Play Book

by **Pamela J. Marshall**
and students of Carroll Ann Bottino

original compositions for piano students
beginning to advanced

Spindrift Music Company
www.spindrift.com

Play Book

Beginning to advanced piano solos and two recorder pieces
by Pamela J. Marshall, plus original compositions by Pacem students

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PREVIEW

Play Book is the result of the 2007 Pacem Composing and Improvisation Workshops with the students of Carroll Ann Bottino

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About the Composing & Improvisation Workshop

Notes from composer/leader Pamela J. Marshall

From February to March 2007, five groups of piano and recorder students had three meetings to explore musical ideas. We listened to recordings and piano pieces and talked about national styles and folk song, melody and form, rhythm and accompaniment, and what inspires a composer to create. Everyone tried out ideas on the piano, improvising solos and duets. We even had 5 students at the keyboard a couple of times. In the last session, we accompanied the improvisers with homemade percussion.

The youngest was 7 years old and the oldest 17. Many were working there way through Diller Quayle Book 1 and there were several advanced pianists.

In addition to the experience of improvising and talking about musical ideas, each student wrote music, some of which is included in this book. Each student also had the experience of commissioning music from me. They described the sort of piece they would like to have and I tried my best to fulfill their desires at the right difficulty level. There was a great variety in the requests: birdlike, Mozartean, angry, happy, staccato, jumping around, calm, exciting, high, fast but easy, one hand at a time, short, depicting a thought process.

The last two pieces in this collection, for Shachi and Amudha, were based on their poems.

I would like to thank Carroll Ann Bottino for making these workshops a reality and figuring out how to fit it into her teaching plan and the students' schedules. I'd also like to thank the parents for their interest in this process and their contributions during the sessions. I enjoyed working with all the students and was deeply rewarded by their enthusiasm and interest. We made a lot of music together – both spontaneously improvised and written down!

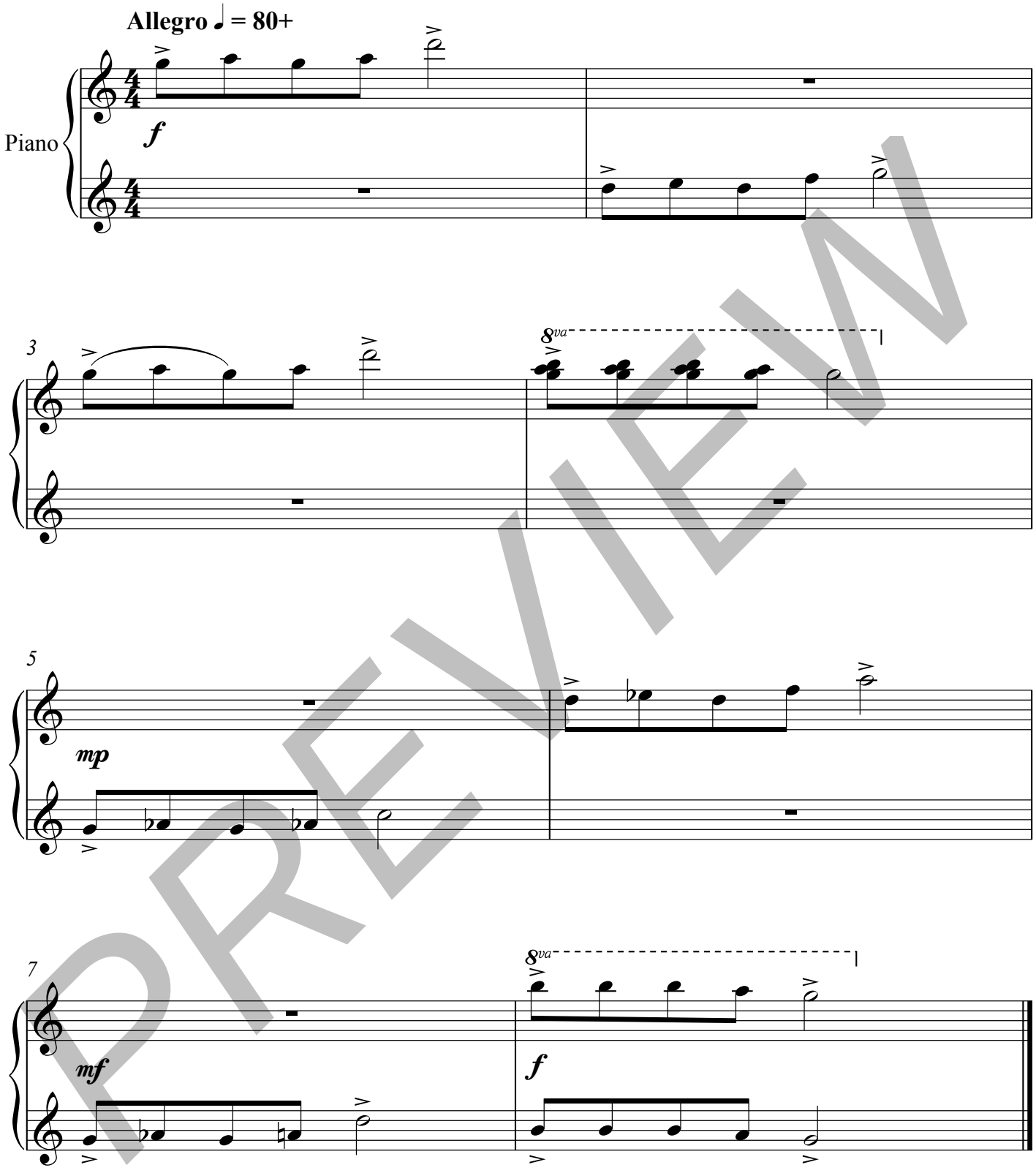
Play Book CD A companion Play Book CD features the composer performing the compositions in this book. You may already have it bundled with your book, or you can order it as a CD or a downloadable album. More information at www.spindrift.com.

Cover art by my friend and Art-Poem-Music collaborator, Sirarpi Heghinian Walzer (www.swalzer.com).

PREVIEW

For Caleb

Pamela J. Marshall



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For Ben

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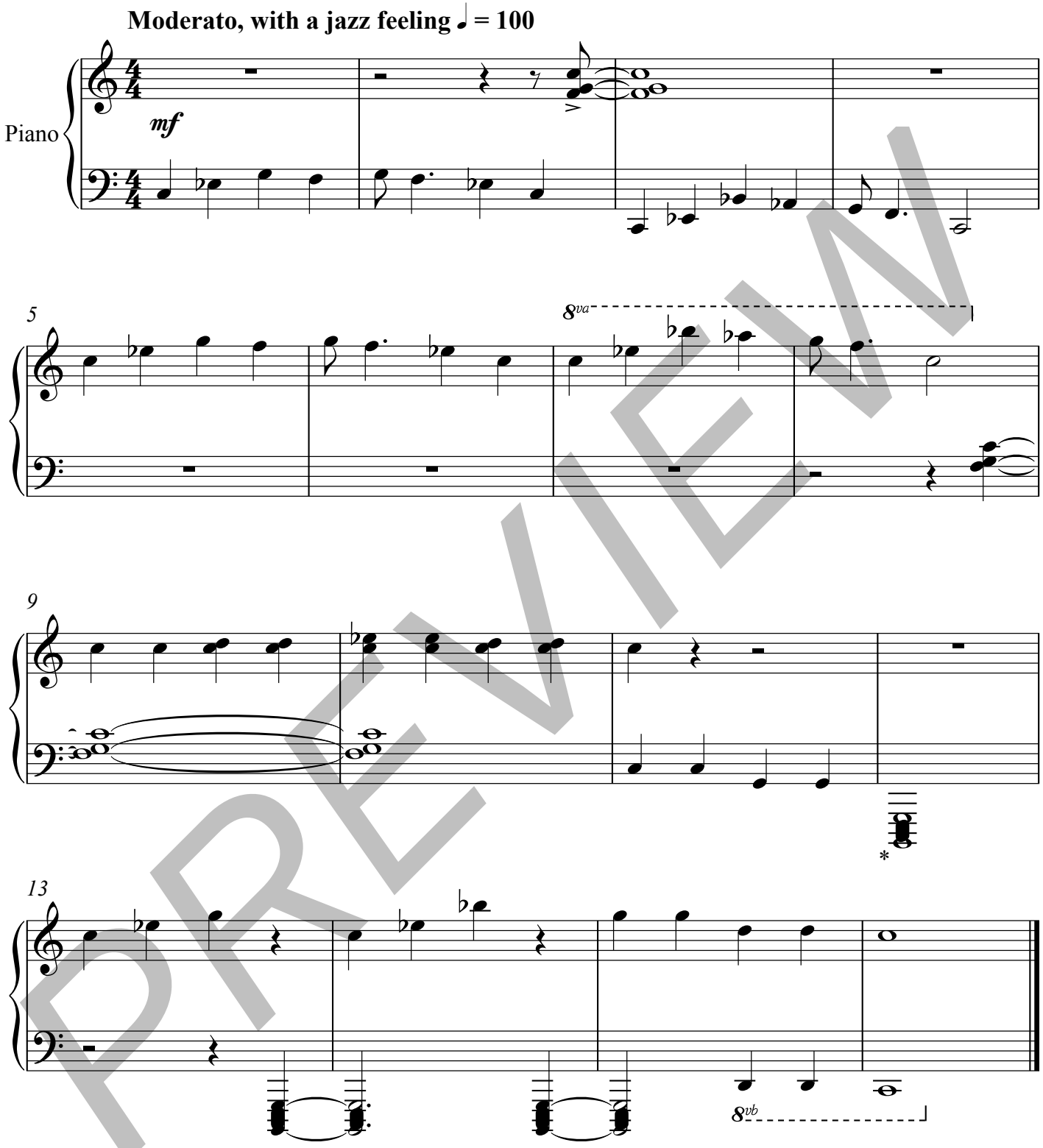

PREVIEW

* Play clusters with the palm of your hand on the lowest white keys.

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For Jonathan

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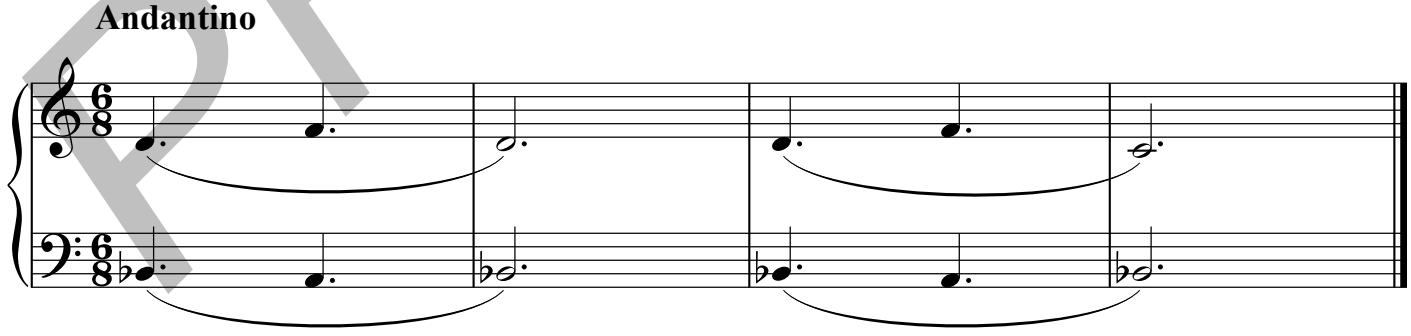
Untitled

Alex Tang
Age 10



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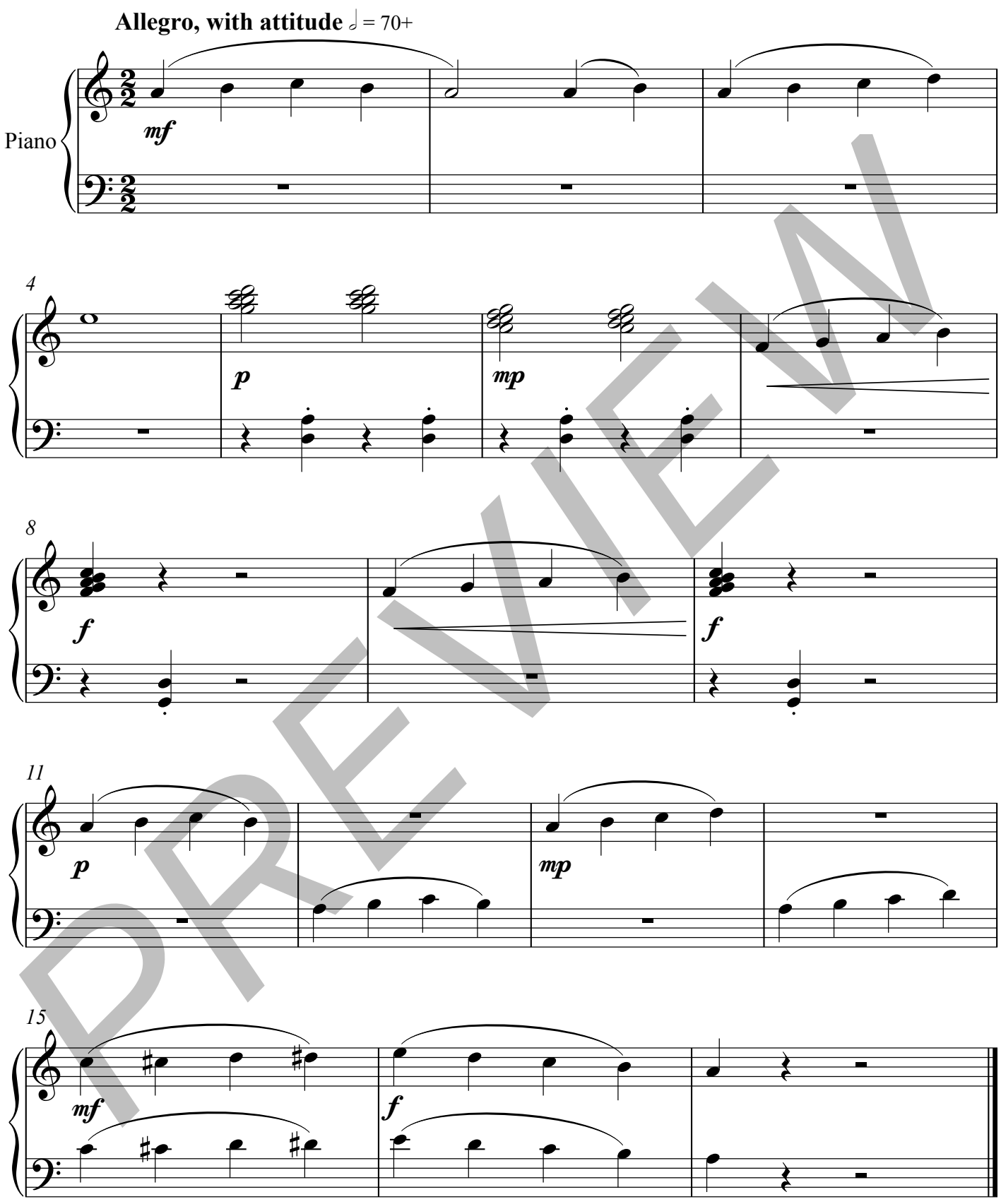
PREVIEW

inspired by a melody by Maria G

For Alex

Pamela J. Marshall



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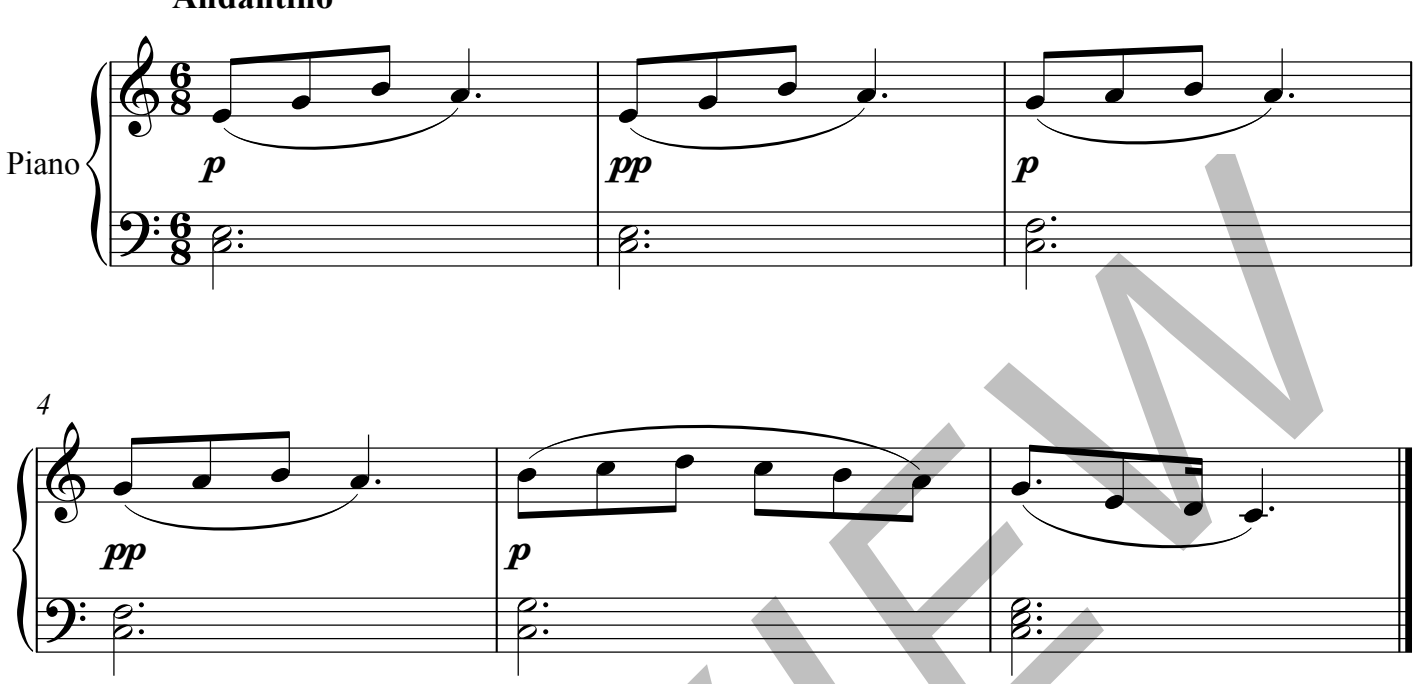
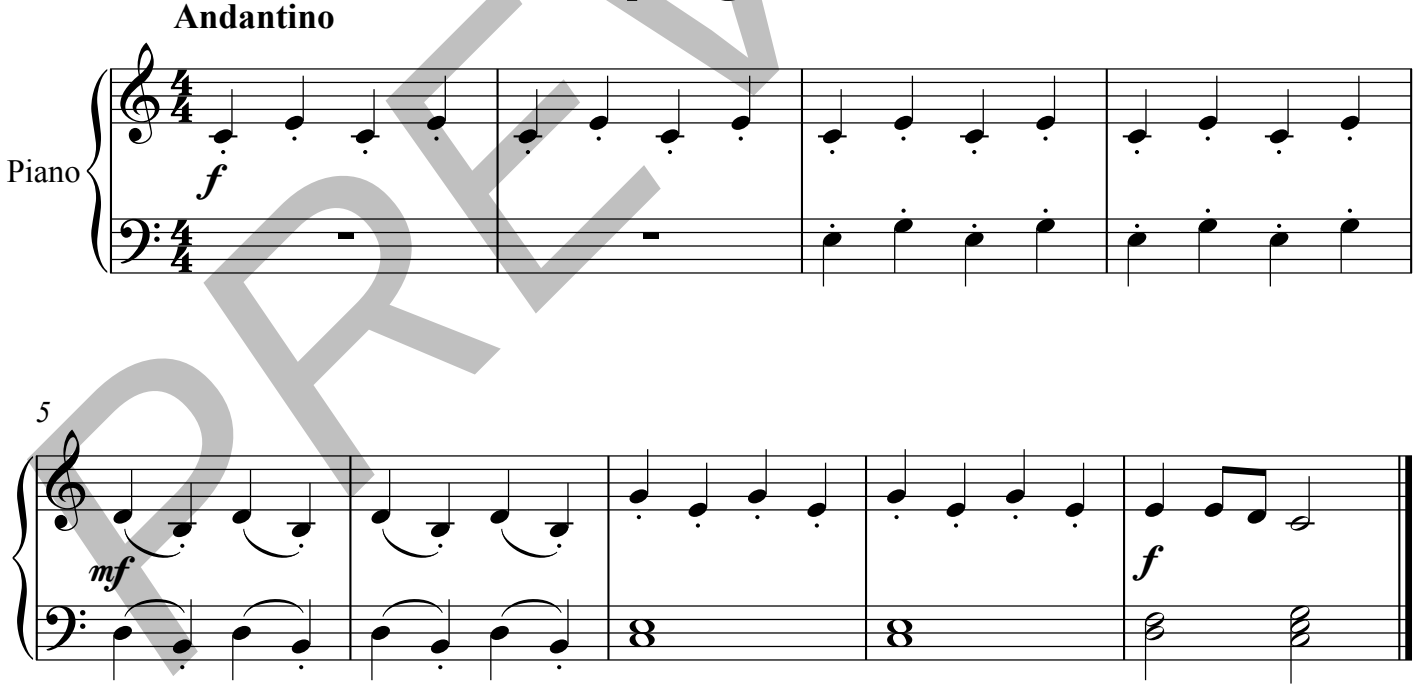
Sleep

Ravi Raghavan
Age 8



Jumping Jacks

Ravi Raghavan



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For Ravi

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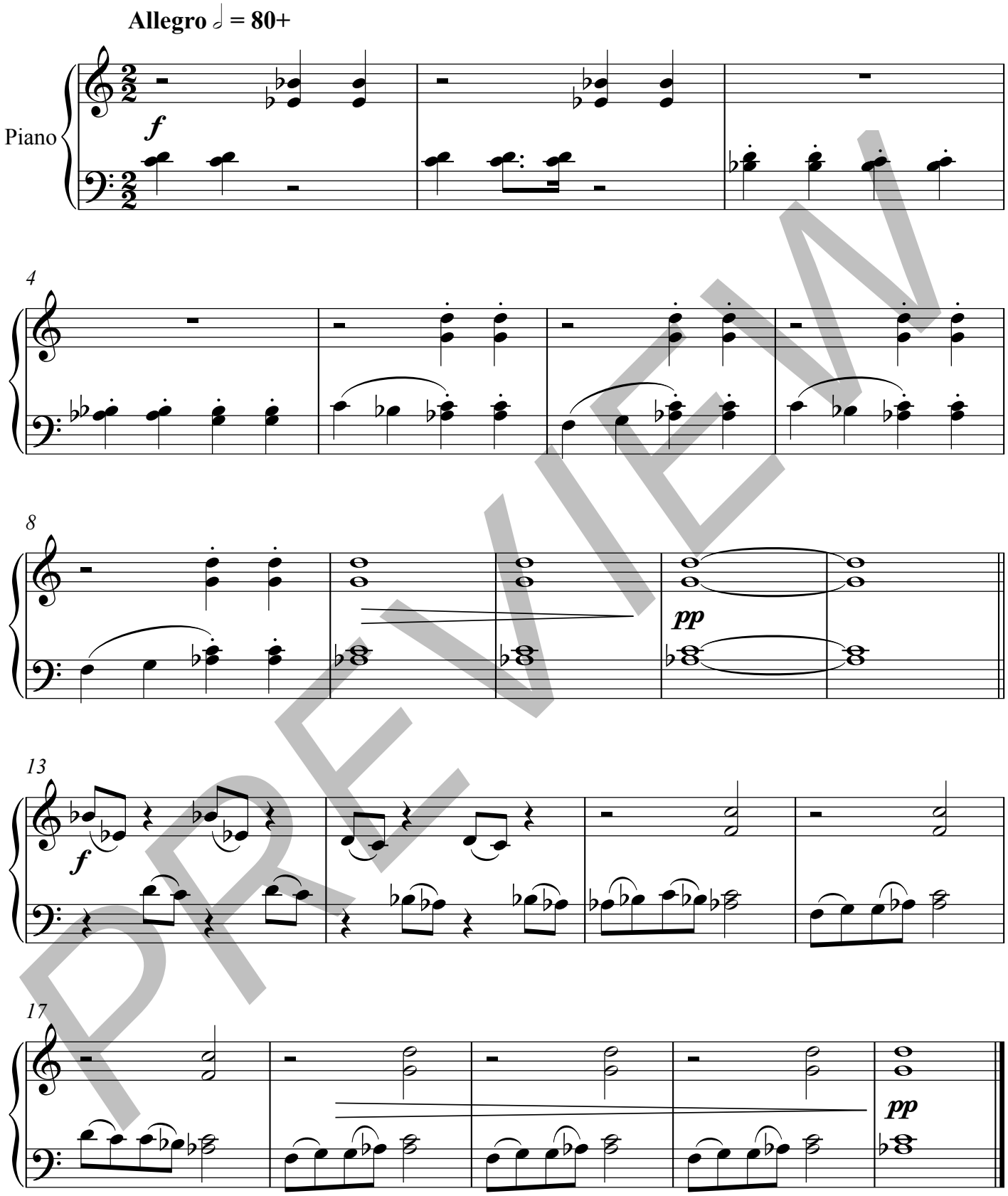

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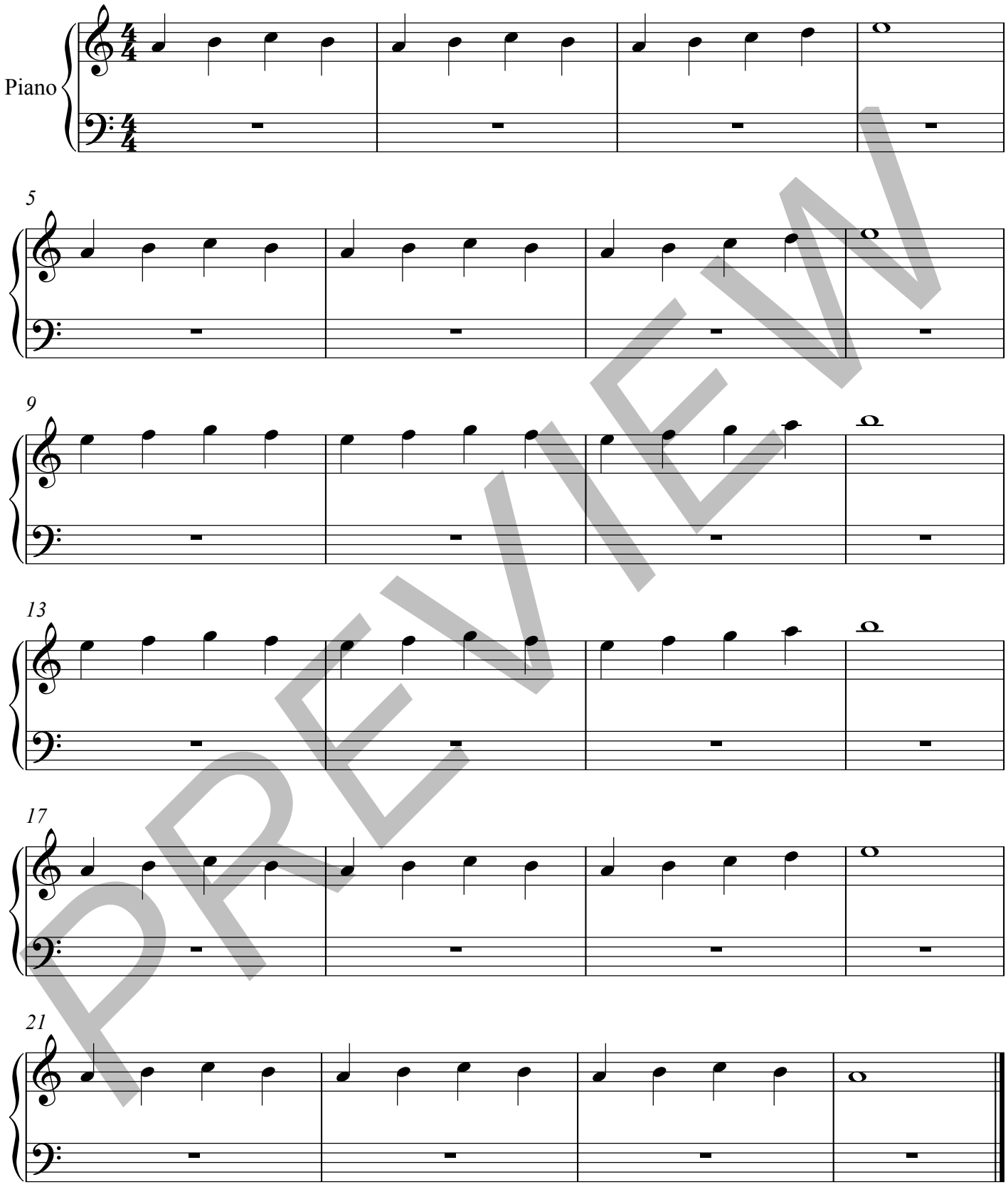
The Running Horse and the Wolf

Maria Goebel
Age 7



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For Maria G.

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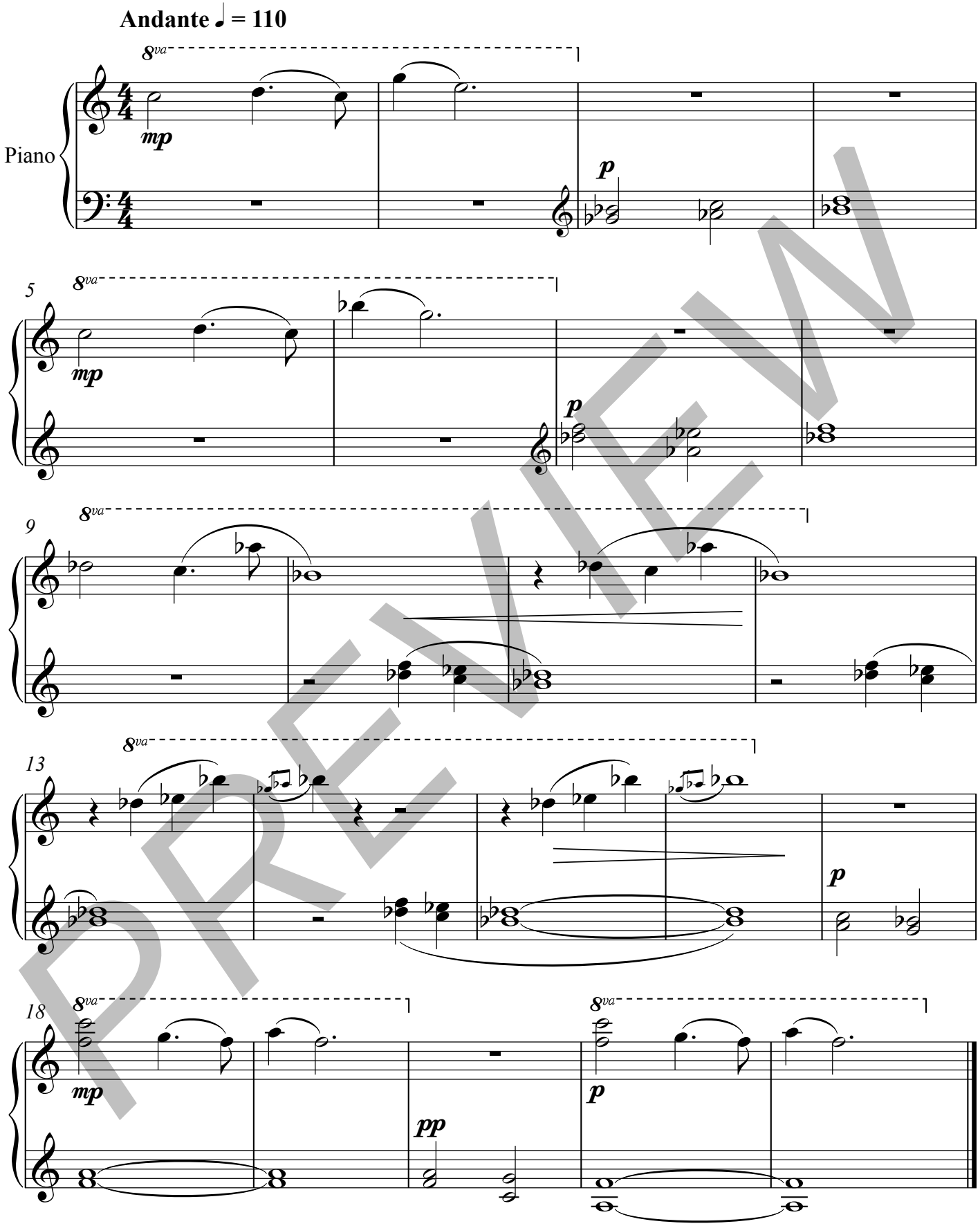

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For Felipe

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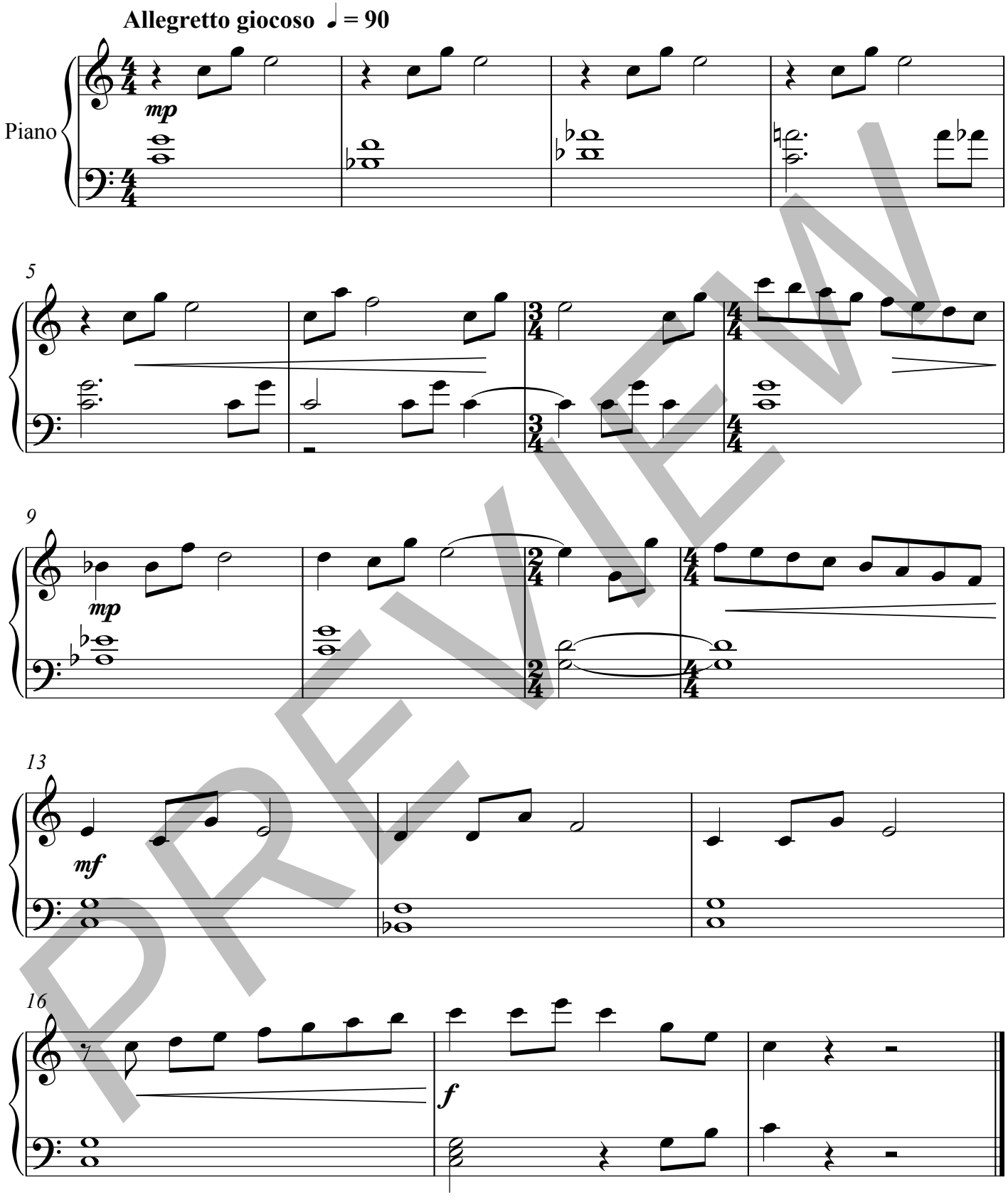

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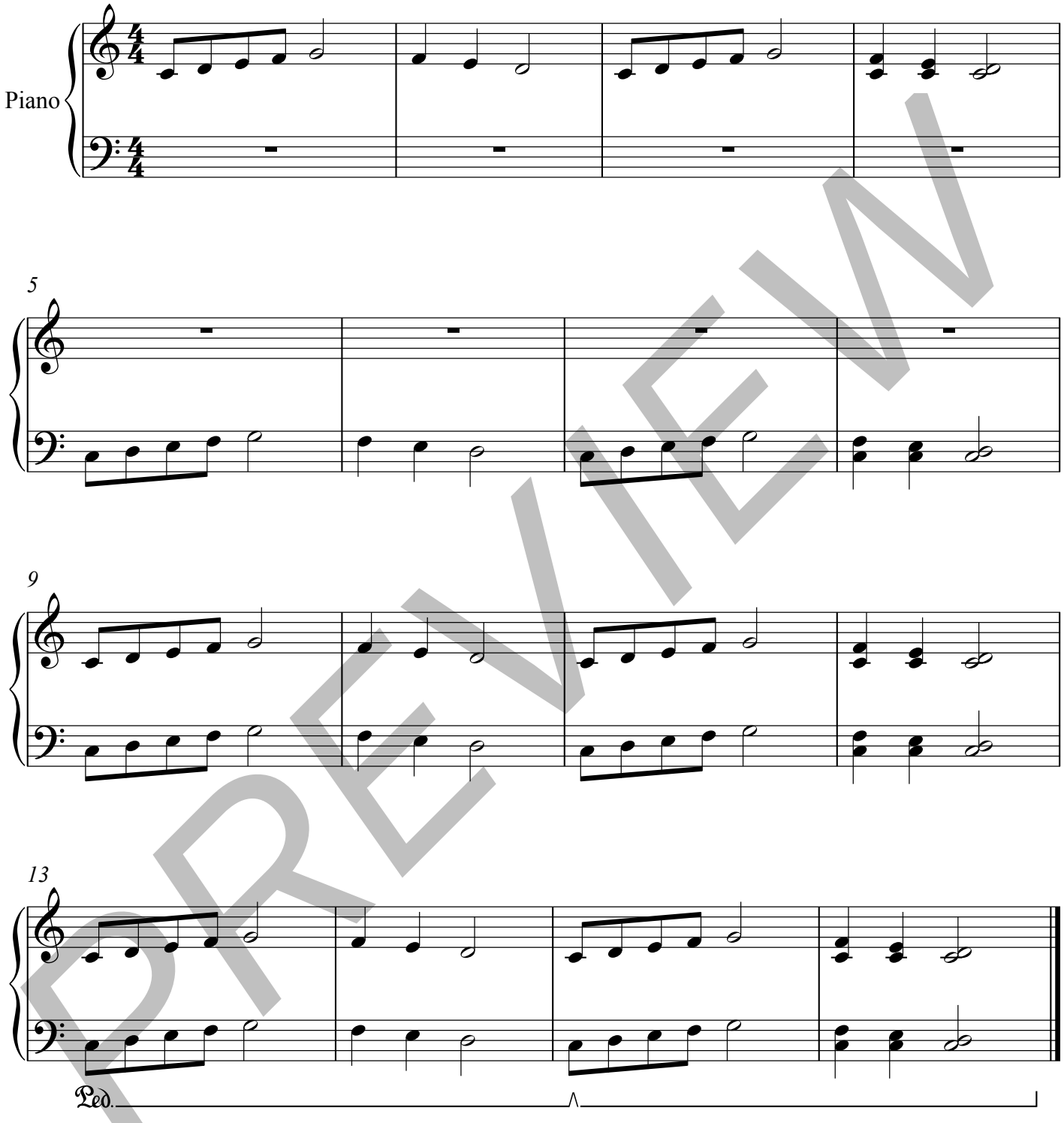
Hiking

Tristan Rix
6th grade



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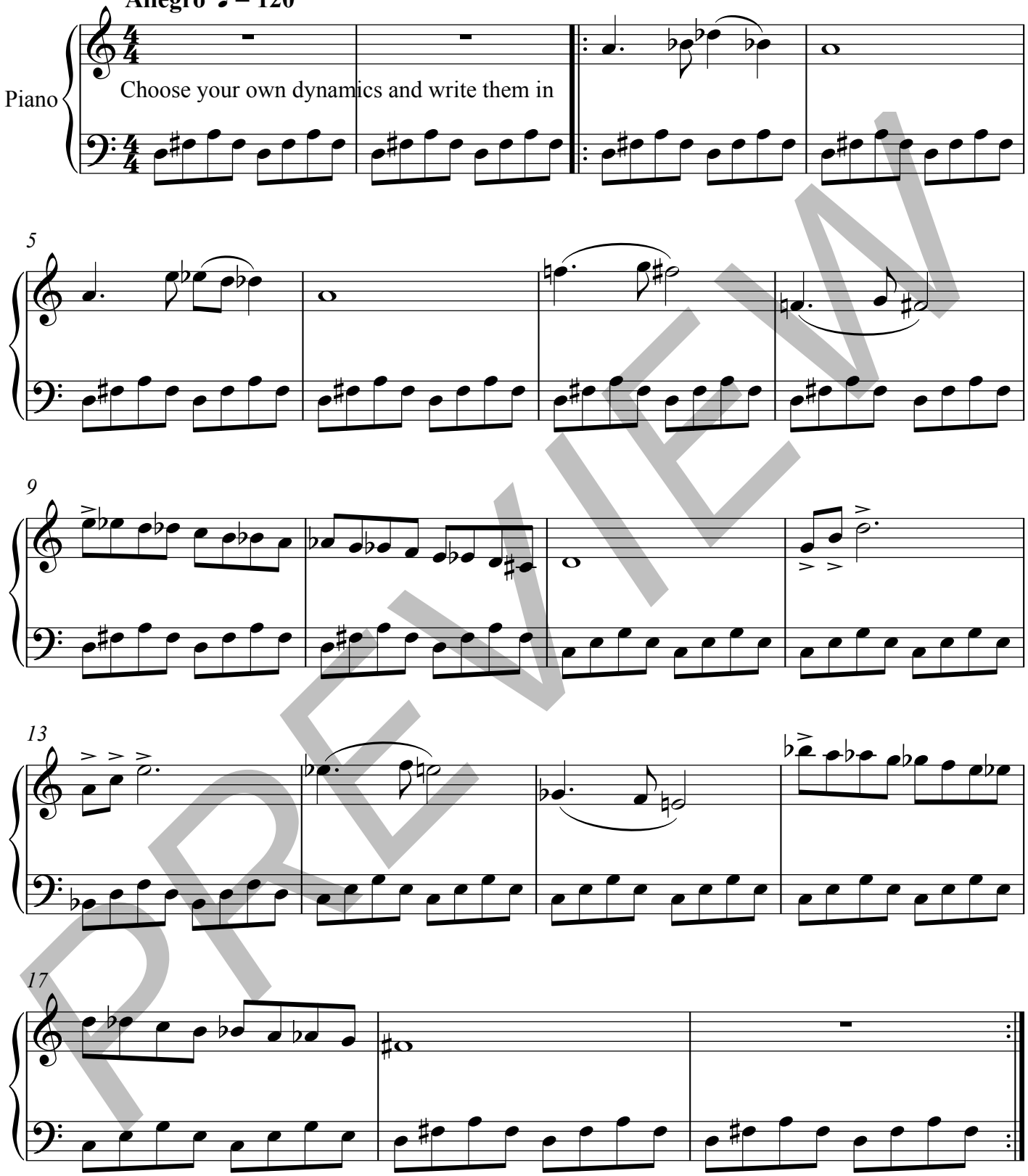
perpetual motion

For Tristan

Pamela J. Marshall

Version 1

Allegro ♩ = 120



Repeat as many times as you want then fade out to end

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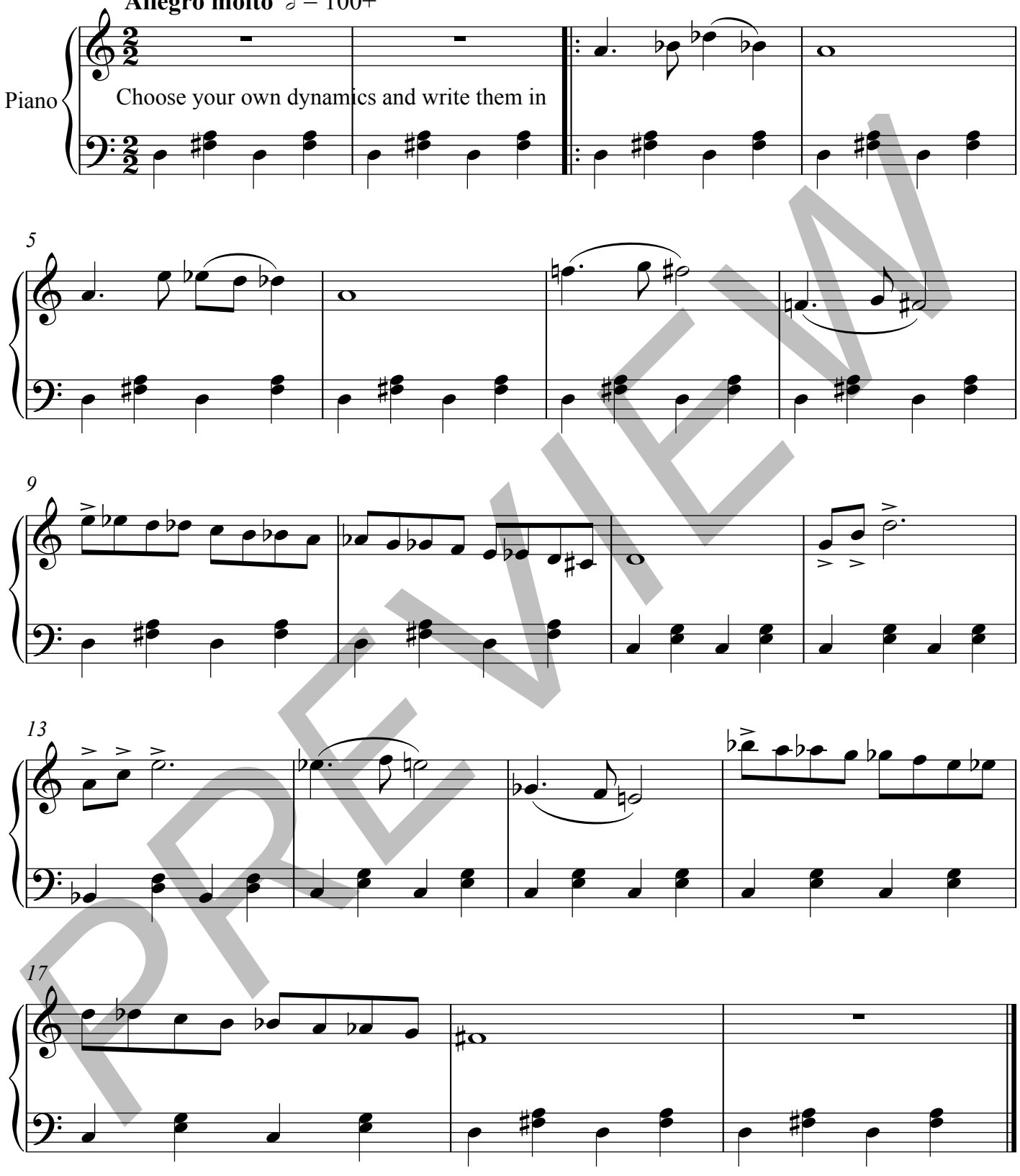
Version 2

Allegro molto ♩ = 100+



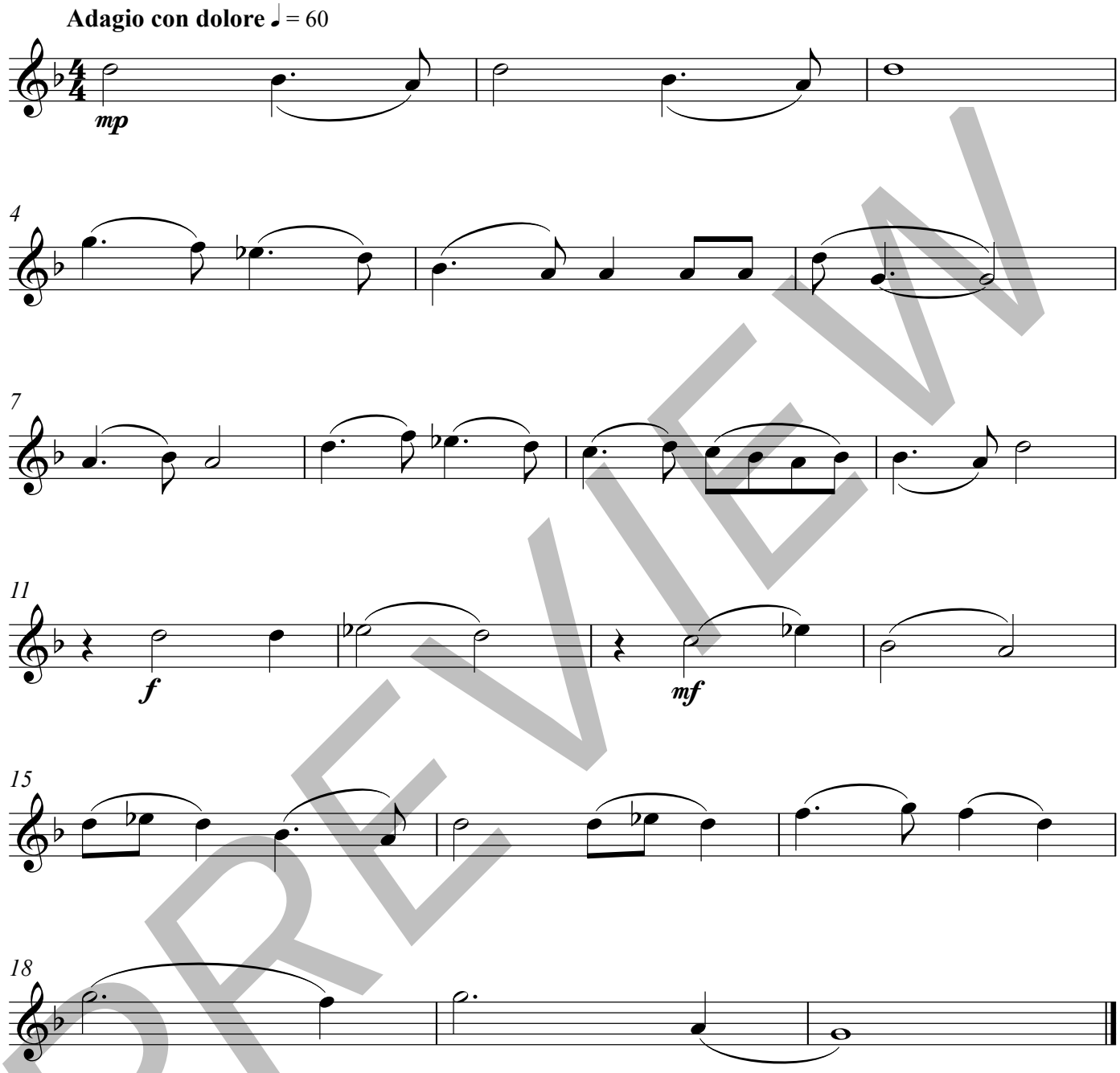
Repeat as many times as you want then fade out to end

PREVIEW

Recorder

For Clara

Pamela J. Marshall



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For Clara

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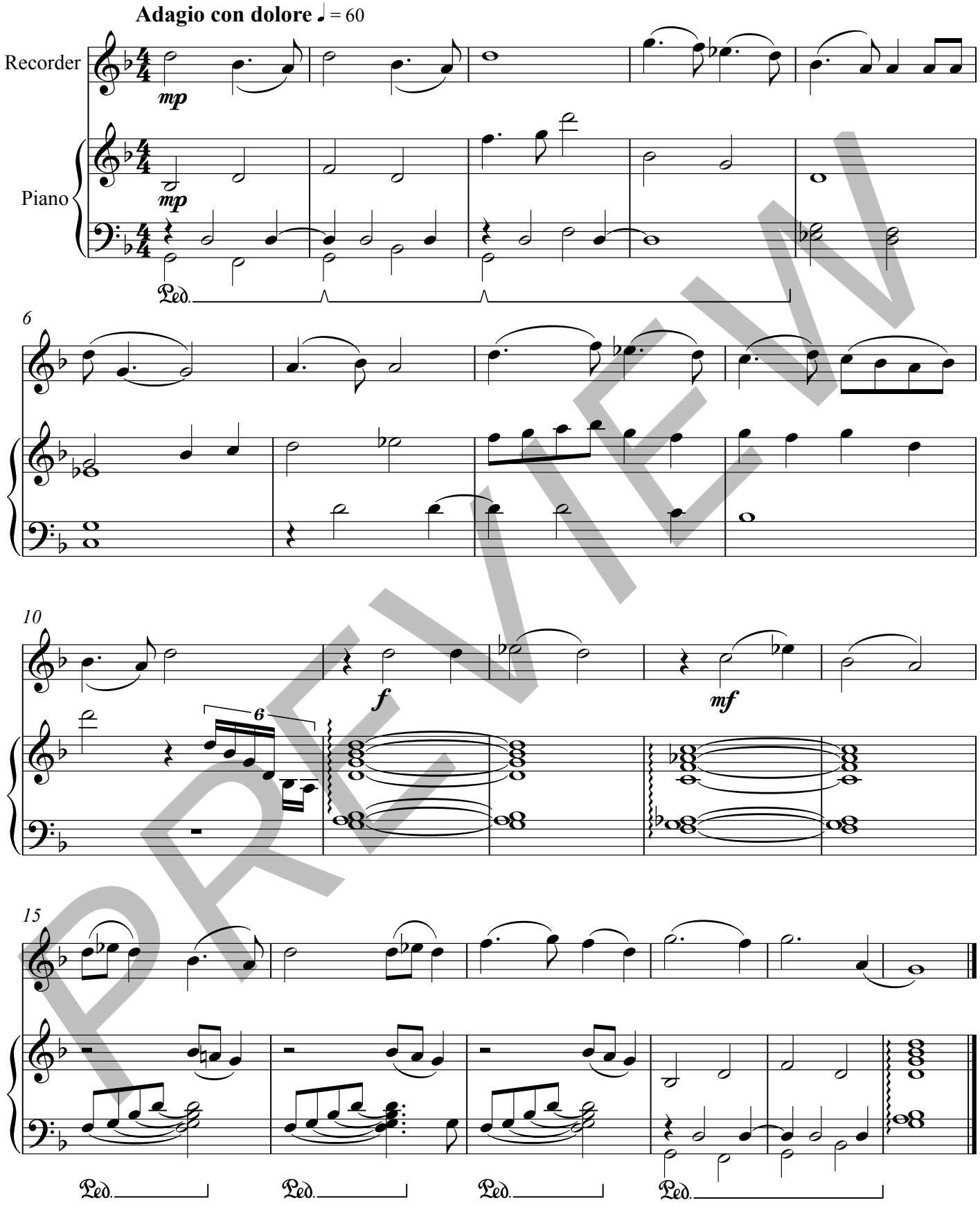

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For Thekla

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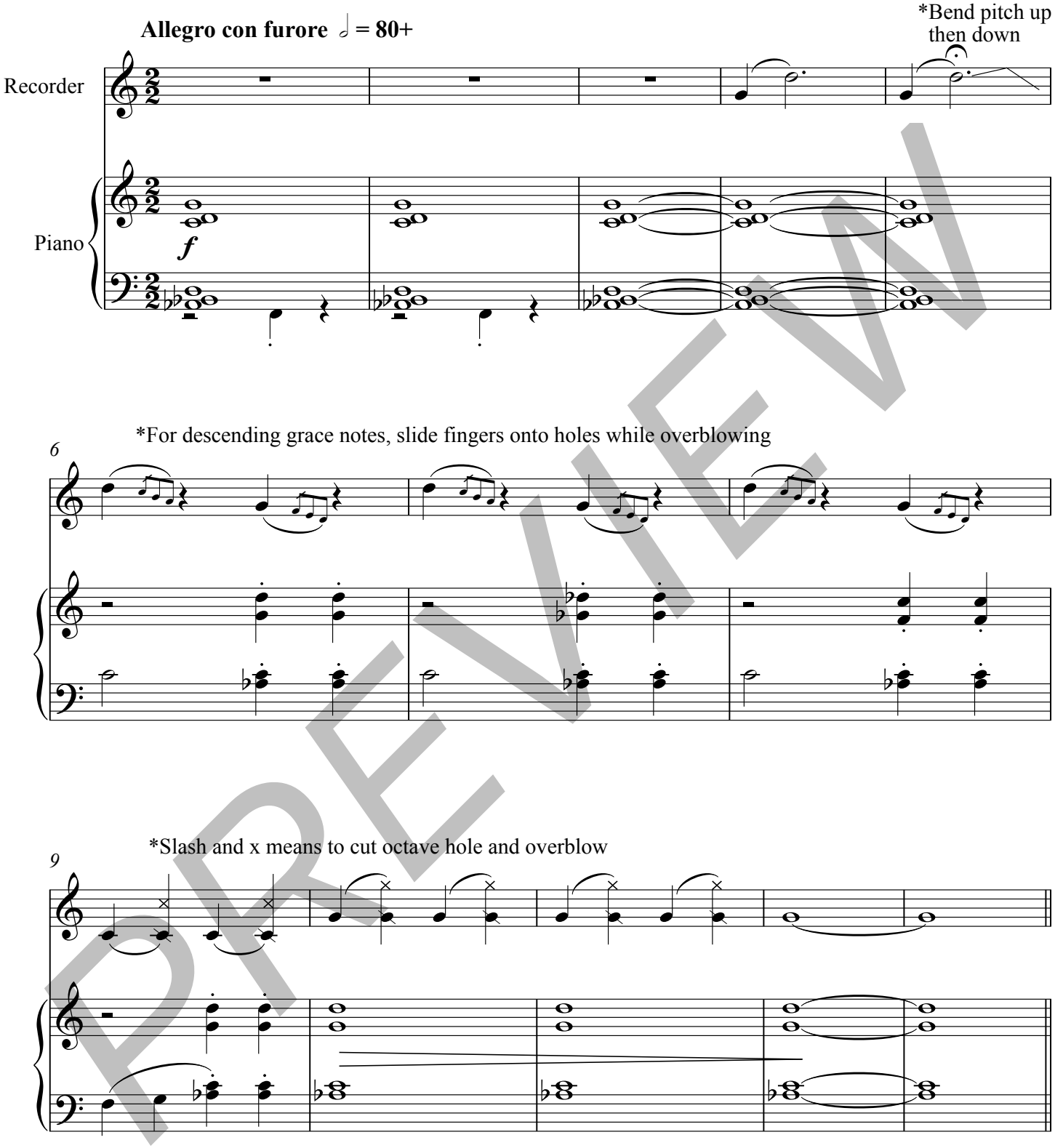

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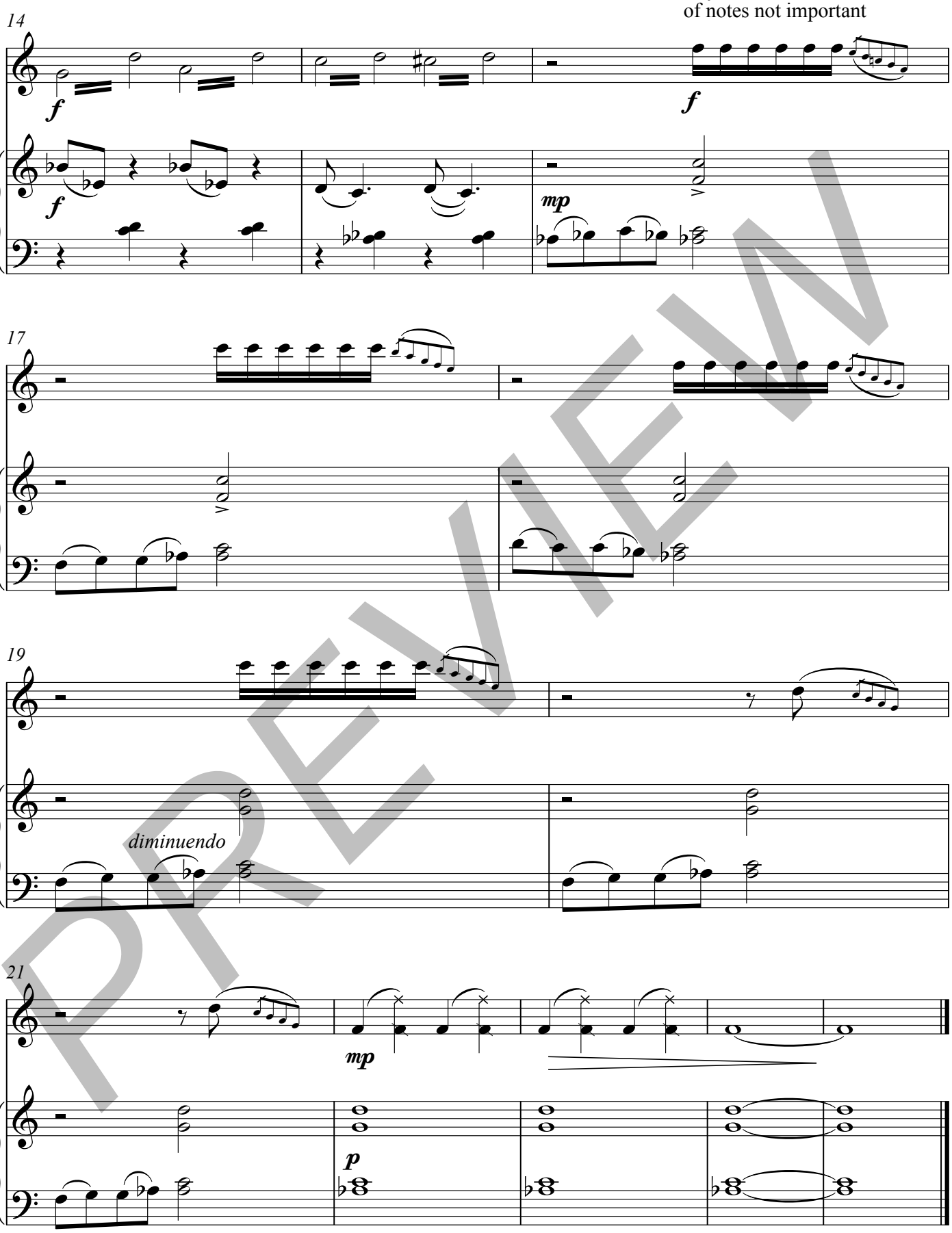
*Very fast, exact number of notes not important



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For Kristen

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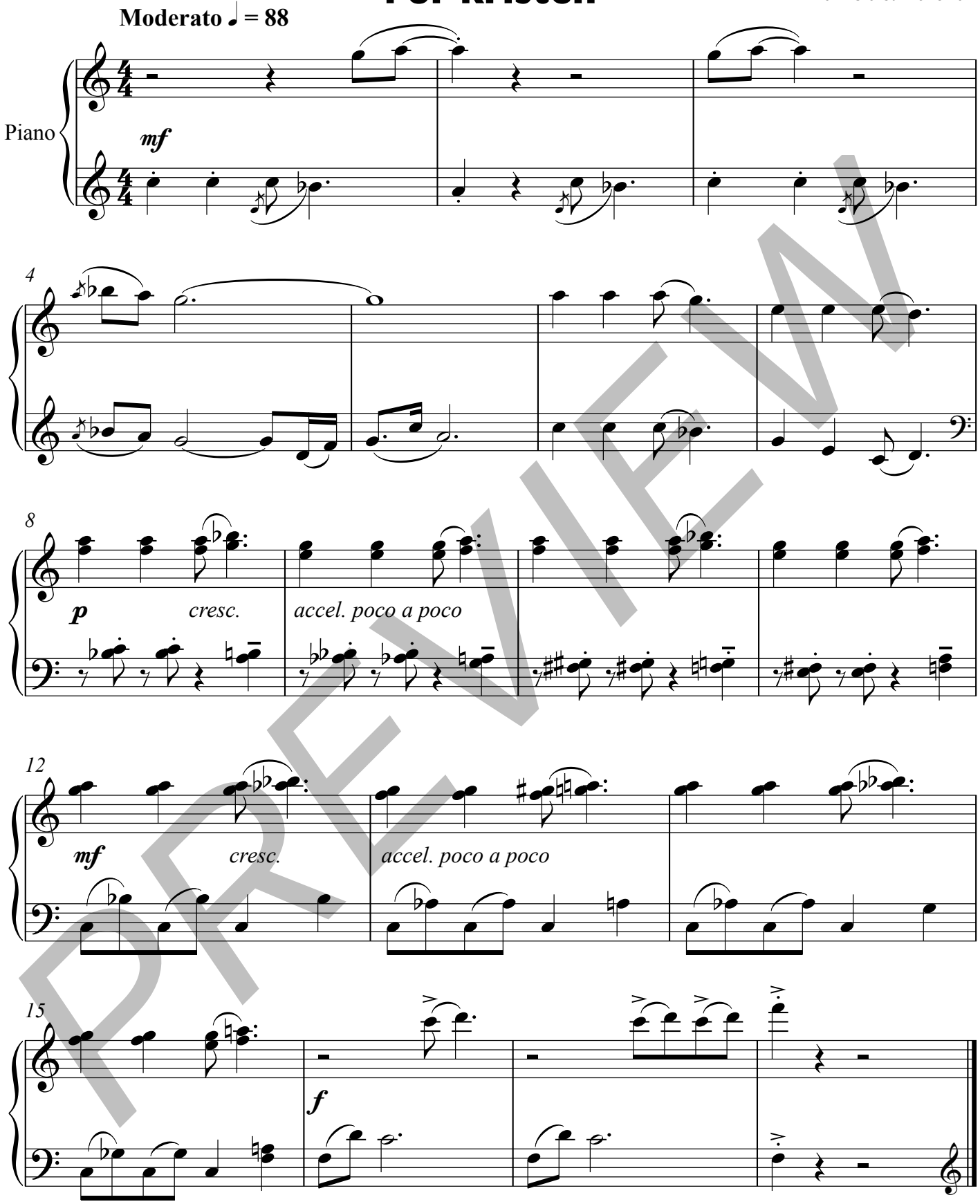

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For Maria B.

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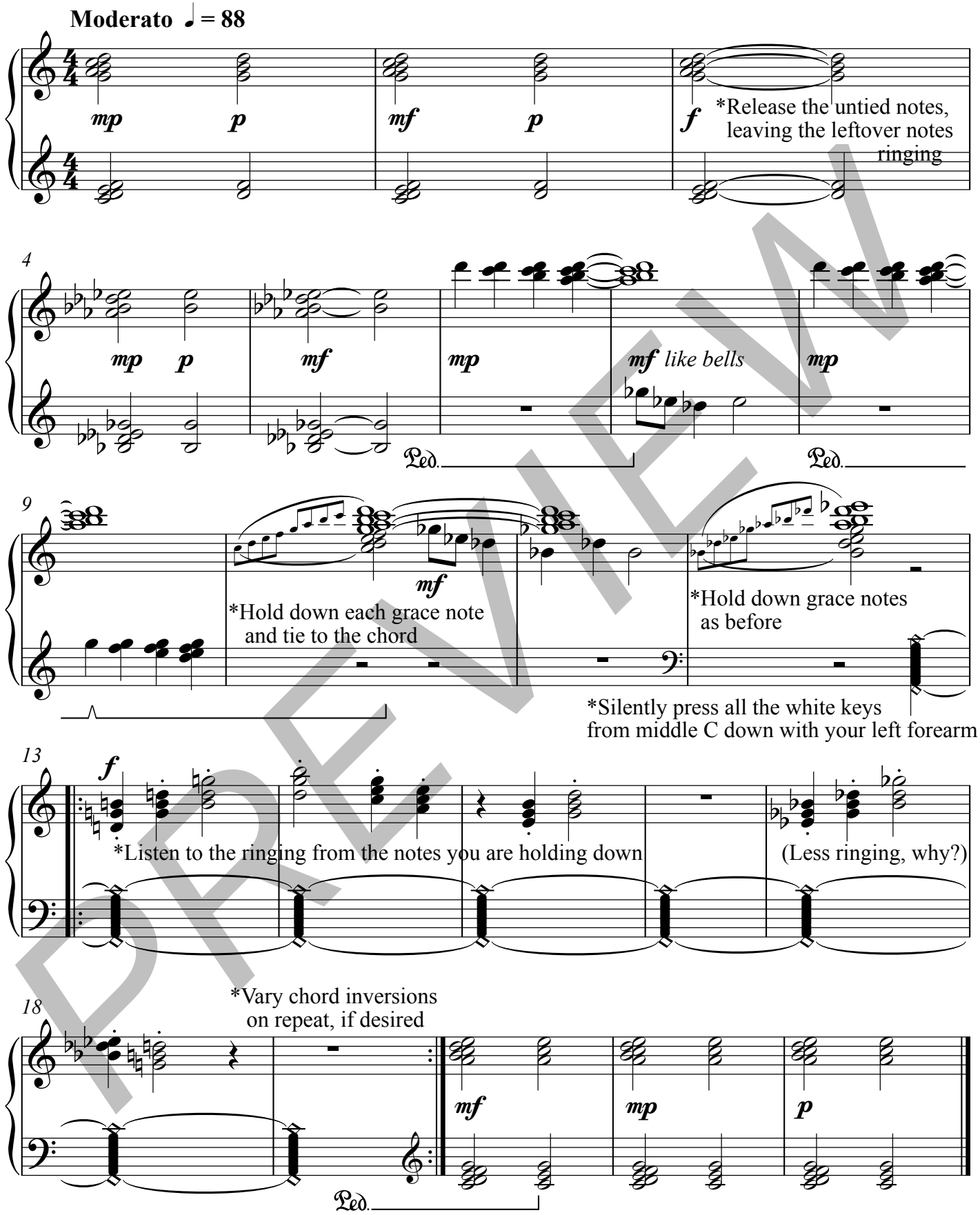

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For Elizabeth

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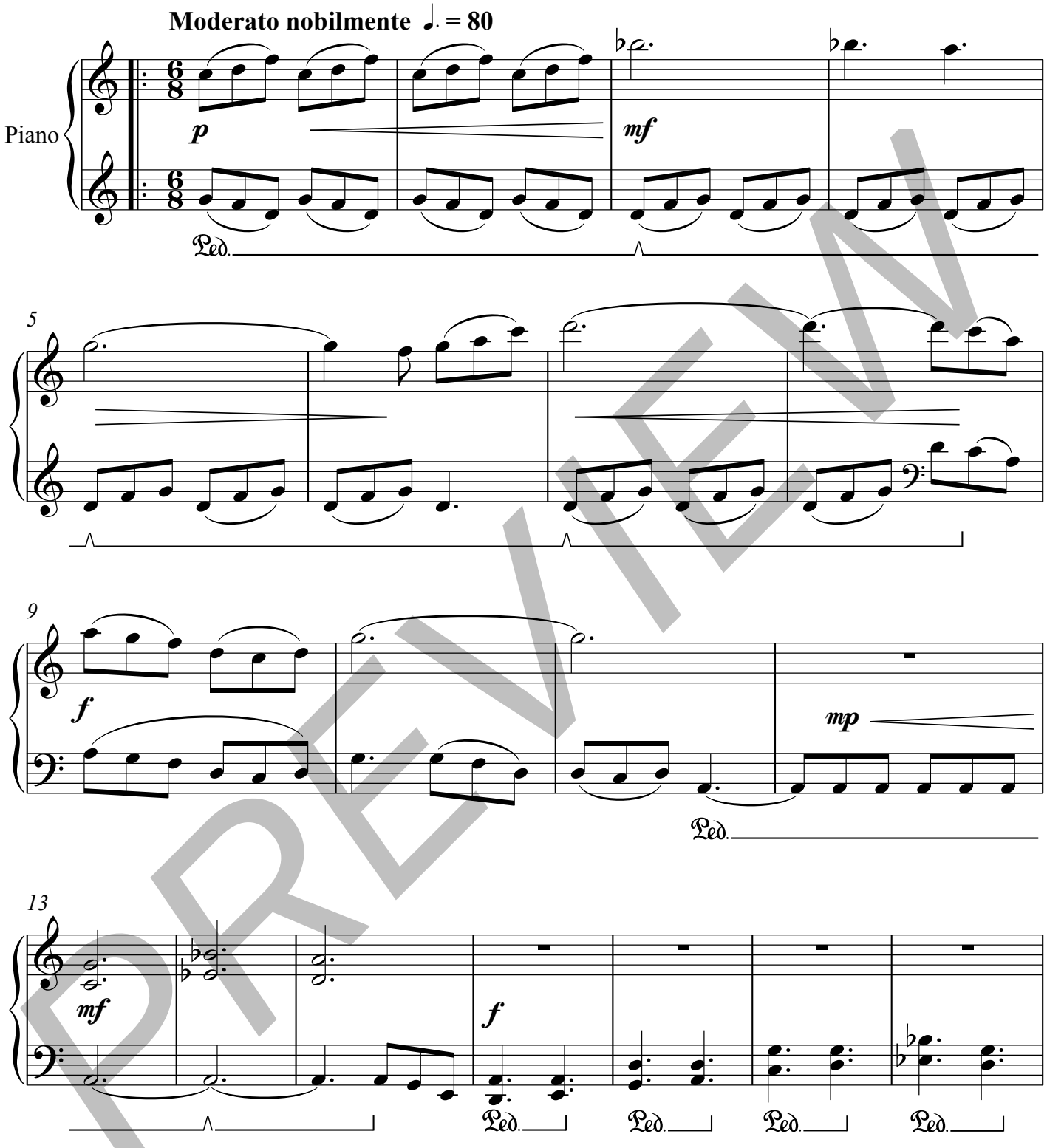

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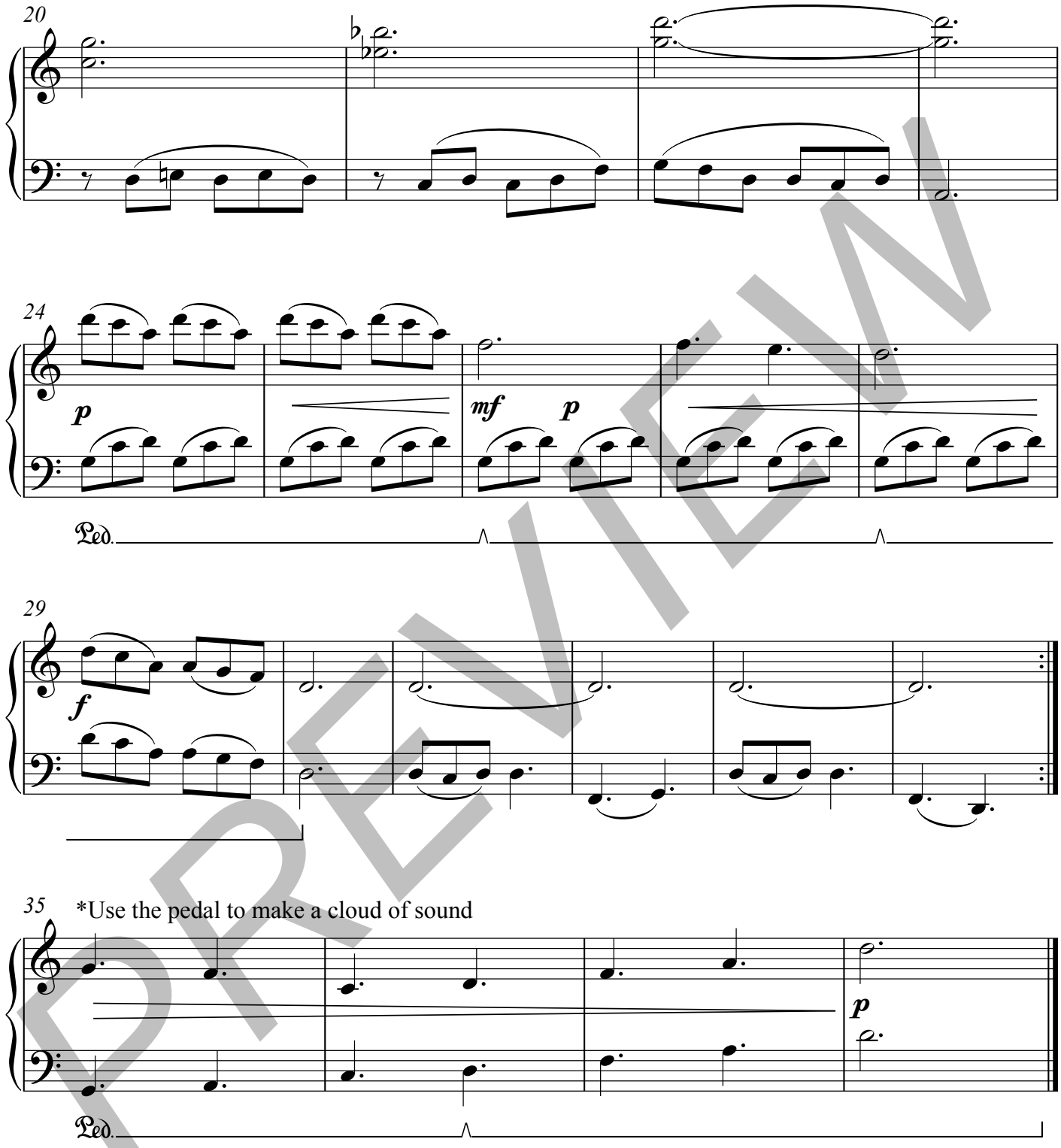
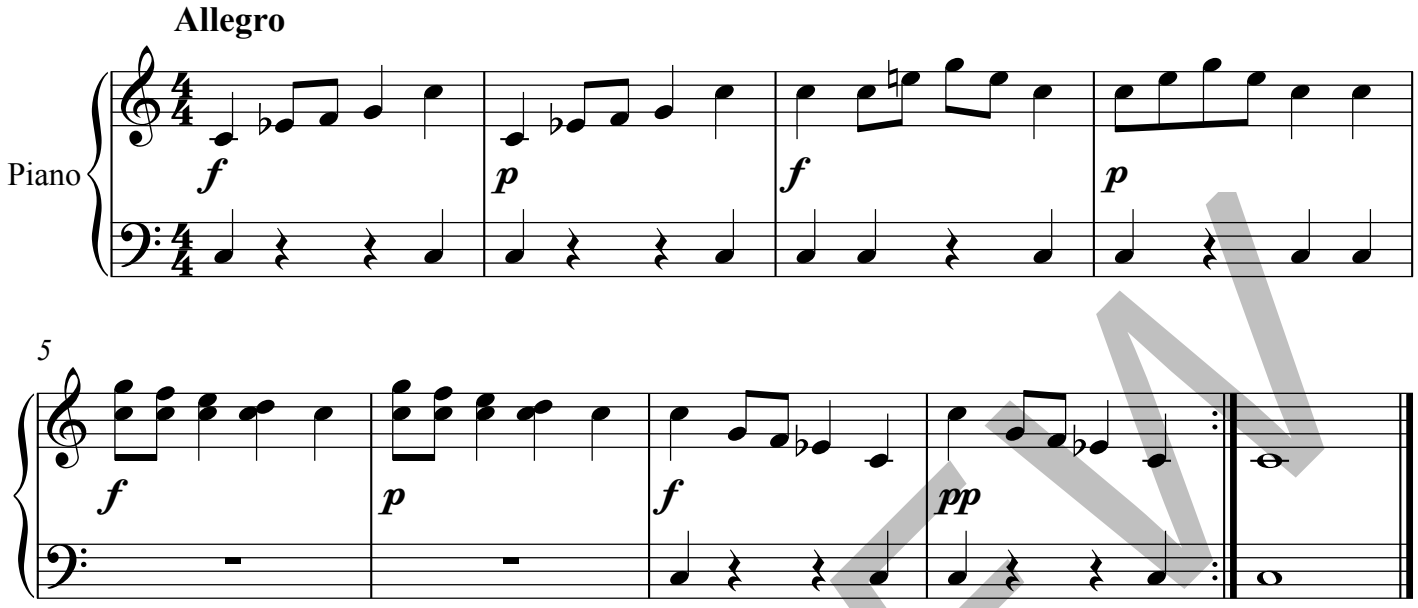

20
24
p
mf
p
Ped.
29
f
35
*Use the pedal to make a cloud of sound
p
Ped.

PREVIEW

Away We Go!

Stephanie McLaughlin
3rd grade



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For Stephanie

Pamela J. Marshall

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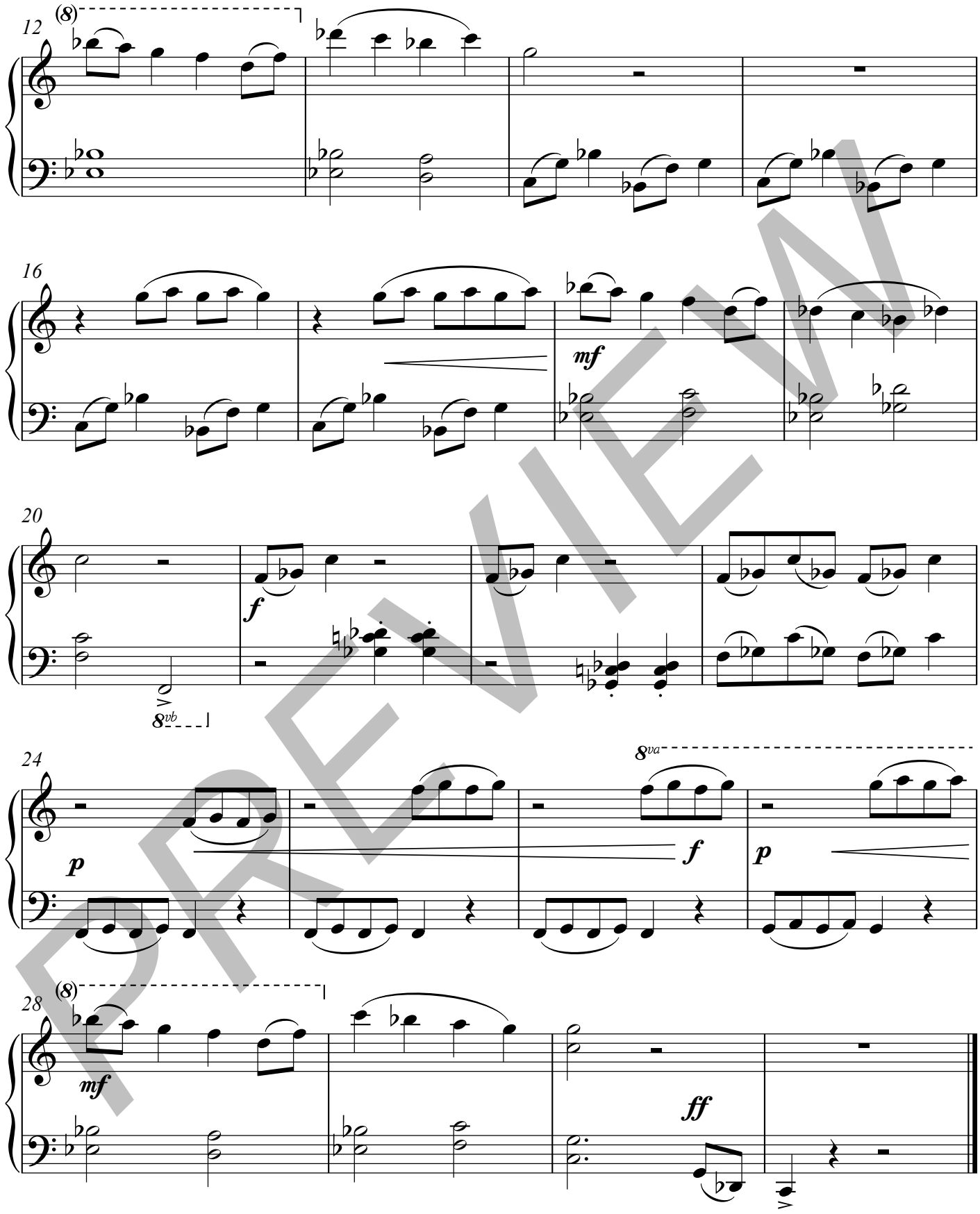
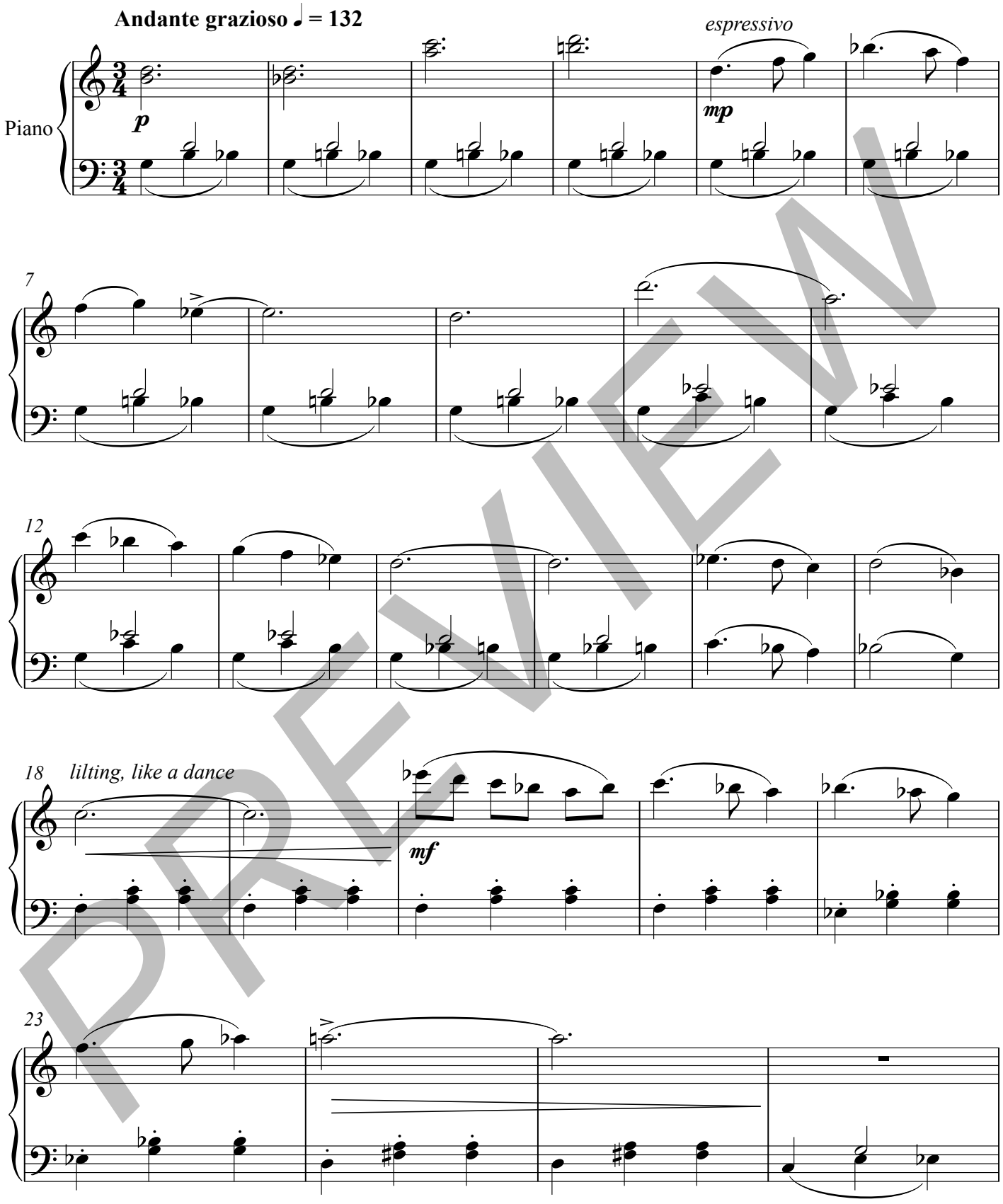


PREVIEW

remembering Petrouchka

For George

Pamela J. Marshall



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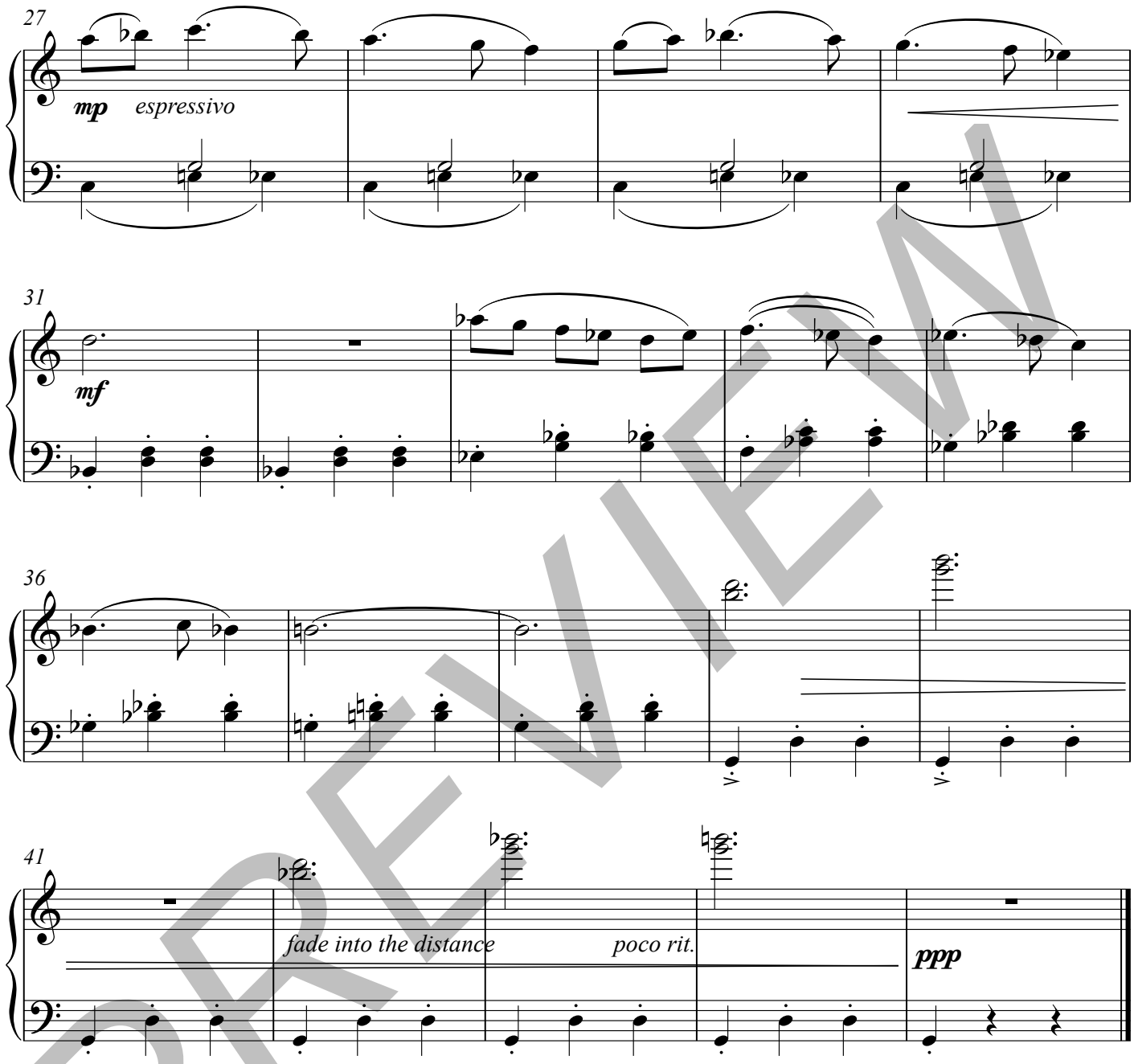
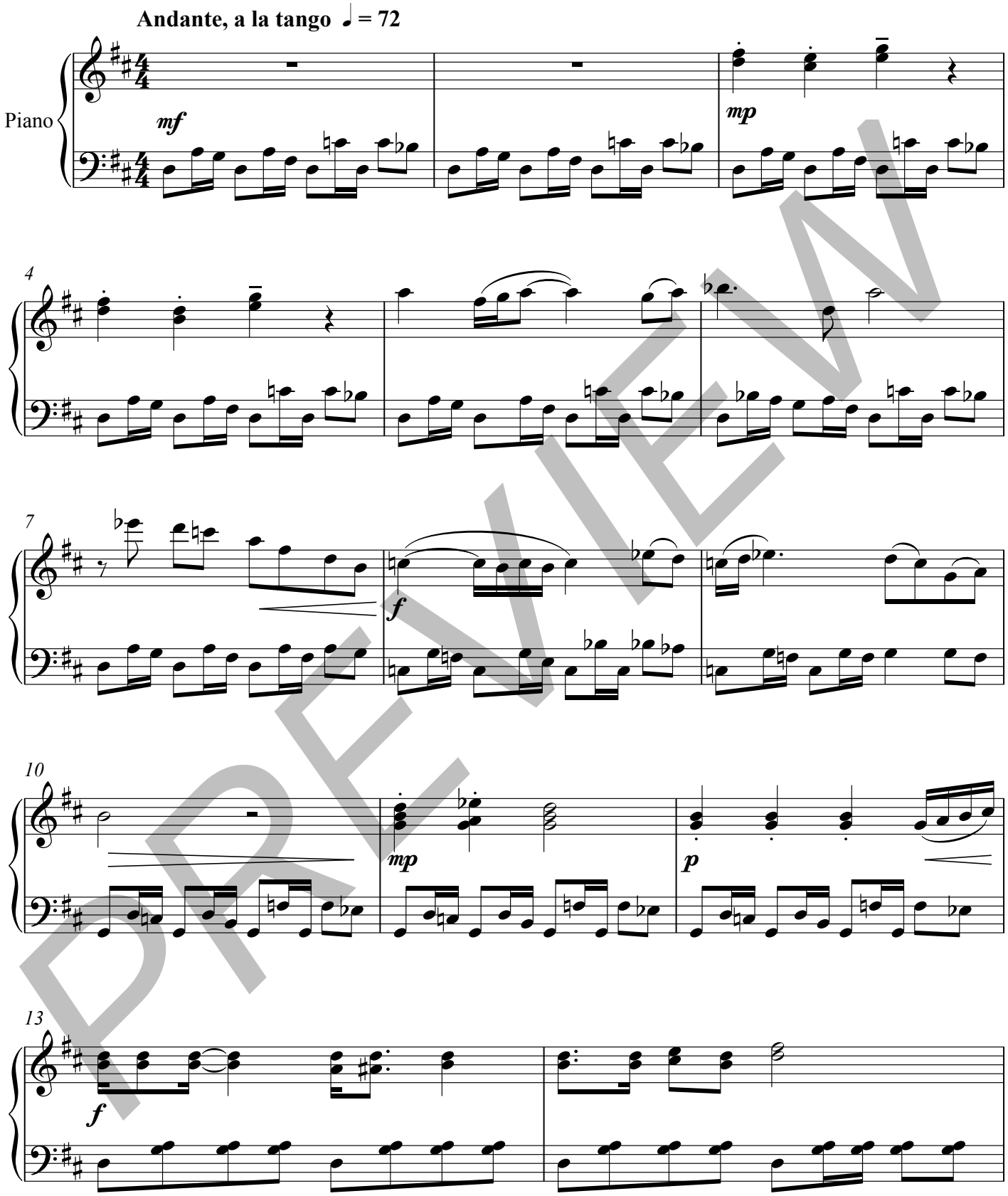

27
mp espressivo
31
mf
36
41
fade into the distance
poco rit.
ppp

PREVIEW

For Gabriella

Pamela J. Marshall



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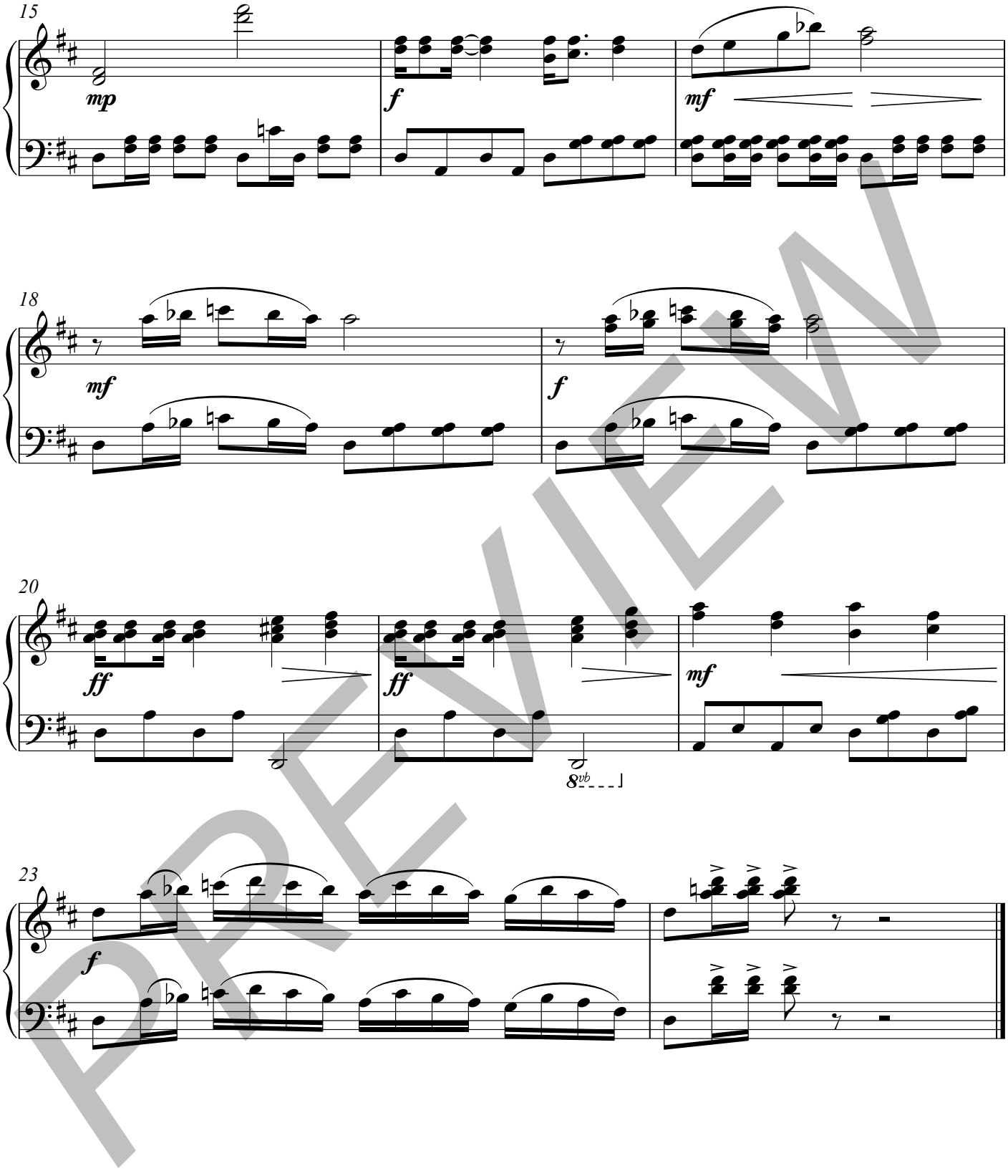

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For Semmy

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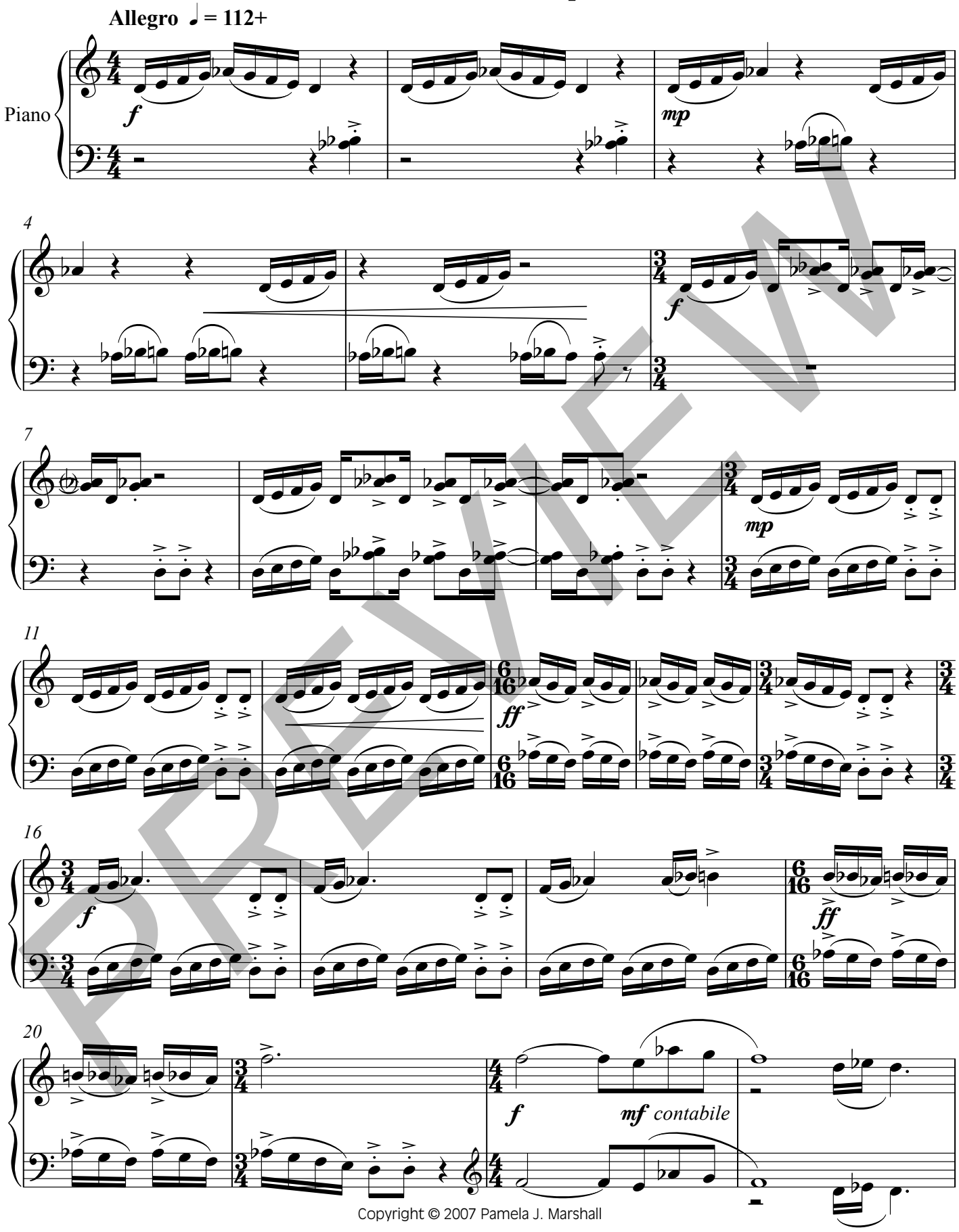

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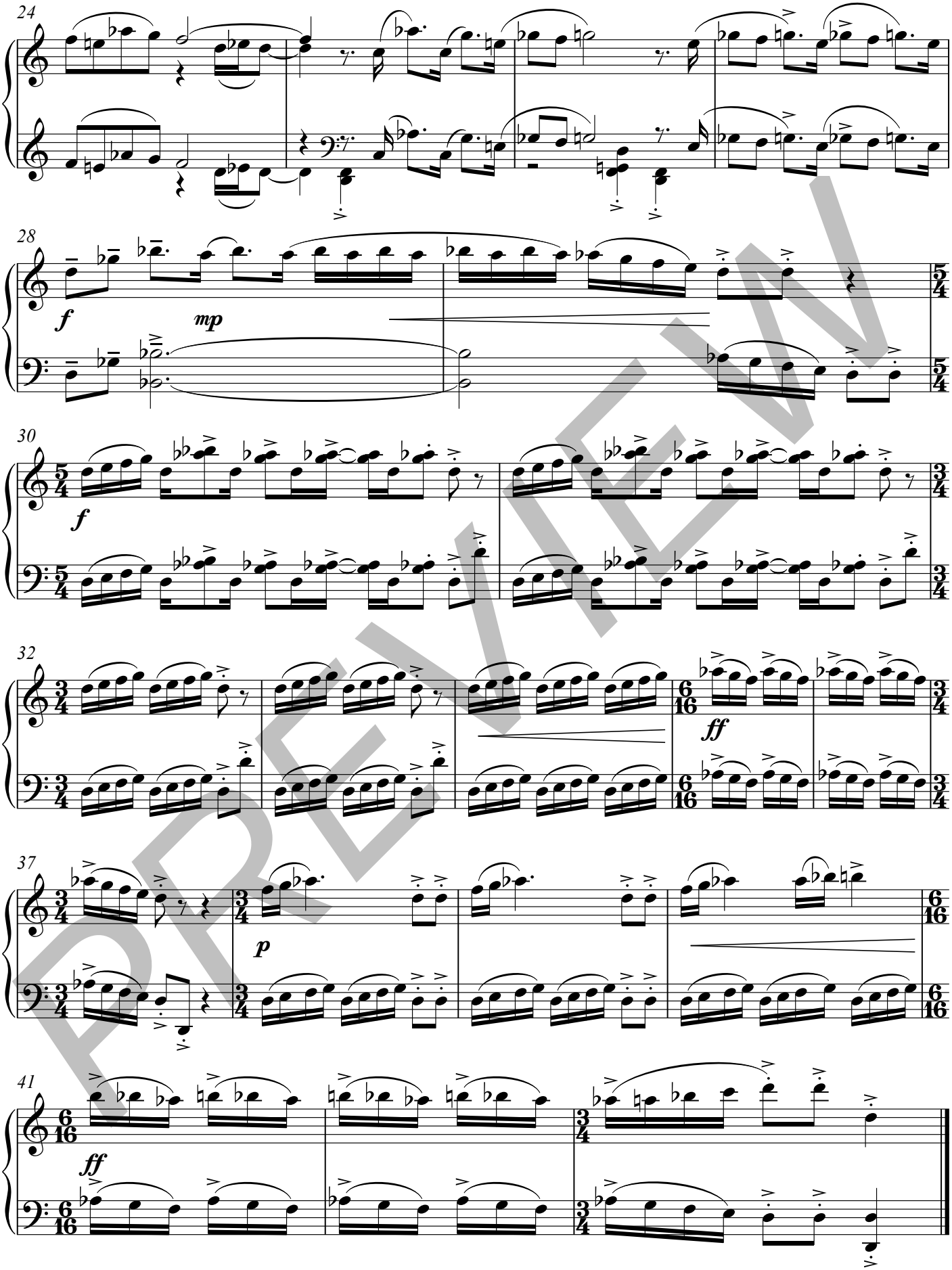
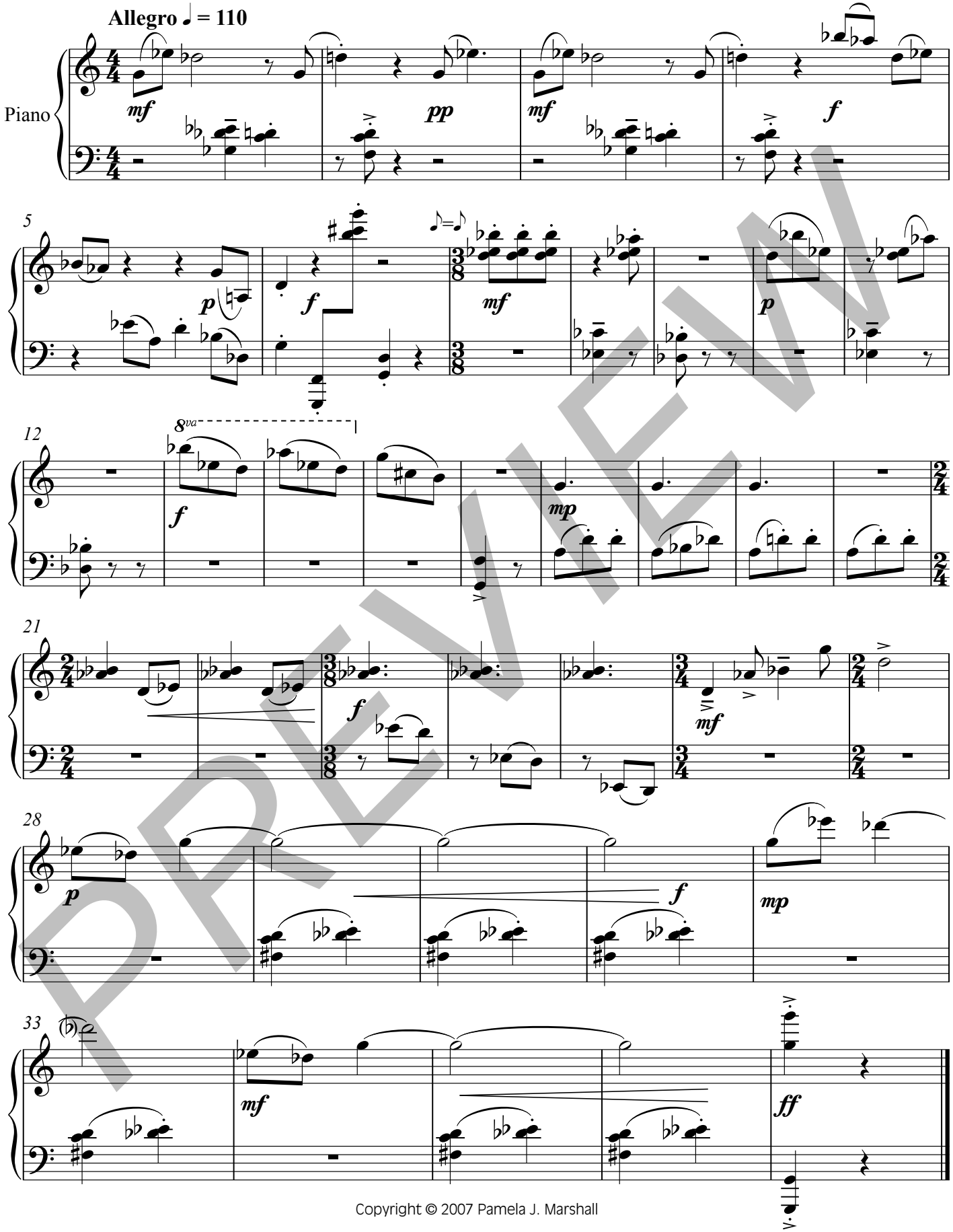


PREVIEW

there and back again

For Kavi

Pamela J. Marshall



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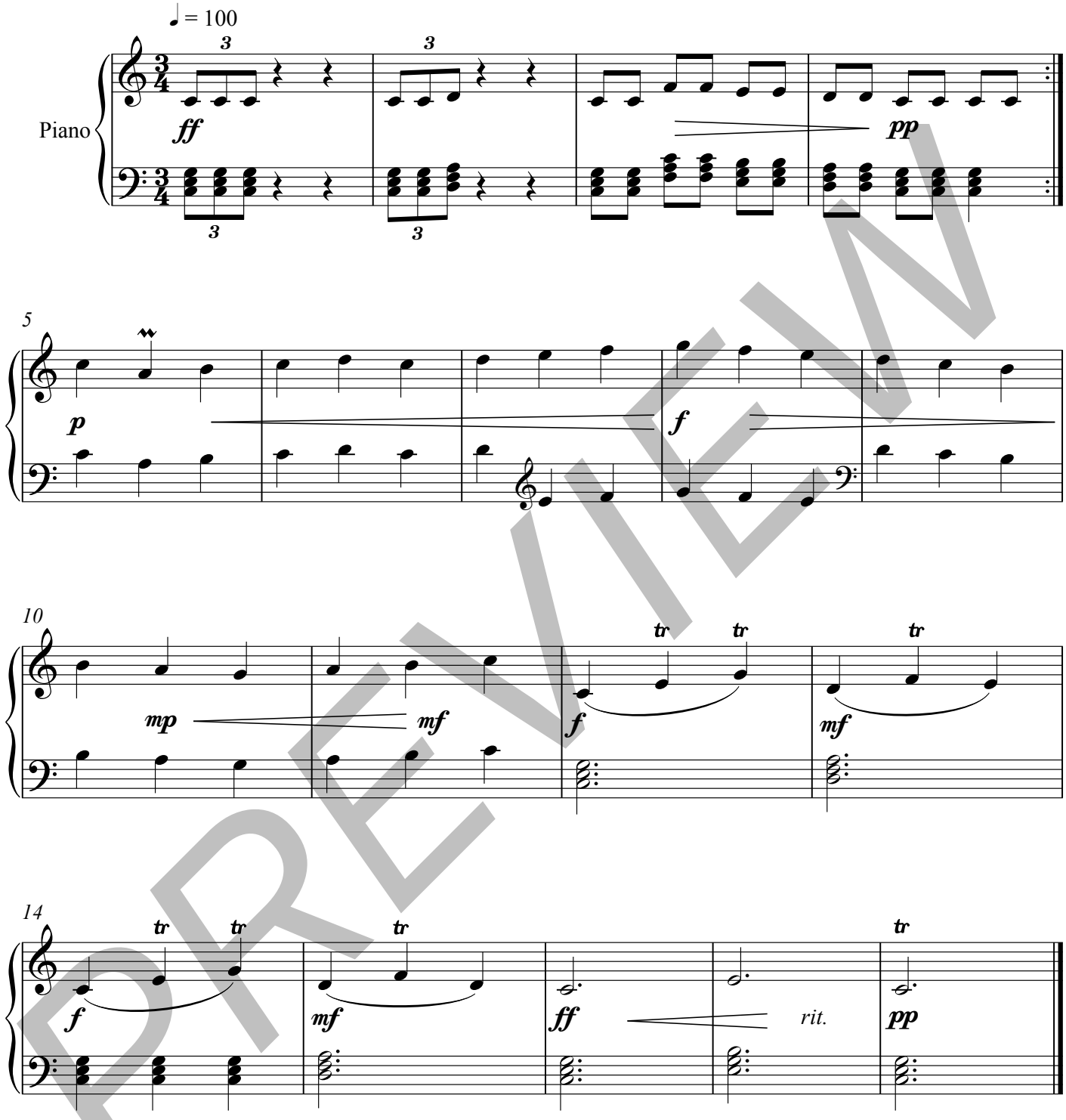
Spring Storm

James Robert White
(b. 1995)



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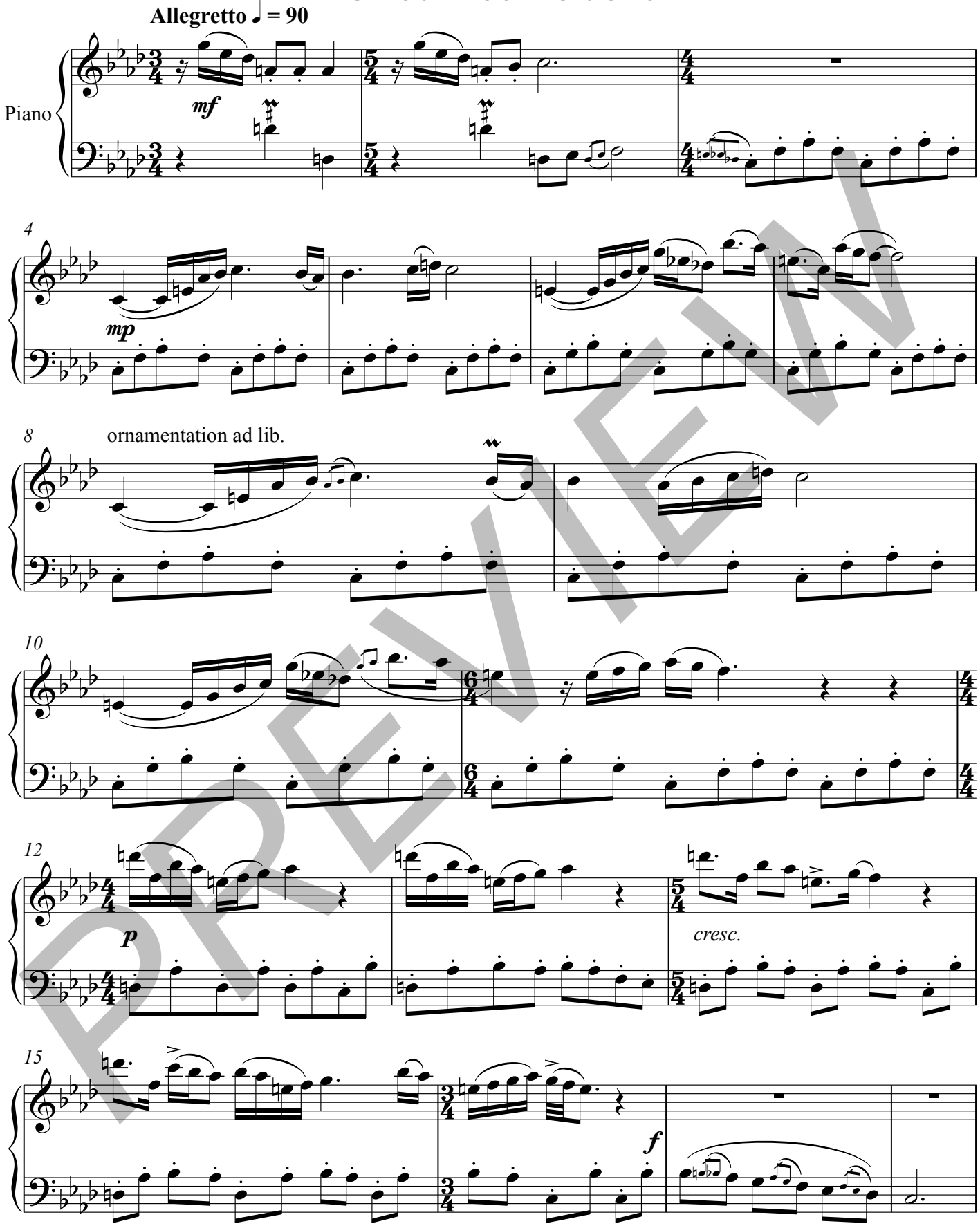
For James Robert

Pamela J. Marshall



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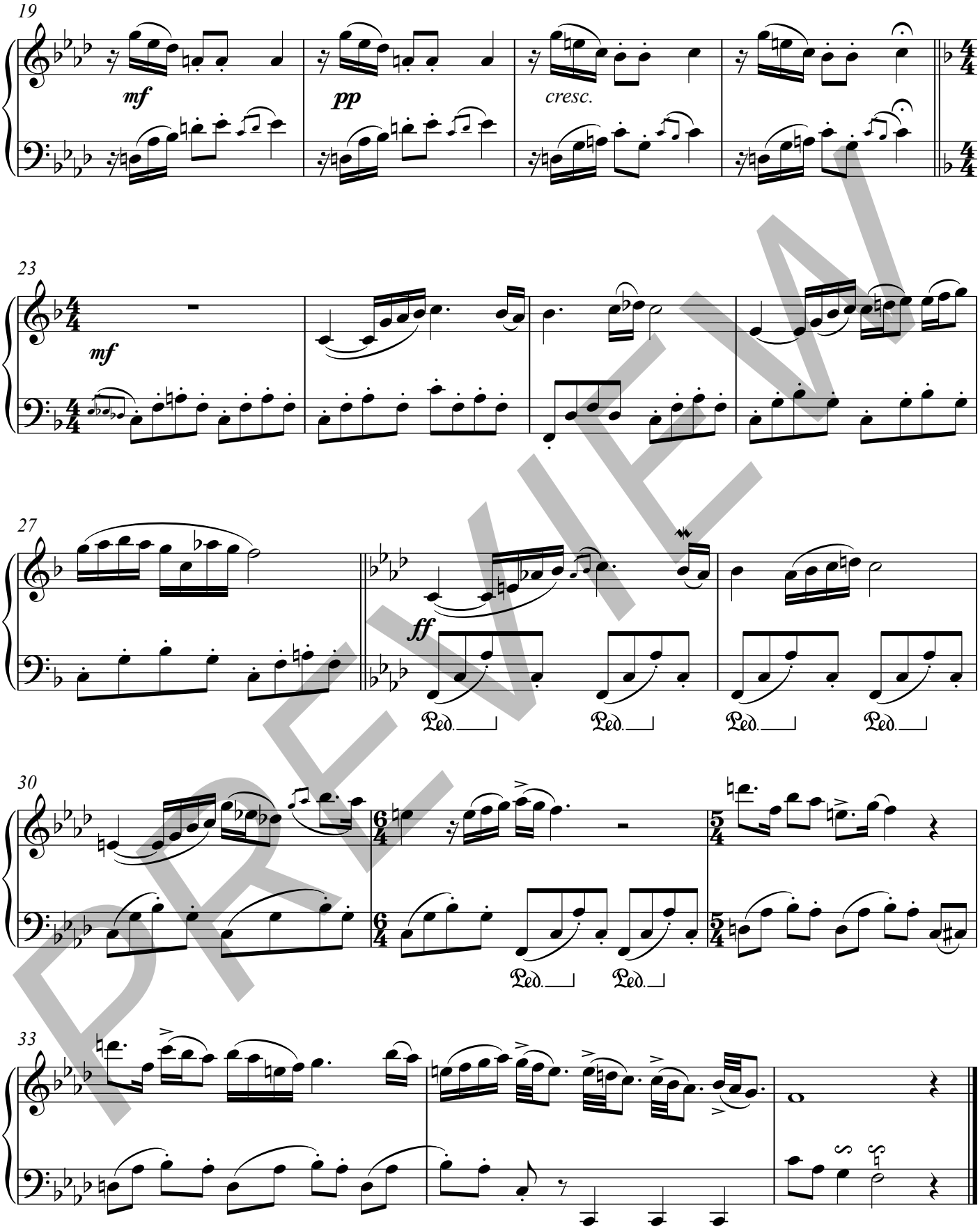
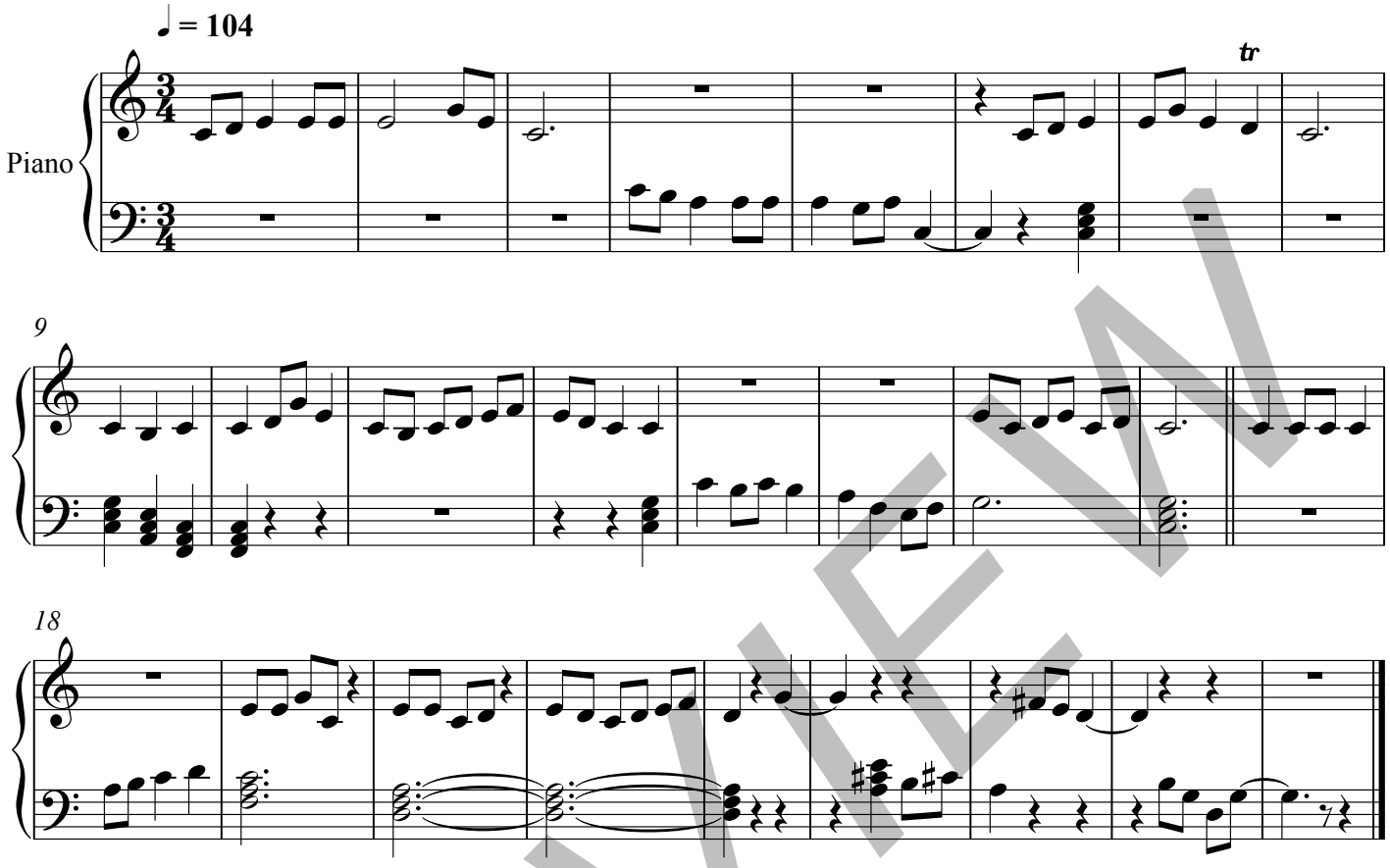


PREVIEW

Untitled

Victoria Tang
8th grade



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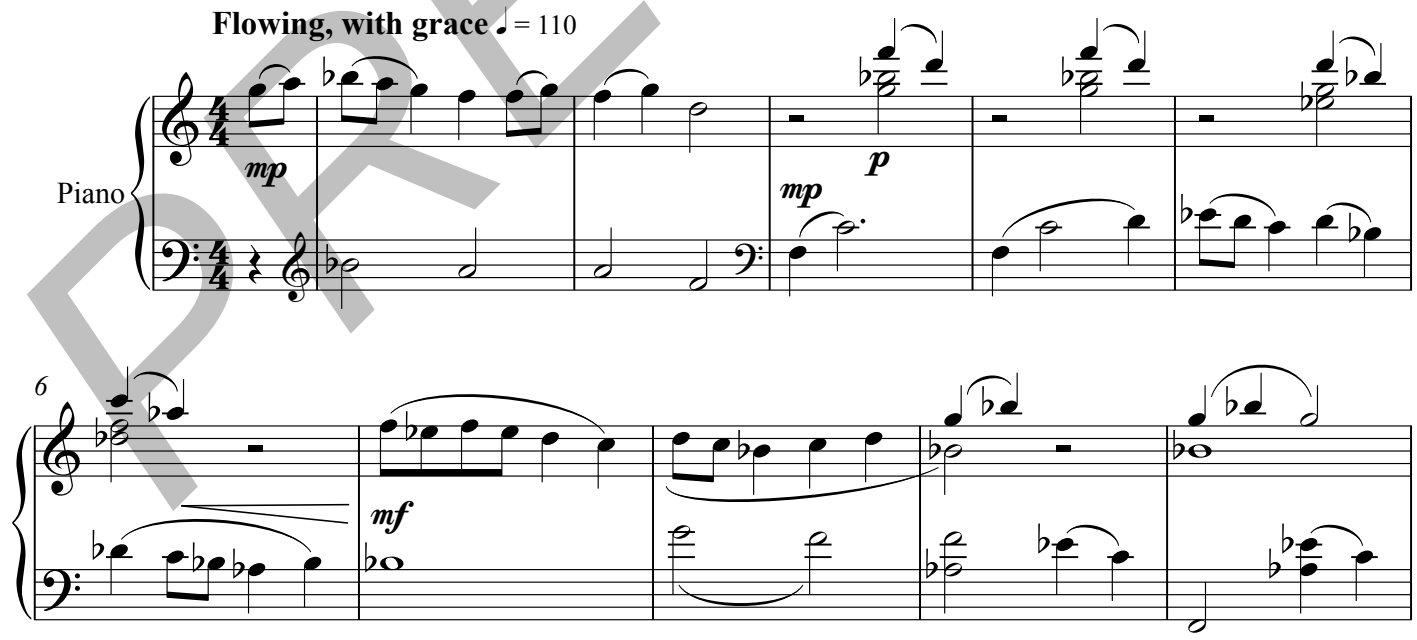
For Victoria

Pamela J. Marshall



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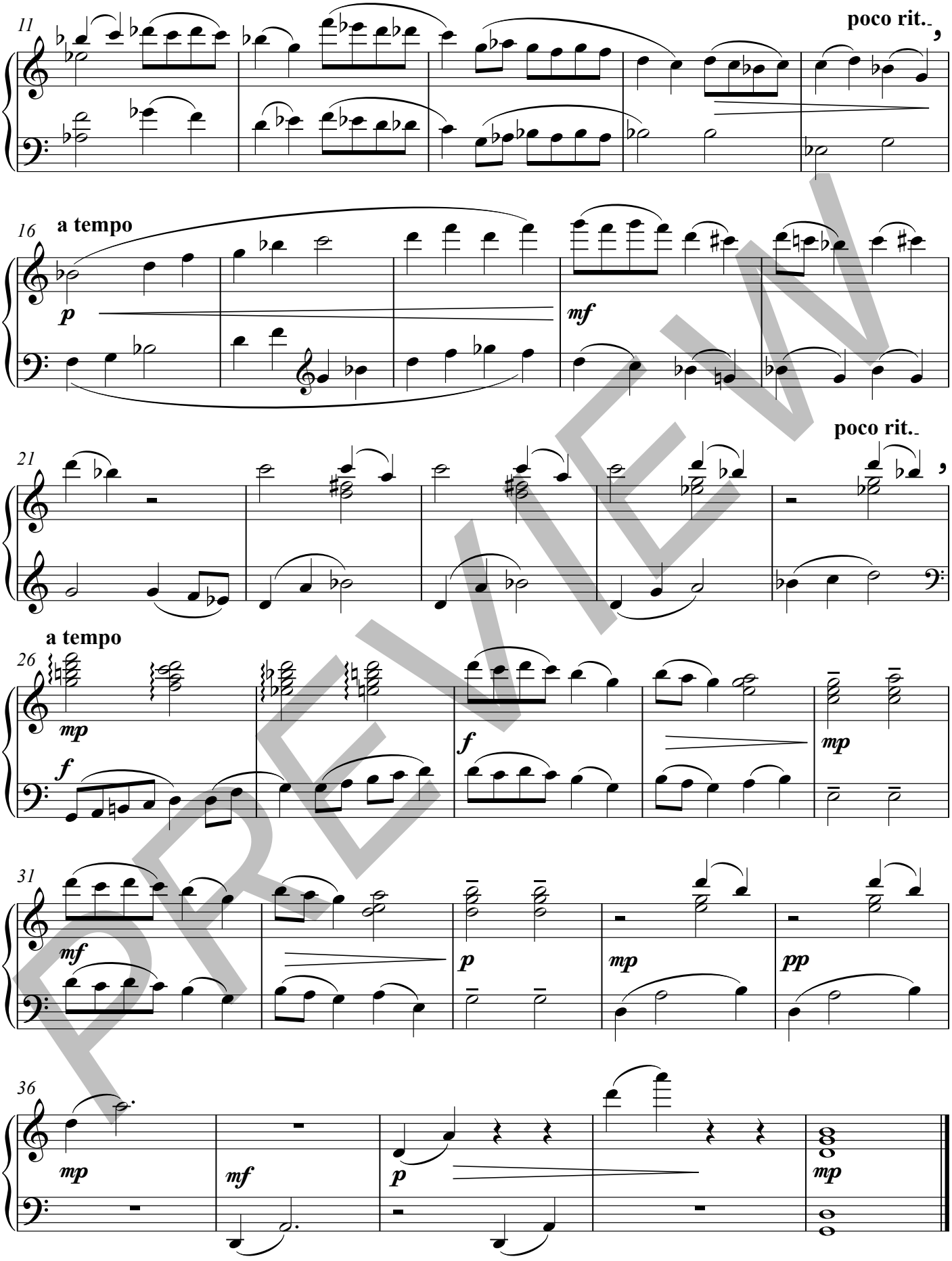
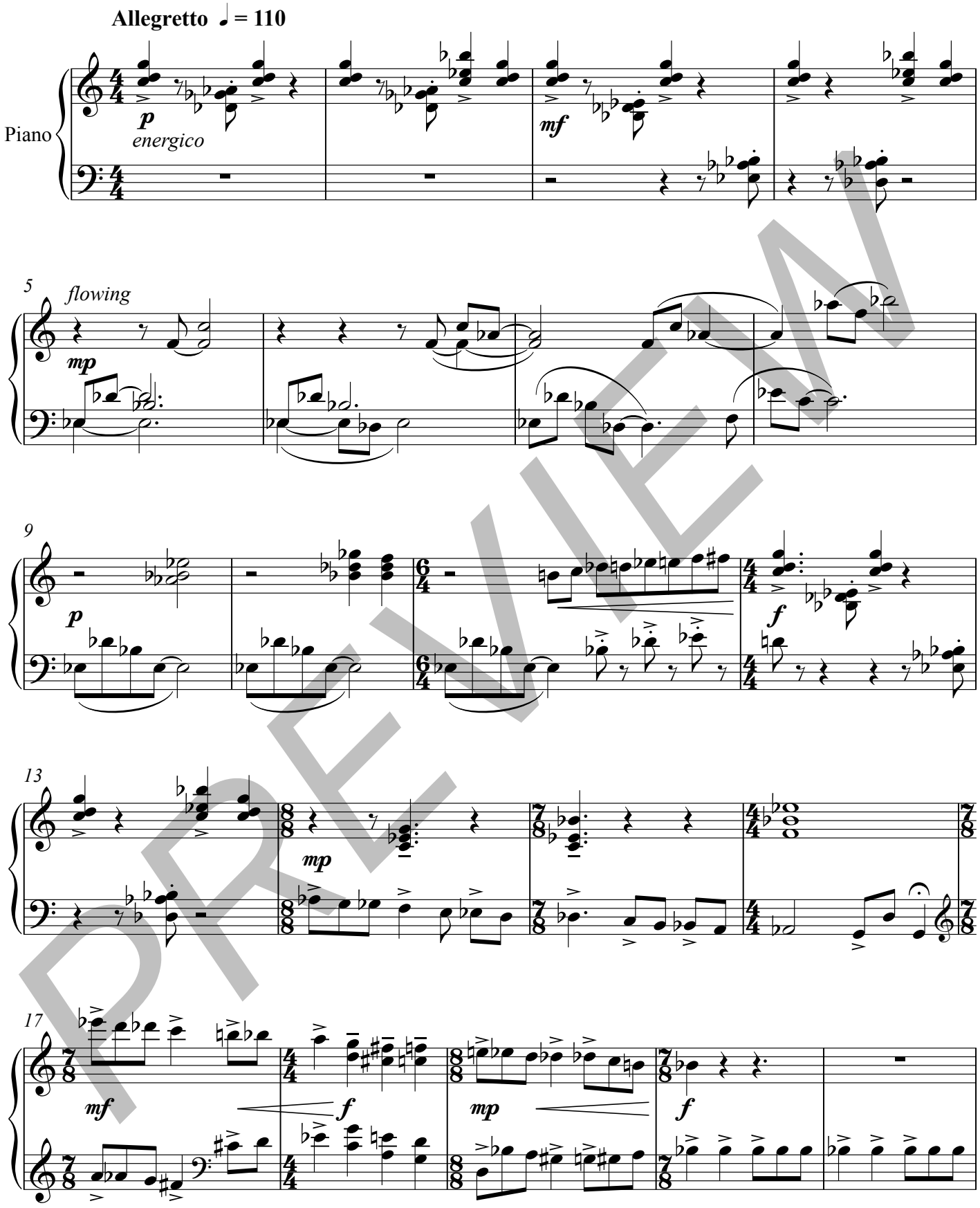

11
poco rit.
16
a tempo
p
mf
21
poco rit.
26
a tempo
mp
f
f
mp
31
mf
p
mp
pp
36
mp
mf
p
mp

PREVIEW

For Sneha

Pamela J. Marshall



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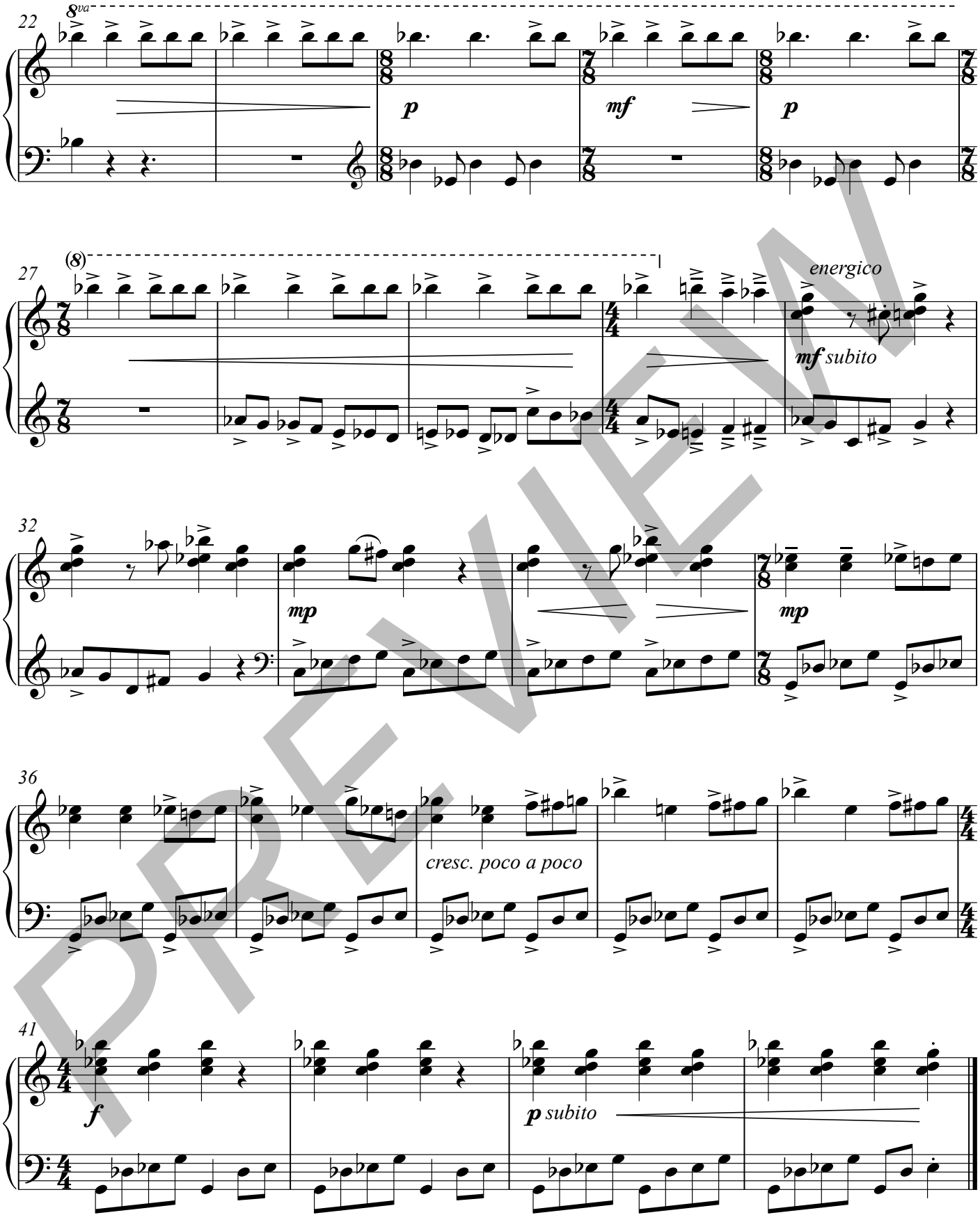
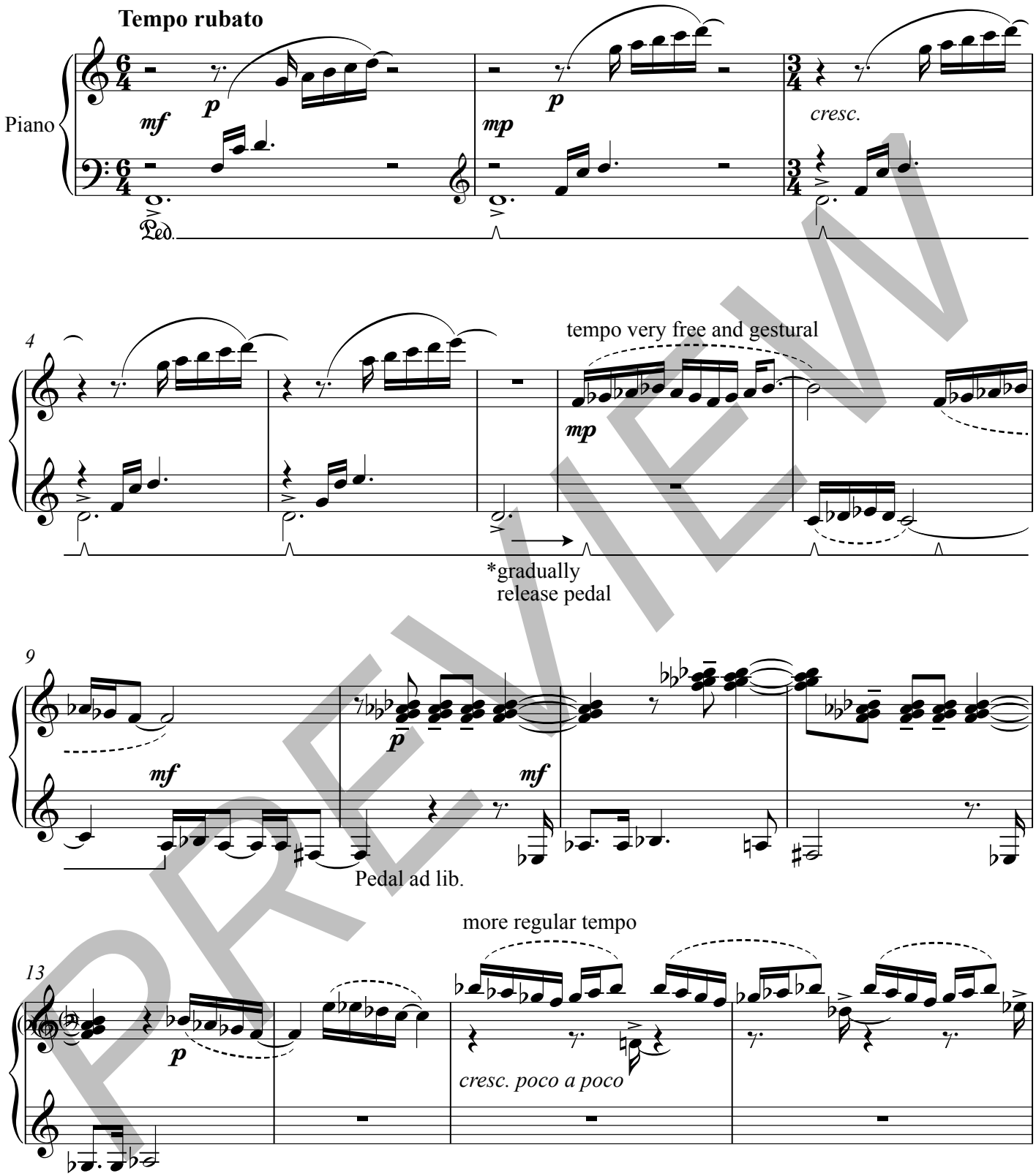

8va
22
p
mf
p
(8)
27
energico
mf subito
32
mp
mp
36
cresc. poco a poco
41
f
p subito

PREVIEW

For Shachi

Pamela J. Marshall



*The dotted slur means to hold down each 16th to form a cluster. Release the note to restrike only. Release all the notes of the cluster together at the end of each phrase.

PREVIEW

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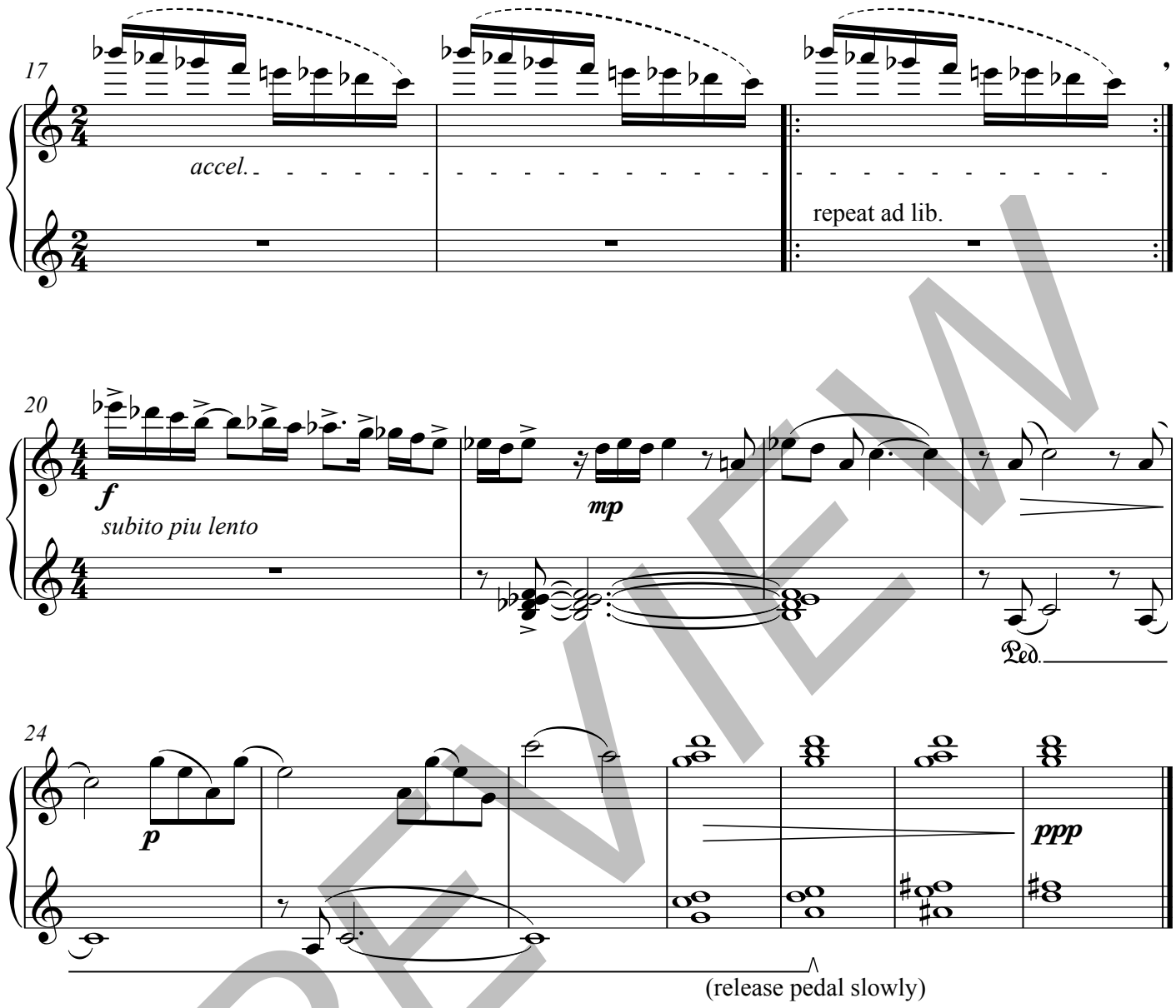


Pour My Words Into A Paper Cup
by Shachi Phene (©2007)

Look!
My thoughts are here,
In this jug.
Look at how they swirl around,
As the world shakes it.

Sunlight streams outside,
And rain rushes and wind whistles.
But my jug is locked inside this small, windowed house,
Sitting on this old, weary, wooden table.

My jug is a glass jug:
Clear, cracked, not yet shattered.
It is quivering on the edge of the tabletop.

So pour my words into a paper cup,
And drink them.

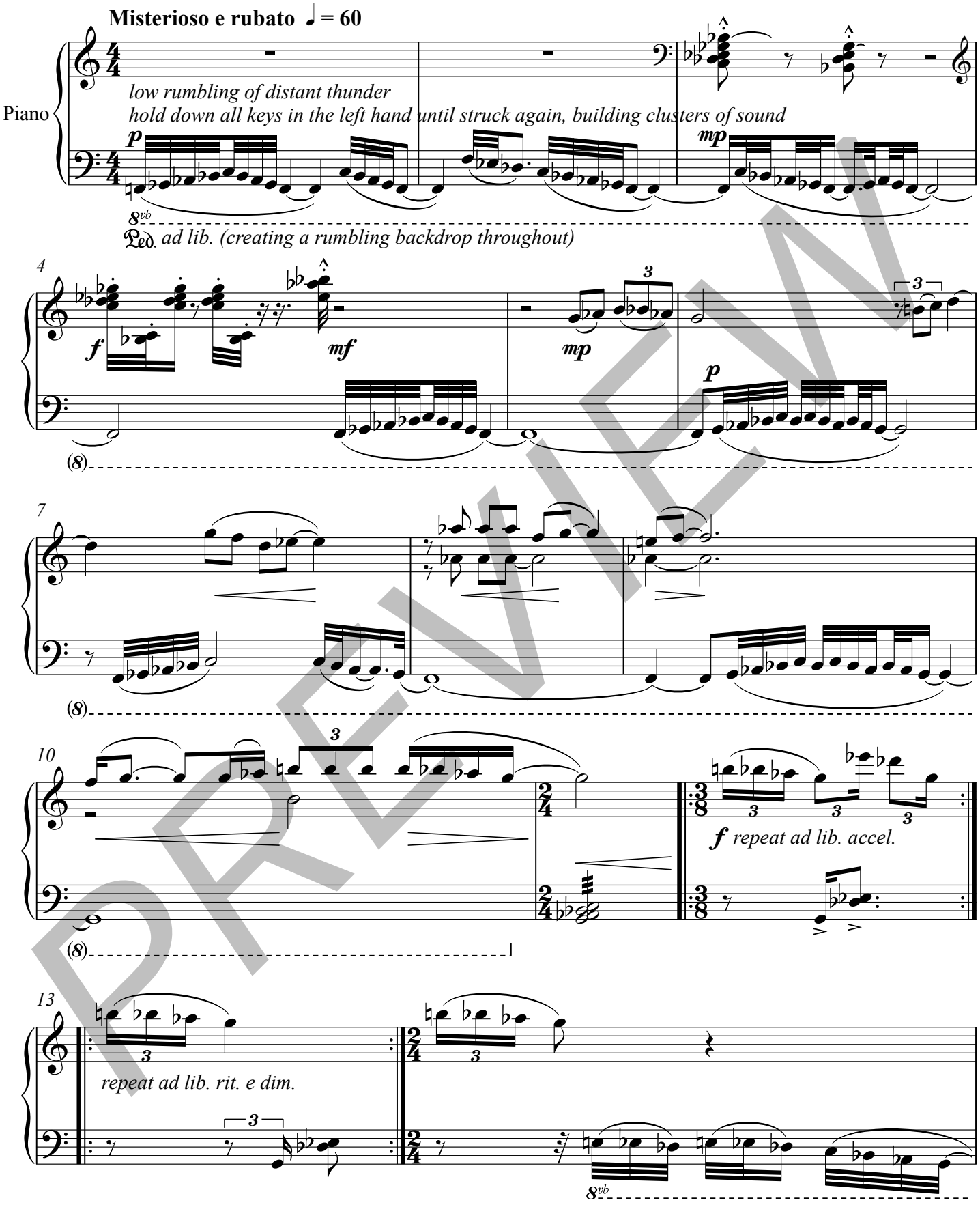
They may evaporate.

PREVIEW

To Erehwon

For Amudha

Pamela J. Marshall



PREVIEW

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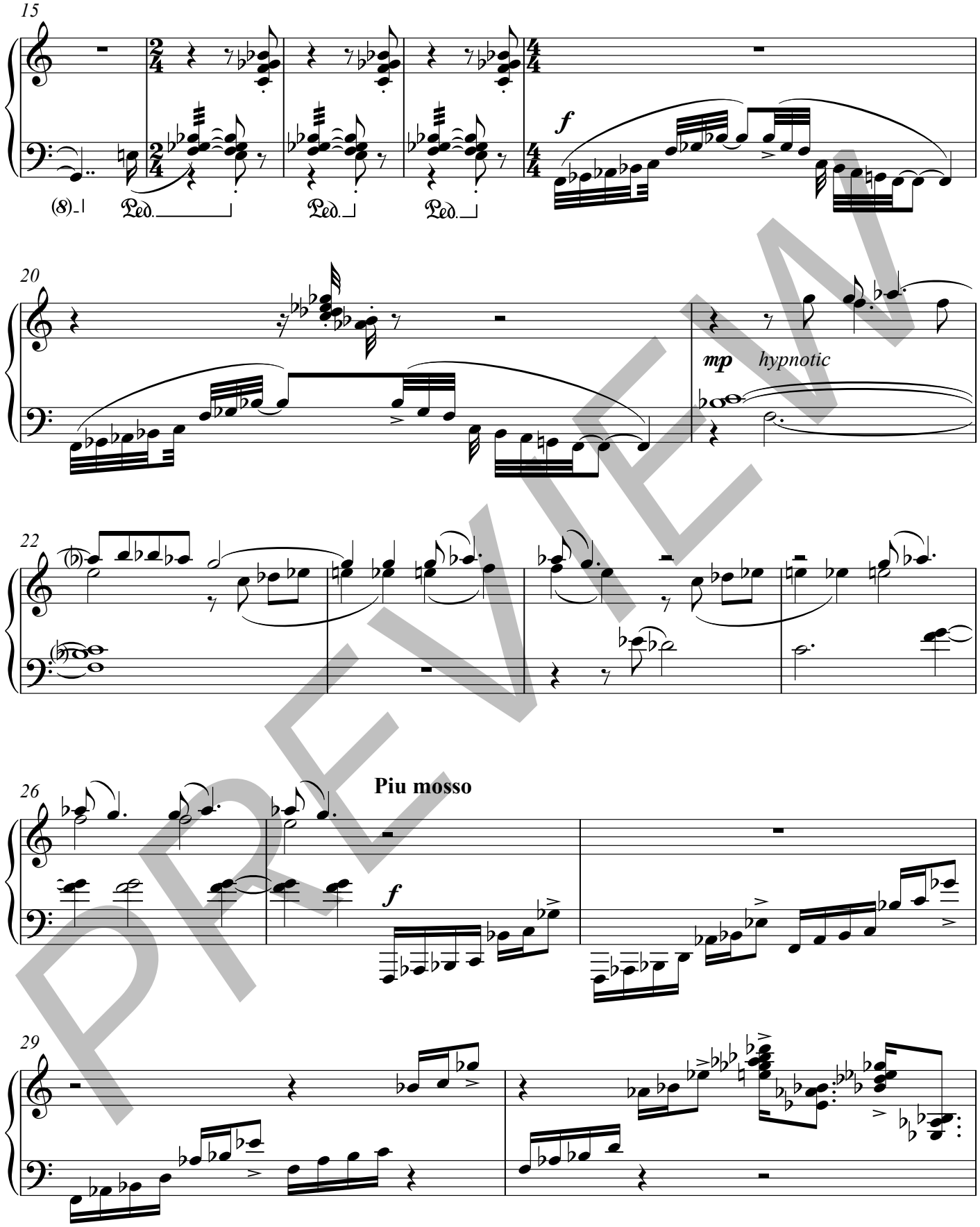

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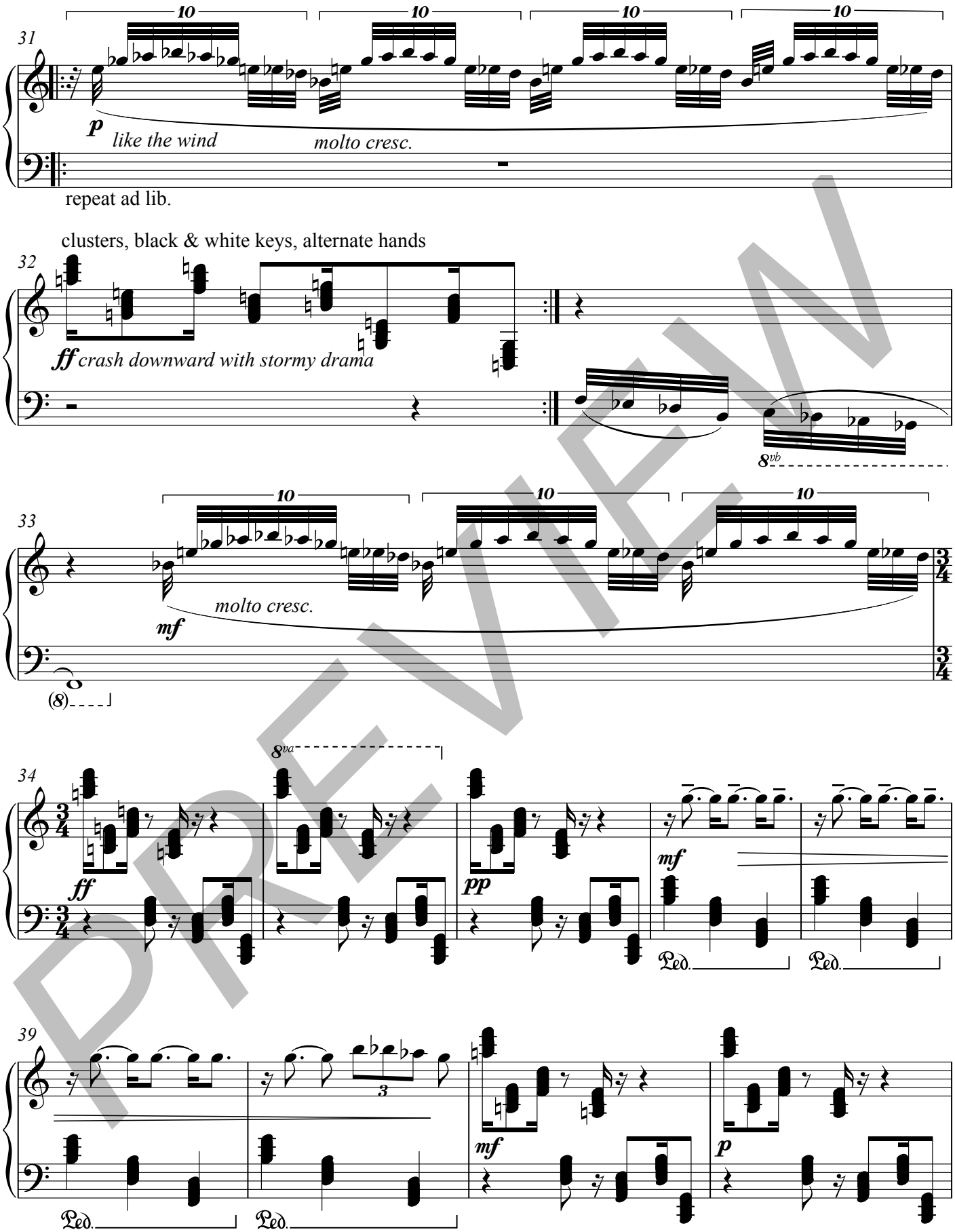
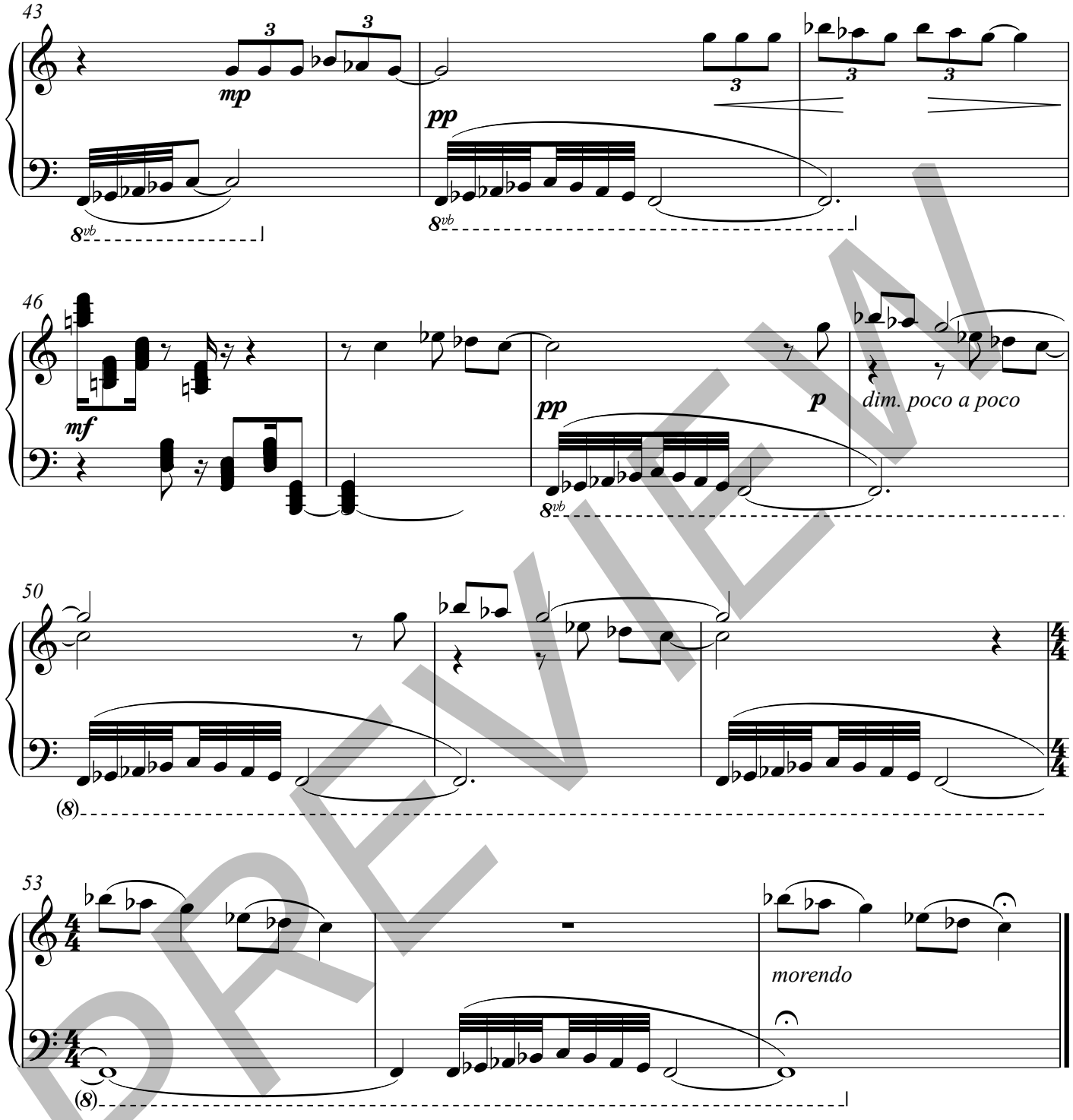

31
10
10
10
10
p
like the wind
molto cresc.
repeat ad lib.
clusters, black & white keys, alternate hands
32
ff
crash downward with stormy drama
8vb
33
10
10
10
molto cresc.
mf
(8)
34
8va
ff
pp
mf
Ped.
Ped.
39
3
mf
p
Ped.
Ped.

PREVIEW



PREVIEW

To Erehwon

by Amudha Pazhanisamy (©2007)

Dreary storm clouds crowd overhead.
Roaring at a distance, the sounds of
thunder rise to prominence.

The seemingly perpetual growls are
muted by the shielding walls of
a local coffee shop.

Burgundy accents and forest green trims
complement the golden-yellow walls
that resonate with the warmth
and comfort of melting butter.

Outside, it is the storm that brews.
Resounding thunder is joined by
dashing streaks of lightning,
traveling the sky's colossus.

Fears incited by the monstrosity
are invalidated in the calm of the
delicate whispering exchanges of conversations
scattered throughout the coffeehouse.

A frequent attendee settles by the fireplace,
swallowed by the cushioning armchair.
Habitually slipping out of her restricting shoes,
she prepares herself for self-cleansing comfort.

Successfully covering the sky,
hindering the goodness of sunlight,
the storm, too, feels at home,
finding a confidence once suppressed.

The habitué's eyes fix on the inviting fire.
They fail to follow the leaping sparks,
and simply focus on the autumnal blur of colors,
allowing the trapped soul to become mobile and
free amongst a vast land of thoughts.

With its new-found fortitude
the storm reaches a forté.
Coalescing rumbles of thunder surround
the blanketing sky, which flickers like the light
of a lantern subject to the torture of forceful winds.

Reclusive, the devotee remains withdrawn from reality.
Mechanically raising her arm, she transports
the steaming mug, teeming with a hazelnut sea
of relaxation, to her lips, as if programmed to do so.

Down on earth, trees flail helplessly in the wind.
Dried leaves, carried by the thrusting currents, crumble,
torn by the chaotic change of direction.
Inhale.
A gust of wind elevates them to the sky -
Exhale.
- only to release them in a tornado downwards.

Creeping like a vine, the steam, hovering above the
mahogany espresso oasis, engulfs the patron's face,
exciting her senses.
Inhale.
The distinct scent crawls into the empty body, occupying the
soul's void, warming the protective exterior.
Exhale.
An extended sigh of relief follows in response.

Outside, harnessing its power,
the indomitable storm purges its innards.
Torrential rains cascade form the darkening expanse,
a satisfying weight lifted from the omnipotent clouds,
releases on the innocent, undeserving humans.

As the sweltering drink enters her mouth,
her thoughts dispense, exempting her from stress.
Indulging in the potion, she drowns in blissful joy.
Engrossed in oblivion, she is absolved of all problems.
The sole soul immune to external forces
is untroubled by the perturbing sight and sounds
of the storm.

PREVIEW

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Windshine for SATB chorus and cello
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Deepest Shade for SATB chorus

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Body and Soul Vol.2 for soprano, flute, cello, piano
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Remember the Old Songs for high voice and piano
Sky's Mirror for voice and cello
A chill wind in autumn for voice and piano

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