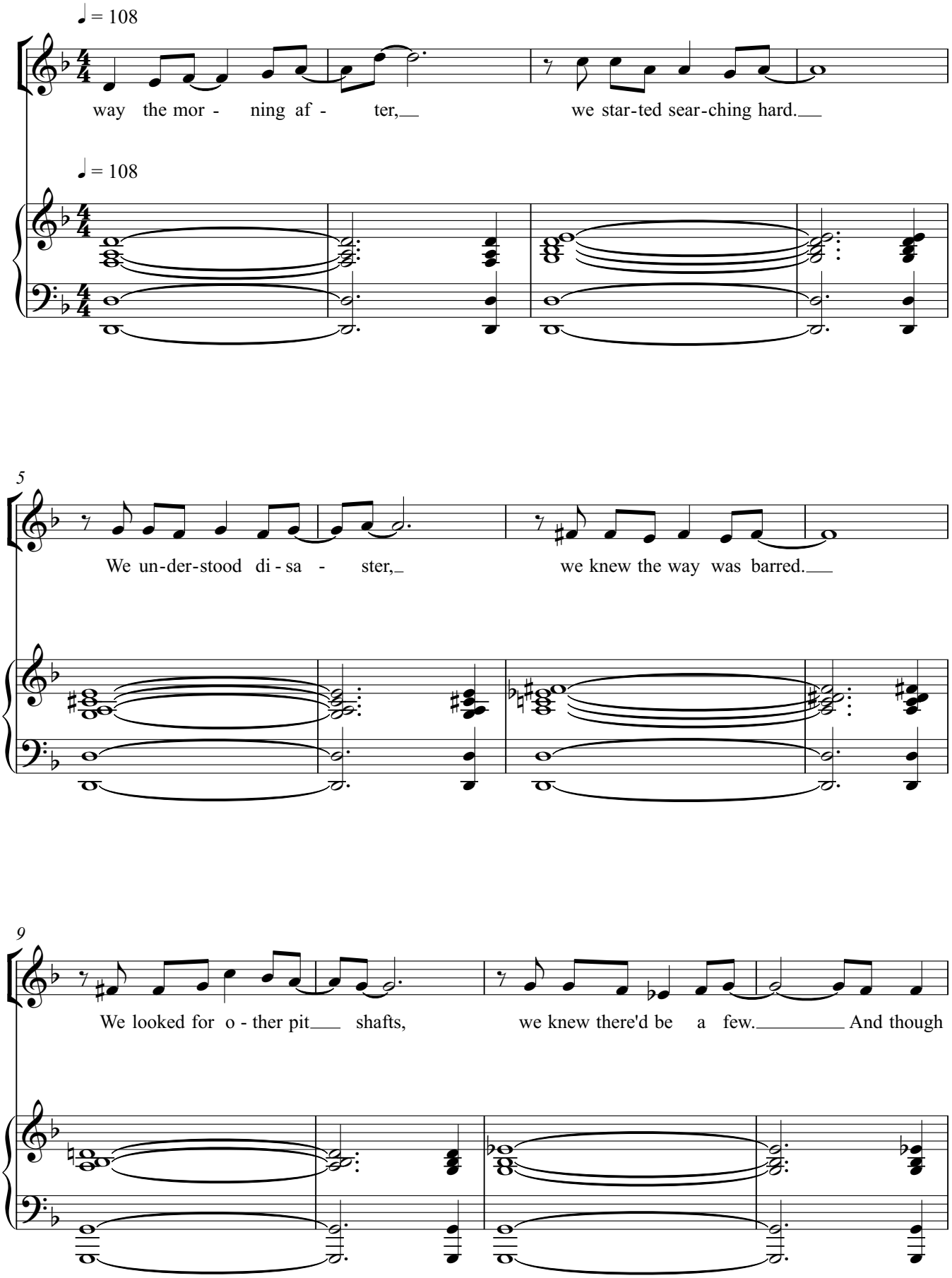
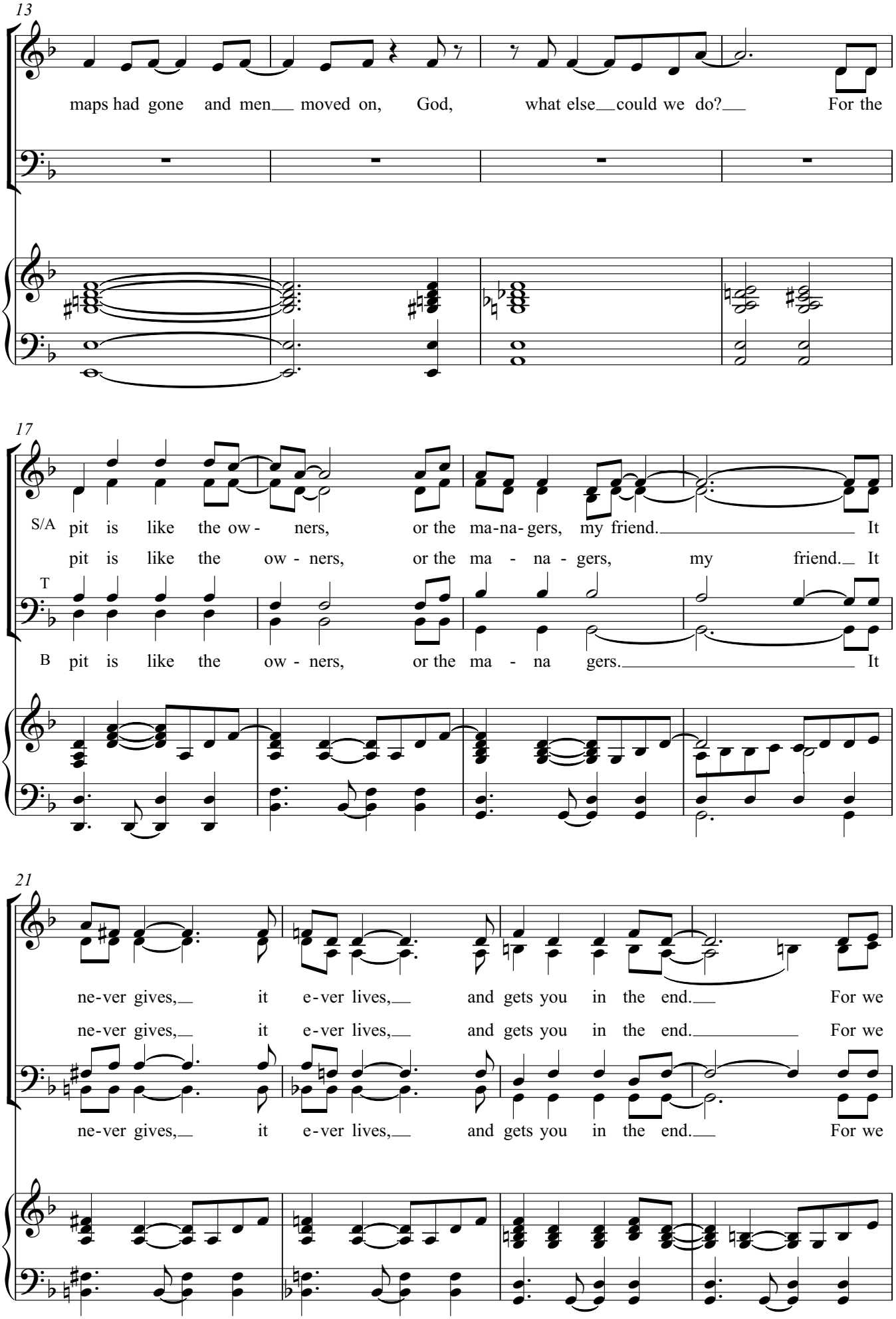
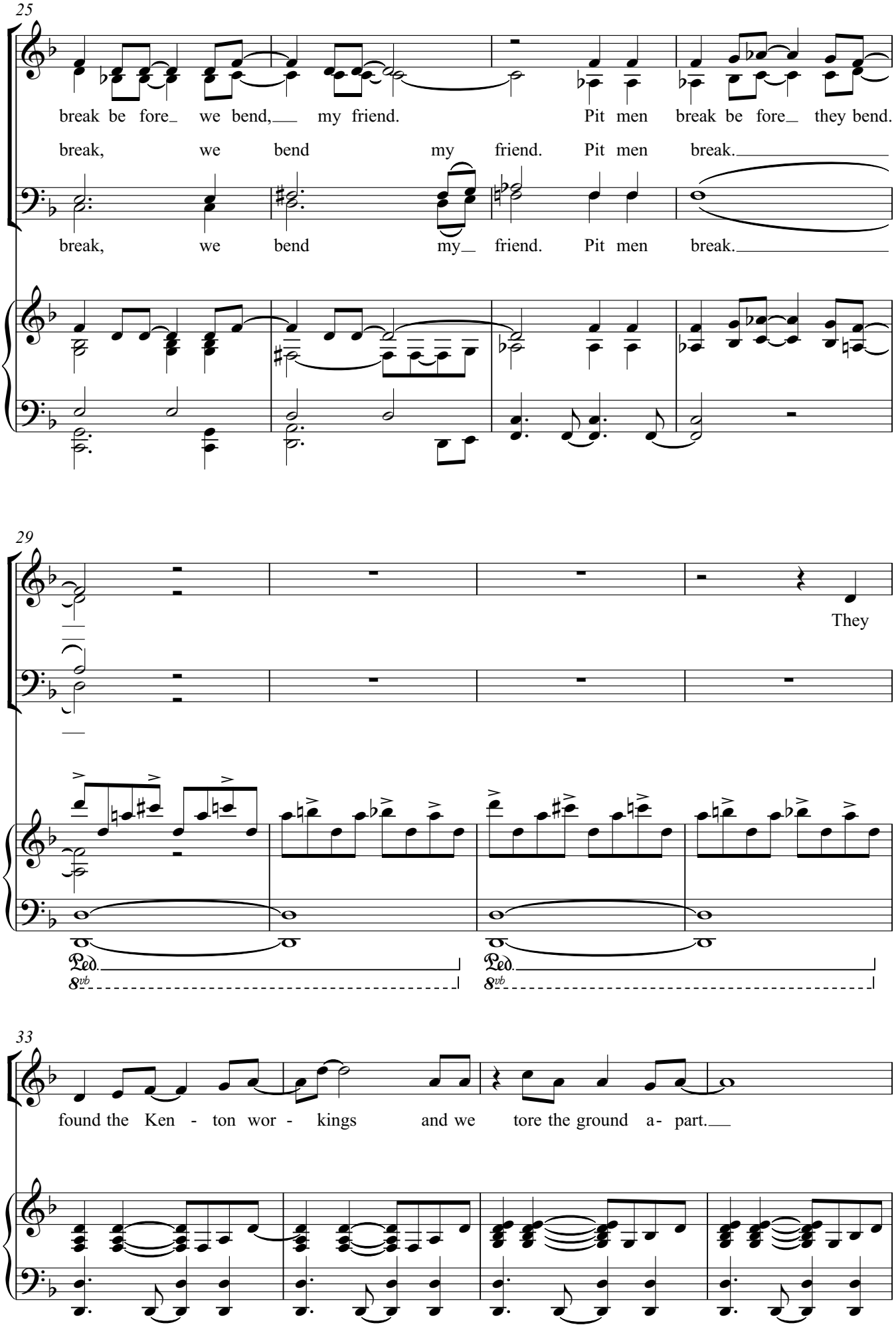
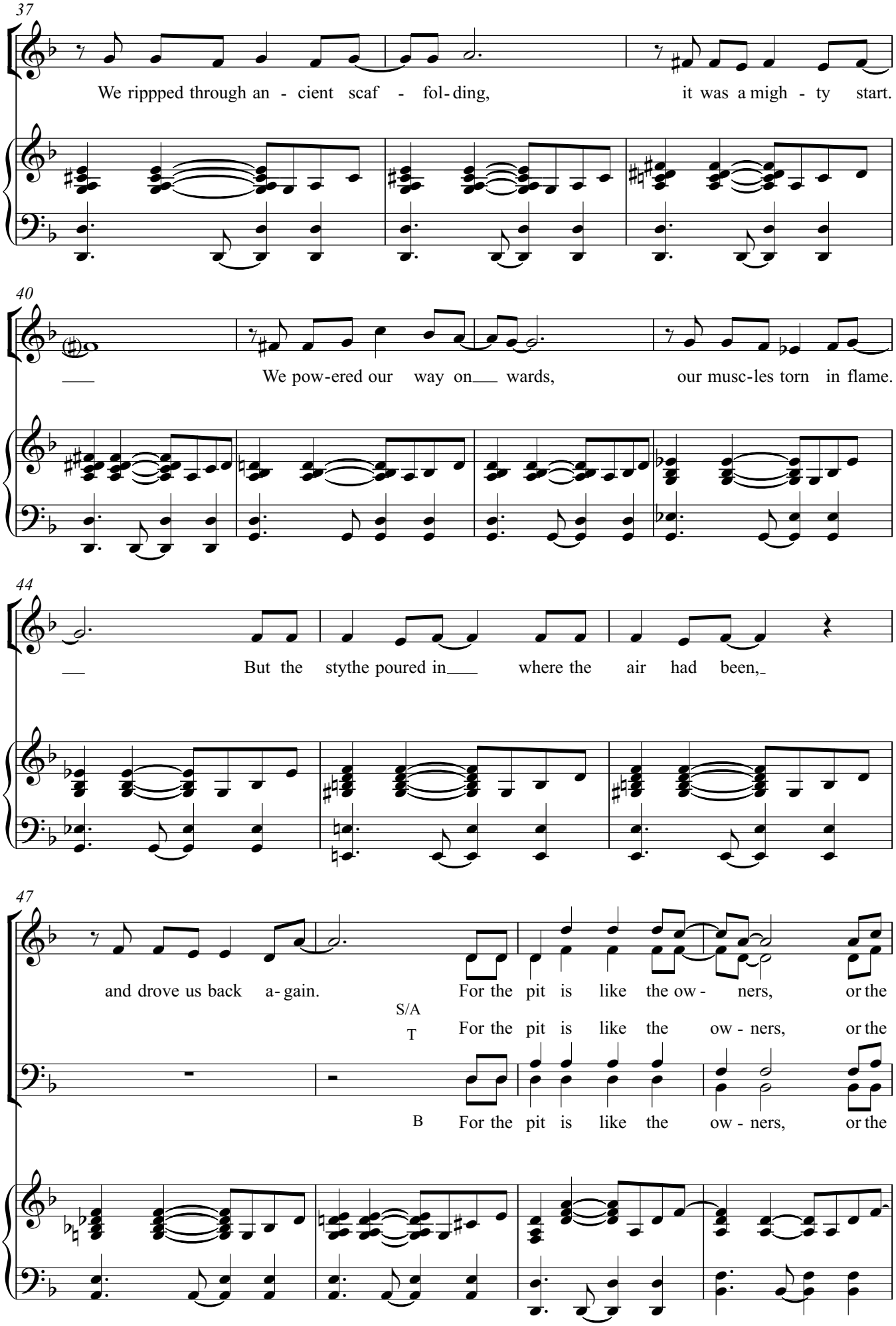
The Kenton Rescue Attempt

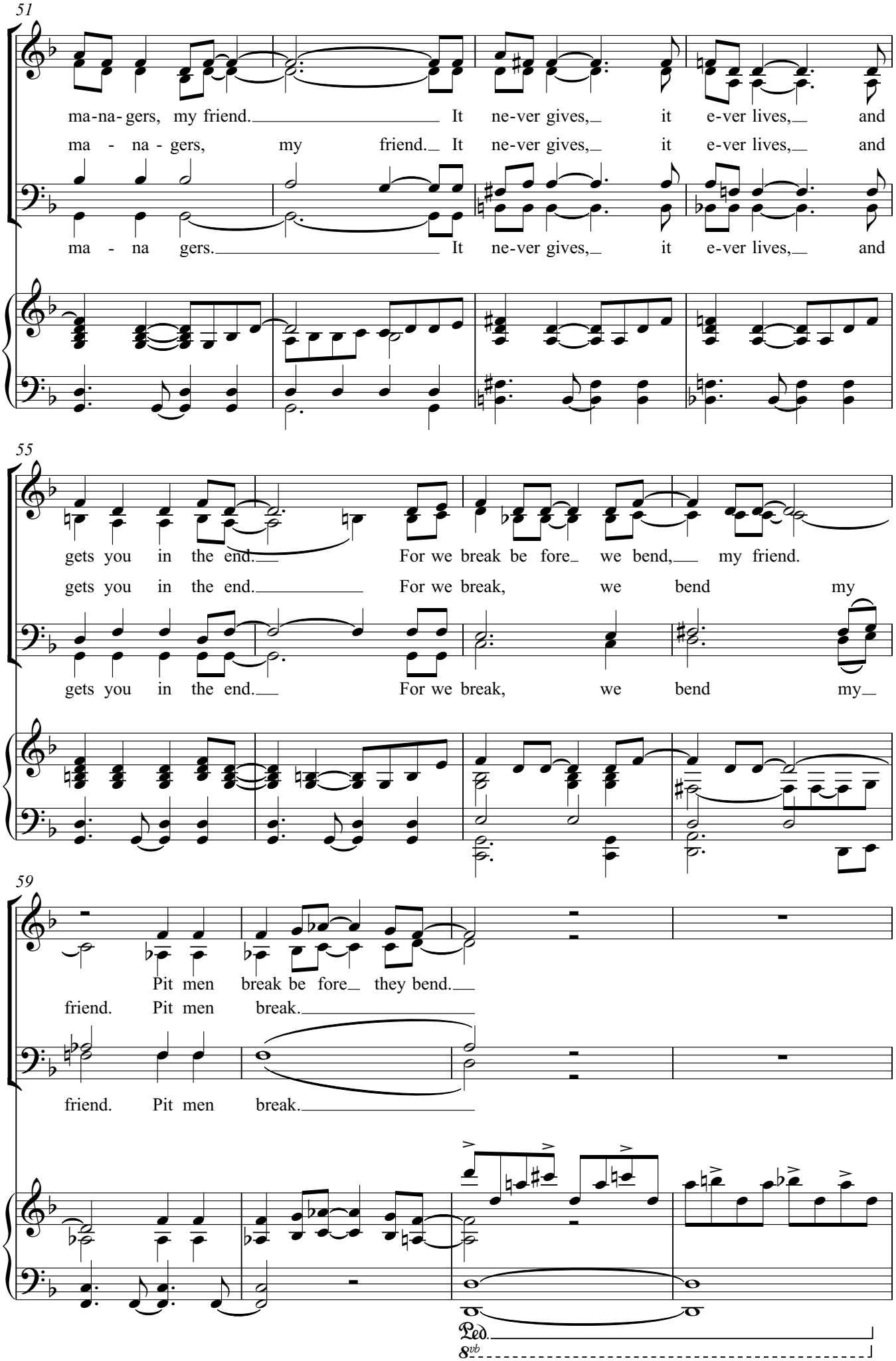
A single voice, The Kenton Singer, tells of the attempt to break through into the Heaton workings by excavating the disused Kenton mine and then trying to drive a tunnel through to the Heaton pit.

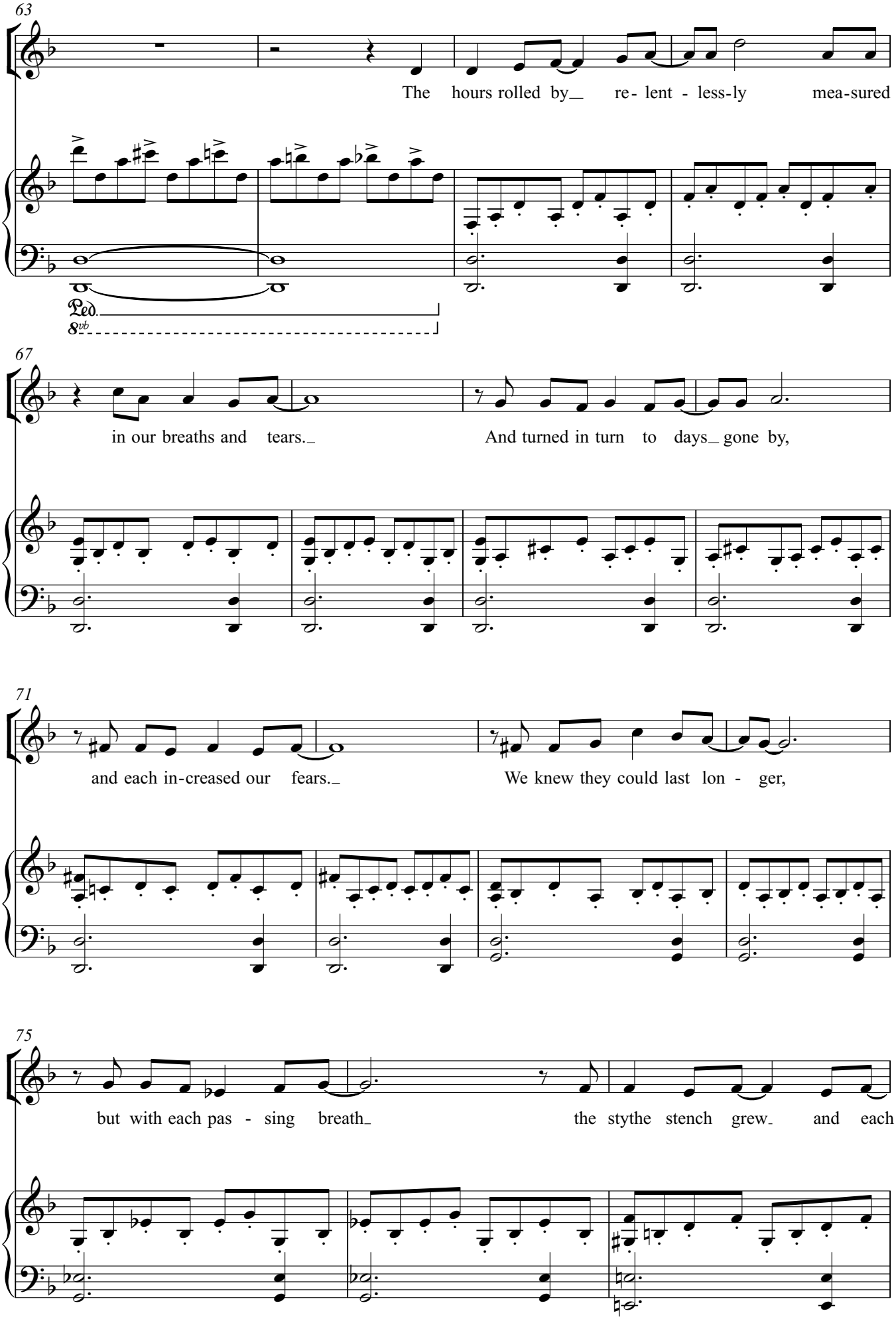


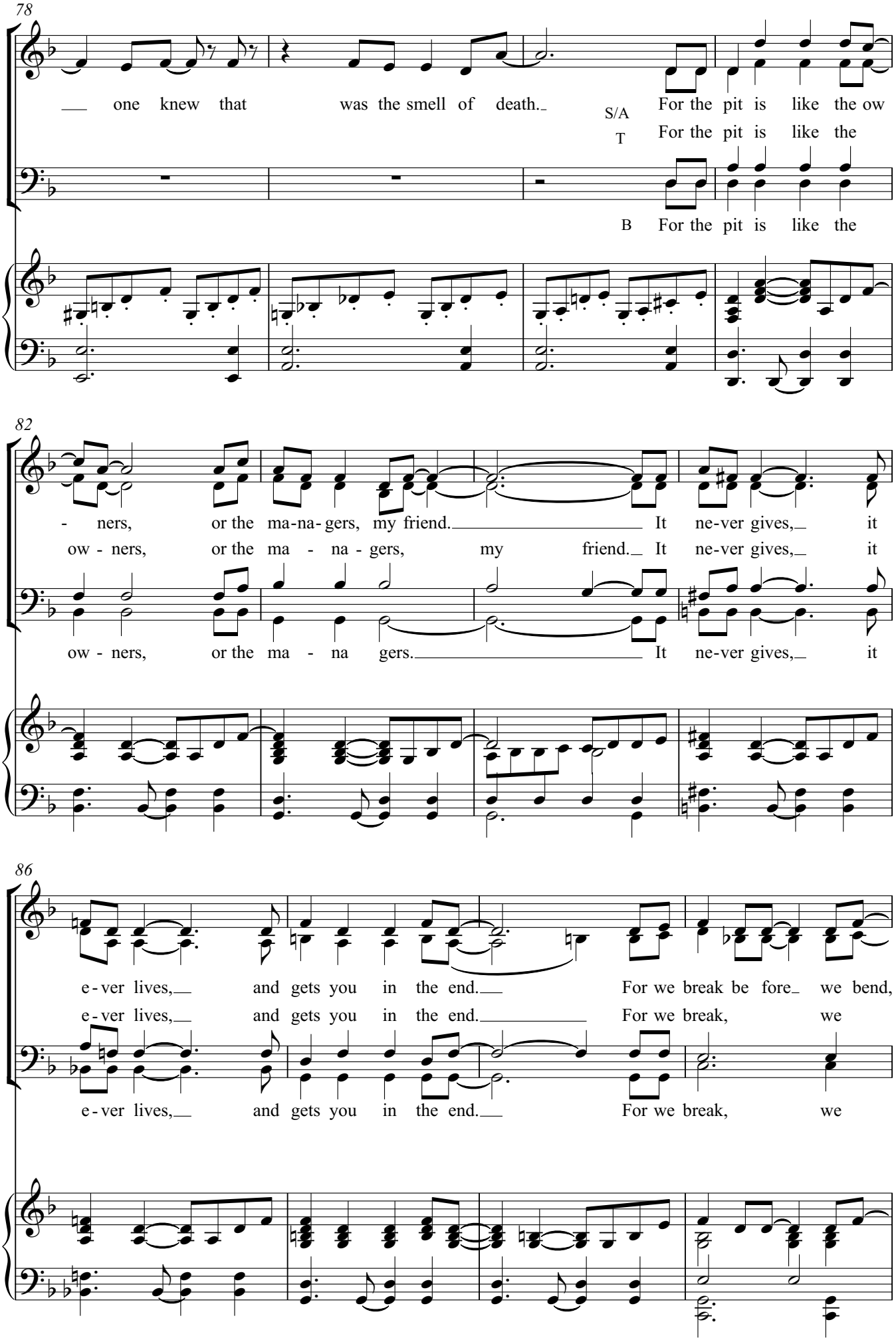

13
maps had gone and men moved on, God, what else could we do? For the
17
S/A pit is like the ow - ners, or the ma-na-gers, my friend. It
pit is like the ow - ners, or the ma - na - gers, my friend. It
T
B pit is like the ow - ners, or the ma - na gers. It
21
ne-ver gives, it e-ver lives, and gets you in the end. For we
ne-ver gives, it e-ver lives, and gets you in the end. For we
ne-ver gives, it e-ver lives, and gets you in the end. For we

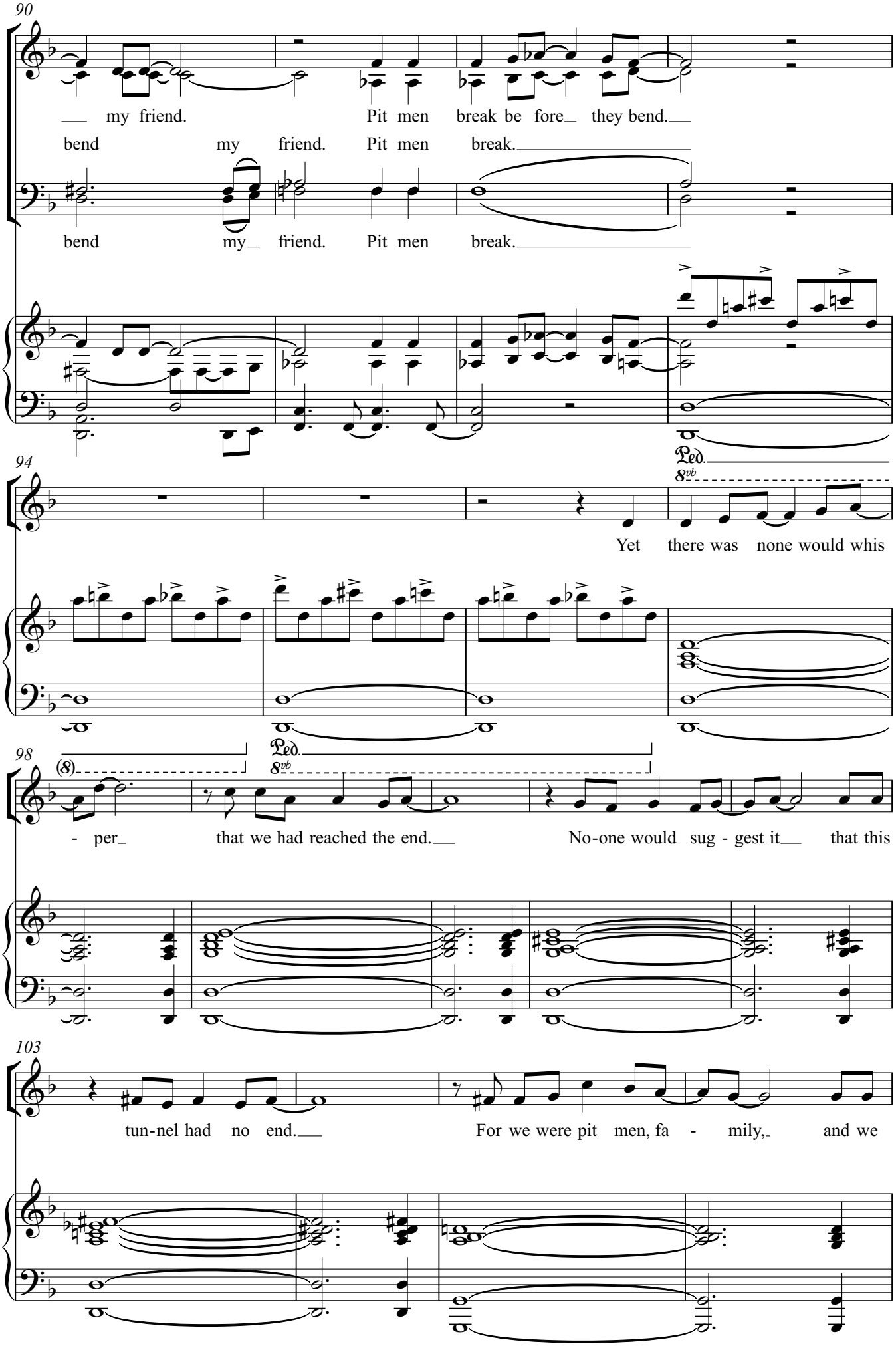

25
break be fore_ we bend,___ my friend. Pit men break be fore_ they bend.
break, we bend my friend. Pit men break.
break, we bend my_ friend. Pit men break.
29
They
Ped.
8vb
Ped.
8vb
33
found the Ken - ton wor - kings and we tore the ground a- part.___

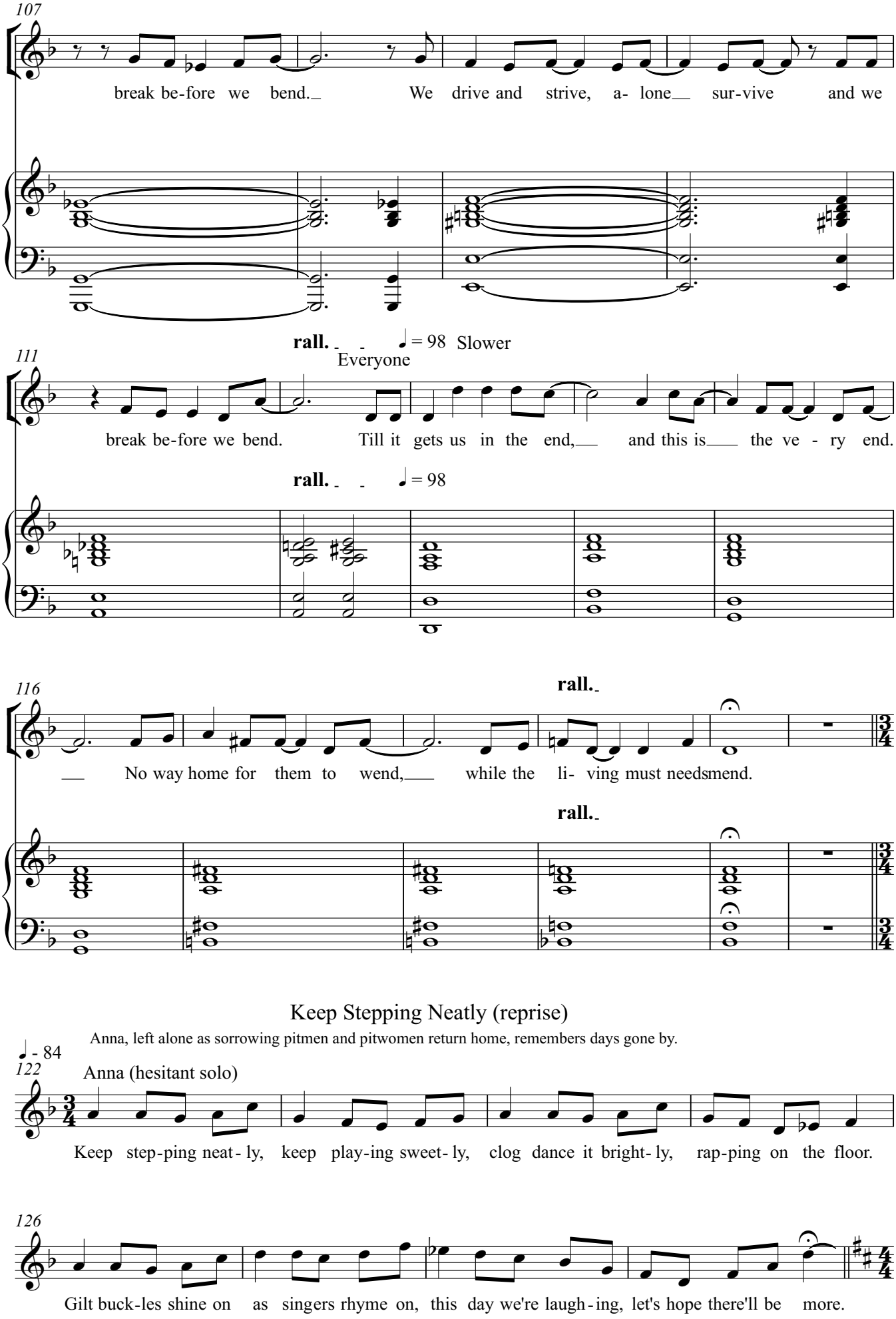

37
We rippped through an - cient scaf - fol - ding, it was a migh - ty start.
40
We pow - ered our way on wards, our musc - les torn in flame.
44
But the stythe poured in where the air had been,
47
and drove us back a - gain. For the pit is like the ow - ners, or the
S/A
T
For the pit is like the ow - ners, or the
B
For the pit is like the ow - ners, or the


51
ma-na- gers, my friend. It ne-ver gives, it e-ver lives, and
ma - na - gers, my friend. It ne-ver gives, it e-ver lives, and
ma - na gers. It ne-ver gives, it e-ver lives, and
55
gets you in the end. For we break be fore we bend, my friend.
gets you in the end. For we break, we bend my
gets you in the end. For we break, we bend my
59
Pit men break be fore they bend.
friend. Pit men break.
friend. Pit men break.
Ped.
8vb


63
The hours rolled by re- lent - less-ly mea-sured
Ped.
8vb
67
in our breaths and tears. And turned in turn to days gone by,
71
and each in-creased our fears. We knew they could last lon - ger,
75
but with each pas - sing breath the stythe stench grew and each


78
one knew that was the smell of death.
S/A For the pit is like the ow
T For the pit is like the
B For the pit is like the
82
- ners, or the ma-na-gers, my friend. It ne-ver gives, it
ow - ners, or the ma - na - gers, my friend. It ne-ver gives, it
ow - ners, or the ma - na gers. It ne-ver gives, it
86
e-ver lives, and gets you in the end. For we break be fore we bend,
e-ver lives, and gets you in the end. For we break, we
e-ver lives, and gets you in the end. For we break, we


90
my friend. Pit men break be fore they bend.
bend my friend. Pit men break.
bend my friend. Pit men break.
94
Ped.
8vb
Yet there was none would whis
98
(8)
Ped.
8vb
- per that we had reached the end. No-one would sug - gest it that this
103
tun-nel had no end. For we were pit men, fa - mily, and we

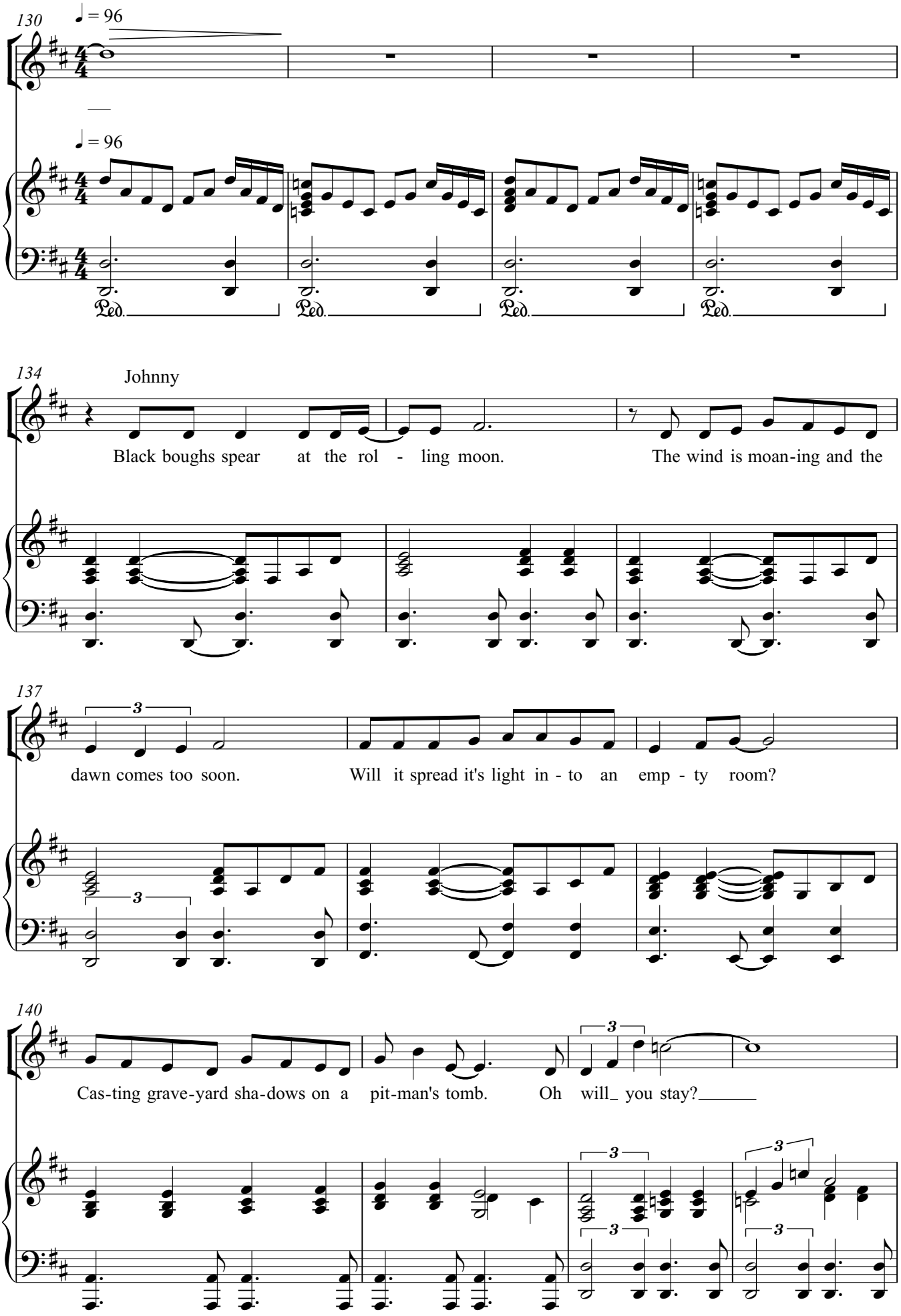


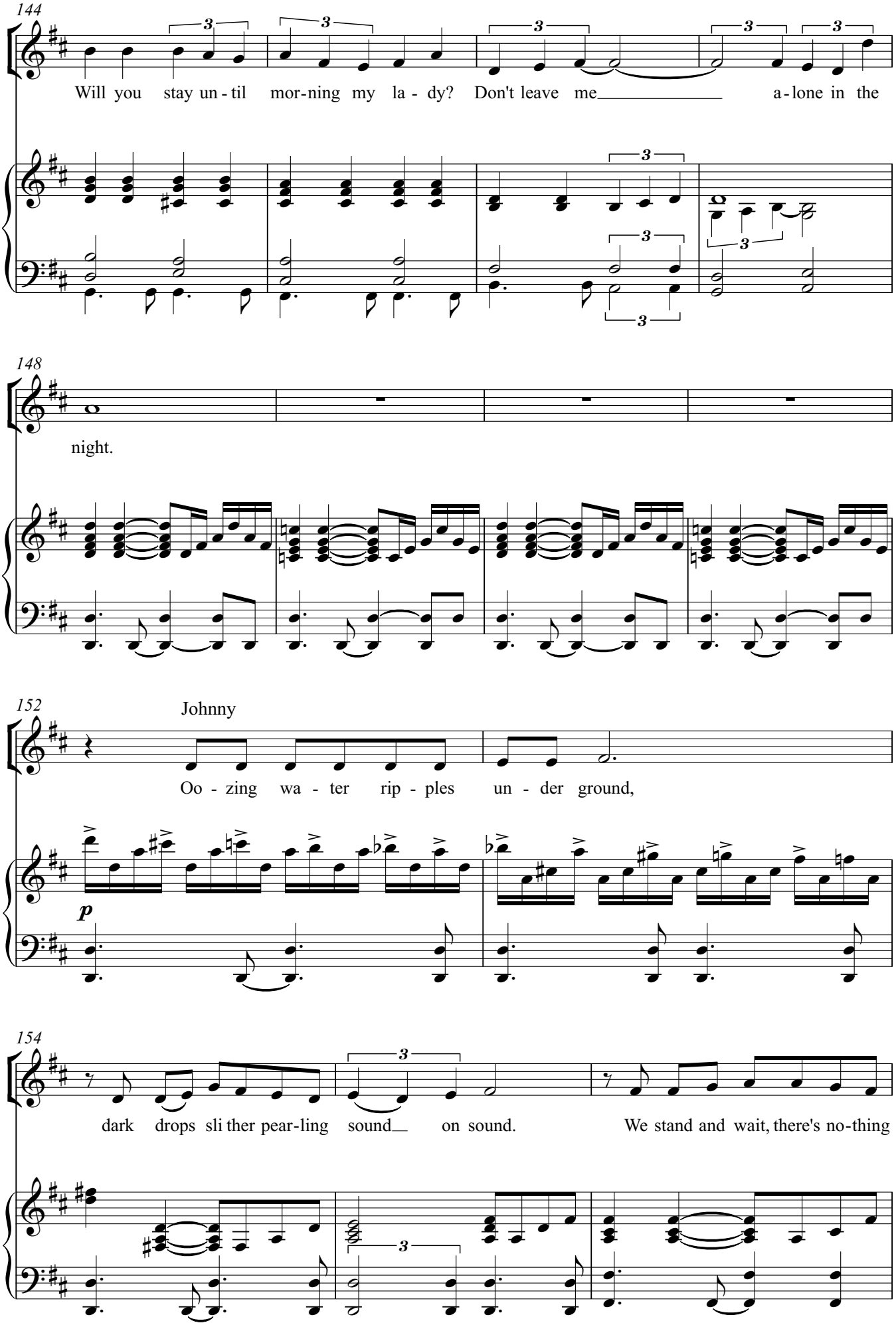
Keep Stepping Neatly (reprise)

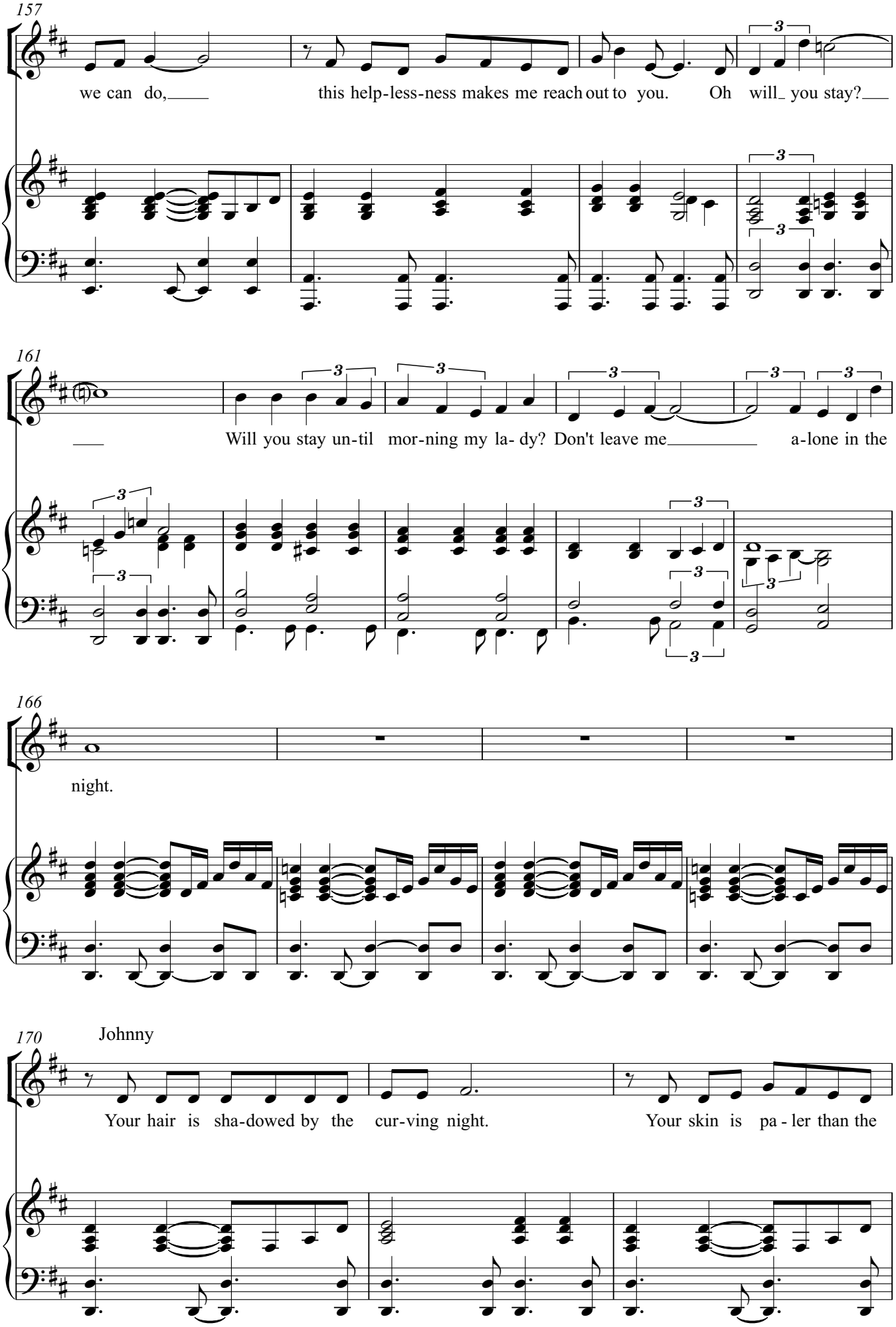
Anna, left alone as sorrowing pitmen and pitwomen return home, remembers days gone by.

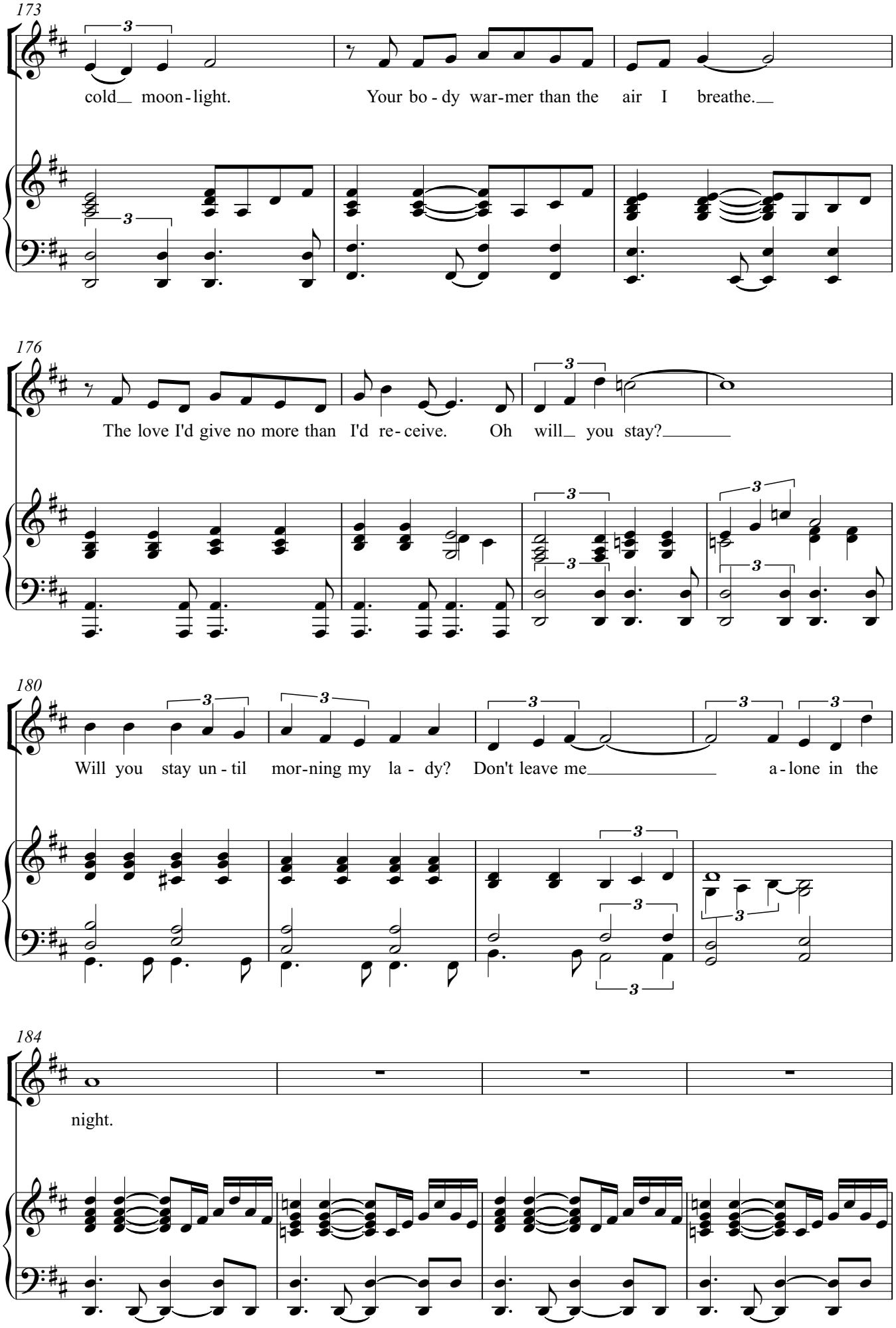
Black Boughs

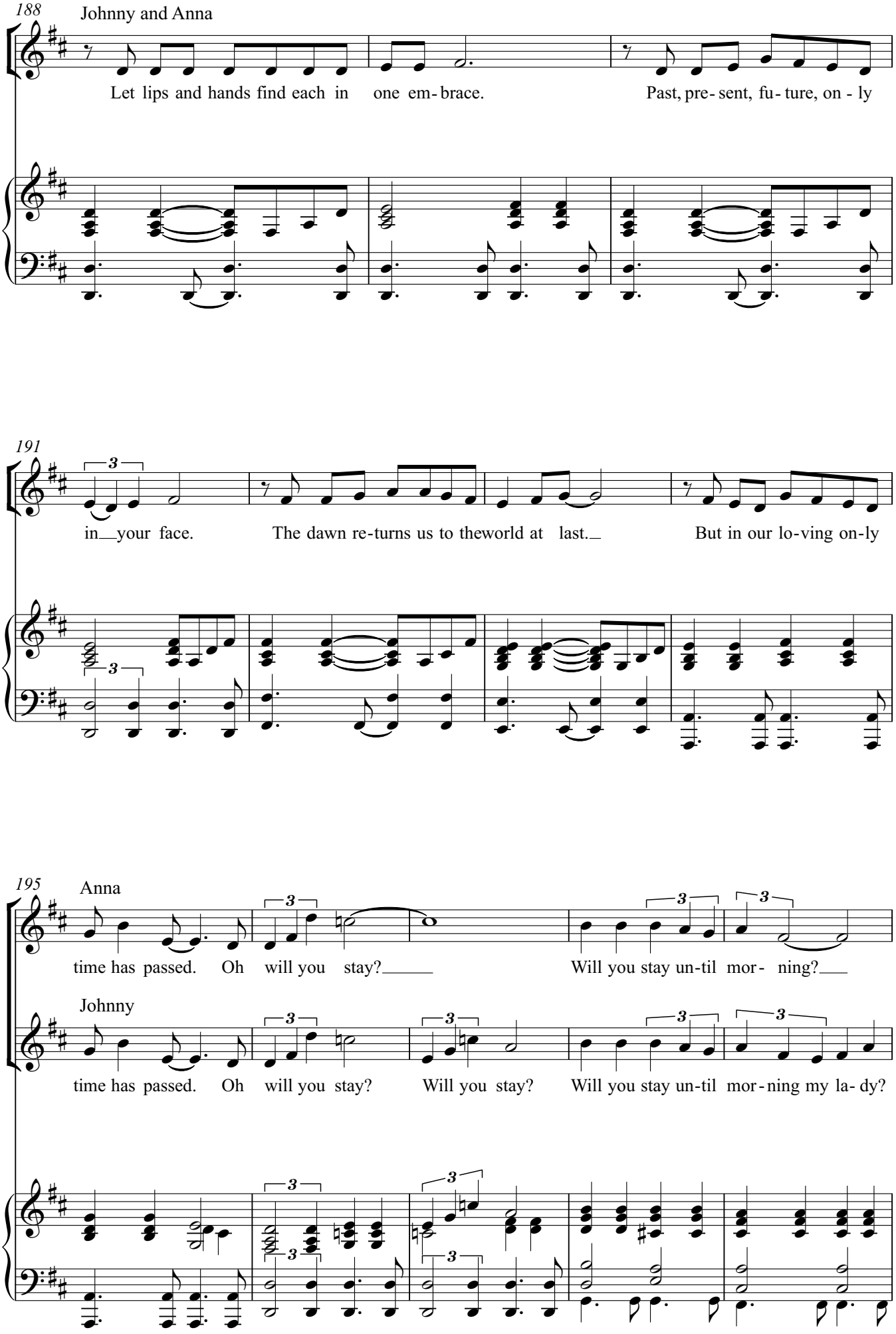
Johnny, similarly grieves and finds Anna

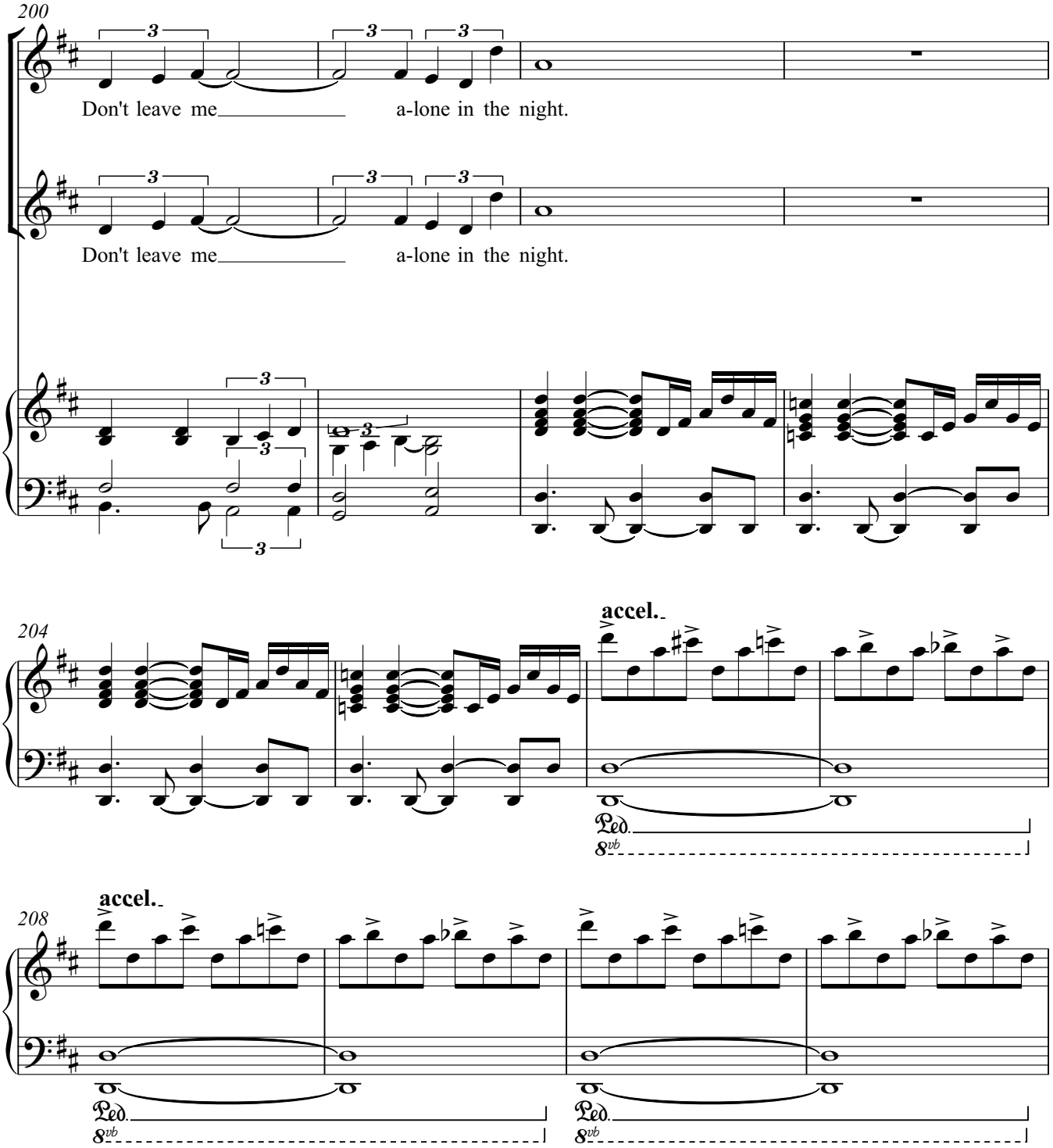



144
Will you stay un - til mor - ning my la - dy? Don't leave me a - lone in the
148
night.
152
Johnny
Oo - zing wa - ter rip - ples un - der ground,
p
154
dark drops sli ther pear - ling sound on sound. We stand and wait, there's no - thing


157
we can do,
this help-less-ness makes me reach out to you.
Oh will you stay?
161
Will you stay un-til mor-ning my la- dy? Don't leave me
a-lone in the
166
night.
170
Johnny
Your hair is sha-dowed by the cur-ving night.
Your skin is pa - ler than the

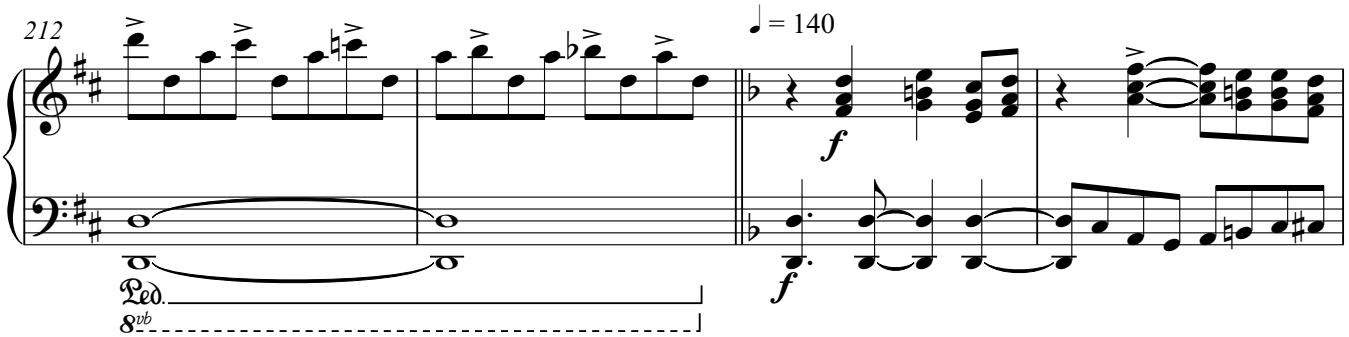

173
cold_ moon-light. Your bo-dy war-mer than the air I breathe._
176
The love I'd give no more than I'd re-ceive. Oh will_ you stay?_____
180
Will you stay un-til mor-ning my la-dy? Don't leave me_____ a-lone in the
184
night.

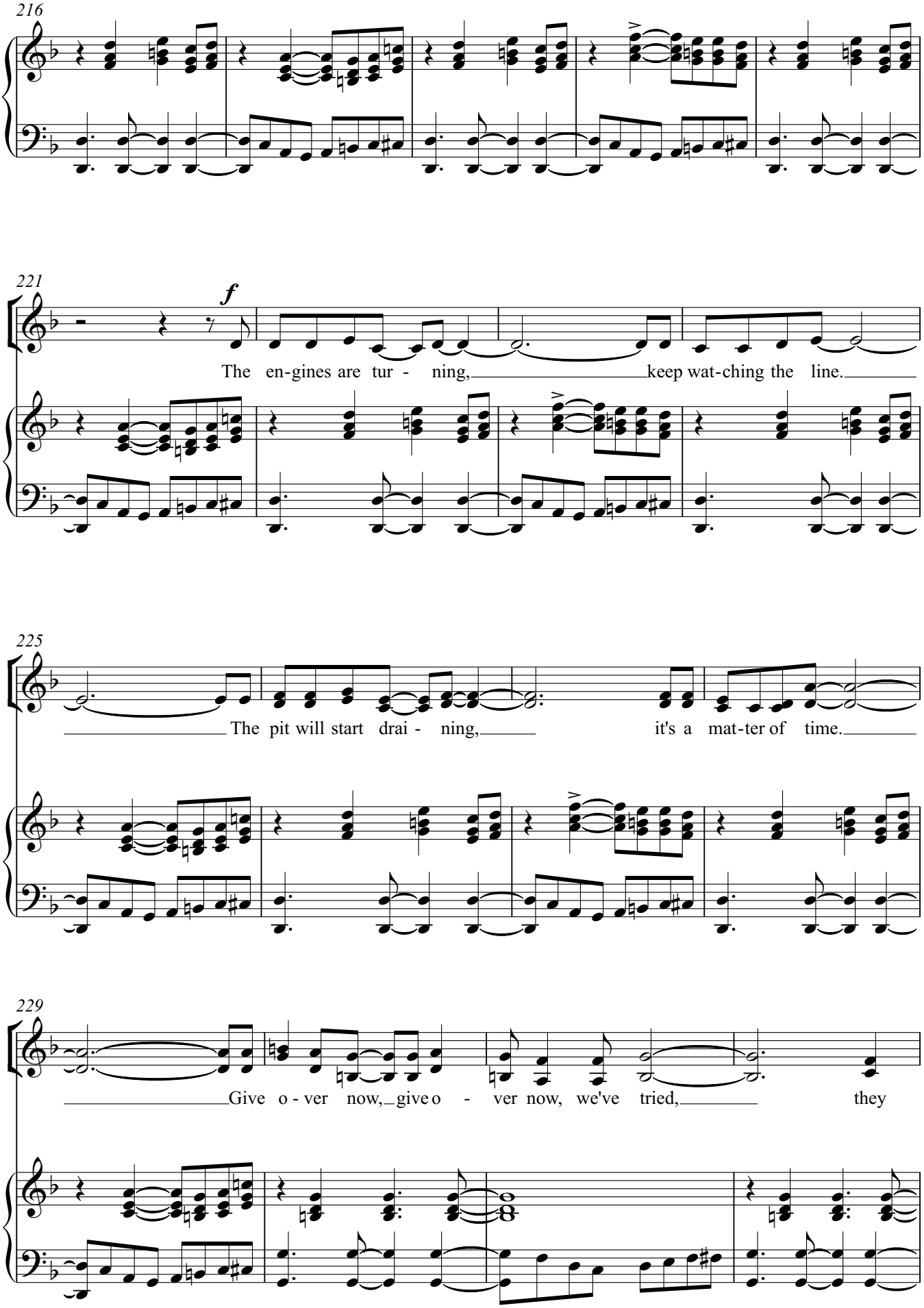

188
Johnny and Anna
Let lips and hands find each in one em- brace.
Past, pre- sent, fu- ture, on - ly
191
in your face.
The dawn re-turns us to theworld at last.
But in our lo-ving on-ly
195
Anna
time has passed. Oh will you stay?
Will you stay un-til mor- ning?
Johnny
time has passed. Oh will you stay?
Will you stay?
Will you stay un-til mor-ning my la- dy?

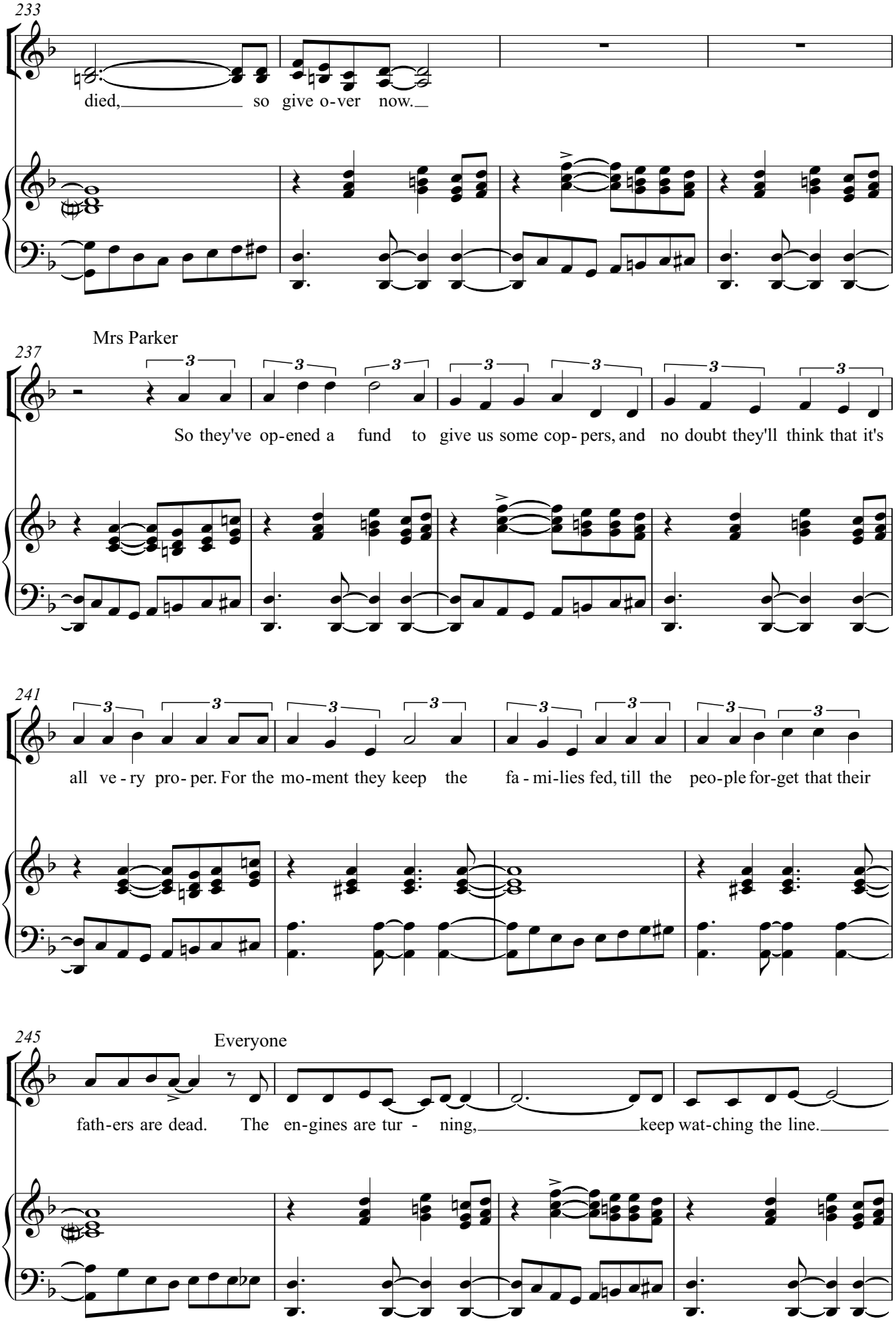


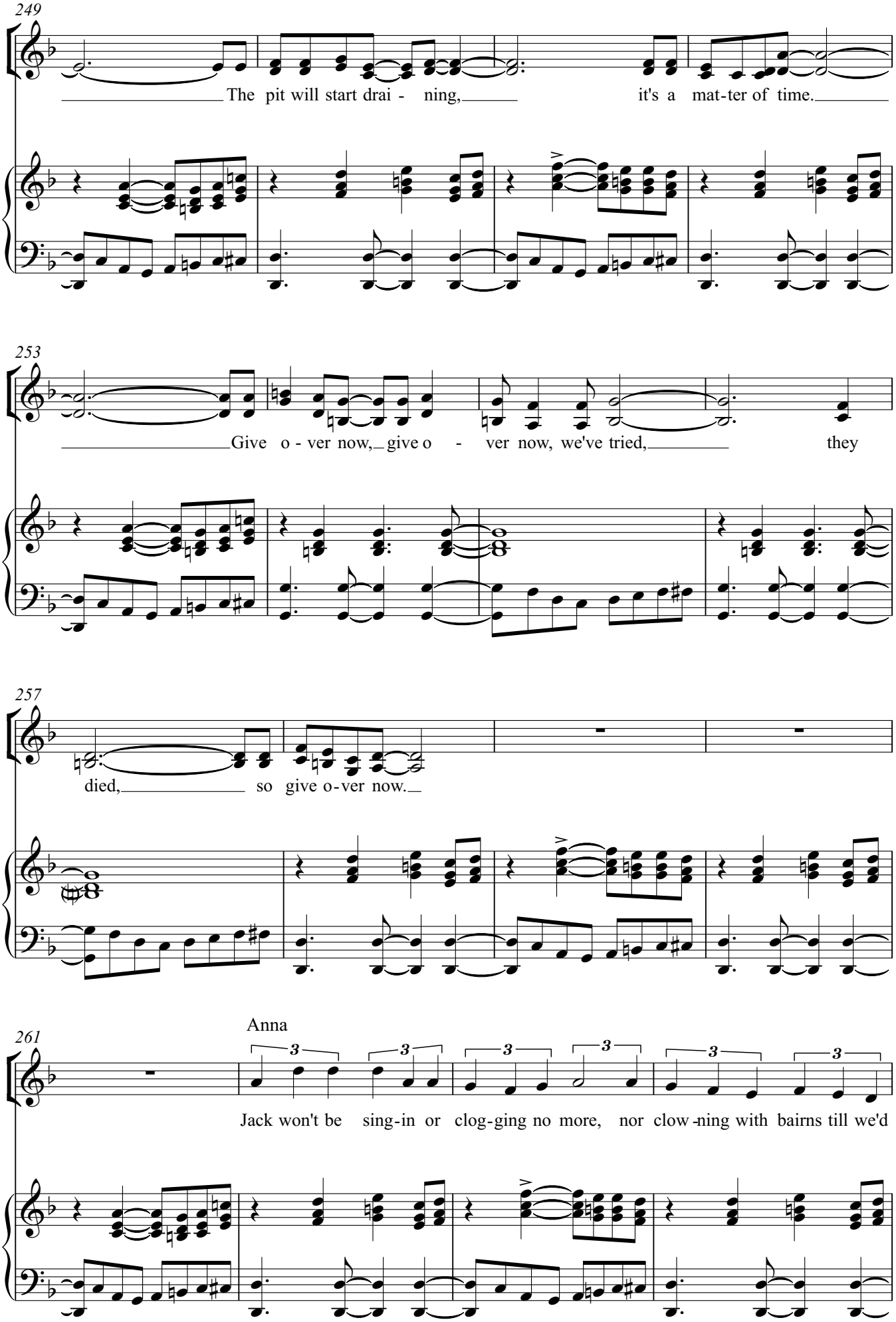
The Engines are Turning

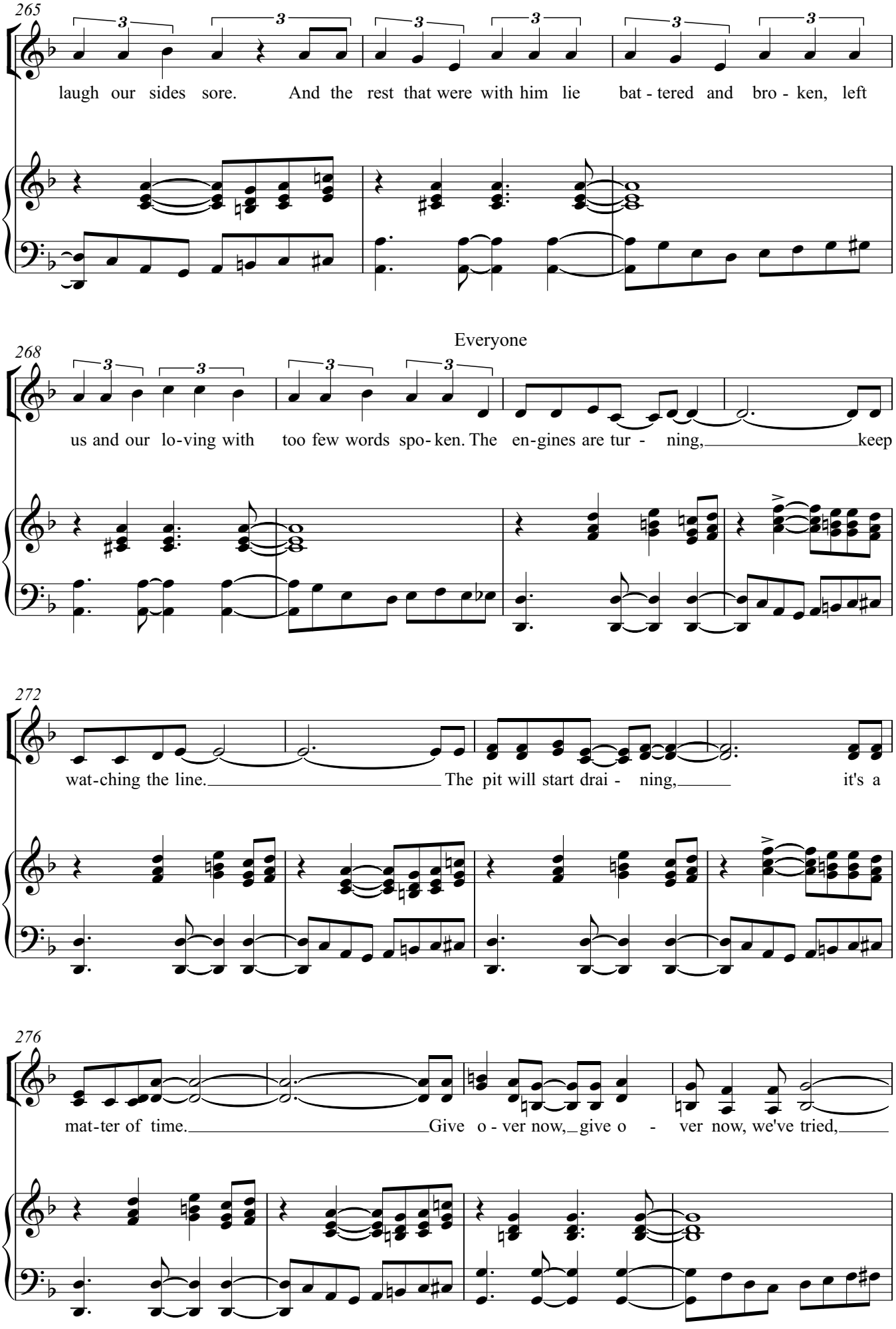
Late May 1815. Most of the pitmen and pitwomen are reconciled to the tragedy and the death of their relatives. They are content to wait patiently and accept the situation. Only Mrs Parker, Anna and Johnny are still trying to persuade them to join together. They have little success.

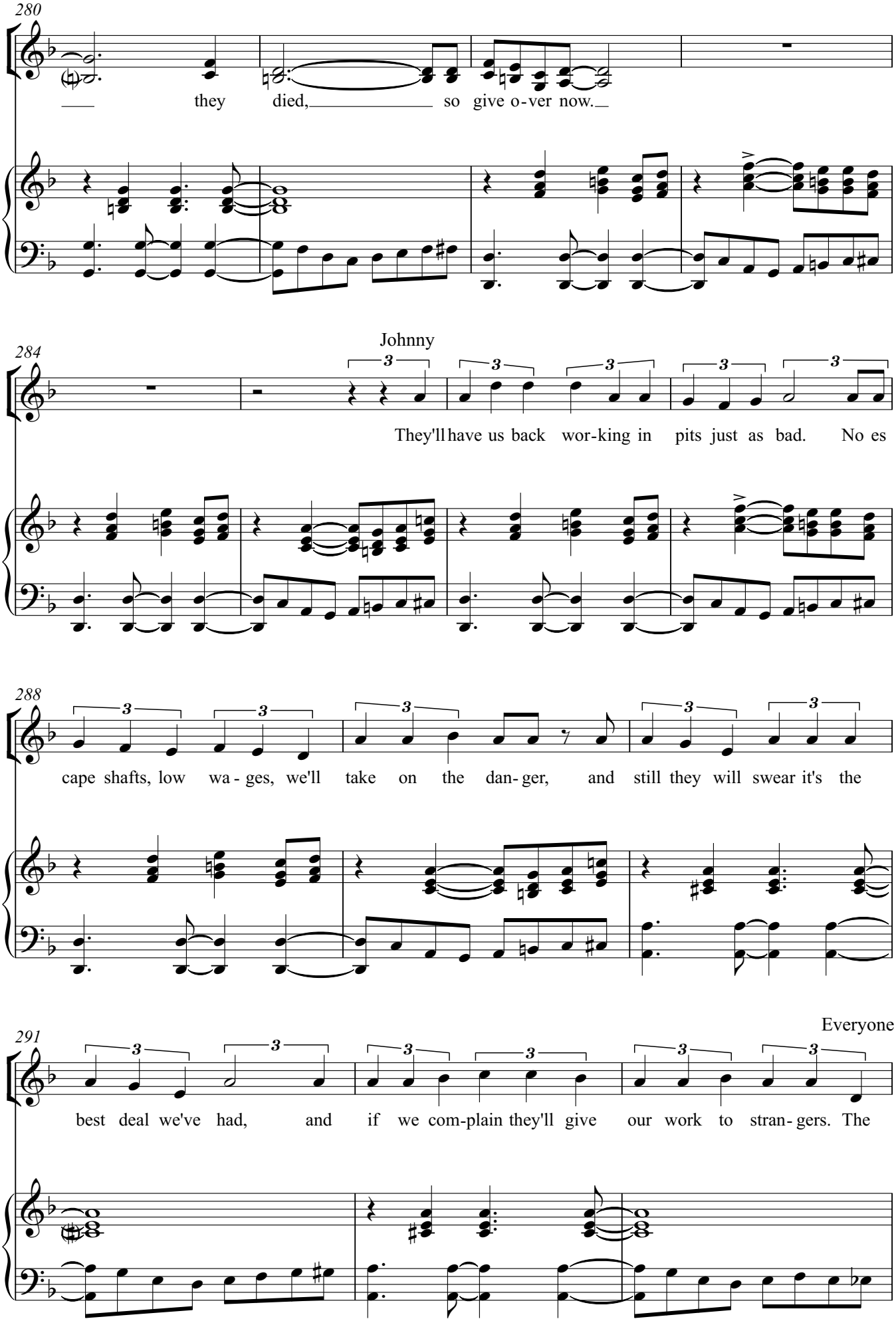


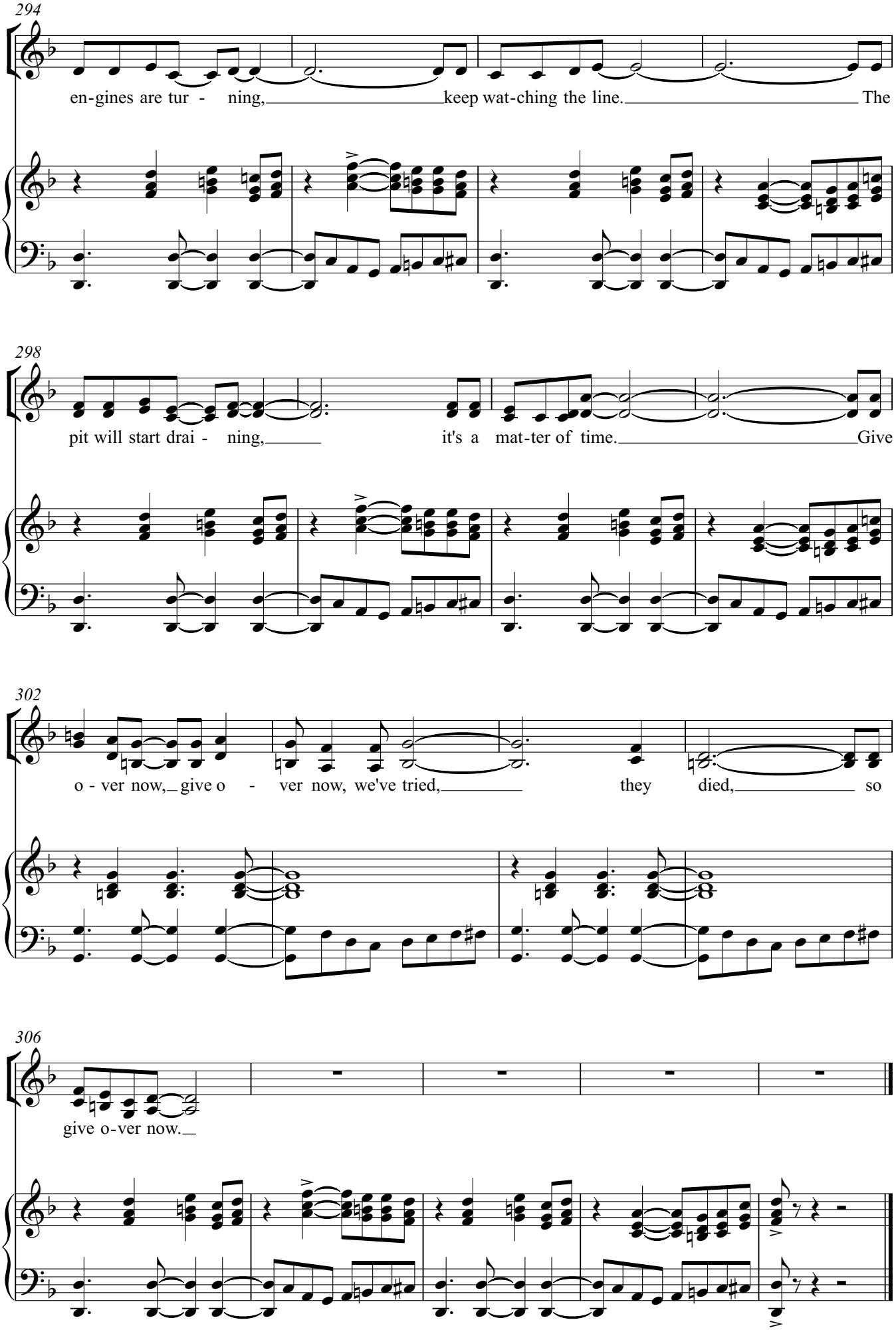

216
221
f
The en-gines are tur - ning, keep wat-ching the line.
225
The pit will start drai - ning, it's a mat-ter of time.
229
Give o - ver now, give o - ver now, we've tried, they


233
died, so give o-ver now.
Mrs Parker
237
So they've op-ened a fund to give us some cop-pers, and no doubt they'll think that it's
241
all ve-ry pro-per. For the mo-ment they keep the fa-mi-lies fed, till the peo-ple for-get that their
245
Everyone
fath-ers are dead. The en-gines are tur-ning, keep wat-ching the line.


249
The pit will start drai - ning, it's a mat-ter of time.
253
Give o - ver now, give o - ver now, we've tried, they
257
died, so give o-ver now.
261
Anna
Jack won't be sing-in or clog-ging no more, nor clow-ning with bairns till we'd


265
laugh our sides sore. And the rest that were with him lie bat - tered and bro - ken, left
Everyone
268
us and our lo-ving with too few words spo- ken. The en-gines are tur - ning, keep
272
wat-ching the line. The pit will start drai - ning, it's a
276
mat-ter of time. Give o - ver now, give o - ver now, we've tried,


280
they died, so give o-ver now.
Johnny
284
They'll have us back wor-king in pits just as bad. No es
288
cape shafts, low wa - ges, we'll take on the dan- ger, and still they will swear it's the
Everyone
291
best deal we've had, and if we com-plain they'll give our work to stran- gers. The


294
en-gines are tur - ning, keep wat-ching the line. The
298
pit will start drai - ning, it's a mat-ter of time. Give
302
o - ver now, give o - ver now, we've tried, they died, so
306
give o-ver now.