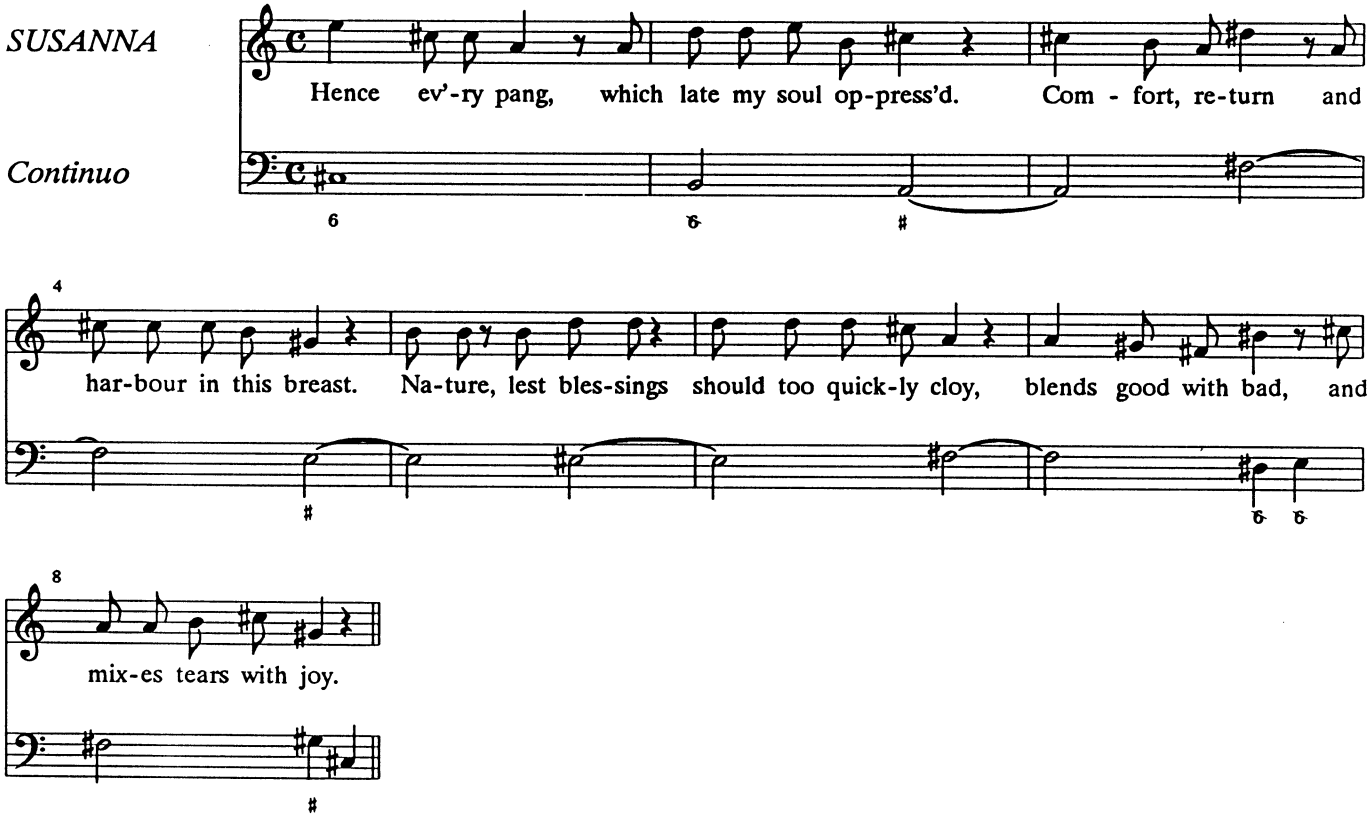
68. Air



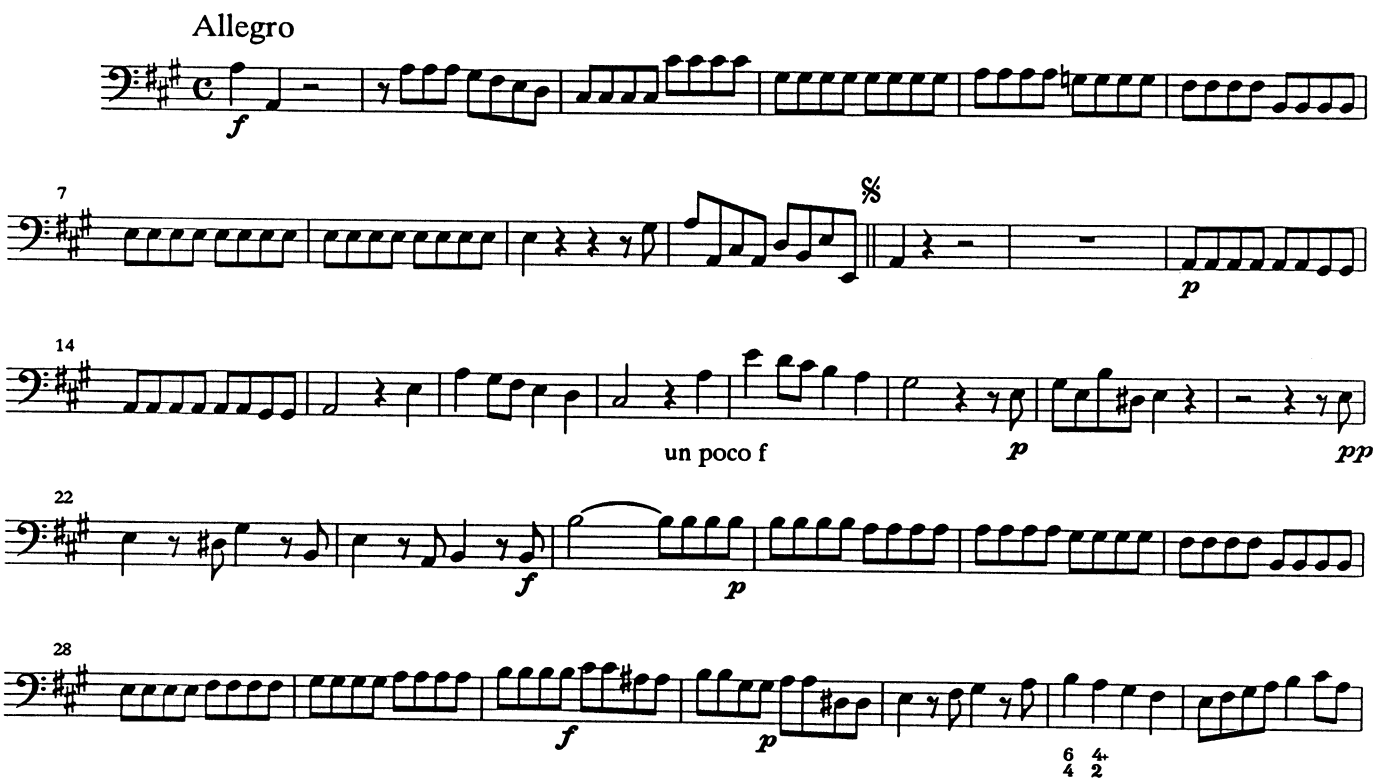
69. Chorus

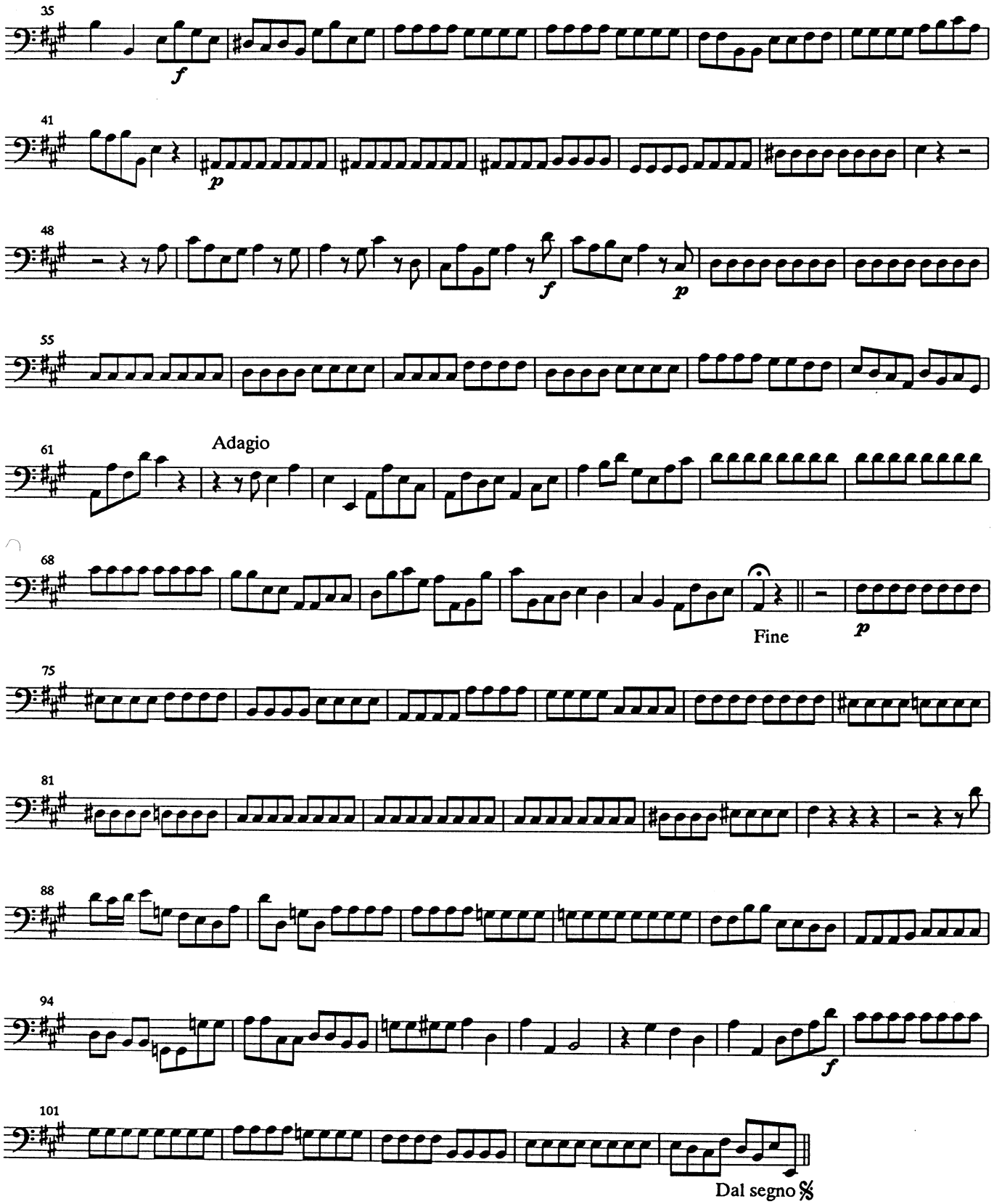


70. Recitative

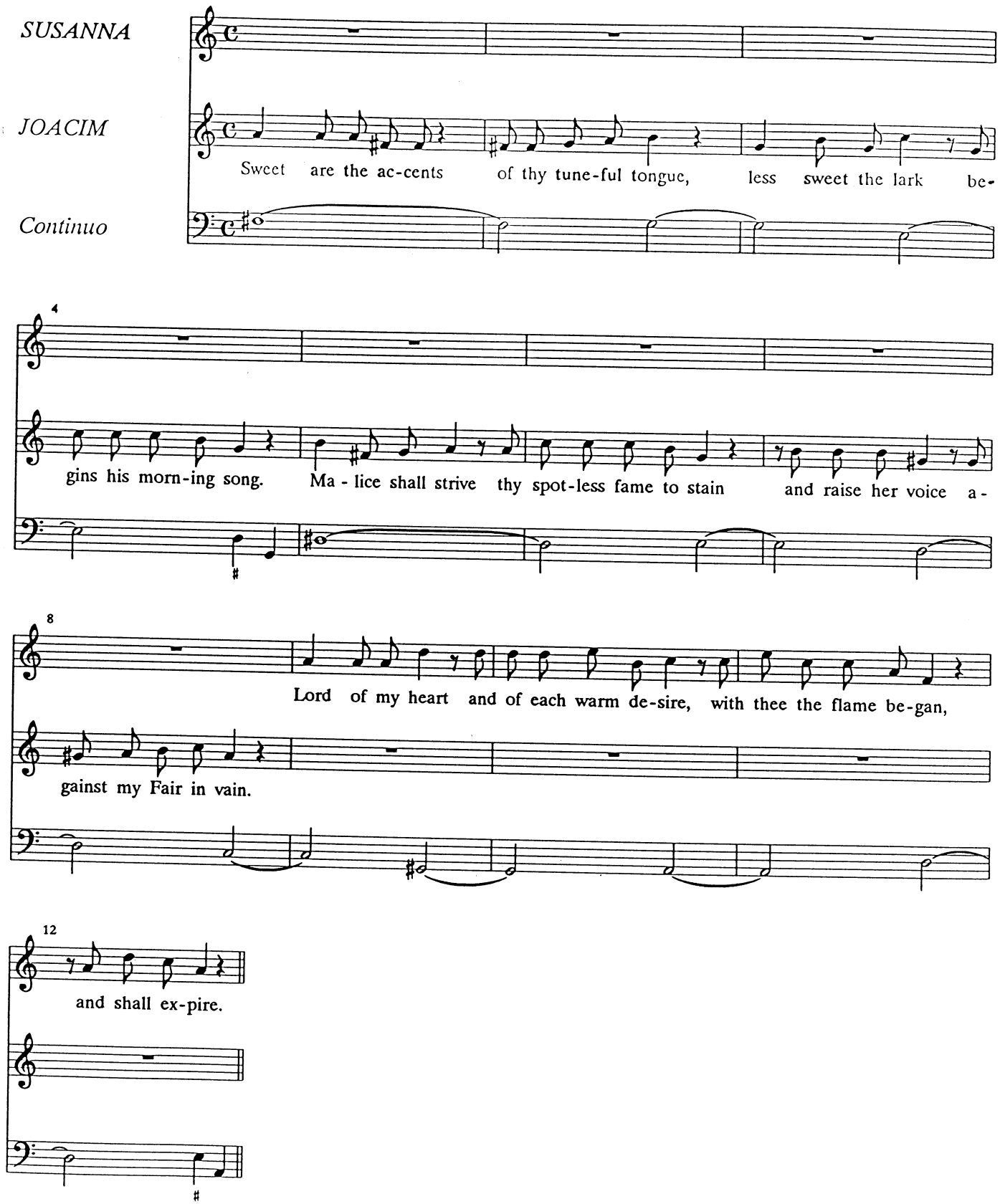


71. Air

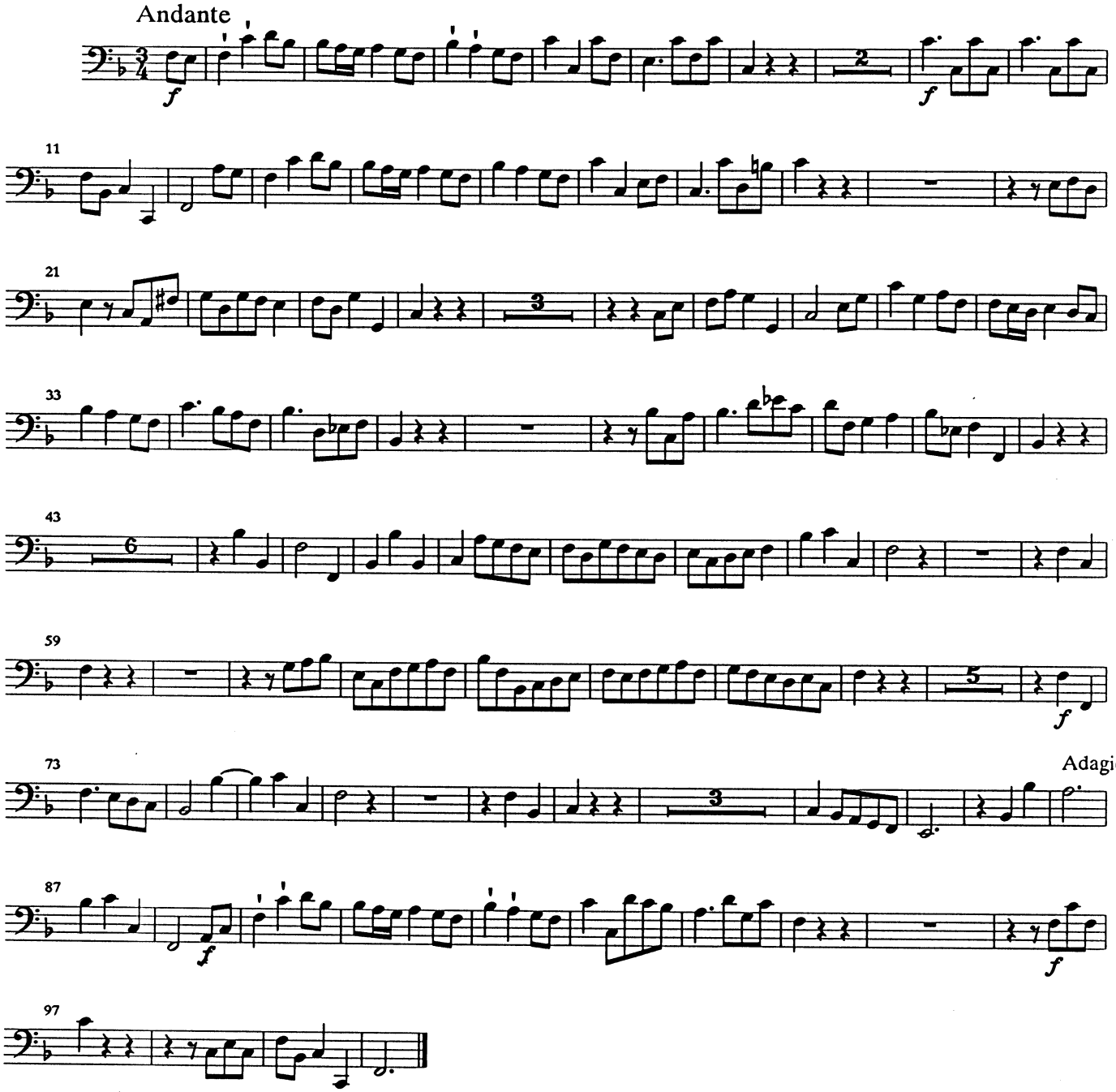
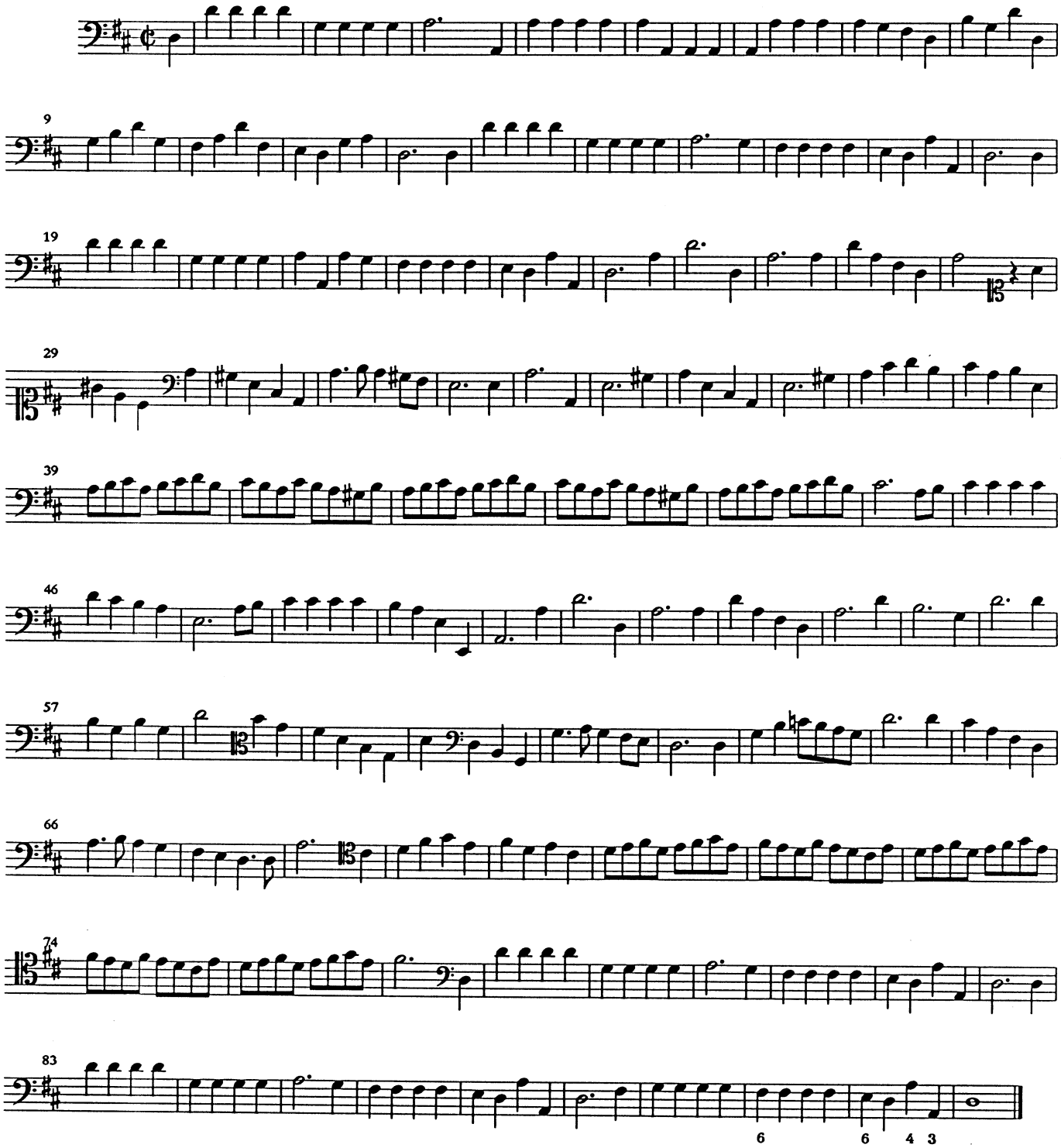



35
f
41
p
48
f
p
55
61
Adagio
68
Fine
p
75
81
88
94
f
101
Dal segno 𝄋

72. Recitative



73. Duet



74. Chorus