ALETHEIA
The Alpha Chi Journal of Undergraduate Scholarship

Volume 3 | Issue 1 | 2018

Picture No. 1
Grímsey

Ethan Lindblom

Auburn University

Vol. 3(1), 2018
Title: Picture No. 1, *Grímsey*
DOI: 10.21081/AX0162
ISSN: 2381-800X

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Aletheia—The Alpha Chi Journal of Undergraduate Scholarship

- This publication is an online, peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary undergraduate journal, whose mission is to promote high quality research and scholarship among undergraduates by showcasing exemplary work.
- Submissions can be in any basic or applied field of study, including the physical and life sciences, the social sciences, the humanities, education, engineering, and the arts.
- Publication in *Aletheia* will recognize students who excel academically and foster mentor/mentee relationships between faculty and students.
- In keeping with the strong tradition of student involvement in all levels of Alpha Chi, the journal will also provide a forum for students to become actively involved in the writing, peer review, and publication process.
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Volume 3 | Issue 1 | Spring 2018

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Program Notes

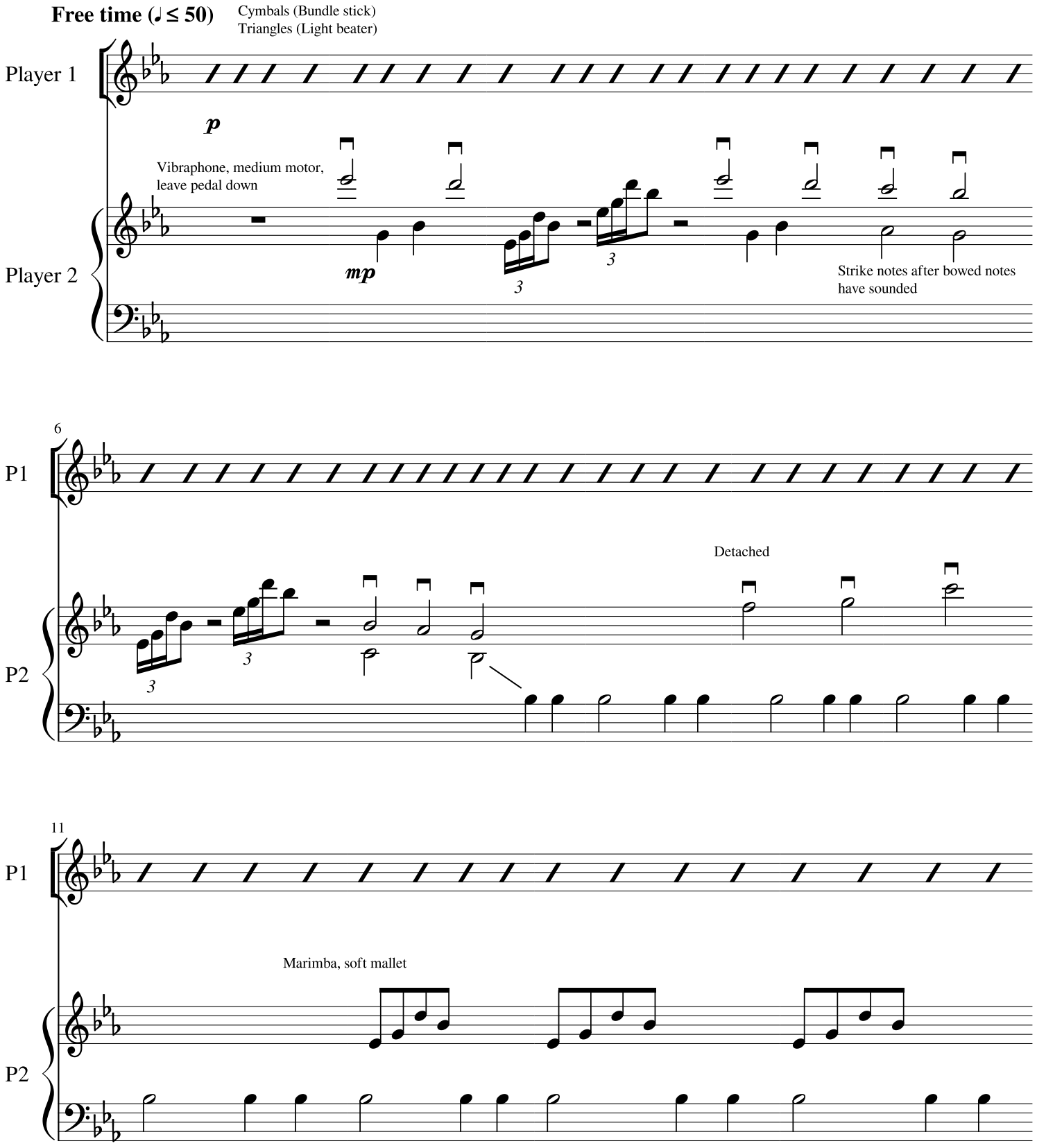
Throughout my life there I have had several experiences that were particularly exciting, interesting, or otherwise significant. These experiences have shaped who I am, and I find myself wanting to express their stories to other people. The Pictures are musical narratives of these experiences.

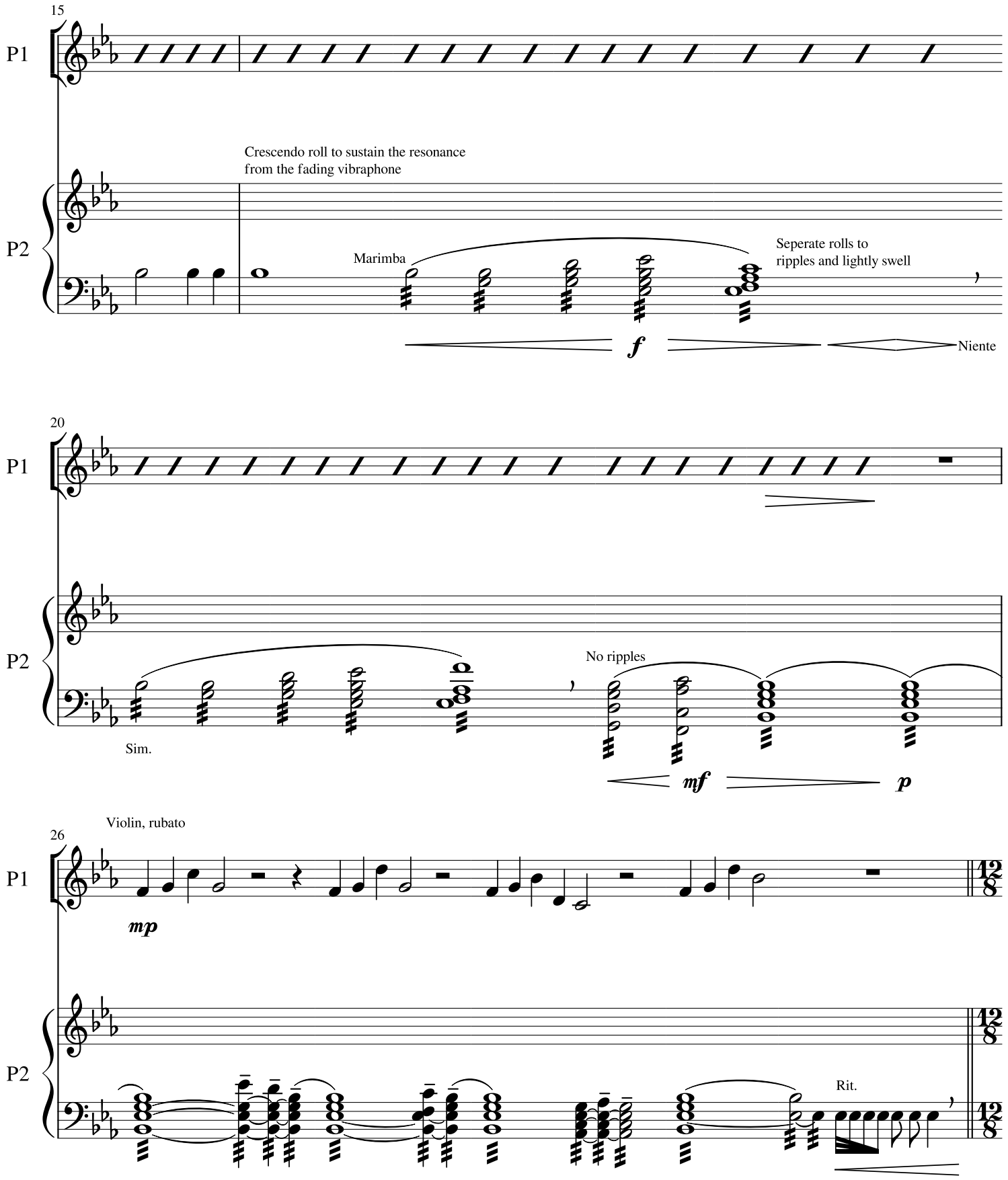
In the summer of 2016, I had the great fortune to travel to Iceland with my father and grandfather. While I was there I visited the small island of Grímsey off the northern shore, just inside the Arctic Circle. There are very few people on the island, and it is only around 2 square miles in size. The day I visited, I hiked all the way from the docks to the northernmost point of the island. When I arrived at the tip of Grímsey, there were no other people around. I stood on the edge of a tall cliff feeling the wind and watching the colossal waves crash onto the rocks below me. Behind me was a curvature of lush grassland that was perfectly smooth, like it had been cleanly carved out of the island with a sharp knife. The piece has three main sections: an introduction, an enclosed sona-ta, and the conclusion. The introduction paints the image of my journey to the tip of island with textural sounds to describe the cold, isolated, but beautiful setting of Grímsey. This scenic texture aids the music by maintaining the presence of the ocean, a factor that was so defining of this experience. The sonata is the most substantial section of the piece and describes in music the emotional profundity that I found there. The conclusion uses the same material from the introduction to describe my leaving but in a modulated key from the original. The key of Db Major is a whole step lower than the original of Eb Major, creating a harmonic restfulness and the implication that the experience would stay with me forever.

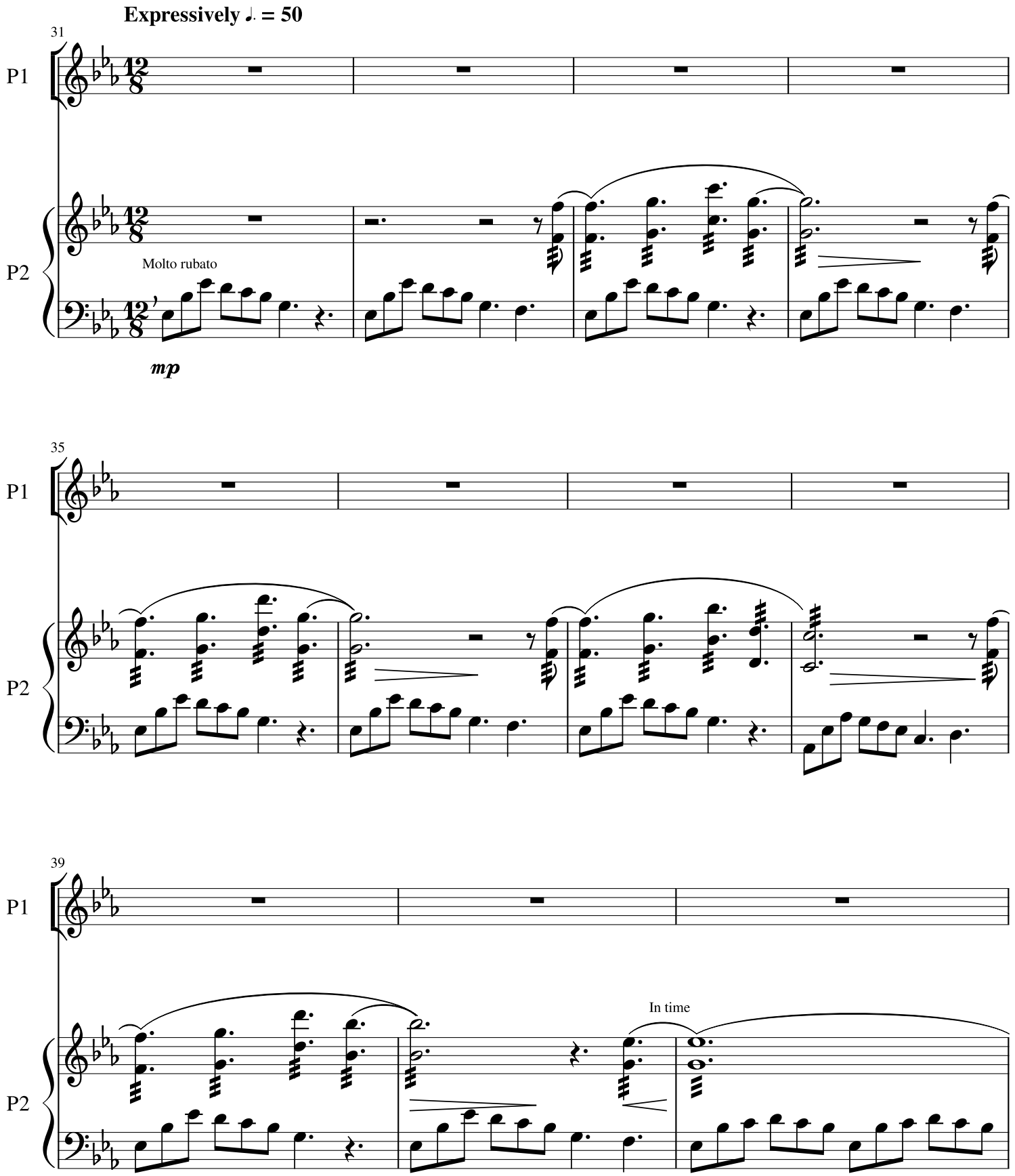
Picture No. 1

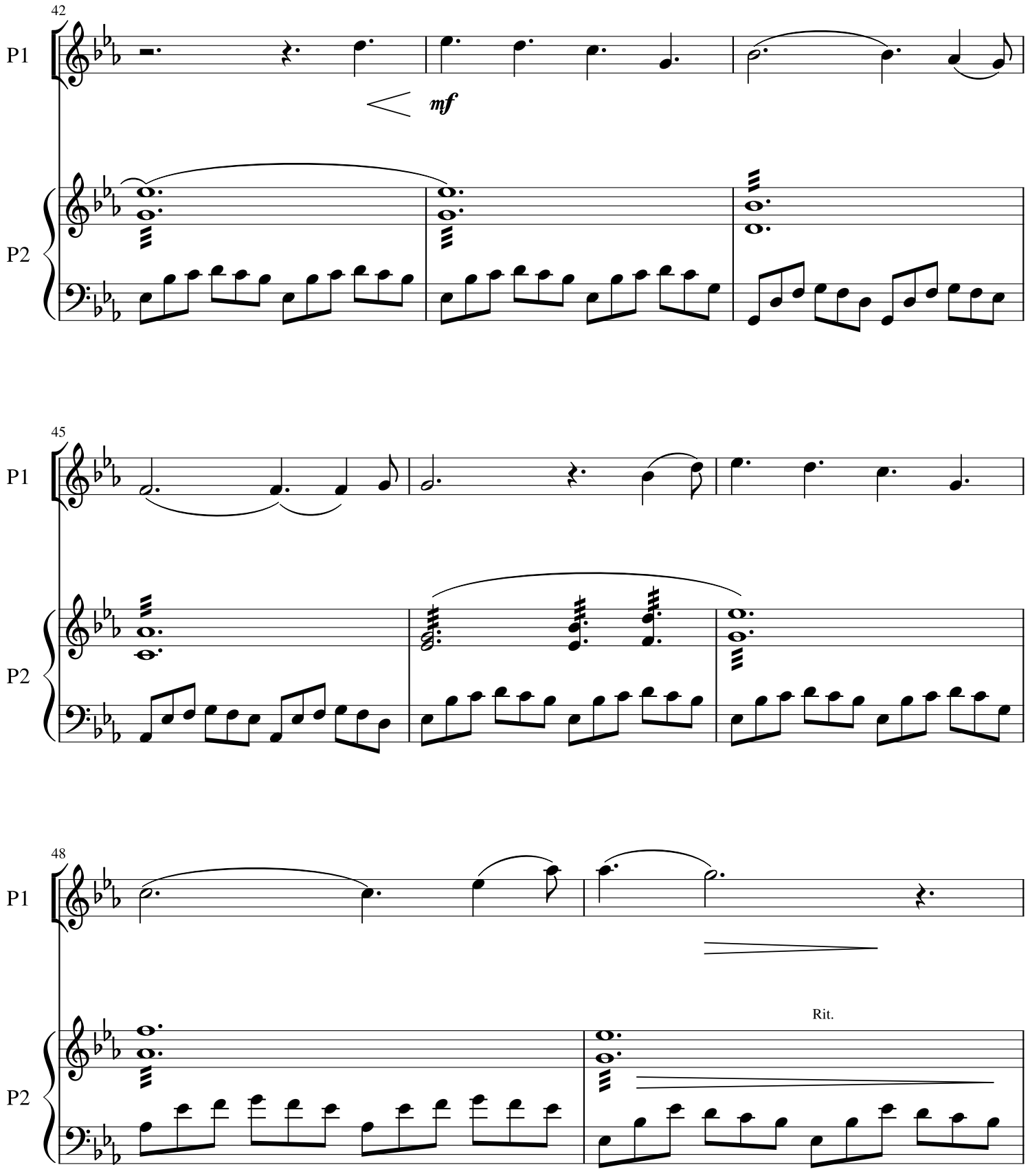
Grímsey

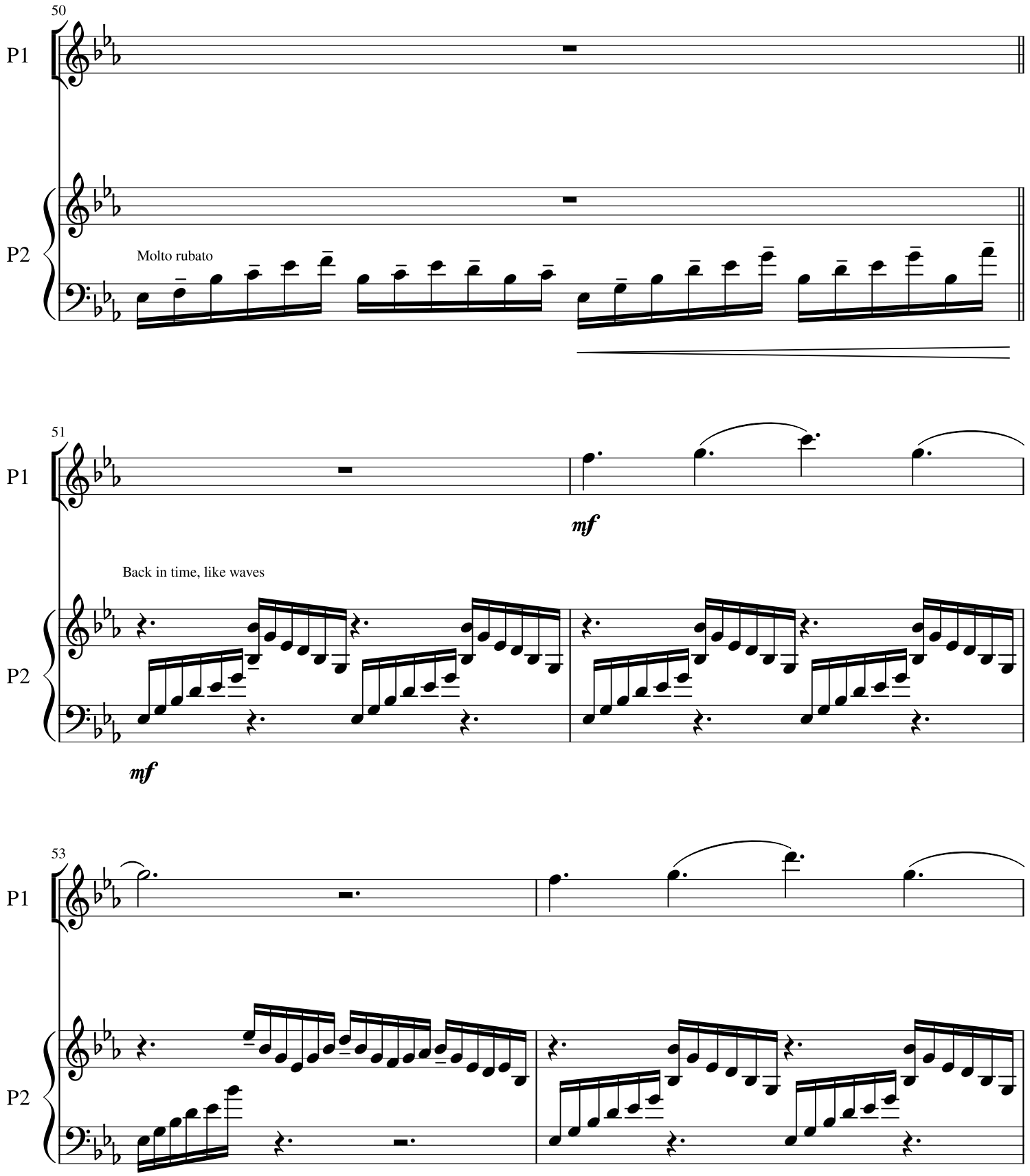
Ethan Lindblom

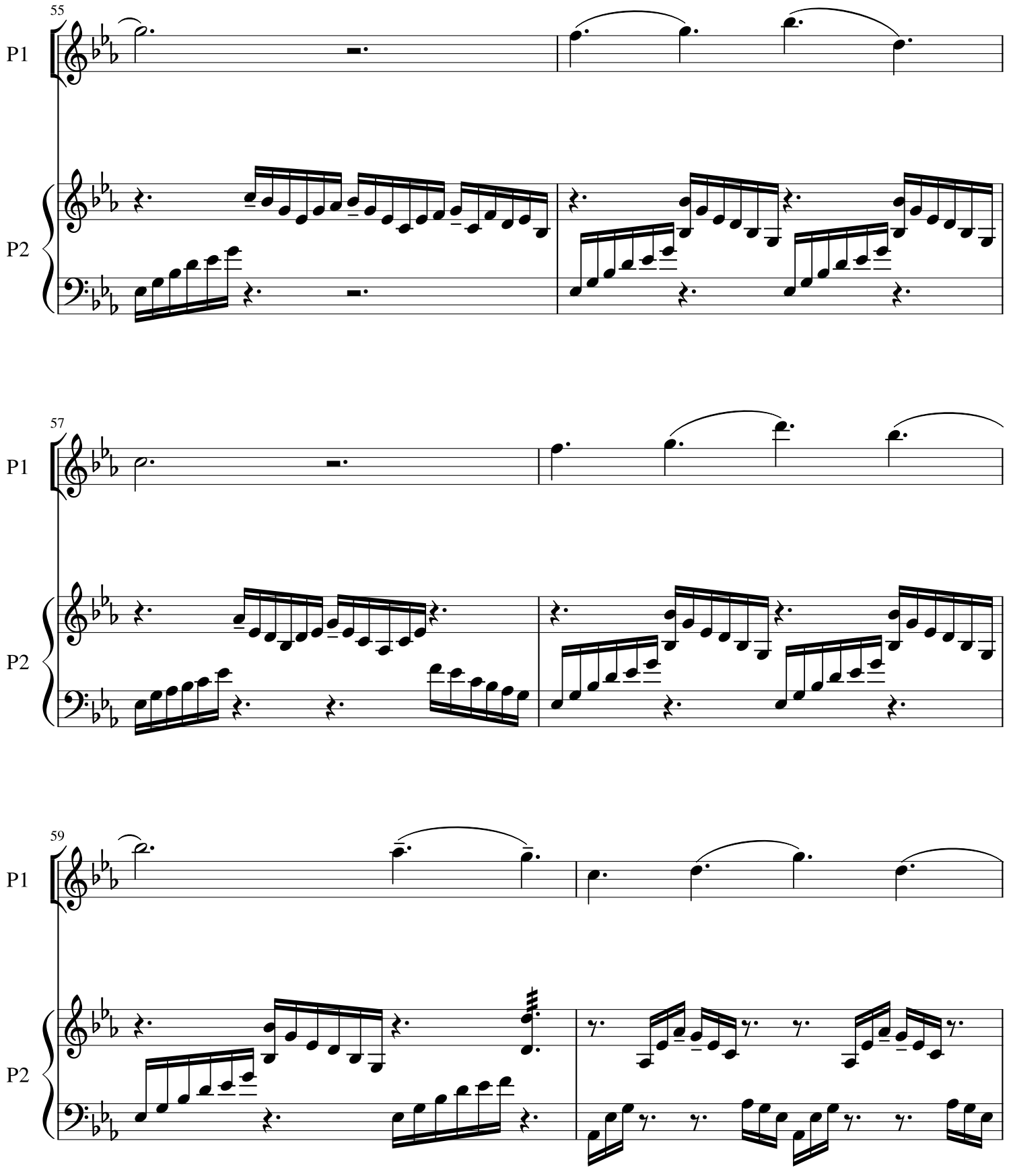



15
P1
P2
Crescendo roll to sustain the resonance
from the fading vibraphone
Marimba
Seperate rolls to
ripples and lightly swell
f
Niente
20
P1
P2
Sim.
No ripples
mf
p
Violin, rubato
26
P1
P2
mp
Rit.


Expressively ♩. = 50
31
P1
P2
Molto rubato
mp
35
P1
P2
39
P1
P2
In time


42
P1
mf
P2
45
P1
P2
48
P1
Rit.
P2


50
P1
P2
Molto rubato
51
P1
mf
Back in time, like waves
P2
mf
53
P1
P2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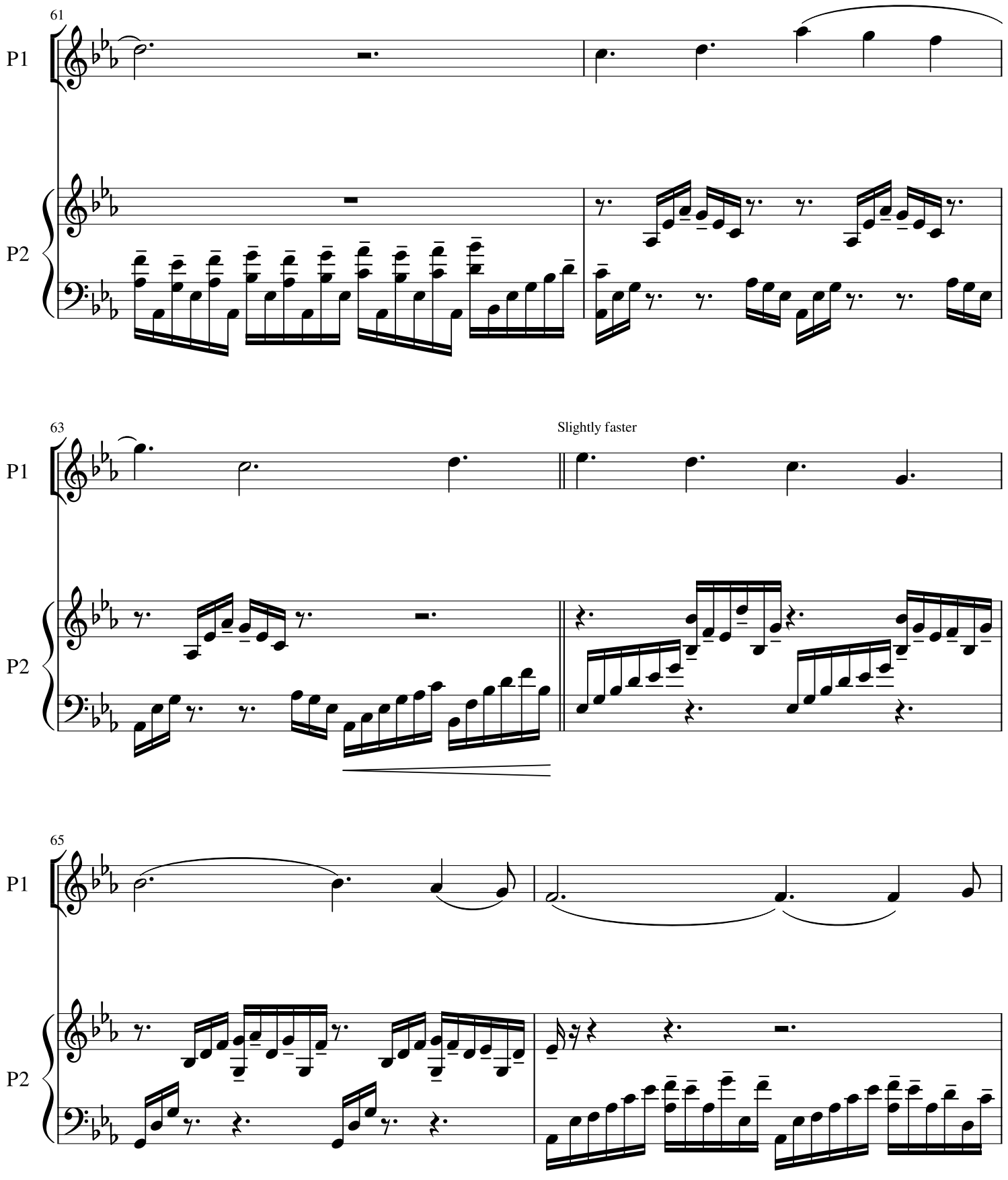
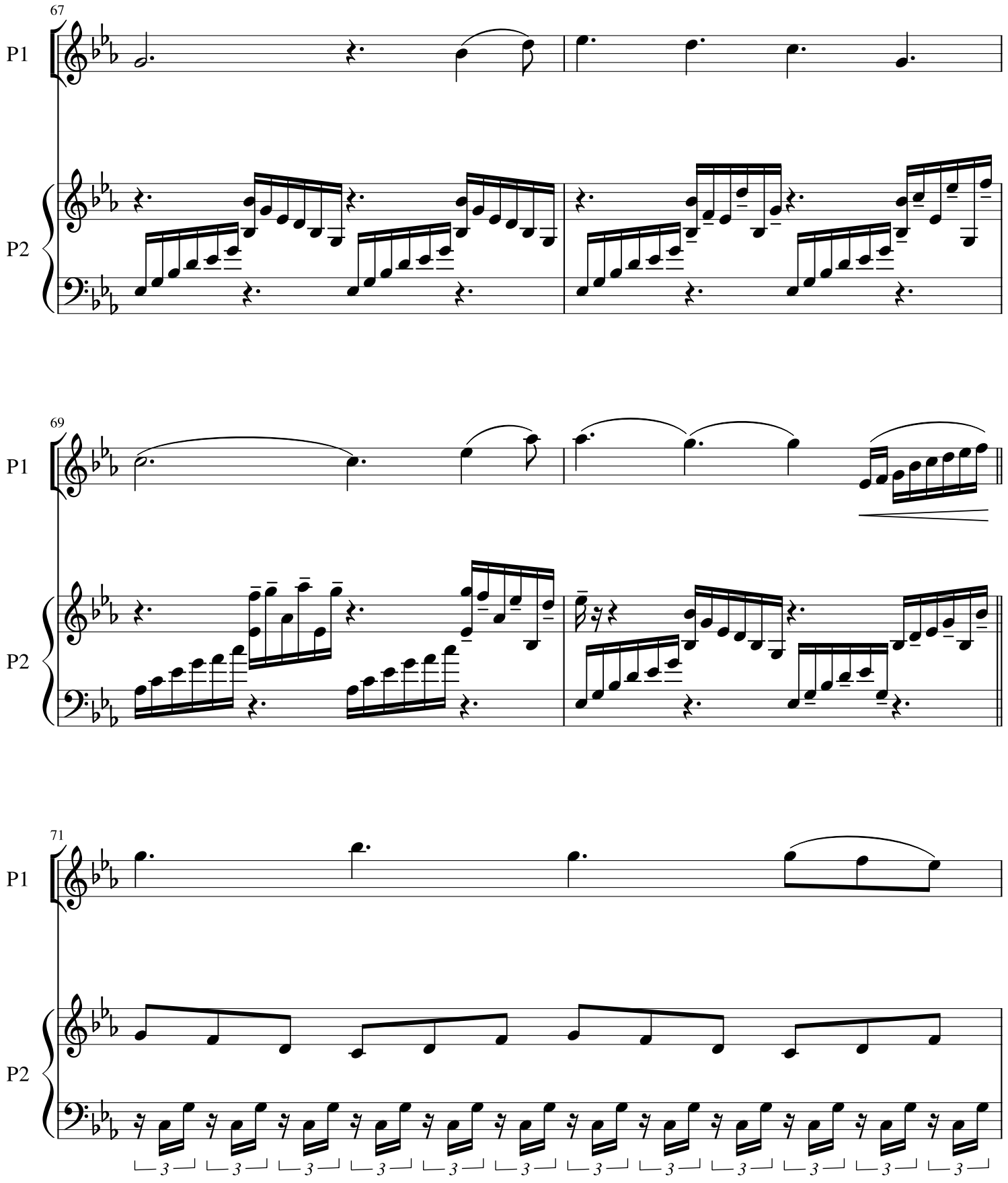
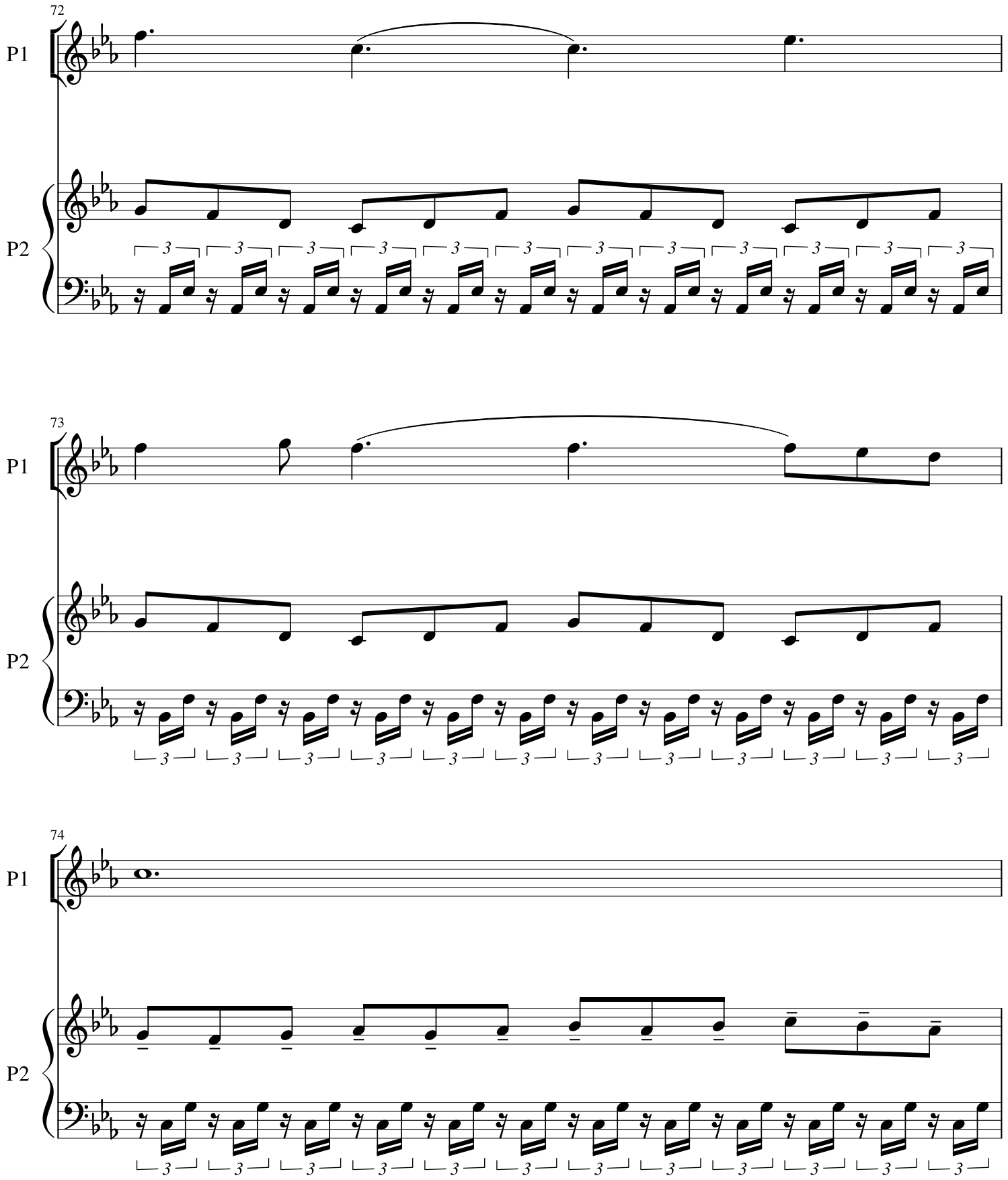
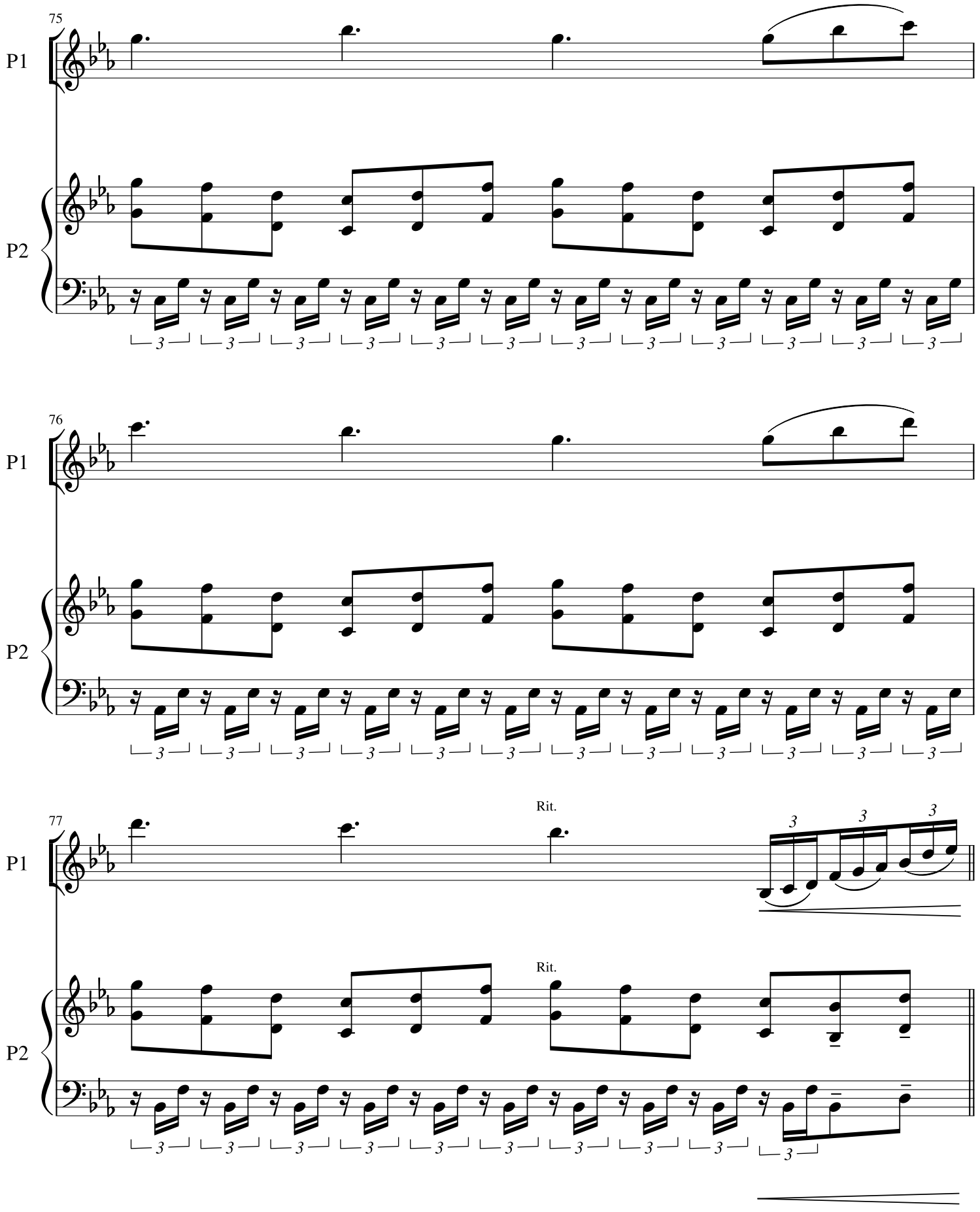
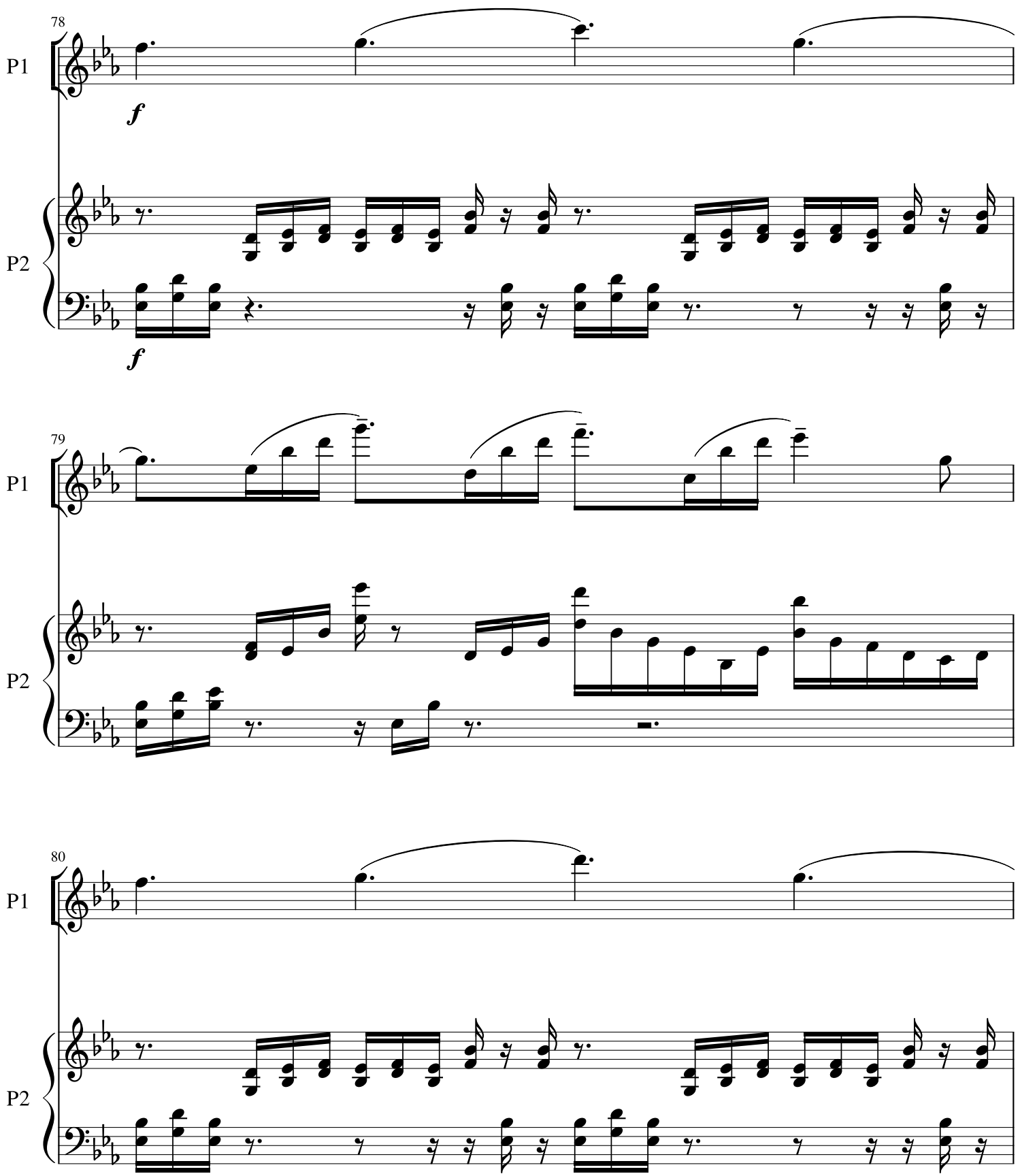
P1
P2
57
P1
P2
59
P1
P2

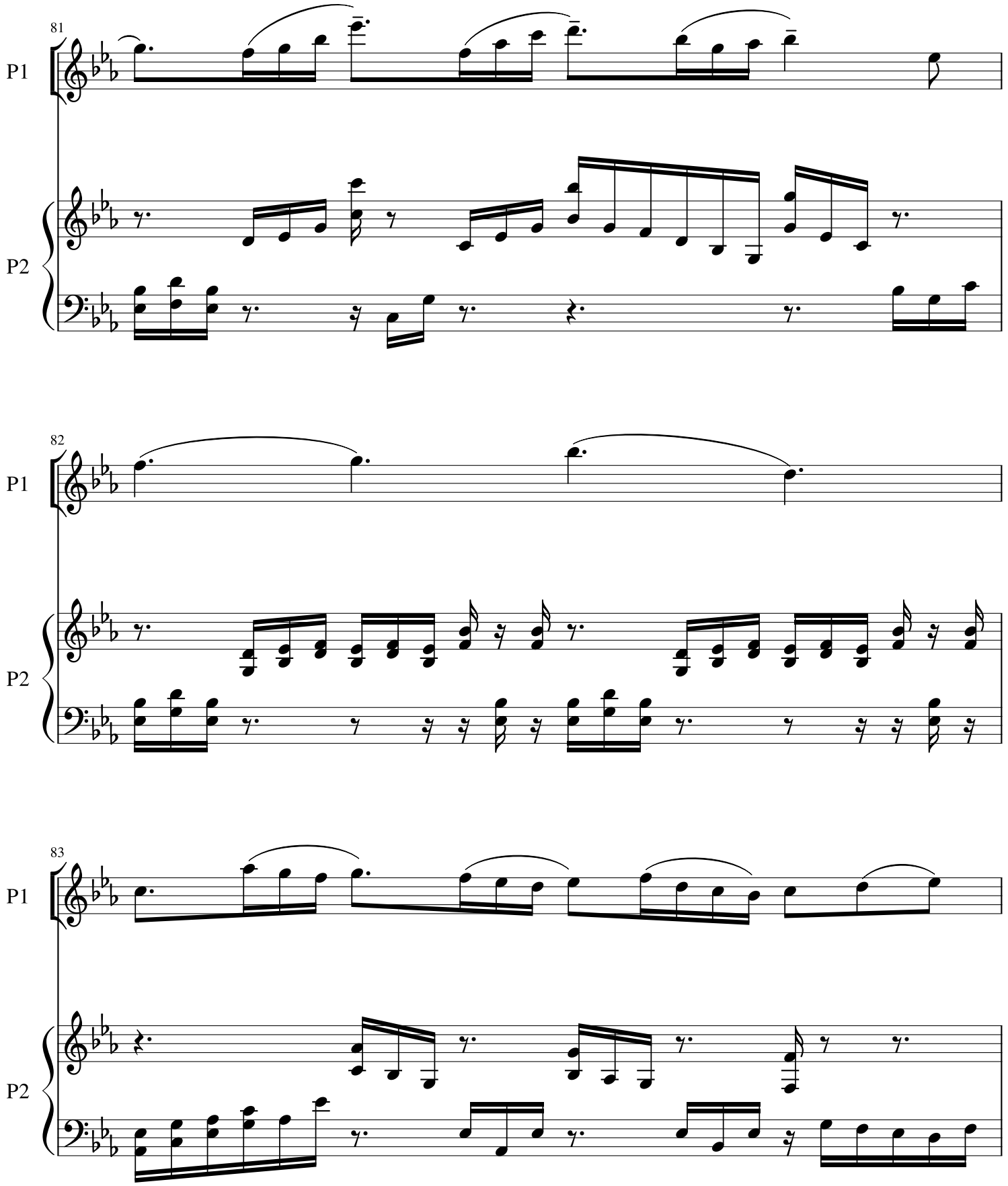

61
P1
P2
63
Slightly faster
P1
P2
65
P1
P2

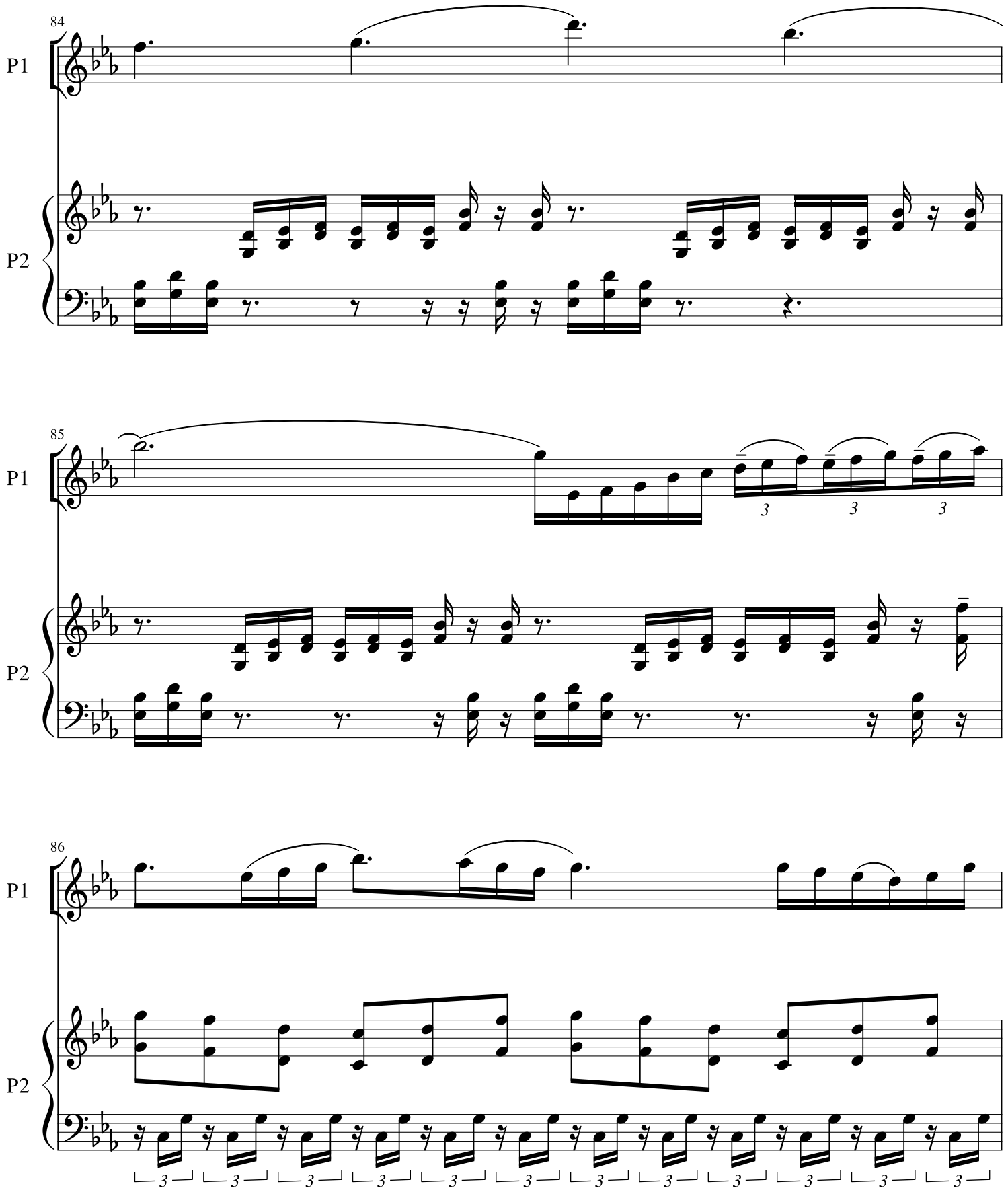

67
P1
P2
69
P1
P2
71
P1
P2
3

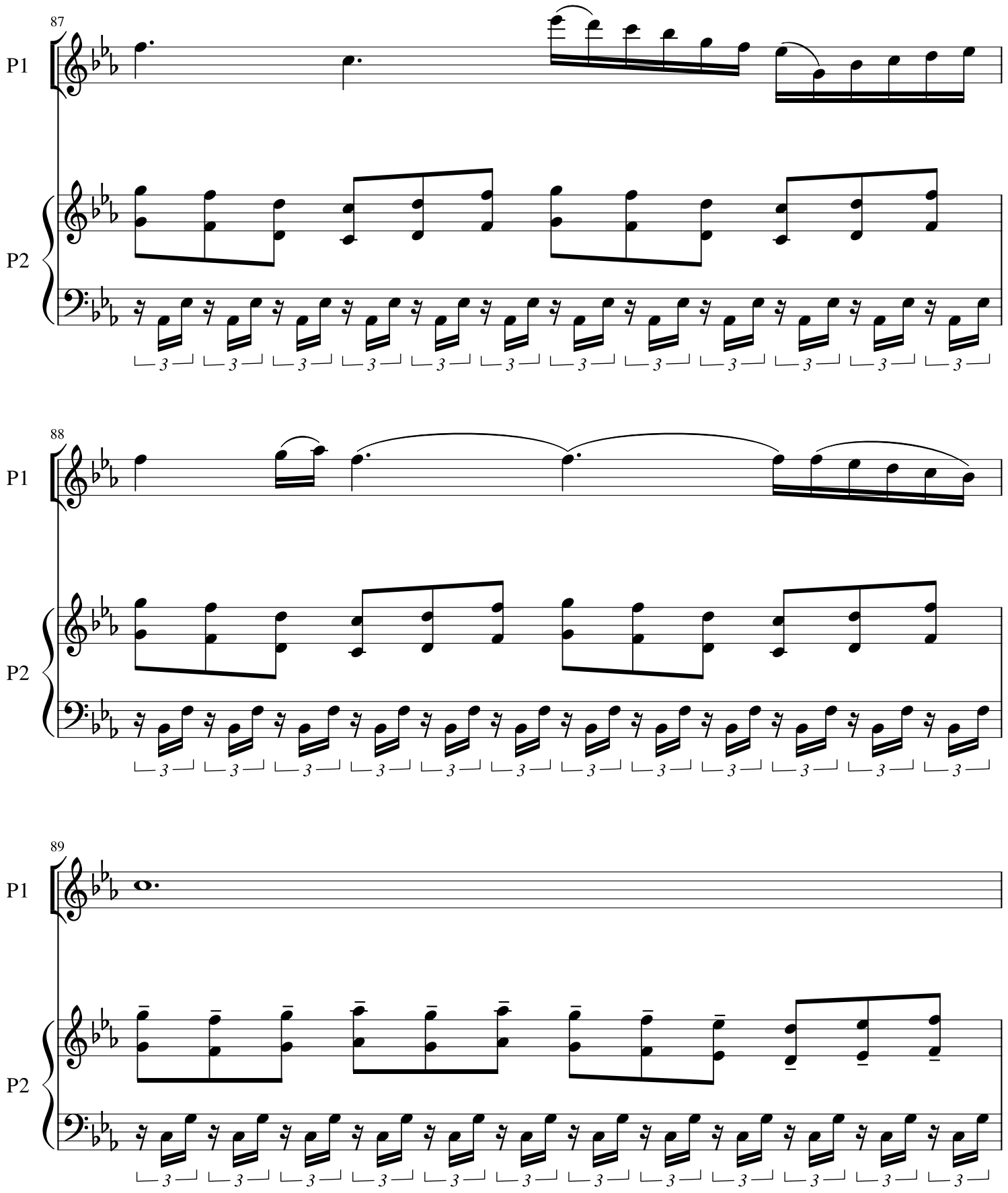

72
P1
P2
73
P1
P2
74
P1
P2

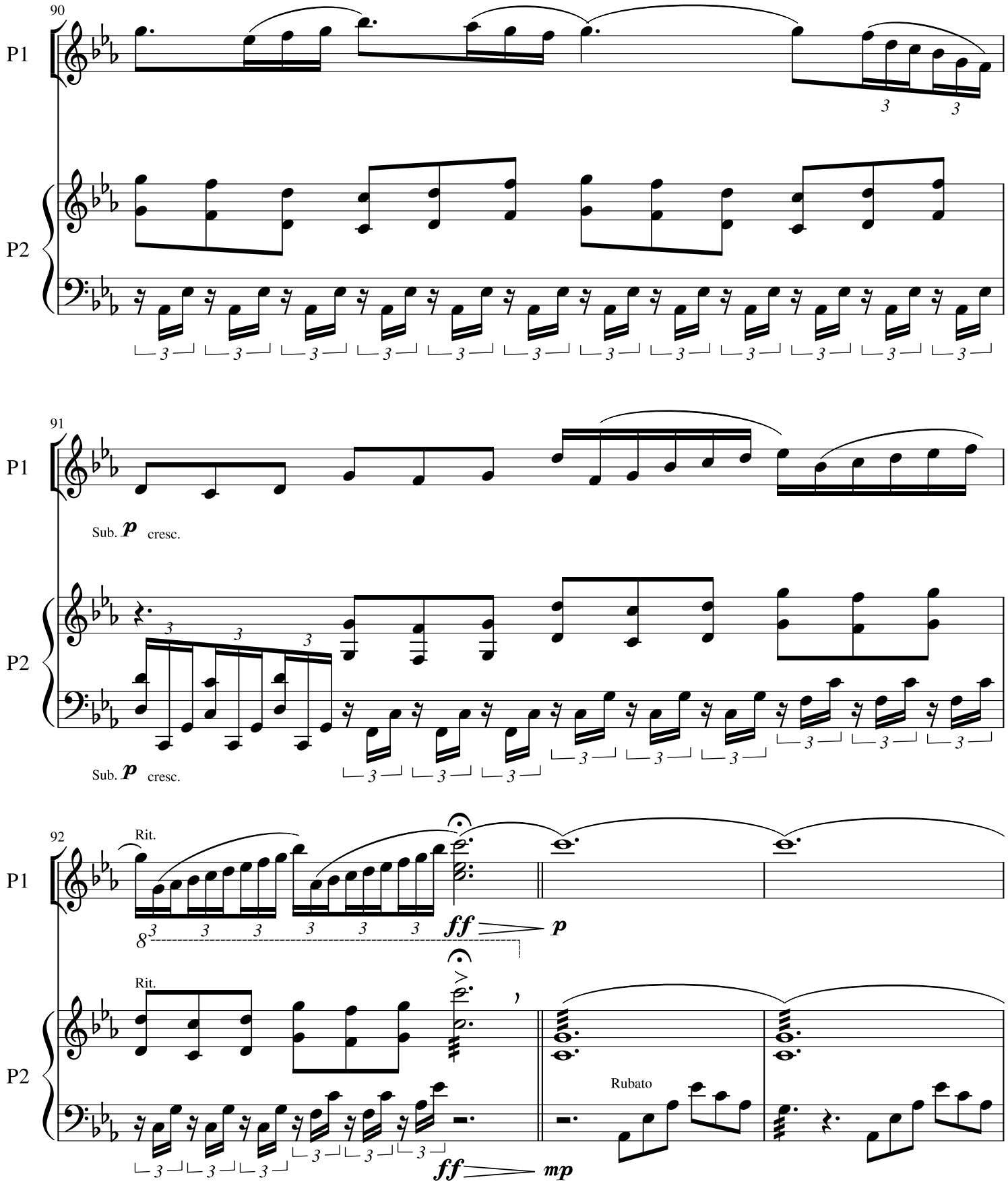

75
P1
P2
76
P1
P2
77
Rit.
P1
Rit.
P2

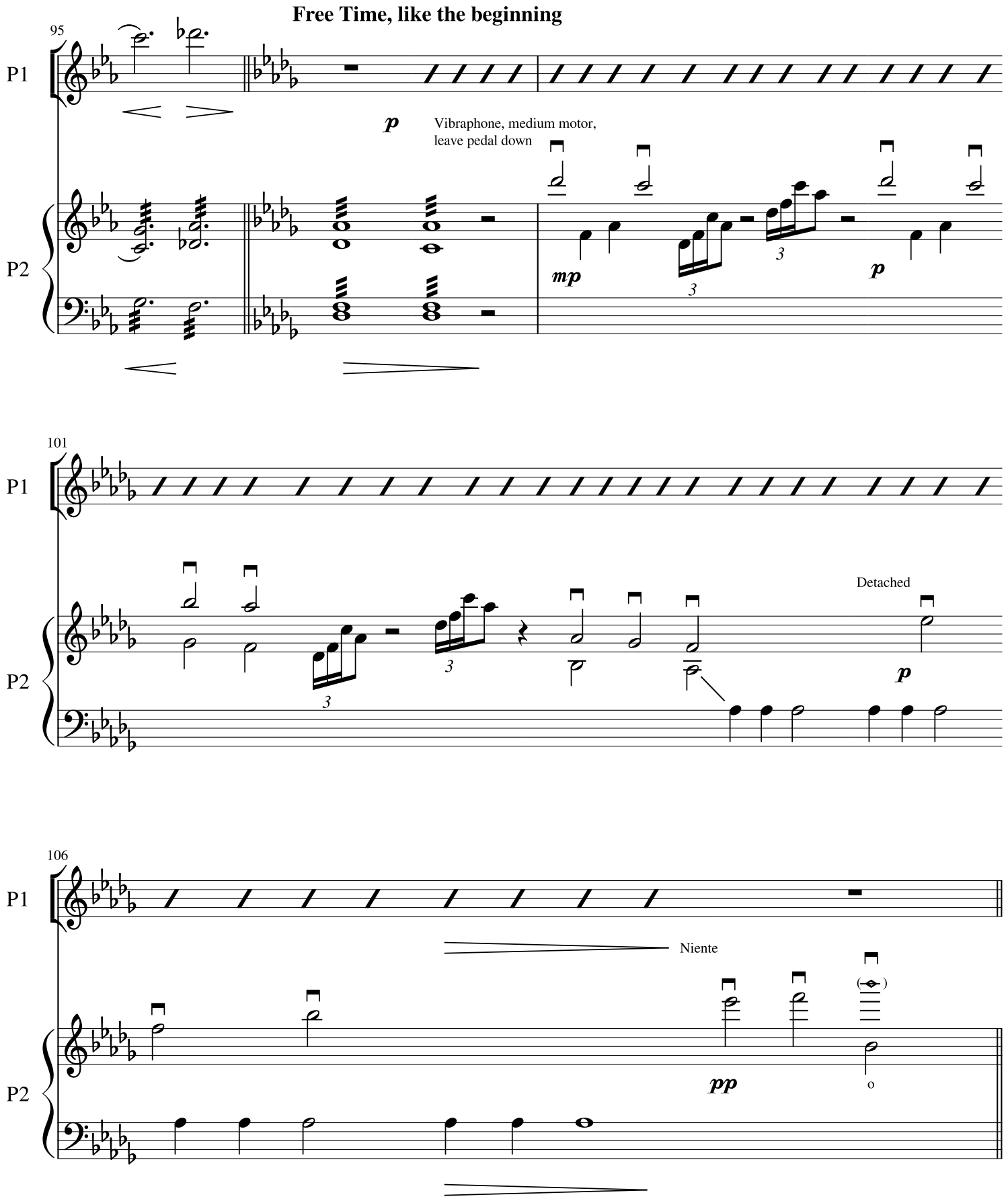

78
P1
f
P2
f
79
P1
P2
80
P1
P2


81
P1
P2
82
P1
P2
83
P1
P2


84
P1
P2
85
P1
P2
86
P1
P2


87
P1
P2
88
P1
P2
89
P1
P2


90
P1
P2
91
P1
Sub. p cresc.
P2
Sub. p cresc.
92
Rit.
P1
ff
p
Rit.
P2
Rubato
ff
mp


Free Time, like the beginning
95
P1
P2
p
Vibraphone, medium motor,
leave pedal down
mp
3
3
p
101
P1
P2
3
3
Detached
p
106
P1
P2
Niente
pp
o