Commissioned by Ruth Palmer, Director of Music Ministries,
Unity Church-Unitarian, St. Paul, Minnesota

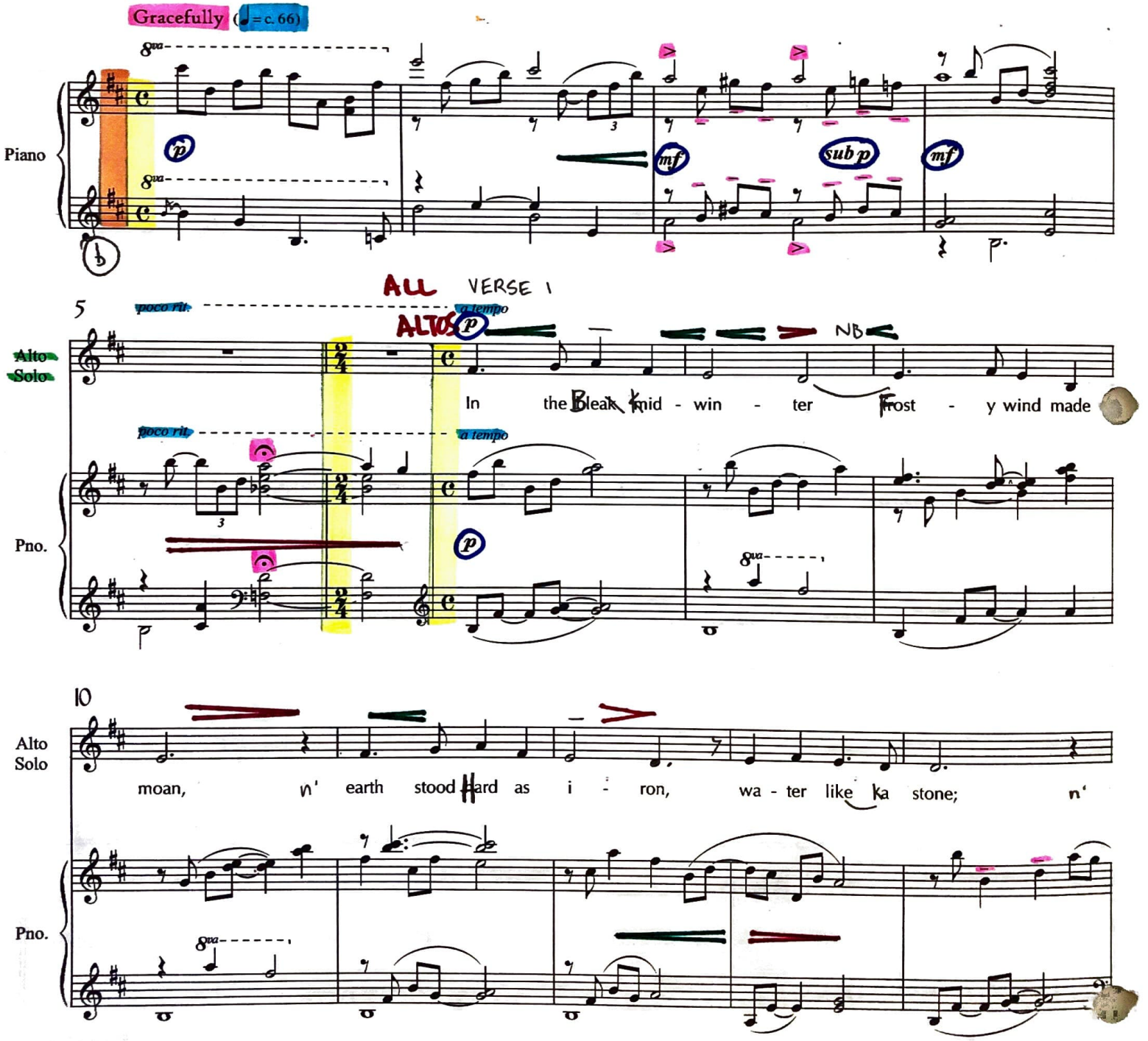
In the Bleak Midwinter

Commissioned for and dedicated to one of pure heart, hope and joy.

(1830–1894)
CHRISTINA ROSSETTI (v.1)
John Andrew Storey (v.2)
Rosetti / Betinis (v.3, 4)

VERSE 1 – m. 6
2 – m. 22
3 – m. 43
4 – m. 64

(b. 1980)
arr. ABBIE BETINIS
orig. Gustav Holst
(1874–1934)



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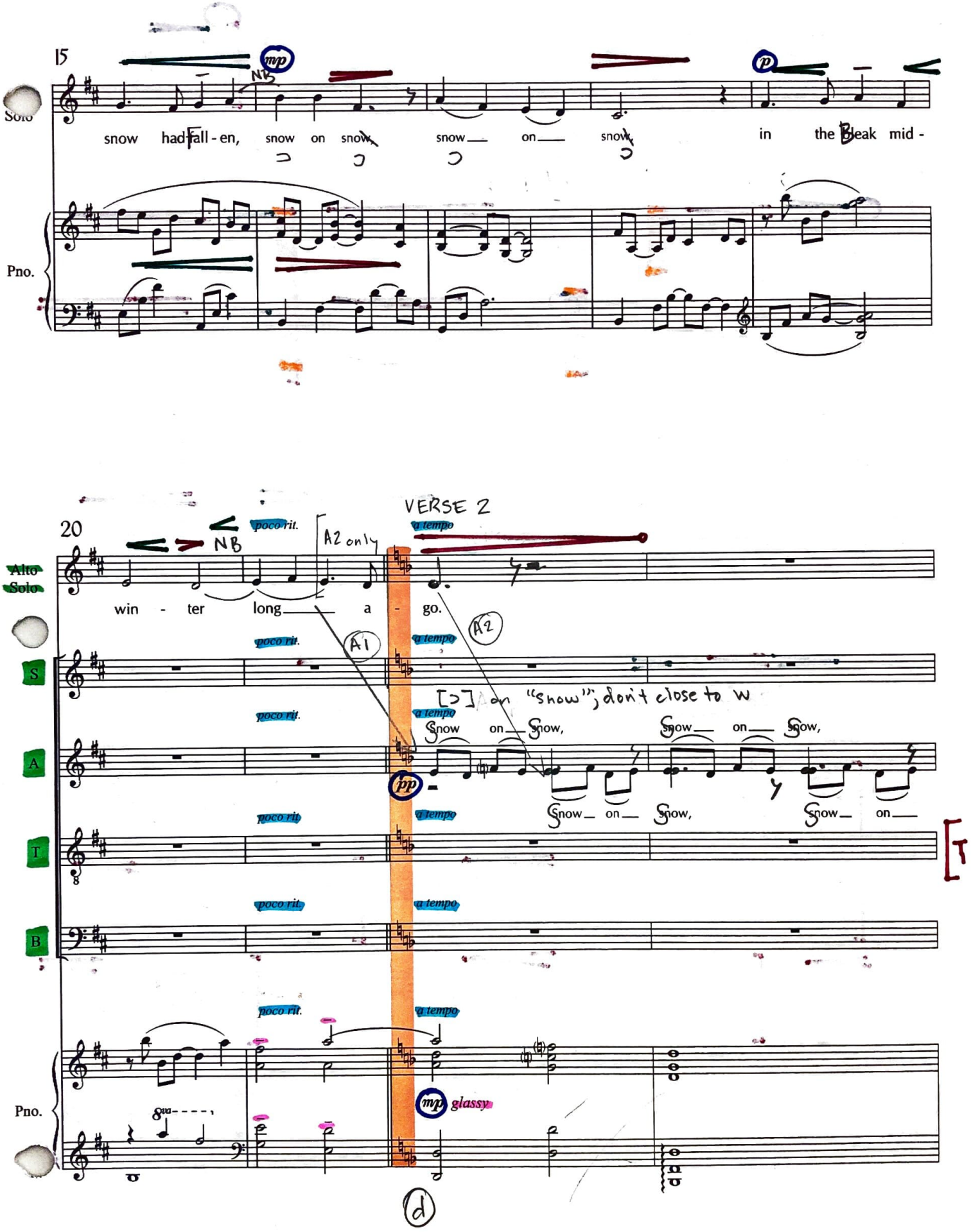
15
mp
NB
p
Solo
snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak mid -
Pno.
20
NB
poco rit.
A2 only
a tempo
VERSE 2
Alto Solo
win - ter long a - go.
A1
A2
S
[>] on "snow", don't close to w
A
pp
Snow on Snow, Snow on Snow,
Snow on Snow, Snow on
T
B
mp glassy
Pno.
(d)

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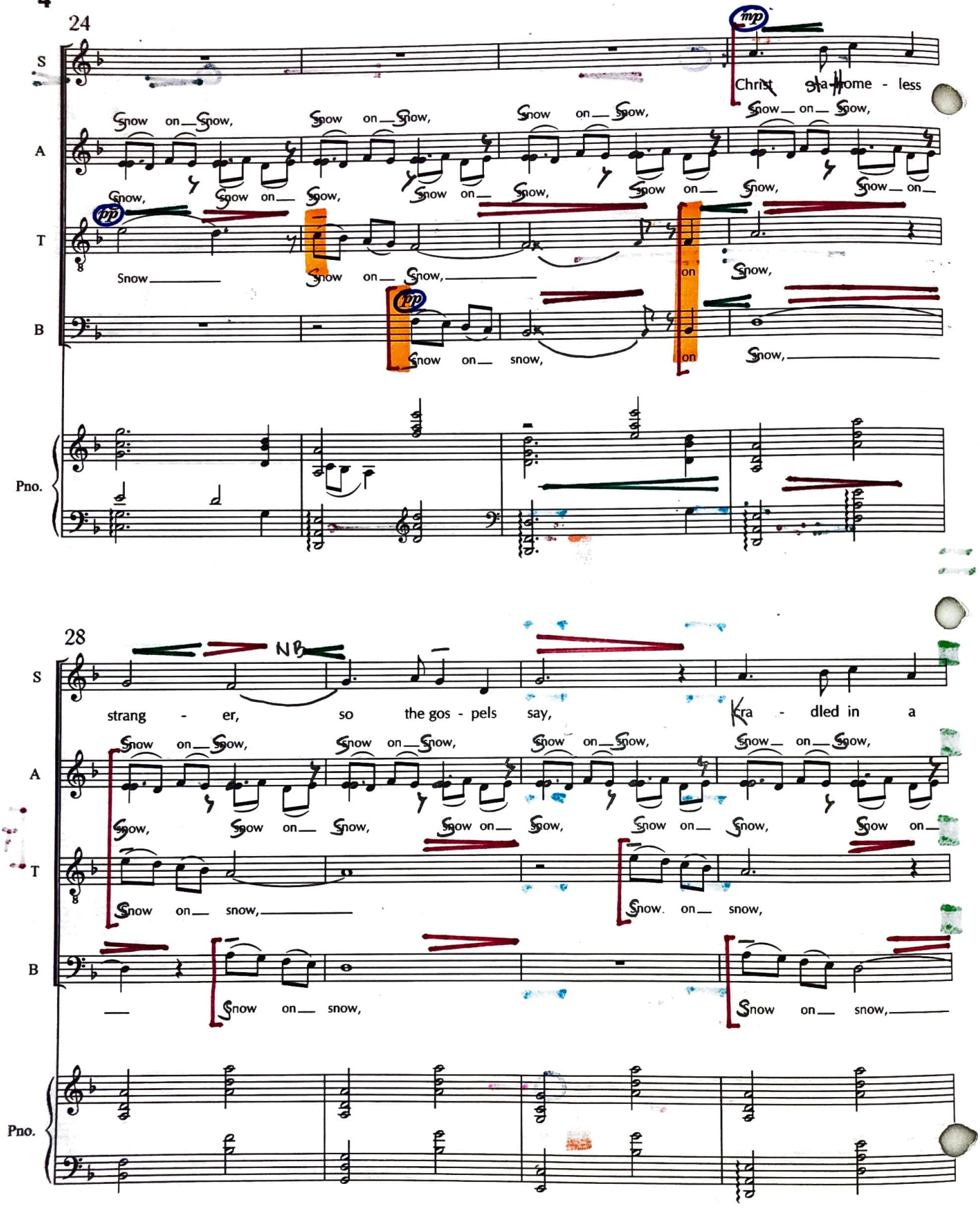
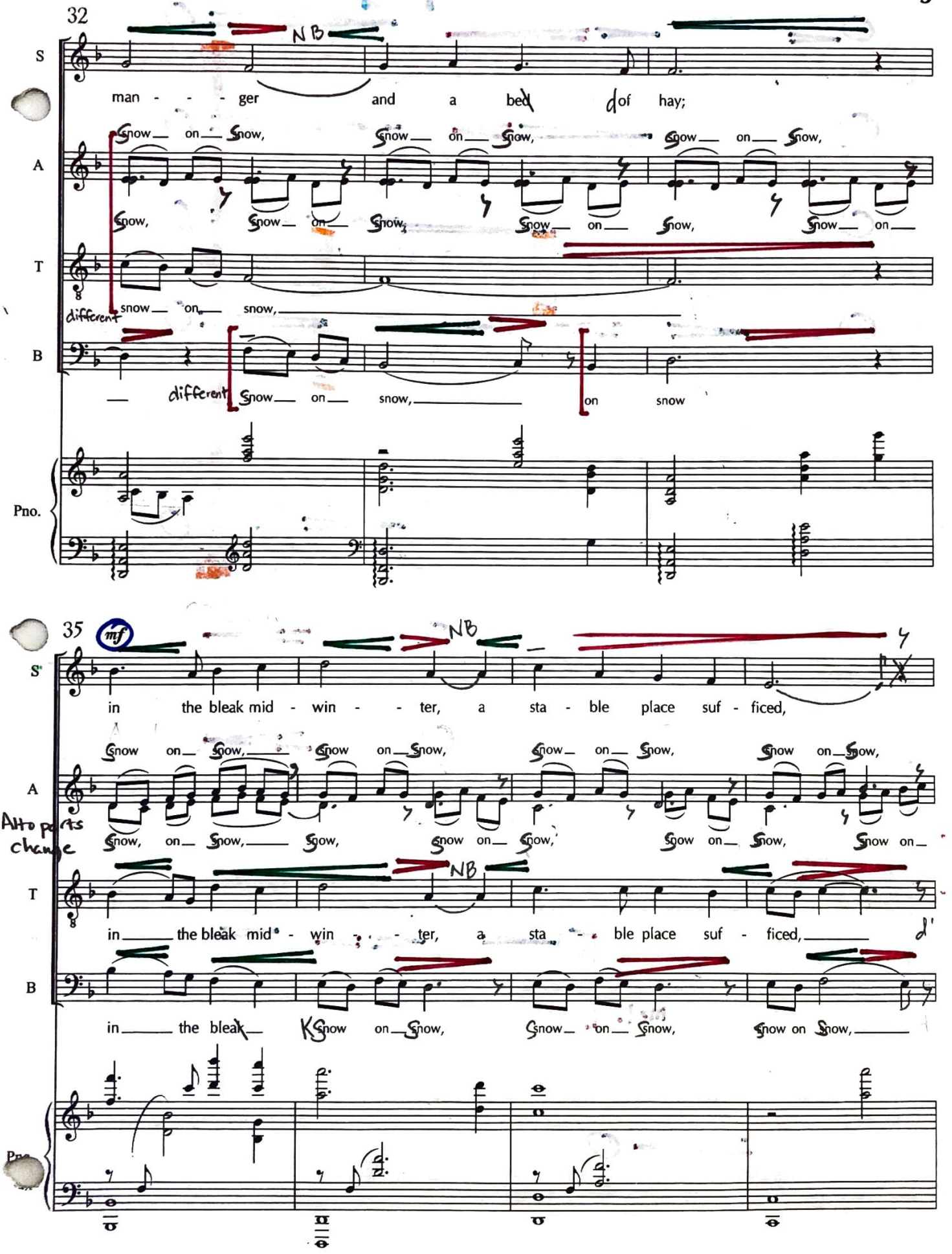



32
NB
S
man - - - ger and a bed of hay;
A
Snow on Snow, Snow on Snow, Snow on Snow,
Snow, Snow on Snow, Snow on Snow, Snow on
T
different snow on snow,
B
different Snow on snow, on snow
Pno.
35
mf
NB
S
in the bleak mid - win - - ter, a sta - ble place suf - ficed,
A
Snow on Snow, Snow on Snow, Snow on Snow, Snow on Snow,
Alto parts change
Snow, on Snow, Snow, Snow on Snow, Snow on Snow, Snow on
T
NB
in the bleak mid - win - - ter, a sta - ble place suf - ficed,
B
in the bleak Snow on Snow, Snow on Snow, Snow on Snow,
Pno.

Abbie Betinis: *In the Bleak Midwinter*

rall. a tempo

39

S: Ma - ry and her ba - - - - by, Je - sus Christ. St'

A: Ma - ry and her ba - - - - by, Je - sus Christ. St'

T: Ma - ry and her babe, Ma - ry and her babe, Je - sus Christ. St'

B: Ma - ry and her ba - - - - by, Je - sus Christ. St'

Pno.

43

VERSE 3

S: An-gels and arch-an - gels S'

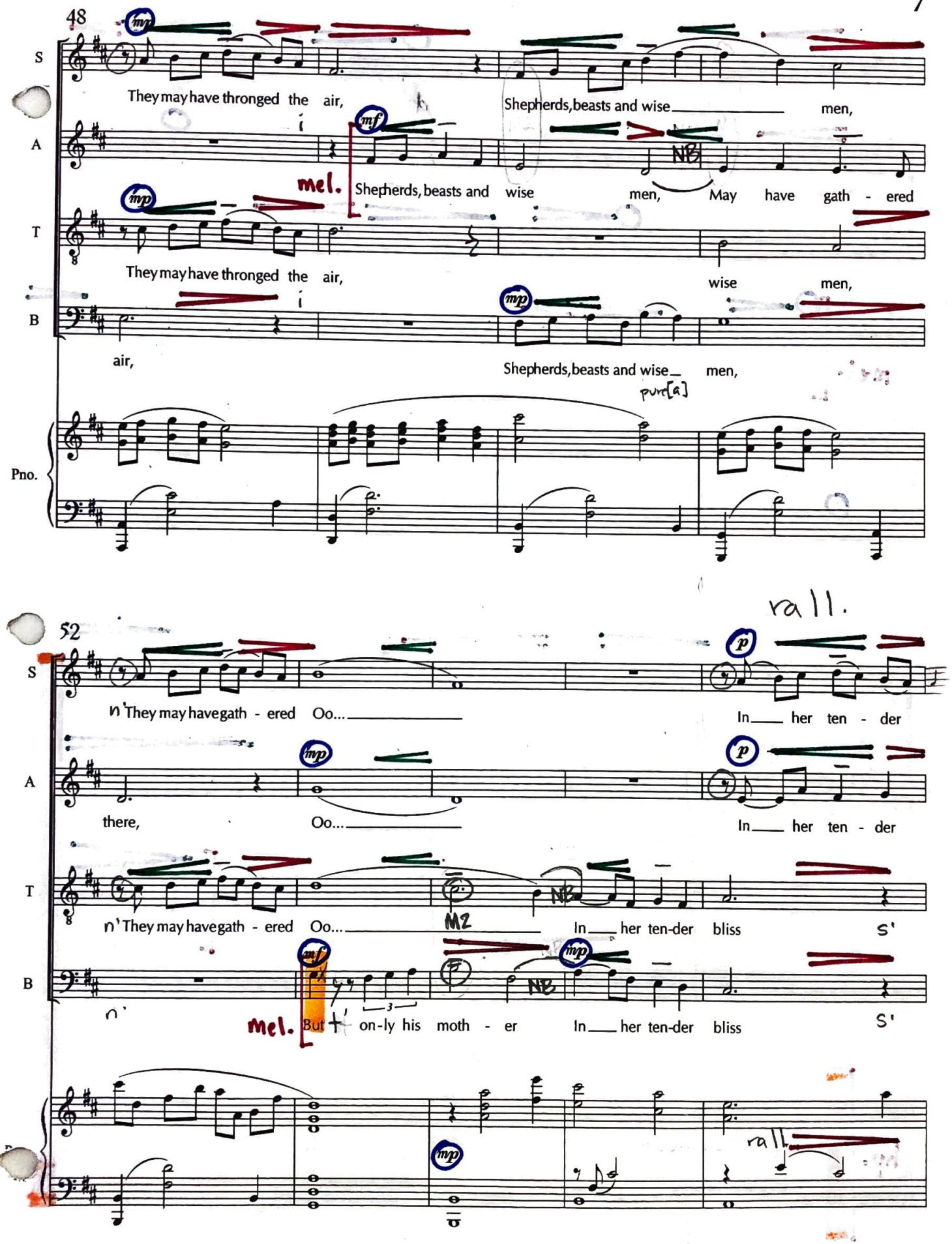
A: An-gels and arch-an - gels S'

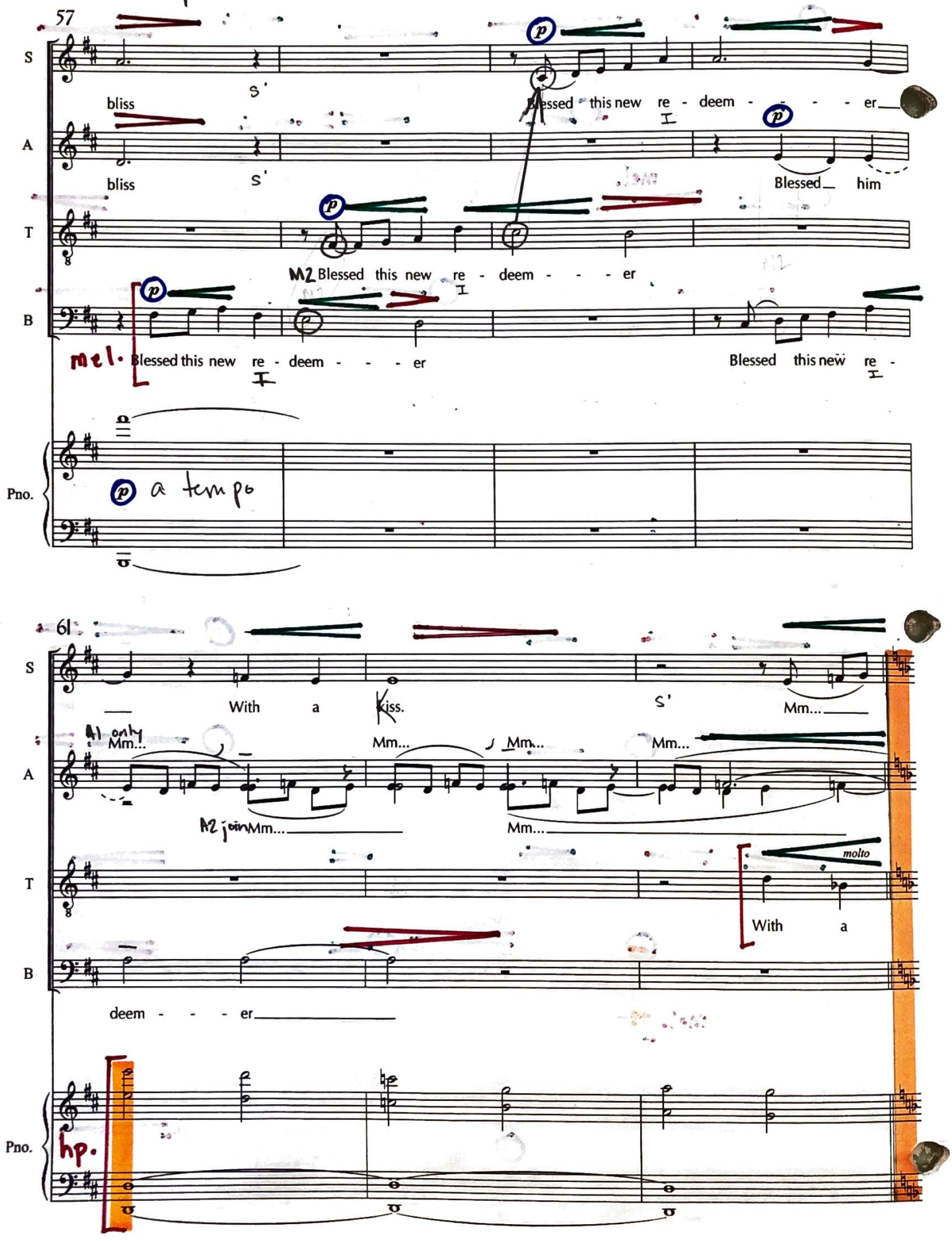
T:

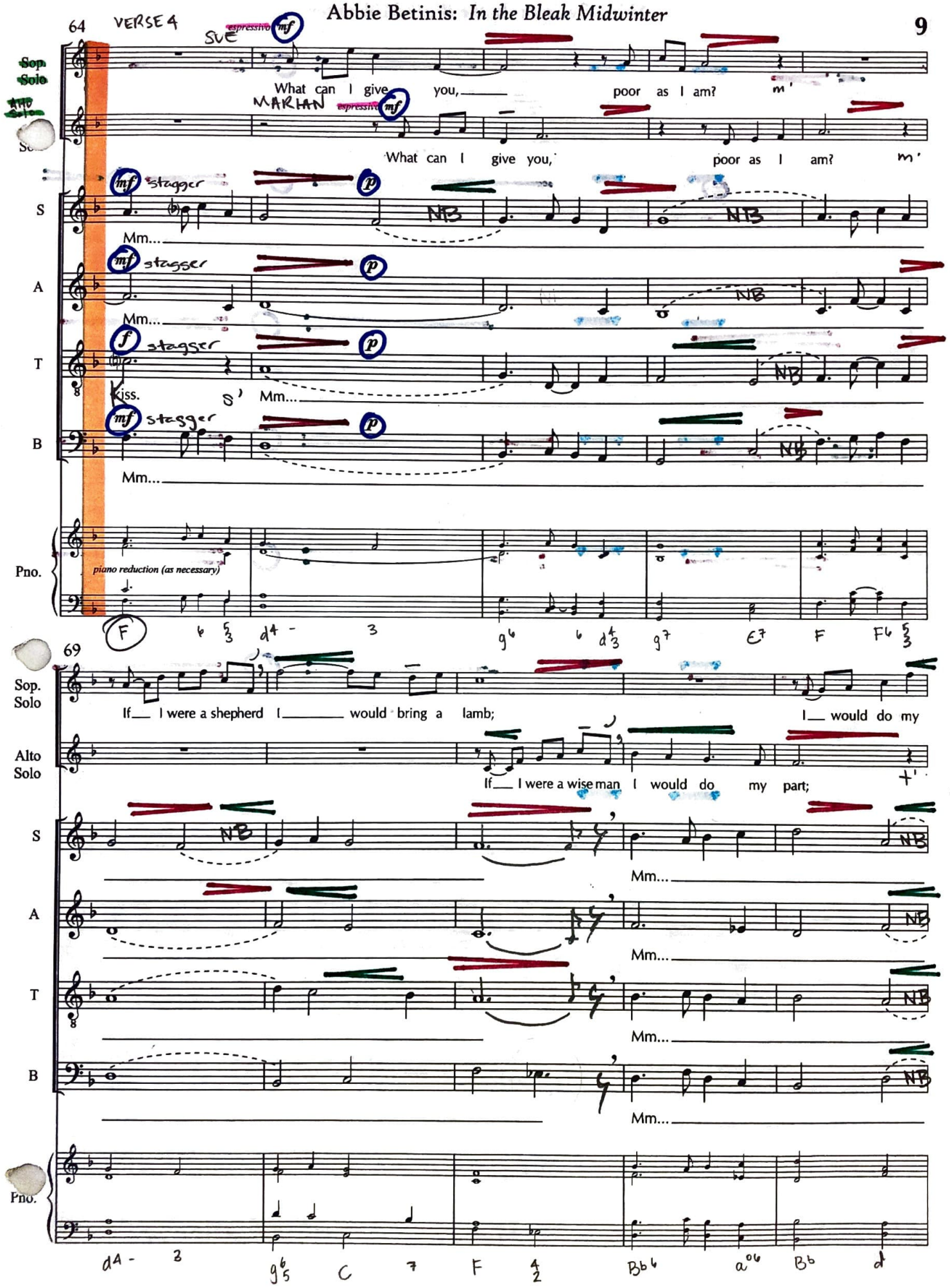
B: An-gels and arch-an - - - gels May have thronged the

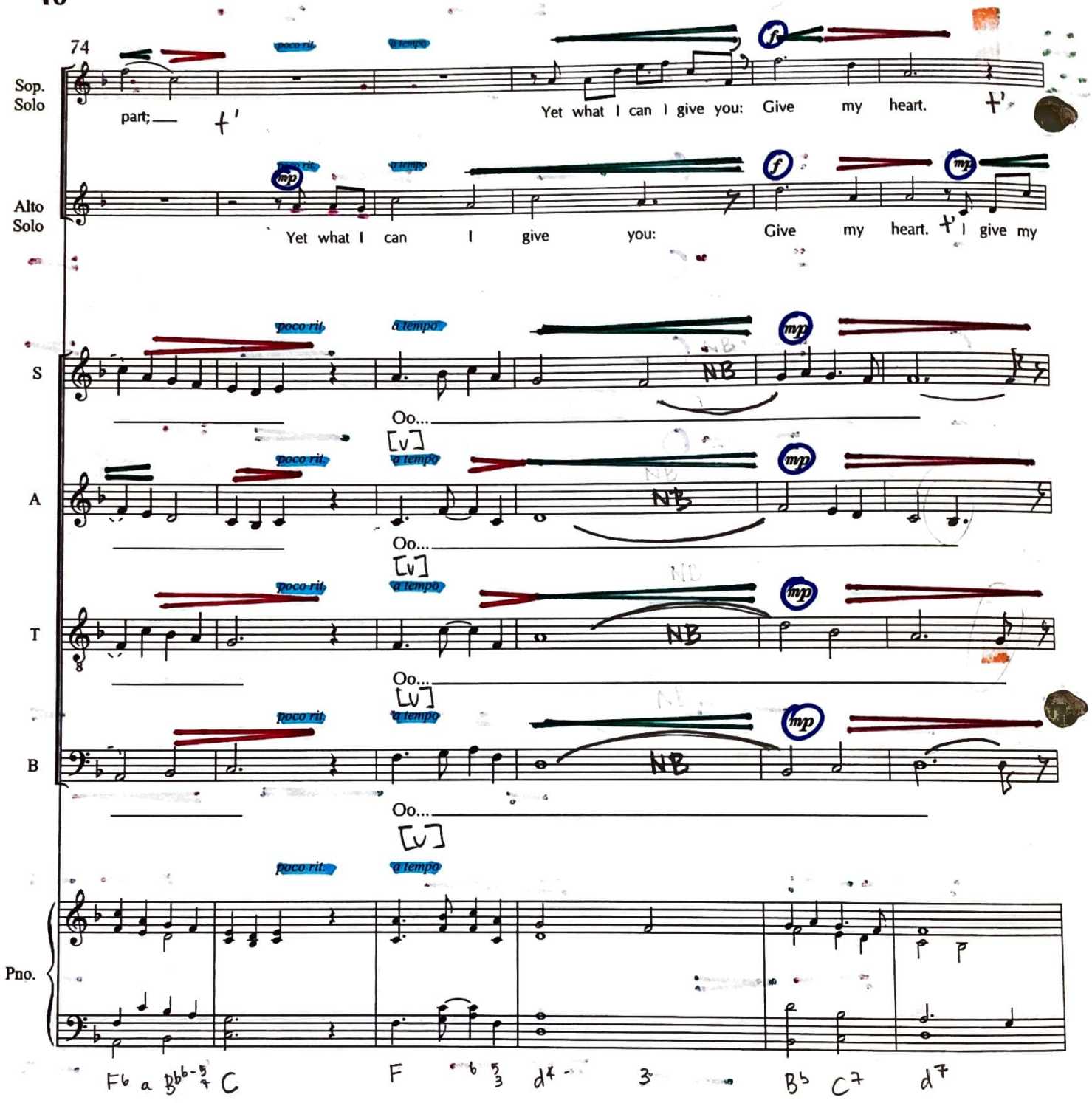
Mel.

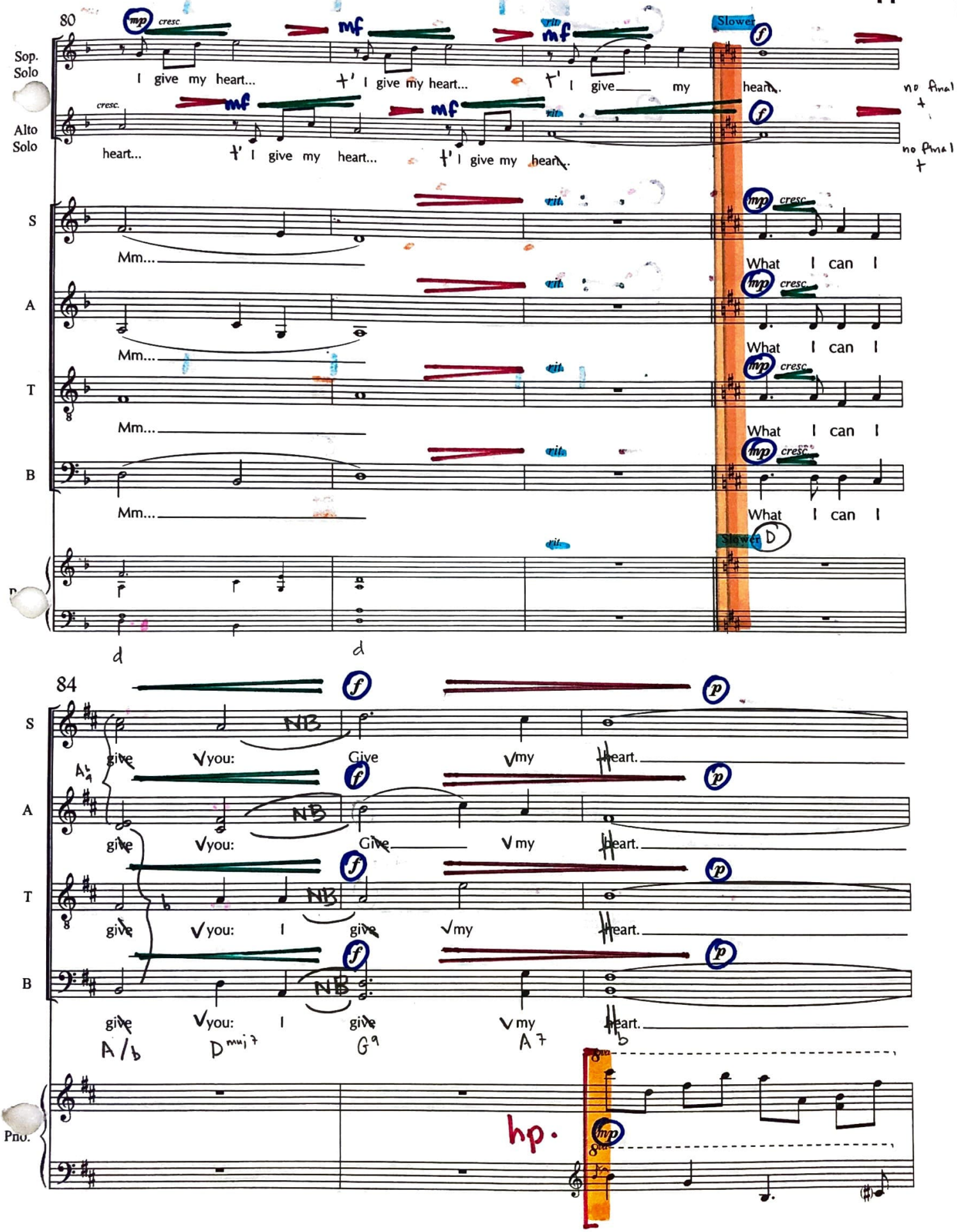
Pno.


48
S
They may have thronged the air,
Shepherds, beasts and wise men,
A
mel.
Shepherds, beasts and wise men, May have gath - ered
T
They may have thronged the air,
wise men,
B
air,
Shepherds, beasts and wise men,
pure [a]
Pno.
52
rall.
S
n' They may have gath - ered Oo...
In her ten - der
A
there,
Oo...
In her ten - der
T
n' They may have gath - ered Oo...
M2
In her ten-der bliss
s'
B
n'
mel.
But on-ly his moth - er
In her ten-der bliss
s'
rall.

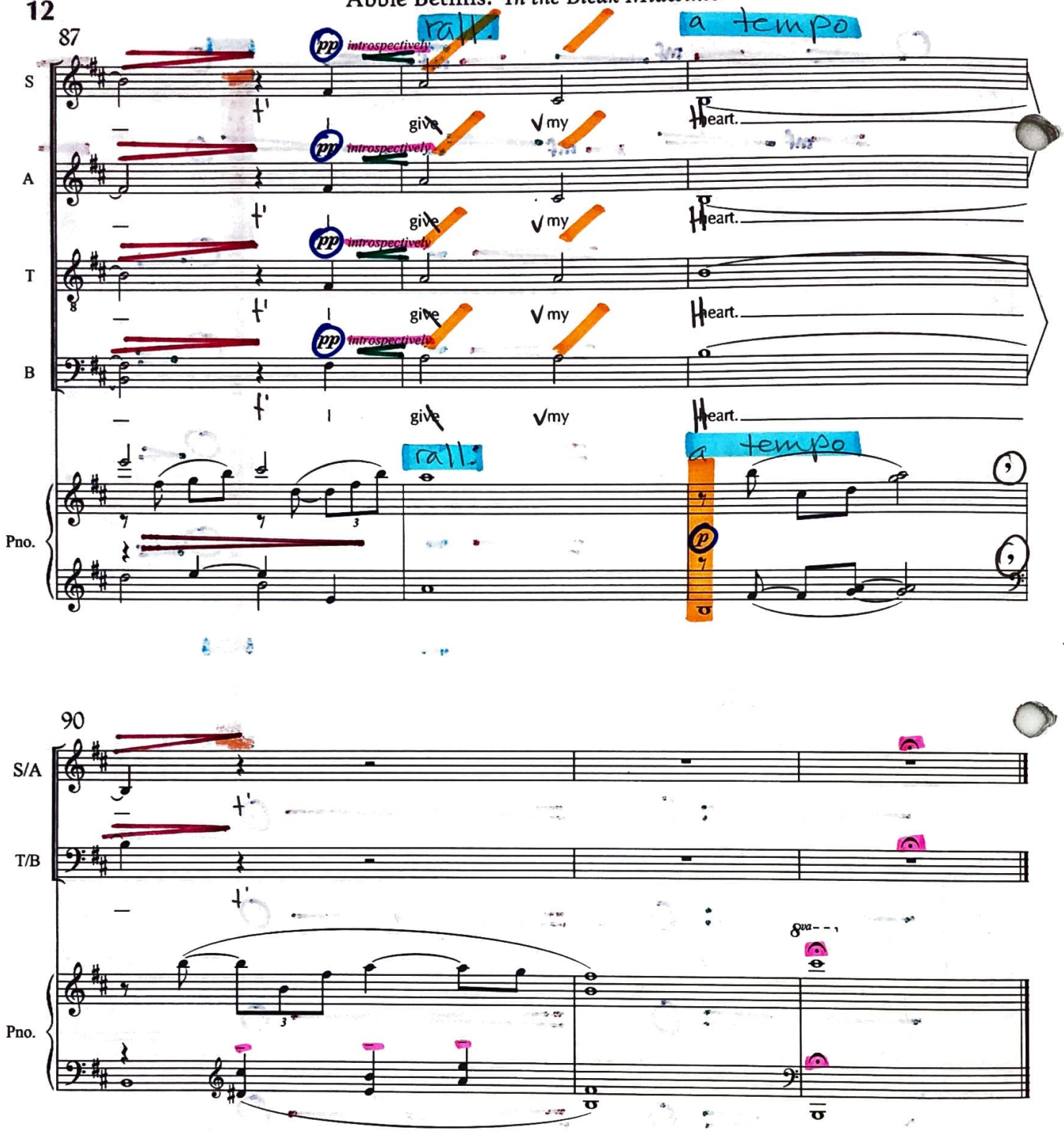

57
S
bliss
S'
Blessed this new re - deem - - - er
A
bliss
S'
Blessed him
T
M2 Blessed this new re - deem - - - er
B
mel. Blessed this new re - deem - - - er
Blessed this new re -
Pno.
a tempo
61
S
With a kiss.
S'
Mm...
A
A1 only
Mm...
Mm...
Mm...
Mm...
M2 join Mm...
Mm...
T
molto
With a
B
deem - - - er
Pno.
hp.


64
VERSE 4
SVE
expressive
mf
Sop. Solo
What can I give you, poor as I am?
MARIAN
What can I give you, poor as I am?
S
A
T
B
Mm...
stagger
Kiss.
Pno.
piano reduction (as necessary)
69
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb; I would do my
Alto Solo
If I were a wise man I would do my part;


74
Sop. Solo
part;
Yet what I can I give you: Give my heart.
Alto Solo
Yet what I can I give you: Give my heart. I give my
S
Oo...
A
Oo...
T
Oo...
B
Oo...
Pno.
poco rit.
a tempo
NB


80
Sop. Solo
I give my heart...
I give my heart...
I give my heart.
Alto Solo
heart...
I give my heart...
I give my heart.
S
Mm...
What I can I
A
Mm...
What I can I
T
Mm...
What I can I
B
Mm...
What I can I
Slower
84
S
give you: Give my heart.
A
give you: Give my heart.
T
give you: I give my heart.
B
give you: I give my heart.
Pno.
hp.

Abbie Betinis: *In the Bleak Midwinter*



The Music of Abbie Betinis
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IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER - ARR. ABBIE BETINIS

key center	mm.	verse	description
b	1–6		harp introductim
b	7-21	1	Alto solo
d	22-42	2	Soprano melody; ATB atmospheric accompaniment
D	43–63	3	Alto and Bass melody, ST descant-like responses
F	64-82	4	Soprano / Alto soli over "standard" choral harmonizatim
D/b	83-end		coda