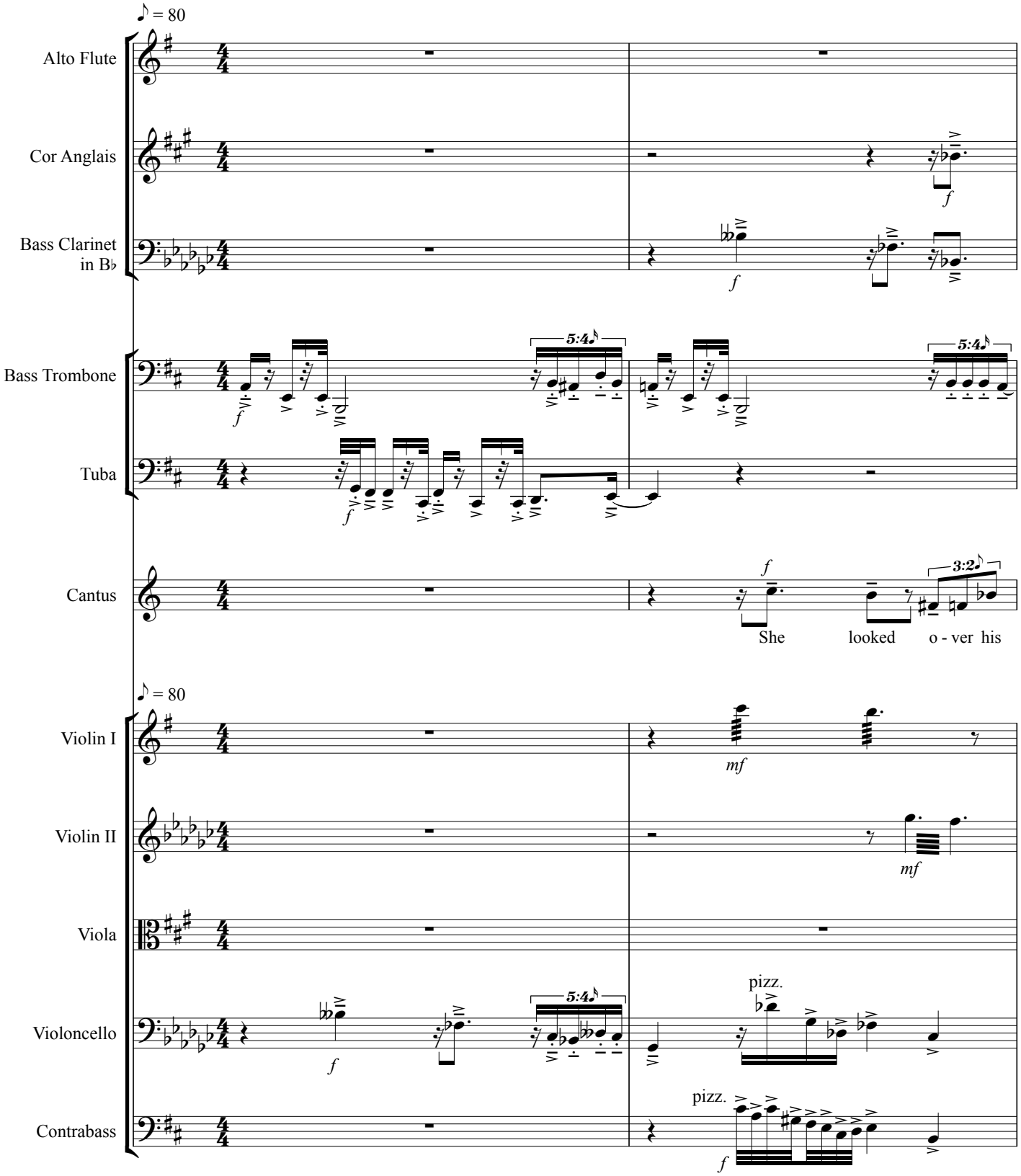
IV
The Shield of Achilles (1953)

W.H. Auden.



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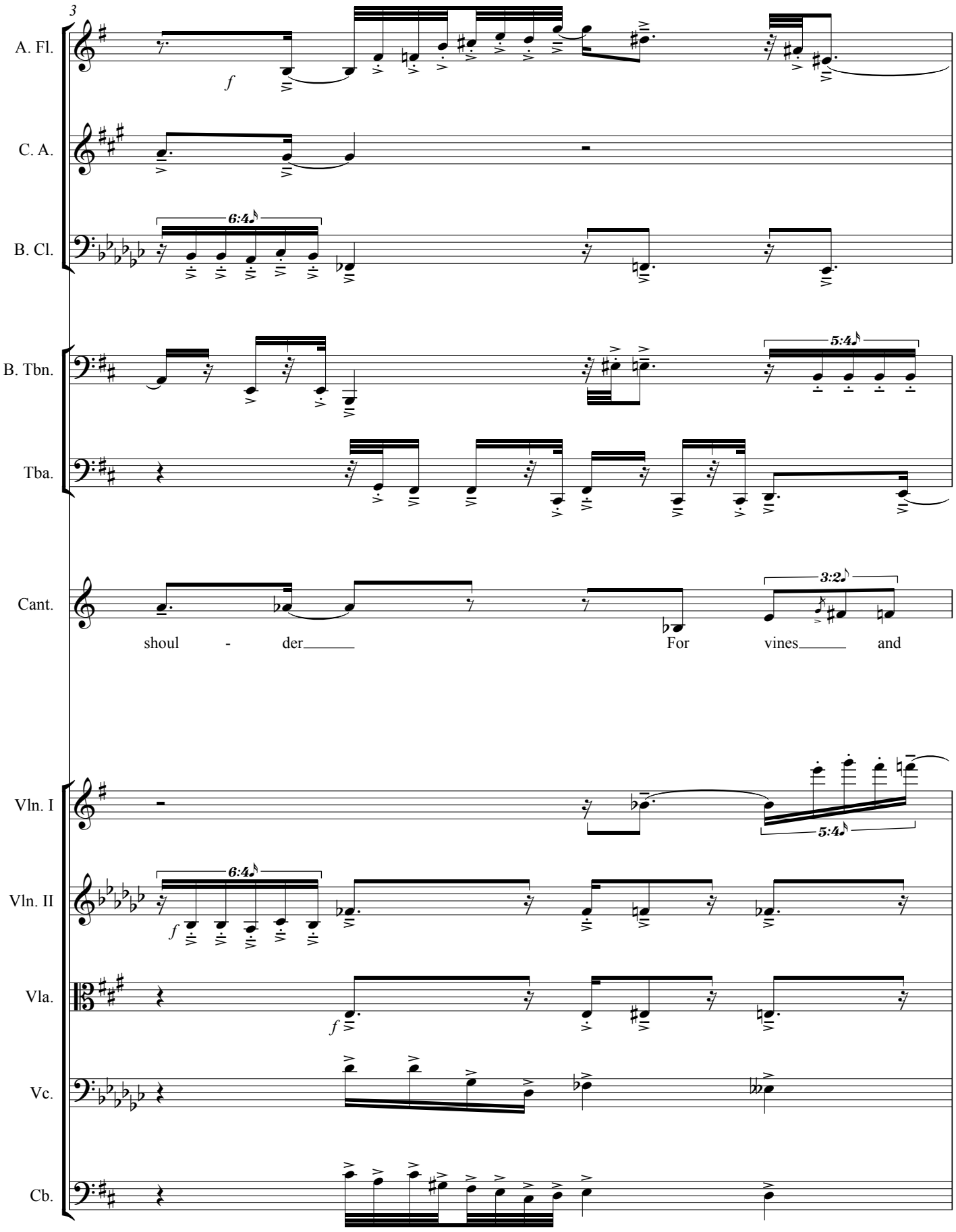
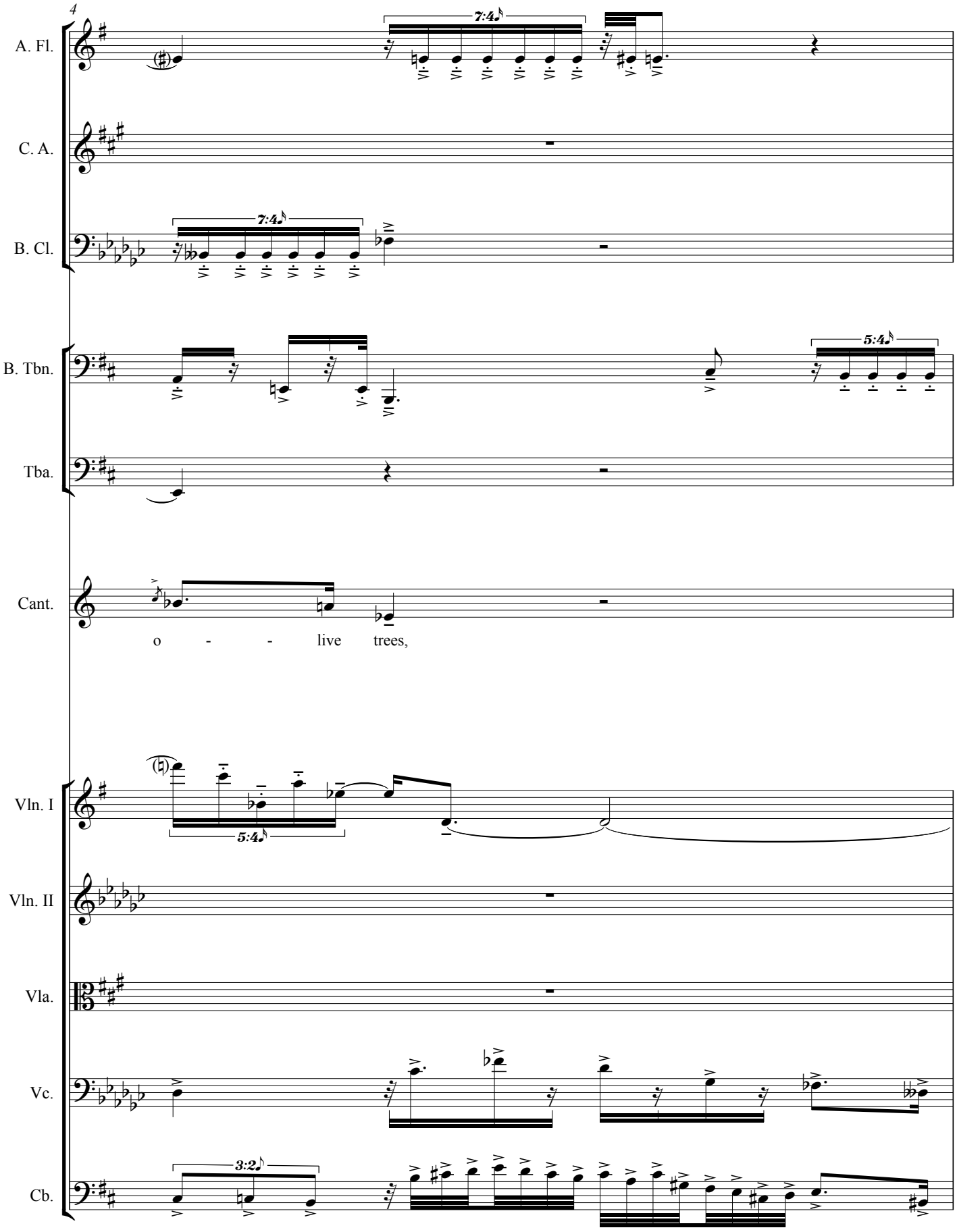
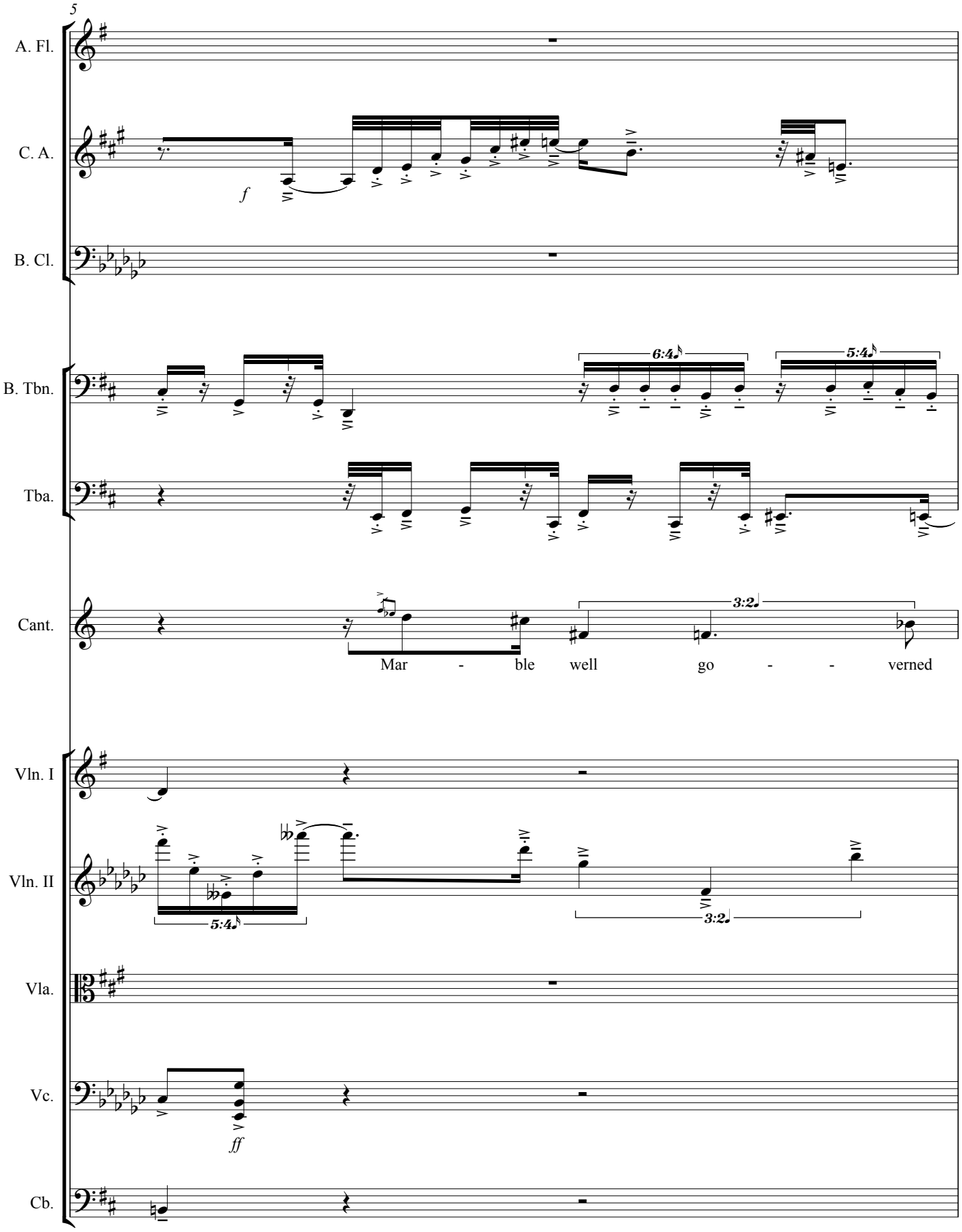
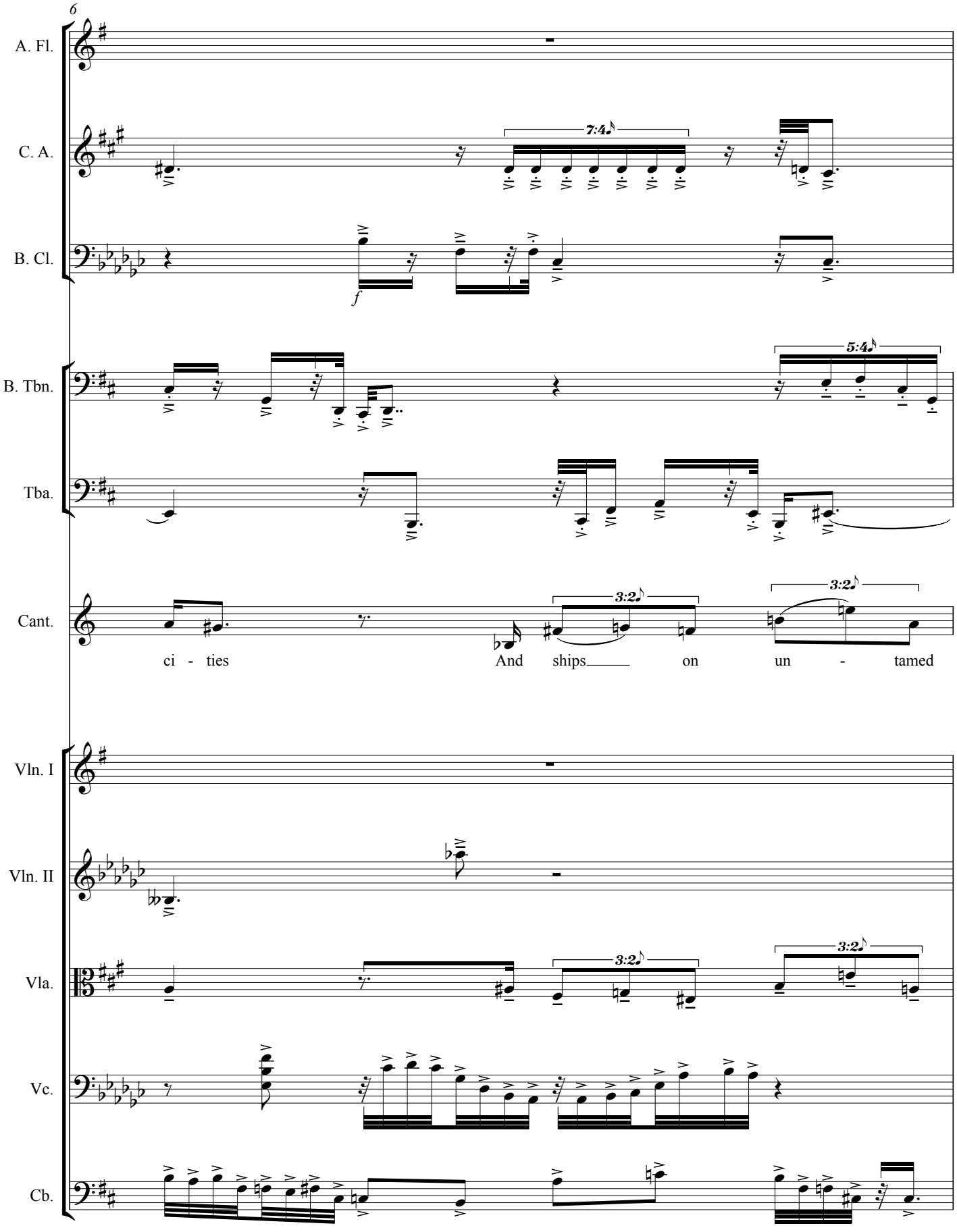
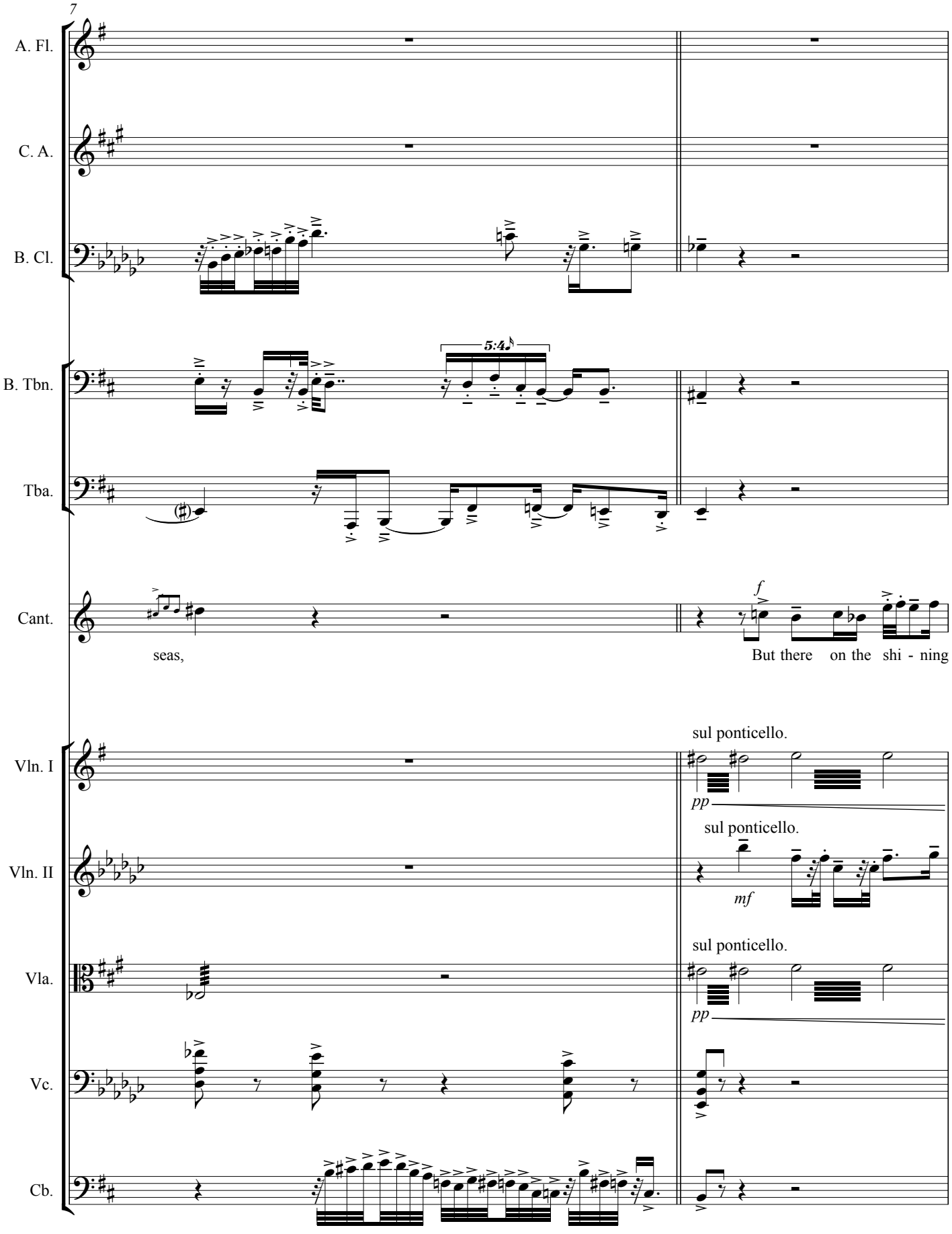
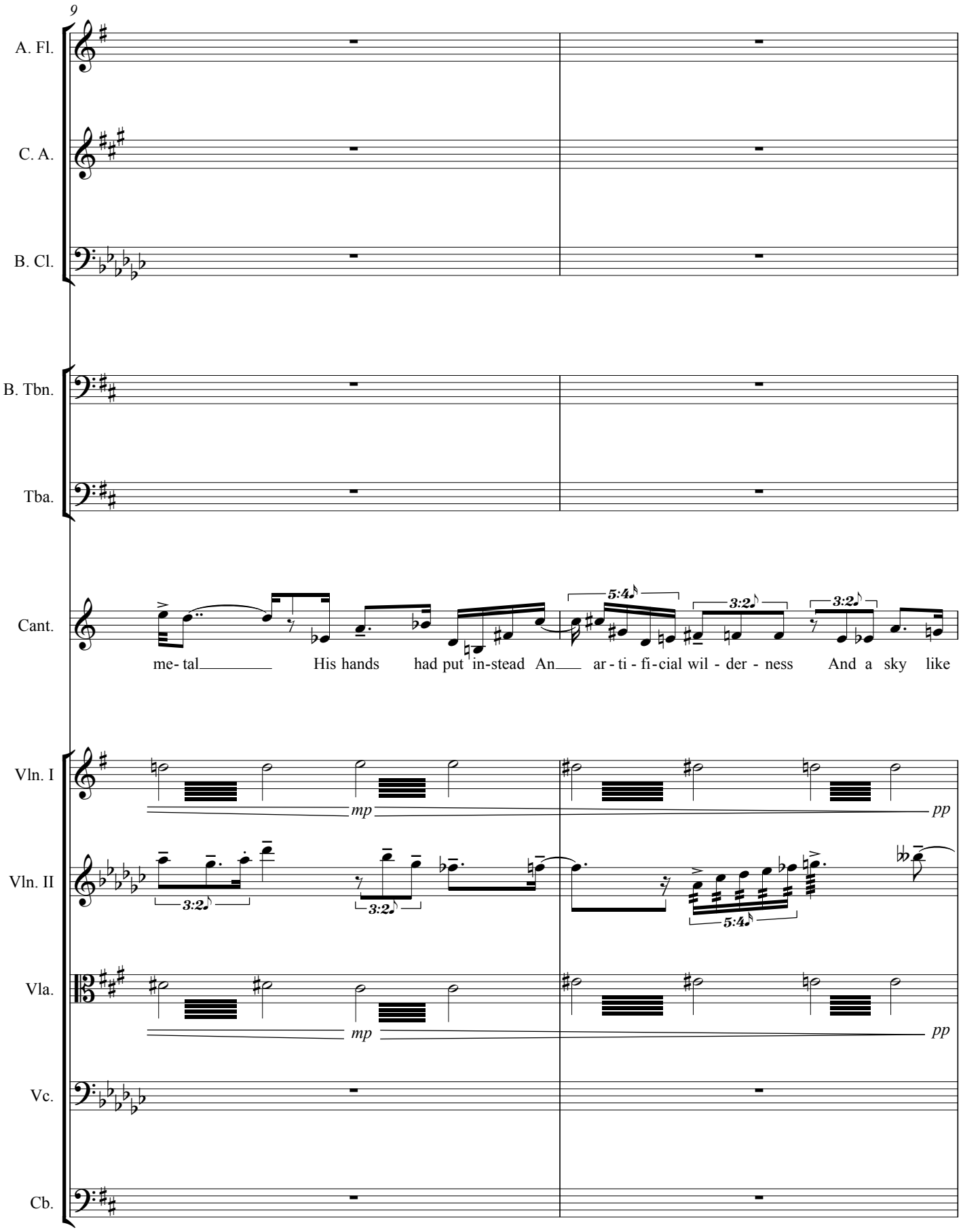

3
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
f
6:4
5:4
3:2
shoul - der
For vines and

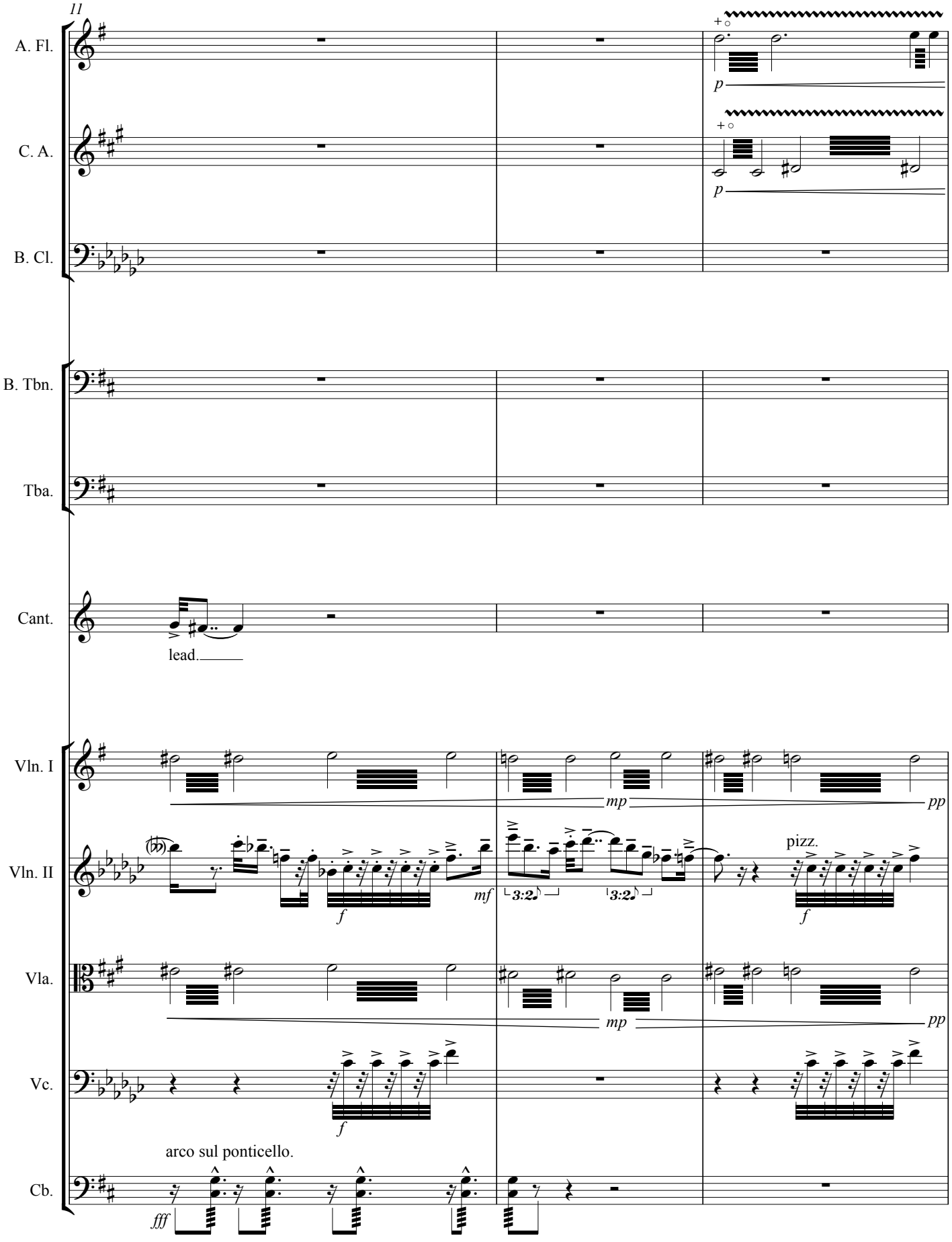

4
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
o - - live trees,
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
7:4
7:4
5:4
5:4
3:2

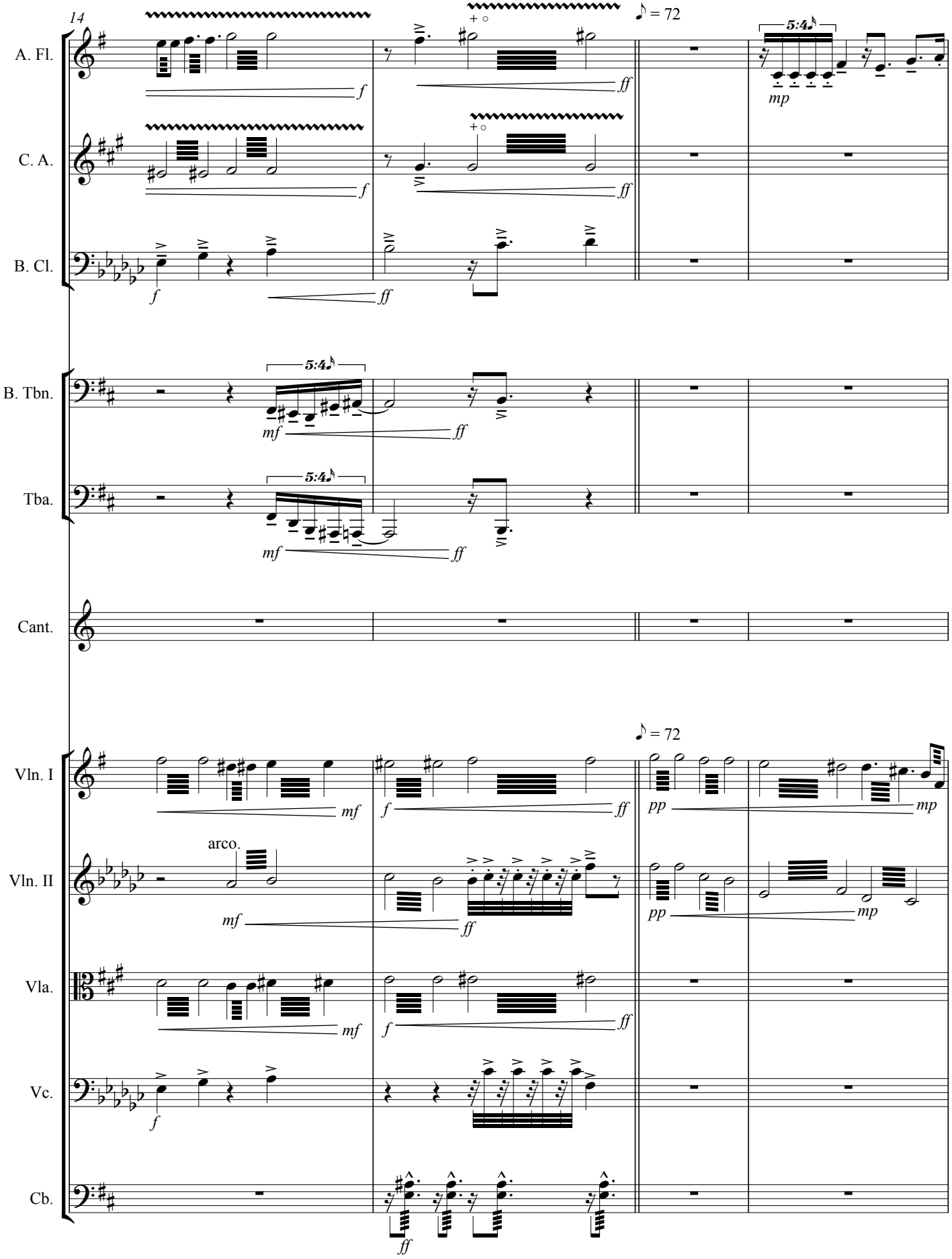

5
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
f
6:4
5:4
3:2
Mar - ble well go - - verned
5:4
3:2
ff

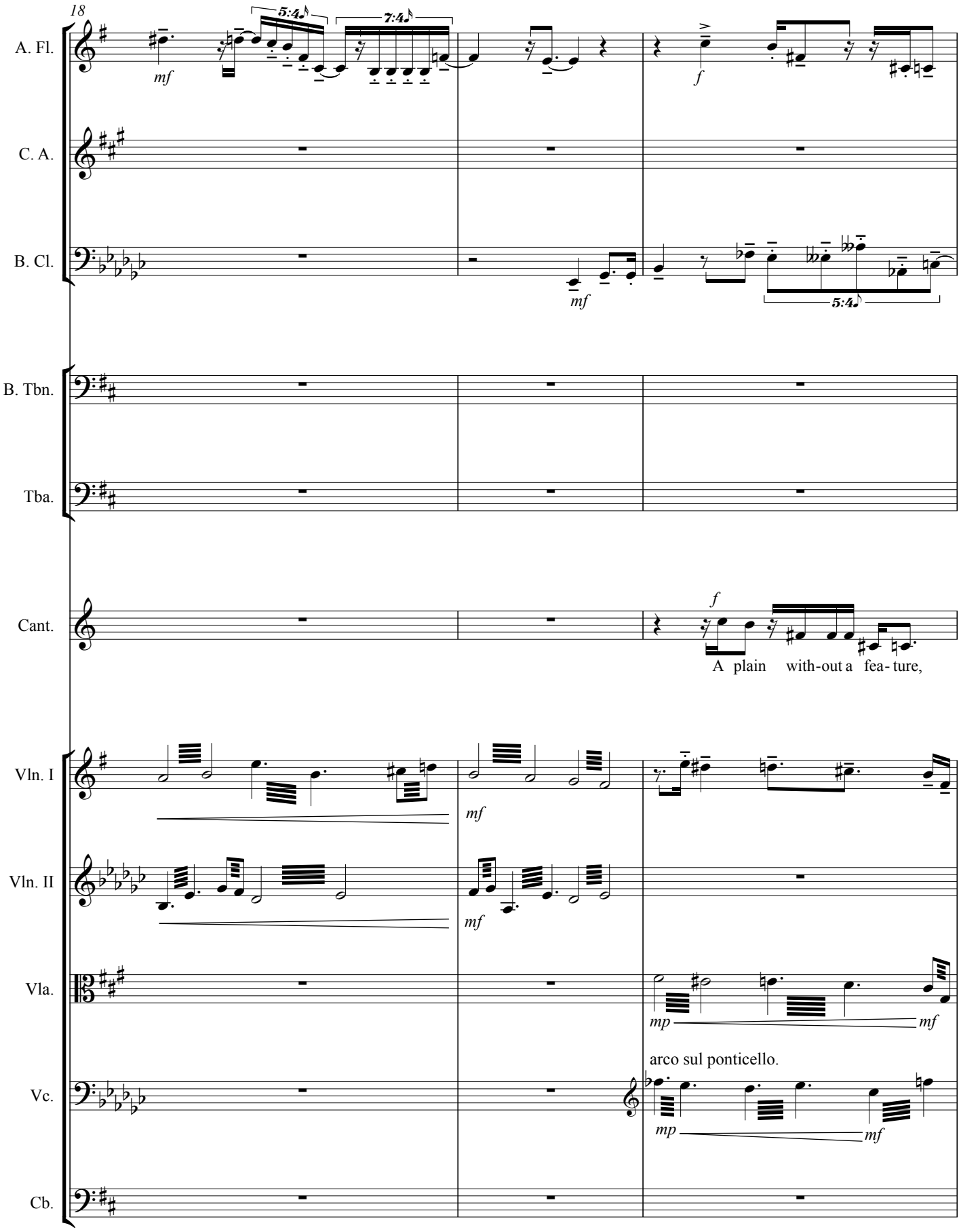

6
A. Fl.
C. A.
7:4
B. Cl.
f
B. Tbn.
5:4
Tba.
Cant.
3:2
3:2
ci - ties
And ships
on
un - tamed
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
3:2
3:2
Vc.
Cb.

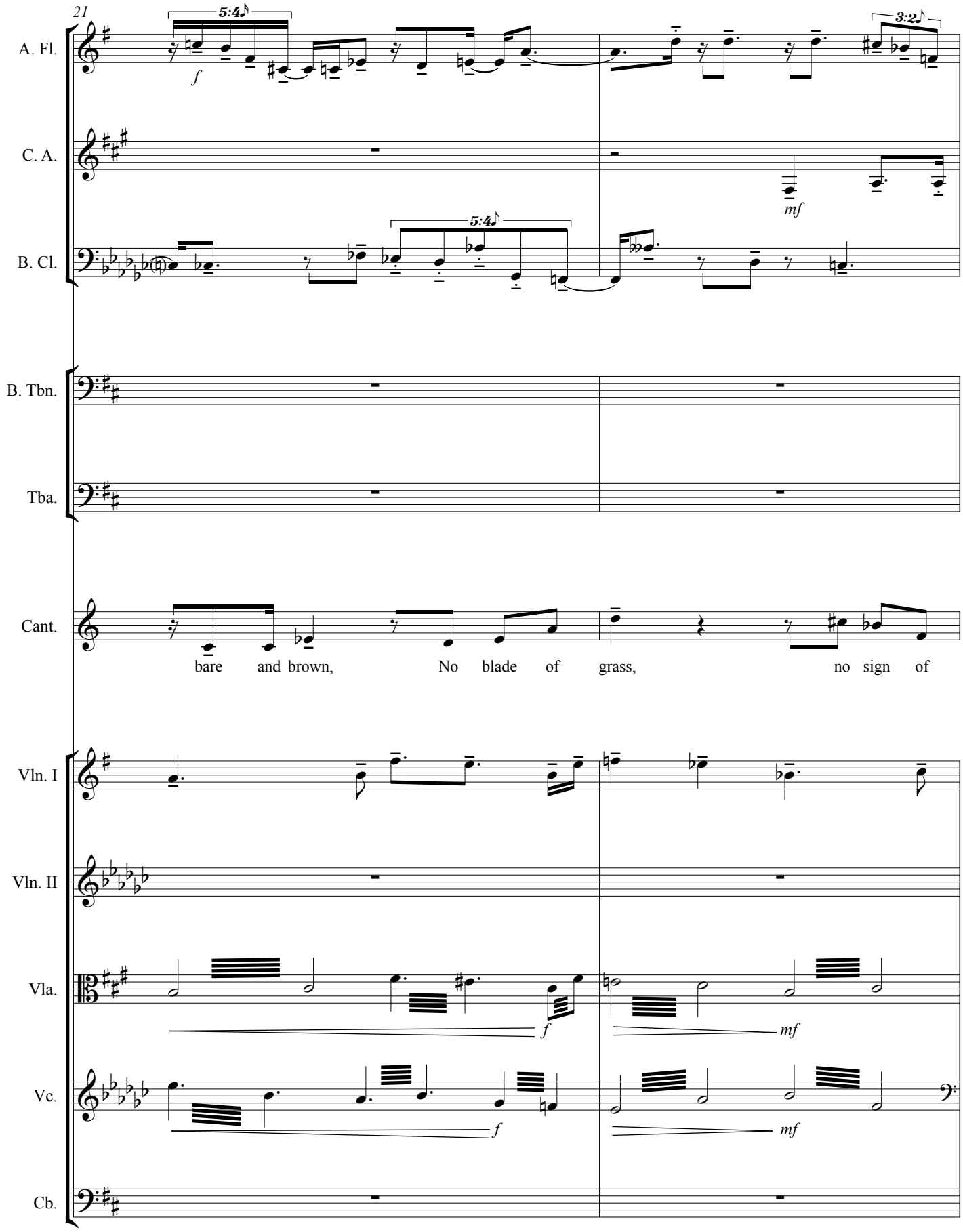

7
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
5:4
Tba.
Cant.
seas,
f
But there on the shi - ning
Vln. I
sul ponticello.
pp
Vln. II
sul ponticello.
mf
Vla.
sul ponticello.
pp
Vc.
Cb.

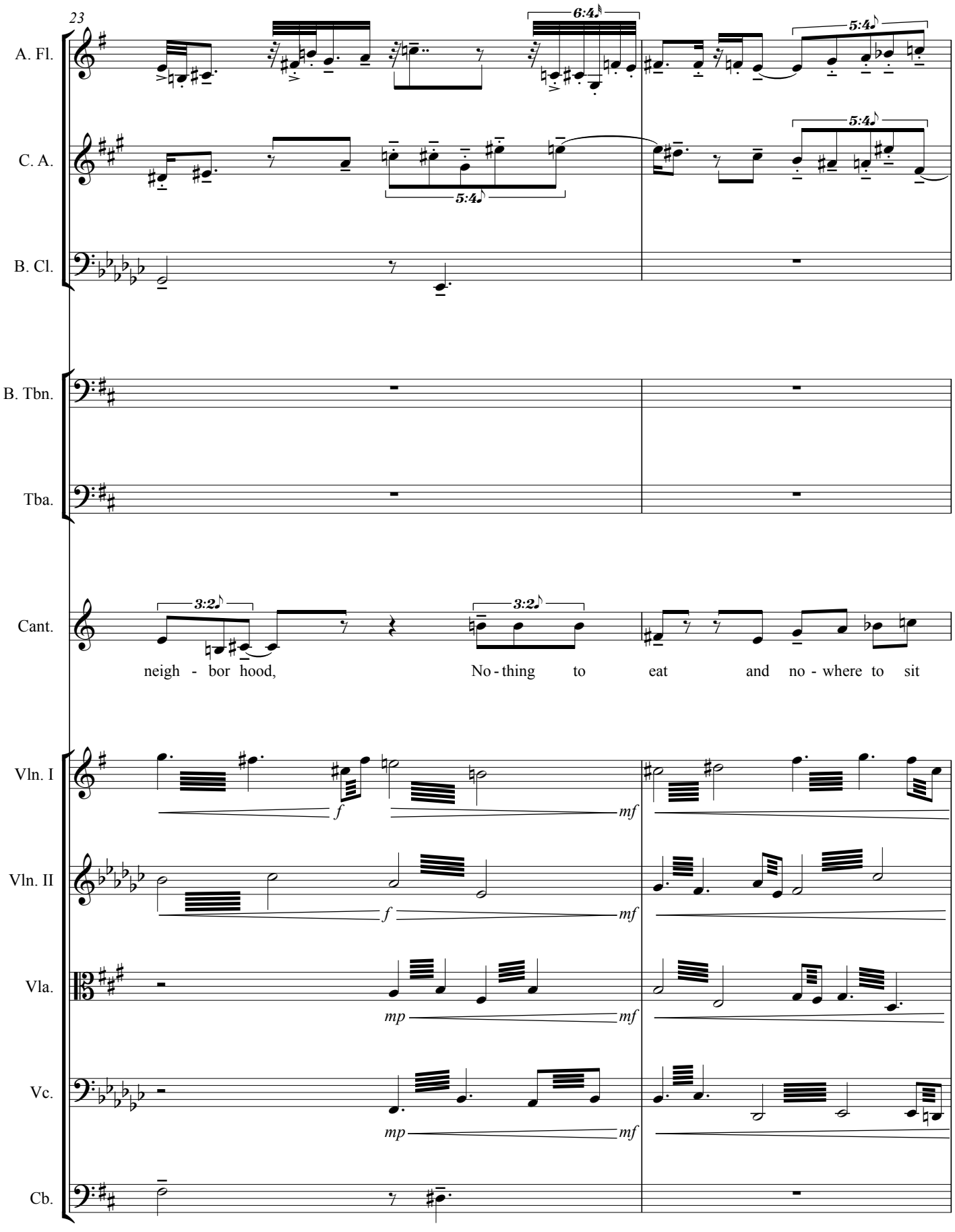

9
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
me- tal His hands had put in-stead An ar - ti - fi - cial wil - der - ness And a sky like
5:4
3:2
3:2
Vln. I
mp
pp
Vln. II
3:2
3:2
5:4
Vla.
mp
pp
Vc.
Cb.

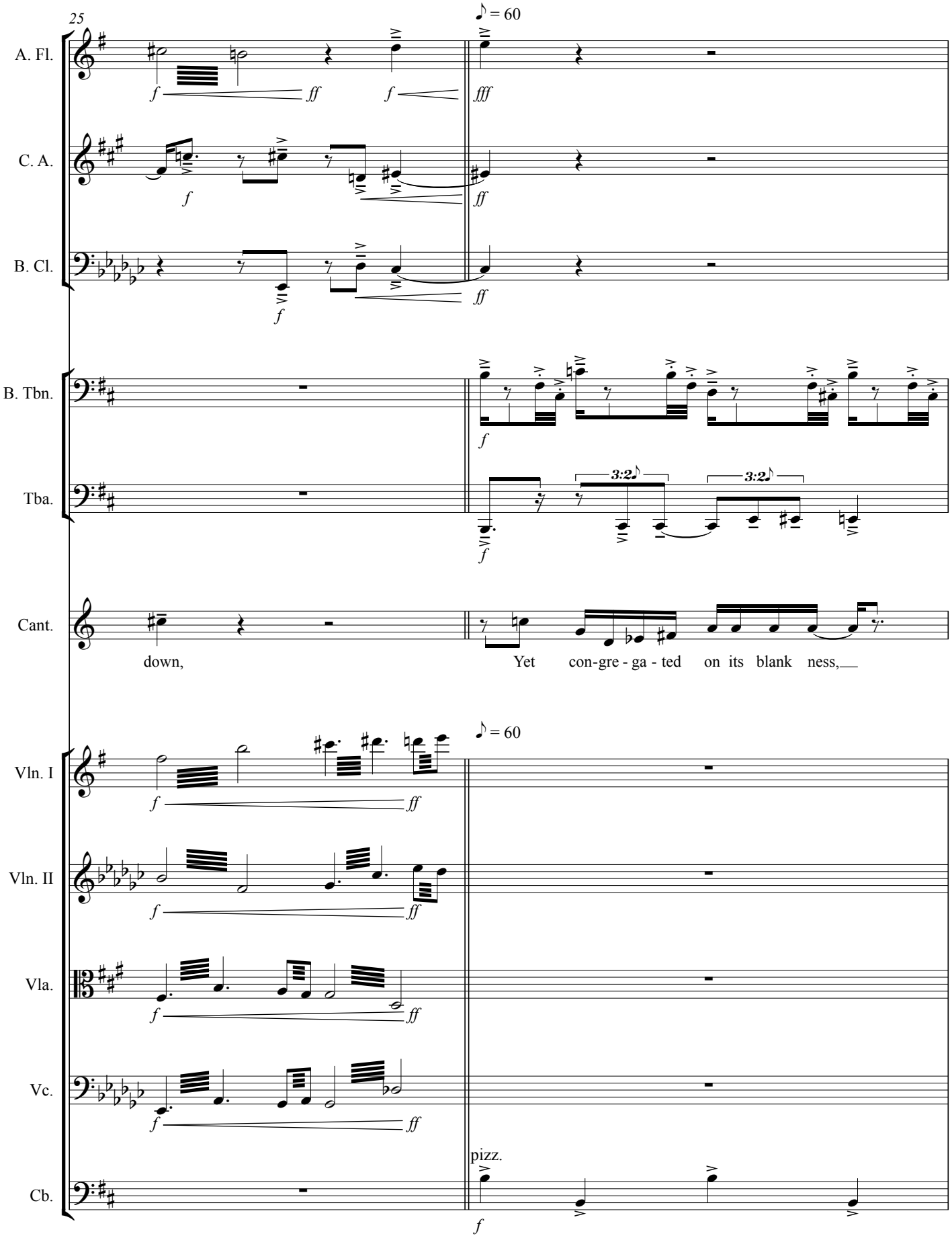

11
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
lead.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
arco sul ponticello.
pizz.

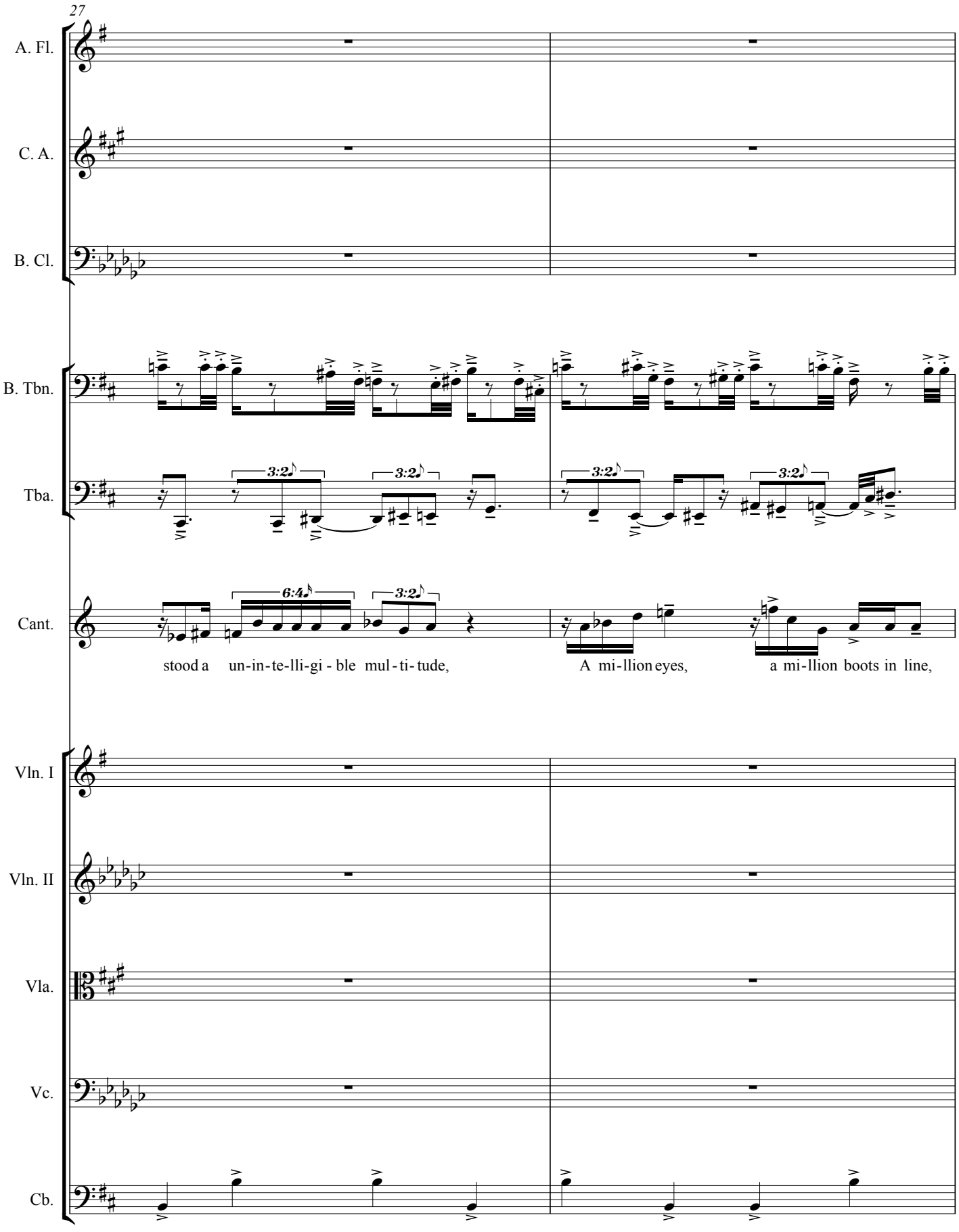

14
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
♪ = 72
5:4
arco.
f
ff
mf
mp
pp

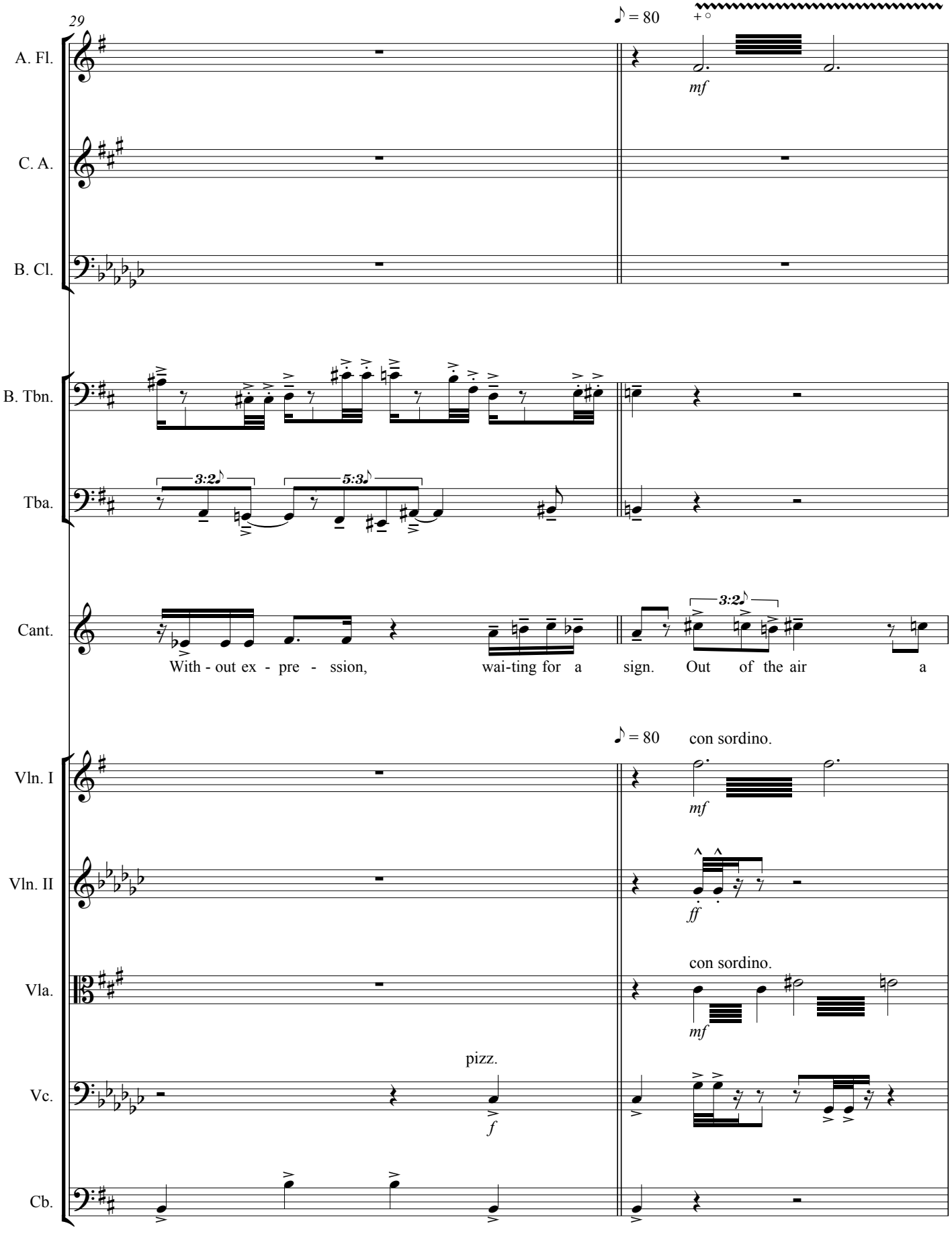

18
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
5:4
7:4
5:4
mf
f
mf
f
A plain with-out a fea- ture,
mf
mf
mp
mf
arco sul ponticello.
mp
mf

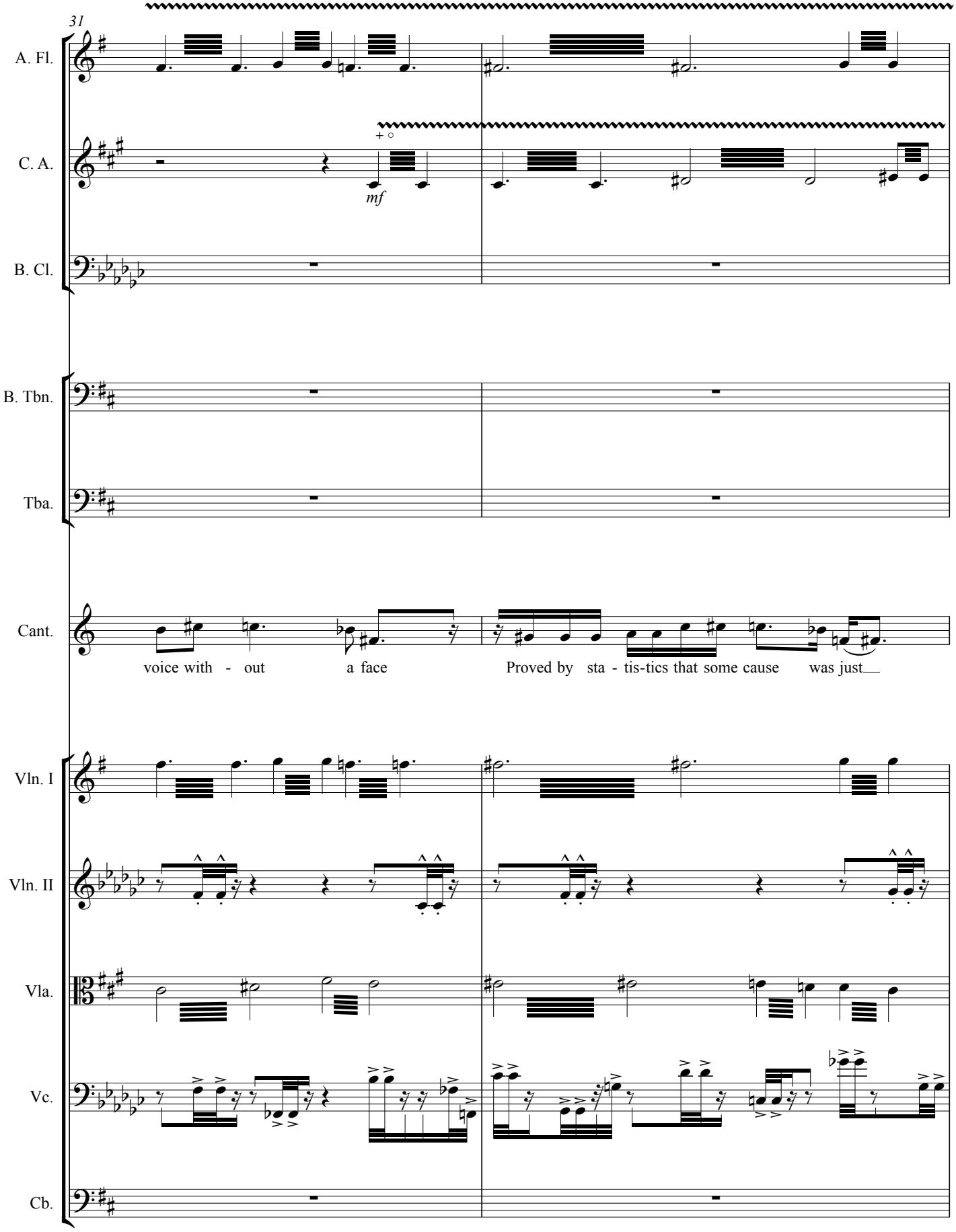

21
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
5:4
3:2
f
mf
bare and brown, No blade of grass, no sign of

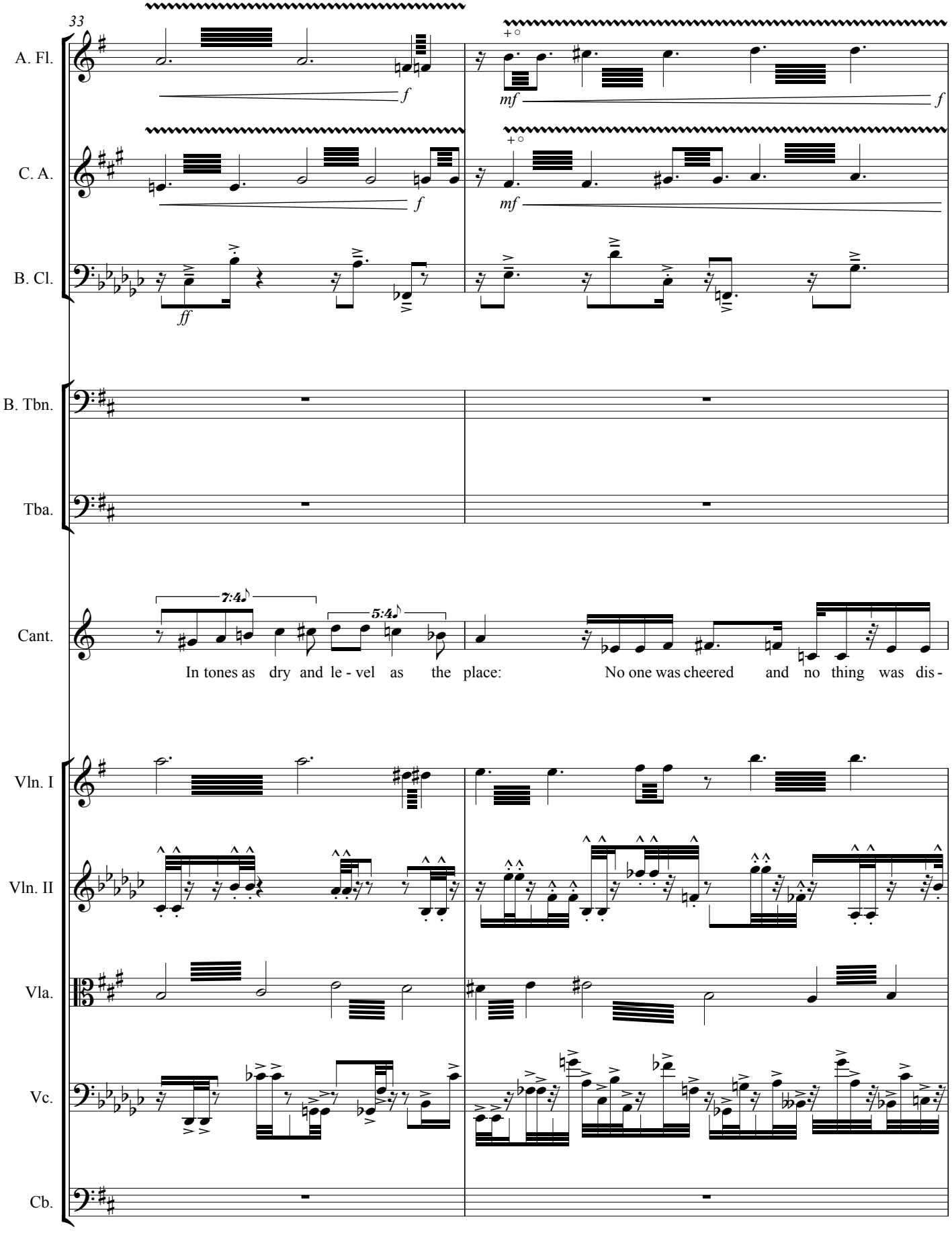

23
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
6:4
5:4
5:4
5:4
3:2
3:2
neigh - bor hood,
No - thing to eat and no - where to sit
f
mf
f
mf
mp
mf
mp
mf

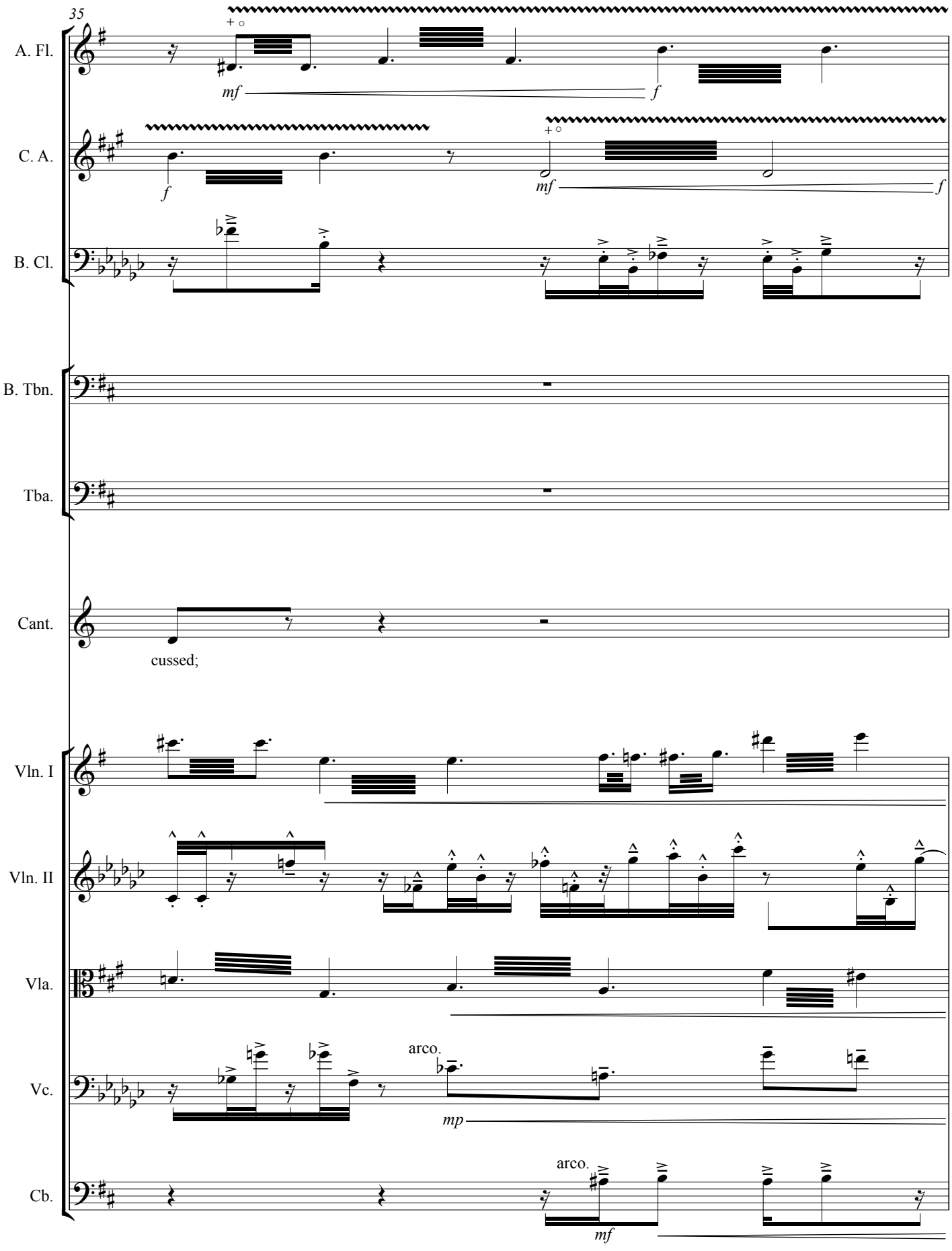

25
♪ = 60
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
down,
Yet con-gre - ga - ted on its blank ness,
3:2
3:2
♪ = 60
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
pizz.

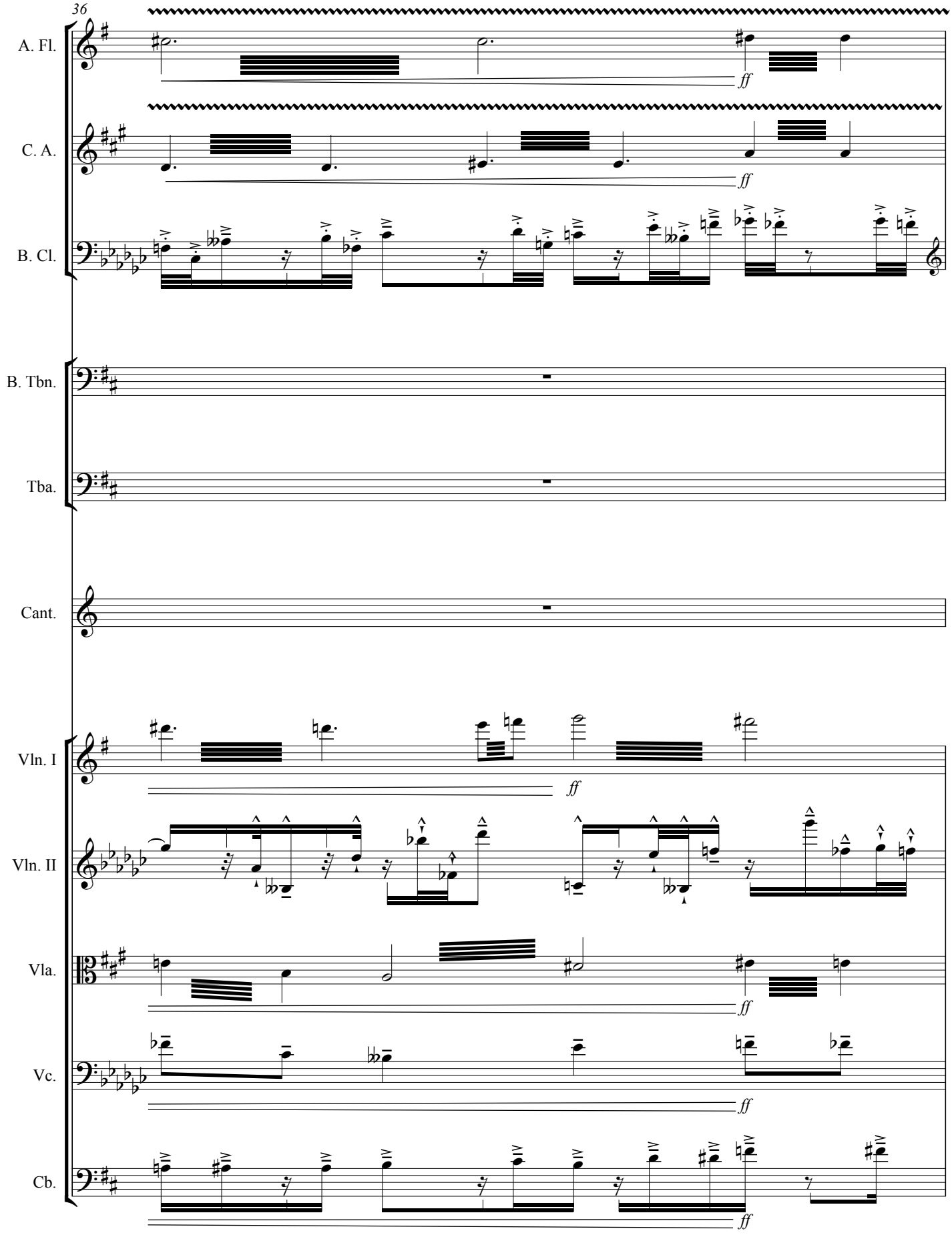

27
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
3:2
3:2
3:2
3:2
6:4
3:2
stood a un-in-te-lli-gi-ble mul-ti-tude,
A mi-llion eyes,
a mi-llion boots in line,
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

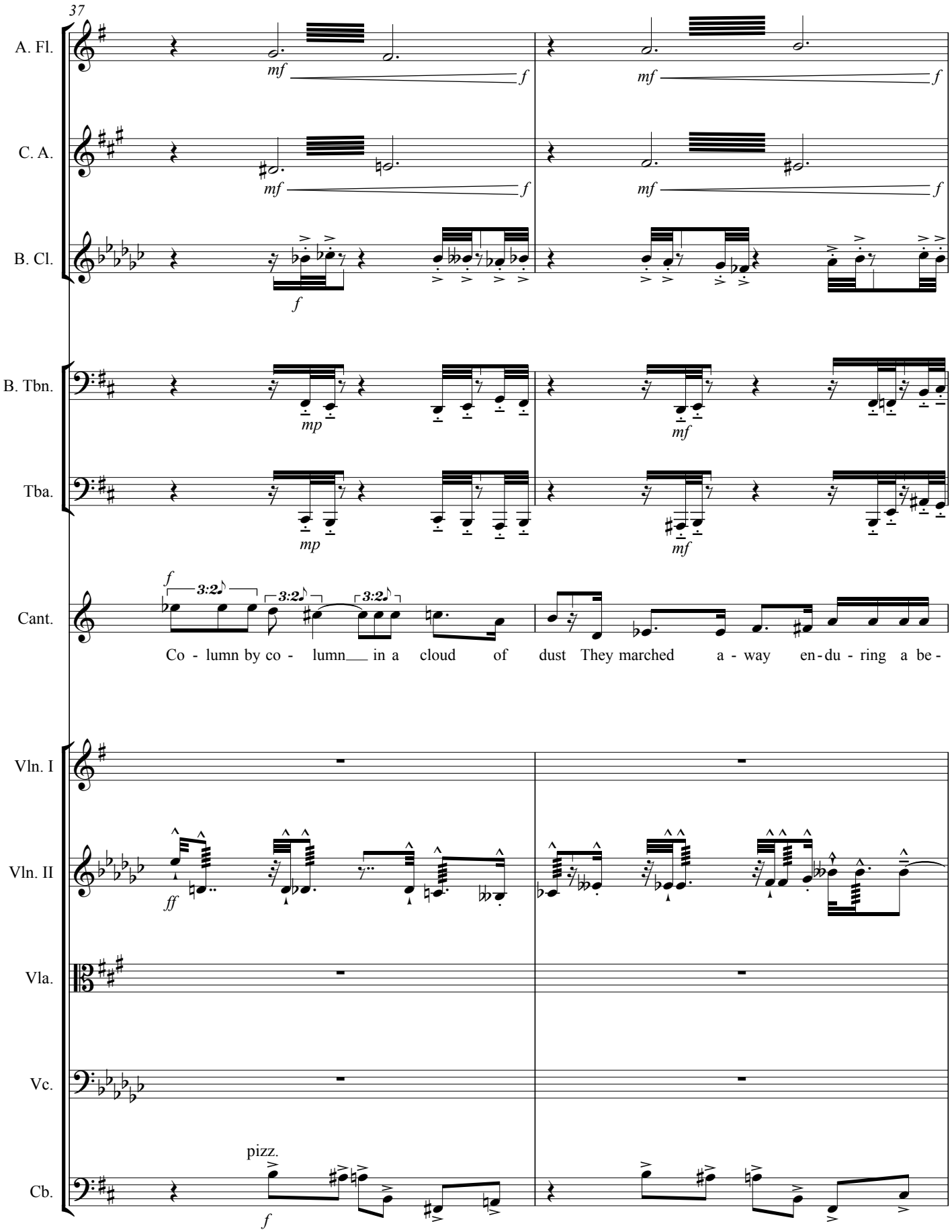

29
♪ = 80
A. Fl.
mf
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
3:2
5:3
Cant.
3:2
With - out ex - pre - ssion, wai-ting for a sign. Out of the air a
♪ = 80
con sordino.
Vln. I
mf
Vln. II
ff
con sordino.
Vla.
mf
pizz.
Vc.
f
Cb.

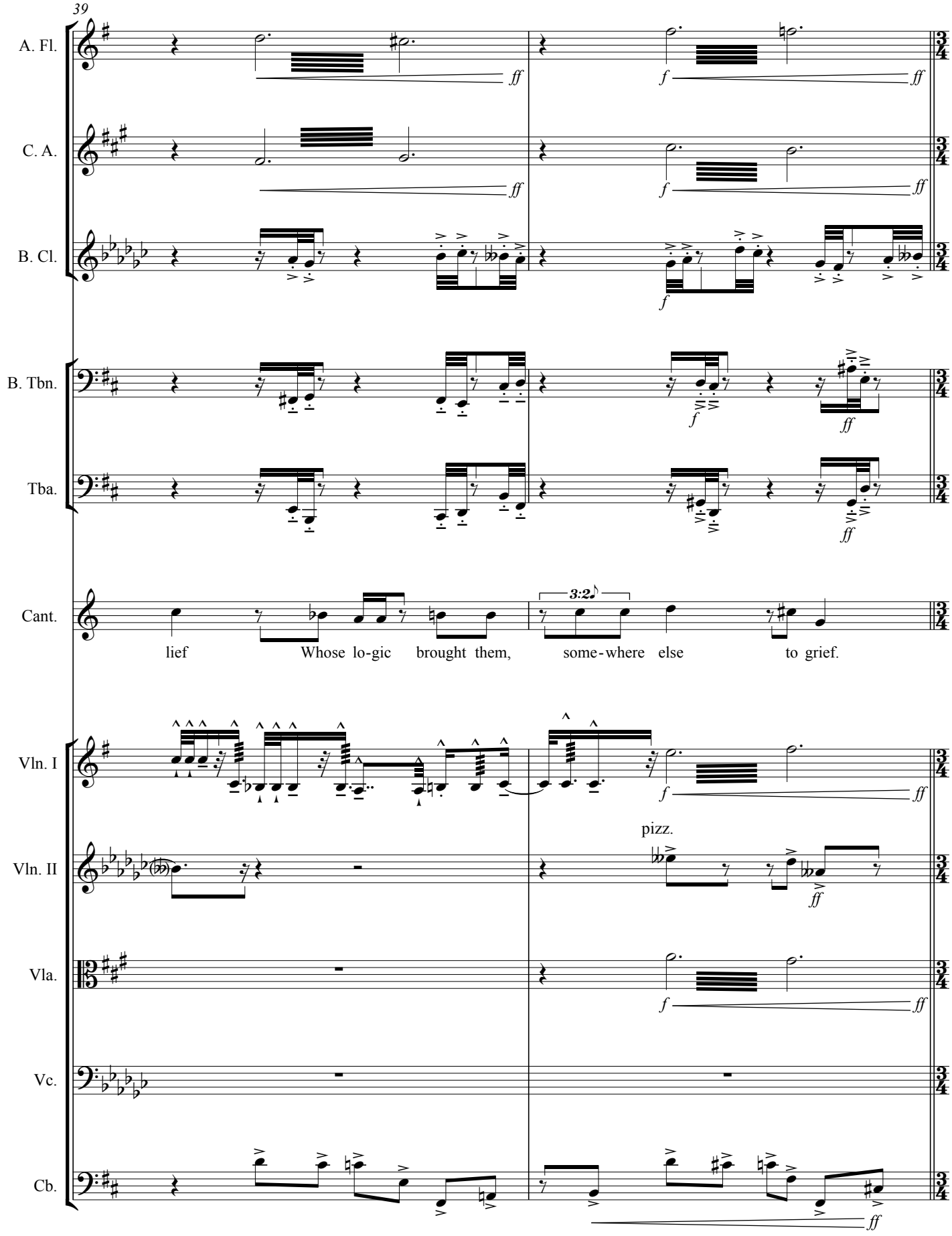

31
A. Fl.
C. A.
mf
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
voice with - out a face
Proved by sta - tis-tics that some cause was just
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

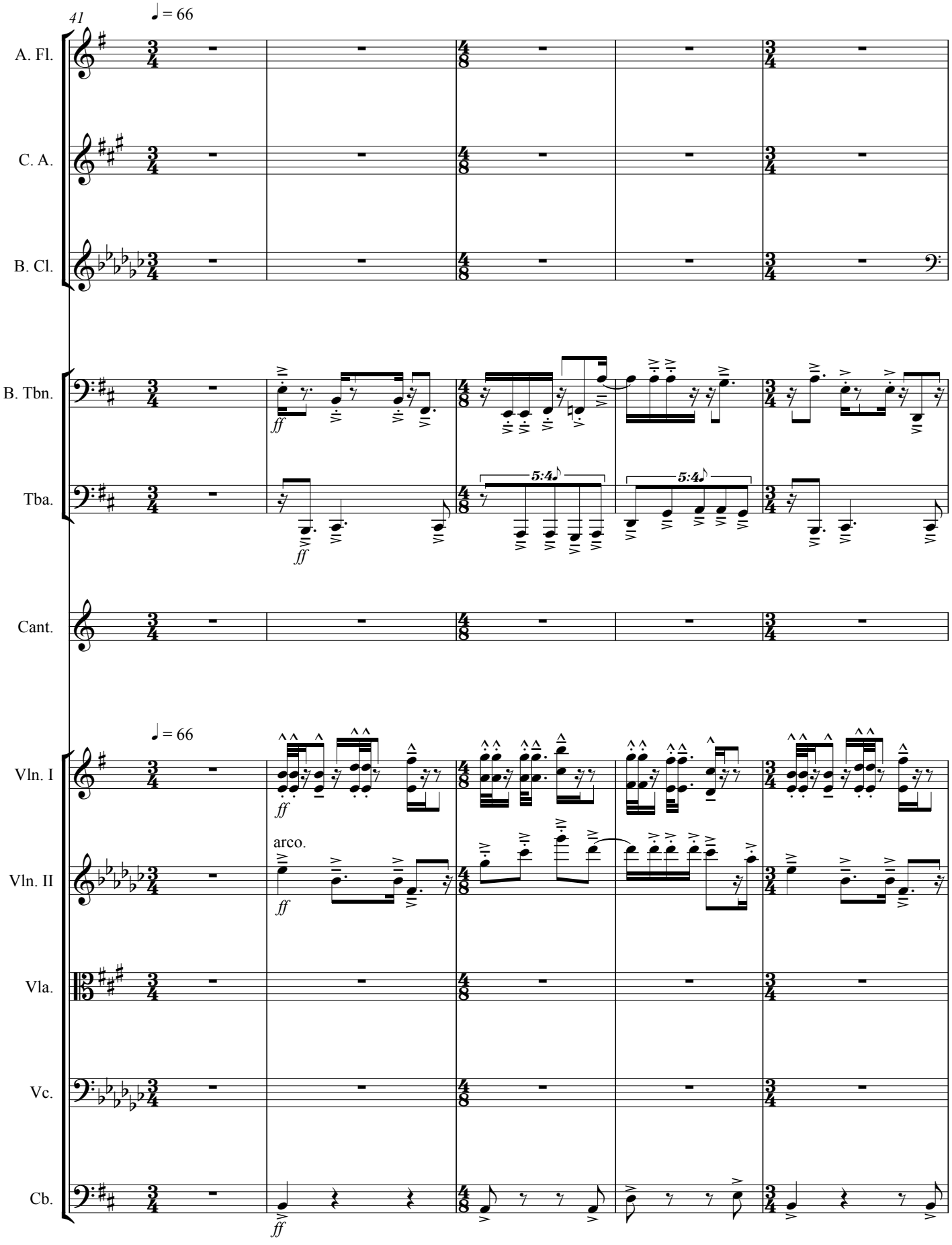

33
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
f
mf
ff
7:4
5:4
In tones as dry and le - vel as the place:
No one was cheered and no thing was dis -

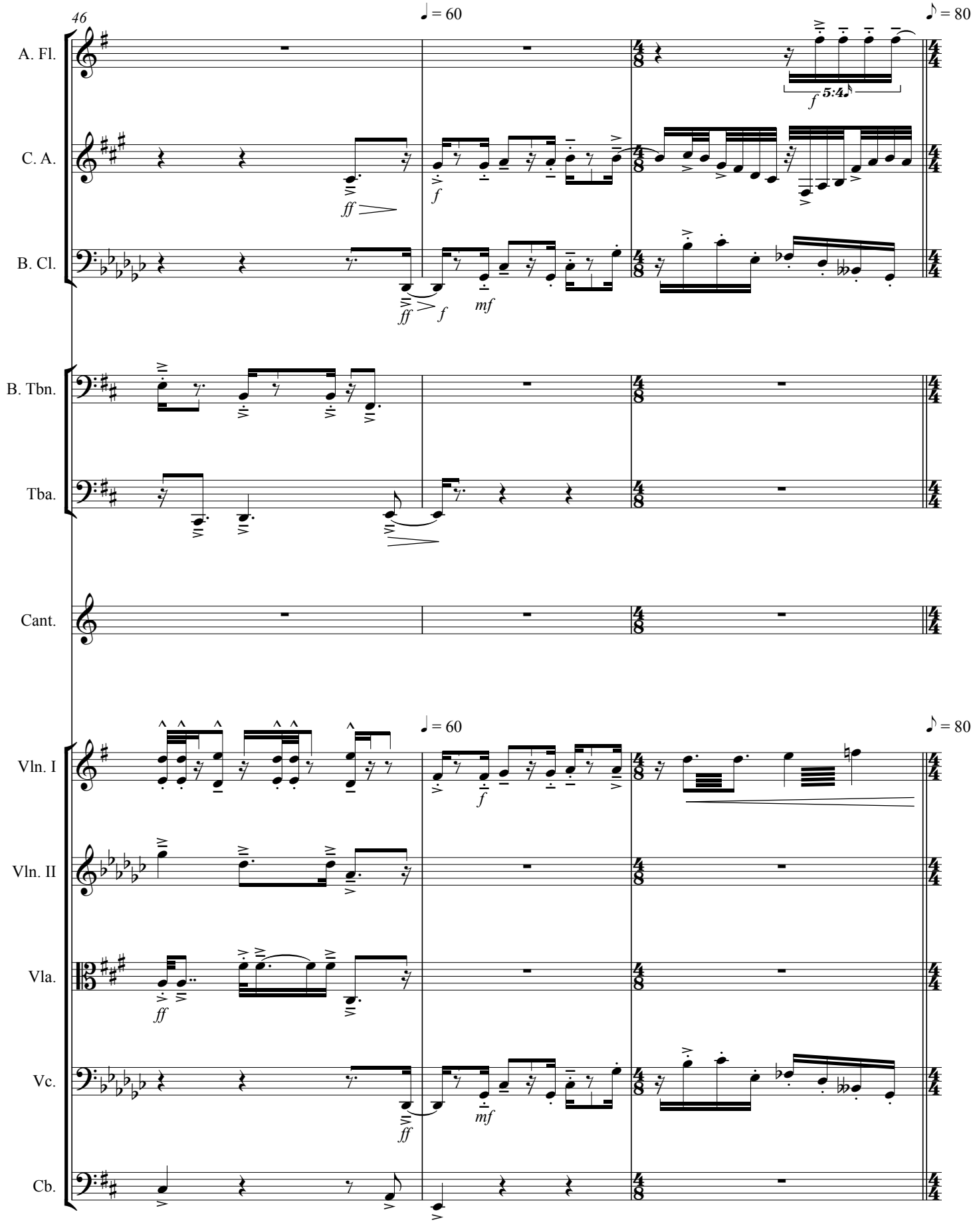

35
A. Fl.
mf
f
C. A.
f
mf
f
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
cussed;
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
arco.
mp
Cb.
arco.
mf

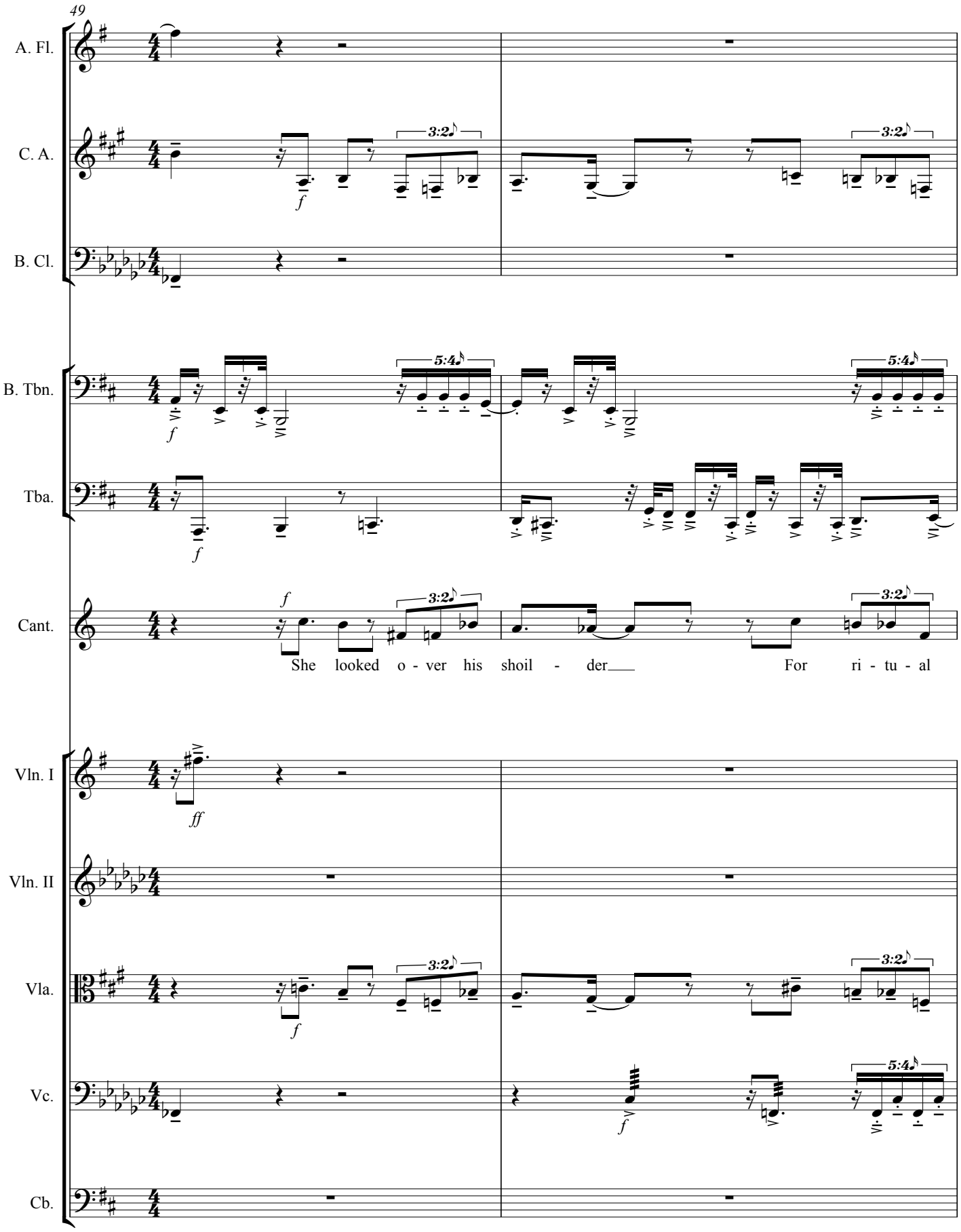

36
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
ff

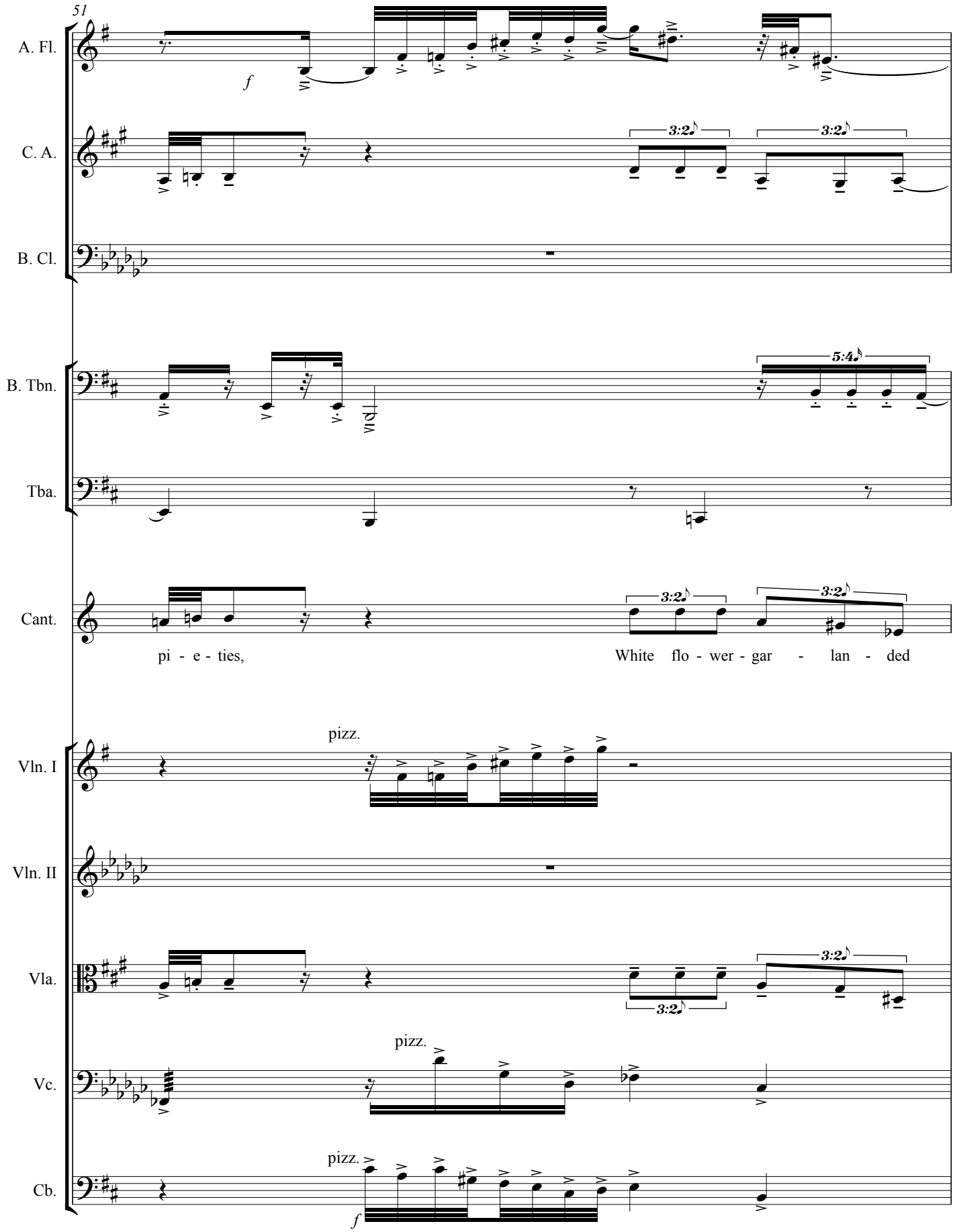

37
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
mf
f
mp
ff
3:2
Co - lumn by co - lumn in a cloud of dust They marched a - way en - du - ring a be -
pizz.

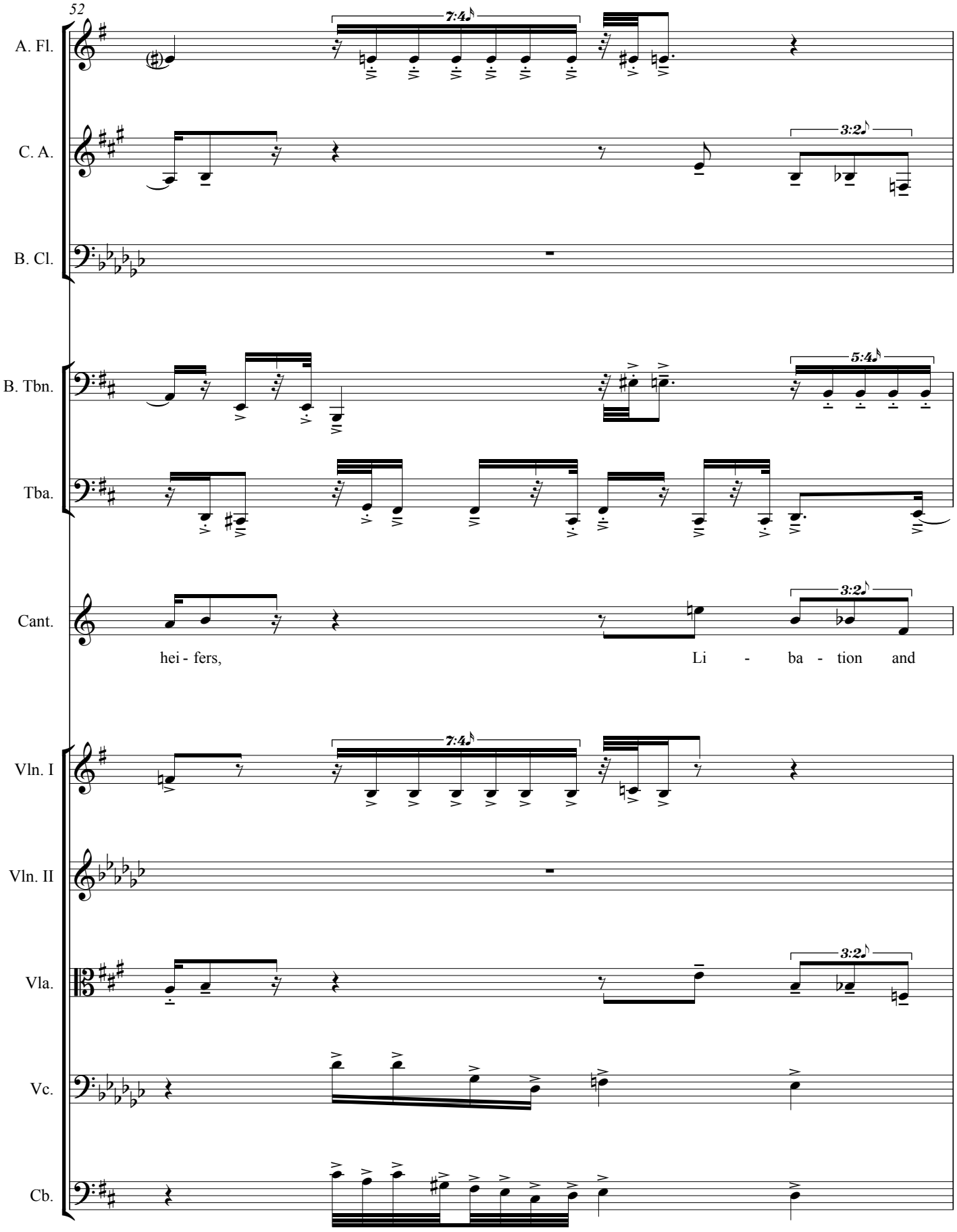

39
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
lief Whose lo-gic brought them, some-where else to grief.
3:2
Vln. I
Vln. II
pizz.
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
ff
f

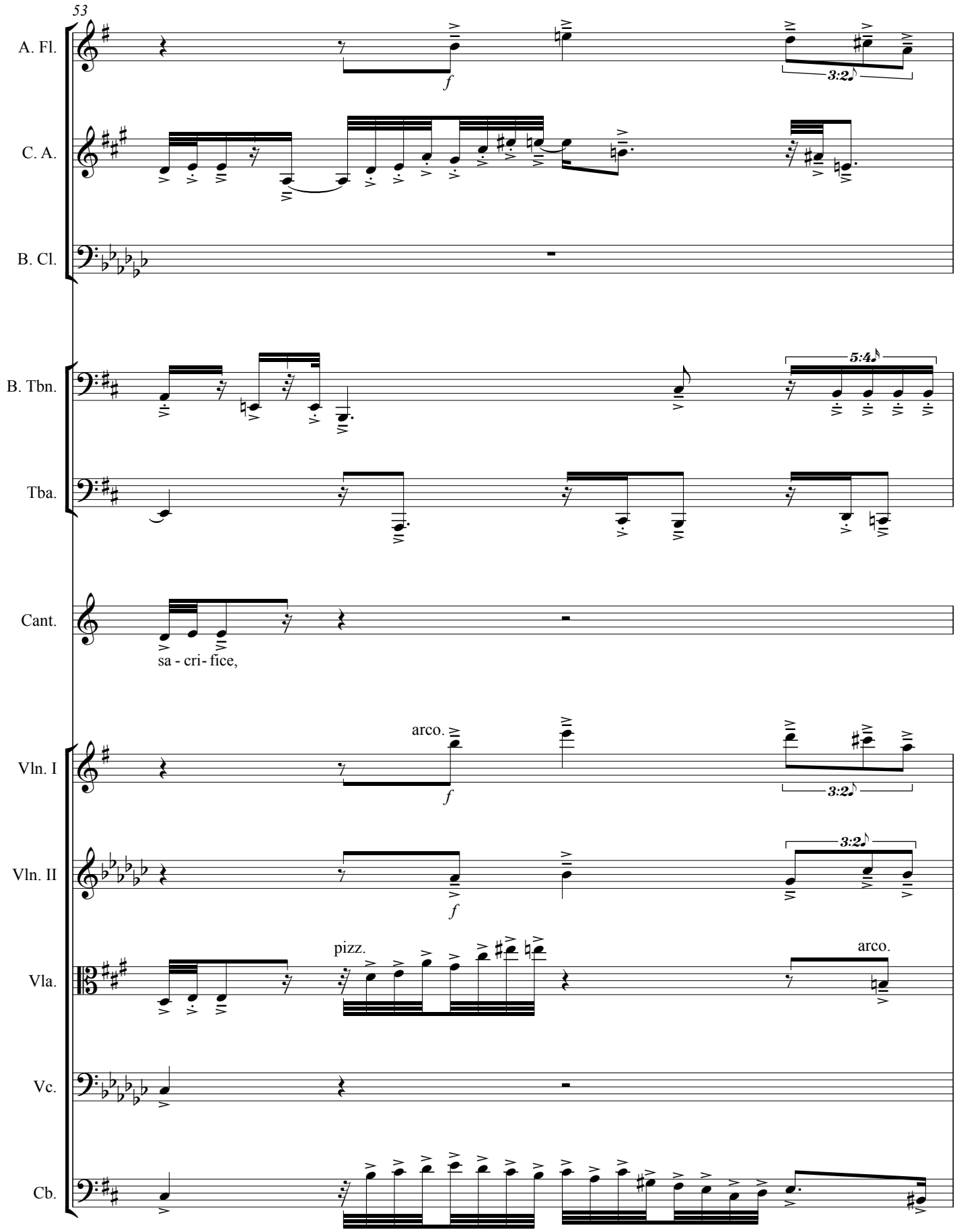

41
♩ = 66
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
♩ = 66
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
ff
arco.
5:4
5:4

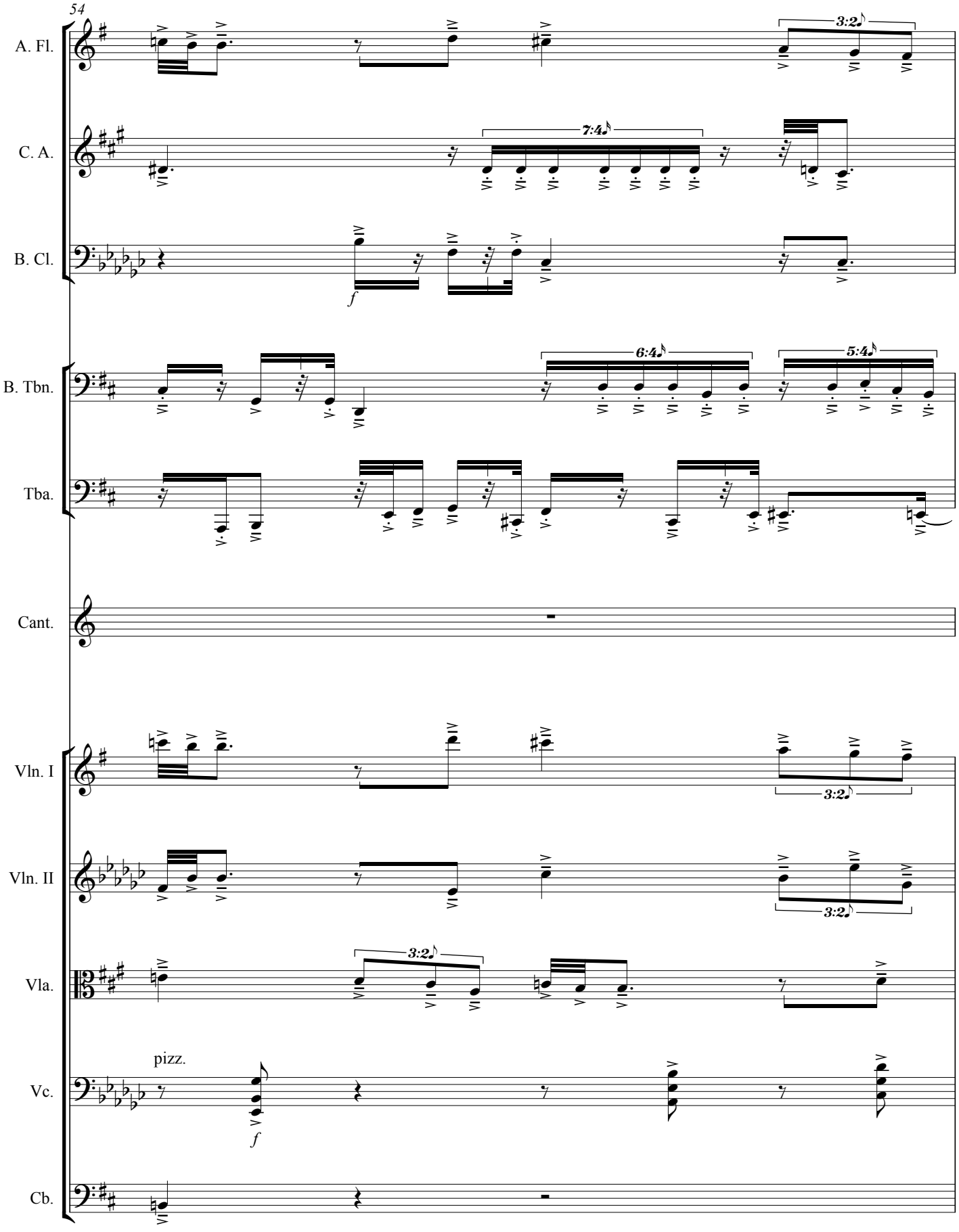

46
♩ = 60
♪ = 80
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
f
5:4
ff
mf

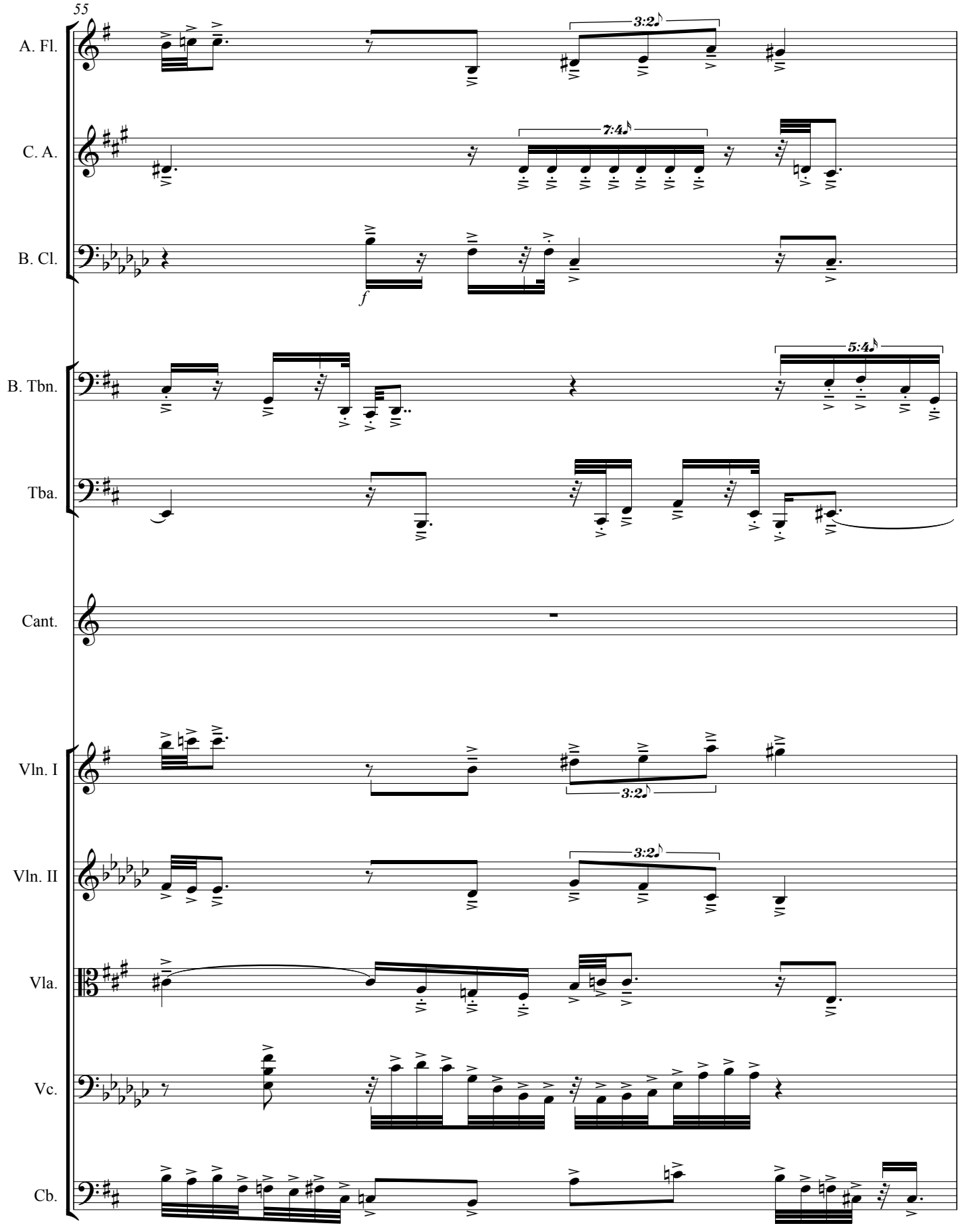

49
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
She looked o - ver his shoil - der For ri - tu - al
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

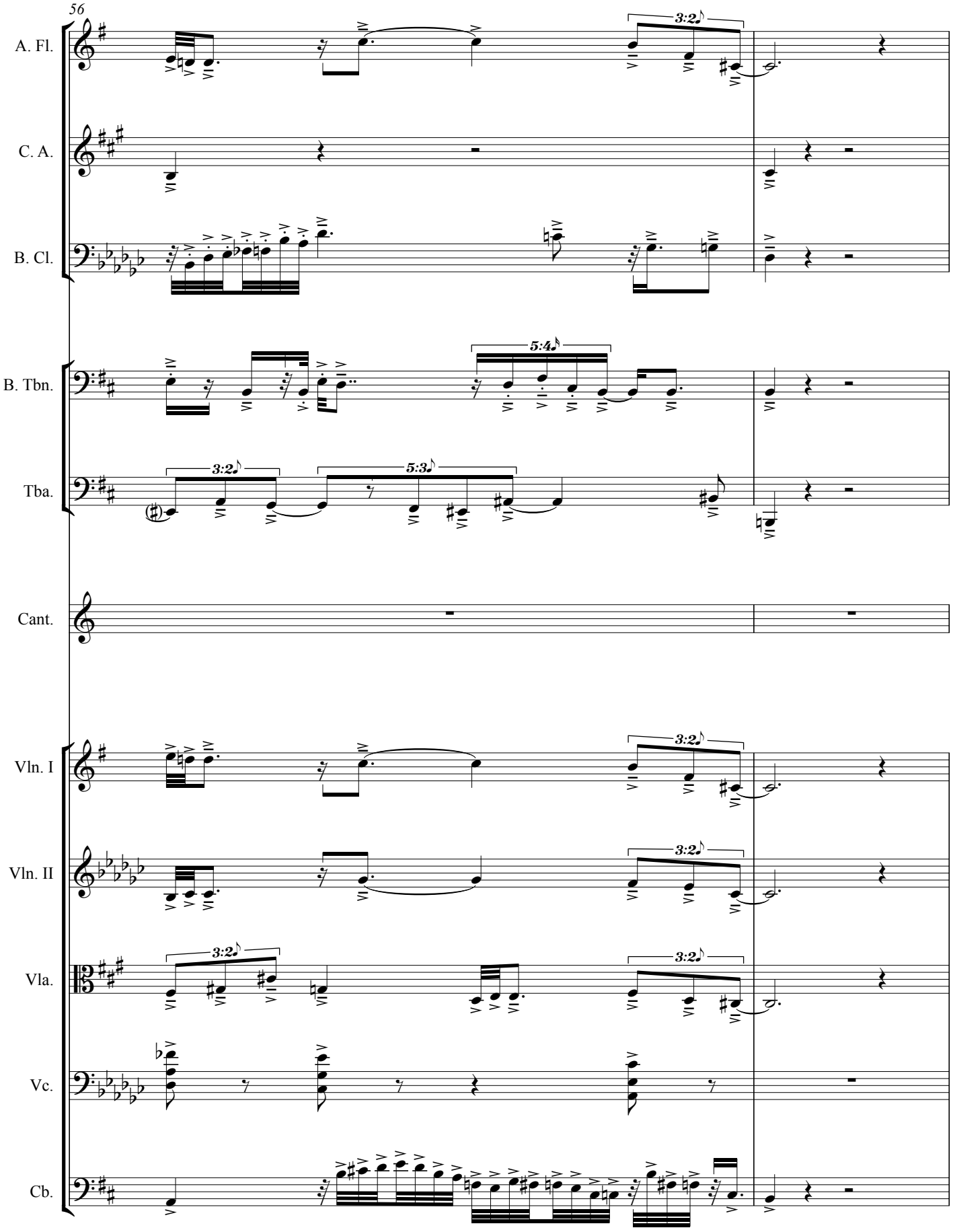

51
A. Fl.
f
C. A.
3:2
3:2
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
5:4
Tba.
Cant.
3:2
3:2
pi - e - ties,
White flo - wer - gar - lan - ded
pizz.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
3:2
3:2
pizz.
Vc.
pizz.
Cb.
f

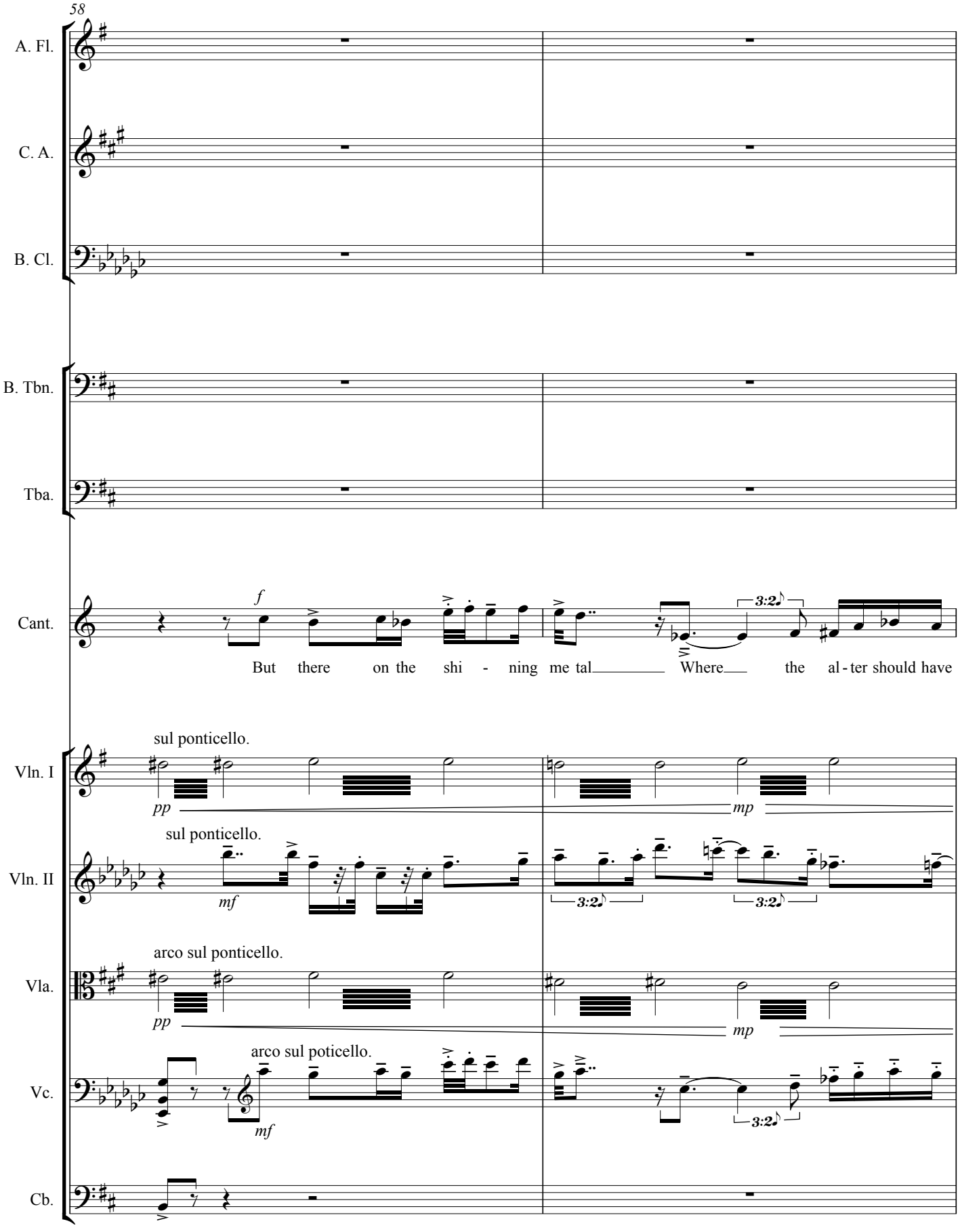

52
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
hei - fers,
Li - ba - tion and
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
7:4
3:2
5:4

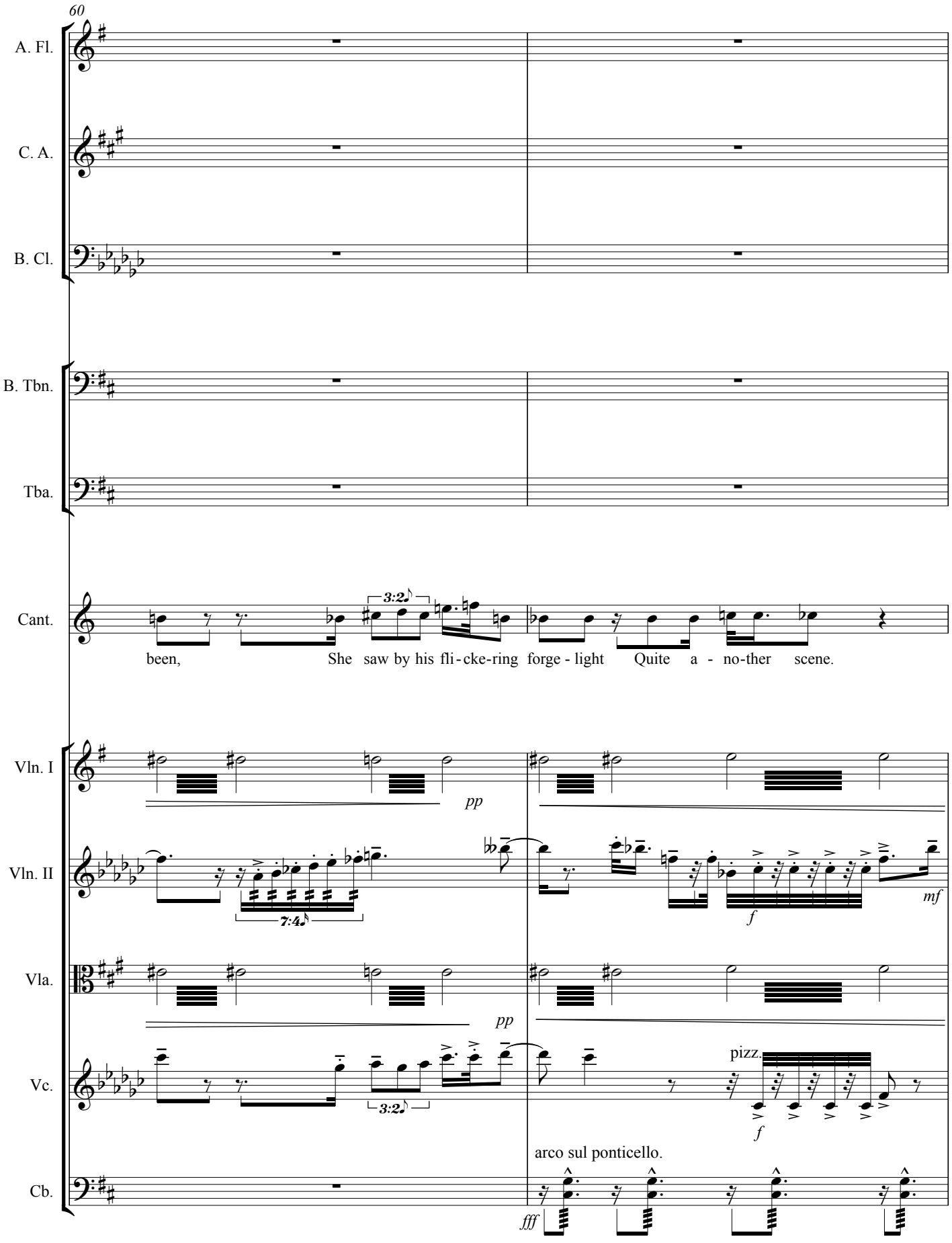

53
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
sa - cri- fice,
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
arco.
pizz.
arco.
3:2
5:4

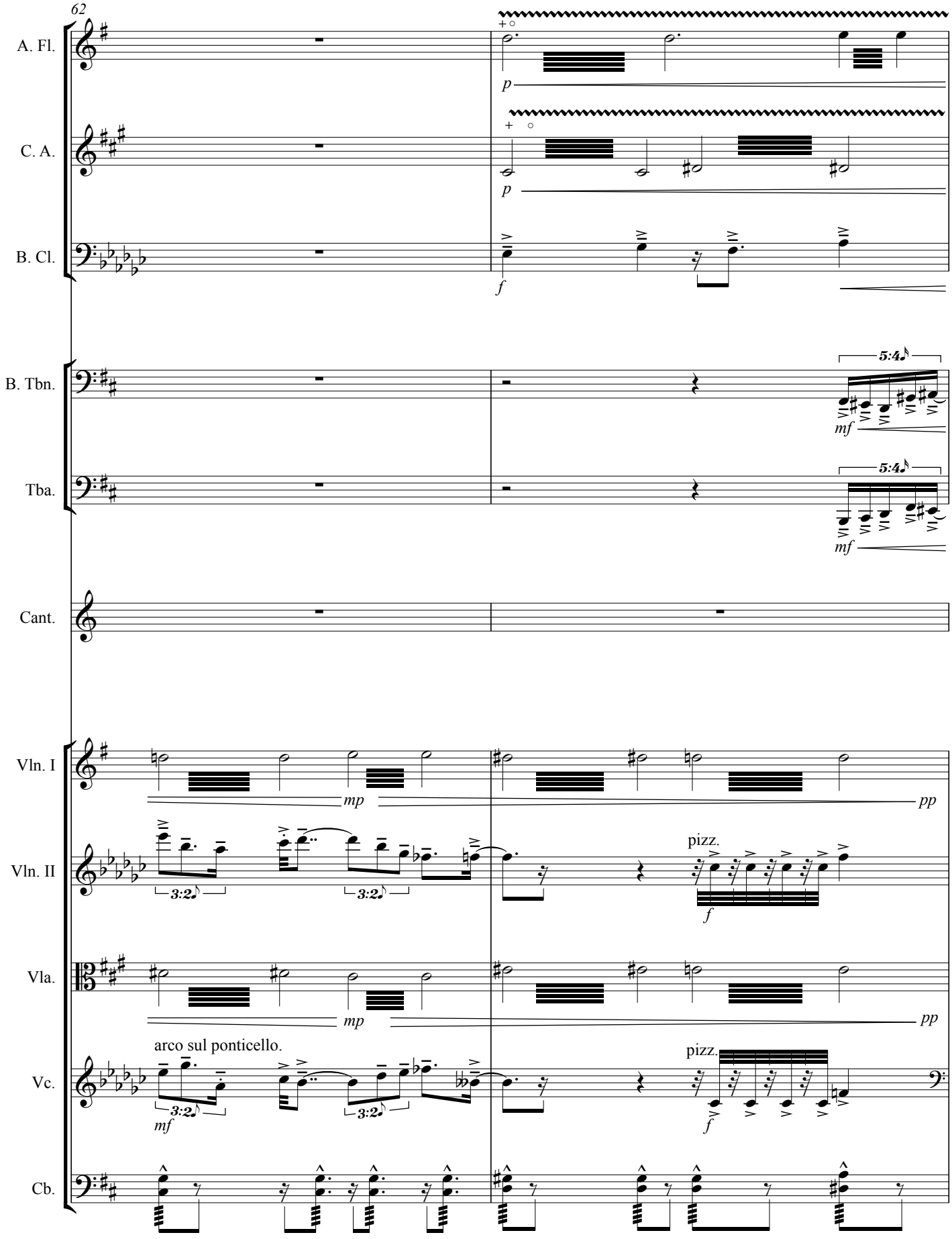

54
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
3:2
7:4
6:4
5:4
f
pizz.

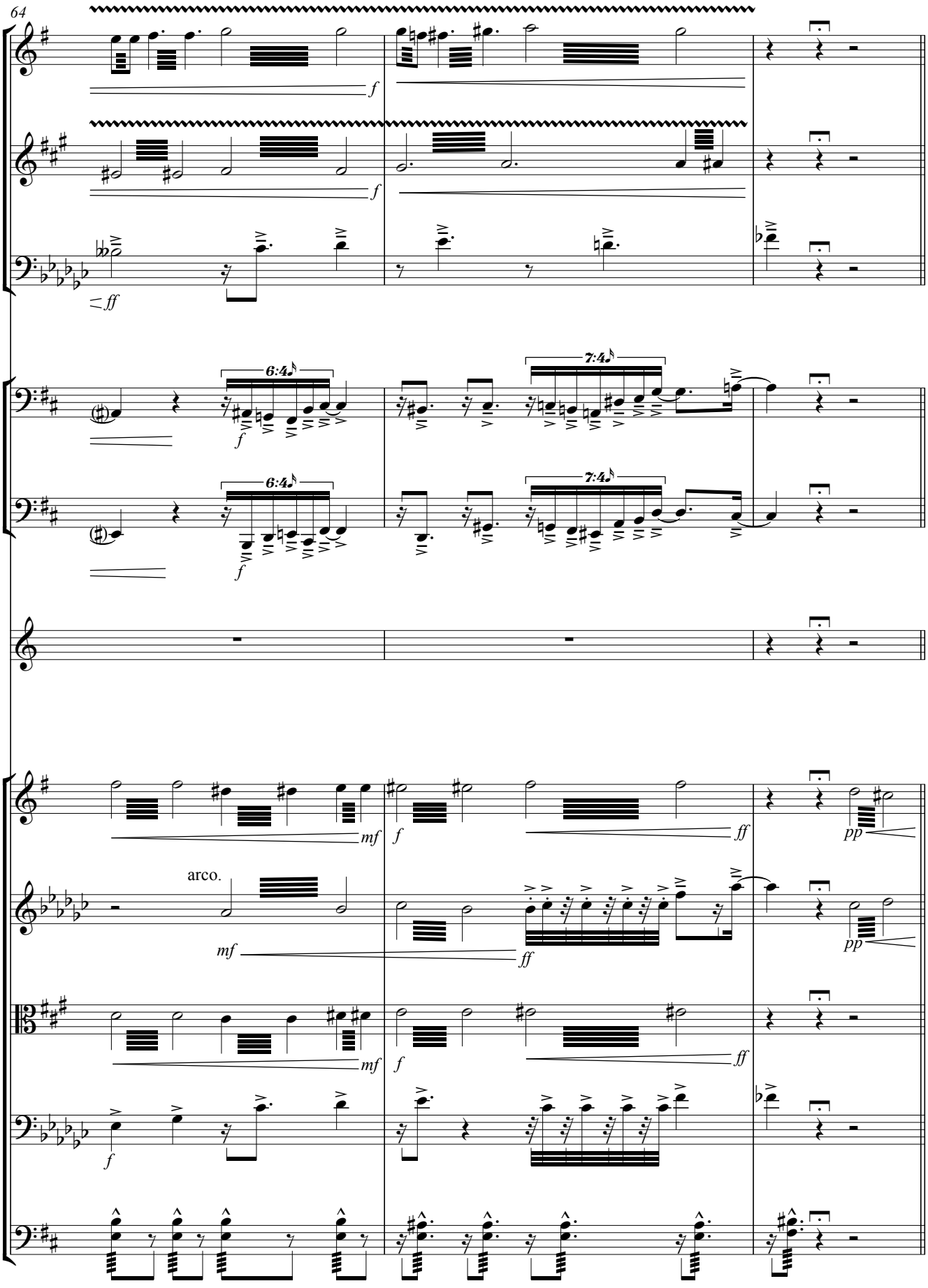

55
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
3:2
7:4
5:4
f

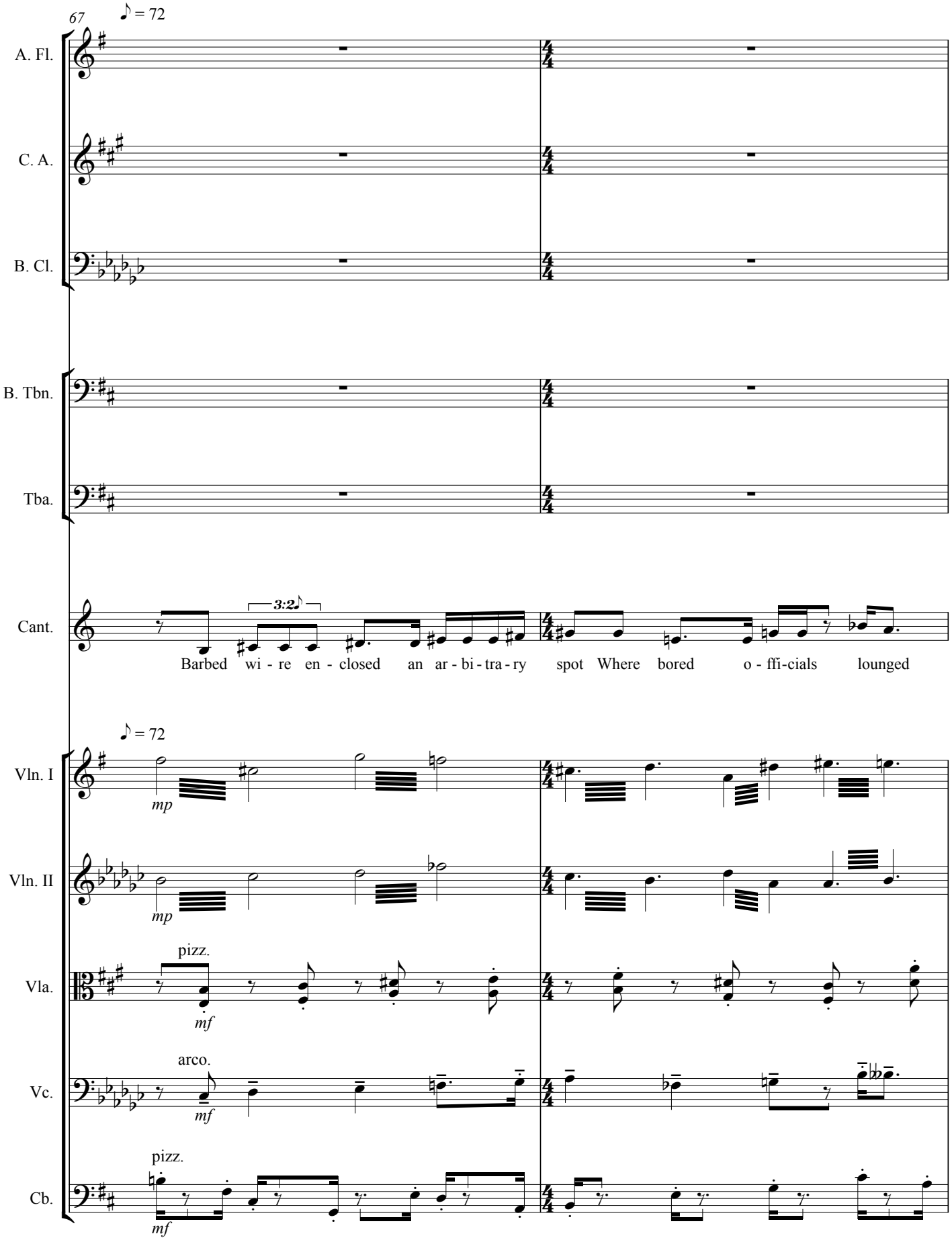

56
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
3:2
5:4
3:2
5:3
3:2
3:2
3:2
3:2

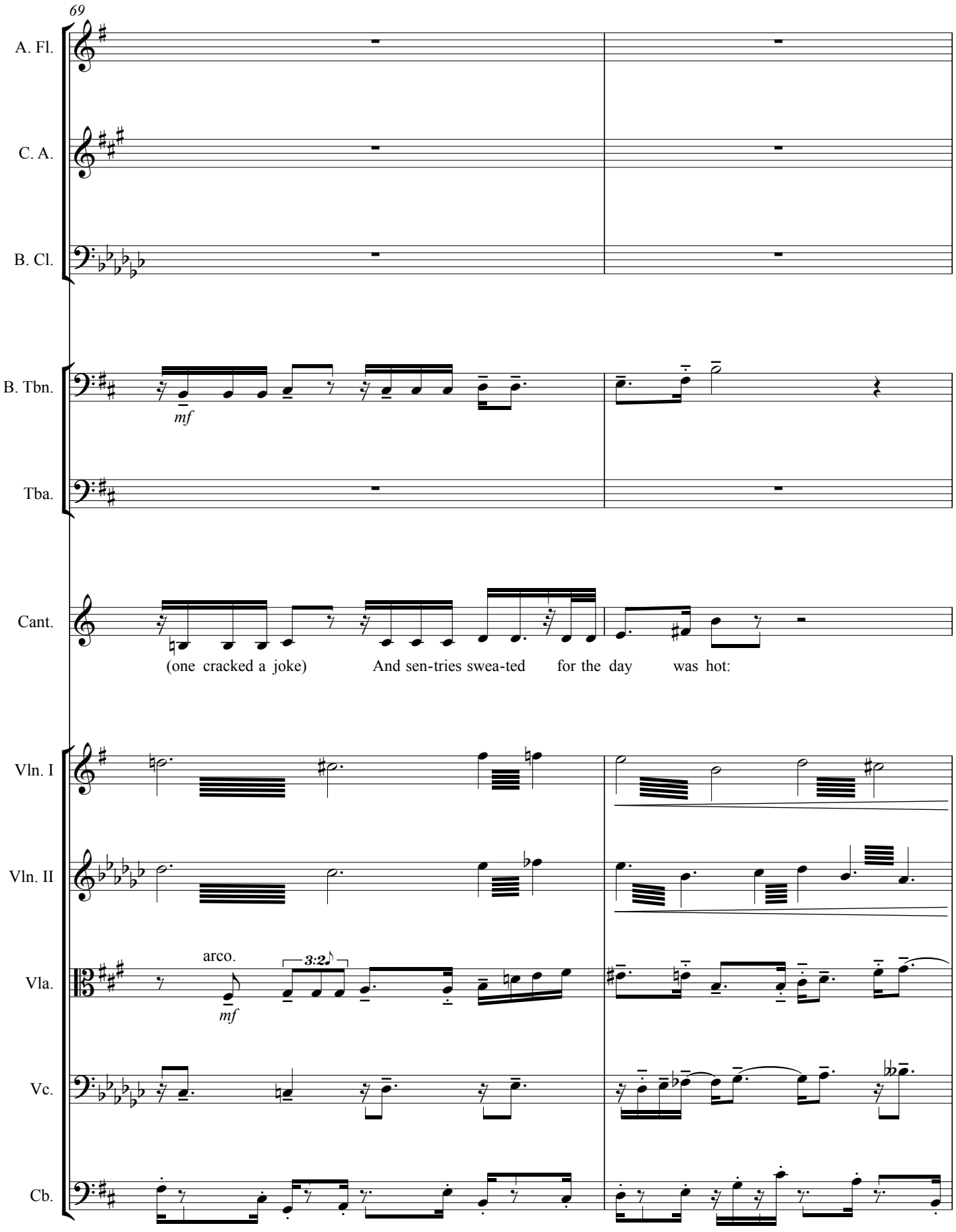

58
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
f
But there on the shi - ning me tal Where the al - ter should have
3:2
Vln. I
sul ponticello.
pp
mp
Vln. II
sul ponticello.
mf
3:2
3:2
Vla.
arco sul ponticello.
pp
mp
Vc.
arco sul poticello.
mf
3:2
Cb.

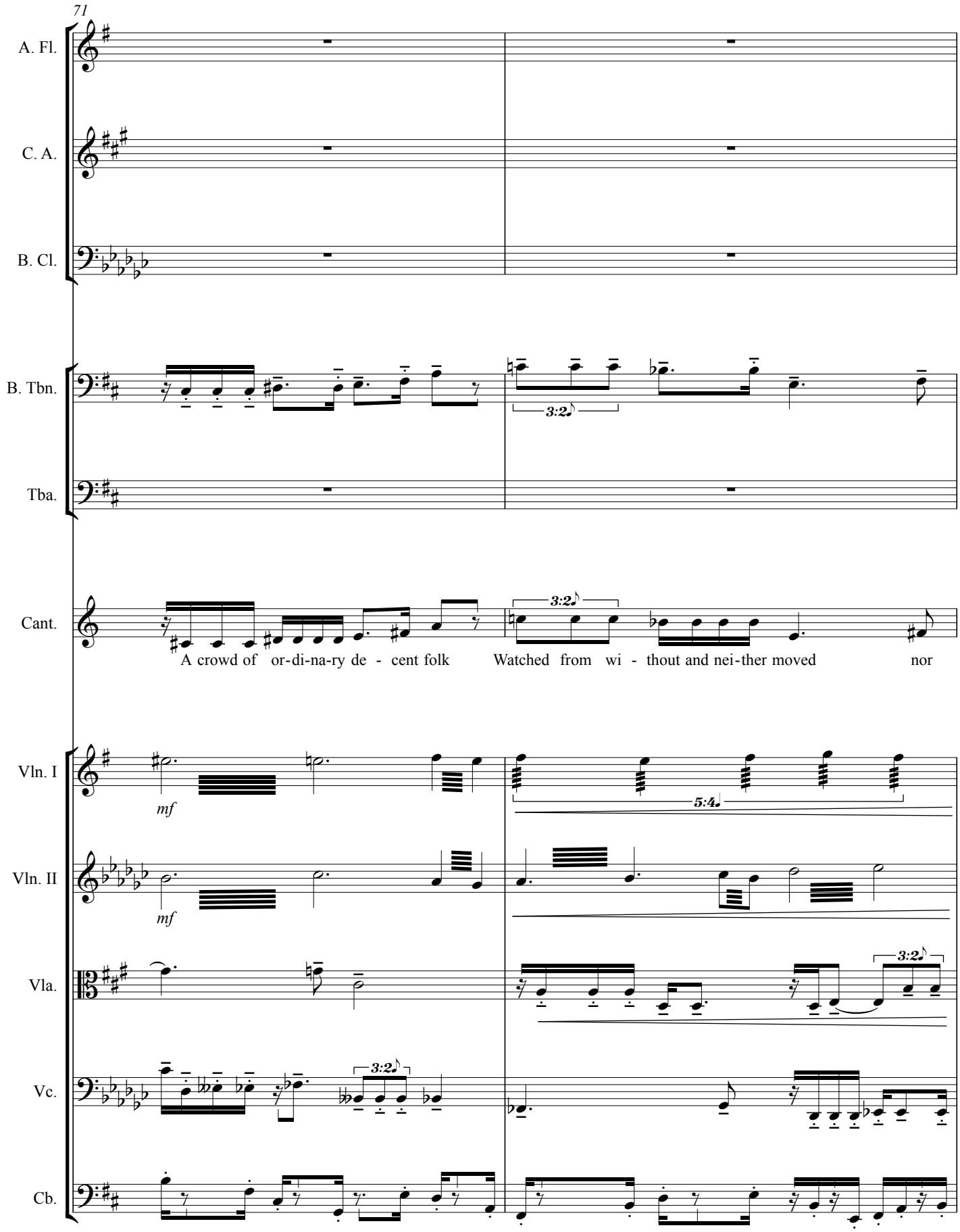

60
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
3:2
been, She saw by his fli - cke-ring forge - light Quite a - no-ther scene.
Vln. I
pp
Vln. II
7:4
mf
f
Vla.
pp
Vc.
3:2
pizz.
f
arco sul ponticello.
Cb.
fff

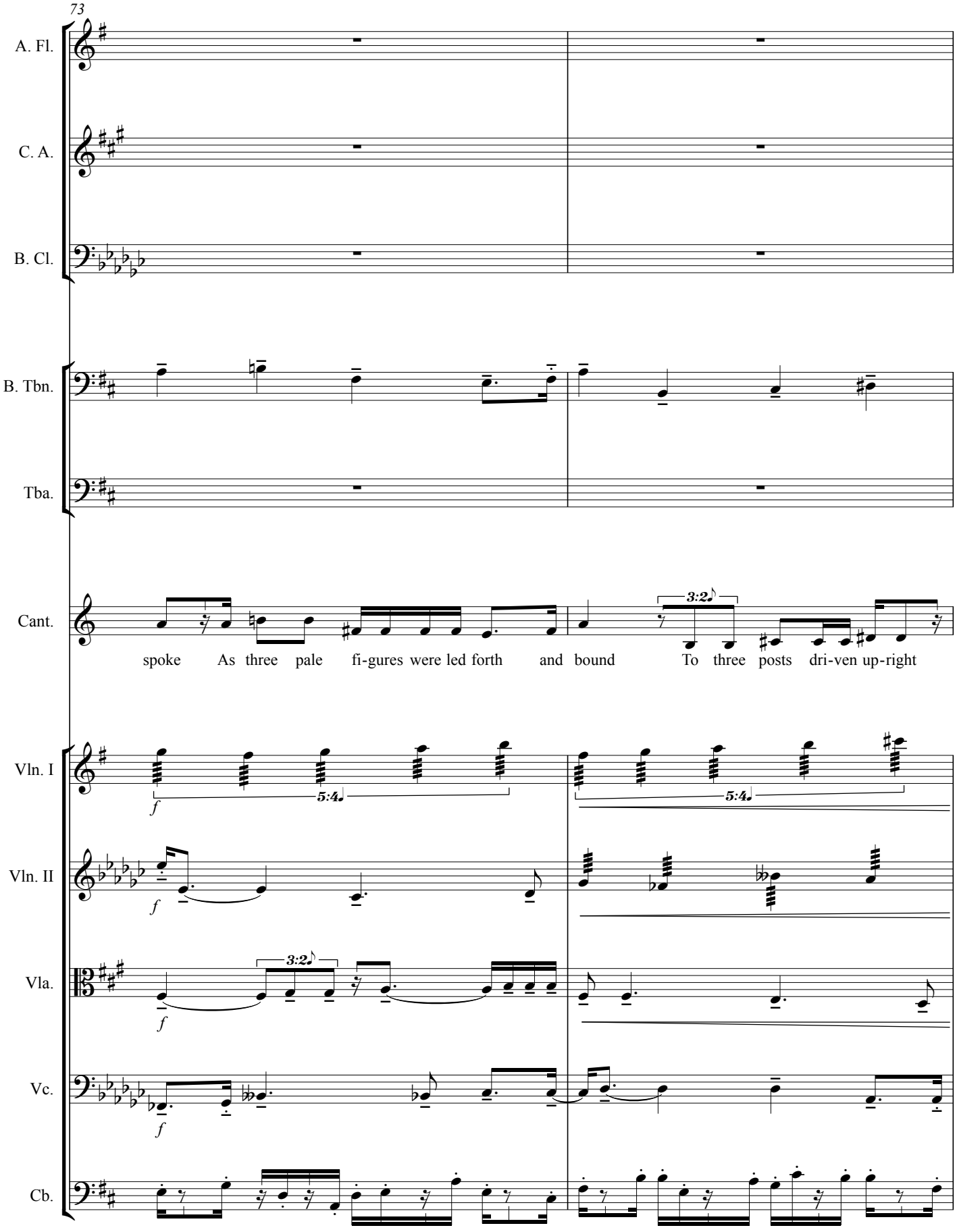

62
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
p
f
mf
mp
pp
5:4
3:2
pizz.
arco sul ponticello.

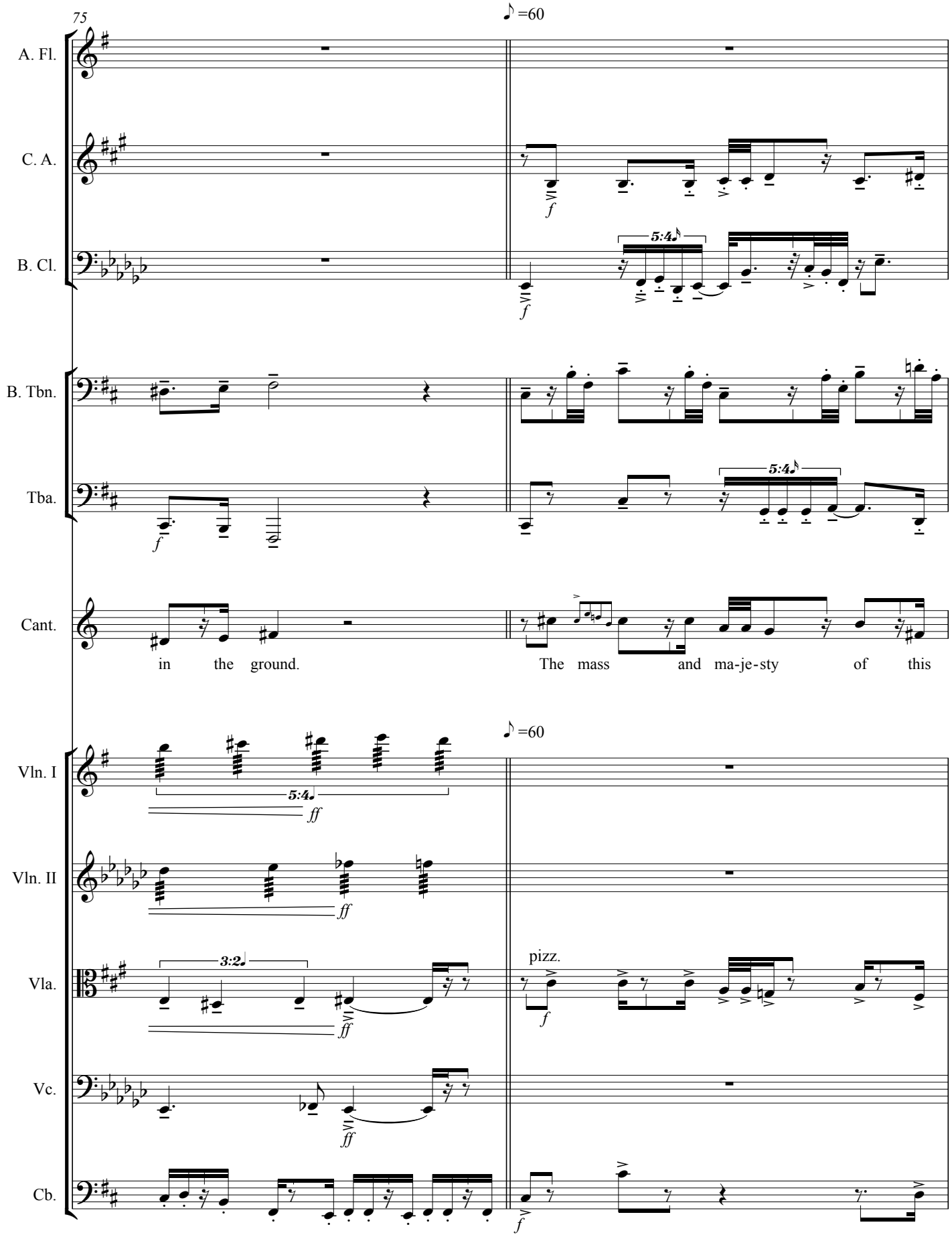

64
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
arco.
6:4
7:4
f
ff
mf
pp

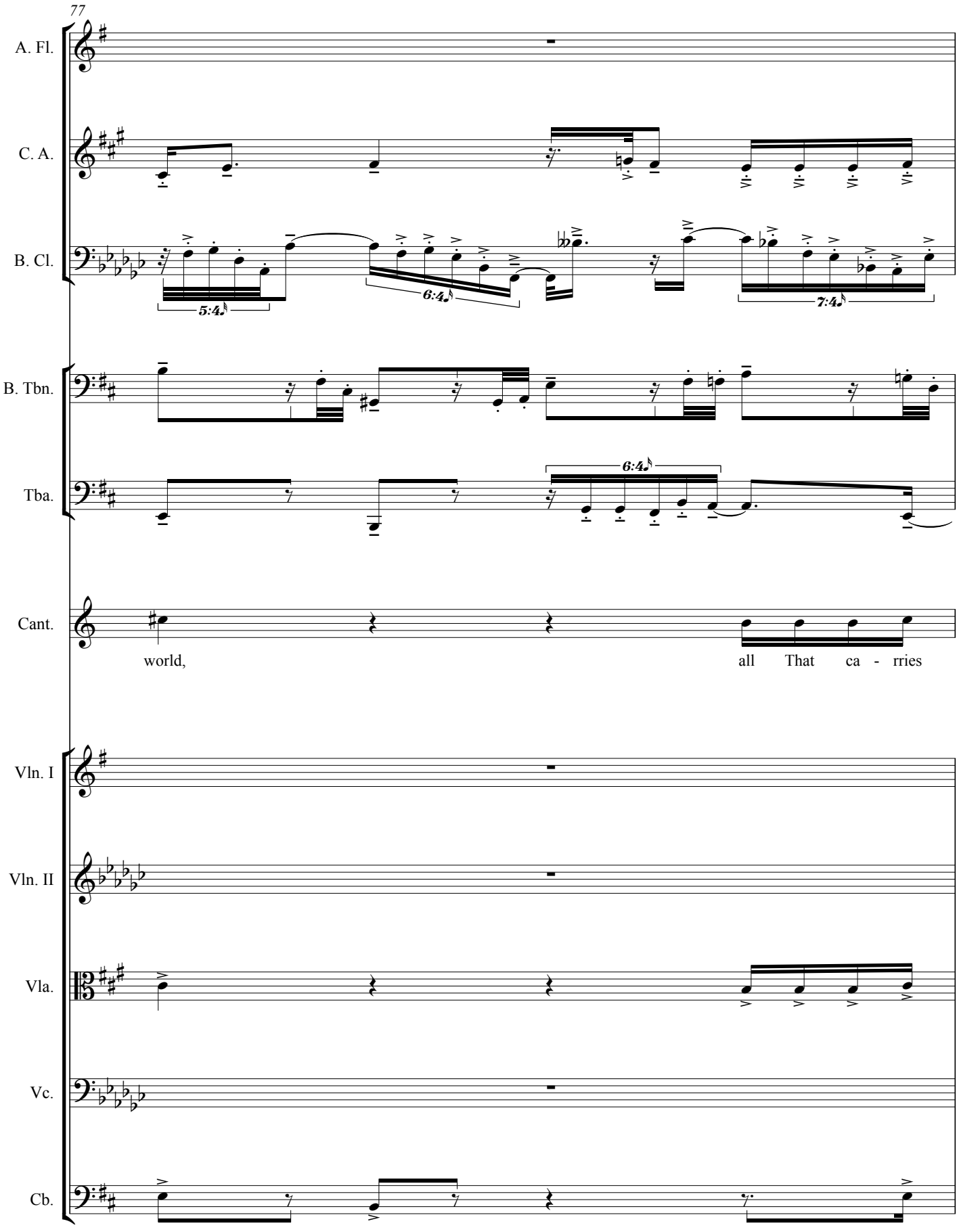

67
♪ = 72
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
3:2
Barbed wi - re en - closed an ar - bi - tra - ry spot Where bored o - ffi-cials lounged
♪ = 72
Vln. I
mp
Vln. II
mp
pizz.
Vla.
mf
arco.
Vc.
mf
pizz.
Cb.
mf

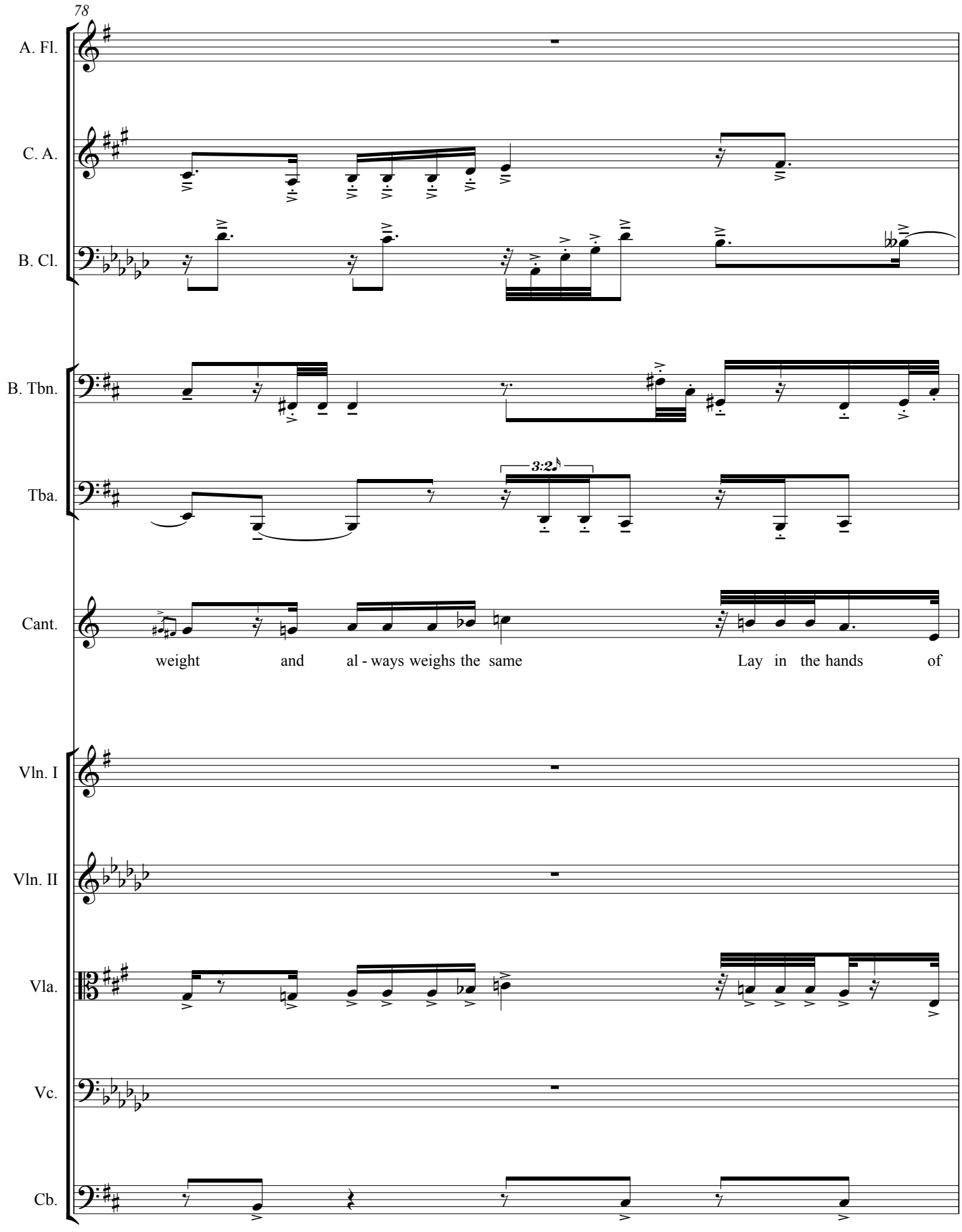

69
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
mf
Tba.
Cant.
(one cracked a joke)
And sen-tries swea-ted
for the day
was hot:
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
arco.
3:2
mf
Vc.
Cb.

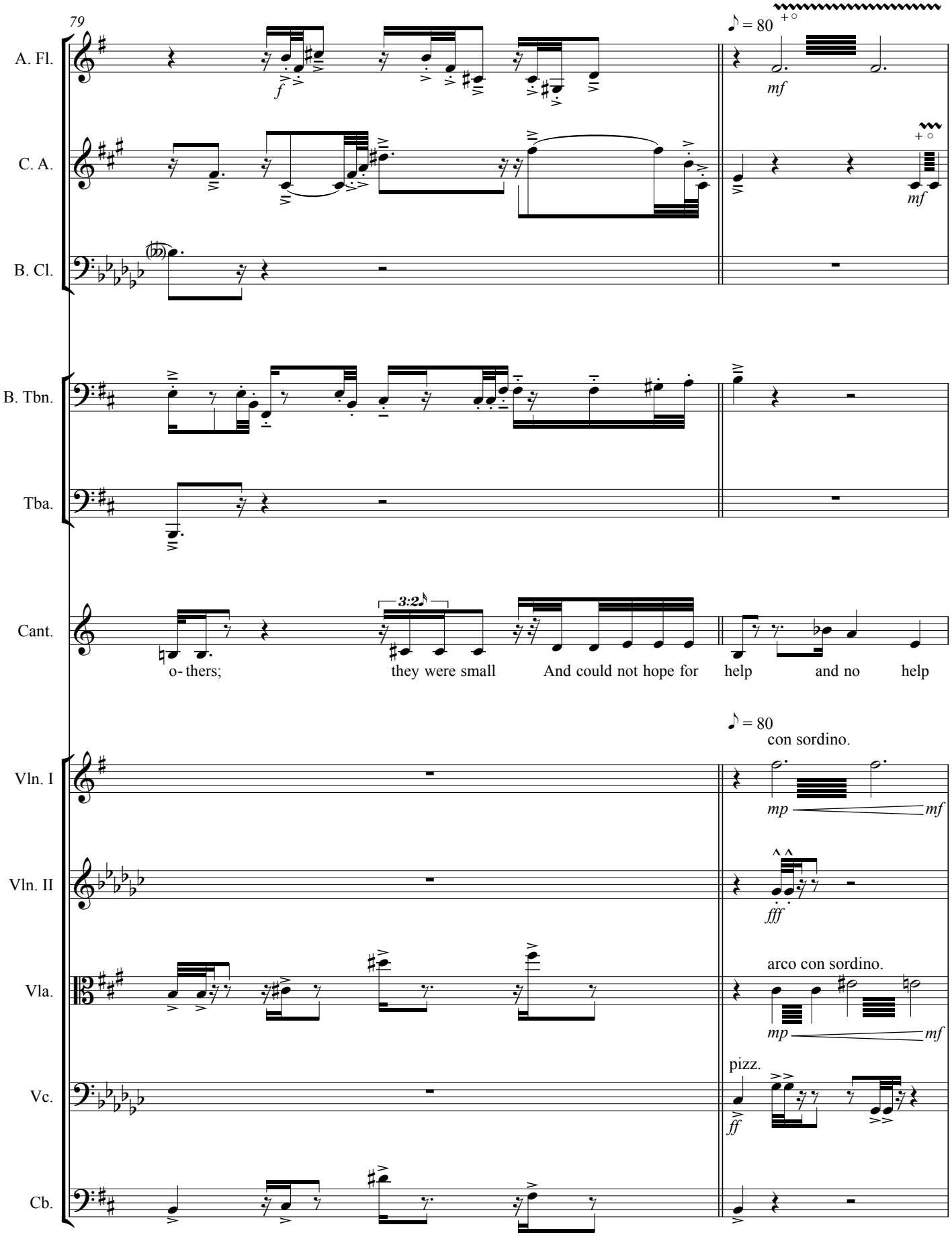

71
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
A crowd of or-di-na-ry de - cent folk
Watched from wi - thout and nei-ther moved
nor
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
mf
mf
3:2
5:4
3:2
3:2

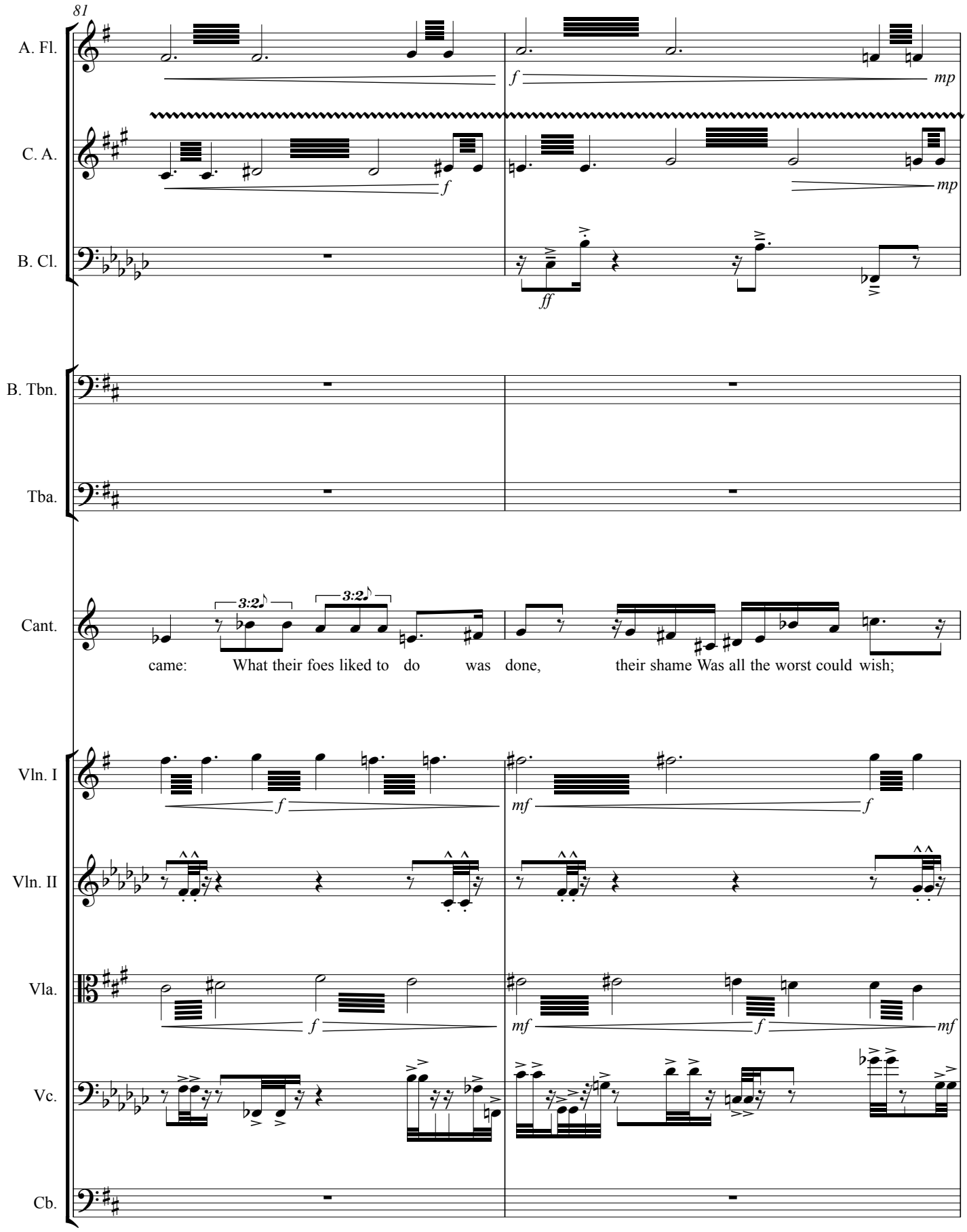

73
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
spoke As three pale fi-gures were led forth and bound To three posts dri-ven up-right
3:2
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
f
5:4
3:2

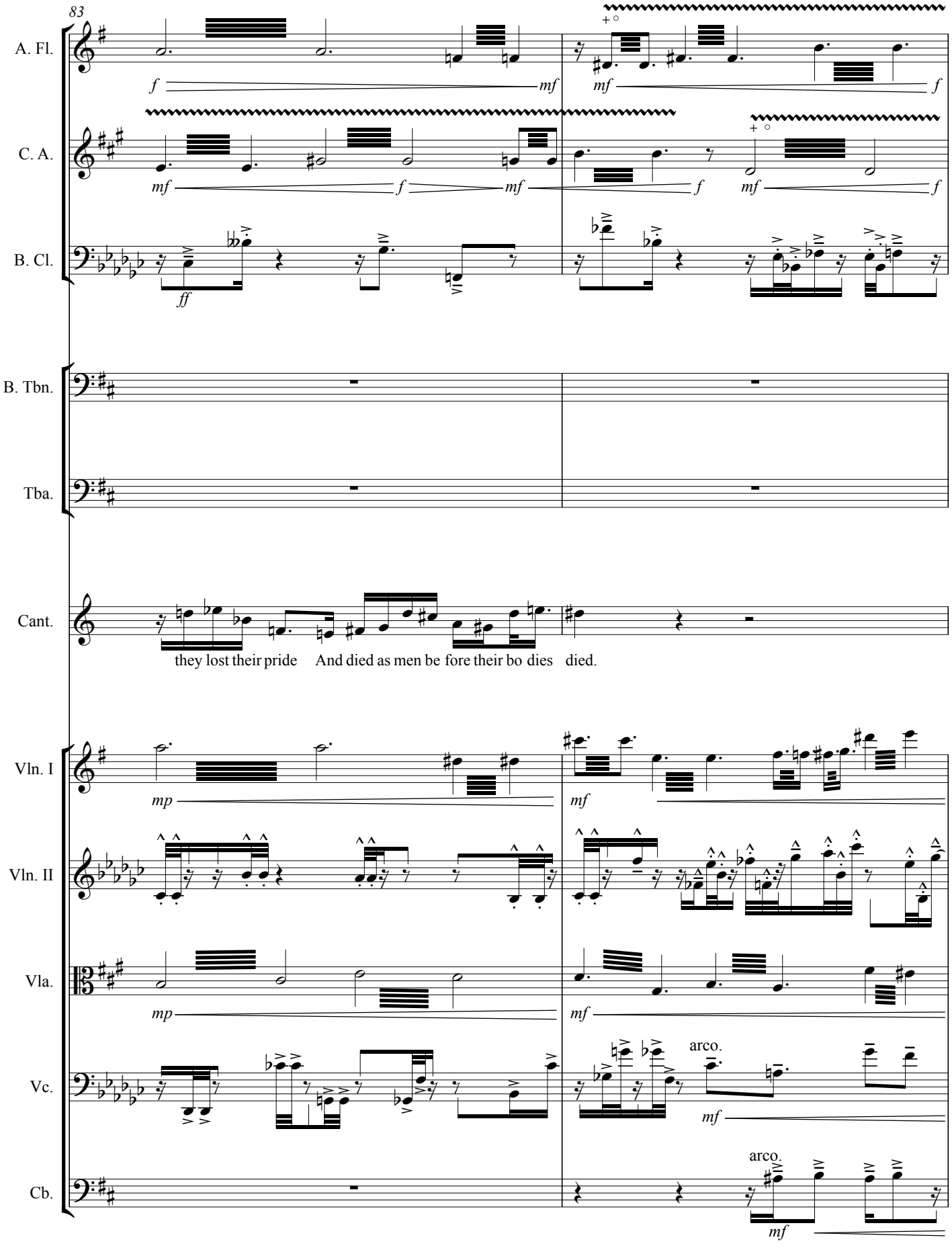

75
♪=60
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
in the ground.
The mass and ma-je-sty of this
♪=60
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
pizz.

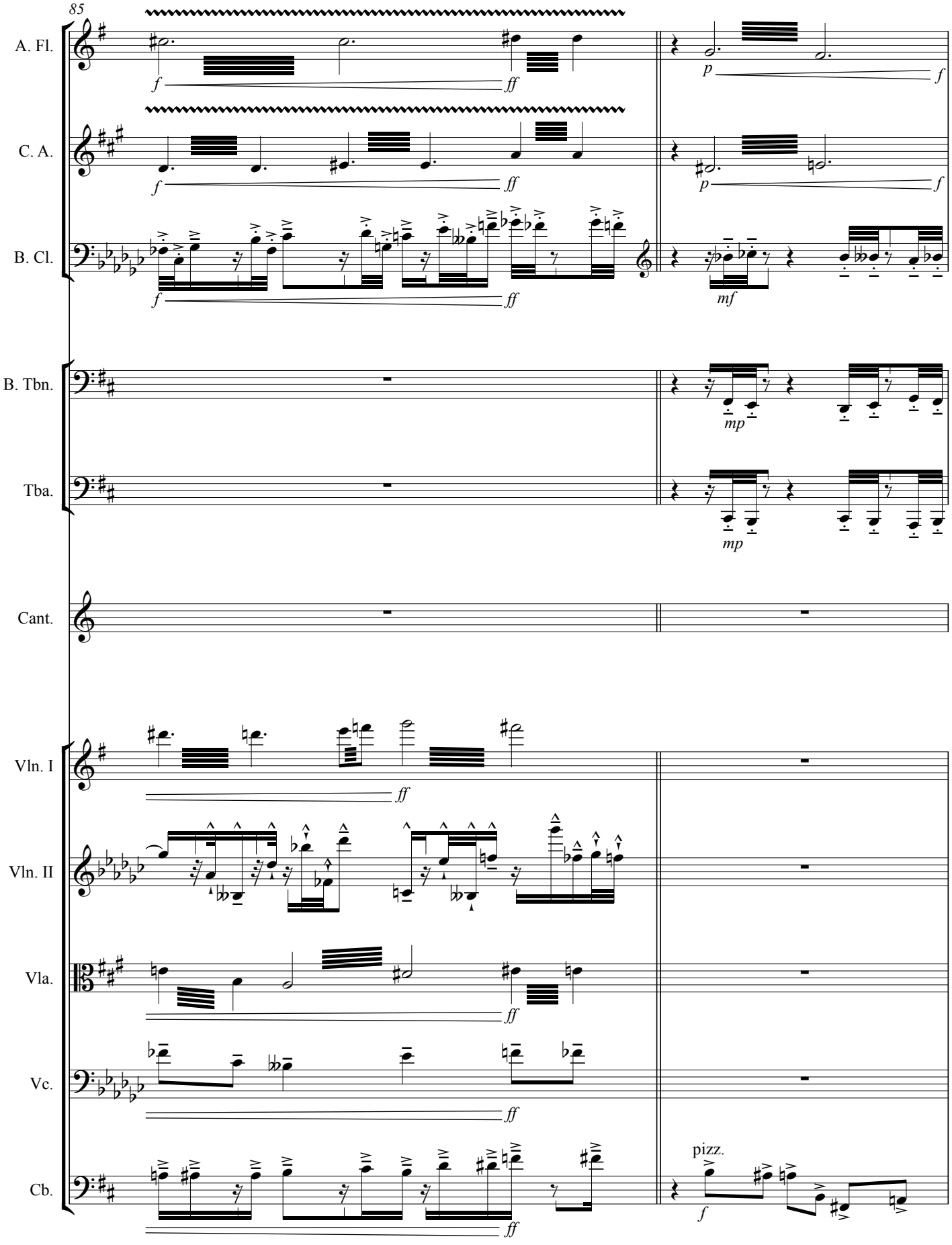

77
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
5:4
6:4
7:4
B. Tbn.
Tba.
6:4
Cant.
world,
all That ca - rries
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

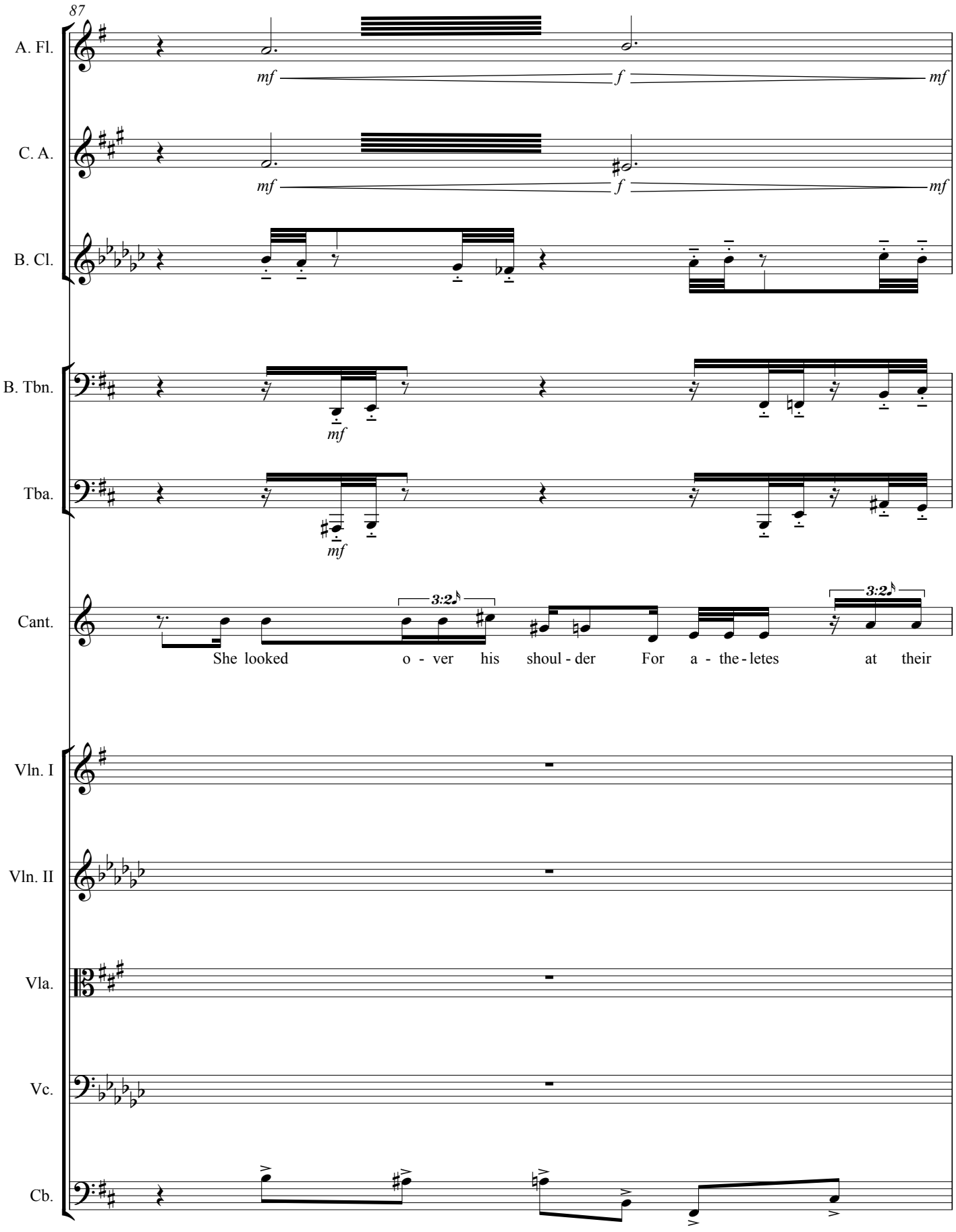

78
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
3:2
Cant.
weight and al - ways weighs the same
Lay in the hands of
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

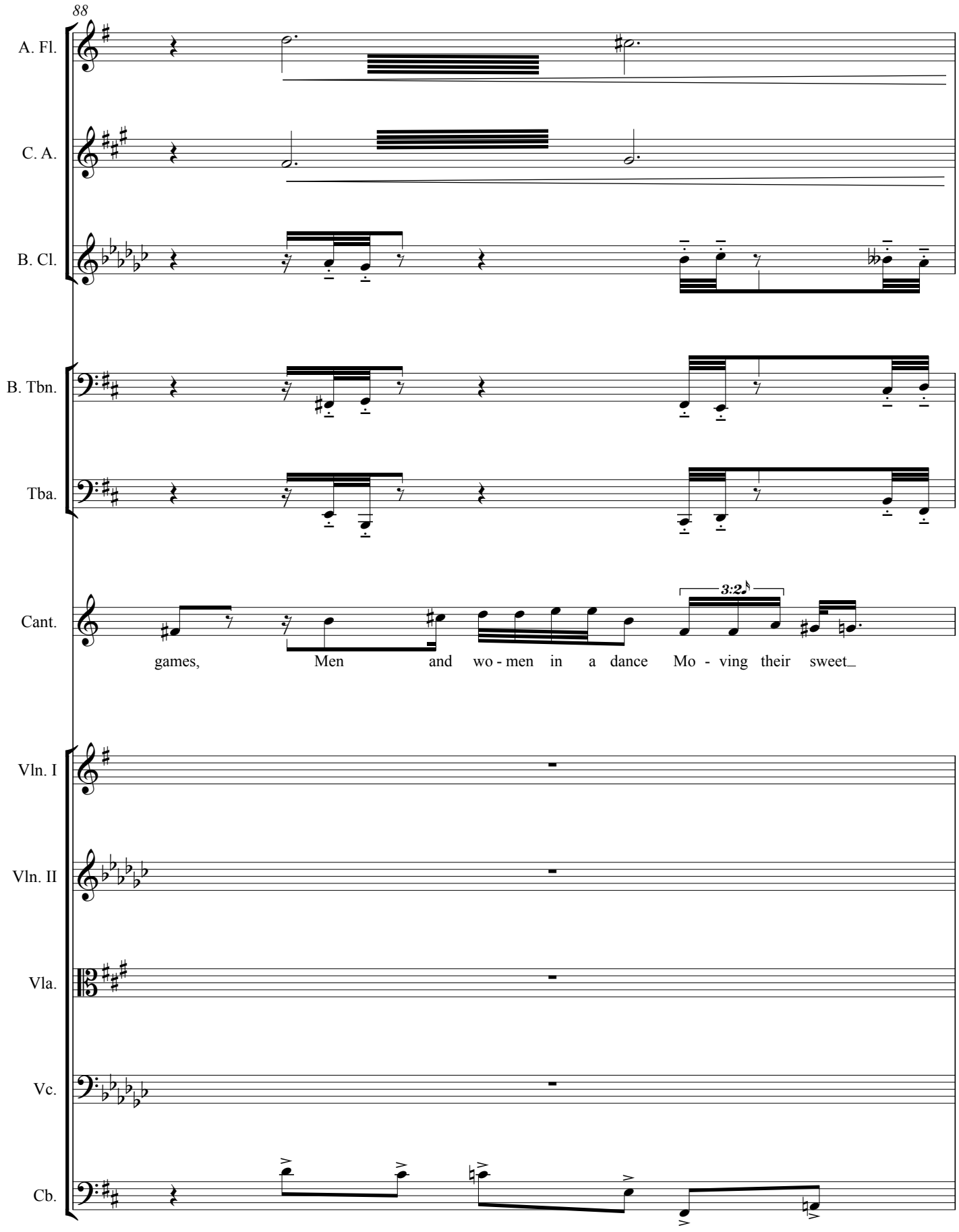

79
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
♪ = 80
f
mf
mf
3:2
o- thers; they were small And could not hope for help and no help
♪ = 80
con sordino.
mp
mf
fff
arco con sordino.
mp
mf
pizz.
ff

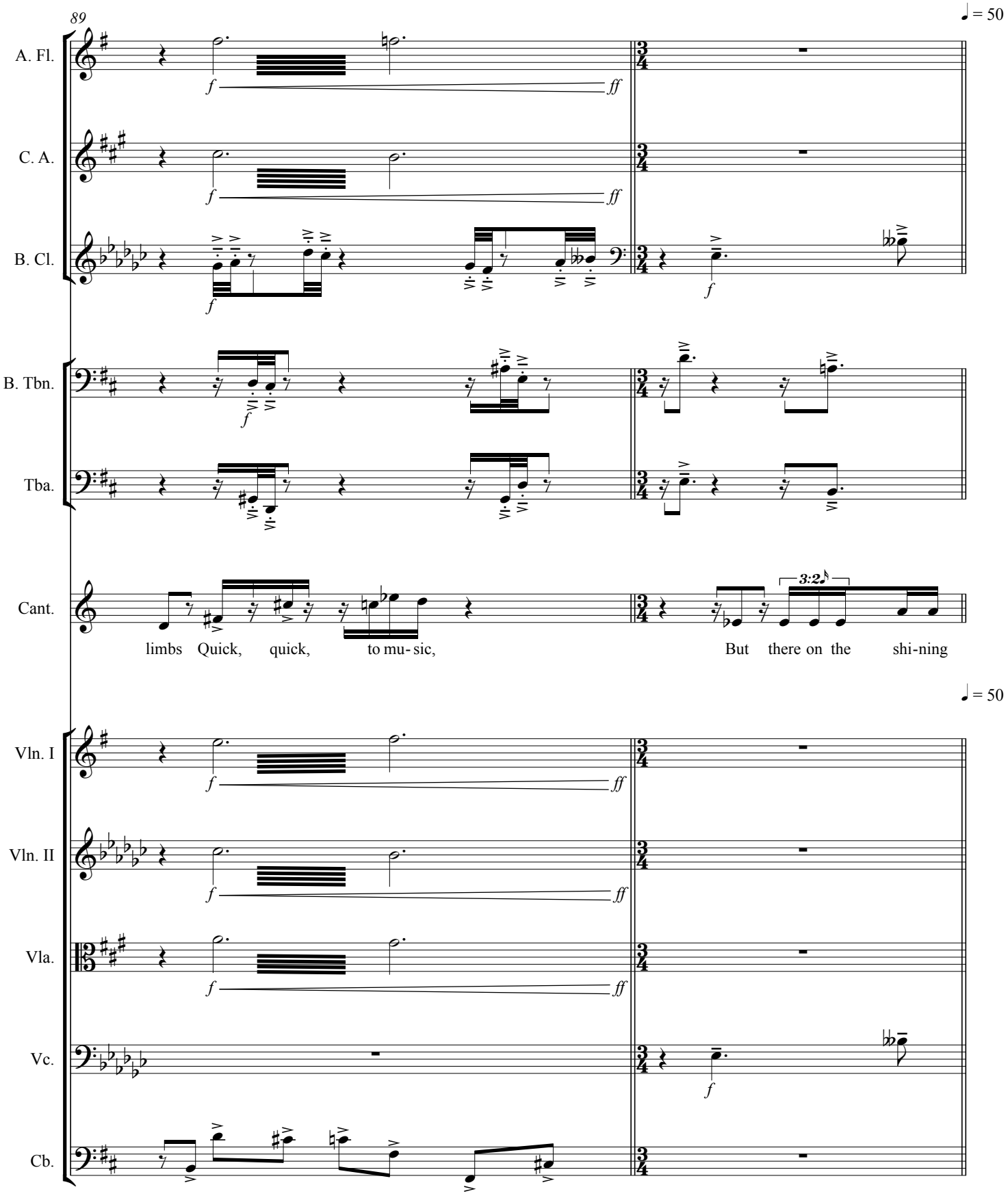

81
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
3:2
3:2
came: What their foes liked to do was done, their shame Was all the worst could wish;
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
f
mp
ff
mf

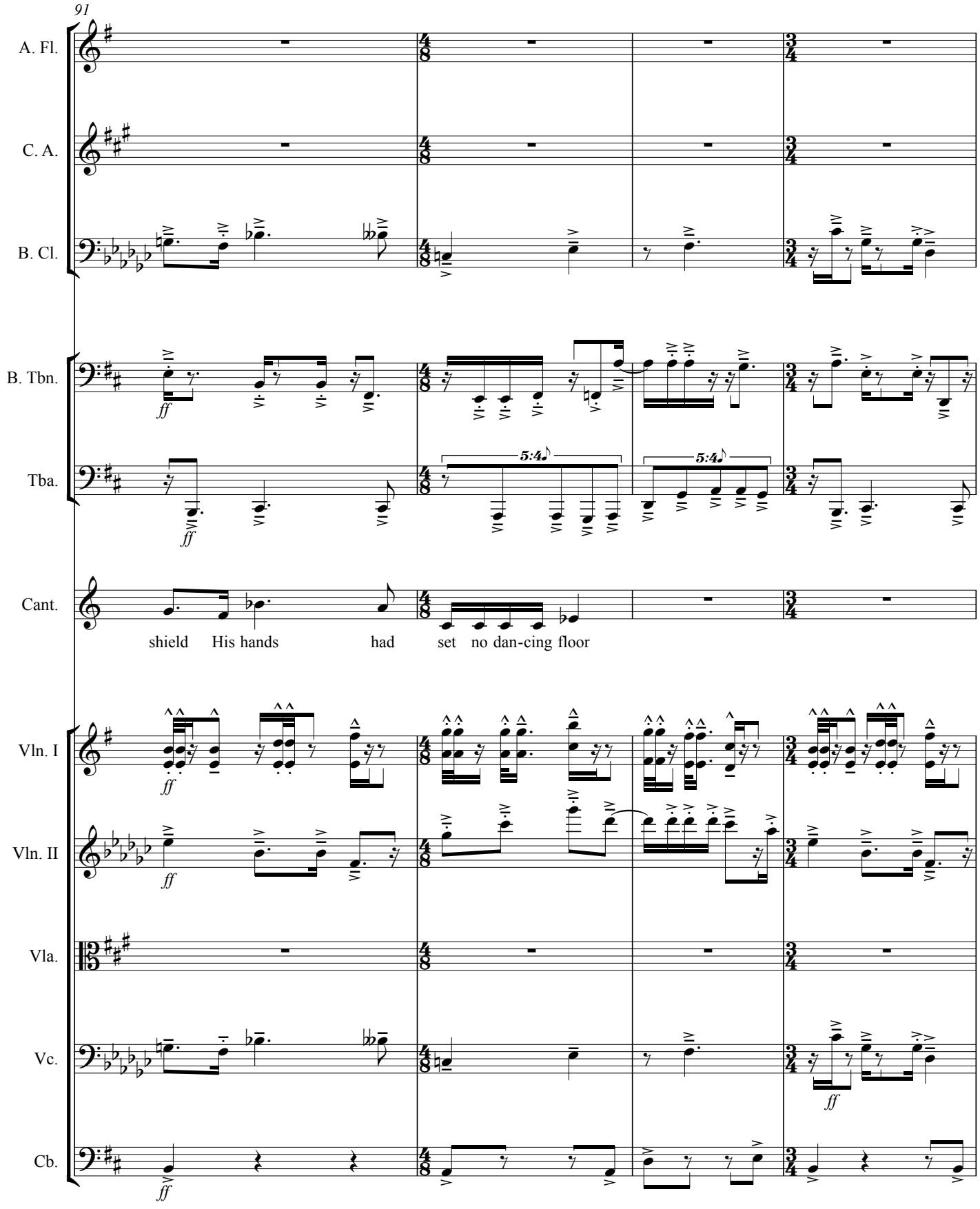

83
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
they lost their pride And died as men be fore their bo dies died.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
arco.
arco.

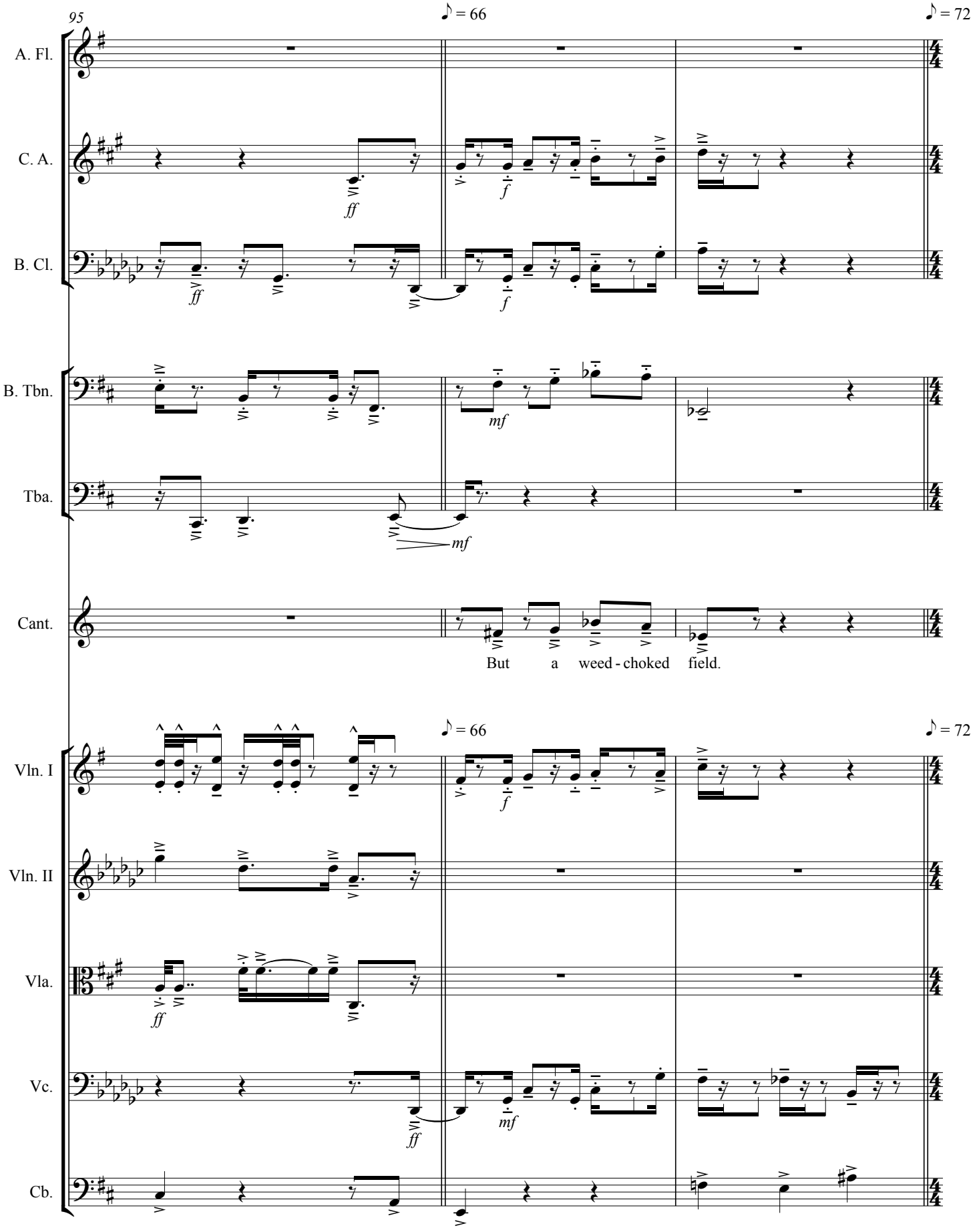

85
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
f
ff
p
mf
mp
pizz.

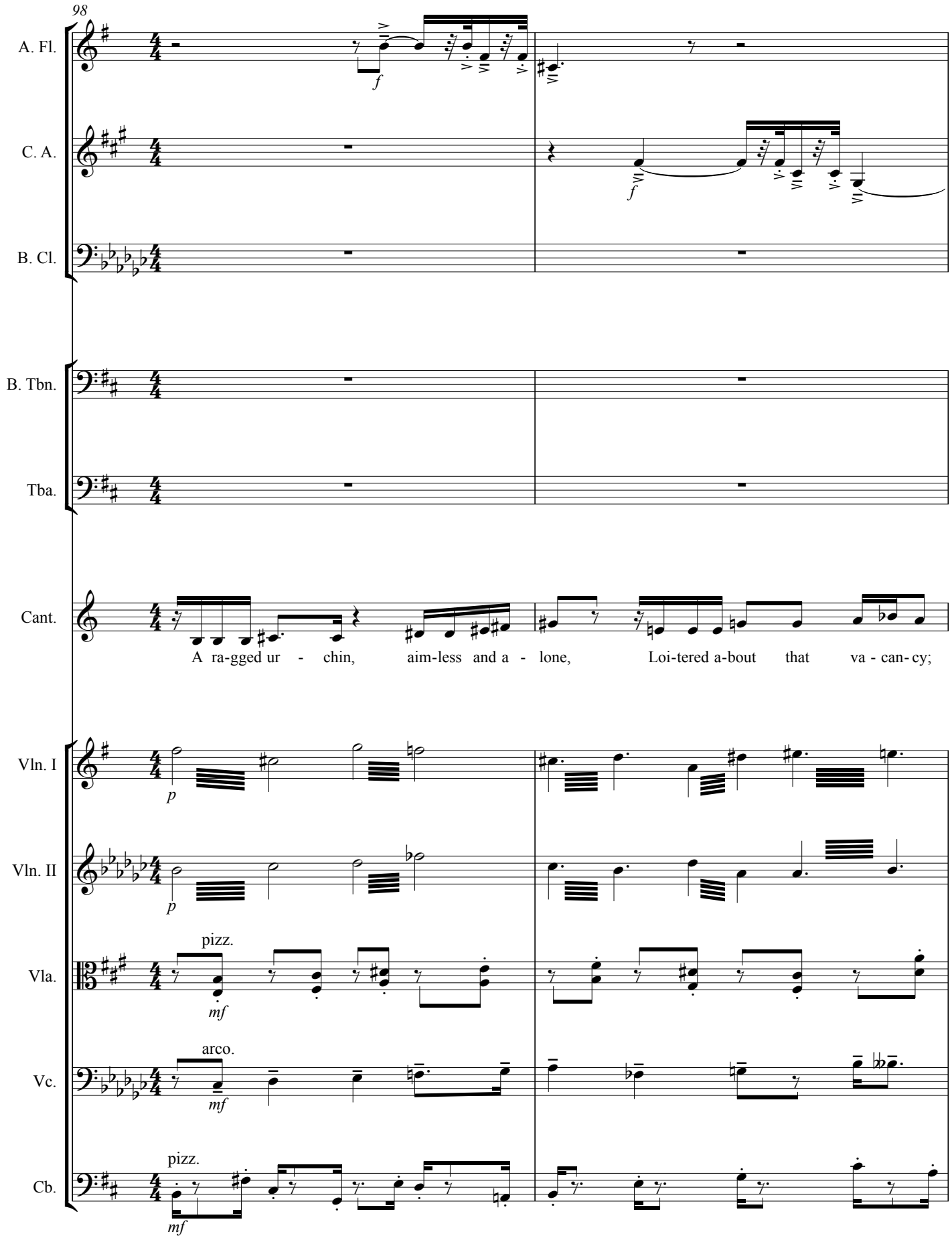

87
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
mf
f
mf
3:2
She looked o - ver his shoul - der For a - the - letes at their

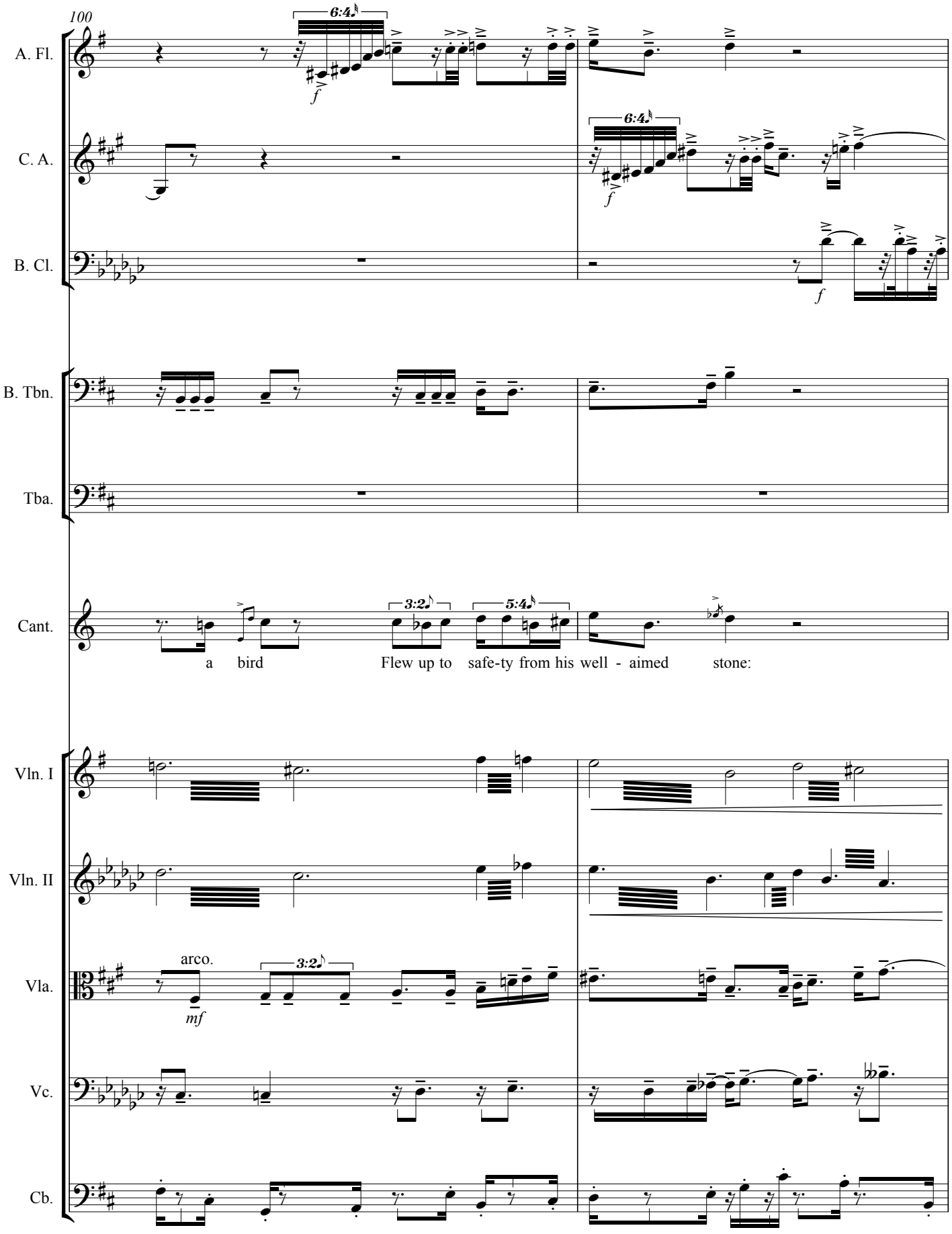

88
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
3:2
games, Men and wo - men in a dance Mo - ving their sweet_
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

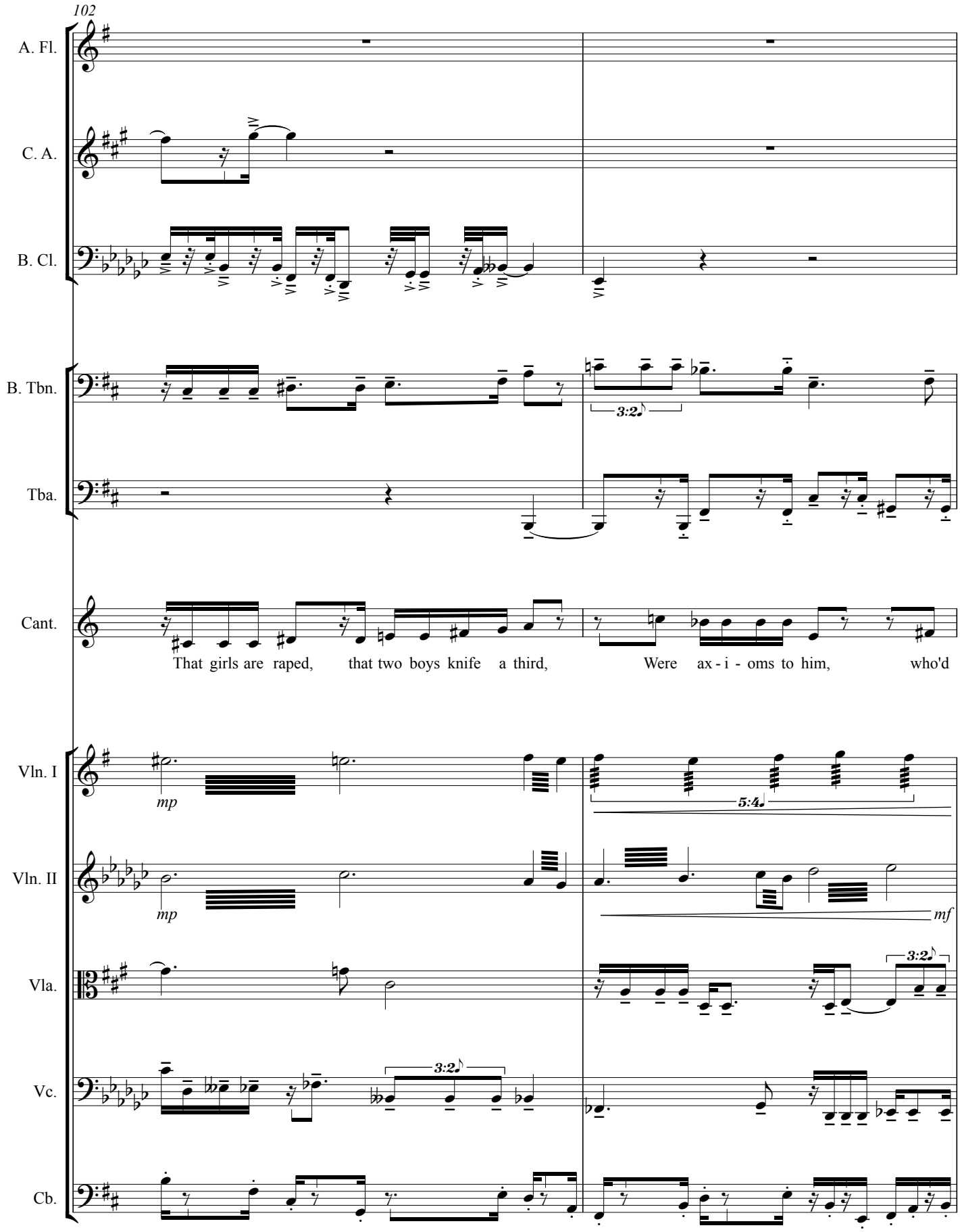

89
♩ = 50
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
limbs Quick, quick, to mu- sic,
But there on the shi-ning
3:2
♩ = 50
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

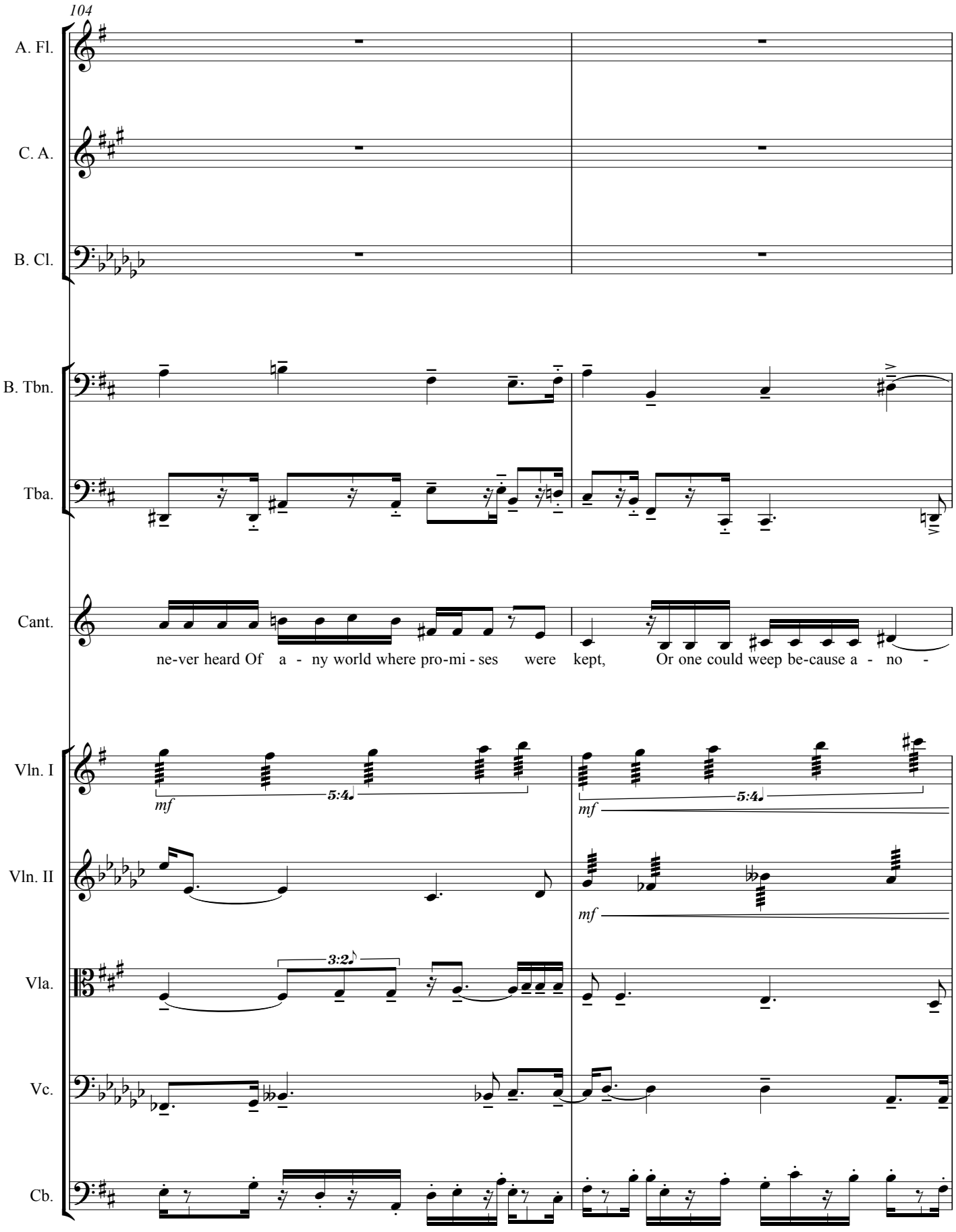

91
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
shield His hands had set no dan-cing floor
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
ff
5:4
5:4

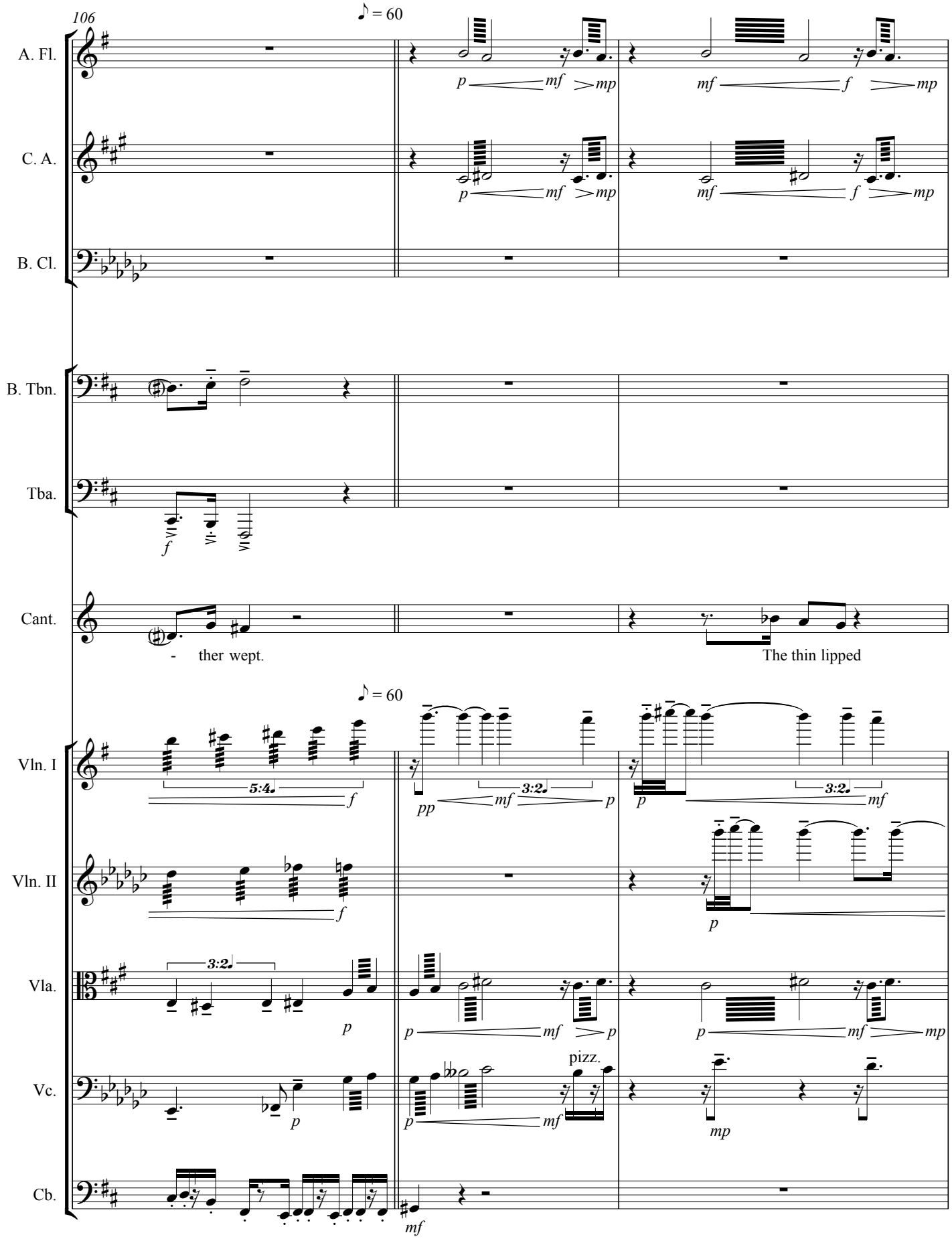

95
♪ = 66
♪ = 72
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
But a weed - choked field.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
ff
f
mf

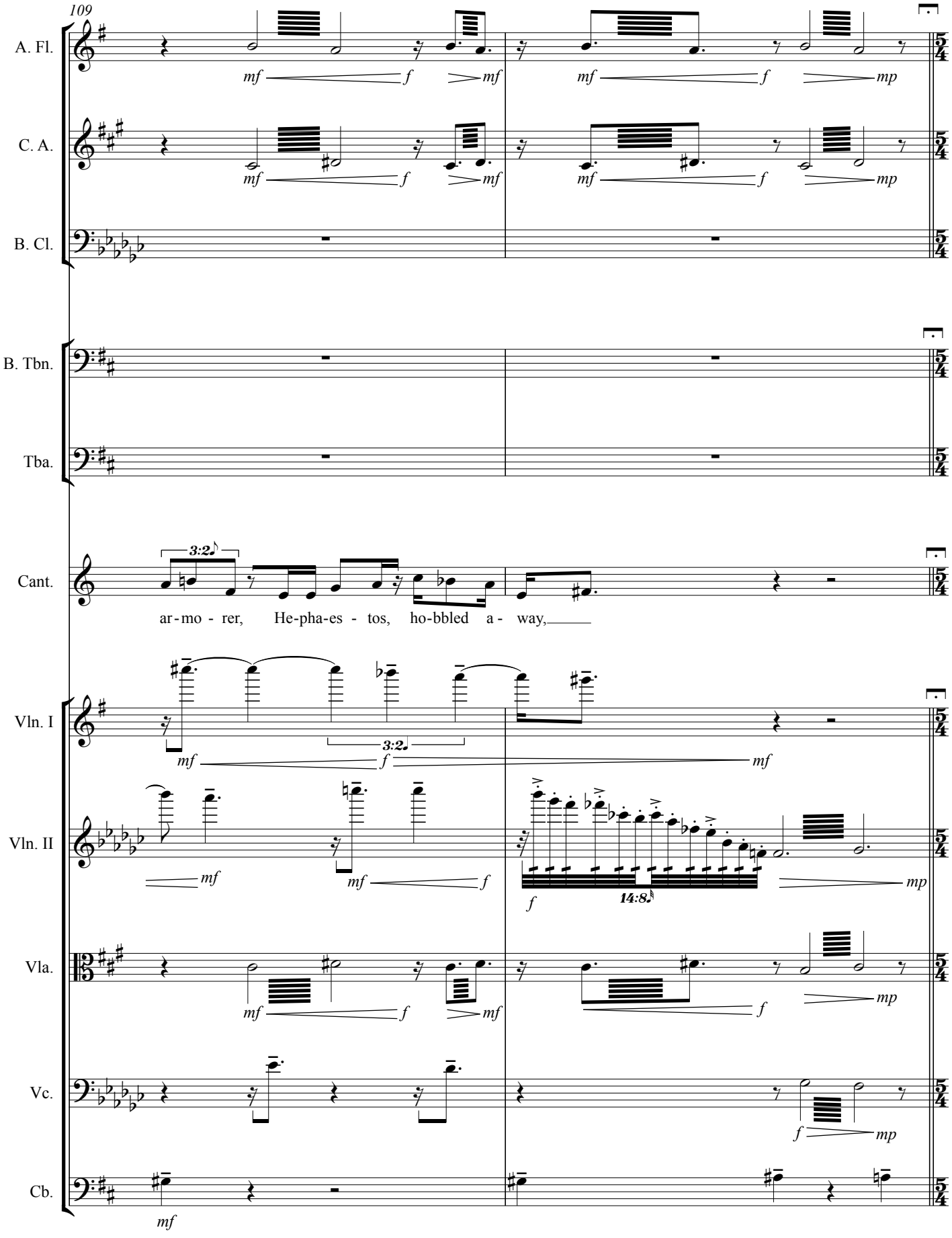

98
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
A ra-gged ur - chin, aim-less and a - lone, Loi-tered a-bout that va - can-cy;
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
pizz.
arco.
pizz.

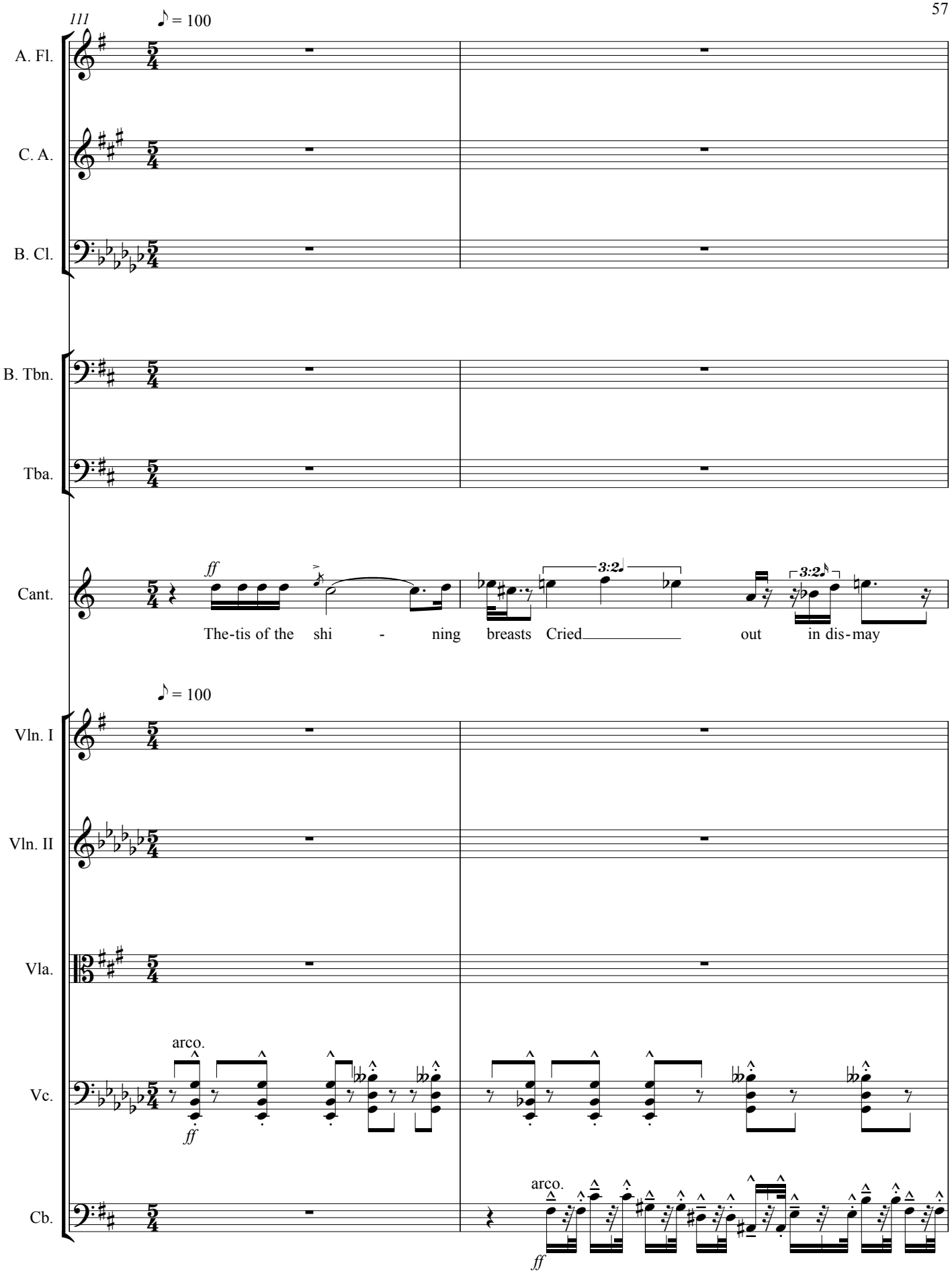

100
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
a bird Flew up to safe-ty from his well - aimed stone:
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
arco.
Vc.
Cb.

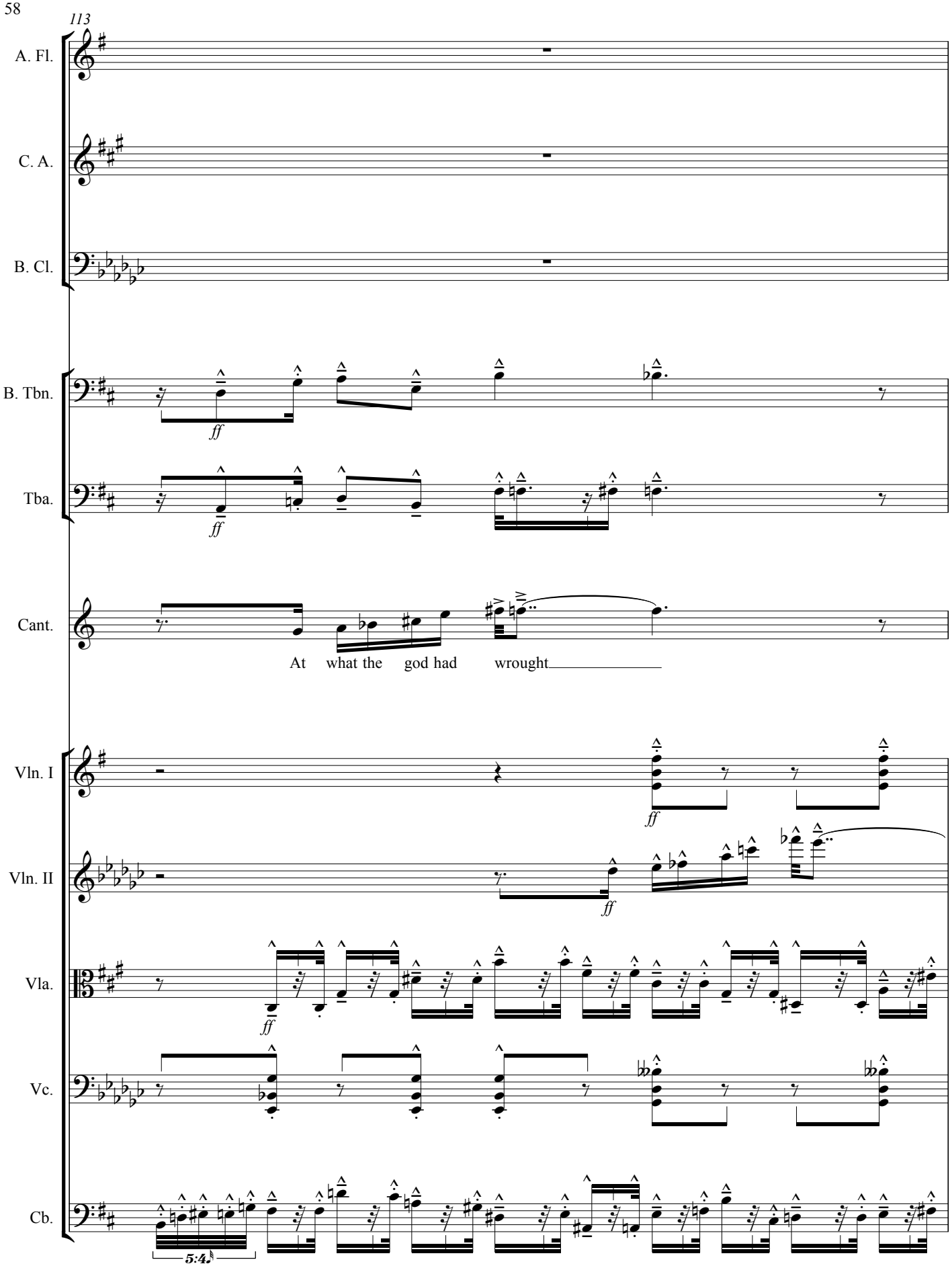

102
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
That girls are raped, that two boys knife a third, Were ax - i - oms to him, who'd
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
mp
mp
mf
3:2
5:4
3:2
3:2


104
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
ne-ver heard Of a - ny world where pro-mi - ses were kept, Or one could weep be-cause a - no -
Vln. I
mf
5:4
mf
5:4
Vln. II
mf
Vla.
3:2
Vc.
Cb.


106
♪ = 60
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
- ther wept.
The thin lipped
♪ = 60
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
pizz.


109
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
ar-mo-rer, He-pha-es-tos, ho-bbled a-way,
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
mf
f
mp
3:2
14:8


111
♪ = 100
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
ff
3:2
3:2
The-tis of the shi - ning breasts Cried out in dis-may
♪ = 100
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
arco.
ff
Cb.
arco.
ff


113
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
ff
At what the god had wrought
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
5:4

114

A. Fl.

C. A.

B. Cl.

ff

7:4

B. Tbn.

ff

Tba.

Cant.

To please her son,

Vln. I

10:8

Vln. II

10:8

Vla.

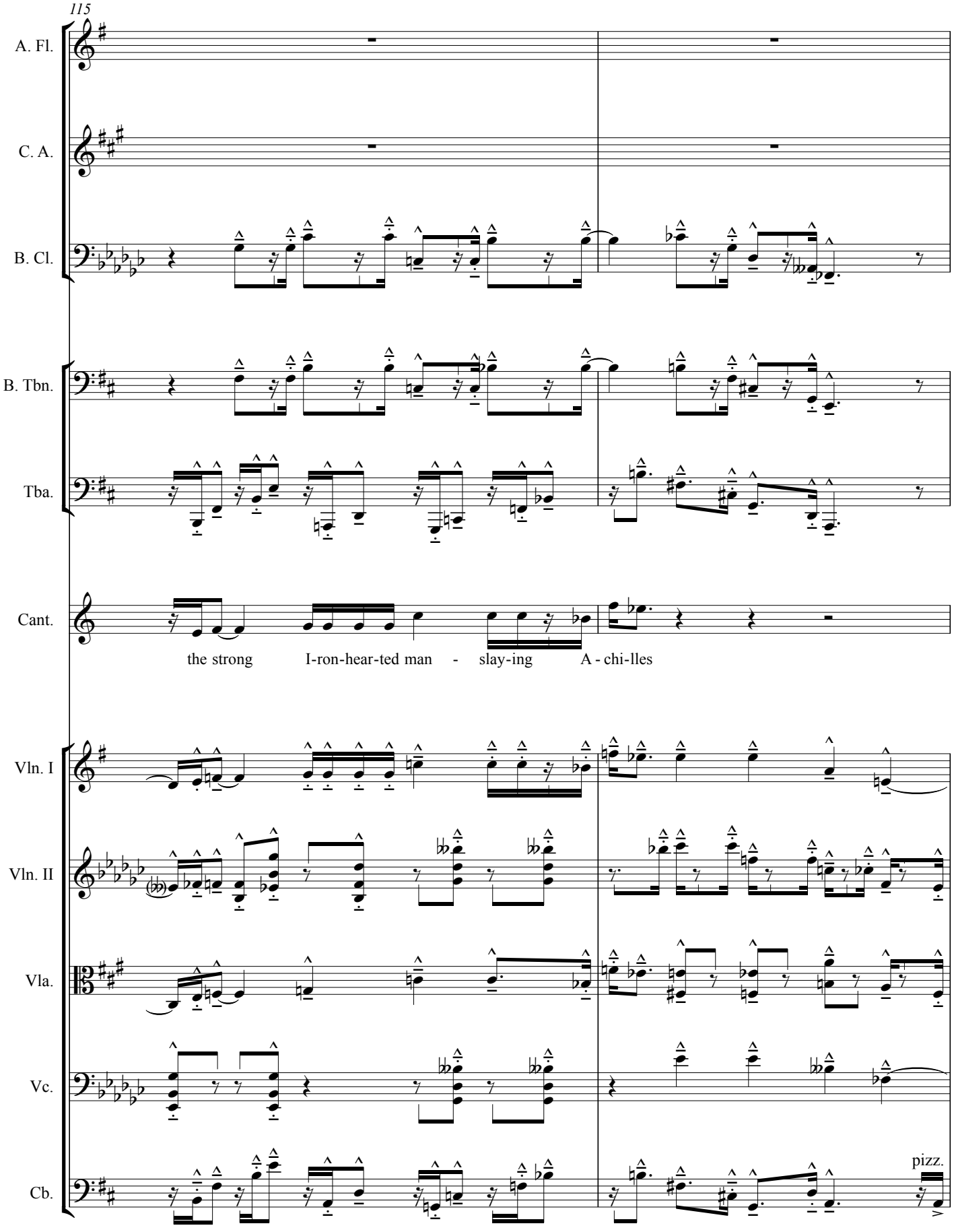
3:2

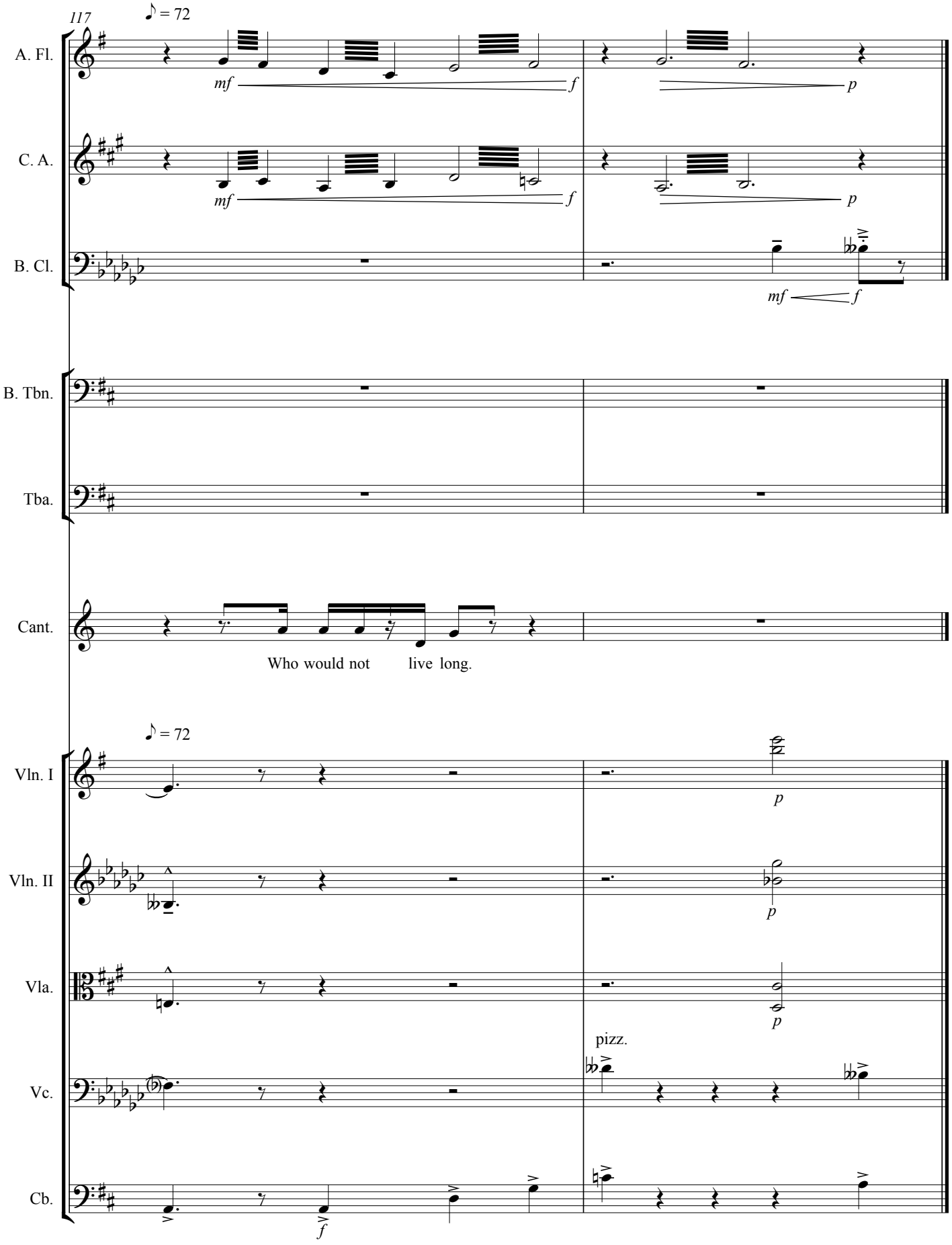
Vc.

ff

7:4

Cb.


115
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
the strong I-ron-hear-ted man - slay-ing A - chi-lles
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
pizz.


117
♪ = 72
A. Fl.
C. A.
B. Cl.
mf
f
p
mf
f
p
mf
f
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Cant.
Who would not live long.
♪ = 72
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
p
p
p
pizz.
f