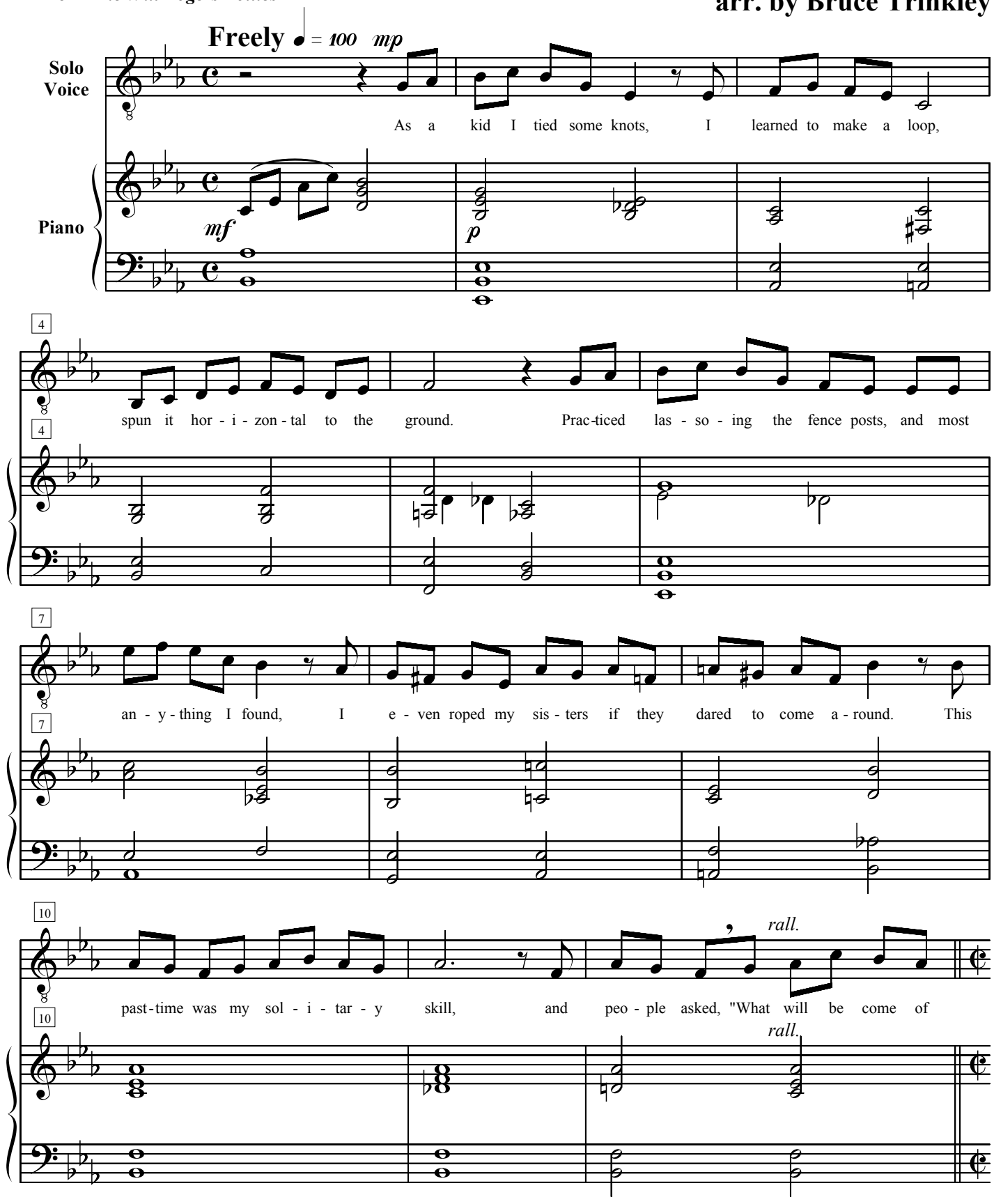
1. Give a Man Enough Rope

For Solo Voice, Men's Chorus and Piano

Lyrics by Betty Comden and Adolph Green
from *The Will Rogers Follies*

Music by Cy Coleman
arr. by Bruce Trinkley



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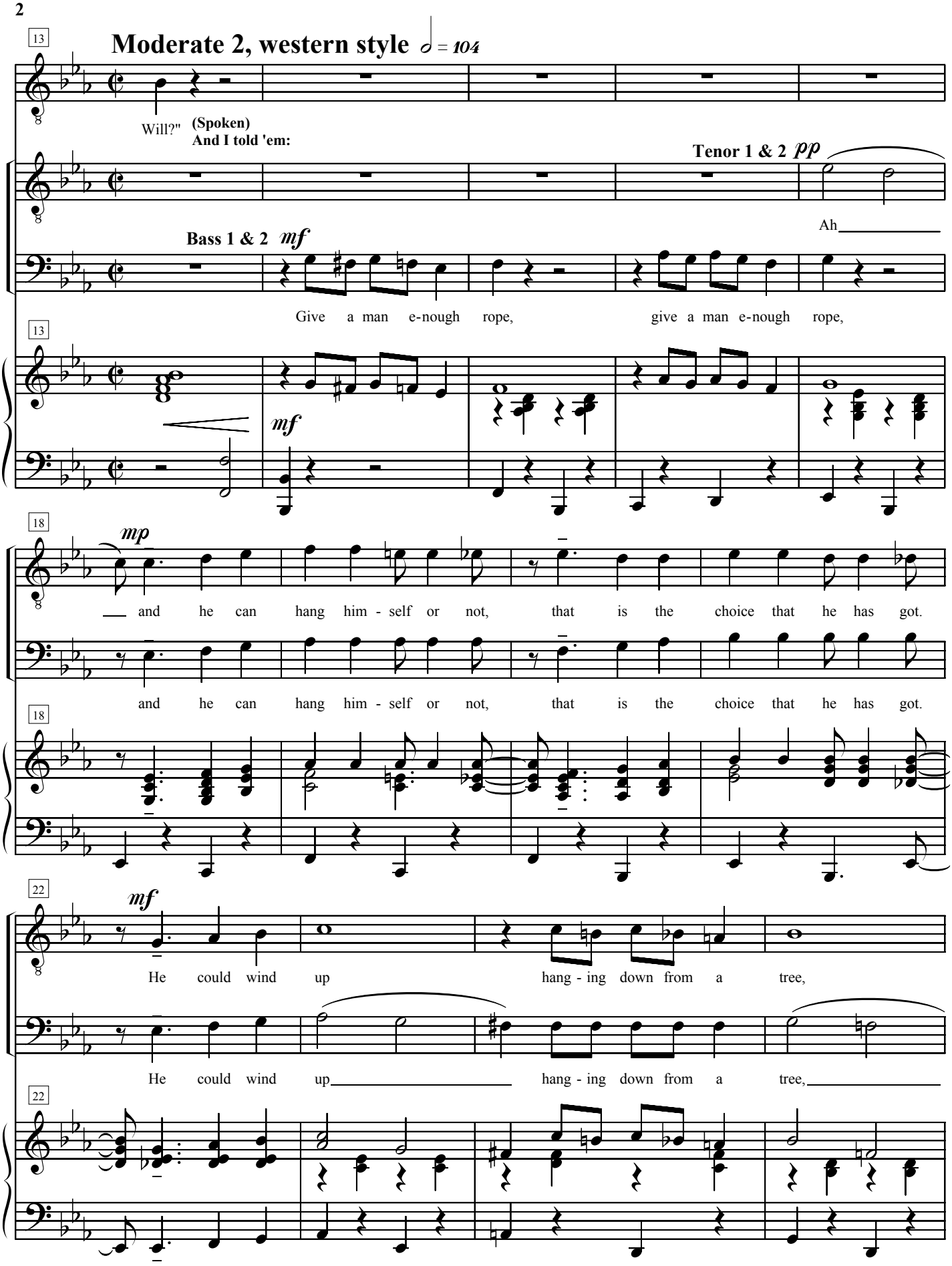
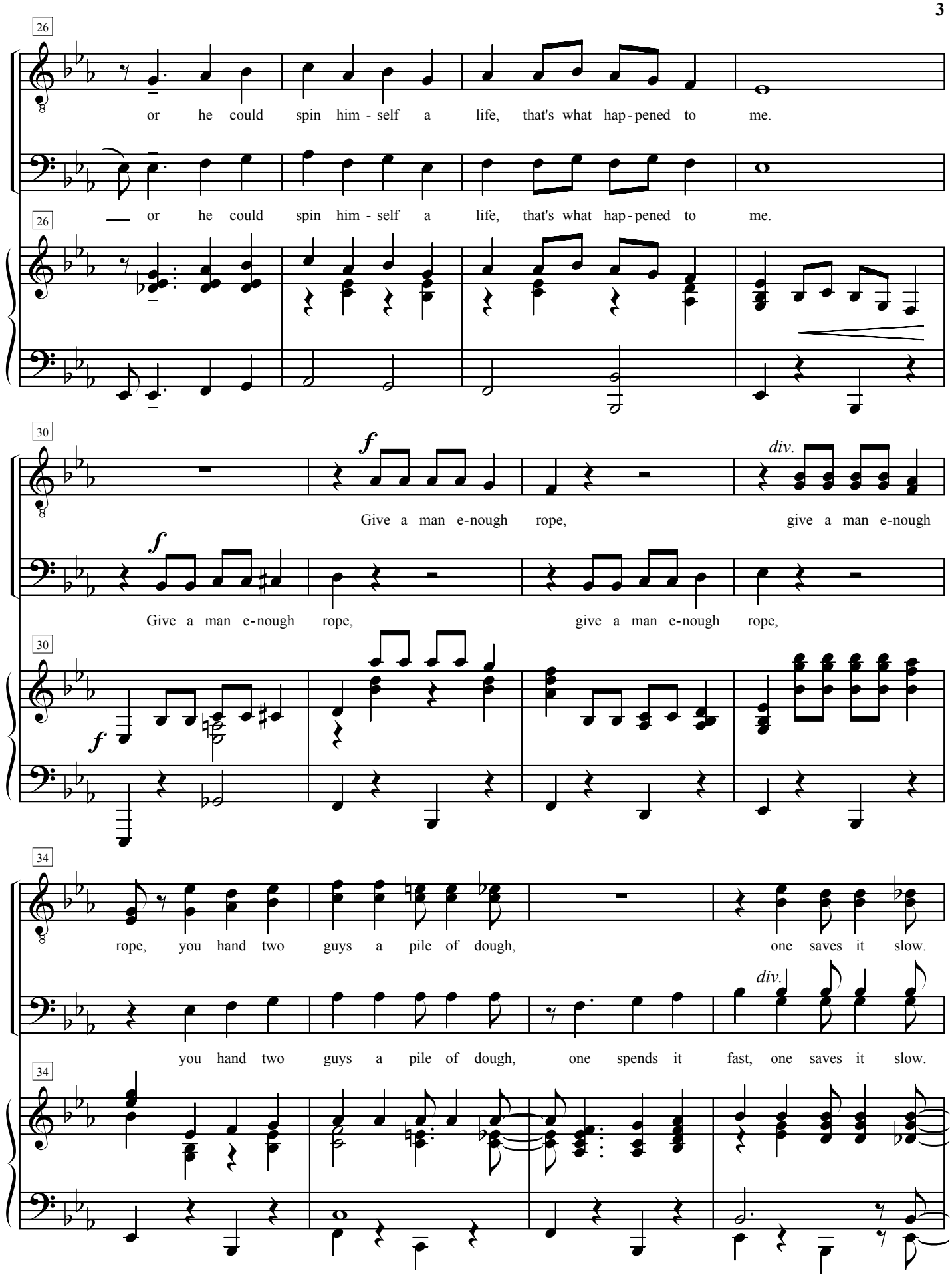
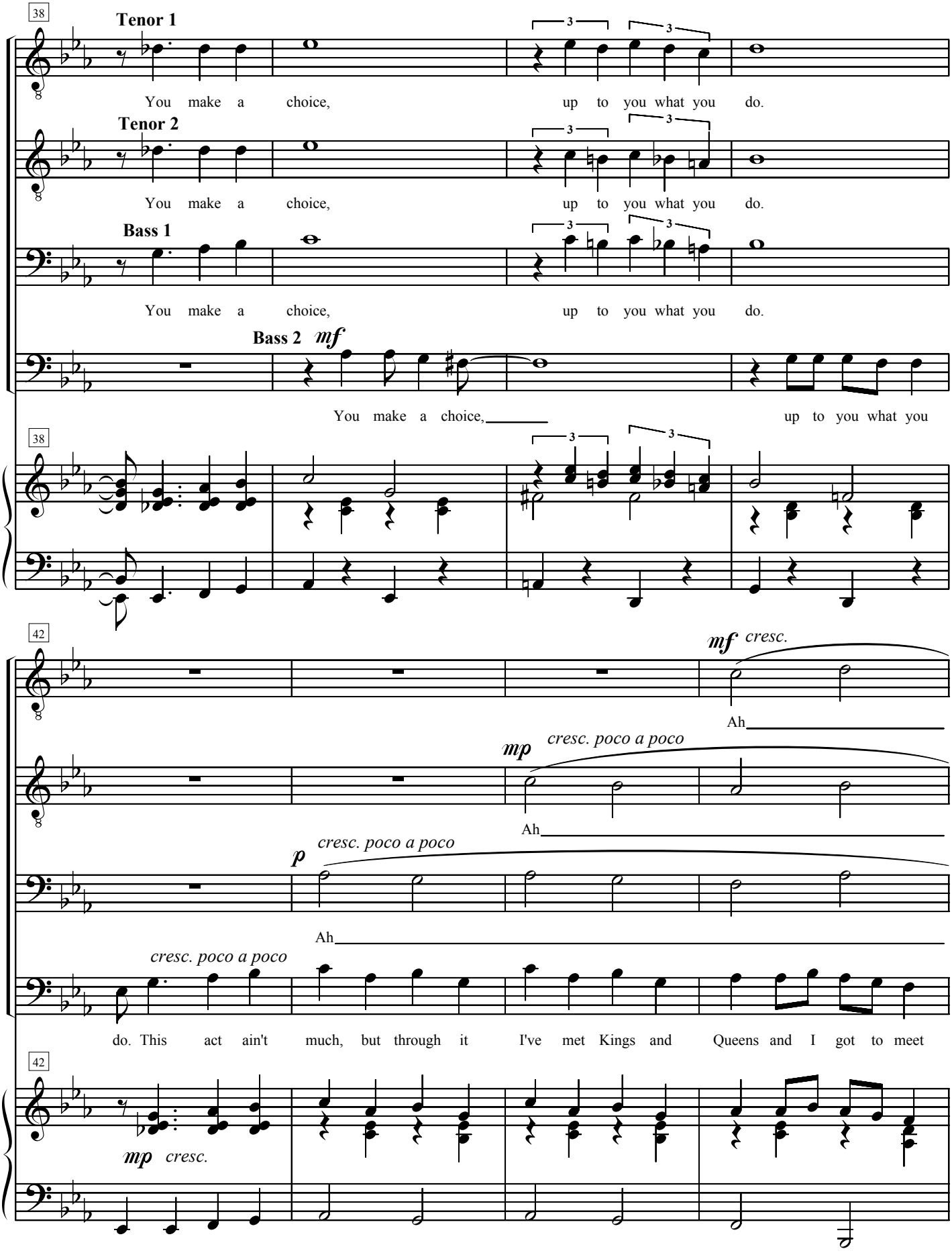
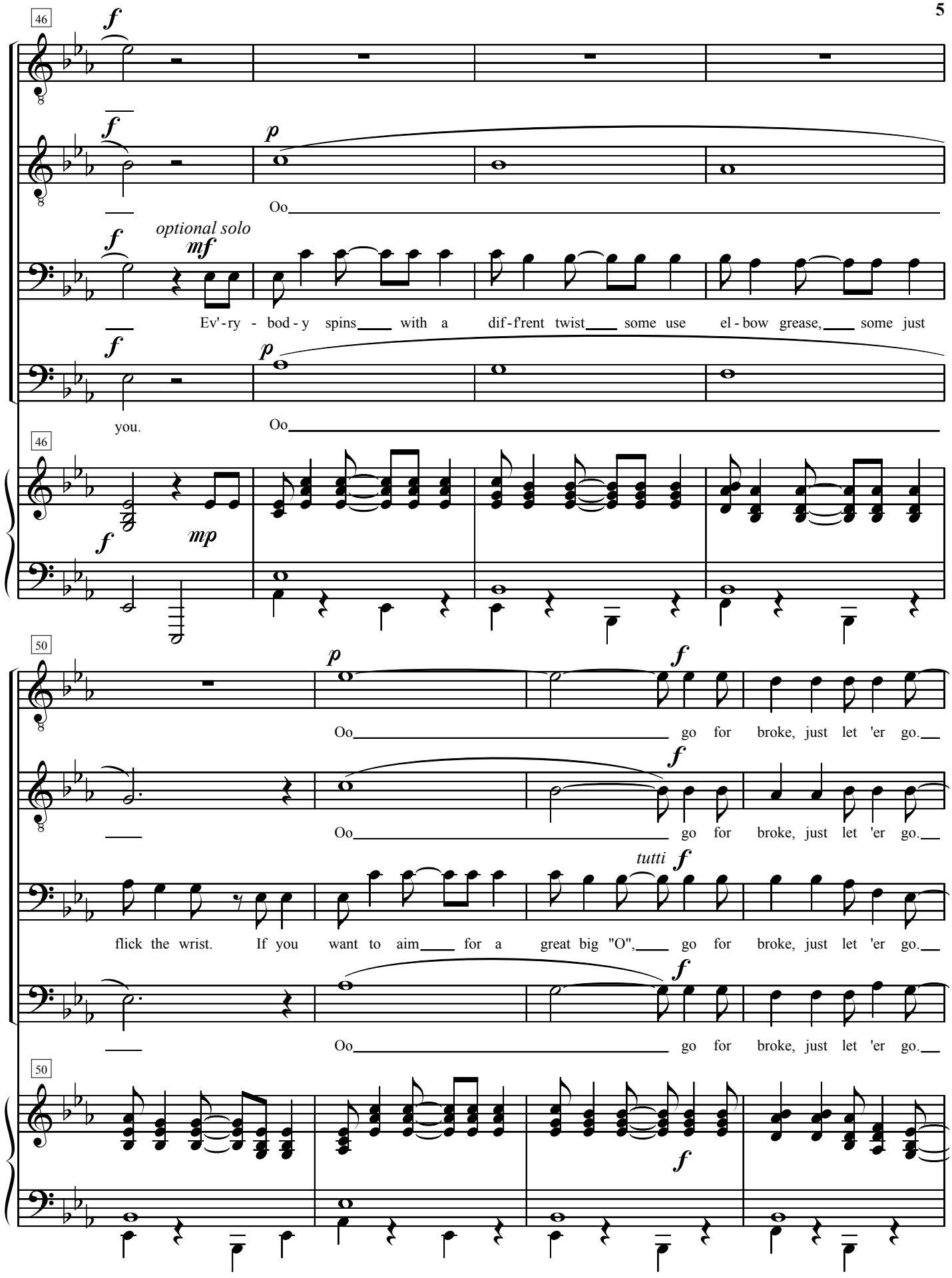
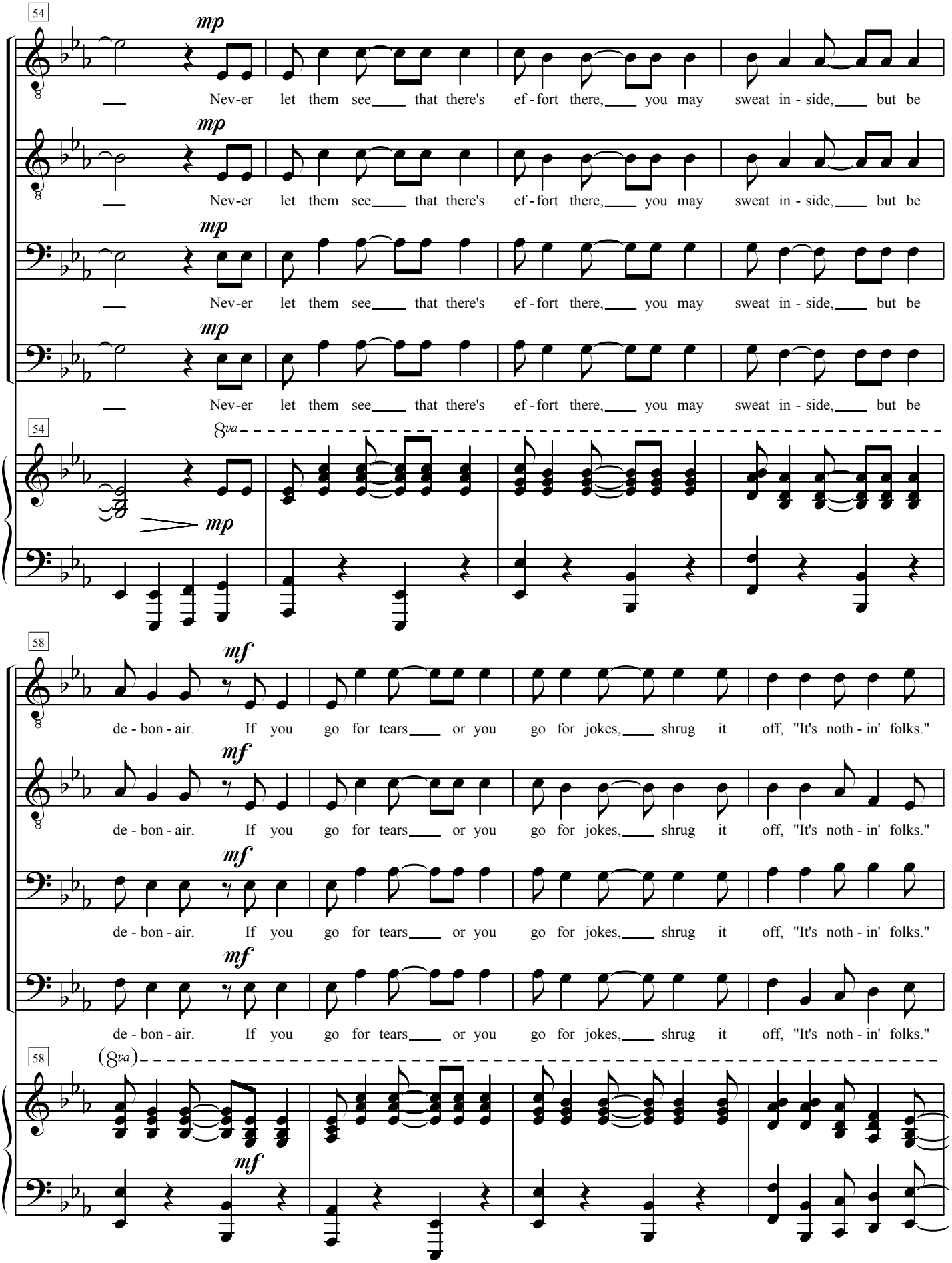
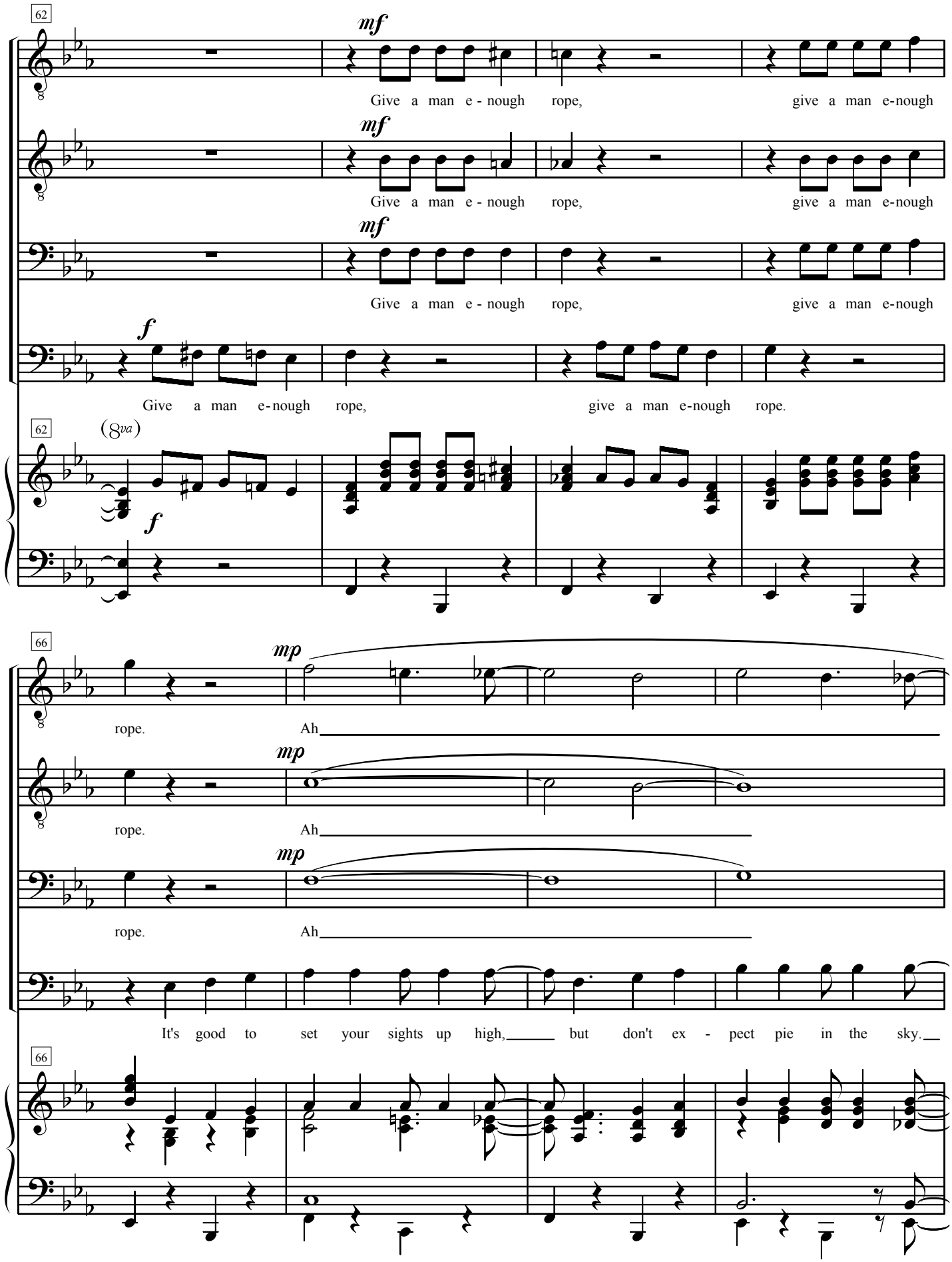

13
Moderate 2, western style ♩ = 104
Will?"
(Spoken)
And I told 'em:
Tenor 1 & 2 pp
Ah
Bass 1 & 2 mf
Give a man e-nough rope, give a man e-nough rope,
13
mf
18
mp
and he can hang him - self or not, that is the choice that he has got.
and he can hang him - self or not, that is the choice that he has got.
18
22
mf
He could wind up hang - ing down from a tree,
He could wind up hang - ing down from a tree,
22

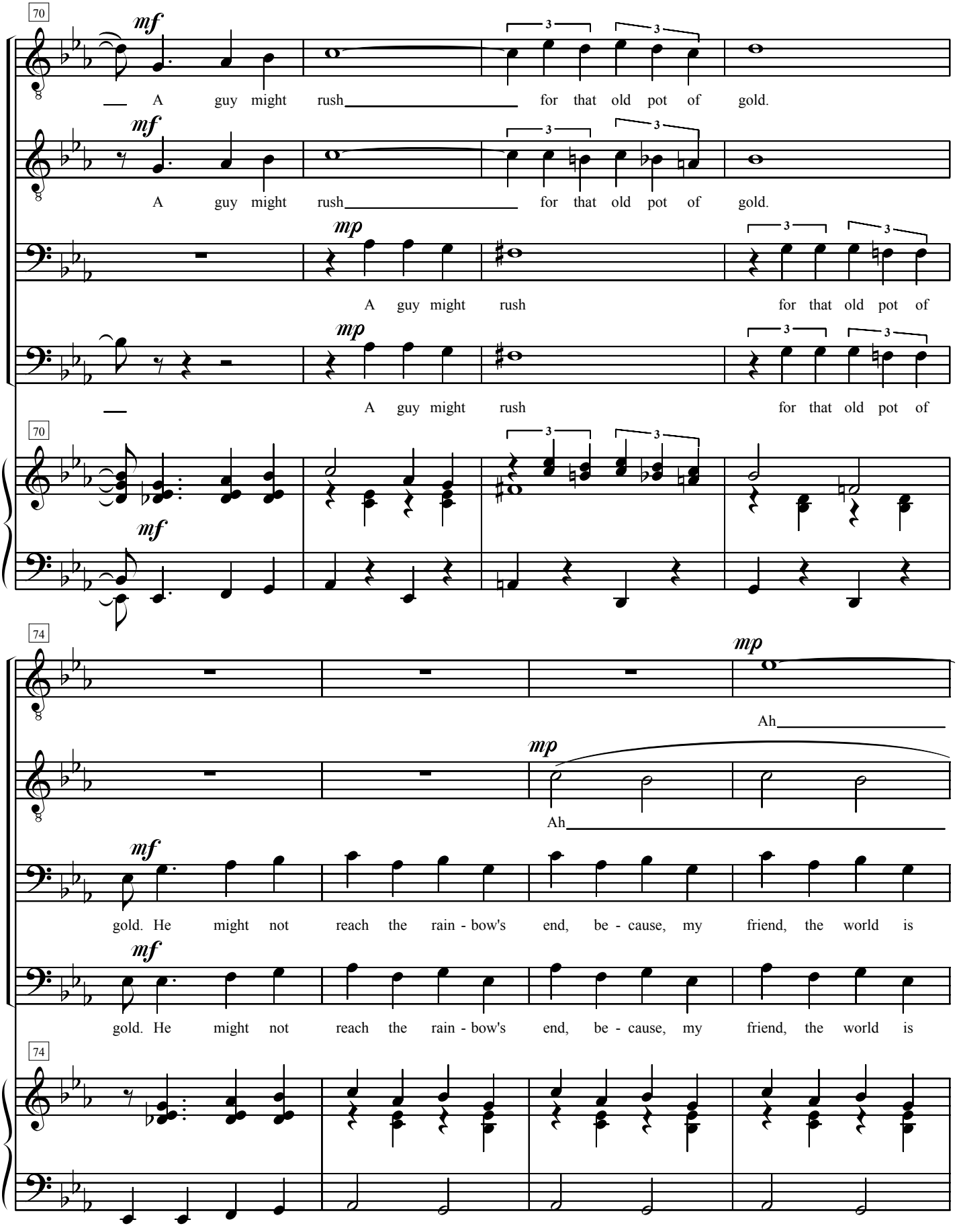

26
or he could spin him - self a life, that's what hap - pened to me.
26
or he could spin him - self a life, that's what hap - pened to me.
30
f
Give a man e-nough rope,
div.
give a man e-nough
f
Give a man e-nough rope,
give a man e-nough rope,
30
f
34
rope, you hand two guys a pile of dough,
one saves it slow.
div.
you hand two guys a pile of dough,
one spends it fast, one saves it slow.
34

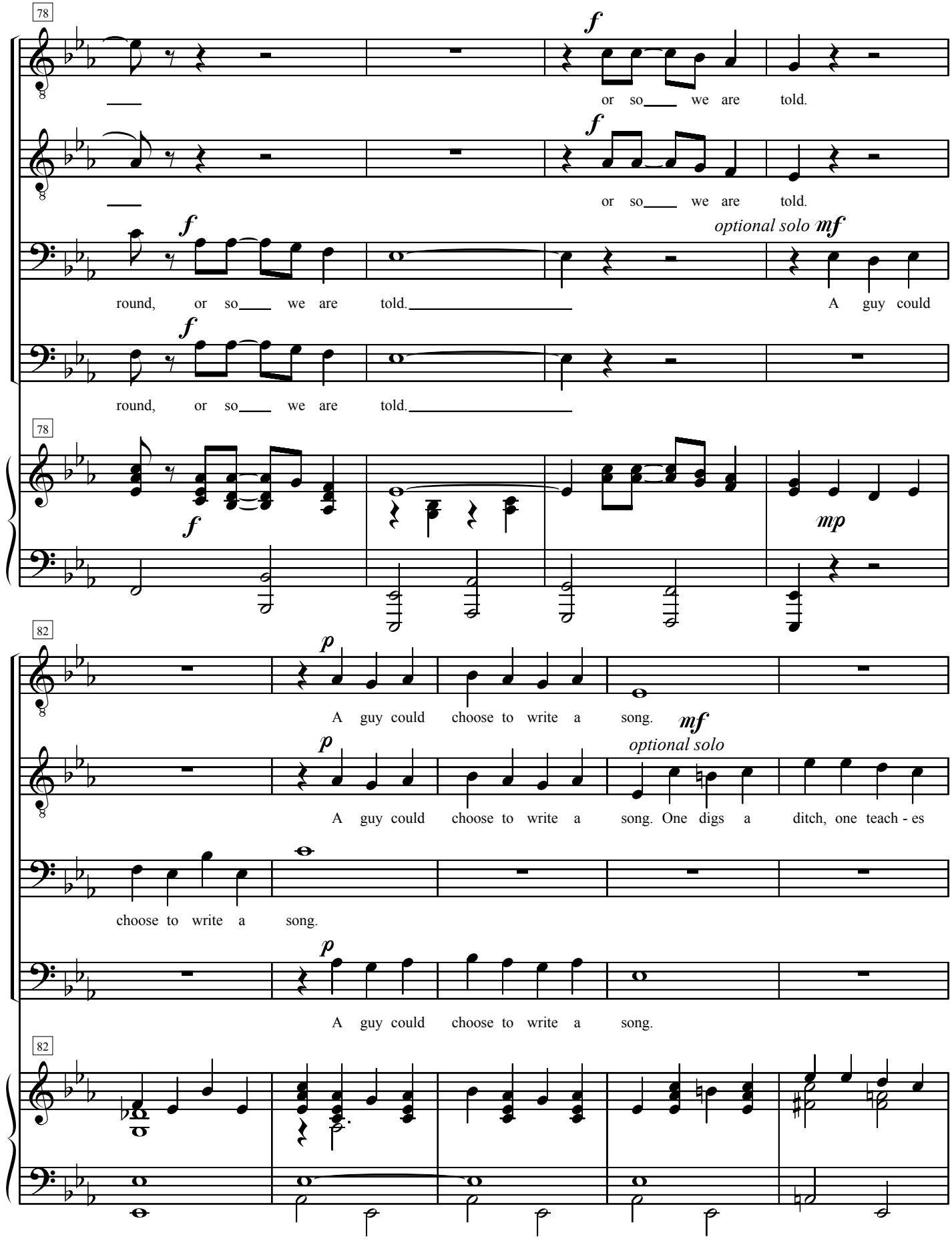

38
Tenor 1
You make a choice, up to you what you do.
Tenor 2
You make a choice, up to you what you do.
Bass 1
You make a choice, up to you what you do.
Bass 2 mf
You make a choice, up to you what you
38
42
mf cresc.
Ah
mp cresc. poco a poco
Ah
p cresc. poco a poco
Ah
cresc. poco a poco
do. This act ain't much, but through it I've met Kings and Queens and I got to meet
42
mp cresc.

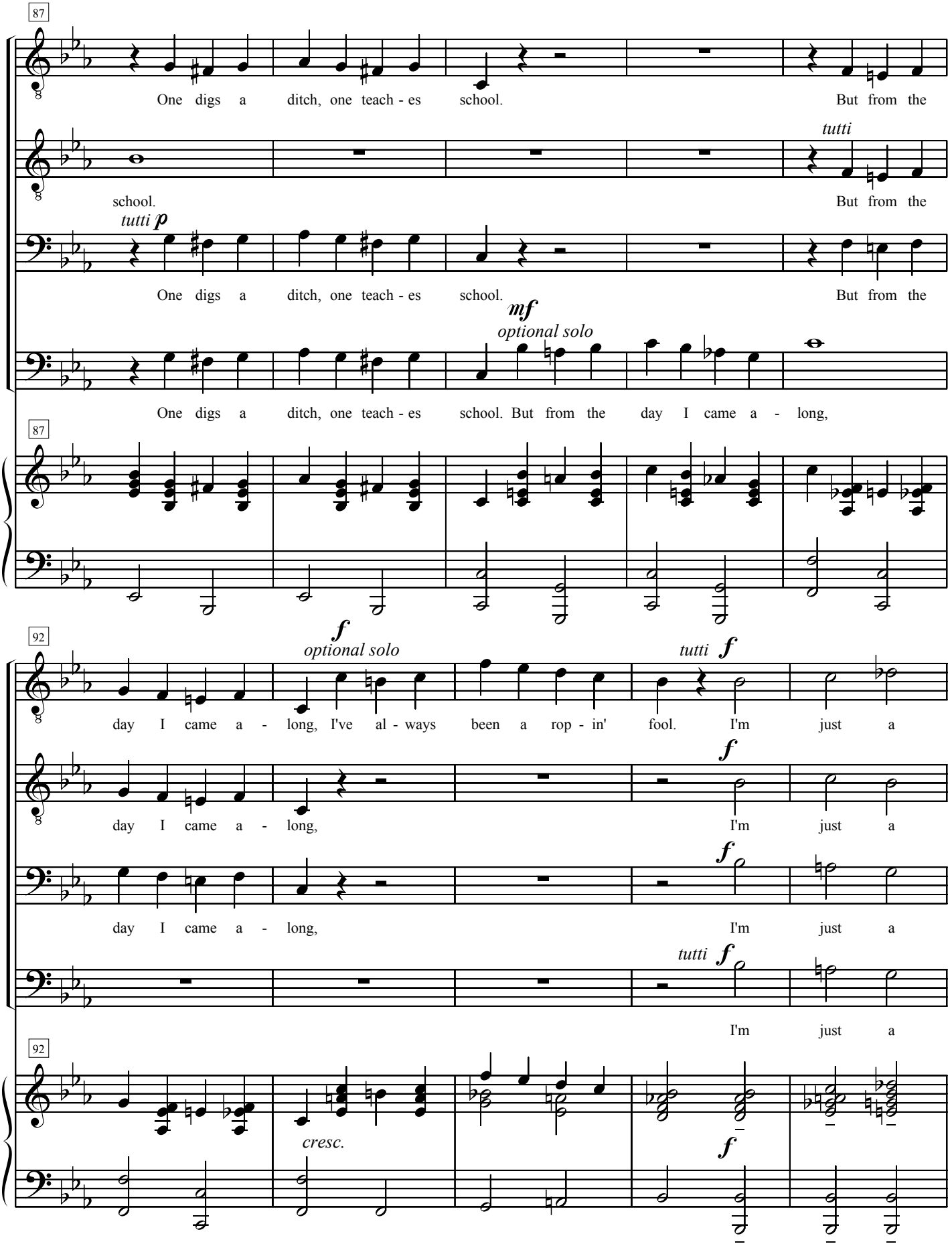

46
f
p
Oo
optional solo
mf
Ev'-ry - bod-y spins with a dif-f'rent twist some use el-bow grease, some just
you.
Oo
mp
50
go for broke, just let 'er go.
tutti
flick the wrist. If you want to aim for a great big "O", go for broke, just let 'er go.

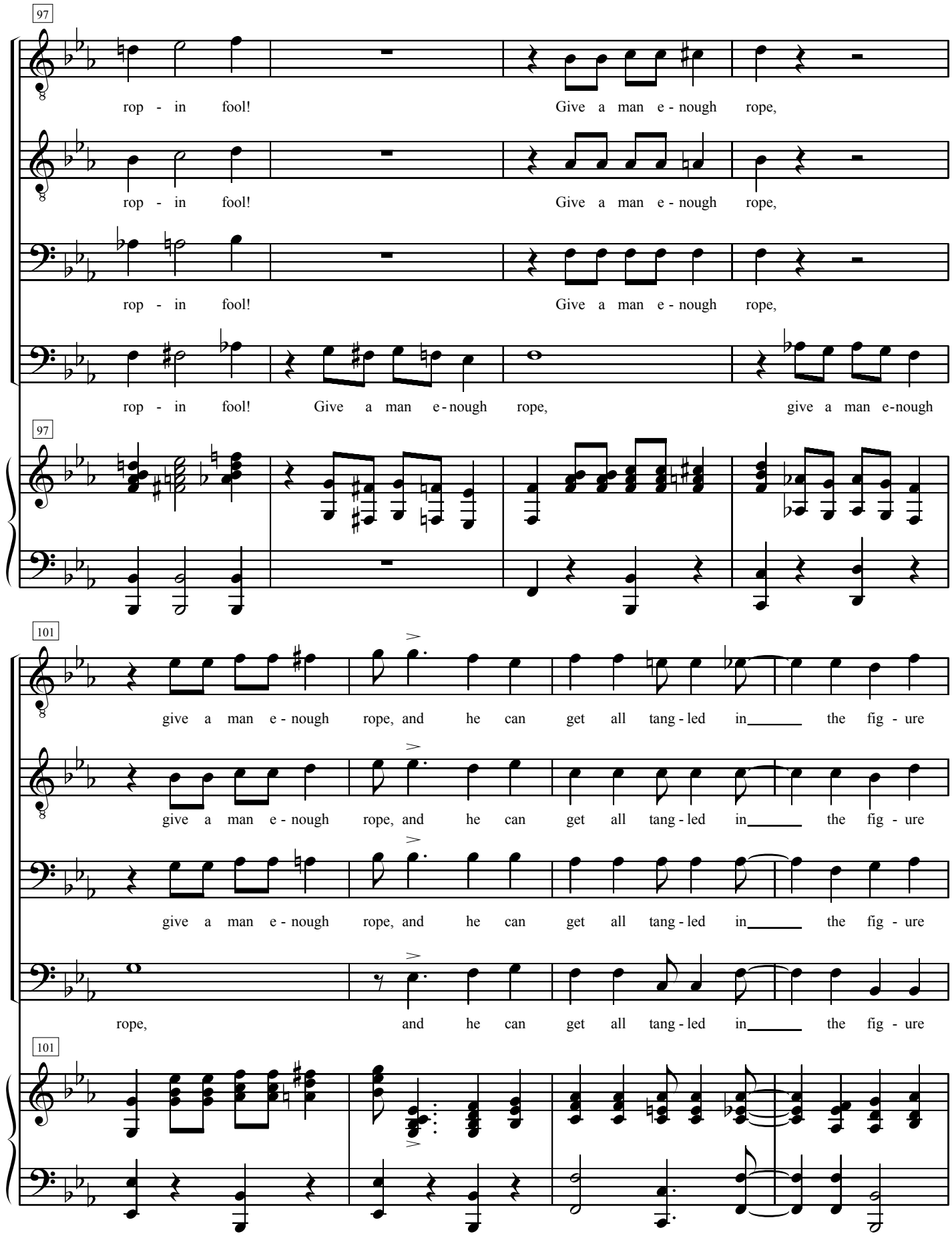

54
mp
Nev-er let them see that there's ef - fort there, you may sweat in - side, but be
54
8va
mp
58
mf
de - bon - air. If you go for tears or you go for jokes, shrug it off, "It's noth - in' folks."
58
(8va)
mf

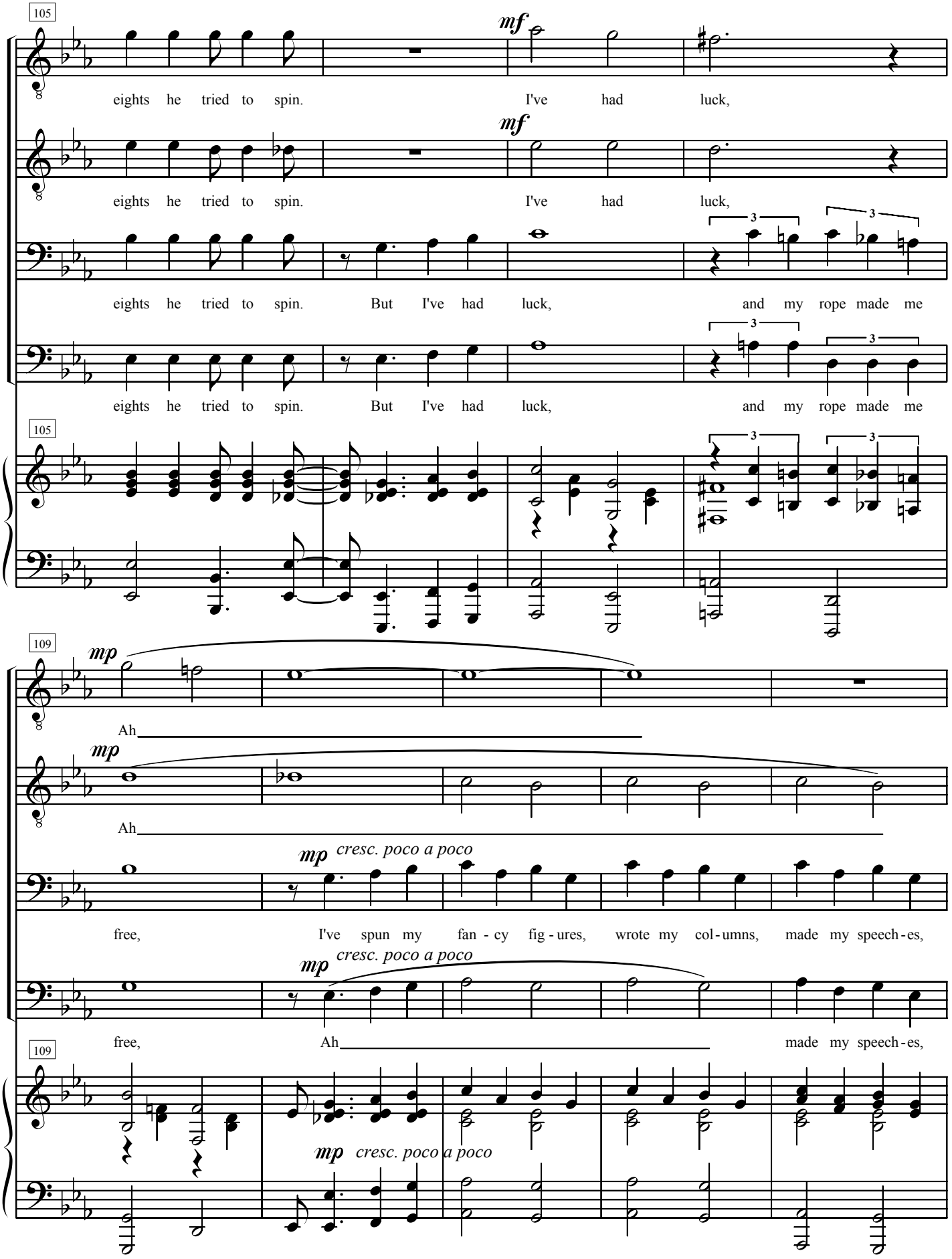

62
mf
Give a man e - nough rope, give a man e-nough
mf
Give a man e - nough rope, give a man e-nough
mf
Give a man e - nough rope, give a man e-nough
f
Give a man e-nough rope, give a man e-nough rope.
62
(8va)
f
66
mp
rope. Ah
mp
rope. Ah
mp
rope. Ah
It's good to set your sights up high, but don't ex - pect pie in the sky.
66

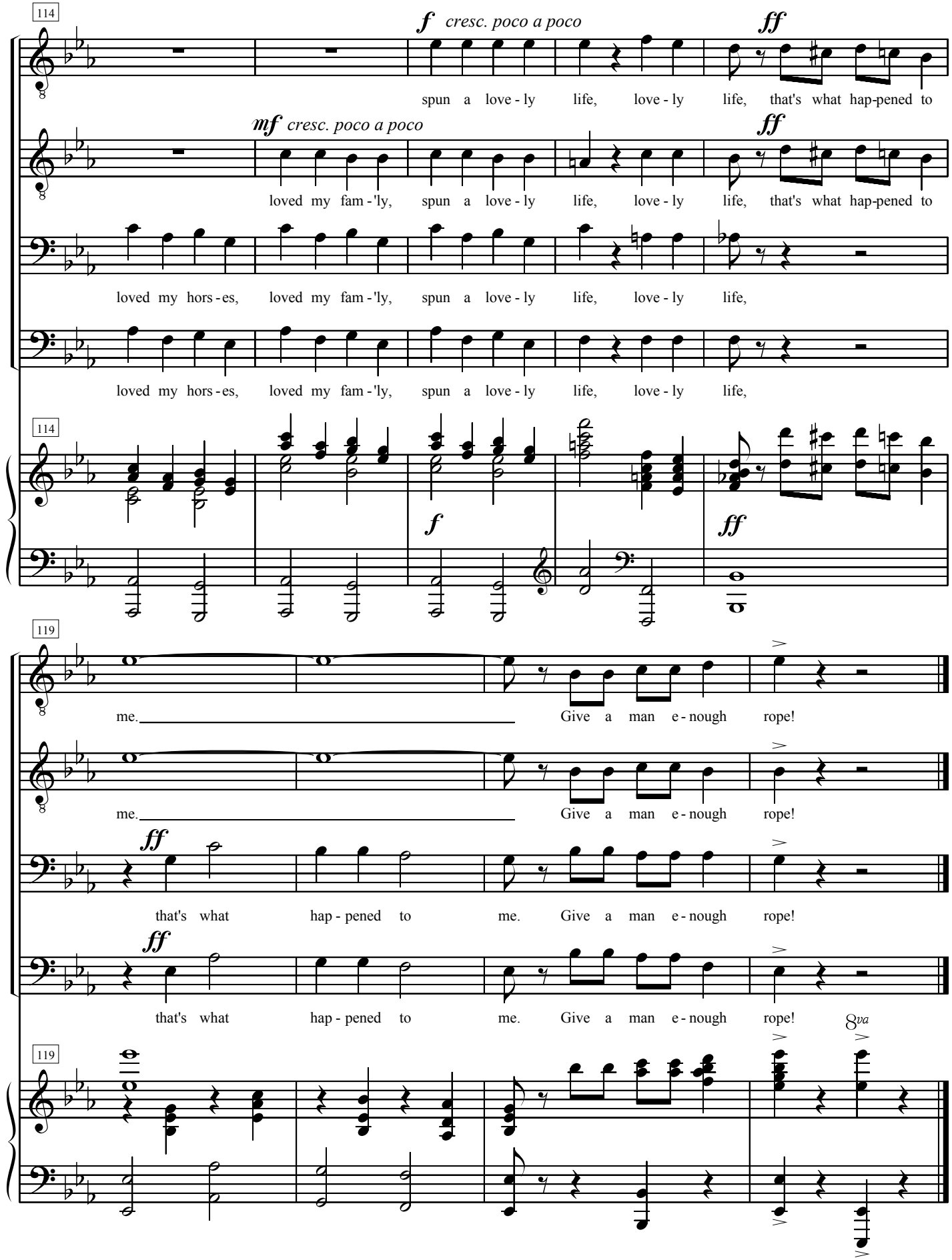

70
mf
A guy might rush for that old pot of gold.
mf
A guy might rush for that old pot of gold.
mp
A guy might rush for that old pot of
mp
A guy might rush for that old pot of
70
mf
74
mp
Ah
mp
Ah
mf
gold. He might not reach the rain - bow's end, be - cause, my friend, the world is
mf
gold. He might not reach the rain - bow's end, be - cause, my friend, the world is
74


78
f
or so we are told.
f
or so we are told.
f
round, or so we are told.
optional solo mf
A guy could
f
round, or so we are told.
78
f
mp
82
p
A guy could choose to write a song.
mf
optional solo
p
A guy could choose to write a song. One digs a ditch, one teach - es
choose to write a song.
p
A guy could choose to write a song.
82


87
One digs a ditch, one teach - es school. But from the
tutti
school. But from the
tutti p
One digs a ditch, one teach - es school. But from the
mf
optional solo
One digs a ditch, one teach - es school. But from the day I came a - long,
87
92
f
optional solo
day I came a - long, I've al - ways been a rop - in' fool. I'm just a
tutti f
f
day I came a - long, I'm just a
f
day I came a - long, I'm just a
tutti f
I'm just a
92
cresc.
f


97
rop - in fool! Give a man e - nough rope,
rop - in fool! Give a man e - nough rope,
rop - in fool! Give a man e - nough rope,
rop - in fool! Give a man e - nough rope, give a man e-nough
97
101
give a man e - nough rope, and he can get all tang - led in the fig - ure
give a man e - nough rope, and he can get all tang - led in the fig - ure
give a man e - nough rope, and he can get all tang - led in the fig - ure
rope, and he can get all tang - led in the fig - ure
101


105
mf
eights he tried to spin. I've had luck,
mf
eights he tried to spin. I've had luck,
eights he tried to spin. But I've had luck, and my rope made me
eights he tried to spin. But I've had luck, and my rope made me
105
109
mp
Ah
mp
Ah
mp cresc. poco a poco
free, I've spun my fan - cy fig - ures, wrote my col - umns, made my speech - es,
mp cresc. poco a poco
free, Ah made my speech - es,
109
mp cresc. poco a poco


114
f cresc. poco a poco
ff
spun a love - ly life, love - ly life, that's what hap-pened to
mf cresc. poco a poco
ff
loved my fam - 'ly, spun a love - ly life, love - ly life, that's what hap-pened to
loved my hors - es, loved my fam - 'ly, spun a love - ly life, love - ly life,
loved my hors - es, loved my fam - 'ly, spun a love - ly life, love - ly life,
114
f
ff
119
me. Give a man e - nough rope!
me. Give a man e - nough rope!
ff
that's what hap - pened to me. Give a man e - nough rope!
ff
that's what hap - pened to me. Give a man e - nough rope!
8va
119