Lyric Preludes in Romantic Style

24 SHORT PIECES IN ALL KEYS

By WILLIAM L. GILLOCK

Re-edited 1991 by the Composer

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Foreword

Lyric Preludes is a collection of short pieces meant to be played and programmed for their musical interest. While each piece is designed to exploit one or more pianistic problems, these problems are, as they ought to be, incidental to musical content.

The sequence of the preludes (the major key followed by its parallel minor rather than its relative minor) is a departure from the usual order. This is in keeping with the ideas of William O'Toole, who follows the lead of Bach and Sir Donald Tovey in advocating this sequence. The composer agrees with Mr. O'Toole's thesis that there is an educational value in audio-visual analysis of the parallel keys. It is suggested that the player take a new look at scales and chords in parallel sequence as he studies the preludes.

Sensibility to the romantic idiom was the foremost consideration of the composer. The romantic style of Lyric Preludes makes them excellent preparation for the more complex works of the great masters of Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Romanticism.

The composer wishes to acknowledge with gratitude the encouragement of Roberta Savler, Keyboard Editor of Summy-Birchard, her faith in his work, the inspiration to attempt this collection, and her suggestions during its writing and production phases. A musician of extraordinary sensitivity, Roberta Savler's talent was exceeded only by her warmth and compassion in human relationships.

Roberta Savler passed away in October, 1992.

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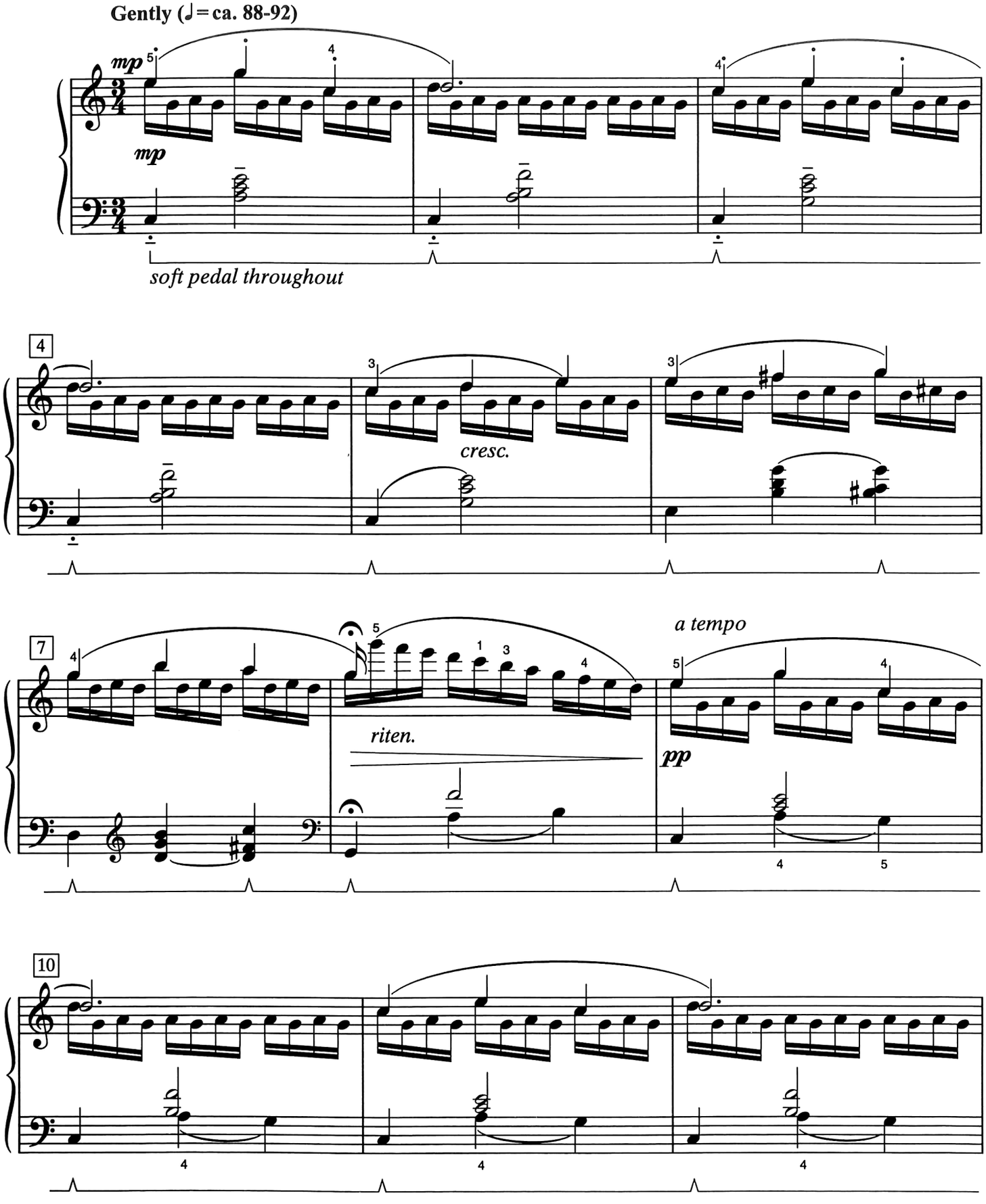
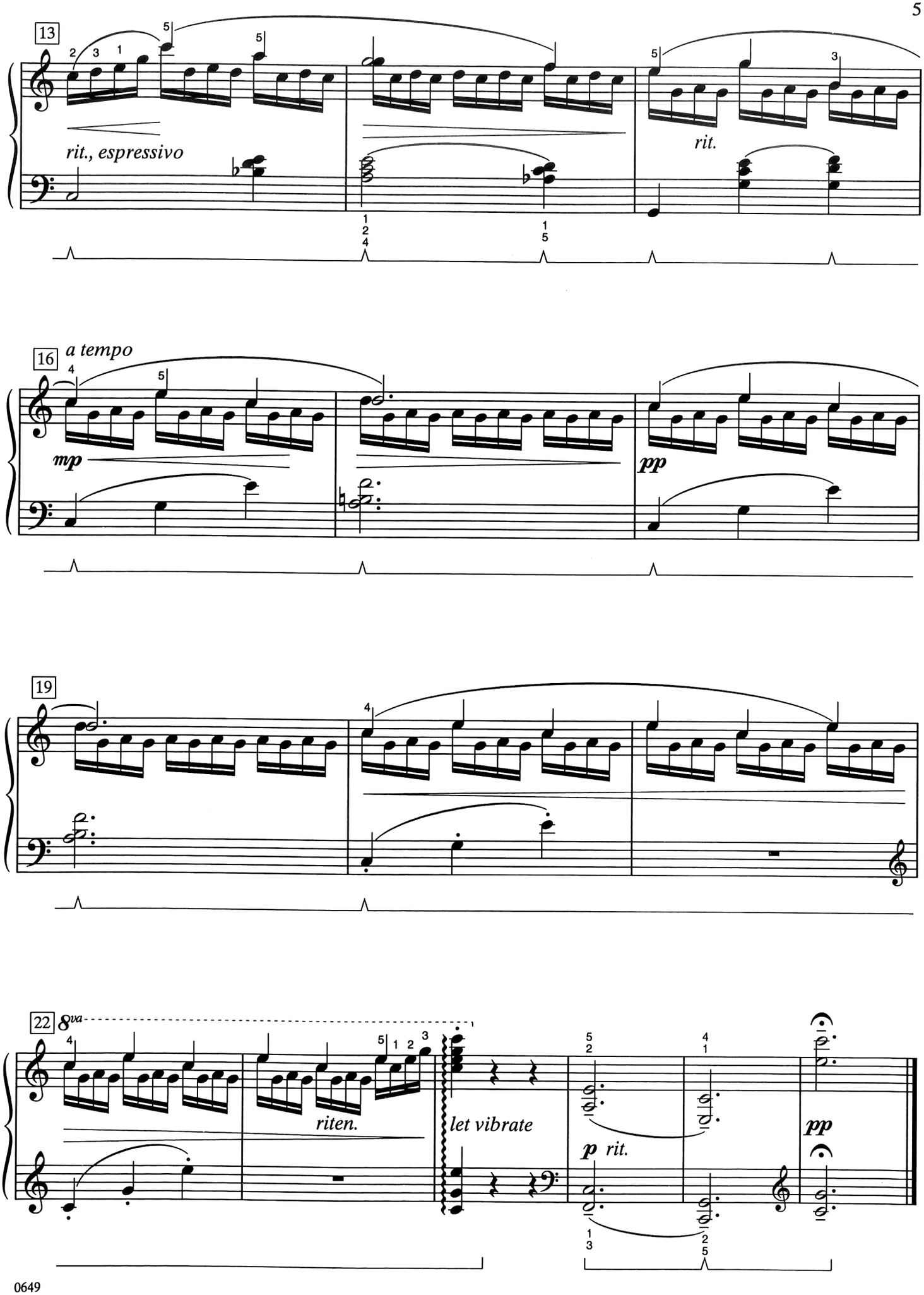
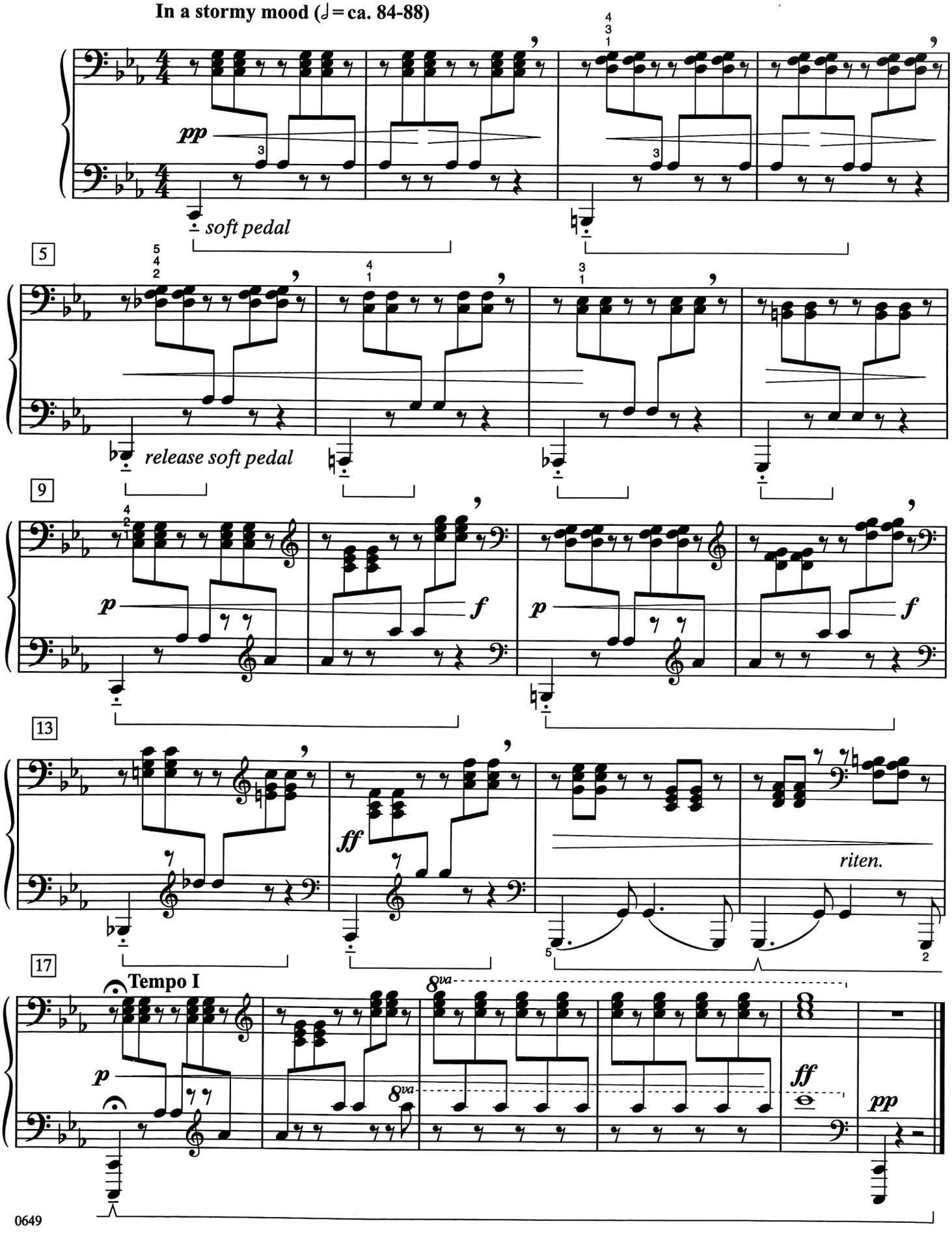
Forest Murmurs




13
rit., espressivo
rit.
16
a tempo
mp
pp
19
22
8va
riten.
let vibrate
p rit.
pp

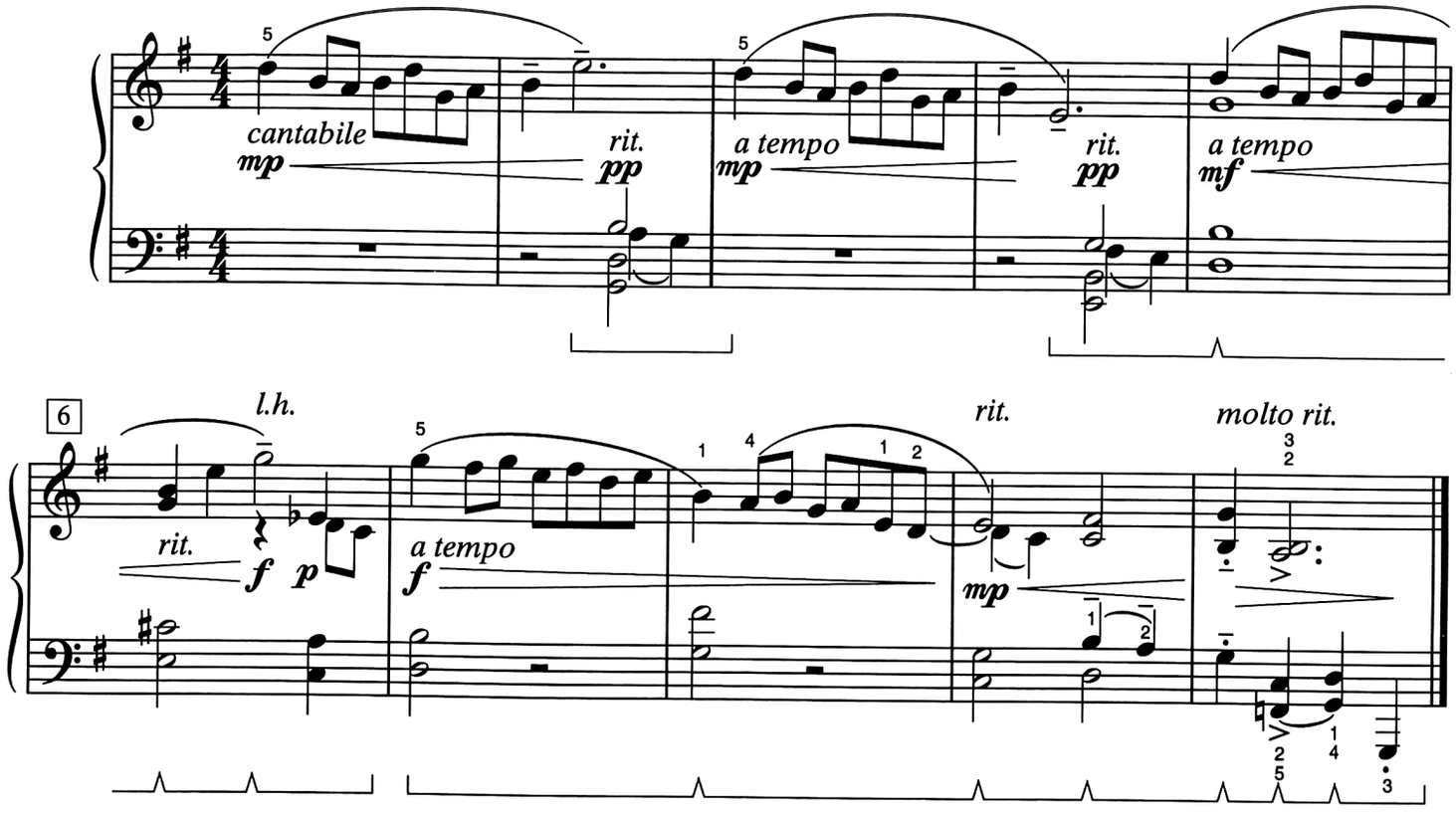
Seascape

In a stormy mood (♩= ca. 84-88)



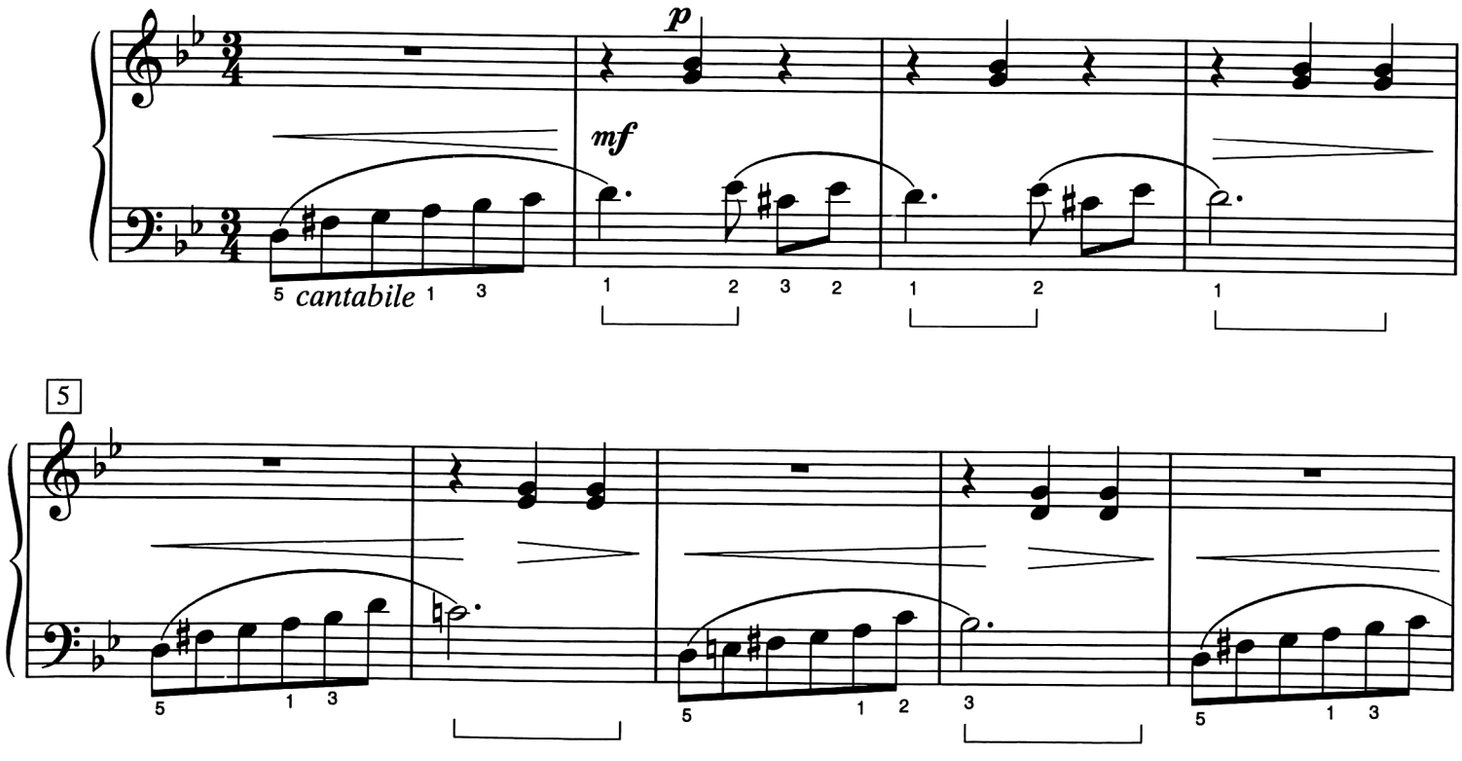
October Morning

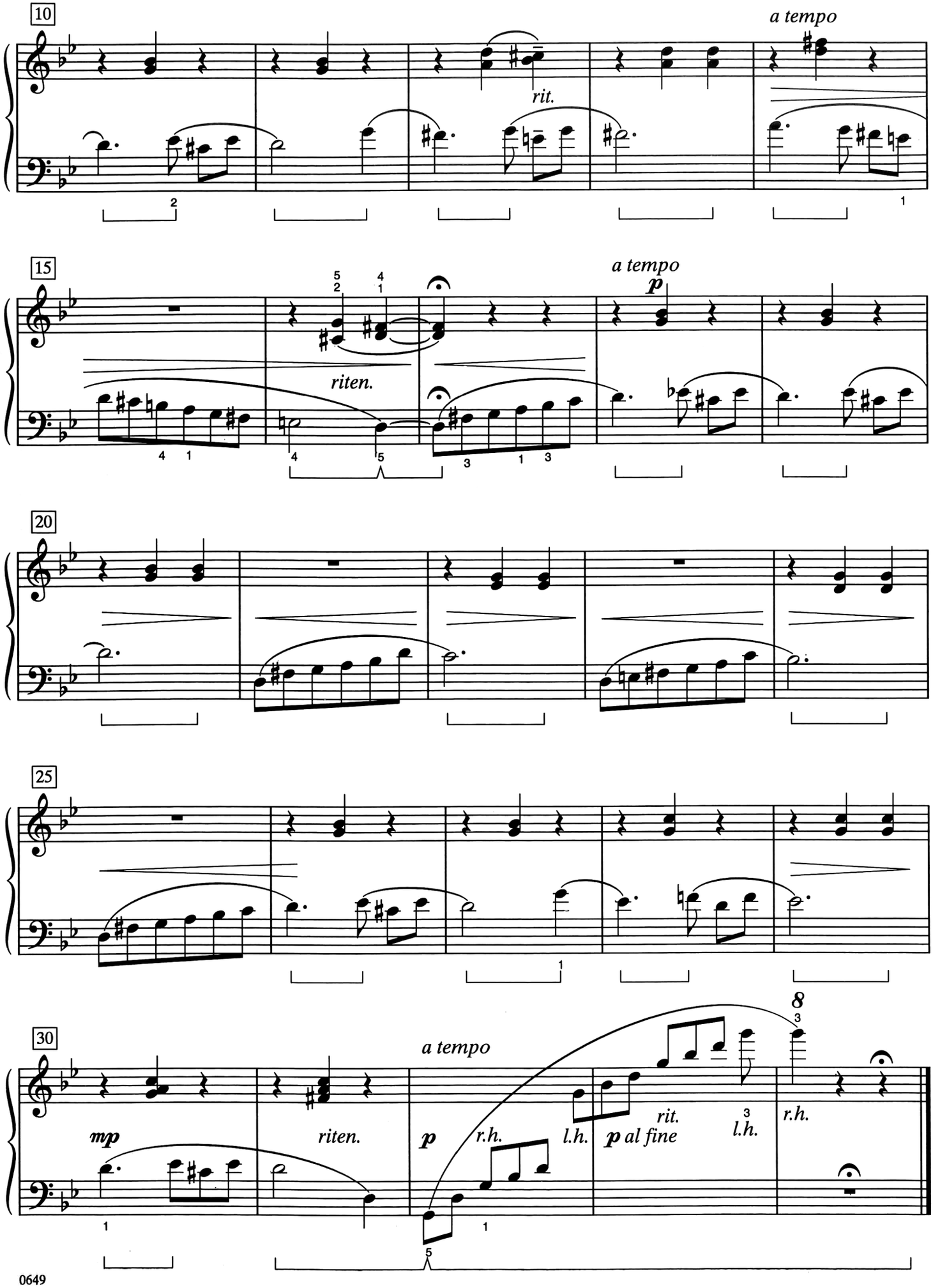
Happily; with much freedom (♩= ca. 112)



Deserted Ball Room

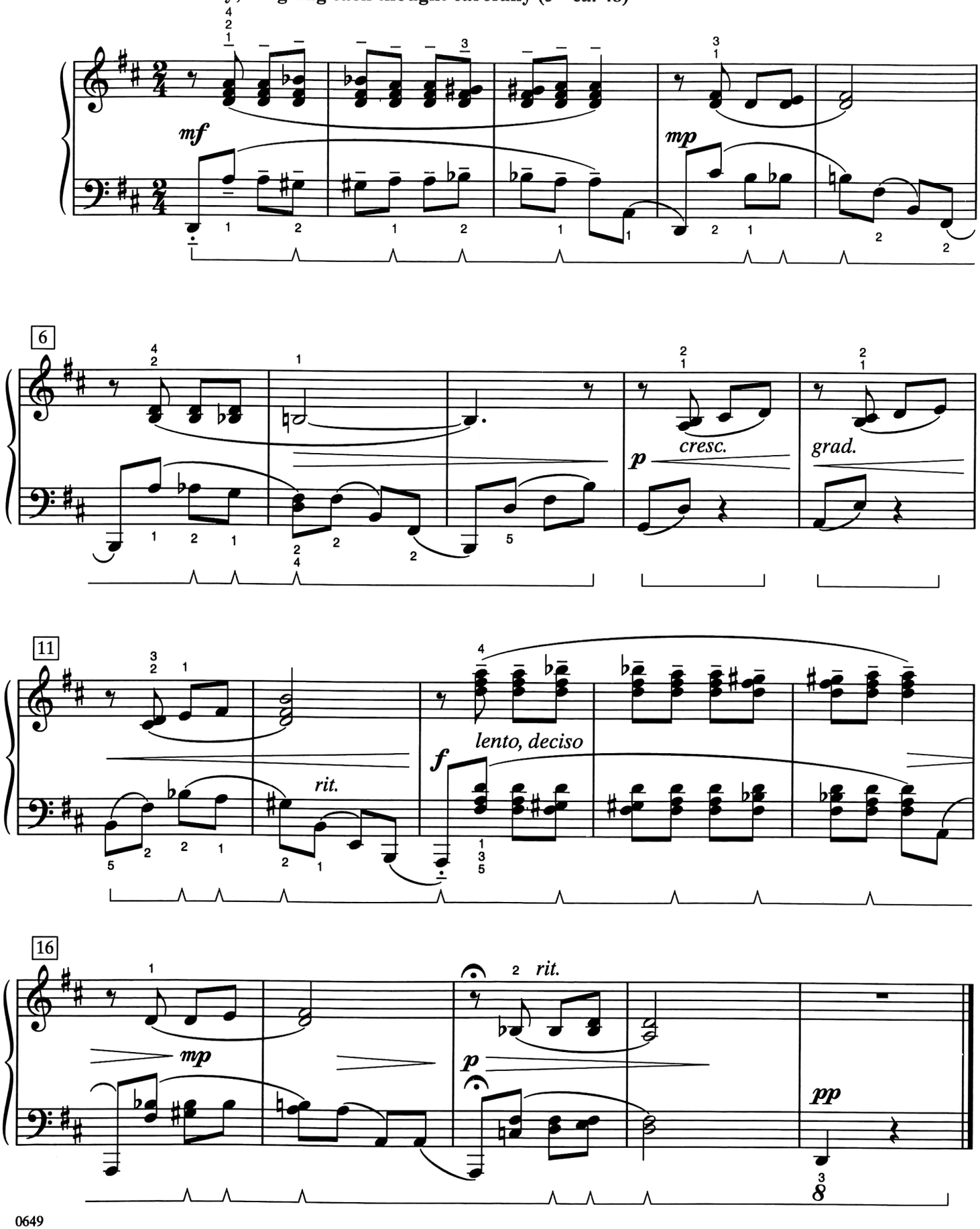
In a sad and ghostly manner (♩= ca. 108)



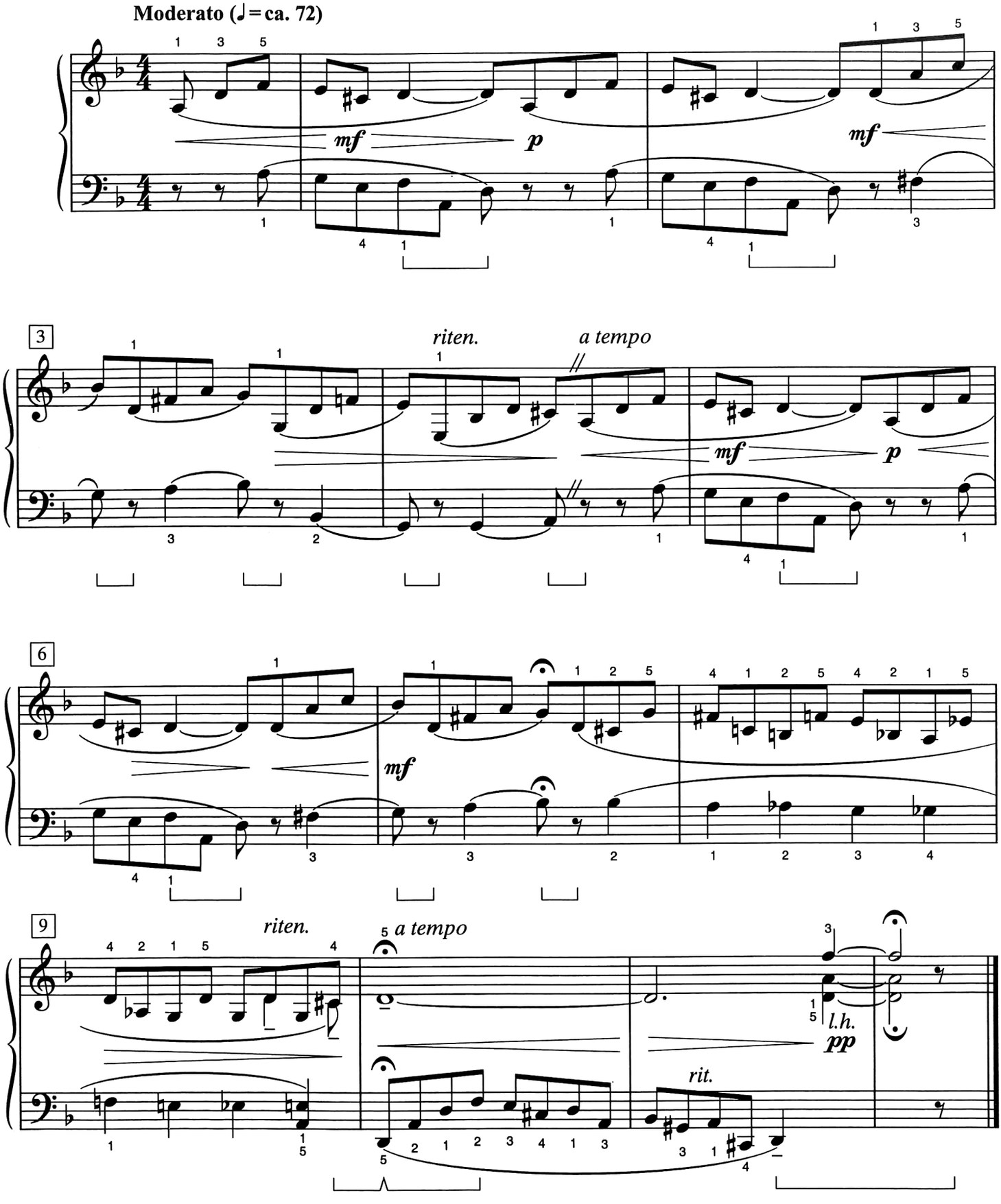

10
a tempo
rit.
15
riten.
a tempo
p
20
25
30
mp
riten.
a tempo
p
r.h.
l.h.
p al fine
rit.
l.h.
r.h.

Legend

Pensively; weighing each thought carefully (♩= ca. 48)

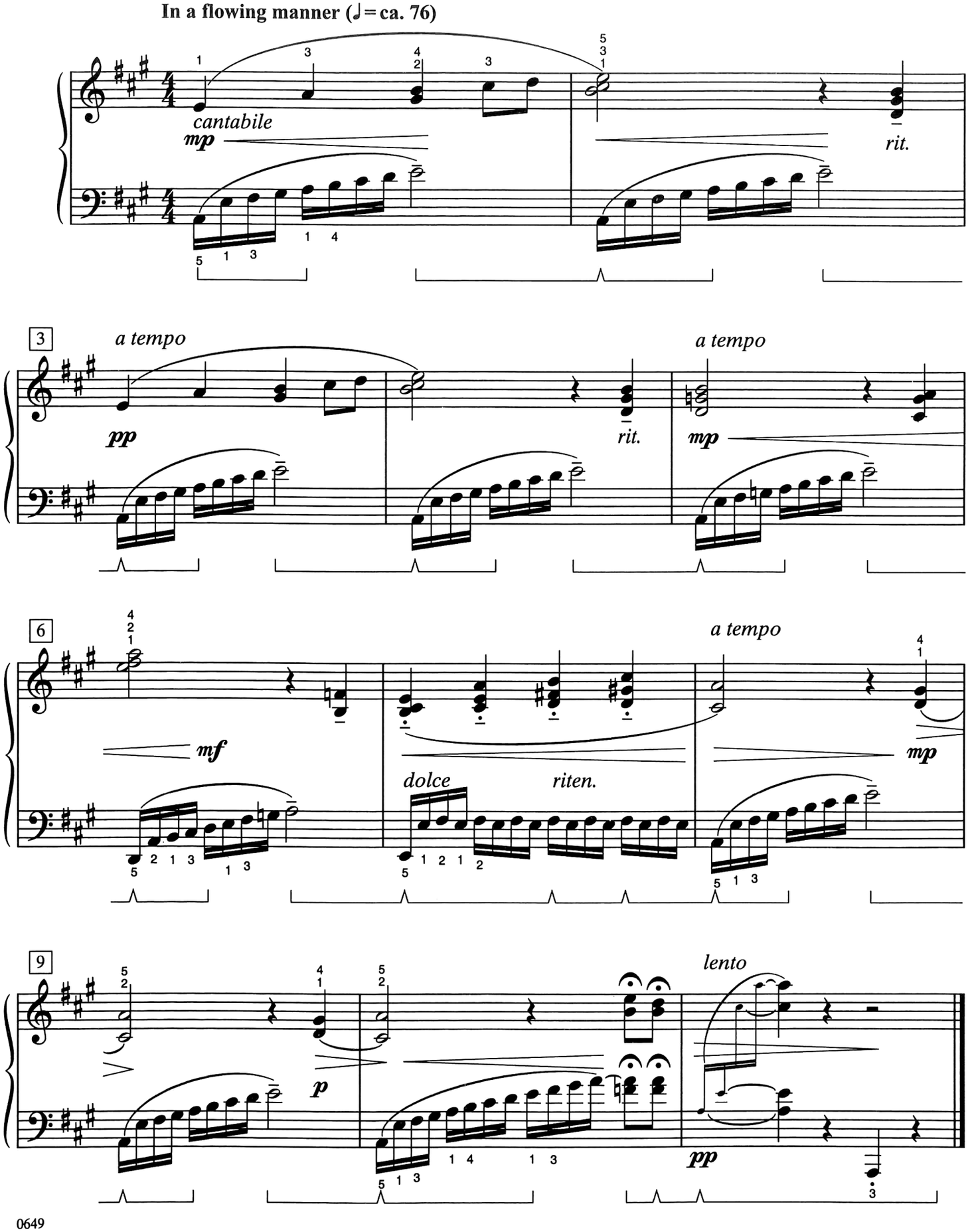


Interlude


Moderato (♩= ca. 72)
mf
p
mf
3
riten.
a tempo
mf
p
6
mf
9
riten.
a tempo
l.h.
pp
rit.

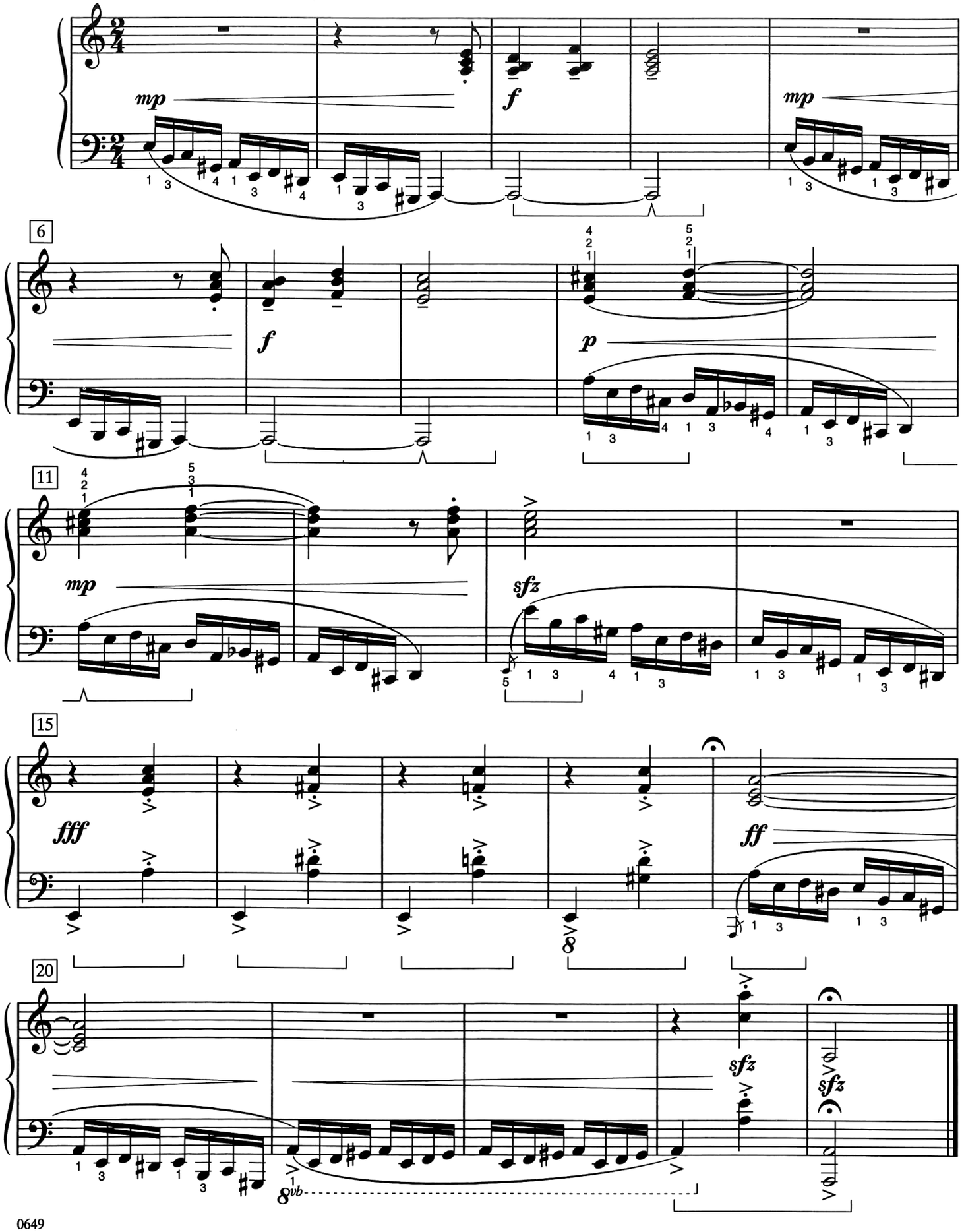
Song of the Mermaid

In a flowing manner (♩= ca. 76)



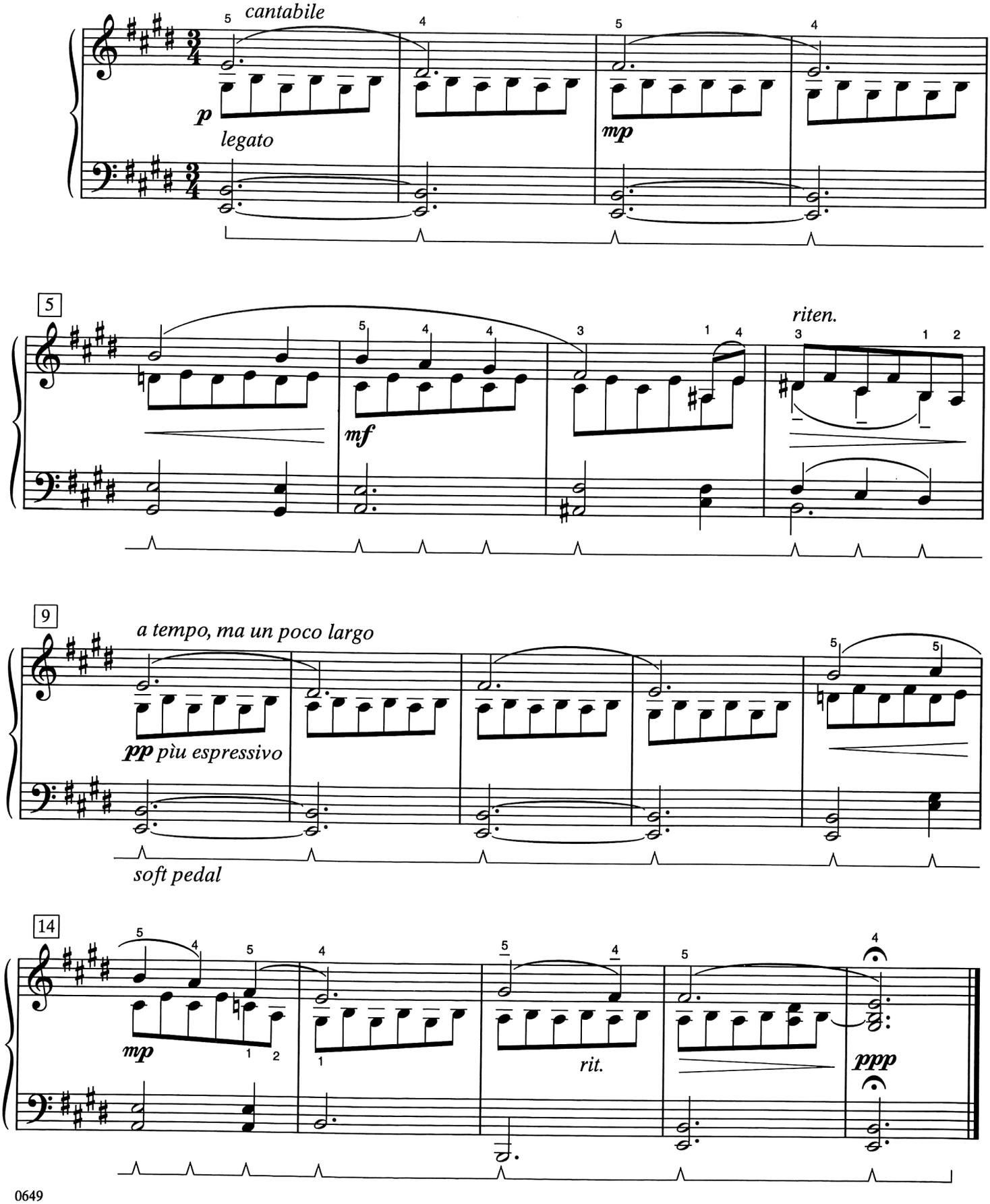
Summer Storm

Dramatically (♩= ca. 84)

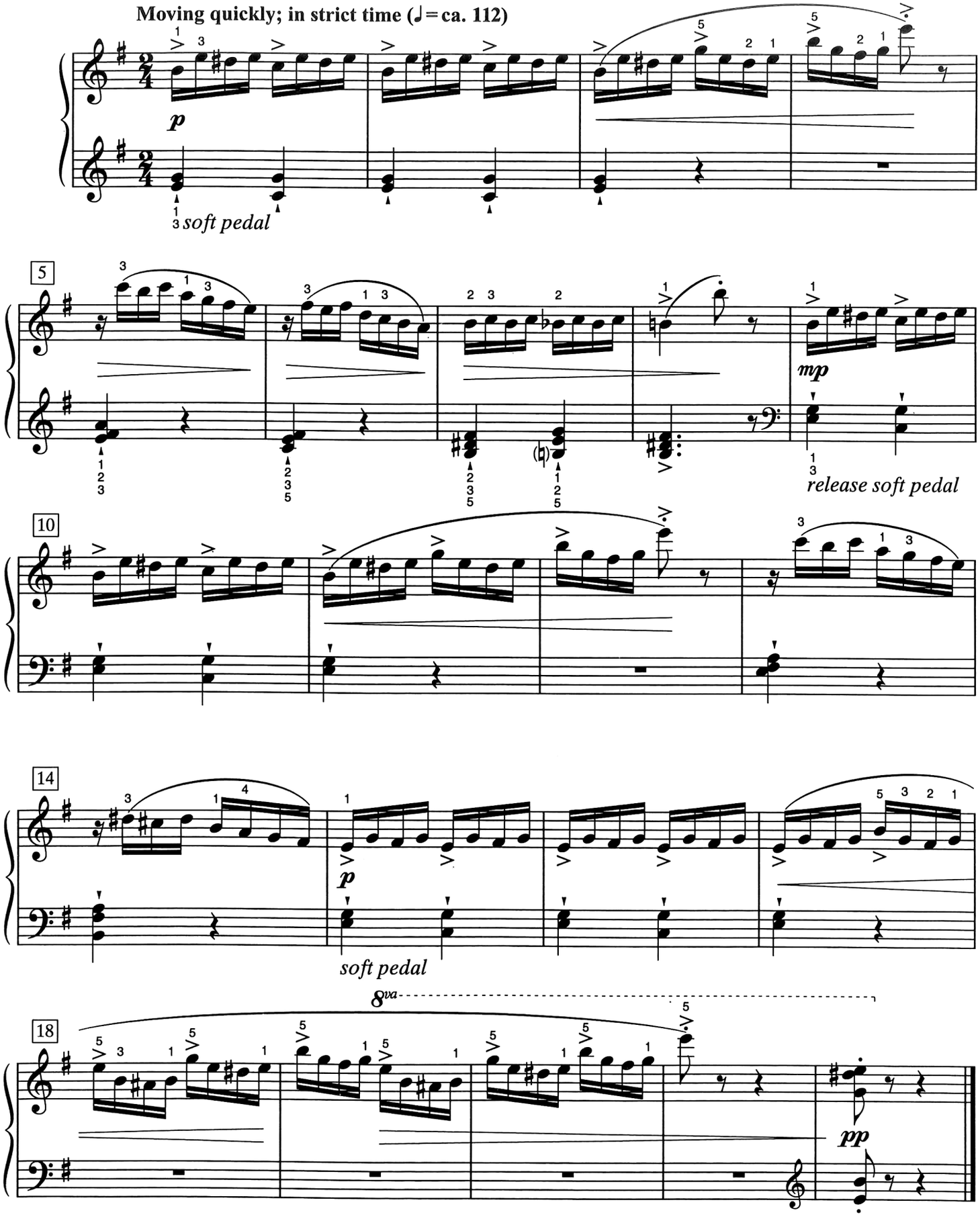


A Faded Letter

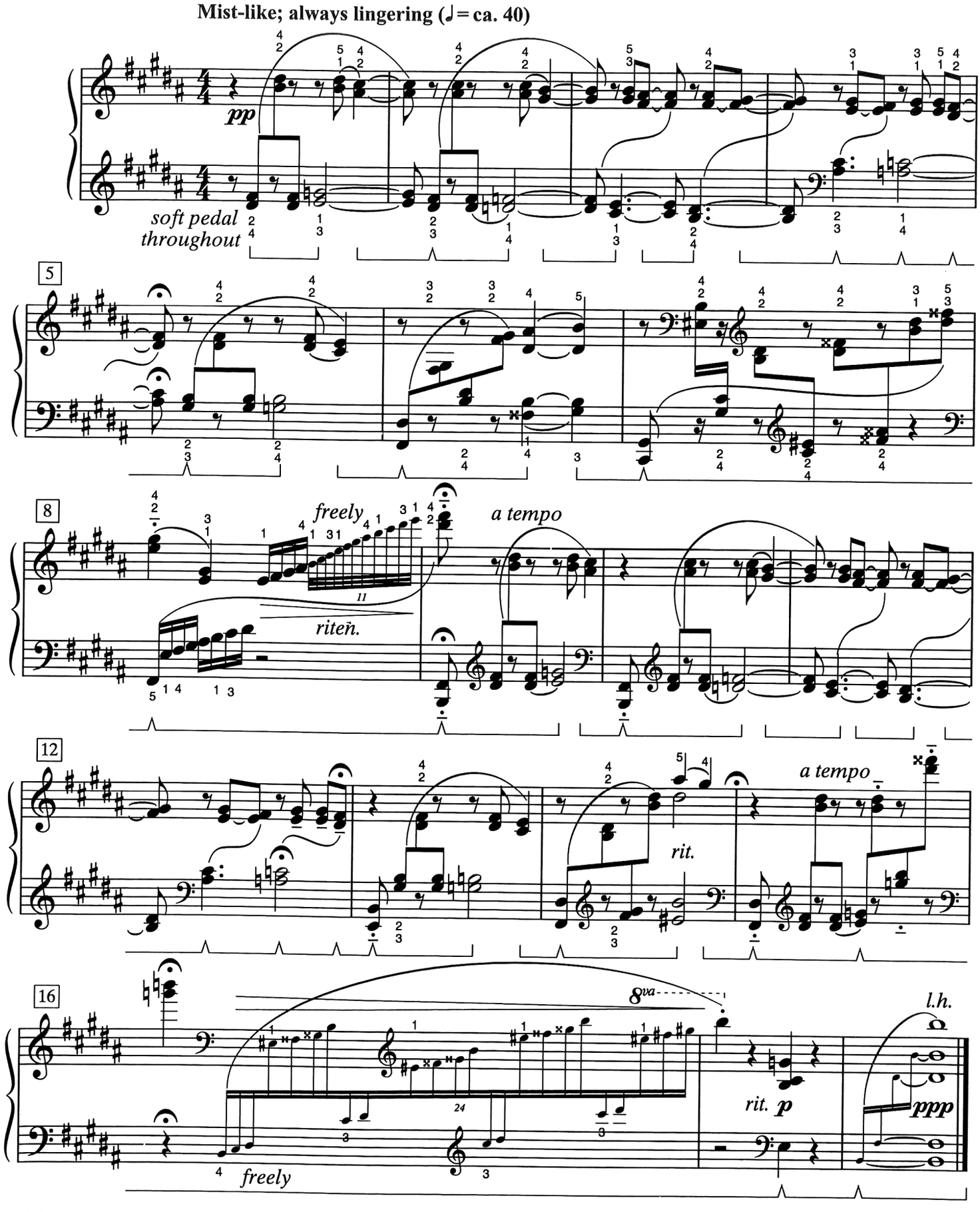
Tenderly; expressively (♩= ca. 66)



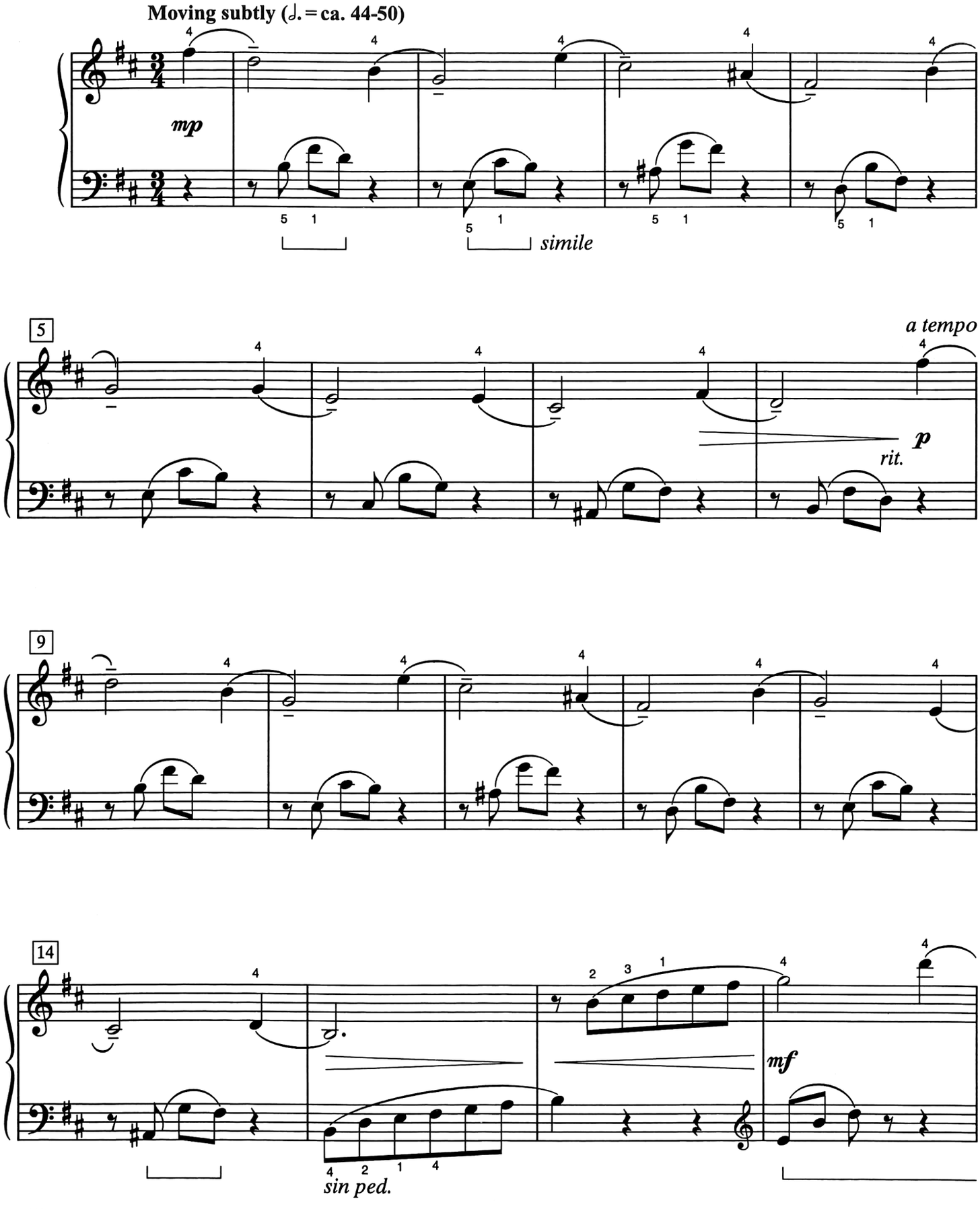
Dragon Fly

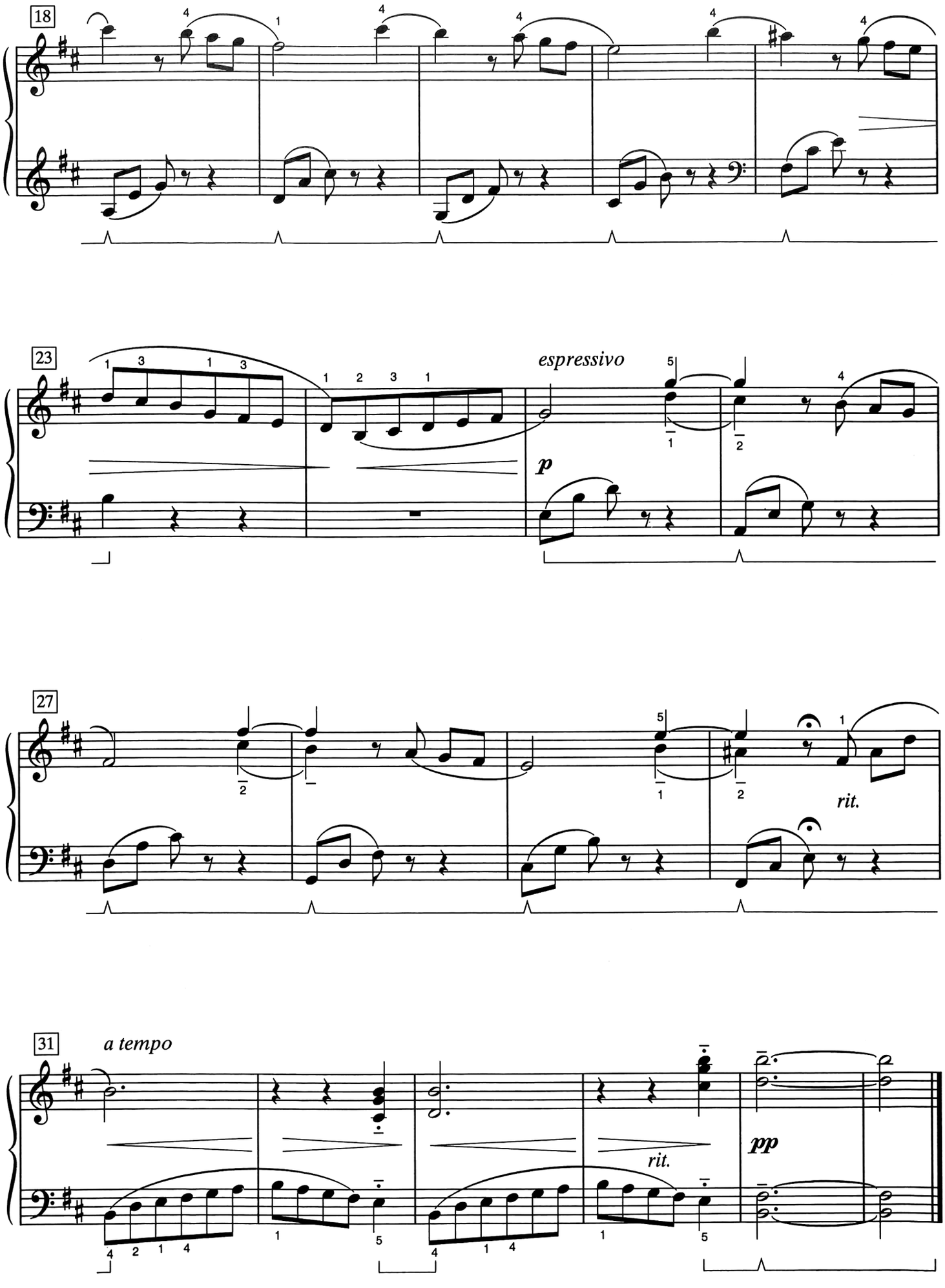

Moving quickly; in strict time (♩= ca. 112)
p
soft pedal
5
mp
release soft pedal
10
14
p
soft pedal
8va
18
pp

Moonlight Mood



Autumn Sketch

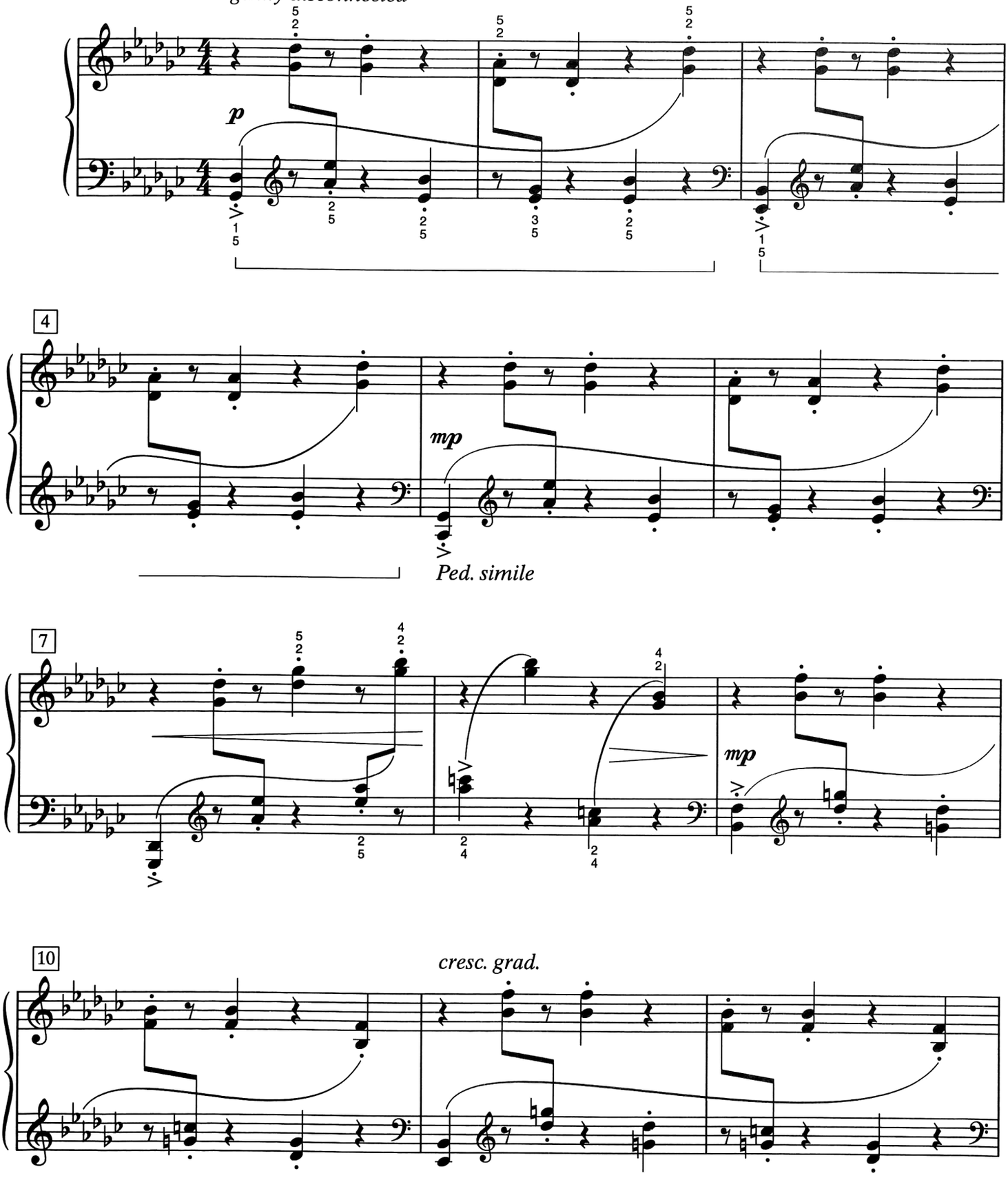


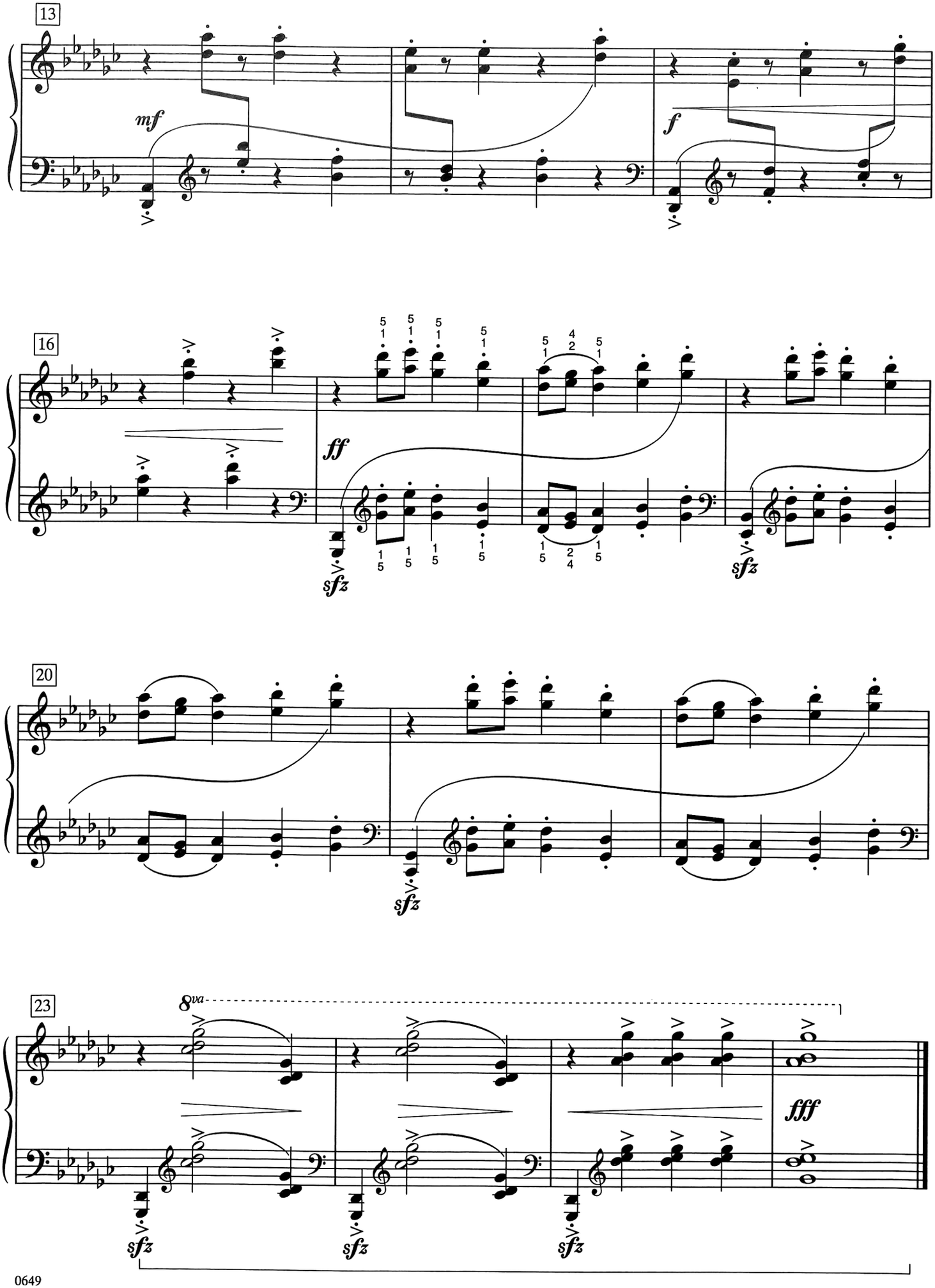

18
23
espressivo
p
27
rit.
31
a tempo
rit.
pp

Procession of the Mandarin

With a slow, swaying motion (♩= ca. 56)

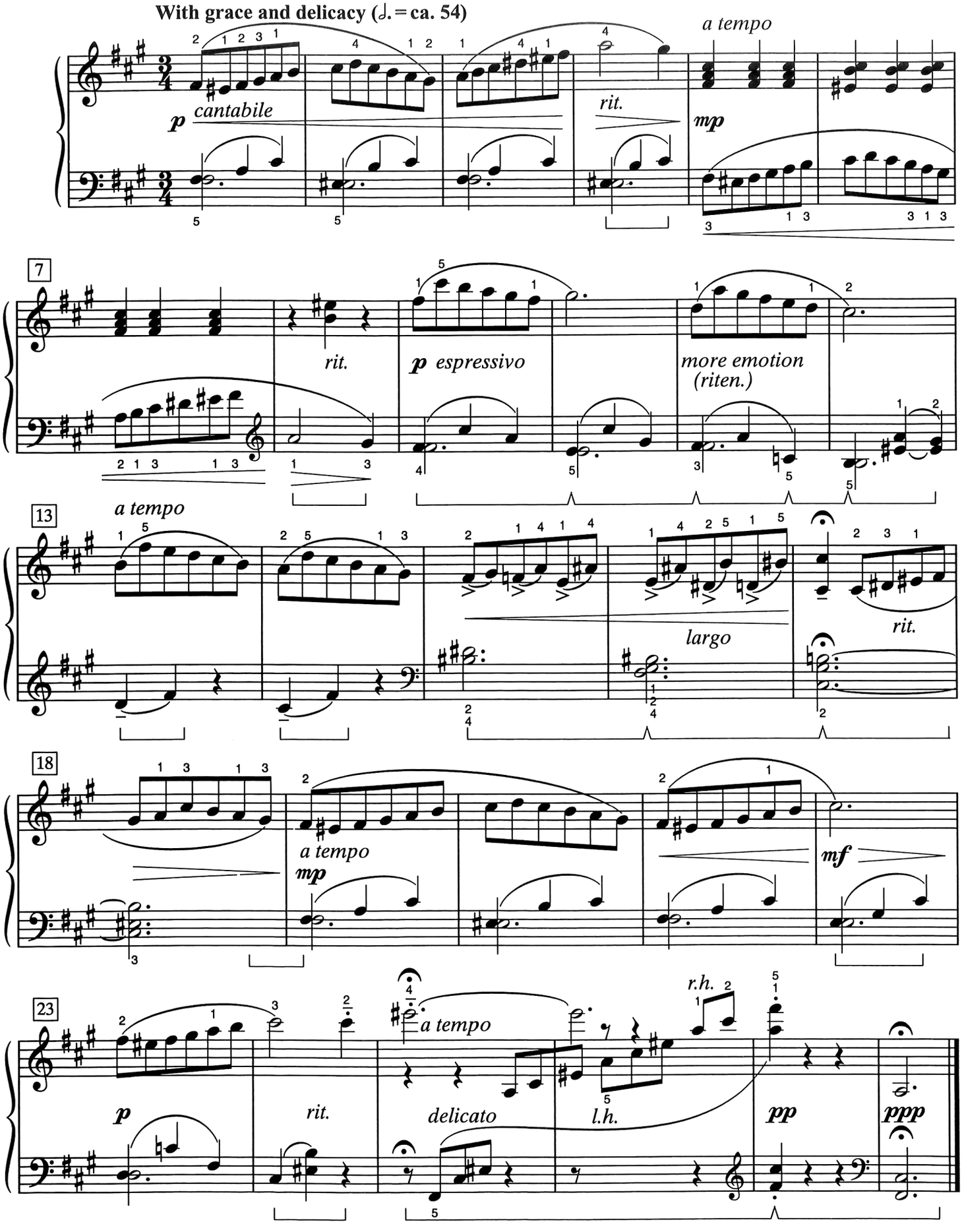
gently disconnected



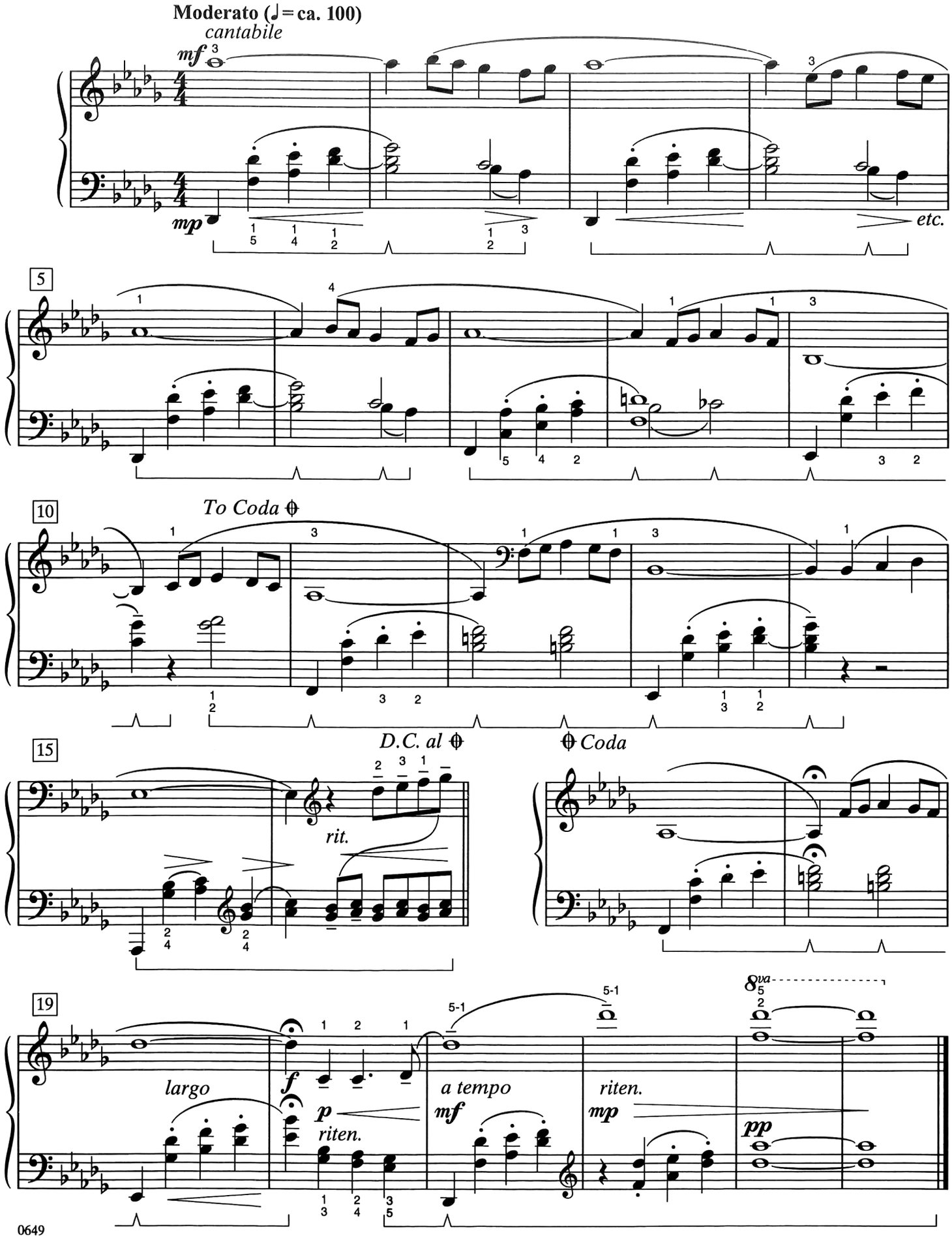

13
mf
f
16
ff
sfz
sfz
20
sfz
23
8va
sfz
sfz
sfz
fff

Winter Scene

With grace and delicacy (♩. = ca. 54)

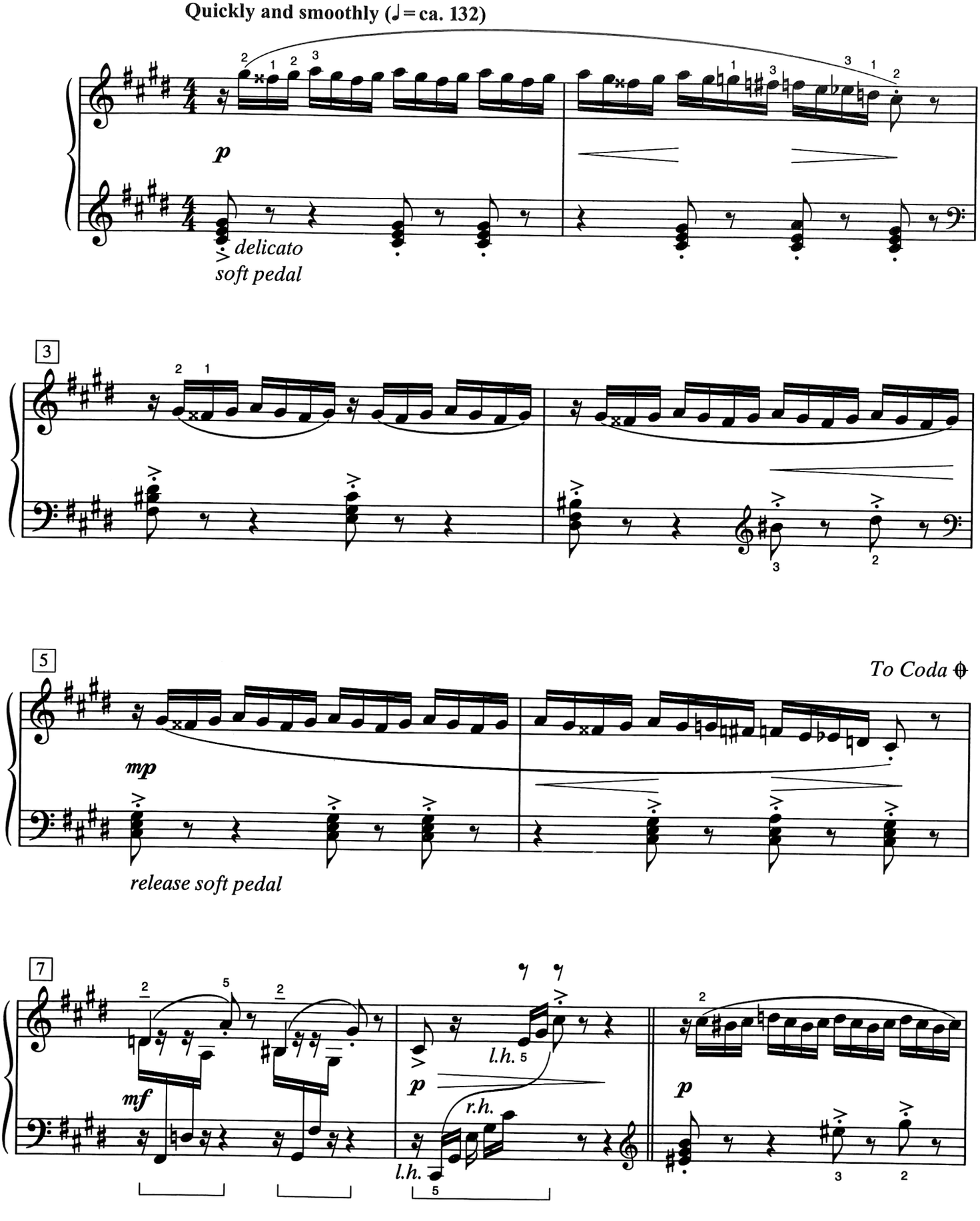


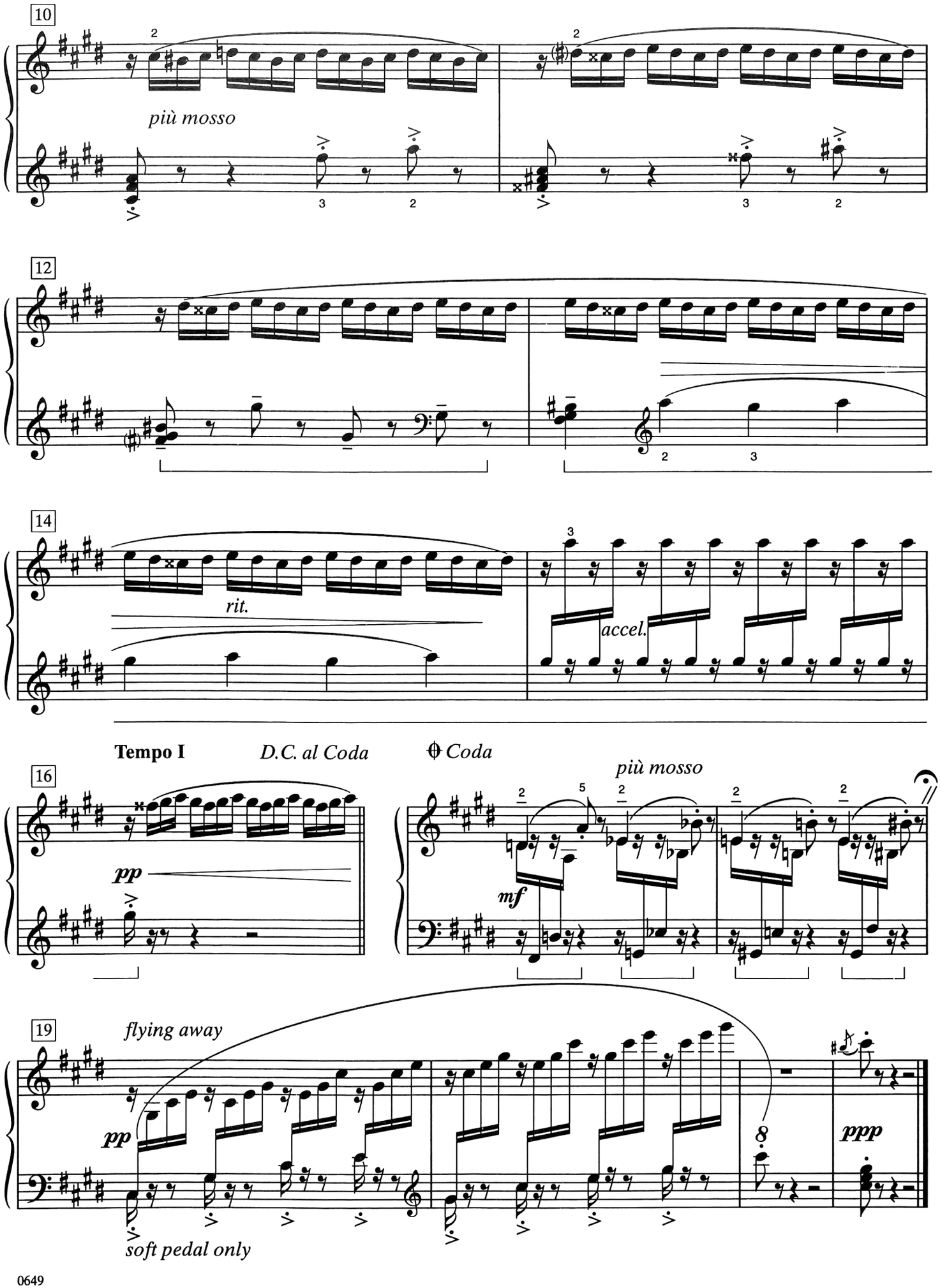
Serenade


Moderato (♩= ca. 100)
cantabile
mf
mp
etc.
5
10
To Coda
15
D.C. al
Coda
rit.
19
largo
f
p
riten.
a tempo
mf
riten.
mp
pp
8va

Humming Bird

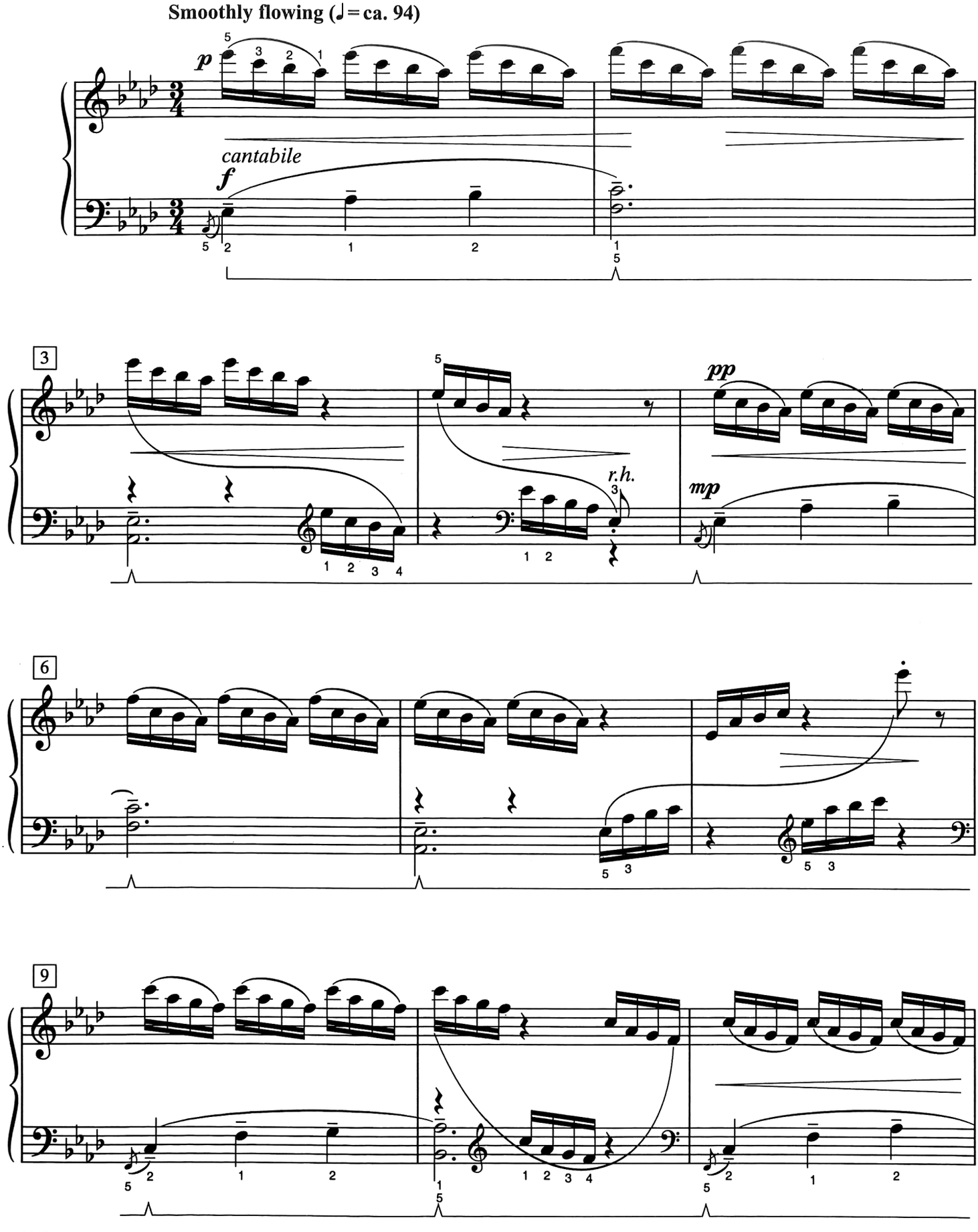
Quickly and smoothly (♩= ca. 132)

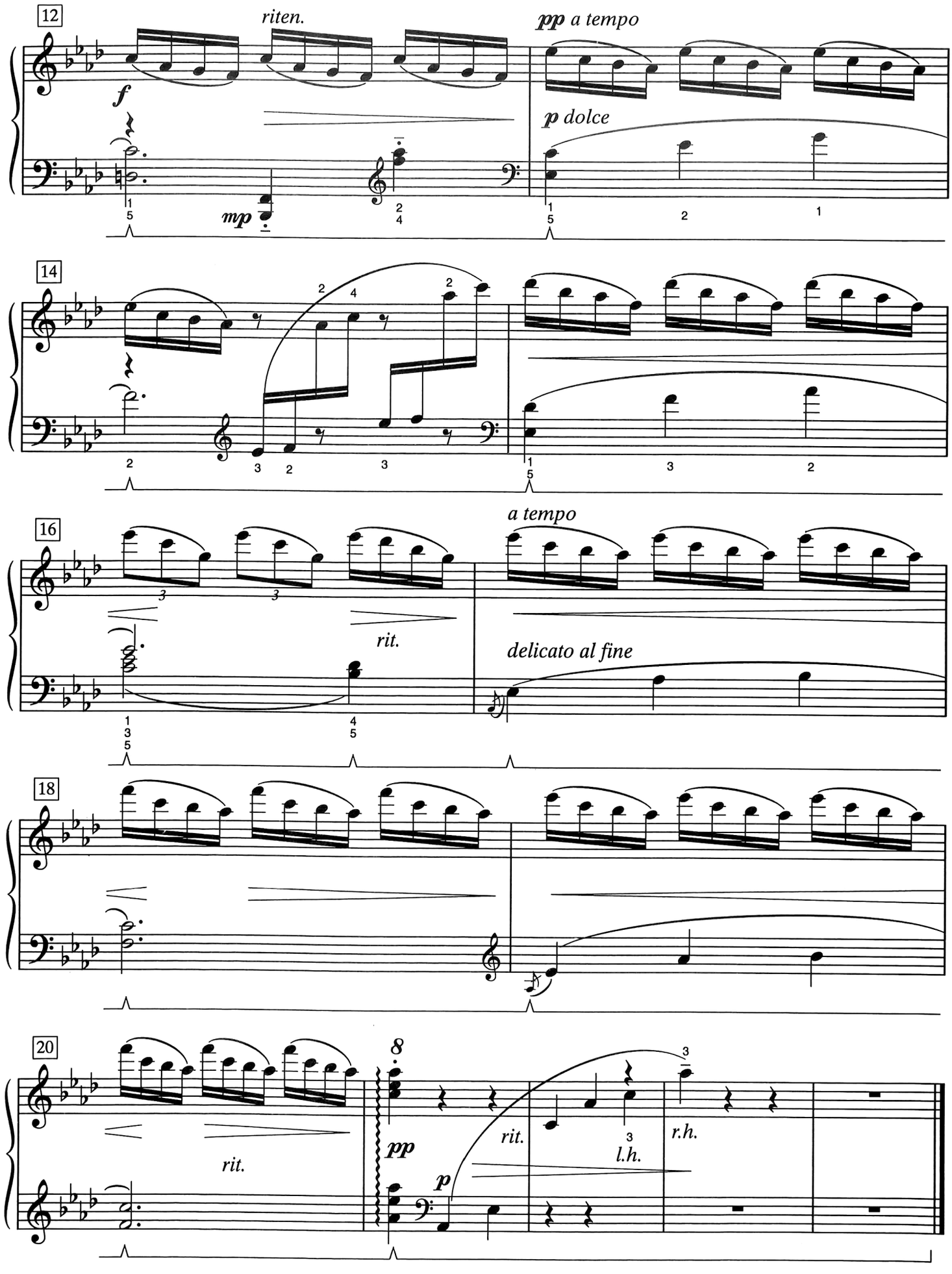



10
più mosso
12
14
rit.
accel.
Tempo I
D.C. al Coda
Coda
16
più mosso
pp
mf
19
flying away
pp
soft pedal only
ppp

Fountain of Diana

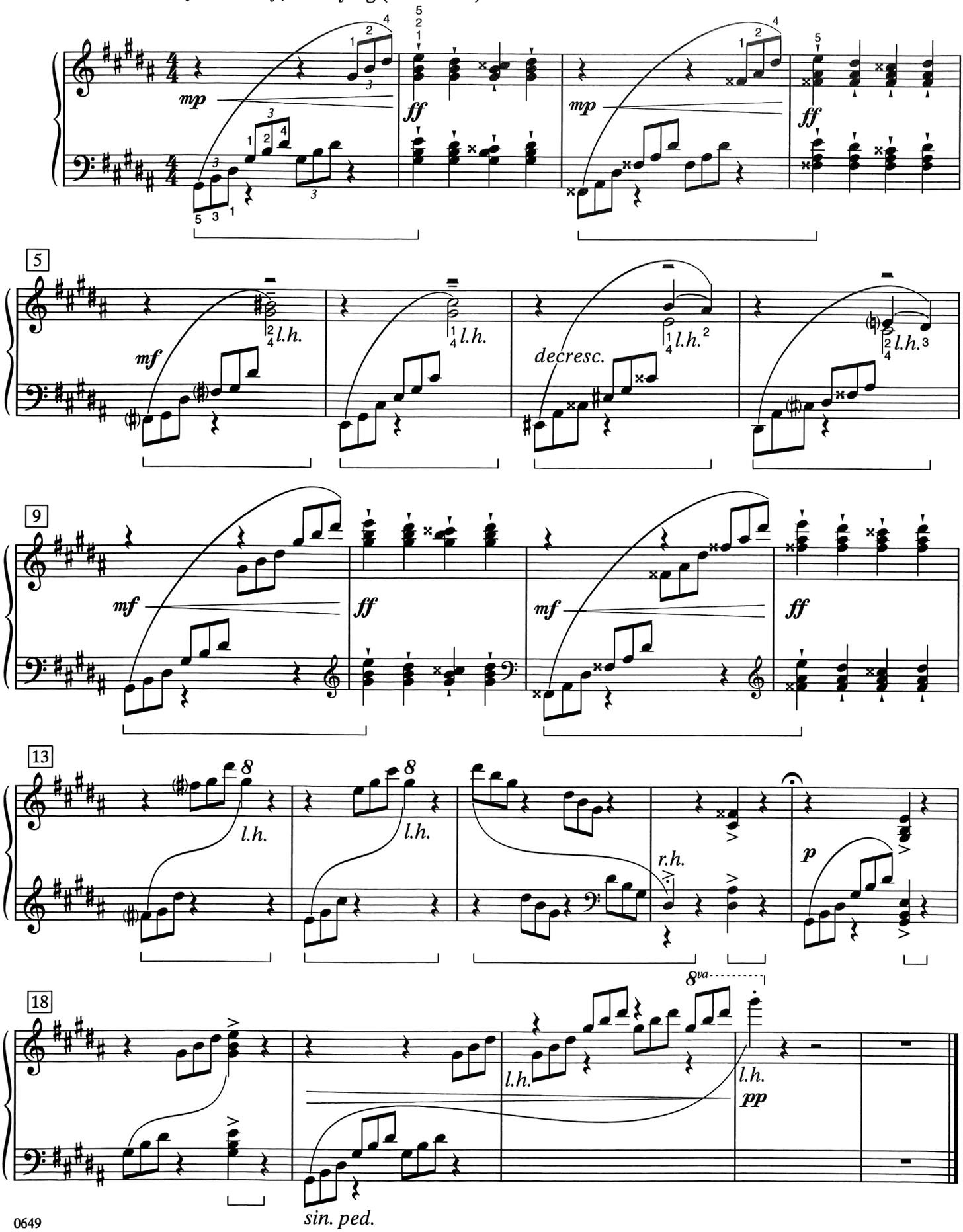
Smoothly flowing (♩ = ca. 94)




12
riten.
pp a tempo
f
p dolce
mp
14
16
a tempo
rit.
delicato al fine
18
20
rit.
pp
p
rit.
l.h.
r.h.

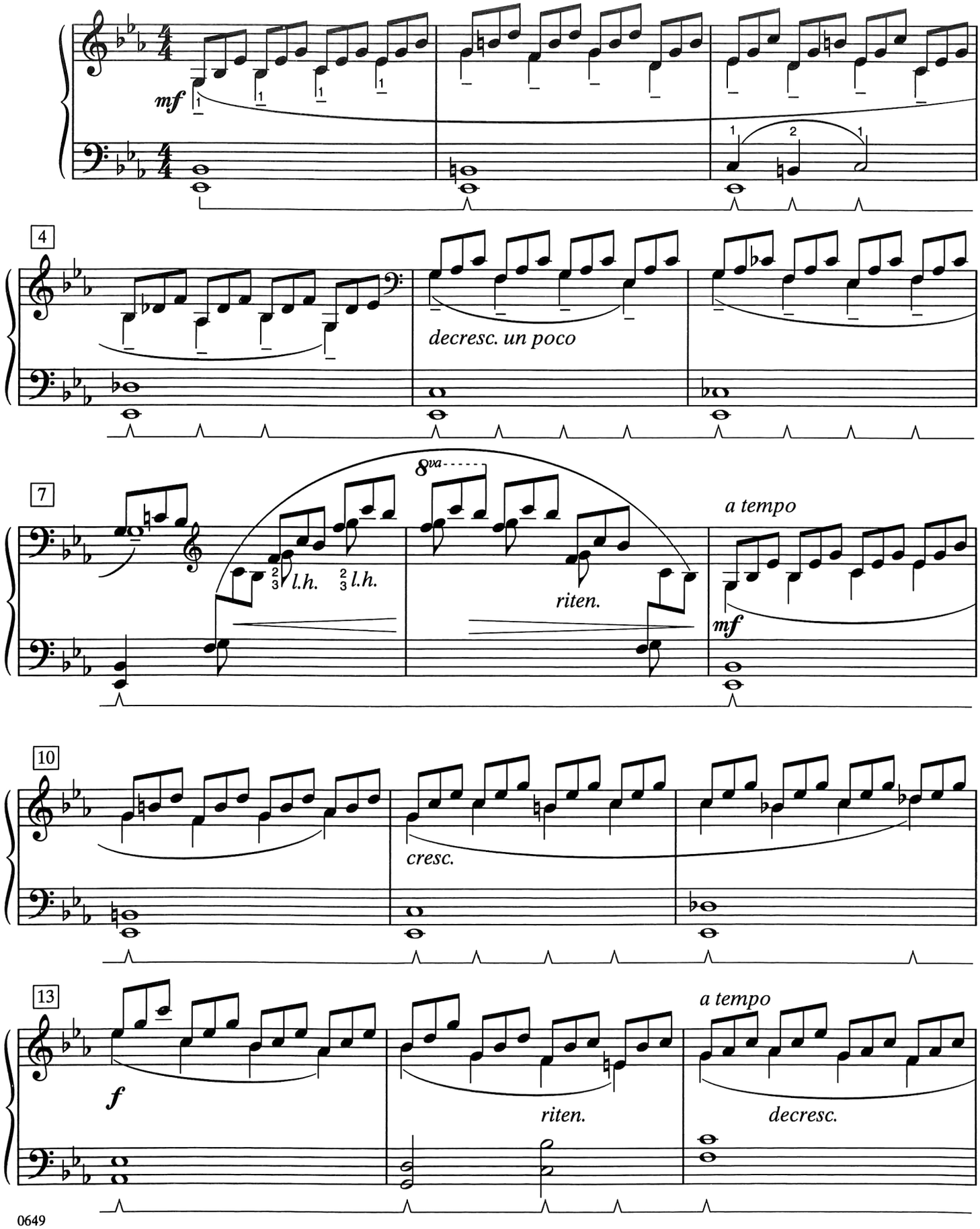
Phantom Rider

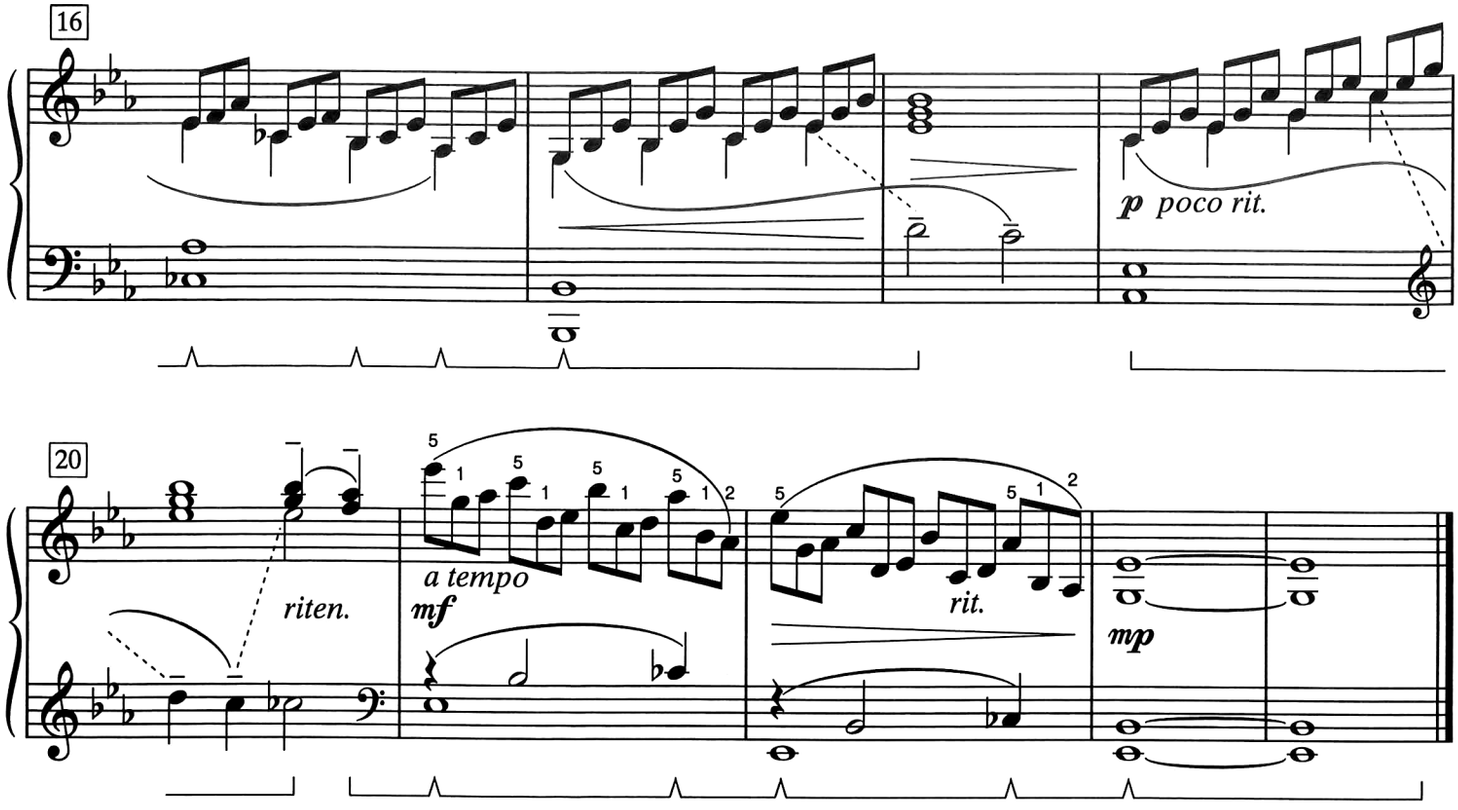
Mysteriously; terrifying (♩= ca. 144)



Soaring

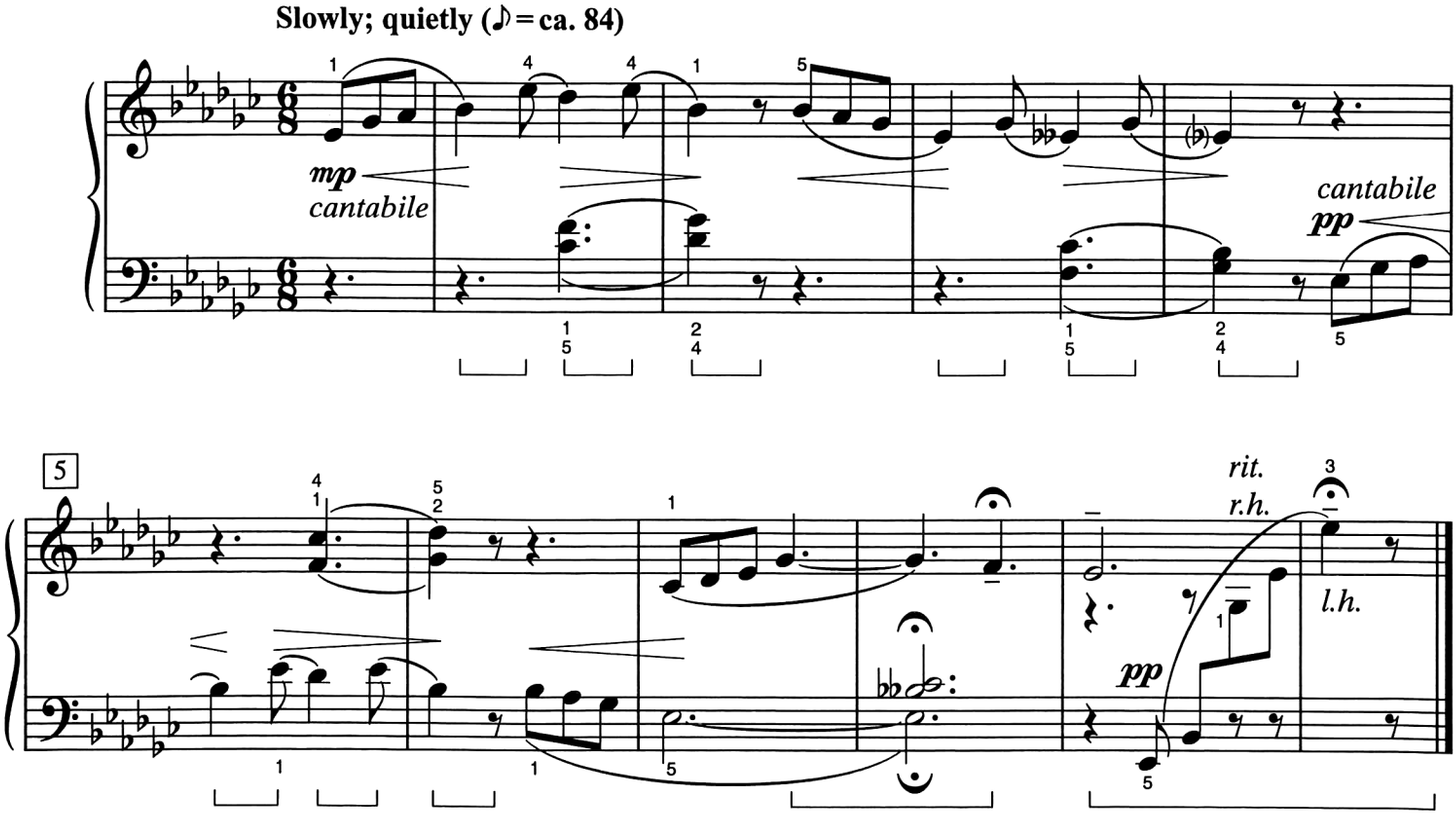
In a romantically intense manner (♩= ca. 104-112)





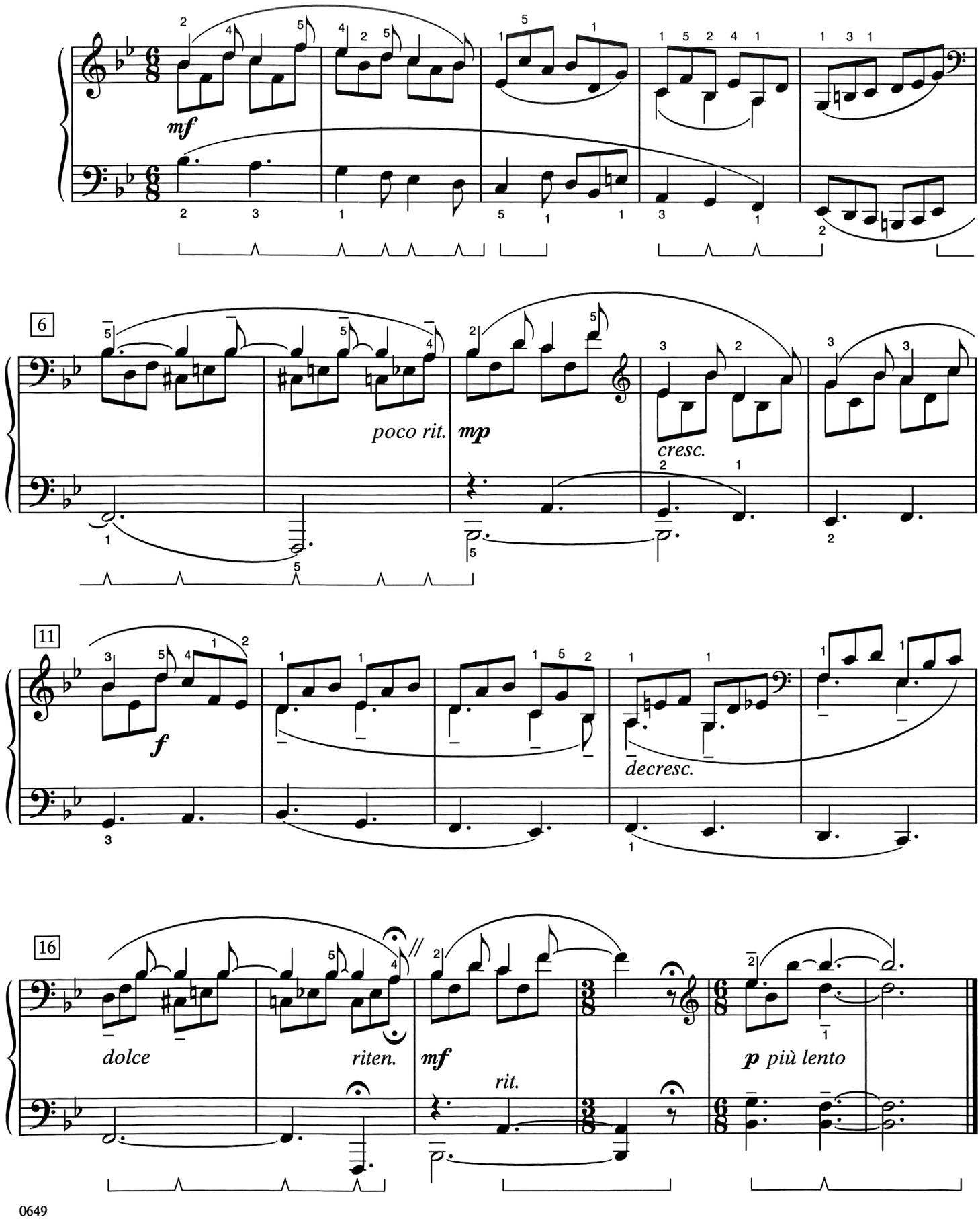
The Silent Snow

Slowly; quietly (♪ = ca. 84)

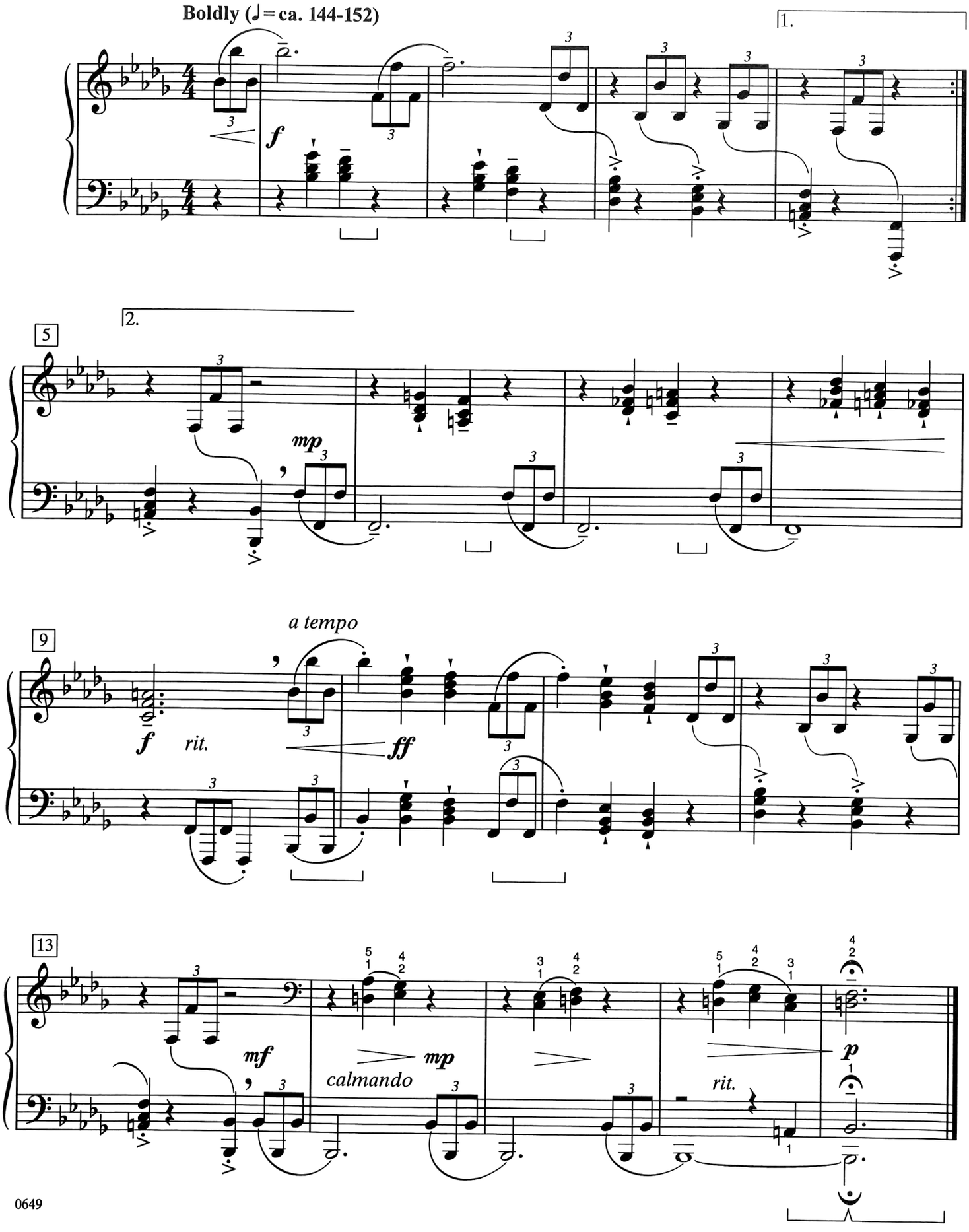


Night Song

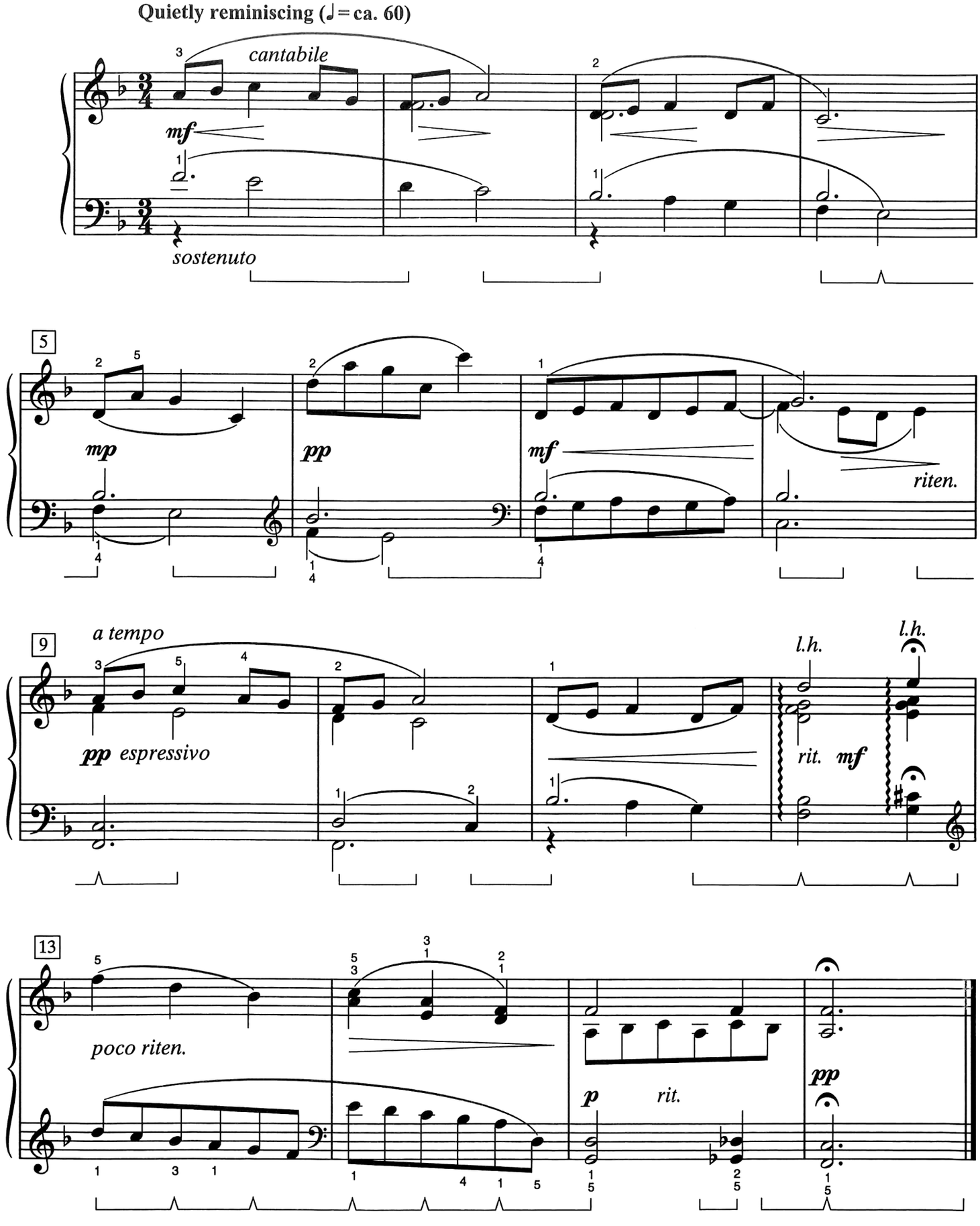
Moderato (♩. = ca. 44)

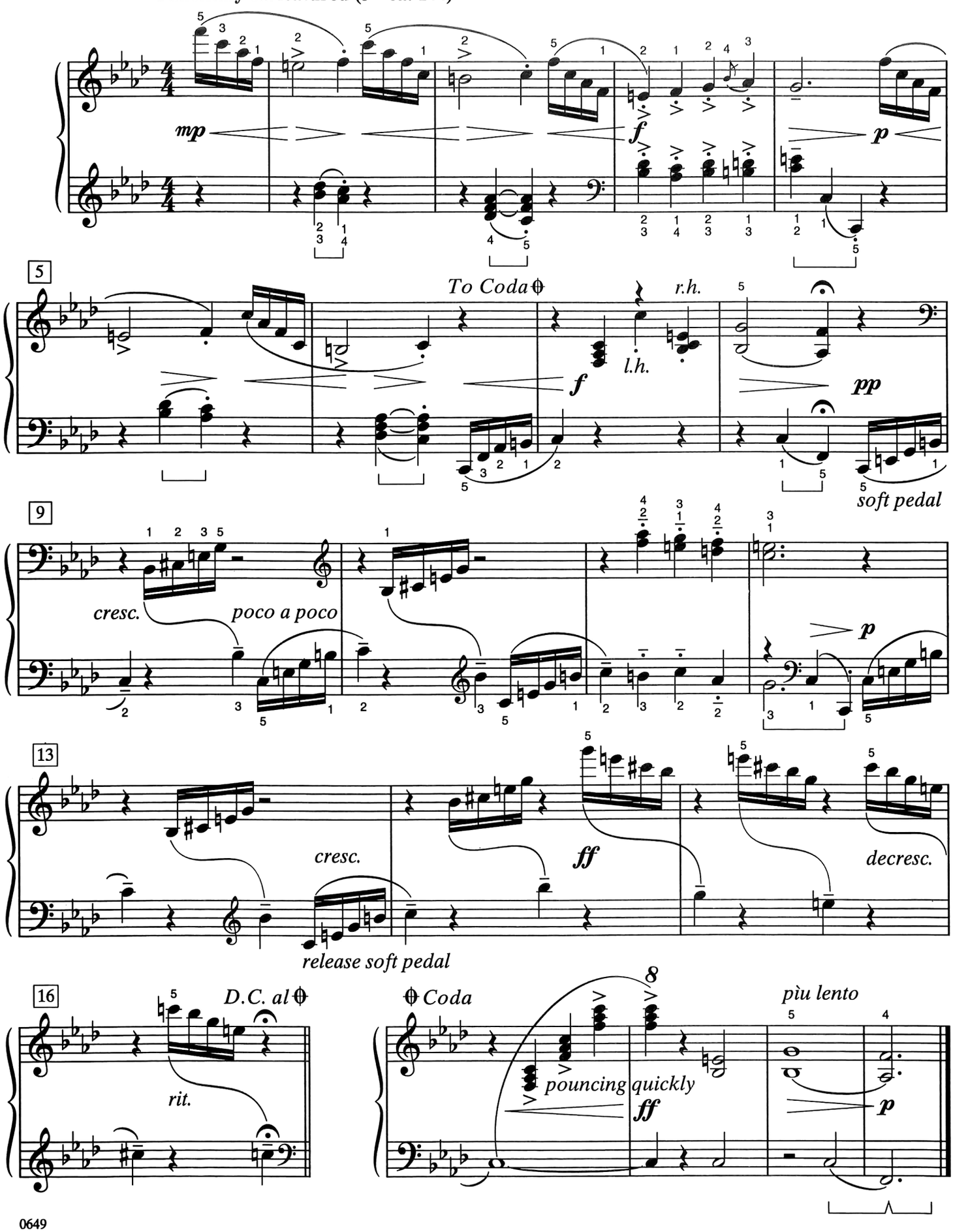


Night Journey



An Old Valentine



A Witch's Cat

Fancifully caricatured (♩= ca. 144)