Progressions in Conversation

for piano solo,
or with electronics
20'

Keenan Reimer-Watts
2015

Performance Notes

Progression No. 1

Tempo will need to fluxuate on occasion to line up with the electronics, especially from bar 96 - end.

In this the piano is meant to outline the affect of the electronics more so than take a forward role.

the beginning and end of the piece are ambiguous on purpose, the piano enters and exits the track at the performers discretion.

The script underneath the staves indicates relative timing, and is not to be followed precisely, note for note.

Progression No. 2

Each variation is in AB form, with the A section repeated.

The performer is encouraged to improvise based on the material presented in the A section of each variation, on any material, especially repeats.

Small variations in rhythm, register, and especially dynamics are encouraged.

In learning the piece it is good practice to memorize the progression and improvise on it, either using the material given or inventing their own.

In using the electronics track it will be necessary to improvise less, to stay more or less in sync with the electronics.

Numbers 1 and 2 are given to some clips from the electronics, to indicate which occurs on the first playing (1) and on the repeat (2)

No. 1

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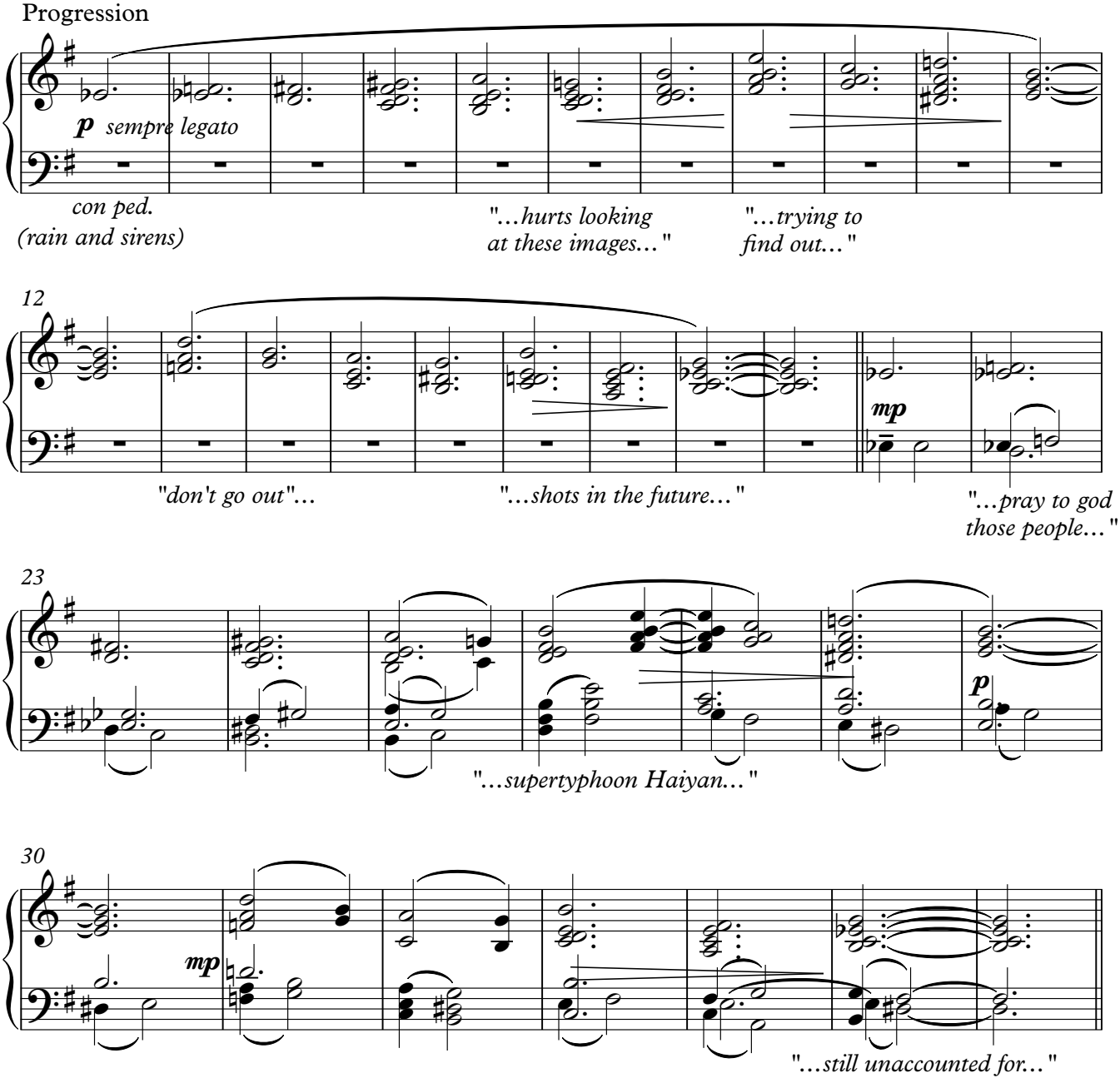
♩ = 60 with heaviness
***Press play for Track 1, and enter ad lib.**
Progression



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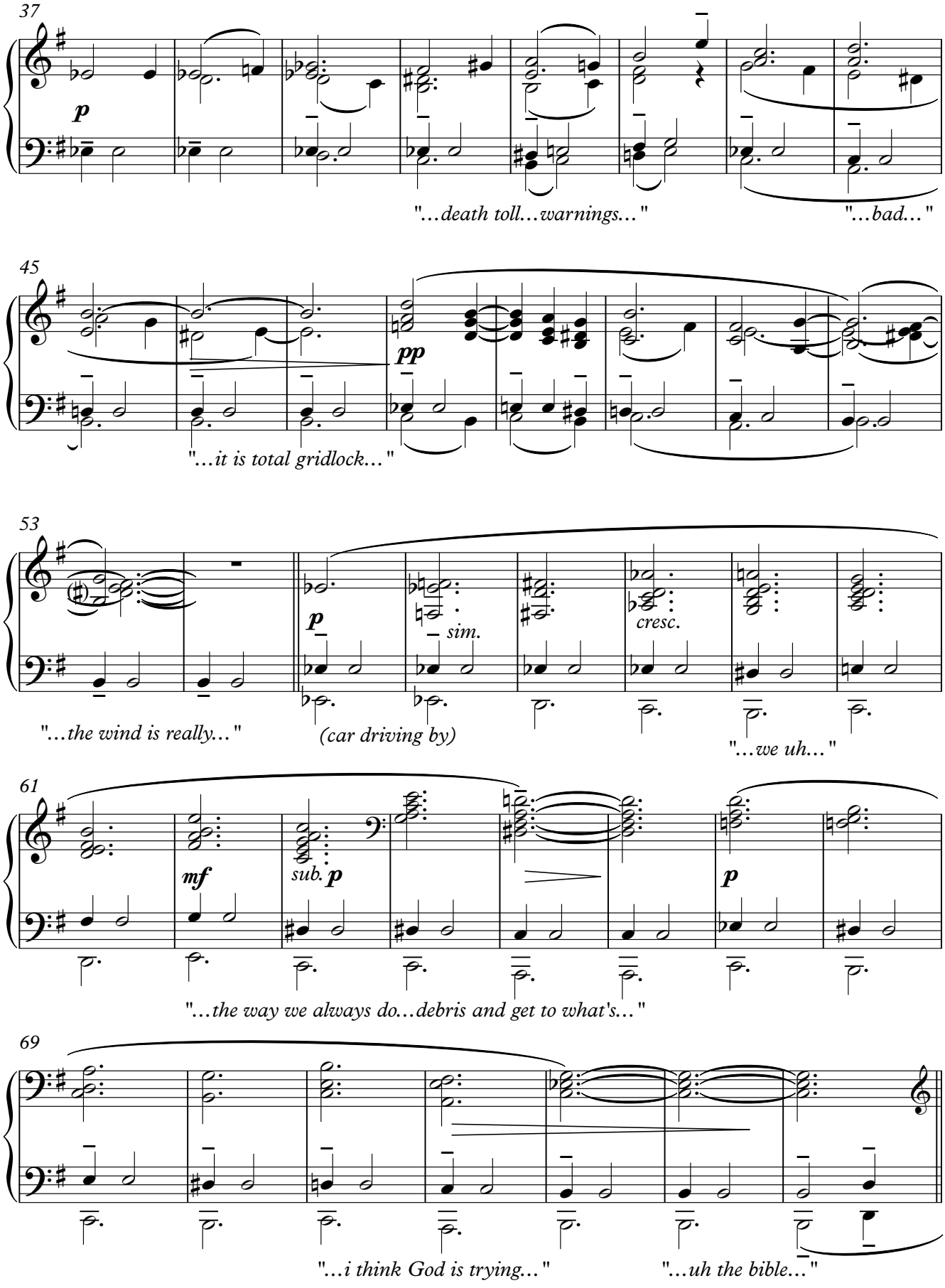
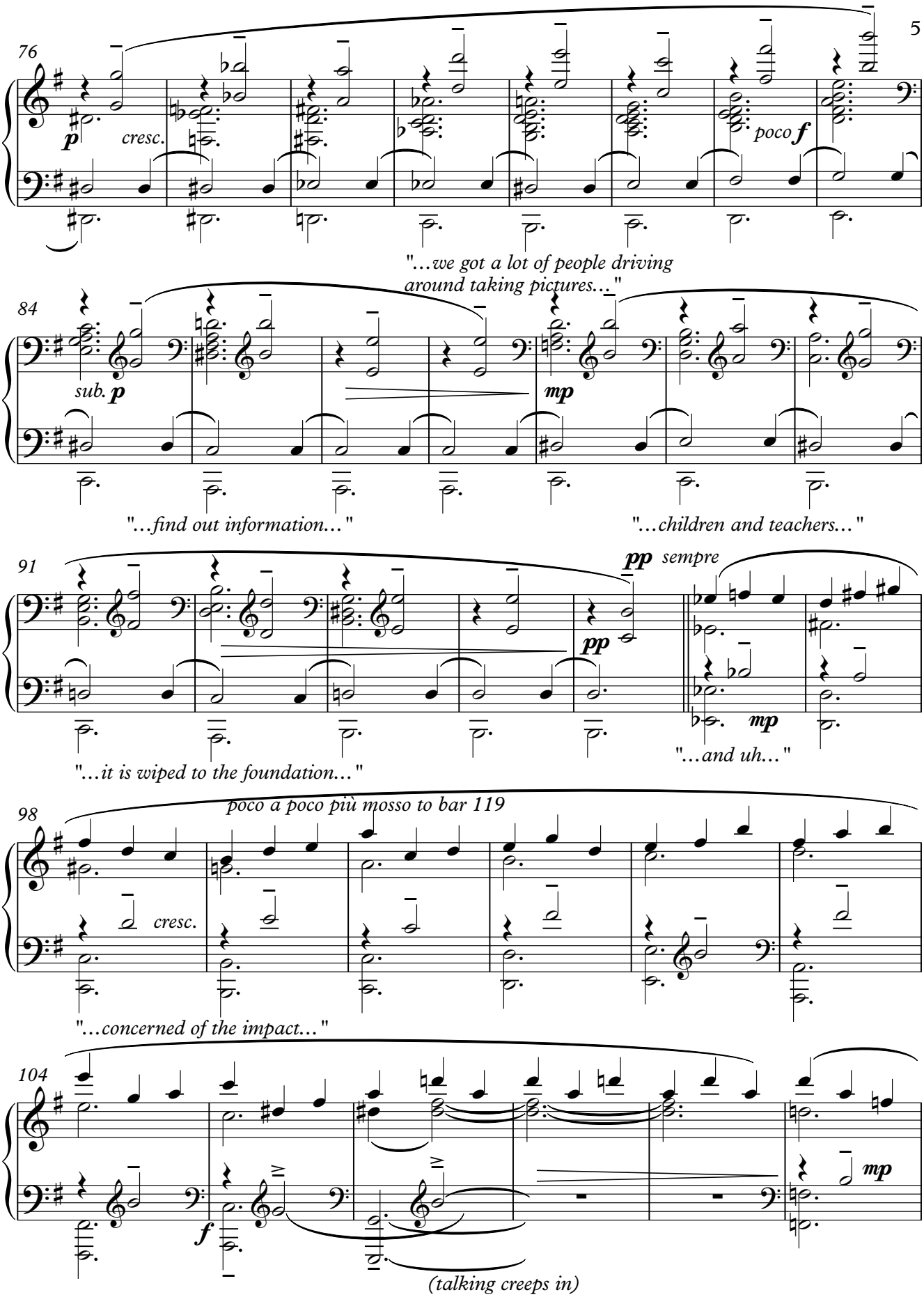
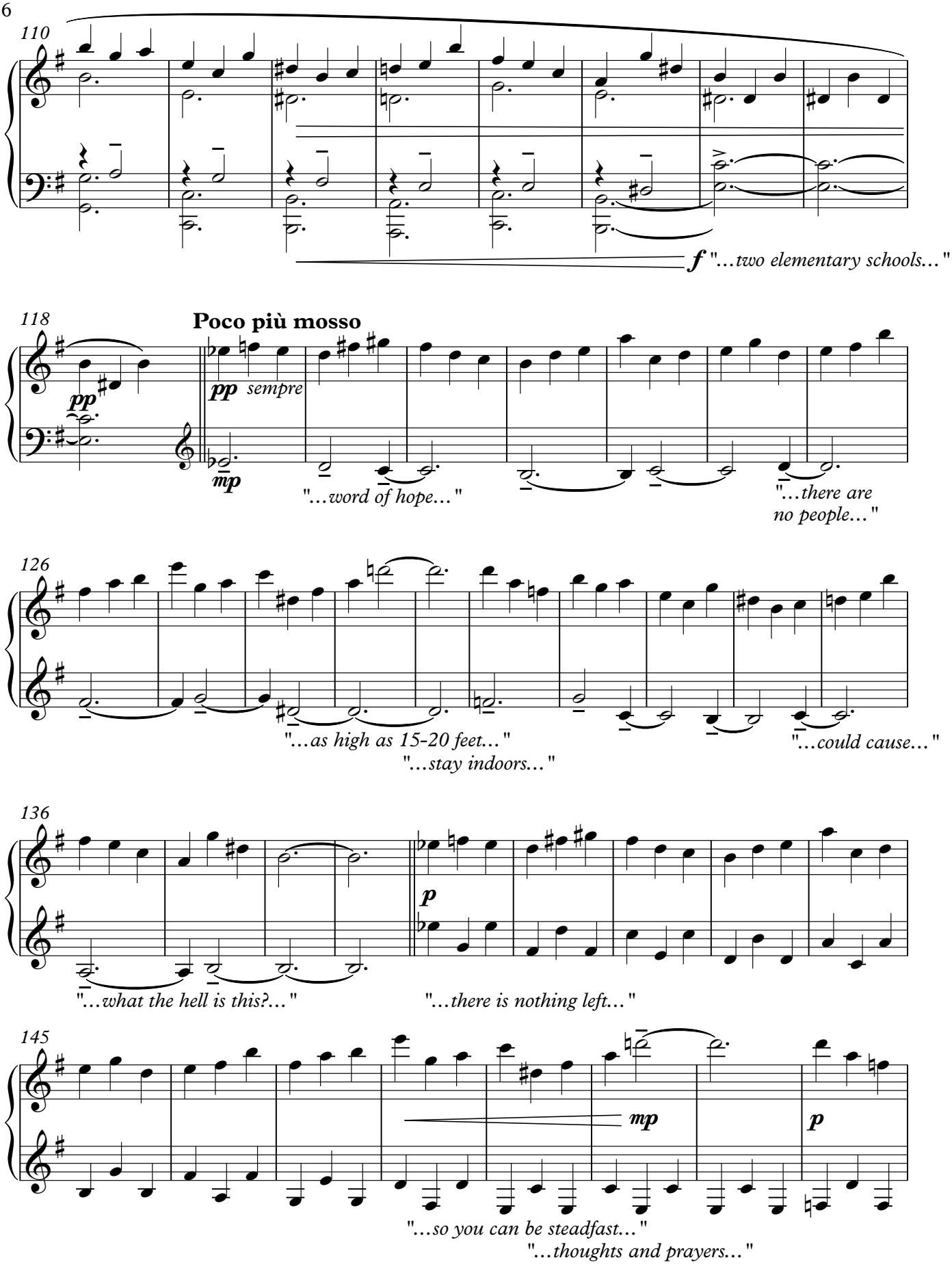
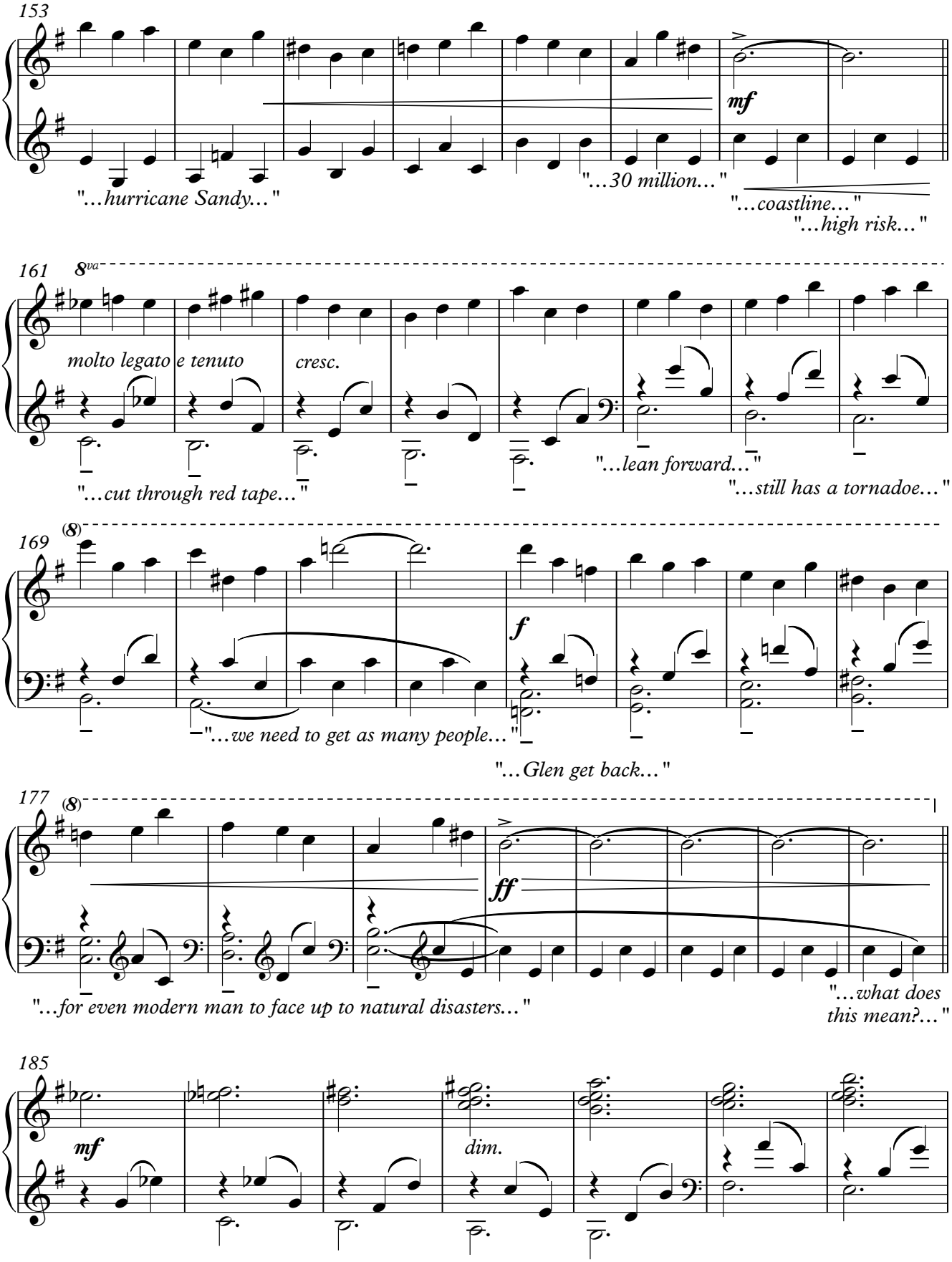
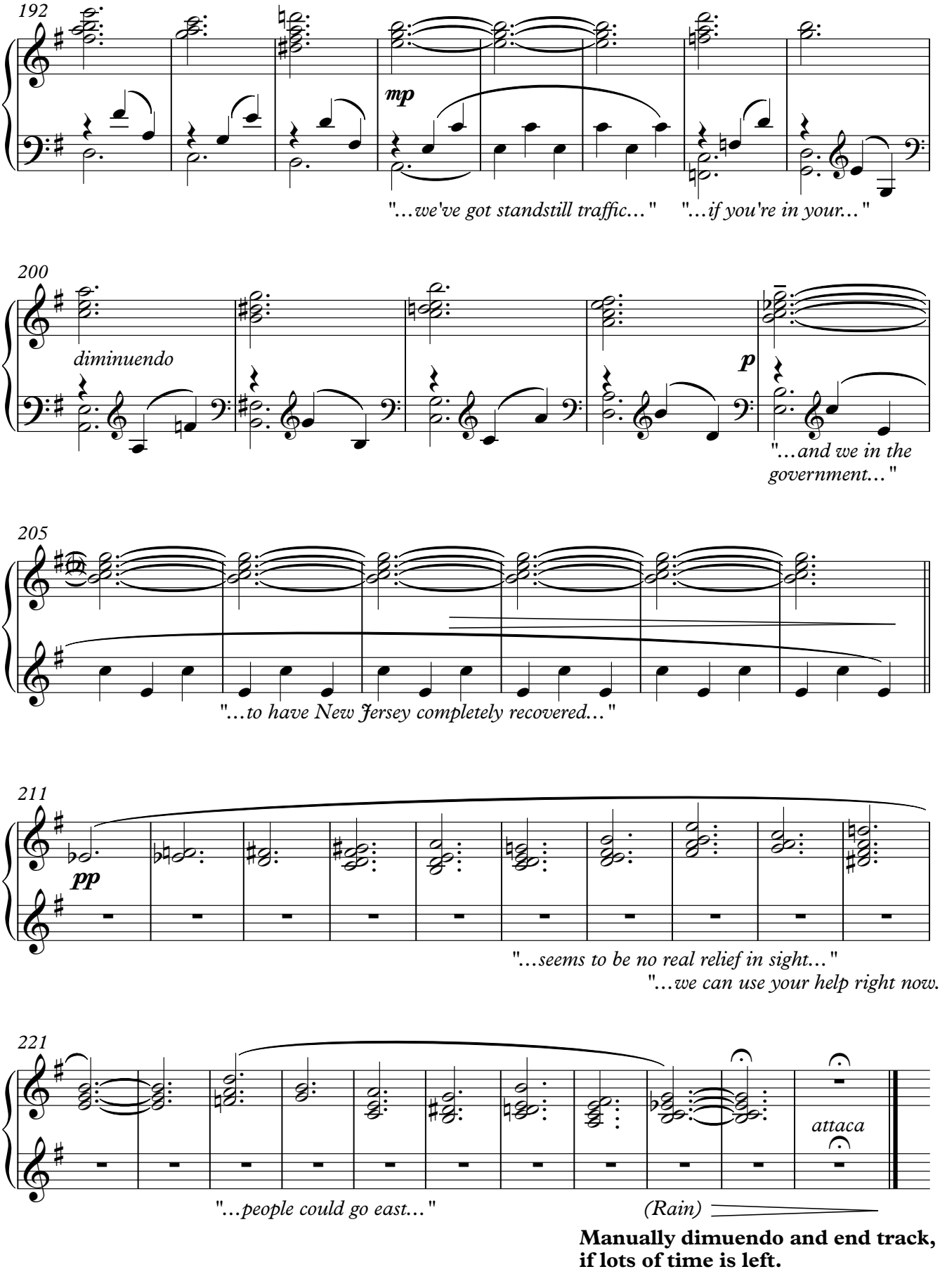

37
p
"…death toll…warnings…"
"…bad…"
45
pp
"…it is total gridlock…"
53
p
sim.
cresc.
"…the wind is really…"
(car driving by)
"…we uh…"
61
mf
sub. p
p
"…the way we always do…debris and get to what's…"
69
"…i think God is trying…"
"…uh the bible…"


76
p
cresc.
poco f
"…we got a lot of people driving around taking pictures…"
84
sub. p
mp
"…find out information…"
"…children and teachers…"
91
pp
sempre
pp
mp
"…it is wiped to the foundation…"
"…and uh…"
98
poco a poco più mosso to bar 119
cresc.
"…concerned of the impact…"
104
f
mp
(talking creeps in)


110
f "…two elementary schools…"
118
Poco più mosso
pp
pp sempre
mp
"…word of hope…"
"…there are no people…"
126
"…as high as 15-20 feet…"
"…stay indoors…"
"…could cause…"
136
p
"…what the hell is this?…"
"…there is nothing left…"
145
mp
p
"…so you can be steadfast…"
"…thoughts and prayers…"


153
mf
"…hurricane Sandy…"
"…30 million…"
"…coastline…"
"…high risk…"
161
8va
molto legato e tenuto
cresc.
"…cut through red tape…"
"…lean forward…"
"…still has a tornadoe…"
169
(8)
f
"…we need to get as many people…"
"…Glen get back…"
177
(8)
ff
"…for even modern man to face up to natural disasters…"
"…what does this mean?…"
185
mf
dim.



Manually dimuendo and end track, if lots of time is left.

No. 2

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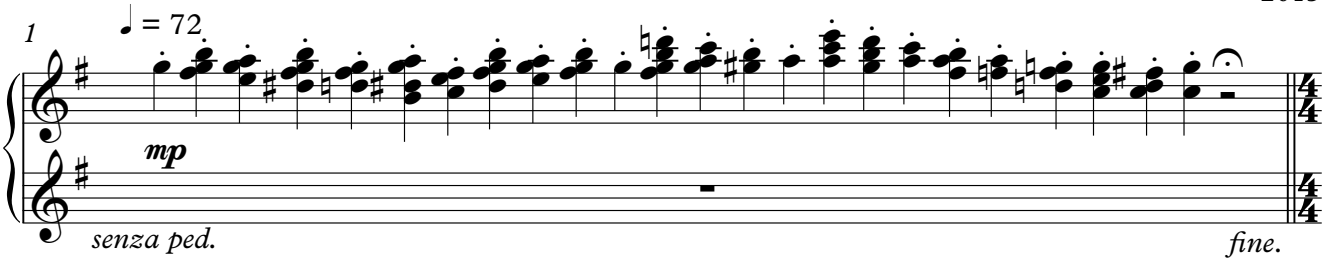
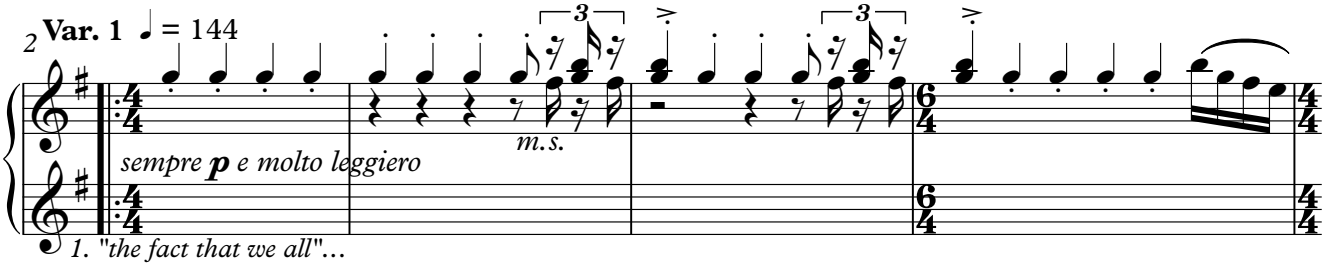
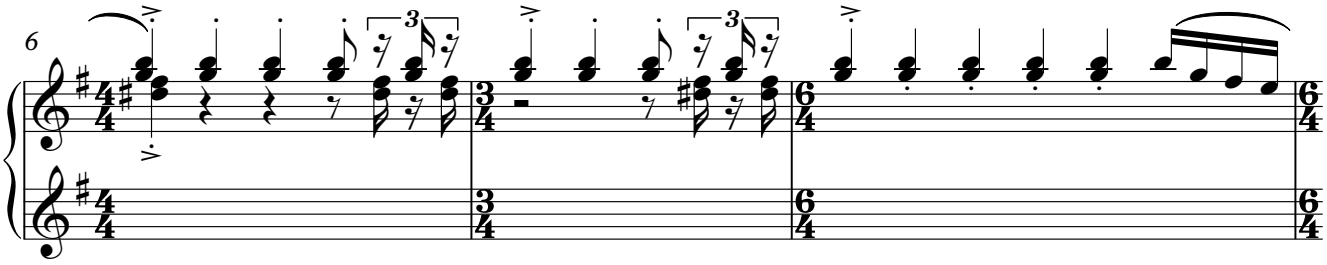
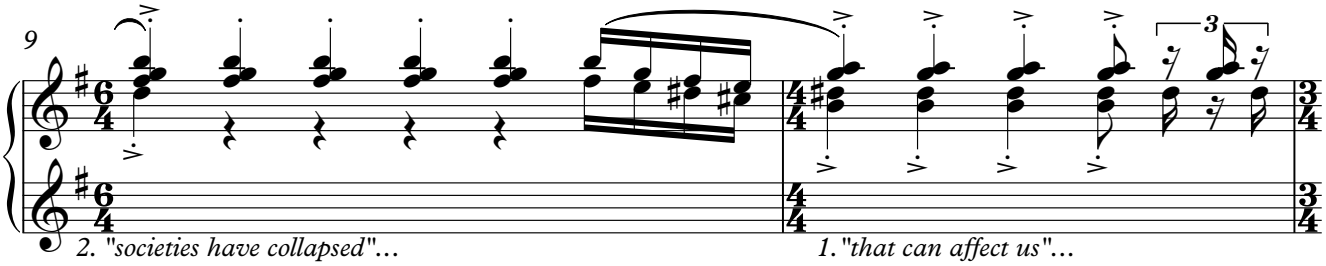
Progression

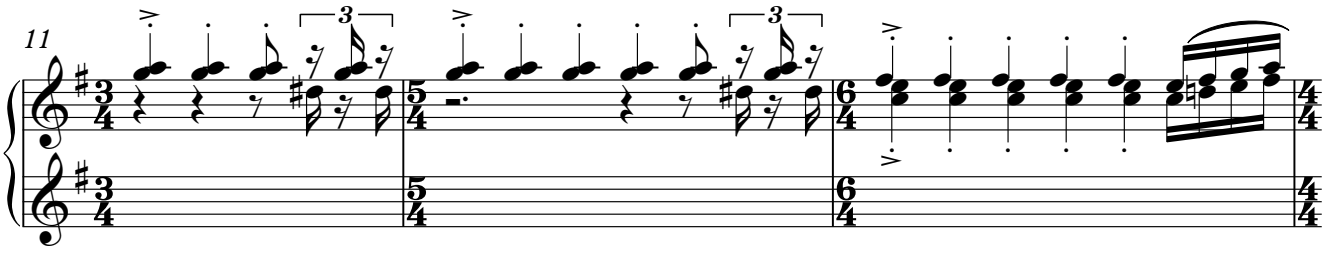


***Press Play for Track 2a, enter after "the fact…"**









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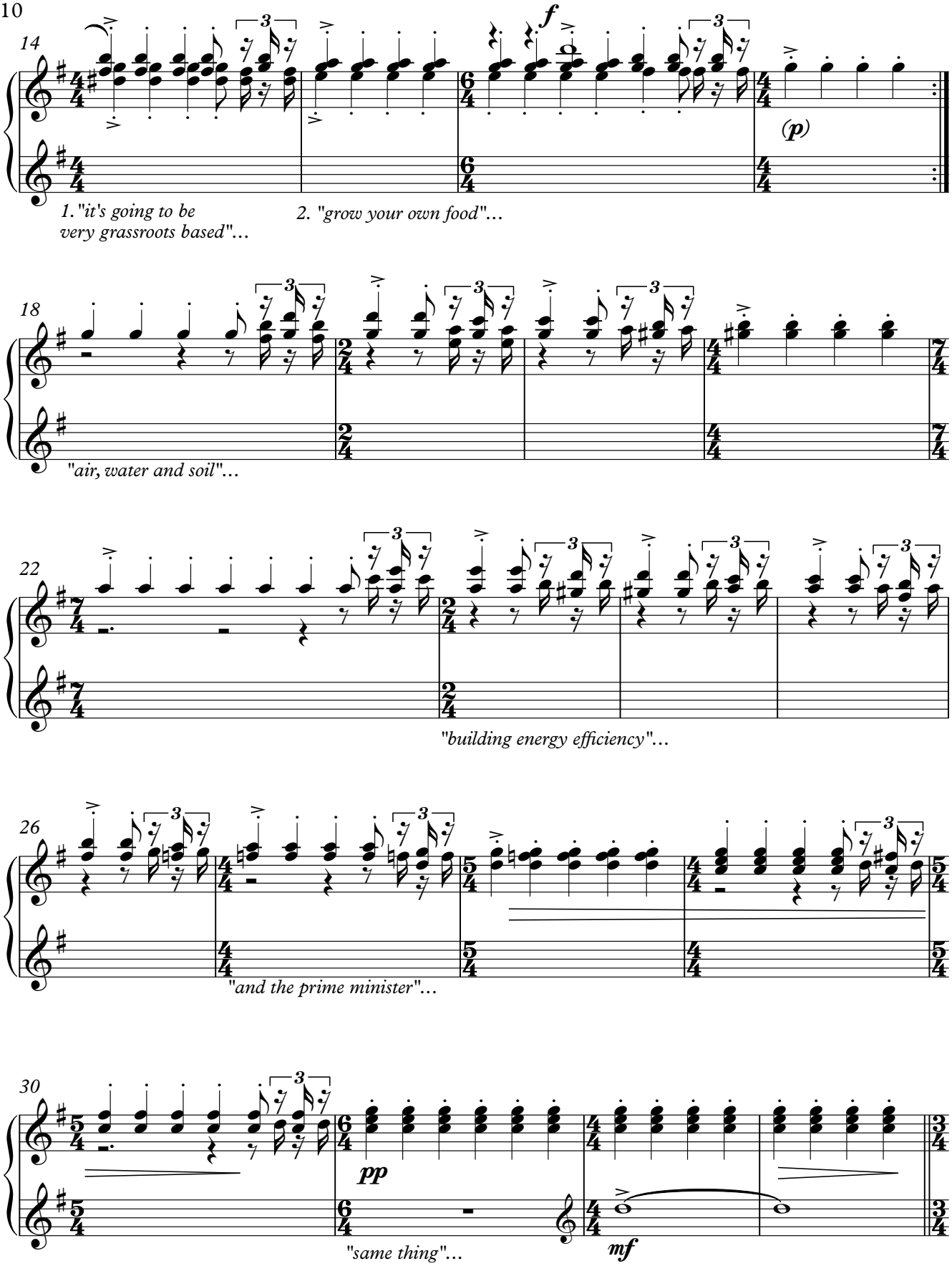

14
f
(p)
1. "it's going to be very grassroots based"…
2. "grow your own food"…
18
"air, water and soil"…
22
"building energy efficiency"…
26
"and the prime minister"…
30
pp
mf
"same thing"…

Var. 2 *play RH detached to facilitate repeated notes, allow false accents to occur*

34

p

subito ***mf***
(senza ped.)

1. "it's difficult to comprehend"…
2. "environmental protection"…

37

40

43

p

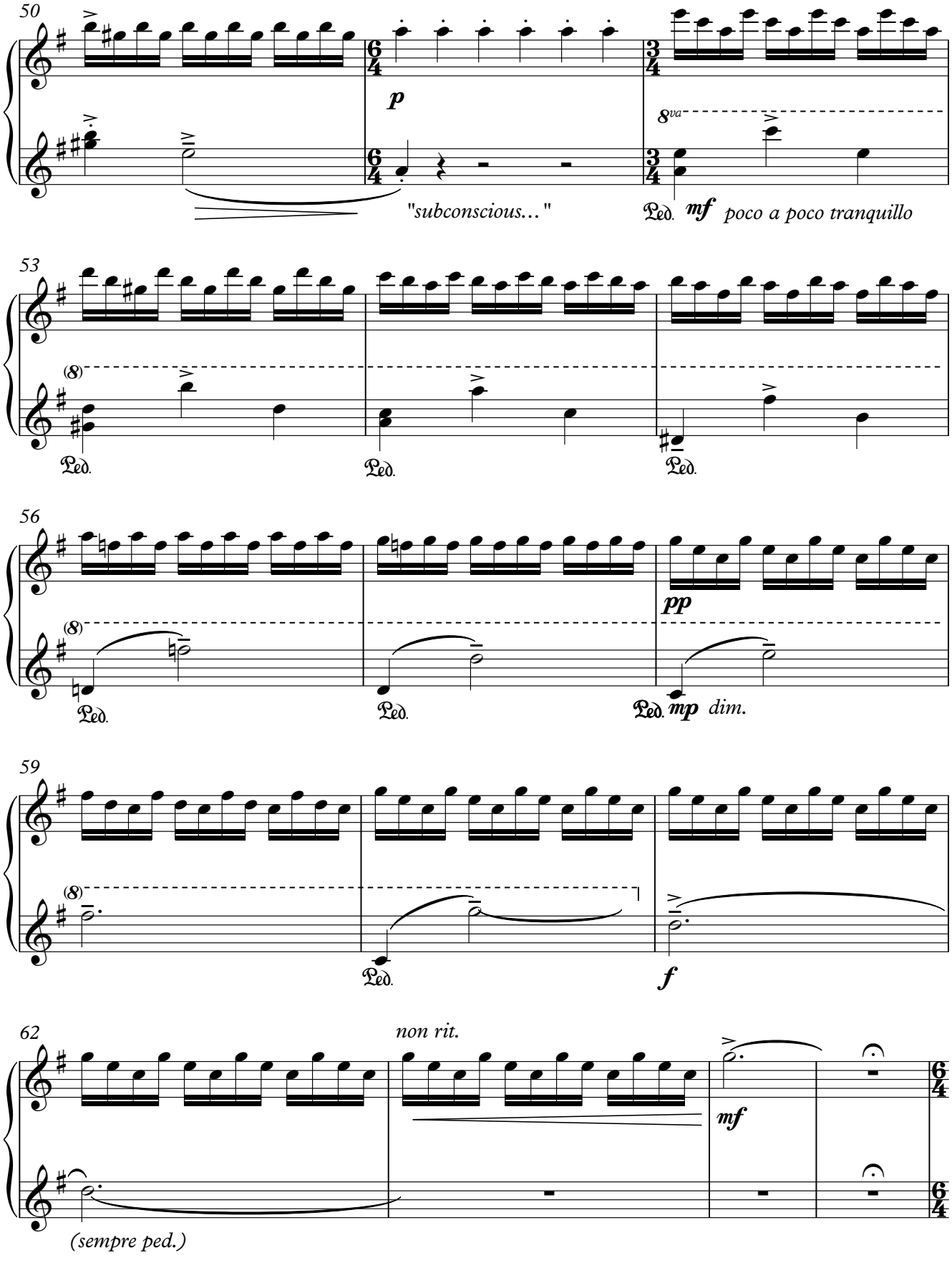
f

2. "international law"…

47

mp

"you're in the act…"


50
p
8va
"subconscious..."
Ped.
mf
poco a poco tranquillo
53
(8)
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
56
(8)
pp
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
mp
dim.
59
(8)
Ped.
f
62
non rit.
mf
(sempre ped.)

Var. 3

66

mp, molto leggiero

1. "um, my daughter turned 8 this year"…
2. "…12 km long"…

68

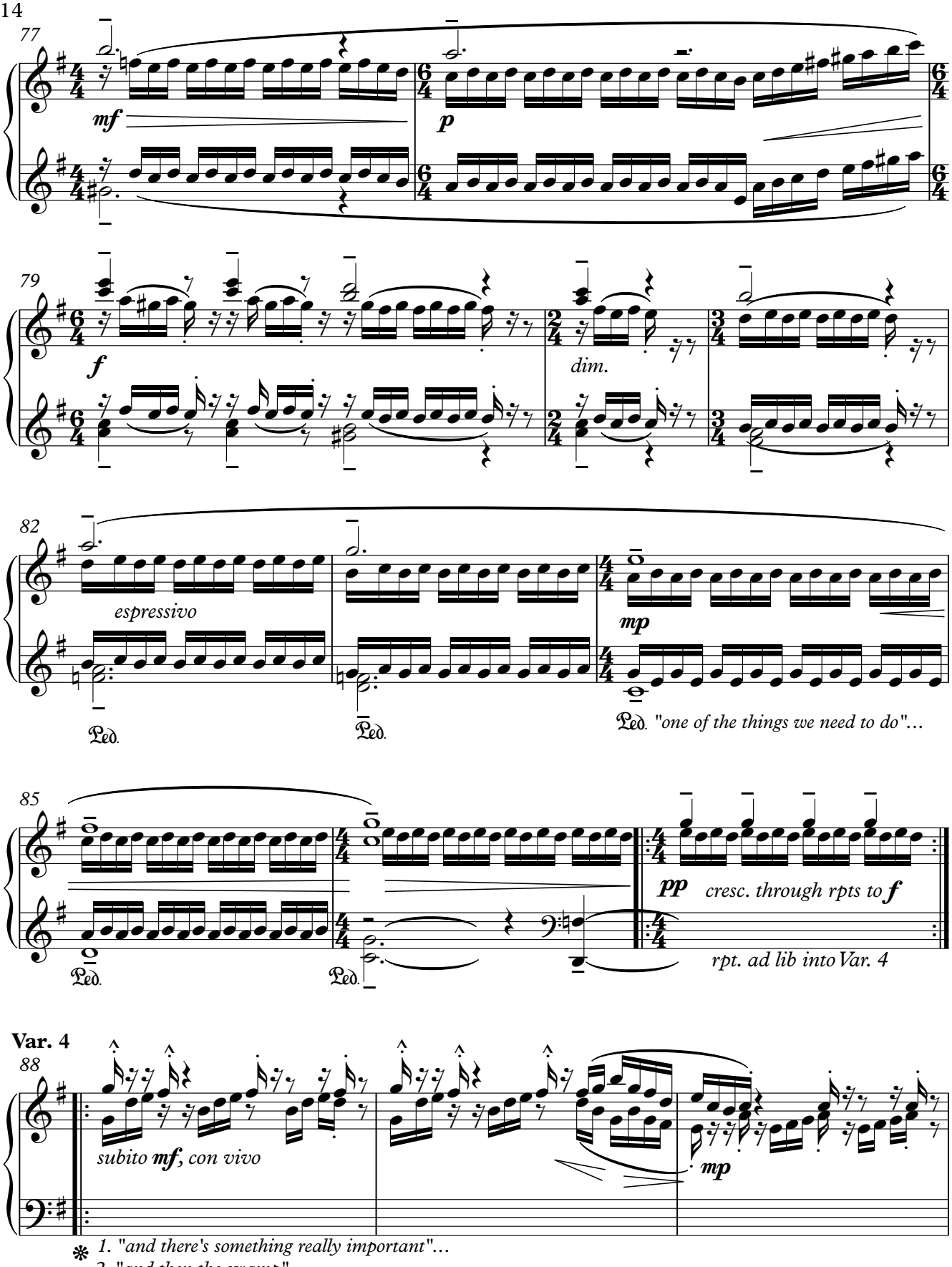
poco a poco cresc.

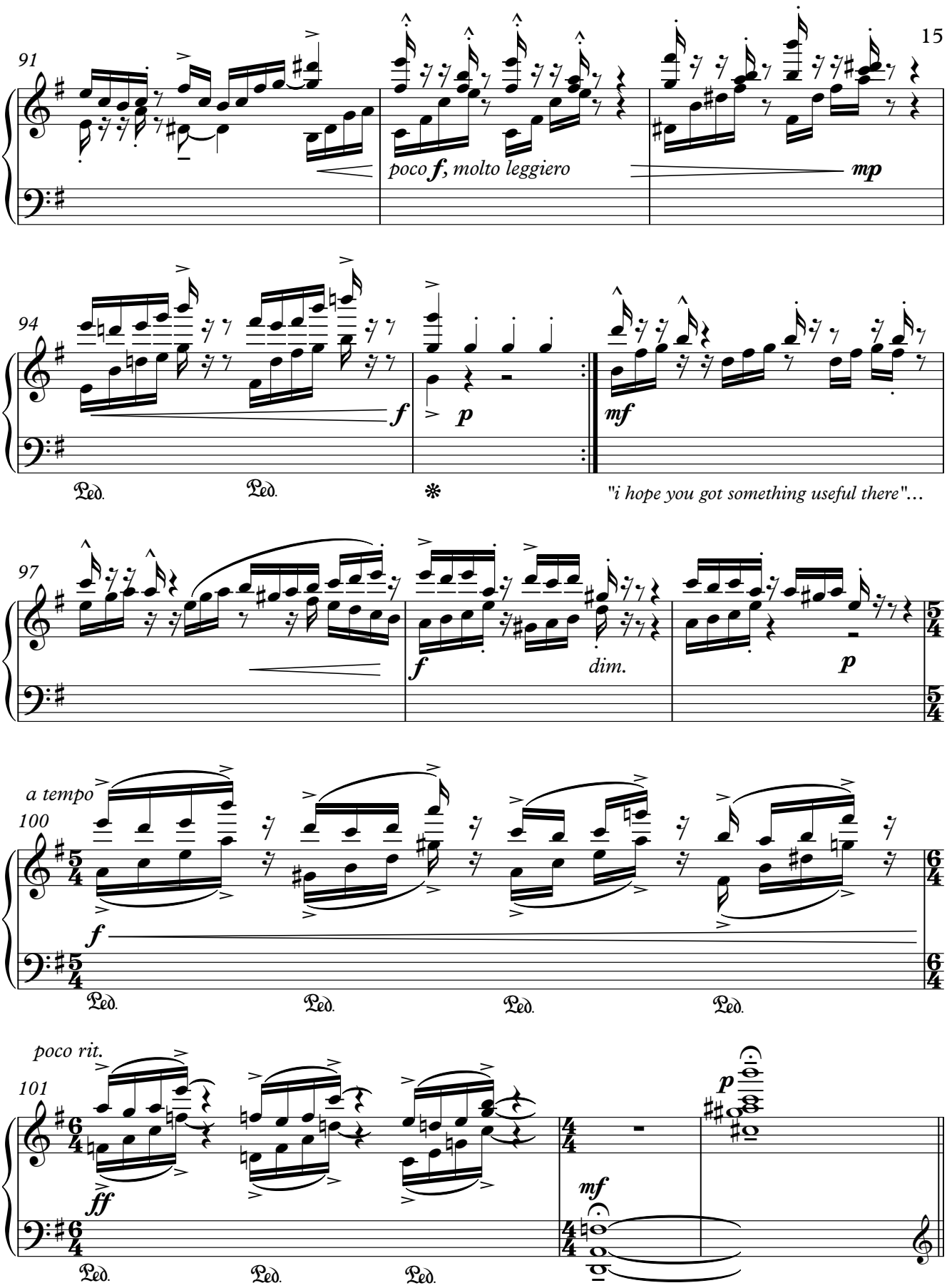
70

73

75

"you can just see…"


77
mf
p
79
f
dim.
82
espressivo
mp
Ped.
Ped.
Ped. "one of the things we need to do"…
85
pp
cresc. through rpts to f
Ped.
Ped.
rpt. ad lib into Var. 4
Var. 4
88
subito mf, con vivo
mp
1. "and there's something really important"…
2. "and then the swamp"…


91
poco f, molto leggiero
mp
94
f
p
mf
Ped.
Ped.
*
"i hope you got something useful there"...
97
f
dim.
p
a tempo
100
f
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
poco rit.
101
ff
mf
p
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.

Var. 5

104

p con poco rubato

con ped. 2. 'lives and well being"…

106

8va

espressivo

poco rit.

108

8va

poco f

pp

p

una corda

2. "fundamental to life on earth"…

111

113

8va

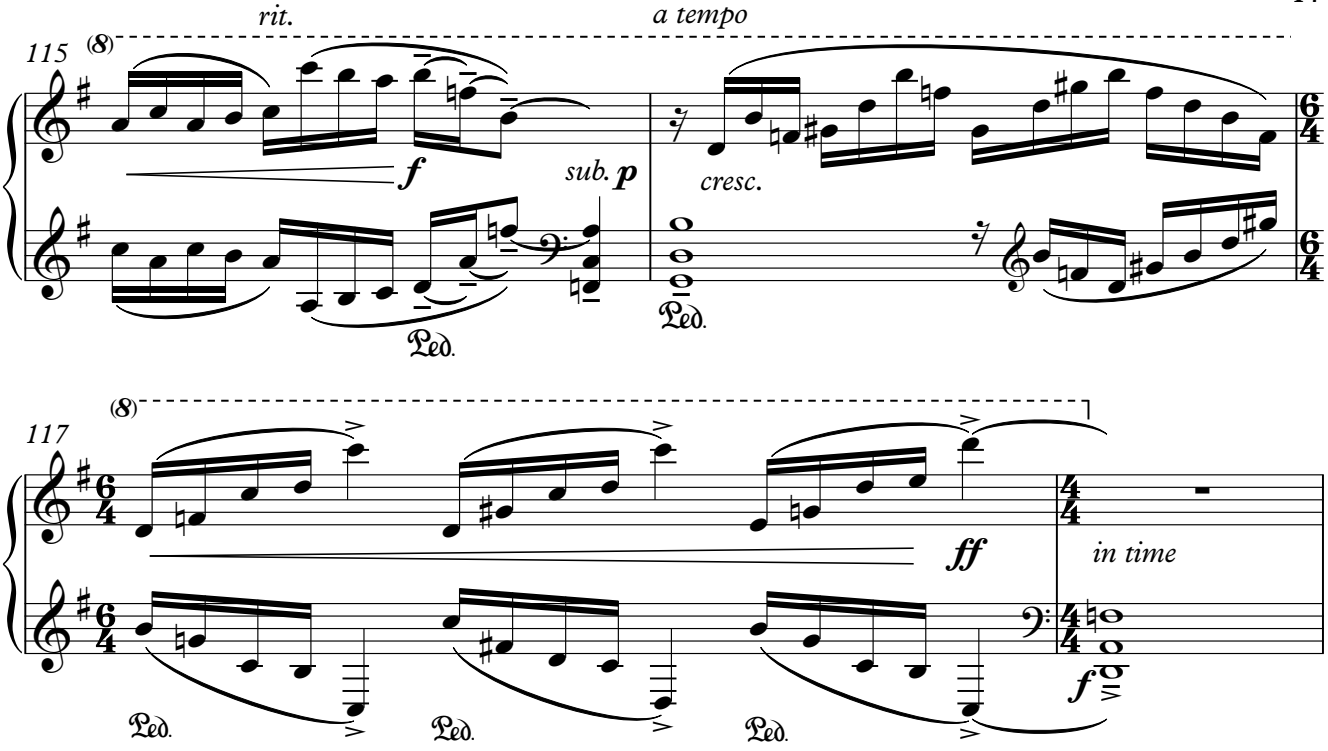
pp

mp

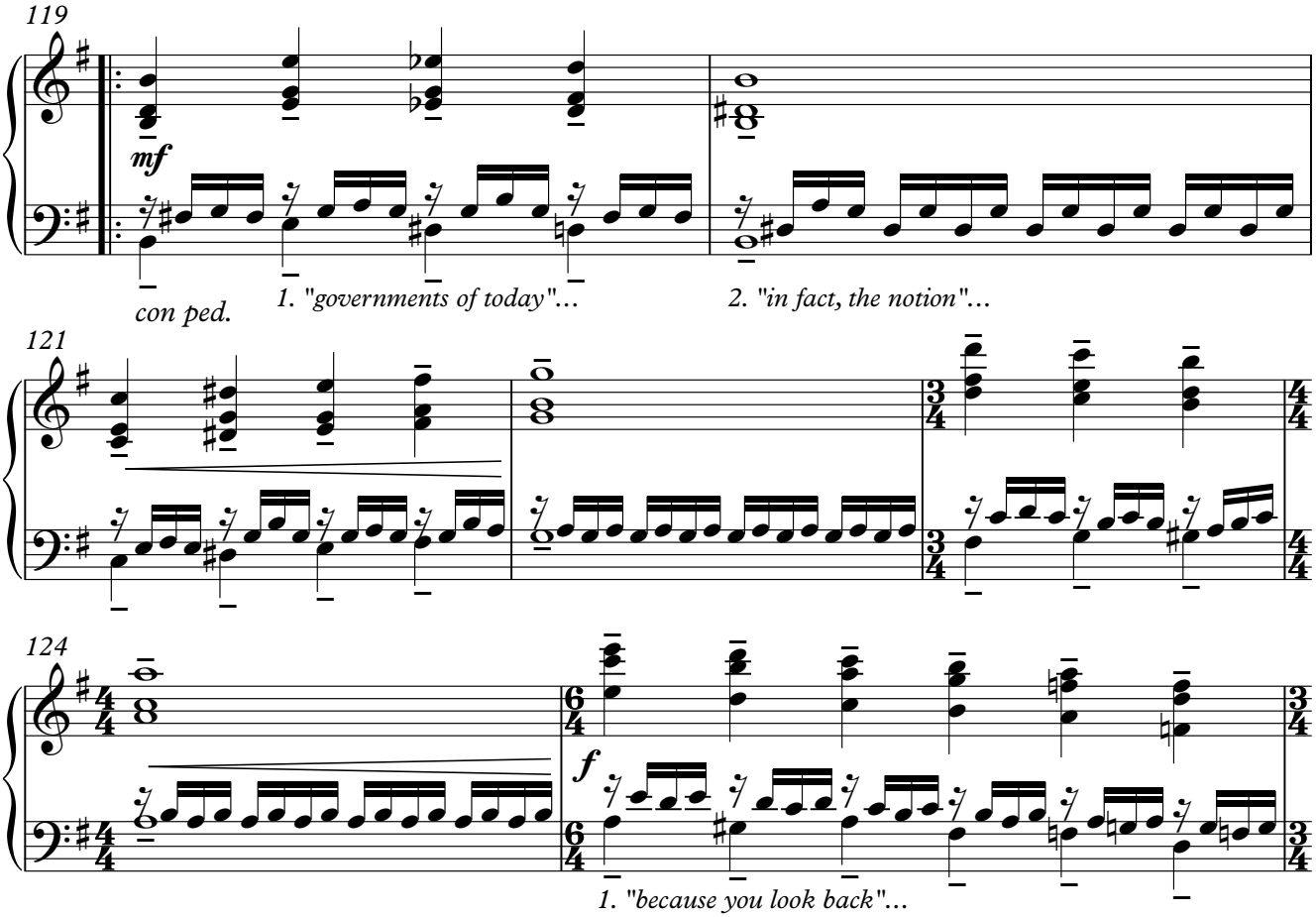
senza ped.

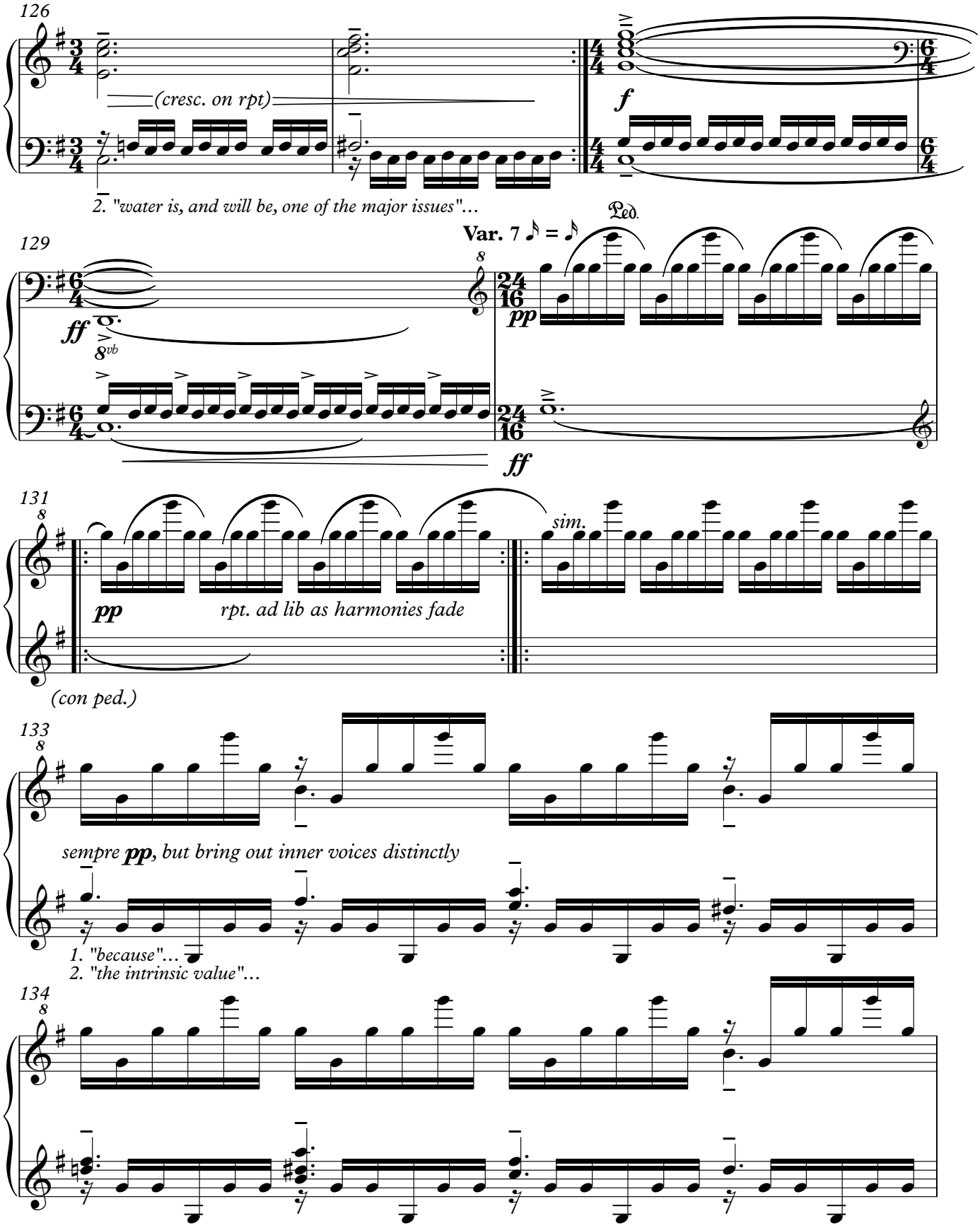
"it's often through music or art"…

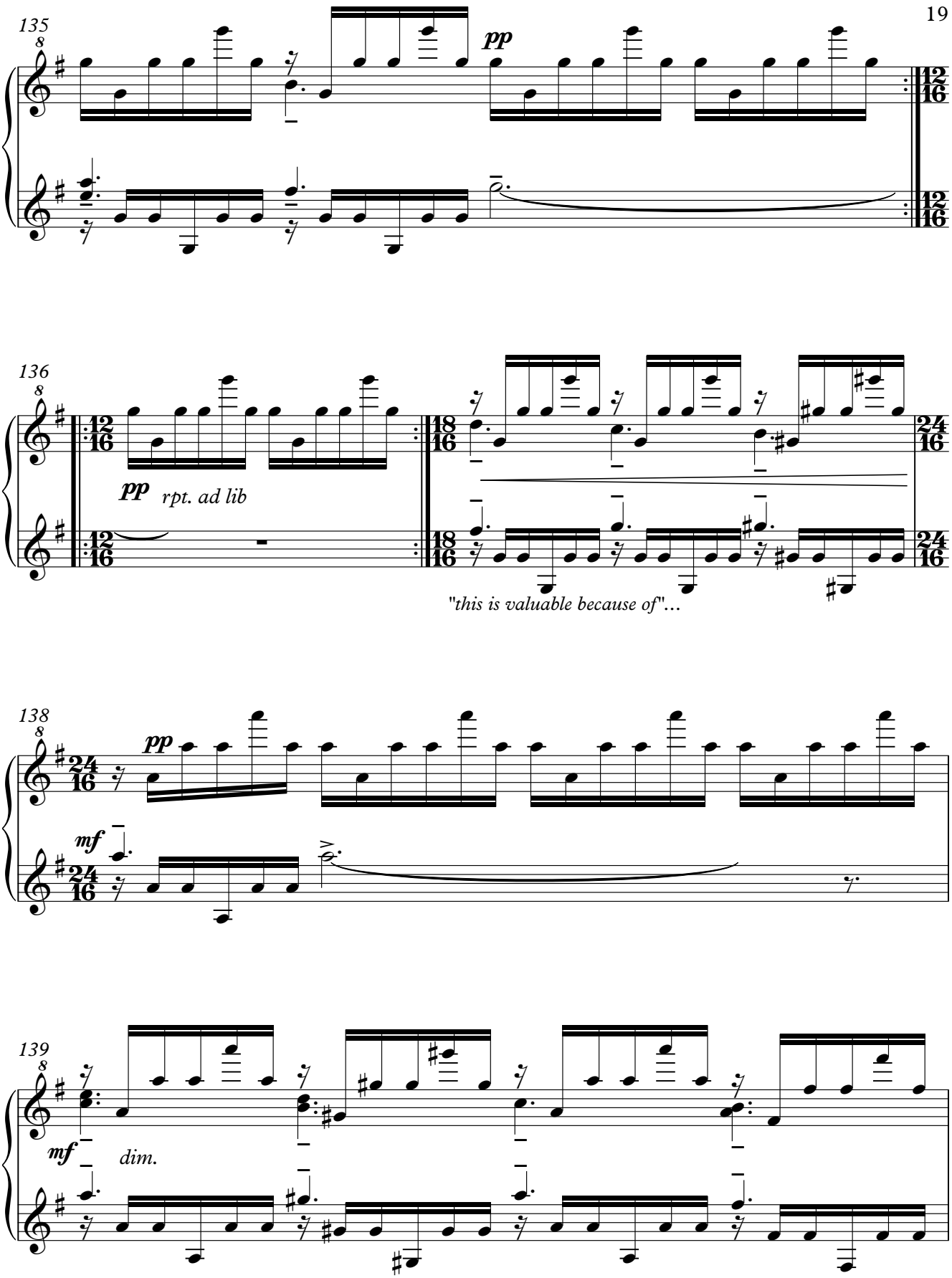
tre corde, con ped.

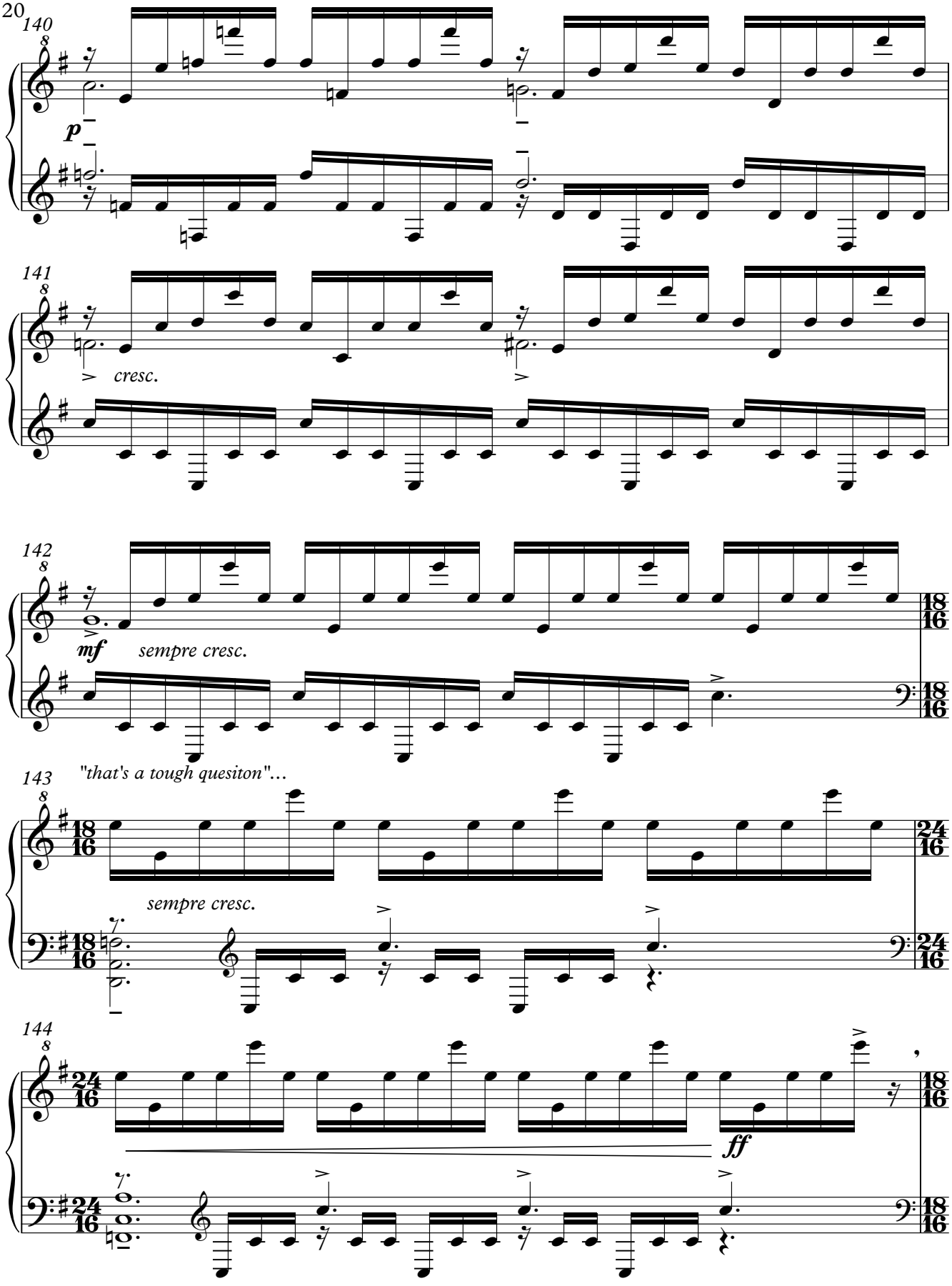


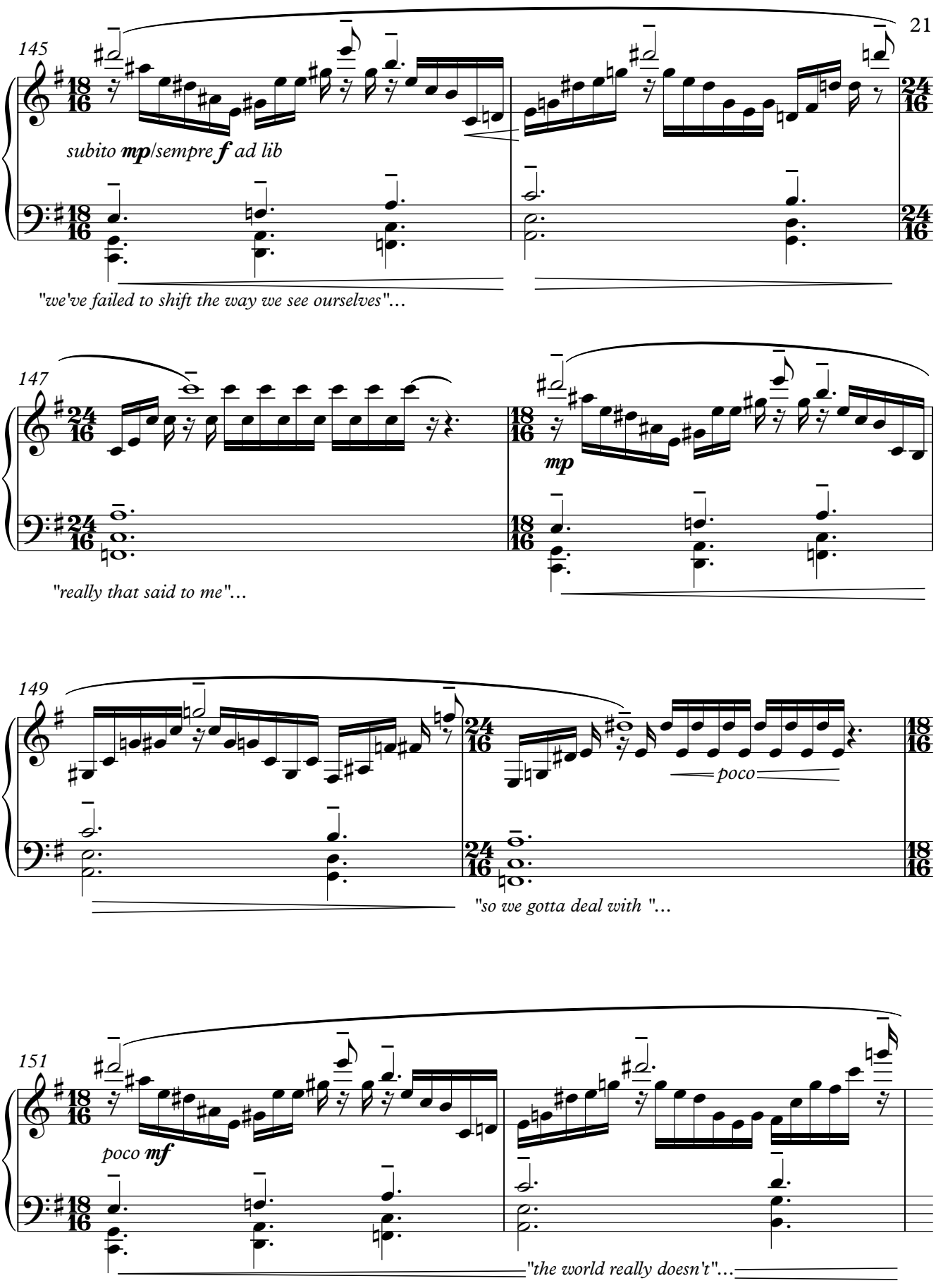
Var. 6 pesante con rubato

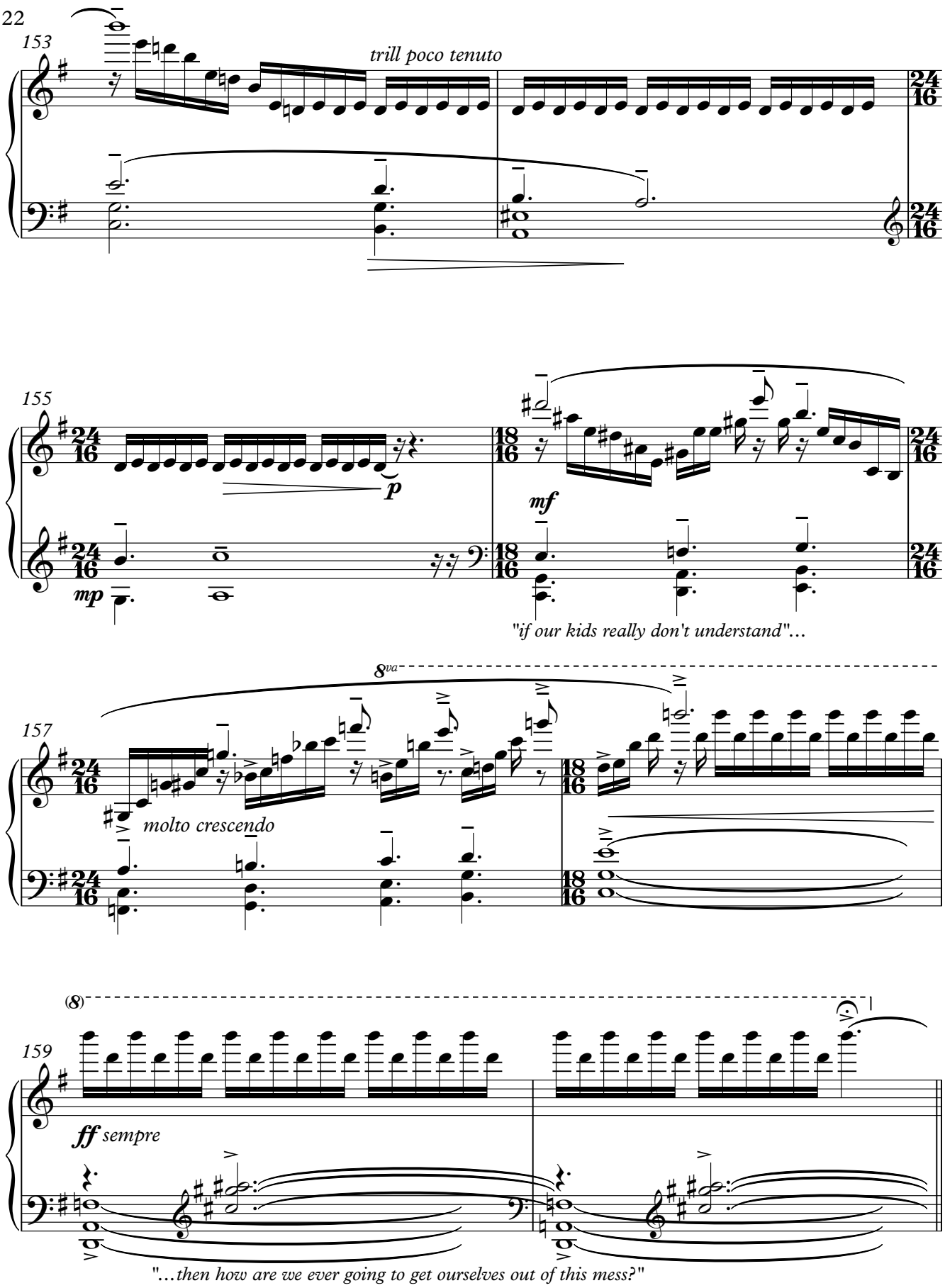



126
(cresc. on rpt)
f
2. "water is, and will be, one of the major issues"…
Ped.
Var. 7 ♪ = ♪
129
ff
8vb
pp
ff
131
sim.
pp
rpt. ad lib as harmonies fade
(con ped.)
133
sempre pp, but bring out inner voices distinctly
1. "because"…
2. "the intrinsic value"…
134


135
pp
136
pp
rpt. ad lib
"this is valuable because of"...
138
pp
mf
139
mf
dim.


140
p
141
cresc.
142
mf
sempre cresc.
143
"that's a tough quesiton"...
sempre cresc.
144
ff


145
subito mp/sempre f ad lib
"we've failed to shift the way we see ourselves"…
147
mp
"really that said to me"…
149
poco
"so we gotta deal with "…
151
poco mf
"the world really doesn't"…


153
trill poco tenuto
155
mp
p
mf
"if our kids really don't understand"...
8va
157
molto crescendo
(8)
159
ff sempre
"...then how are we ever going to get ourselves out of this mess?"

***Press Play for Track 2b (enter on "but…")**

161 **Var. 8** **Var. 9** ♩ = 144

***Pause for Var. 8**
**option to include improvised variation*

p - ff
marcatissimo

senza ped

1. "but i see the same sorts of obstacles…

2. "it's cause the prices we pay lie to us"…

166

170

1. "but can see themselves"…

173

2. "i think a lot of people"…

176

fff

Ped.

D.C. al fine