WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED

CAROLS OF FAITH, LOVE, AND DEVOTION FOR PIANO

RODNEY ABRIOL

Sample

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Engraver: Jeanette Dotson

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FOREWORD

The Christmas carols in this book tell the story of God's love for us. God sent His Son, Jesus, to be born as a helpless baby, to save us from our sins (Matthew 1:21). And because He was born to die for us, we have the hope of eternal life! The pieces in this book express the emotions that surrounded Christ's birth – love, fear, joy, sadness, peace, unrest, and hope, among others. As we reflect upon Jesus and His humility, may our hearts be filled with love and praise for our Savior.

My greatest thanks and praise are directed to God, our Father, and to His Son Jesus Christ, for giving to us the gift of salvation, and for the talent of music, that serves as a vehicle for sharing the gospel of salvation!

Thank you to my good friend, Brad Nix, for the invitation to write this book, and for his valuable advice and expertise in music.

A great thank you to my precious wife, Joy Lin, and dear sons Zephaniah and Zechariah, for their constant love, patience, support, and encouragement towards me.

—Rodney Abriol

Sample

CONTENTS

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks 4
LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN

Joseph, O Dear Joseph Mine 7
RESONET IN LAUDIBUS

Angels, from the Realms of Glory 10
REGENT SQUARE

How Great Our Joy! 15
JÜNGST

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 22
STUTTGART

A Carol for Christmas Eve 26

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing 30
SUSSEX CAROL

Lully, Lullay, Thou Little Tiny Child 36
COVENTRY CAROL

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child 40
TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

We Three Kings 46
KINGS OF ORIENT

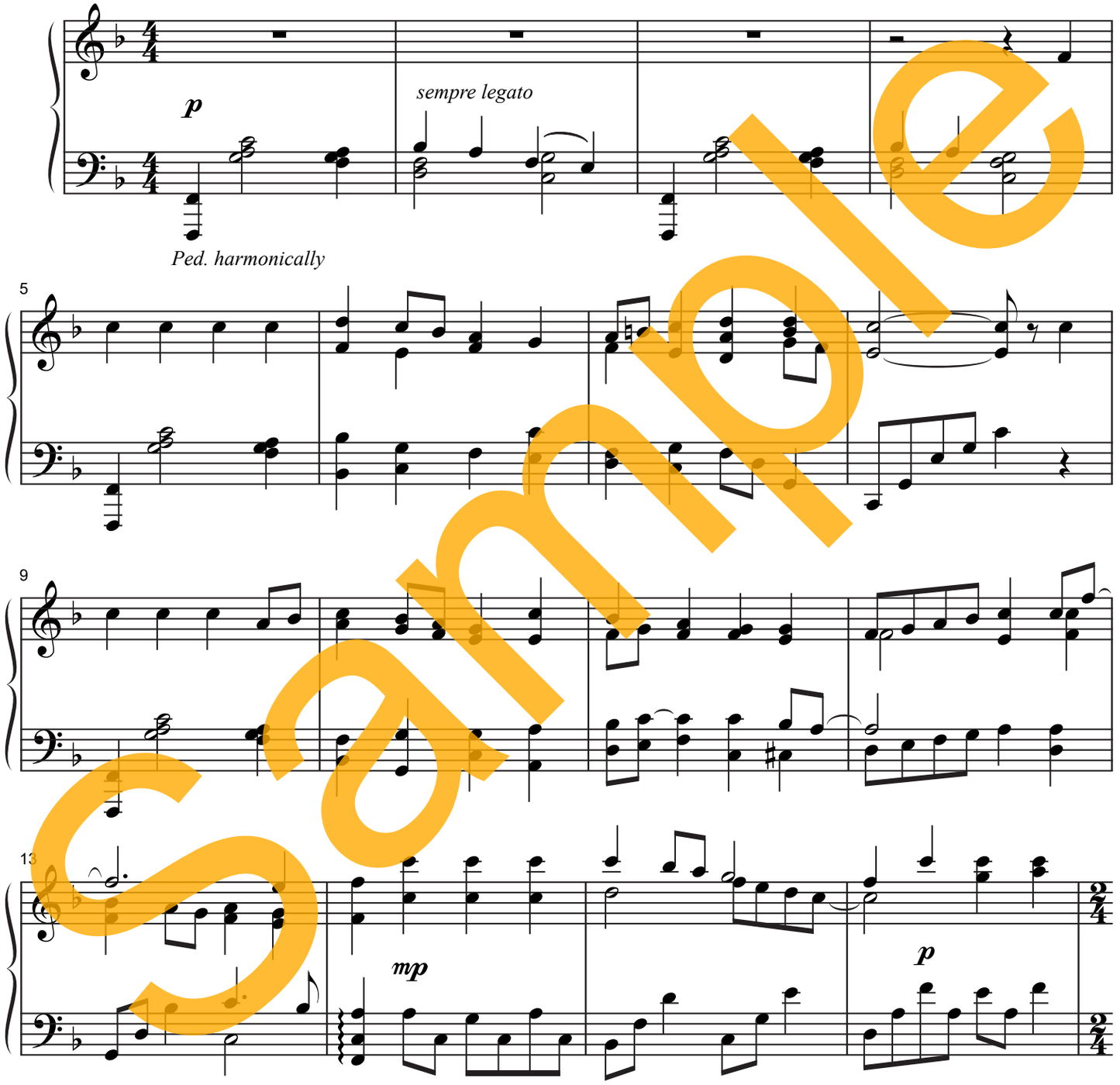
Sample

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

Rodney Abriol

Tune: **LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN**
by **Nikolaus Herman** (1500-1561)

Peacefully ♩ = ca. 76



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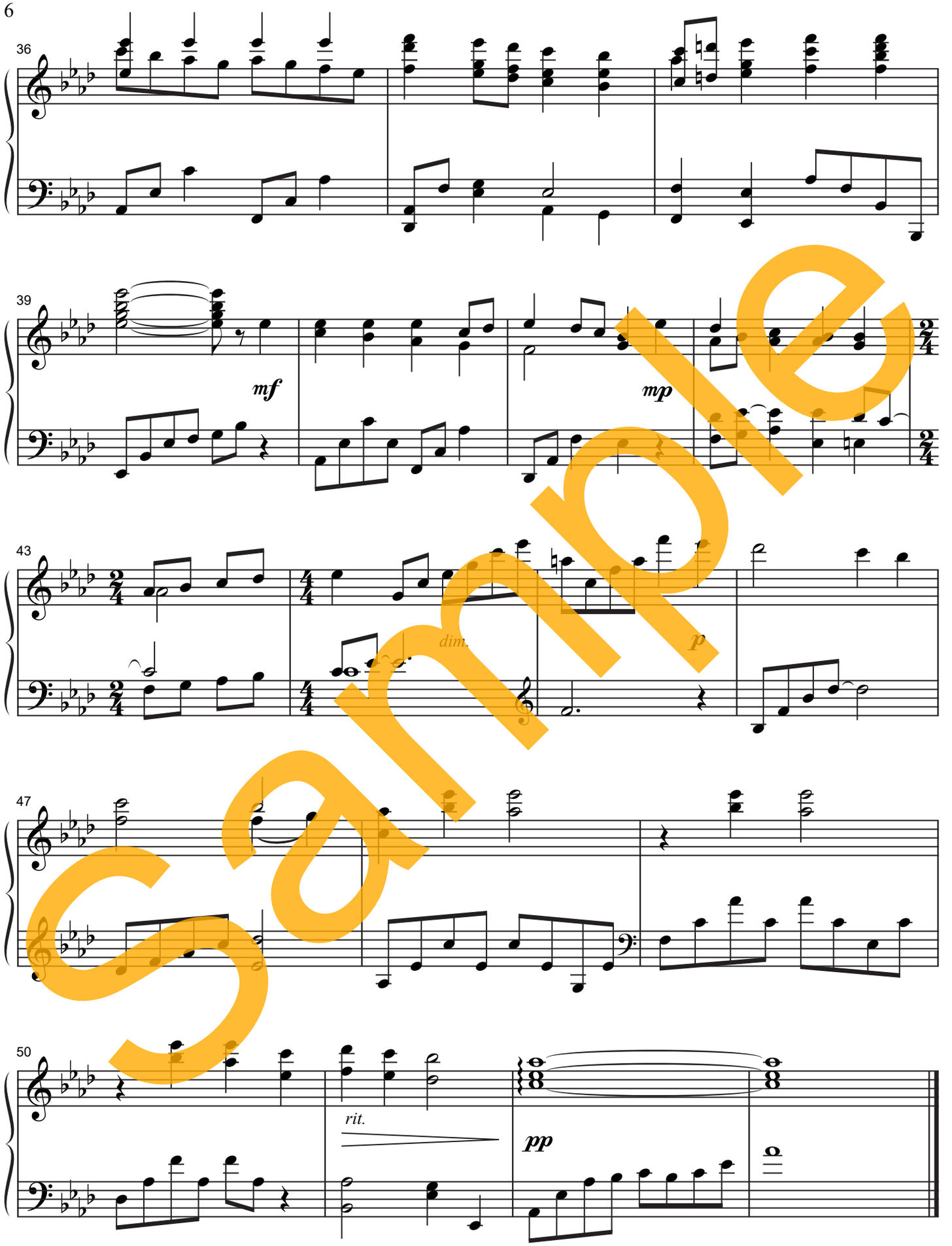
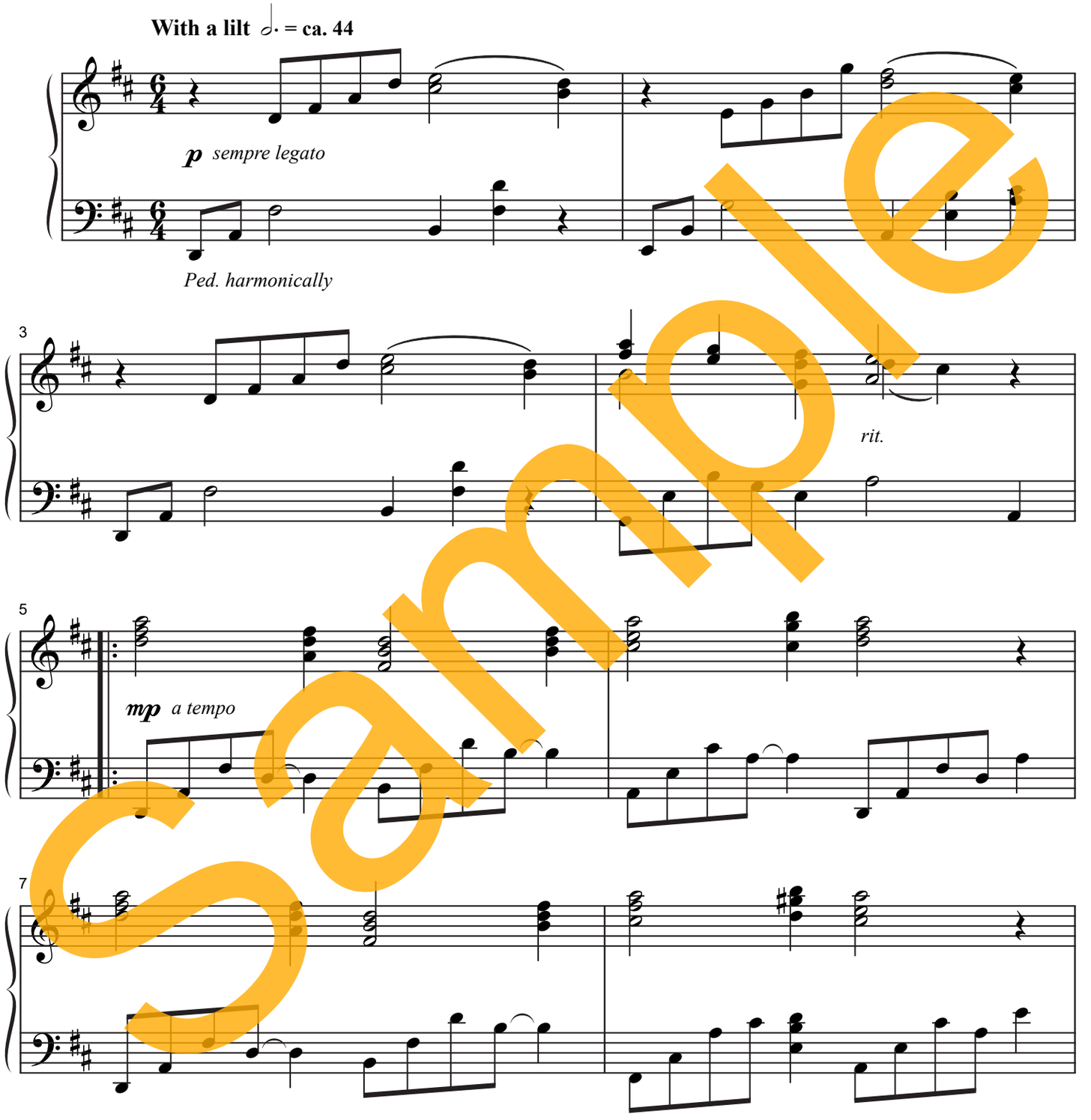


Sample

Joseph, O Dear Joseph Mine

Rodney Abriol

Tune: **RESONET IN LAUDIBUS**
14th Century German Melody



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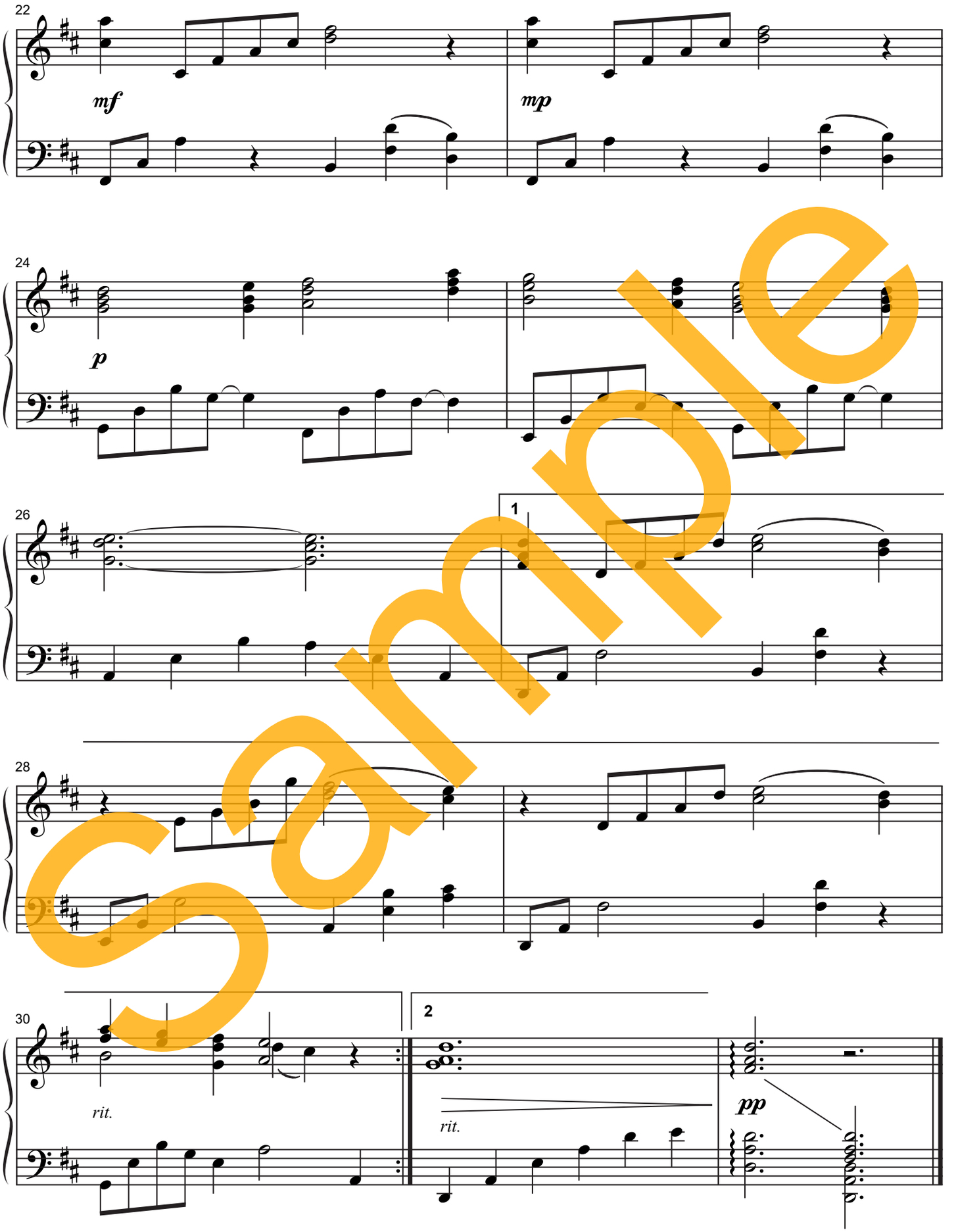
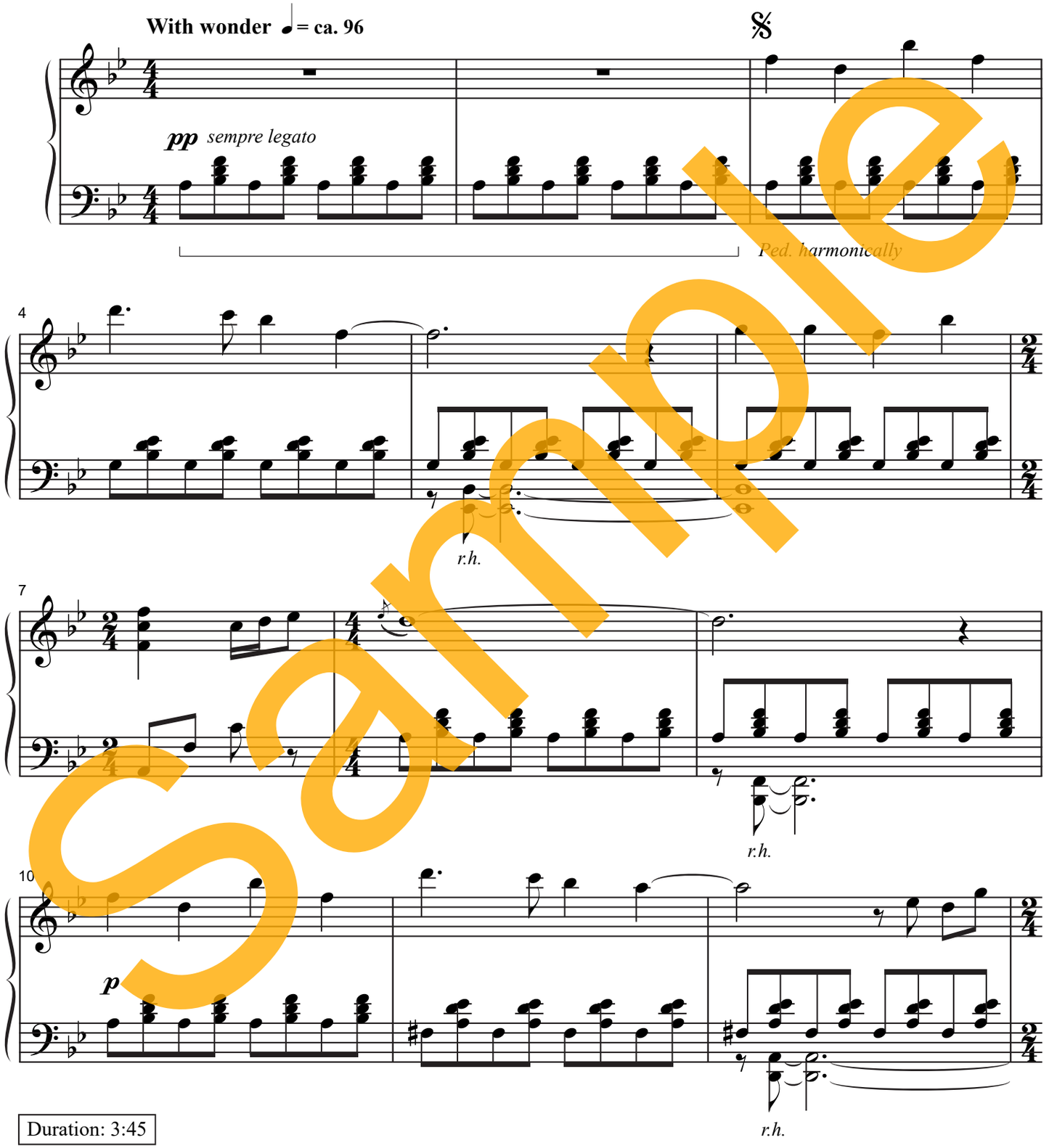


Sample

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

Rodney Abriol
Tune: **REGENT SQUARE**
by **Henry Smart** (1813-1879)



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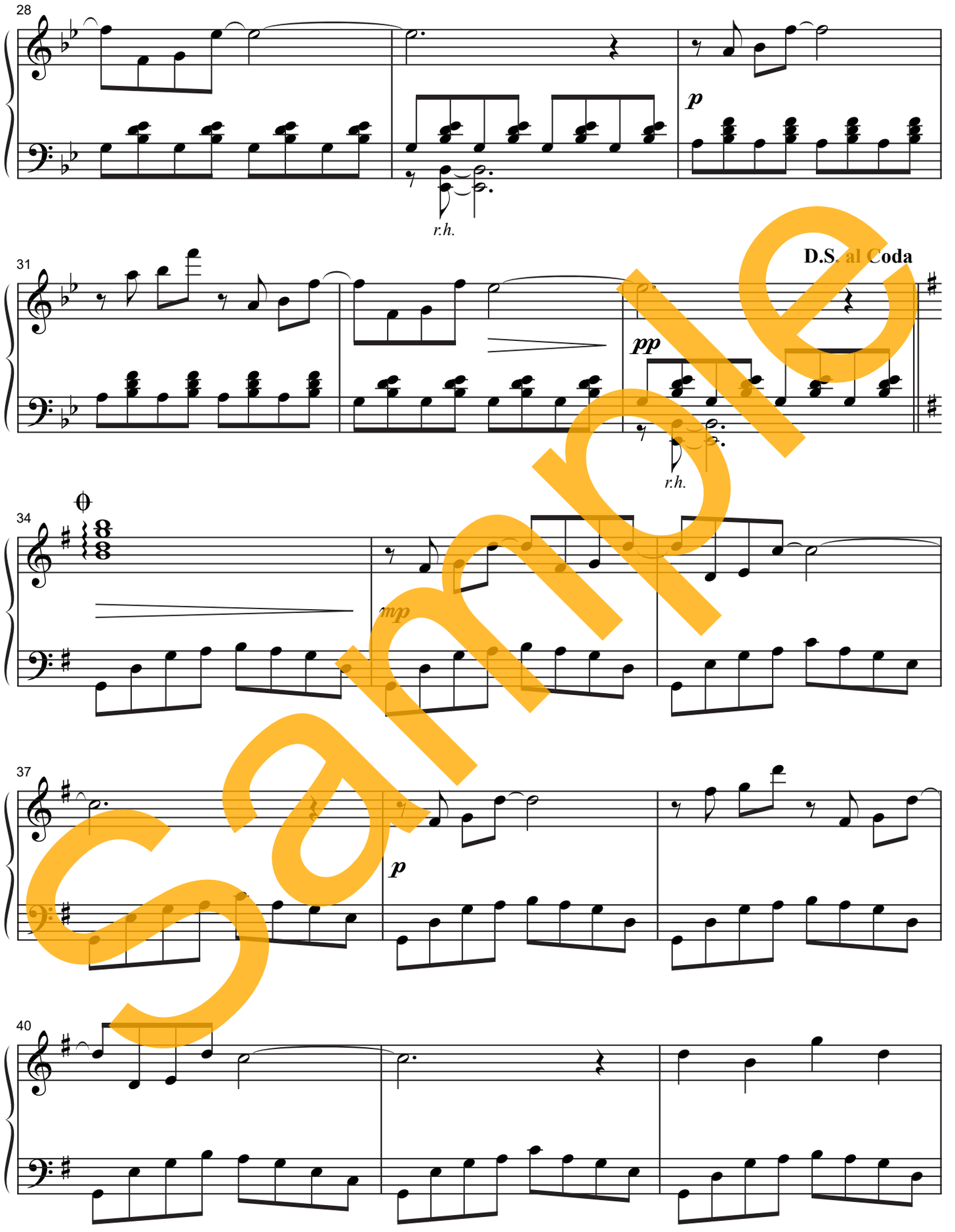

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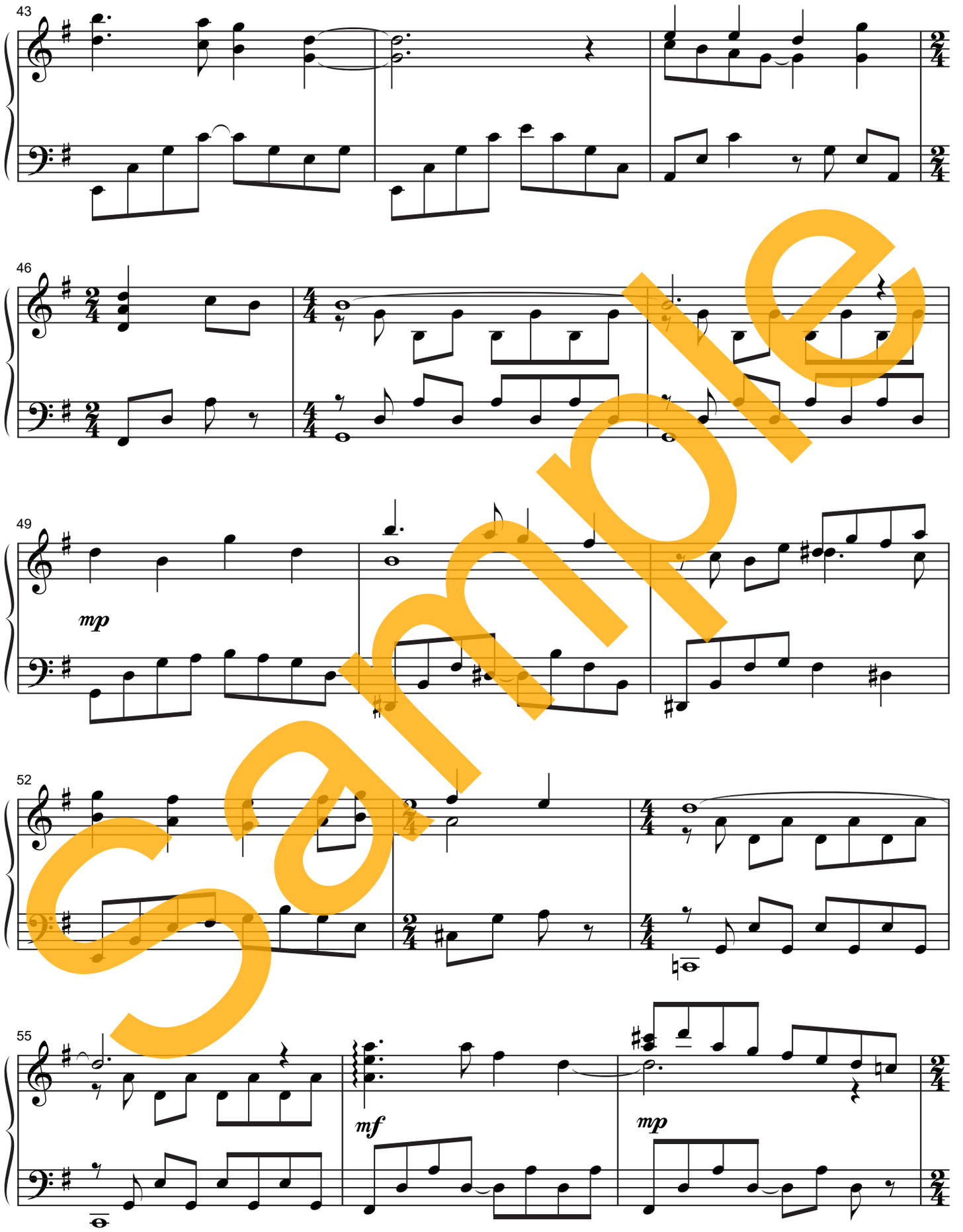

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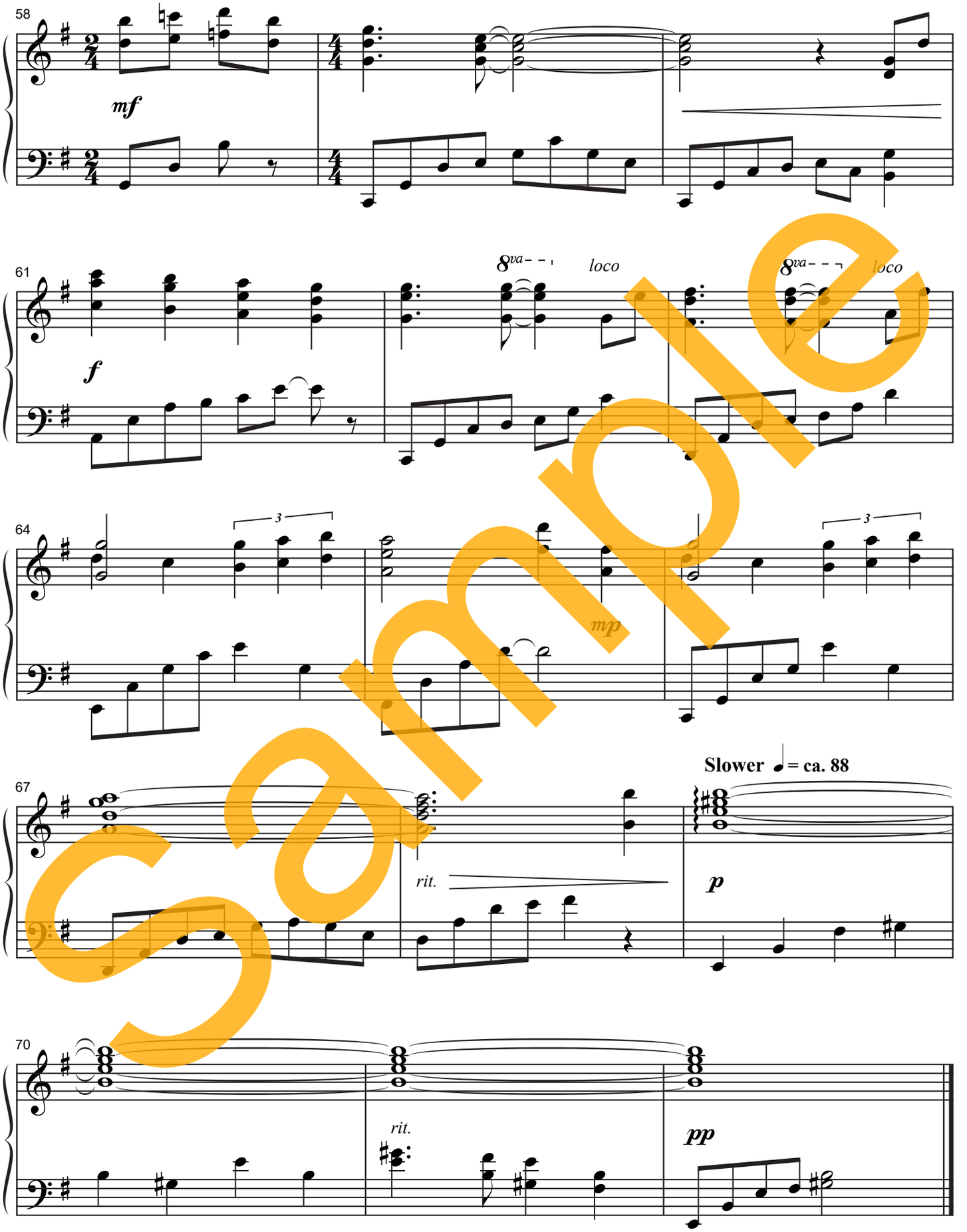
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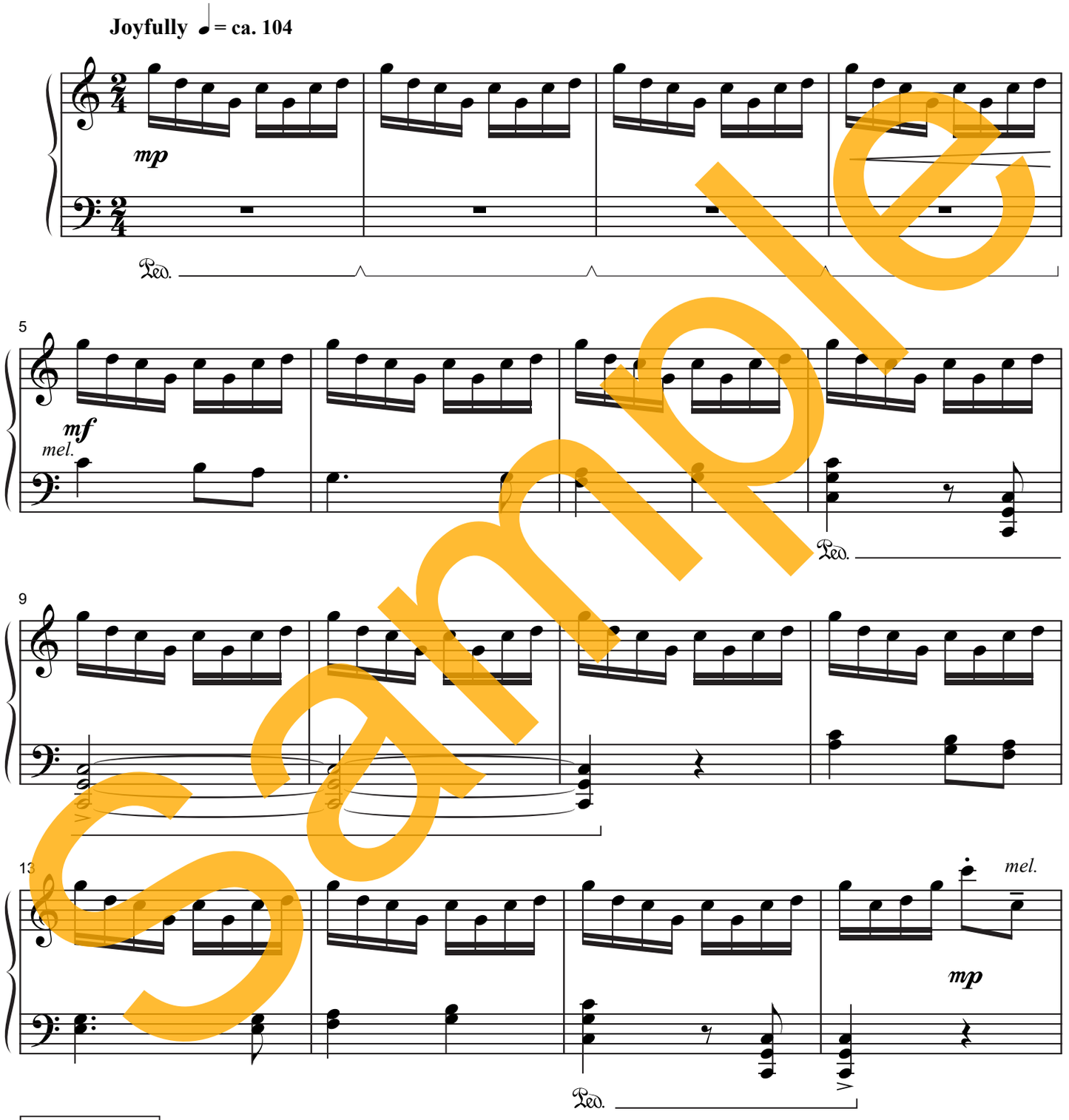
mf
61
f
8va
loco
8va
loco
64
3
mp
3
67
Slower ♩ = ca. 88
rit.
p
70
rit.
pp

Sample

How Great Our Joy!

Rodney Abriol
Tune: **JÜNGST**
Traditional German Melody



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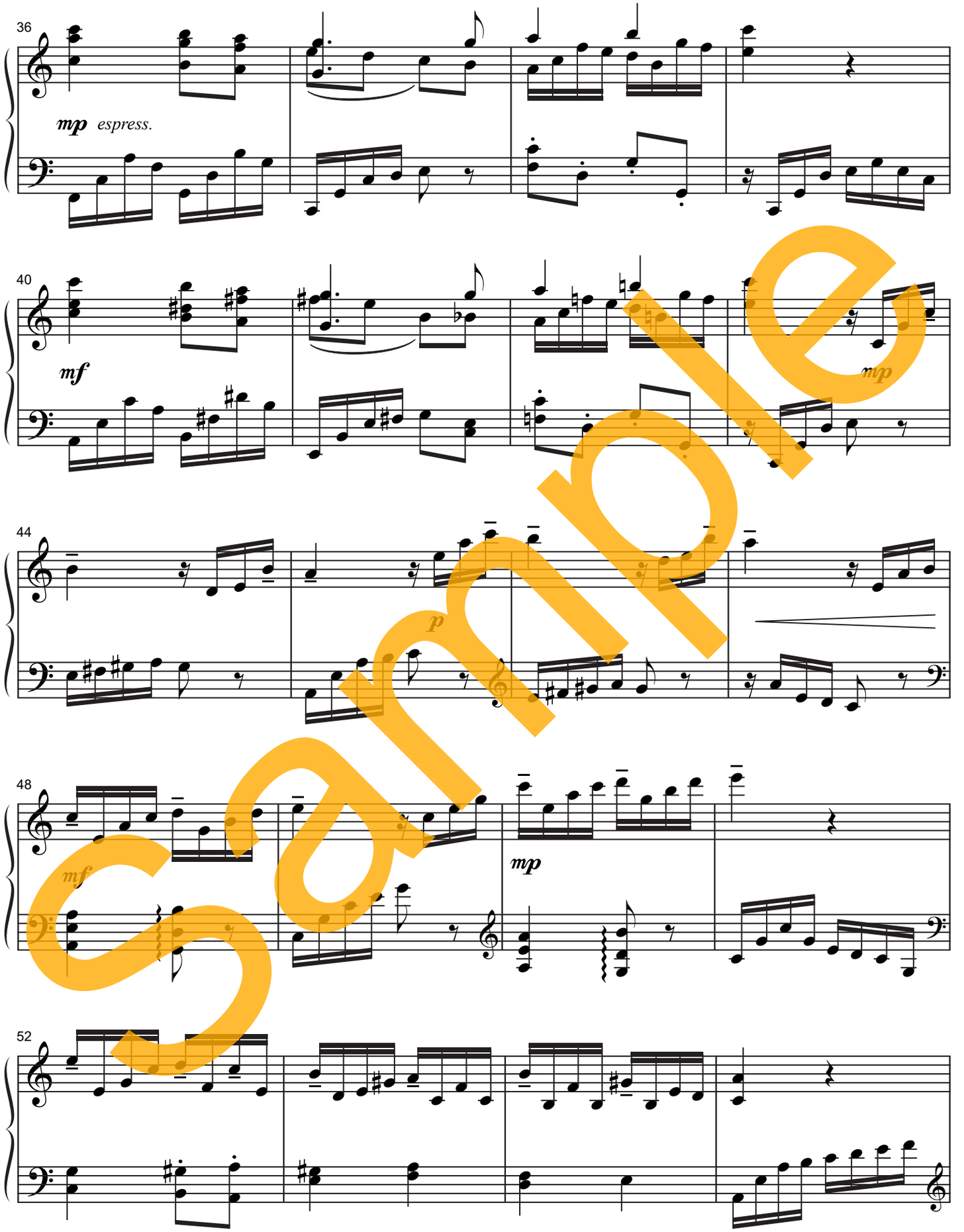

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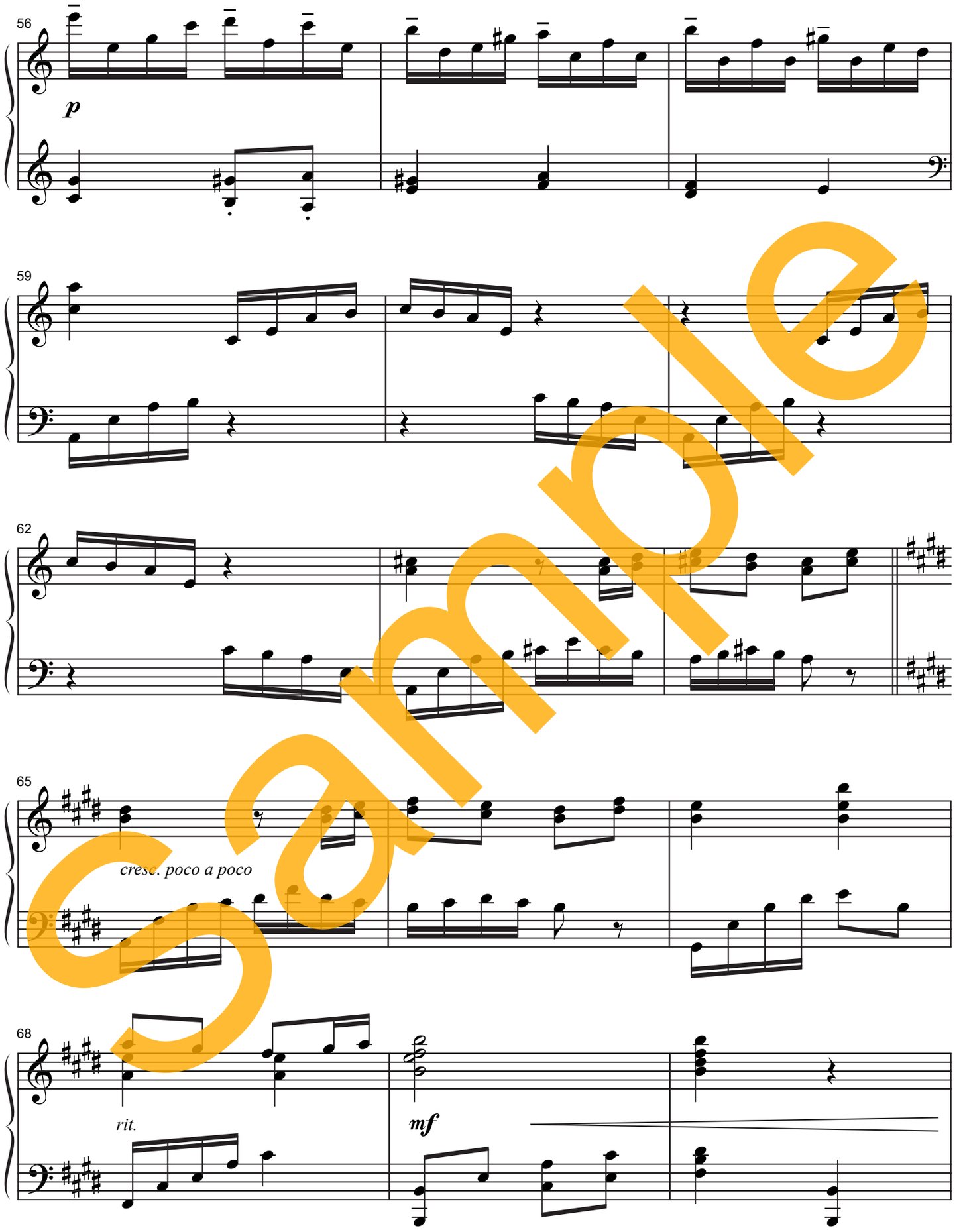

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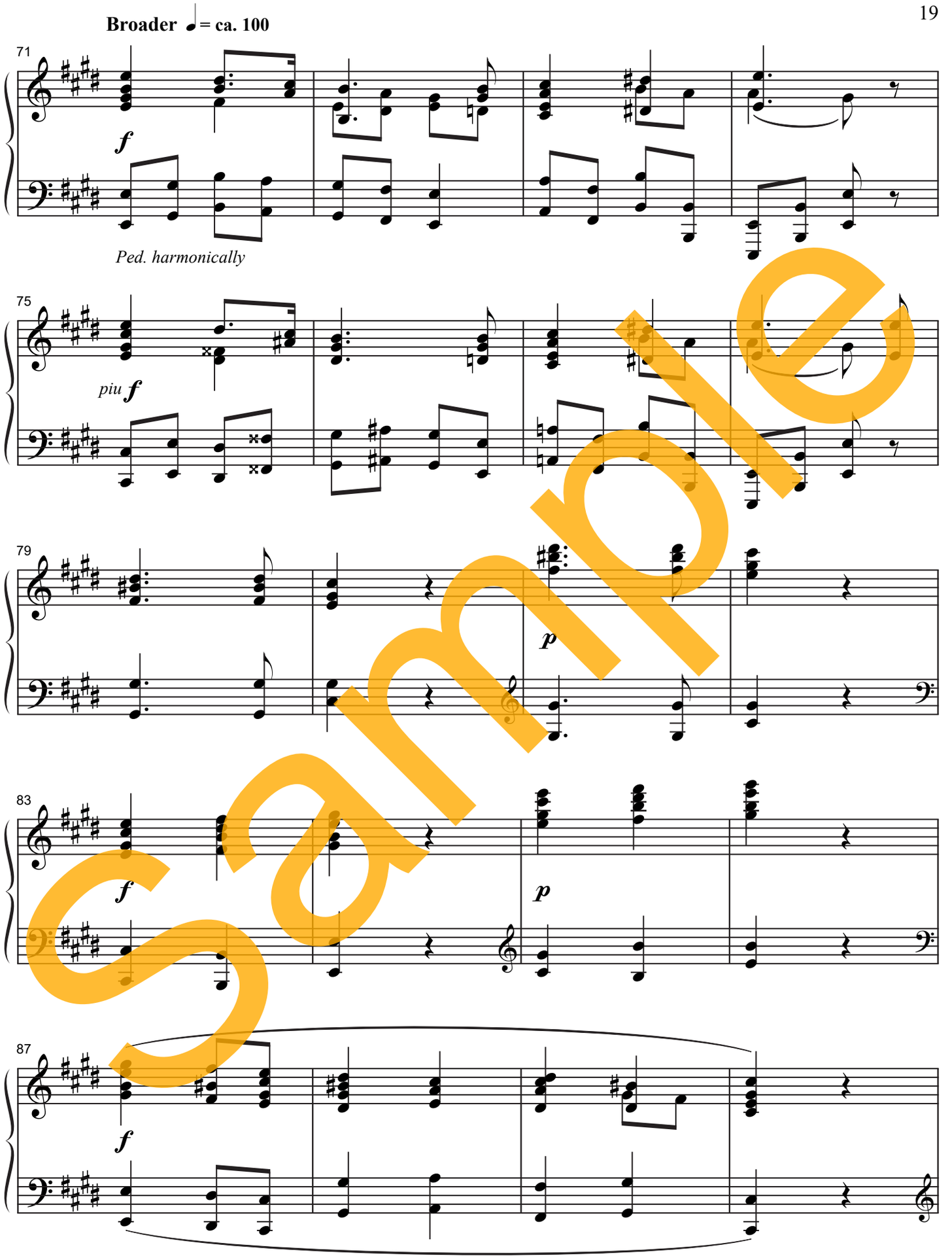

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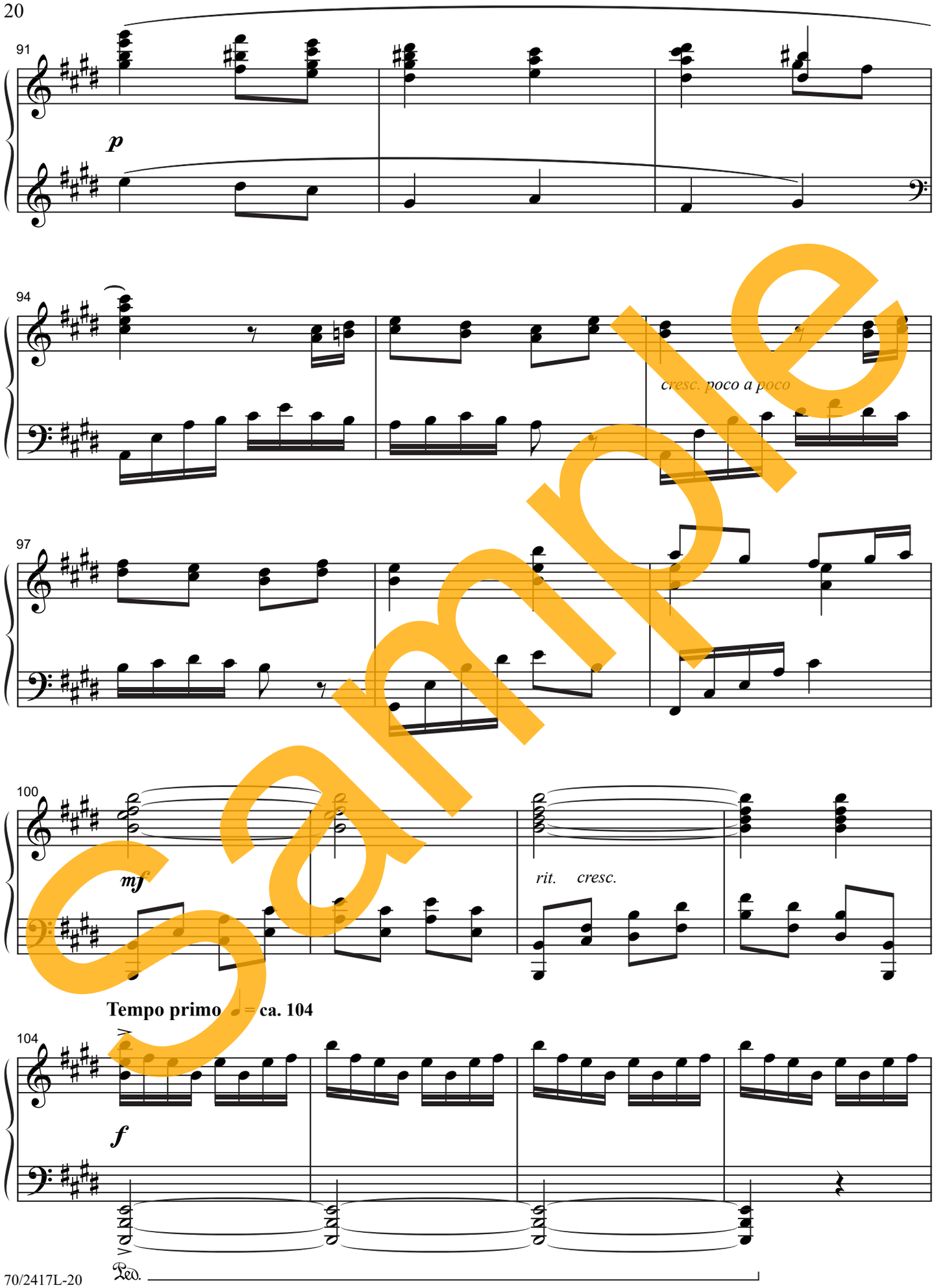
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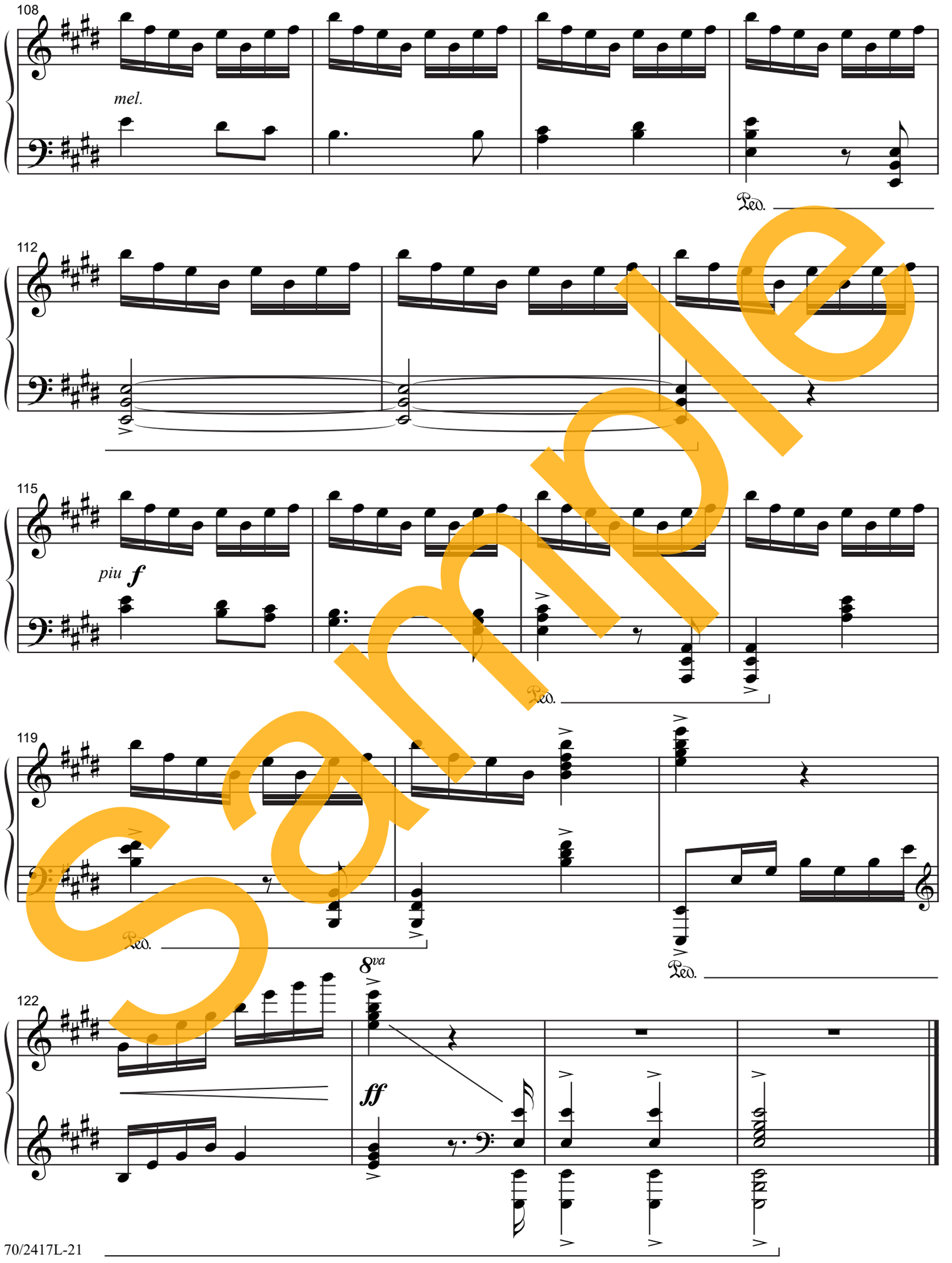
p
94
cresc. poco a poco
97
100
mf
rit.
cresc.
Tempo primo ♩ = ca. 104
104
f
Ped.

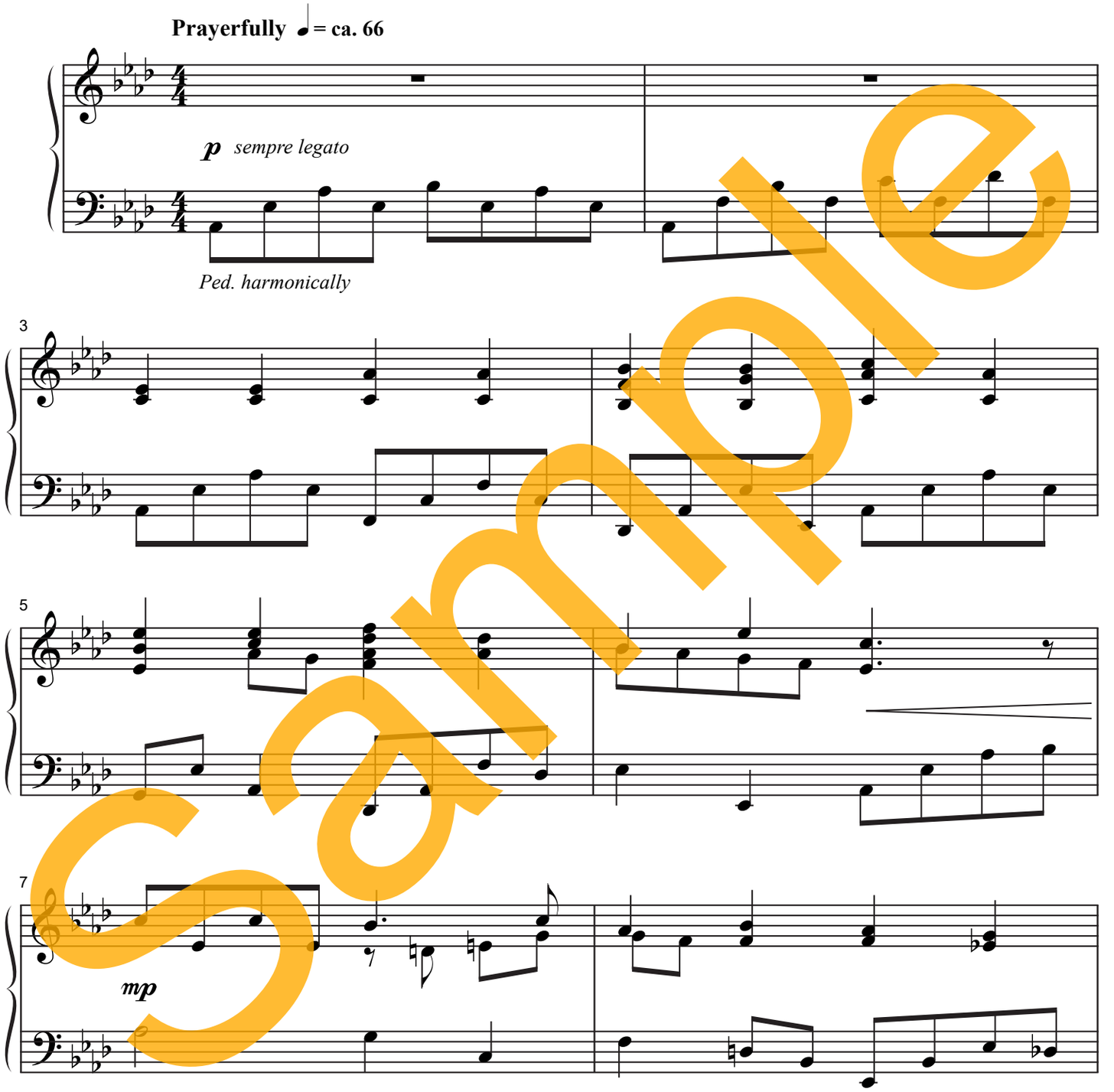
sample



sample

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Rodney Abriol
Tune: **STUTTGART**
by **Christian F. Witt** (1660-1716)



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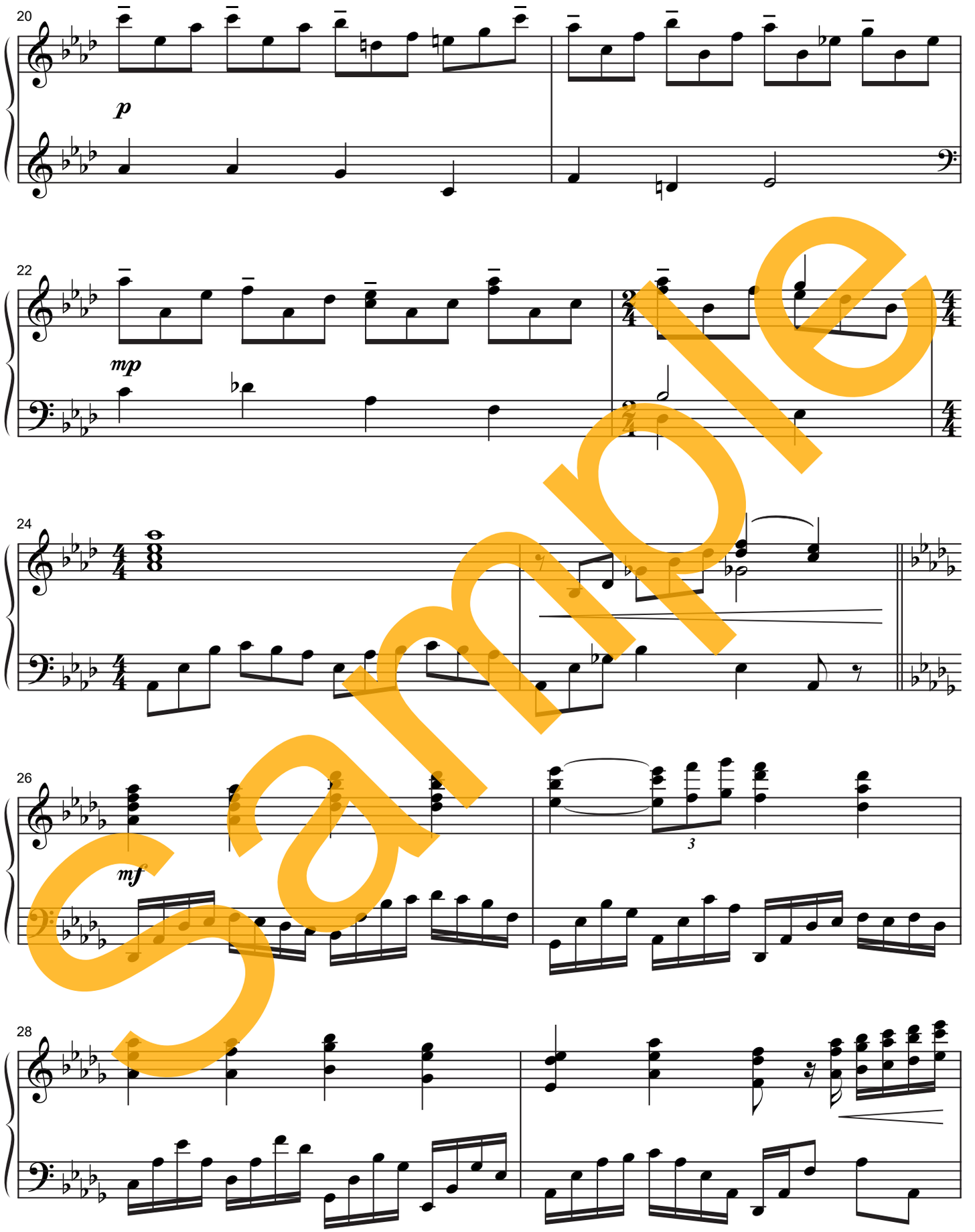

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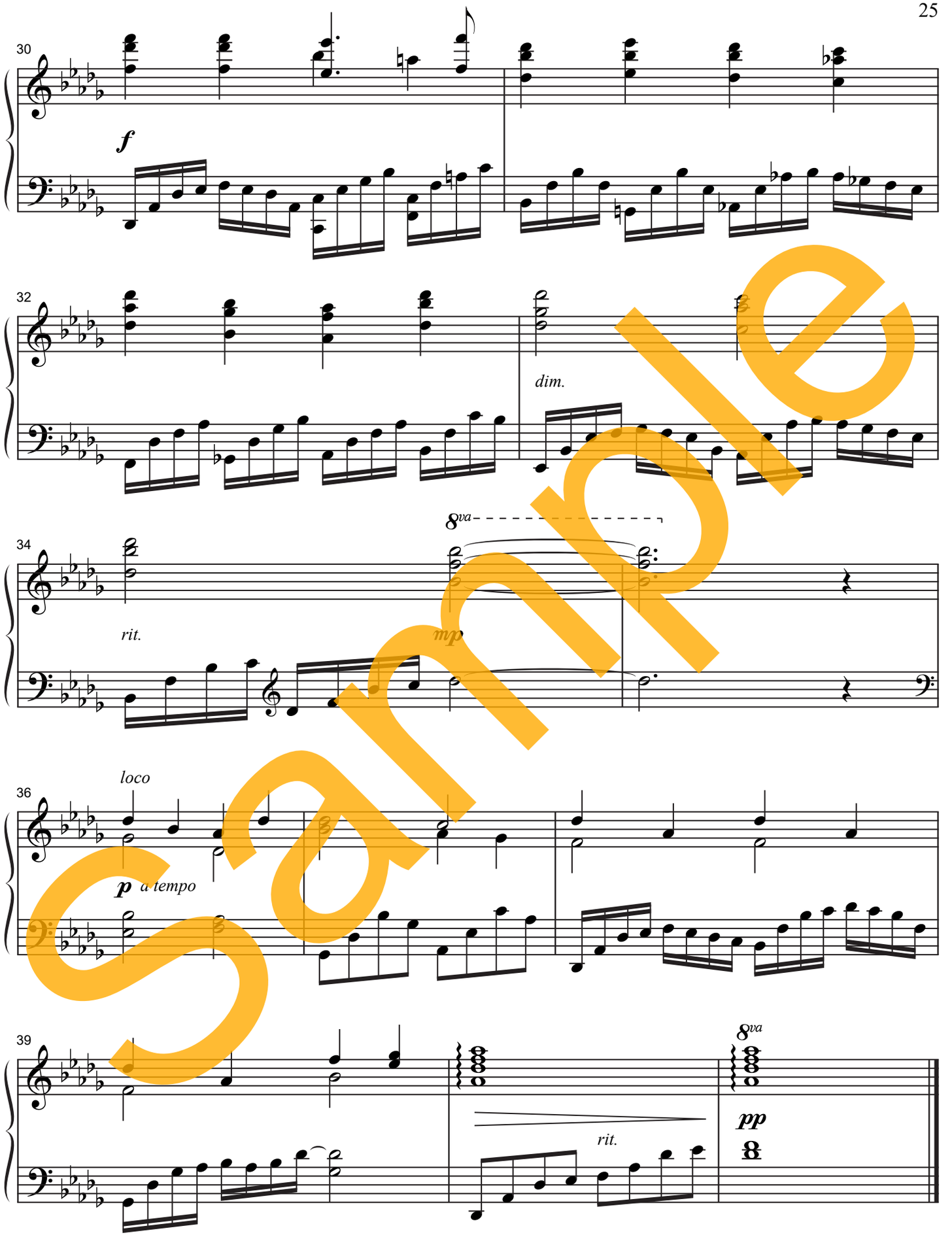
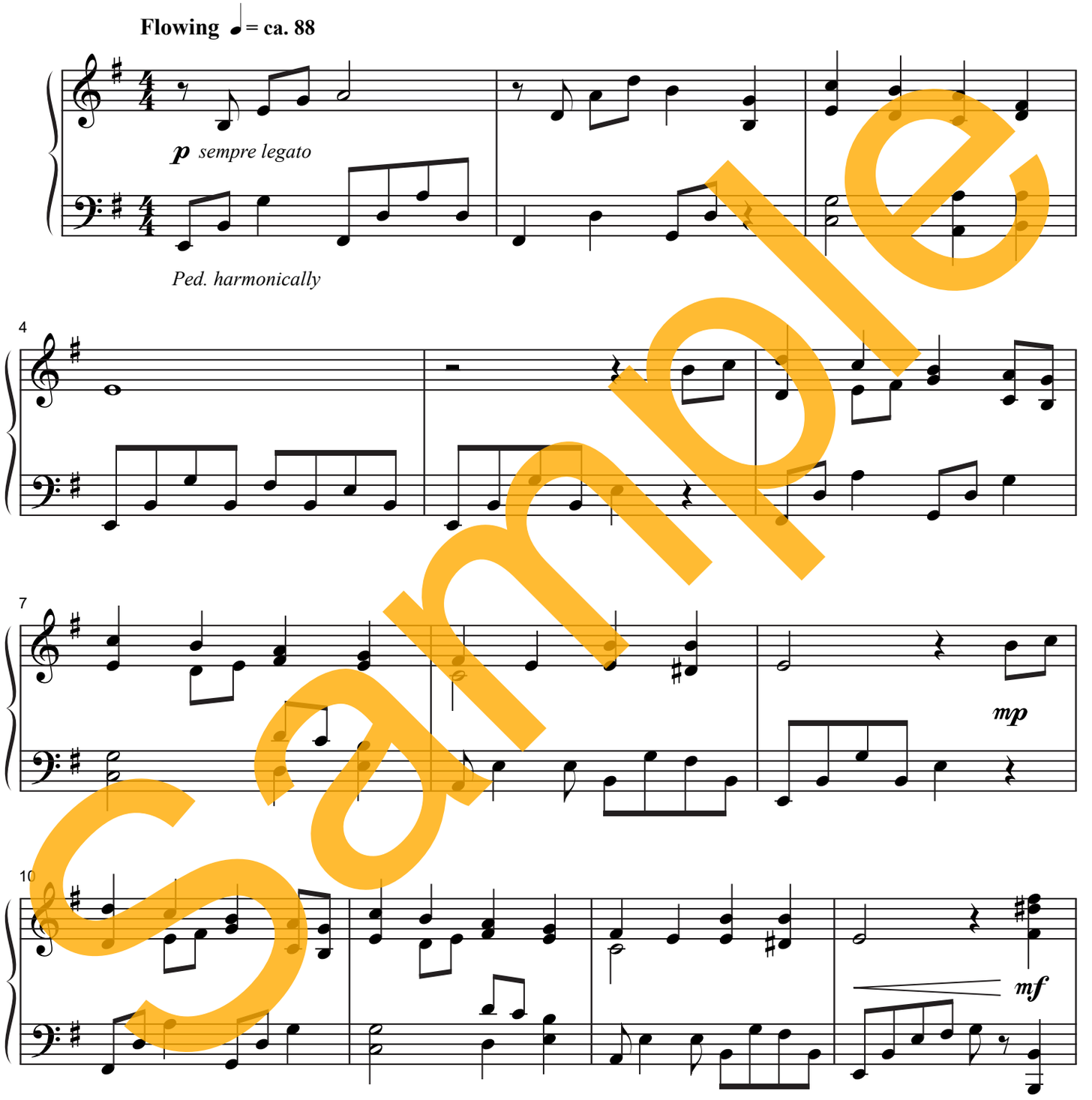


sample

A Carol for Christmas Eve

Rodney Abriol
Traditional English Melody



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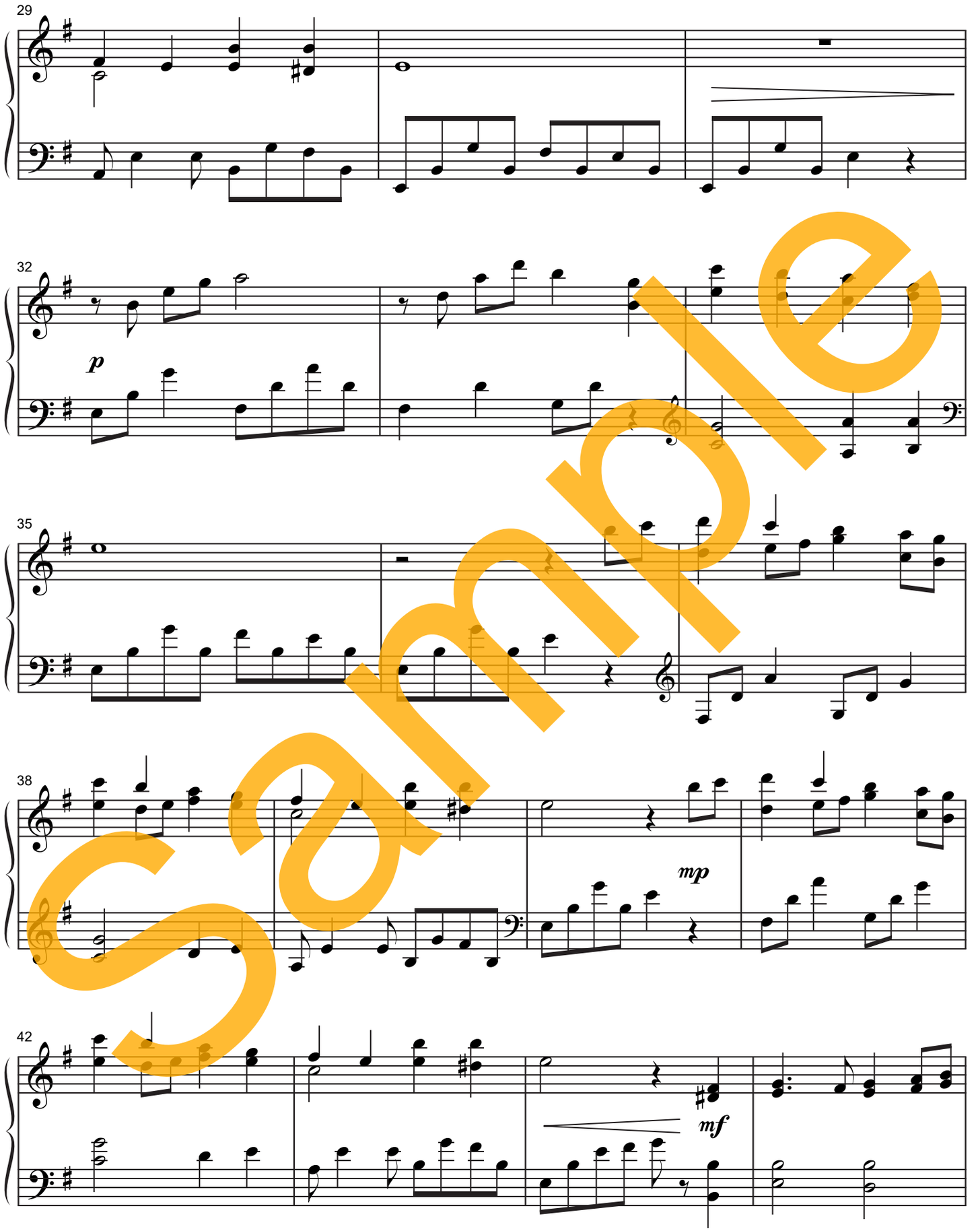

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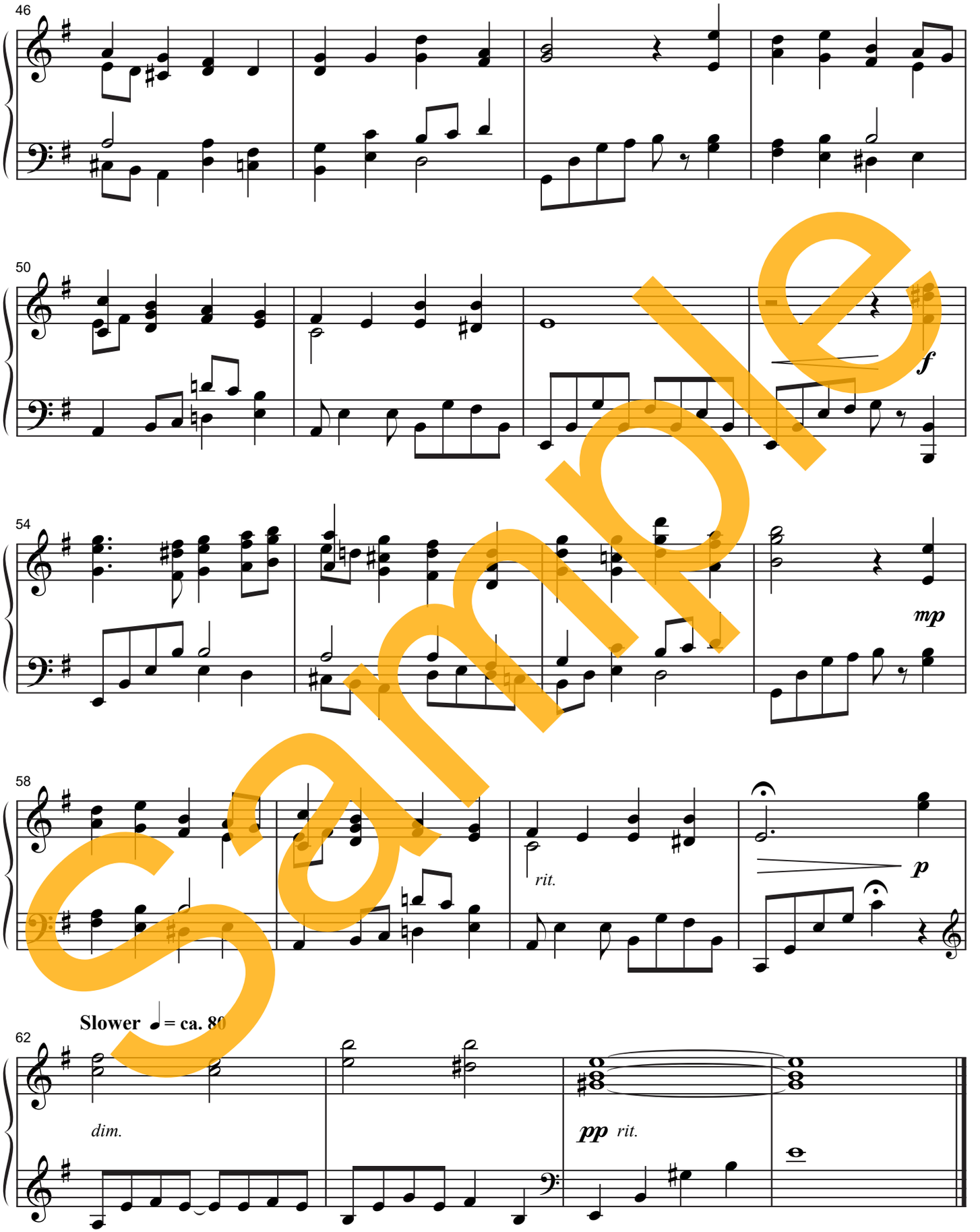
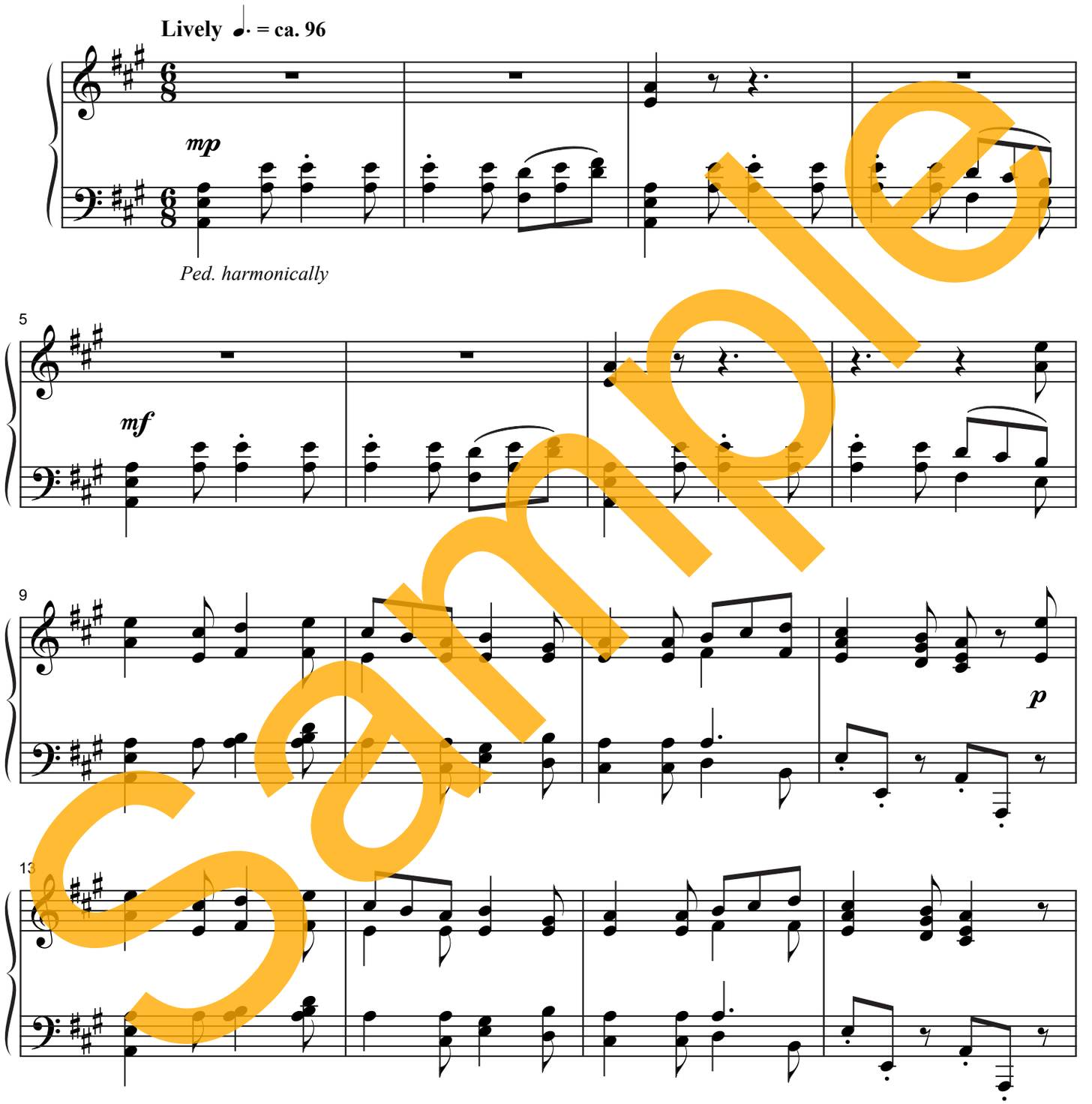


sample

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

Rodney Abriol
Tune: **SUSSEX CAROL**
Traditional English Melody



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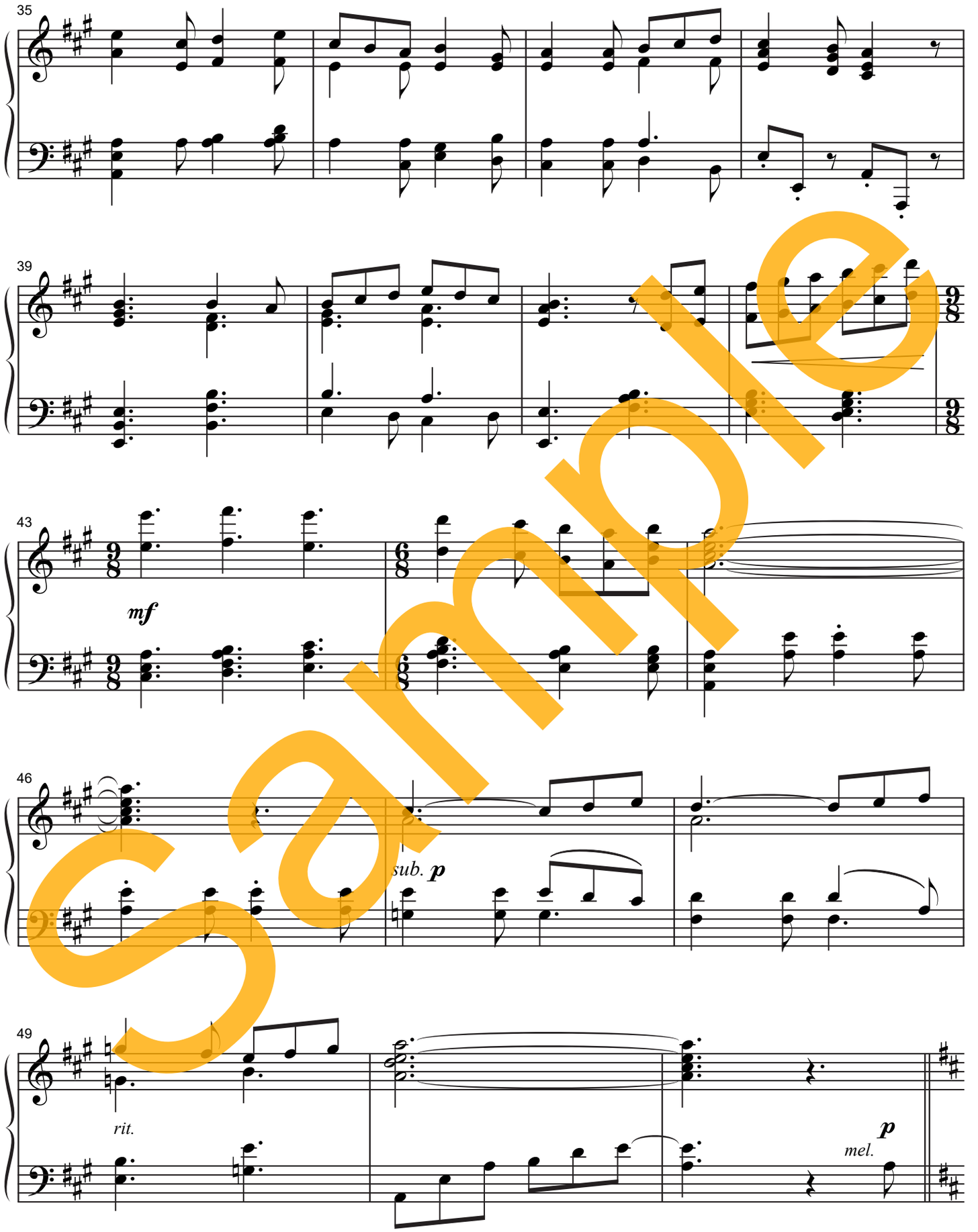

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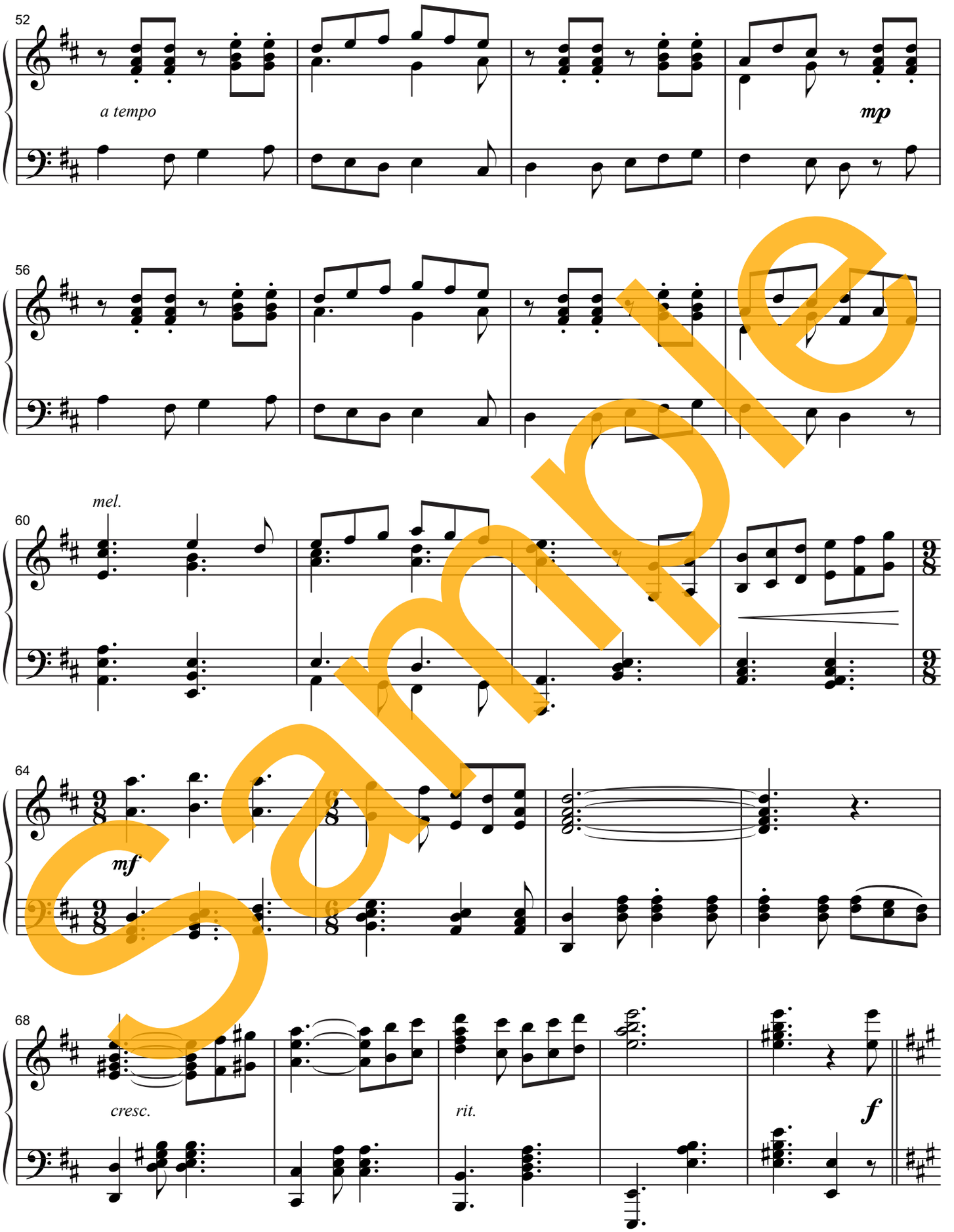

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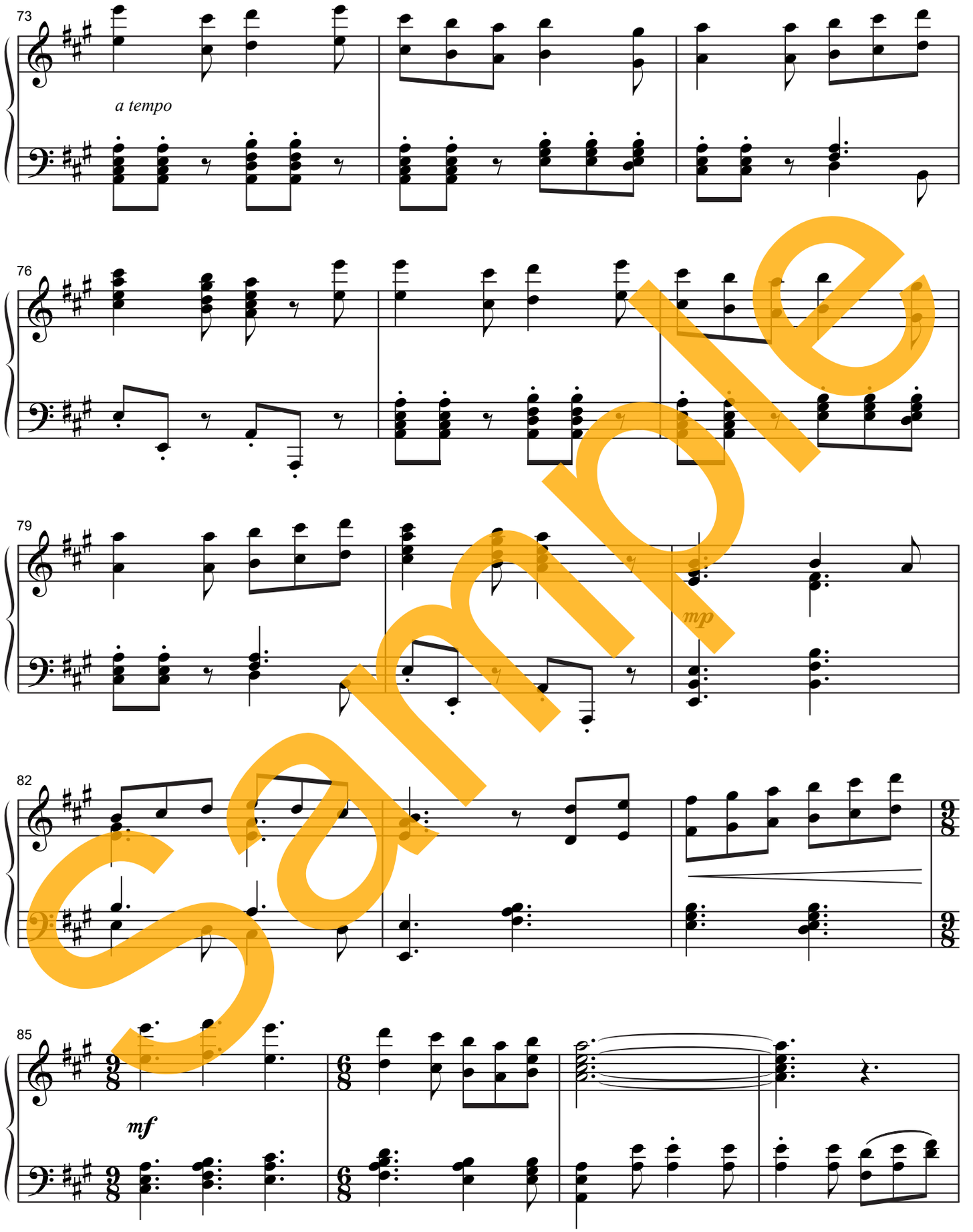

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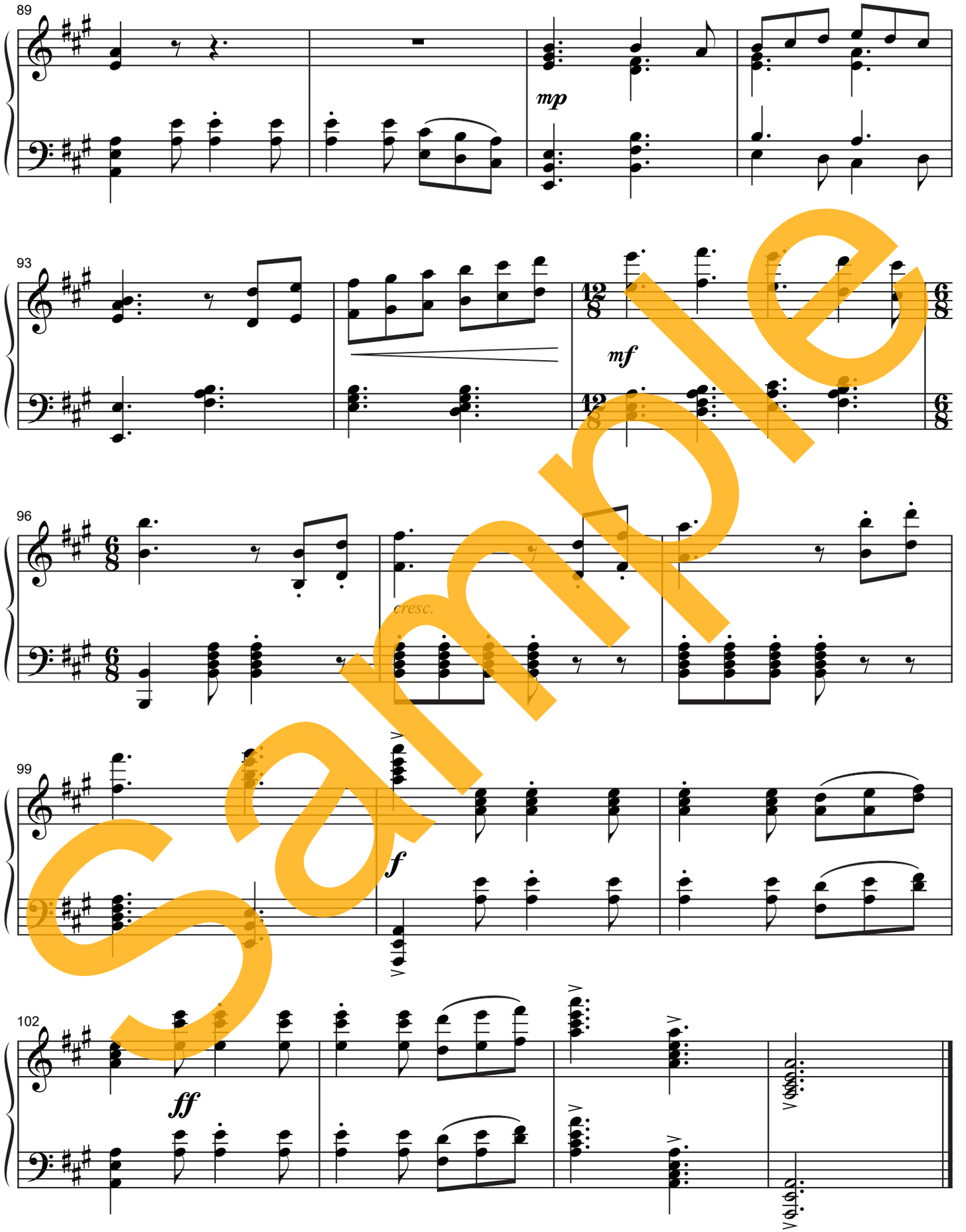
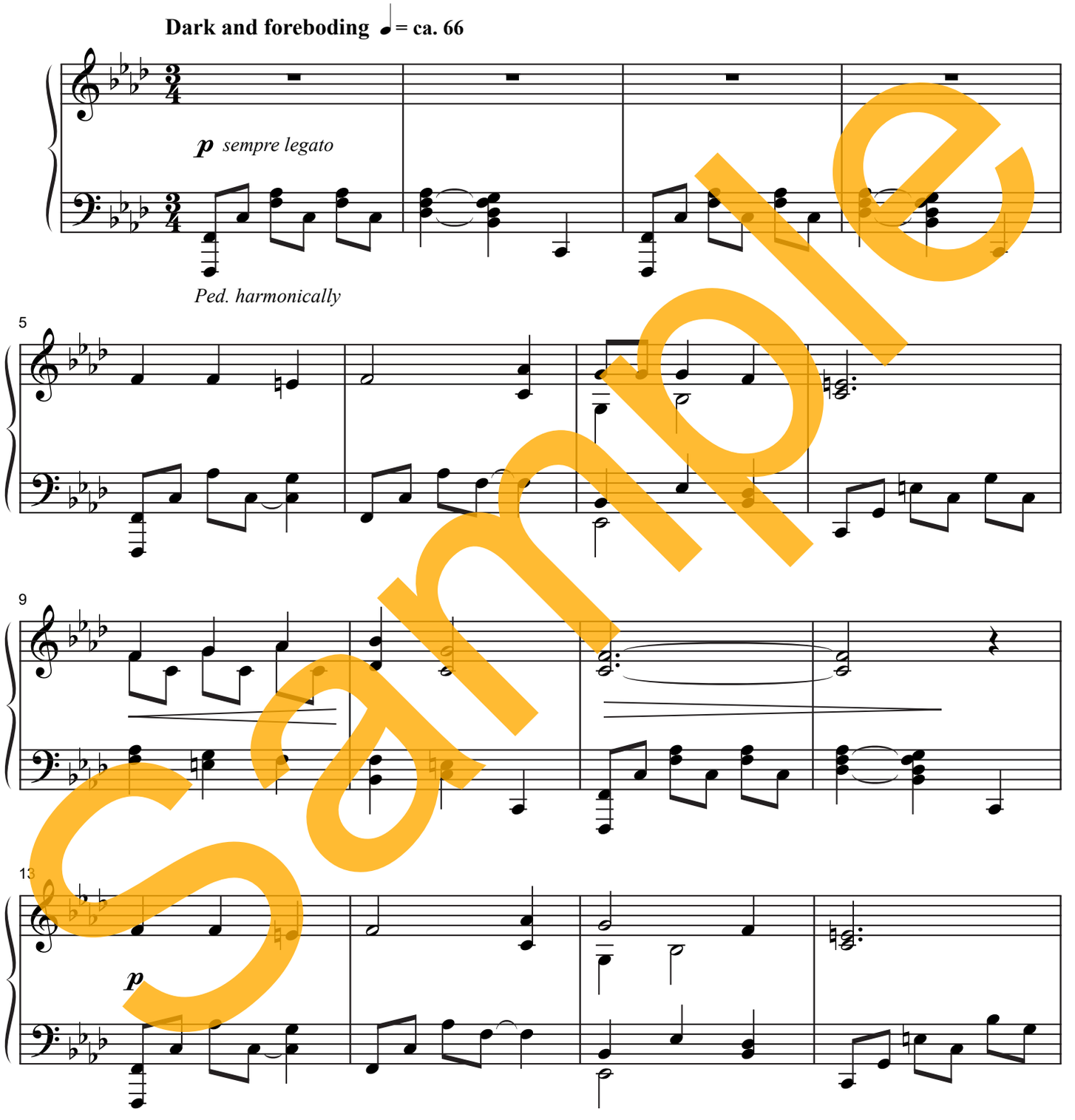


Sample

Lully, Lullay, Thou Little Tiny Child

Rodney Abriol
Tune: **COVENTRY CAROL**
Traditional English Melody



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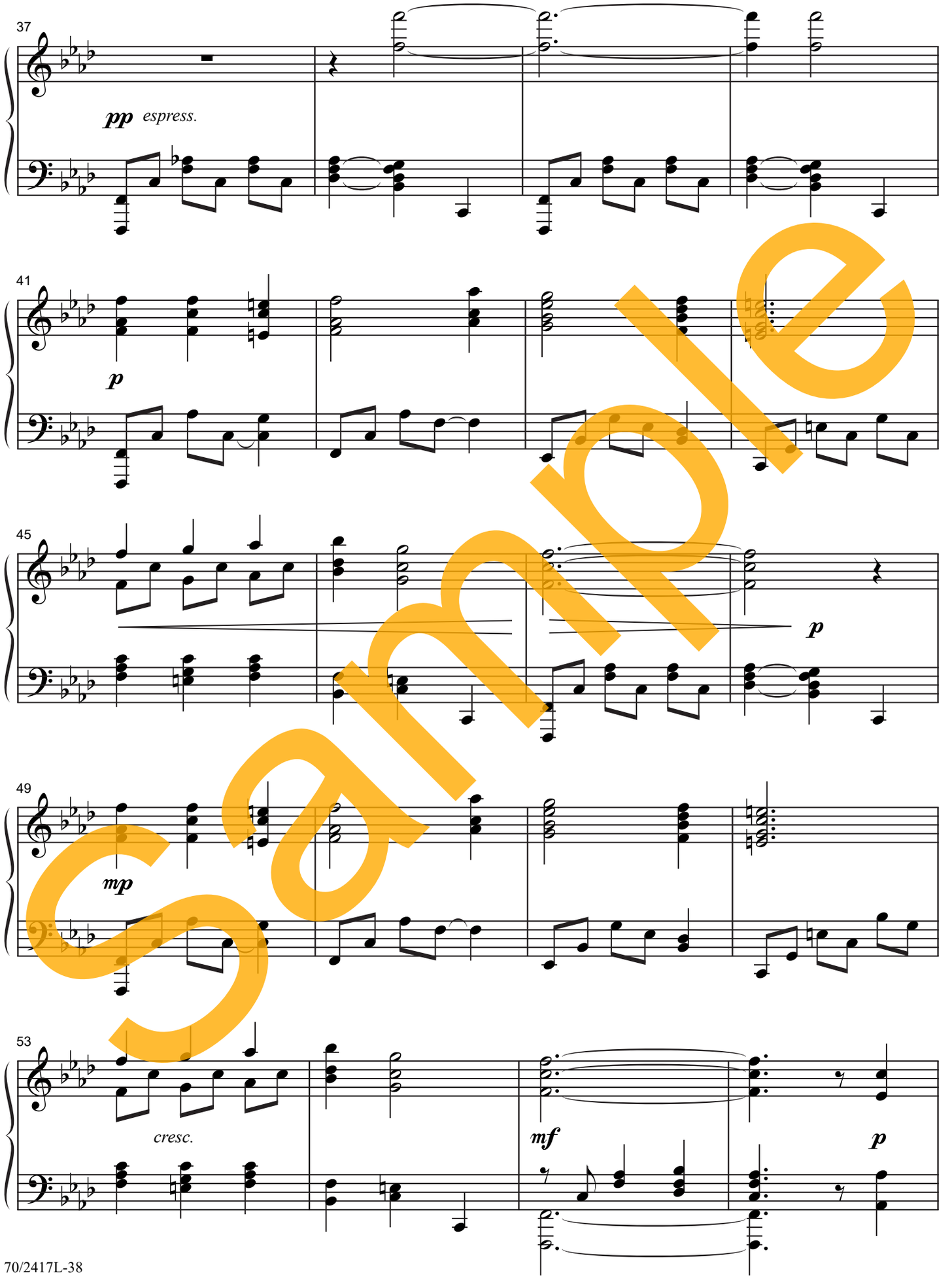

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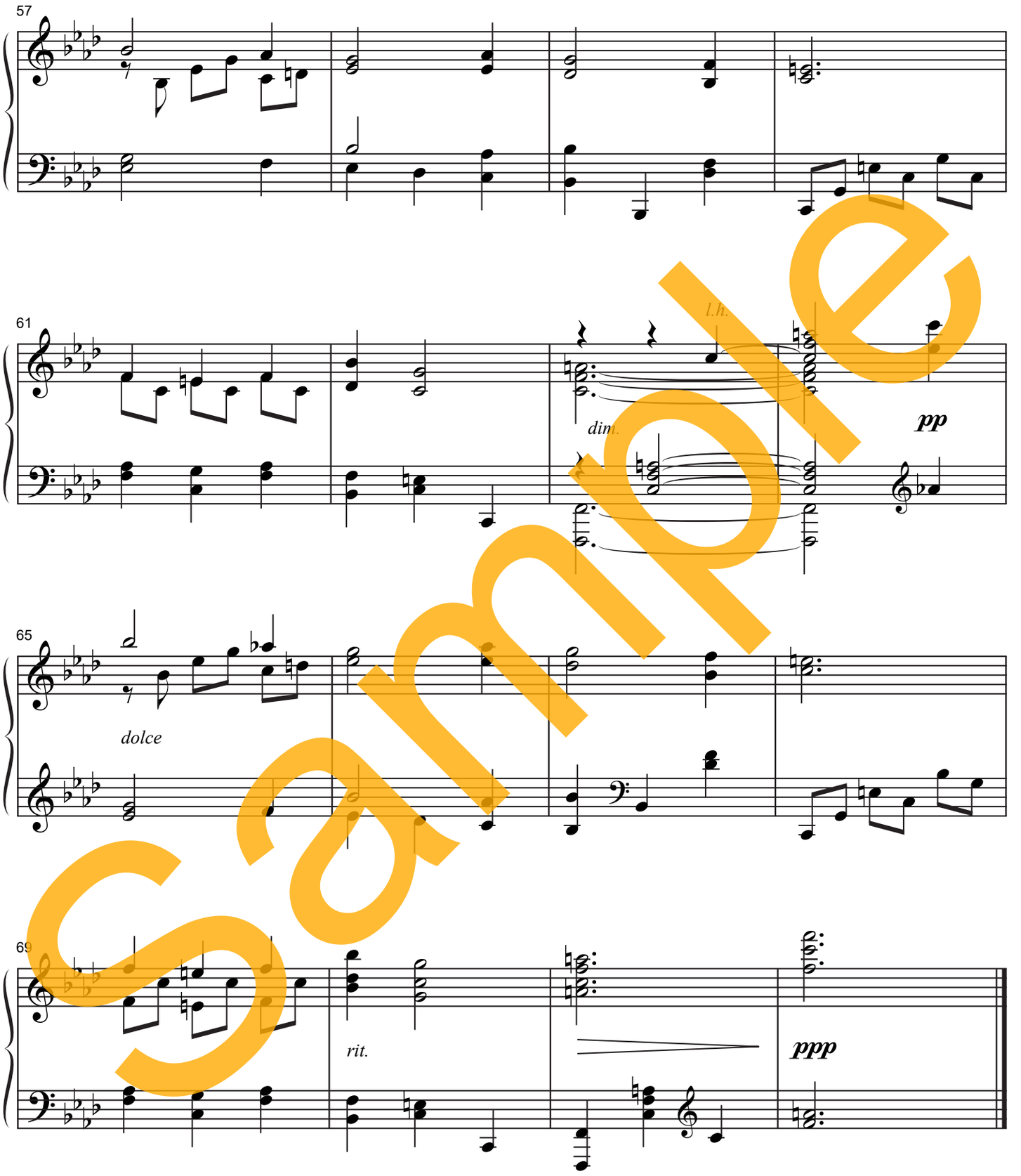
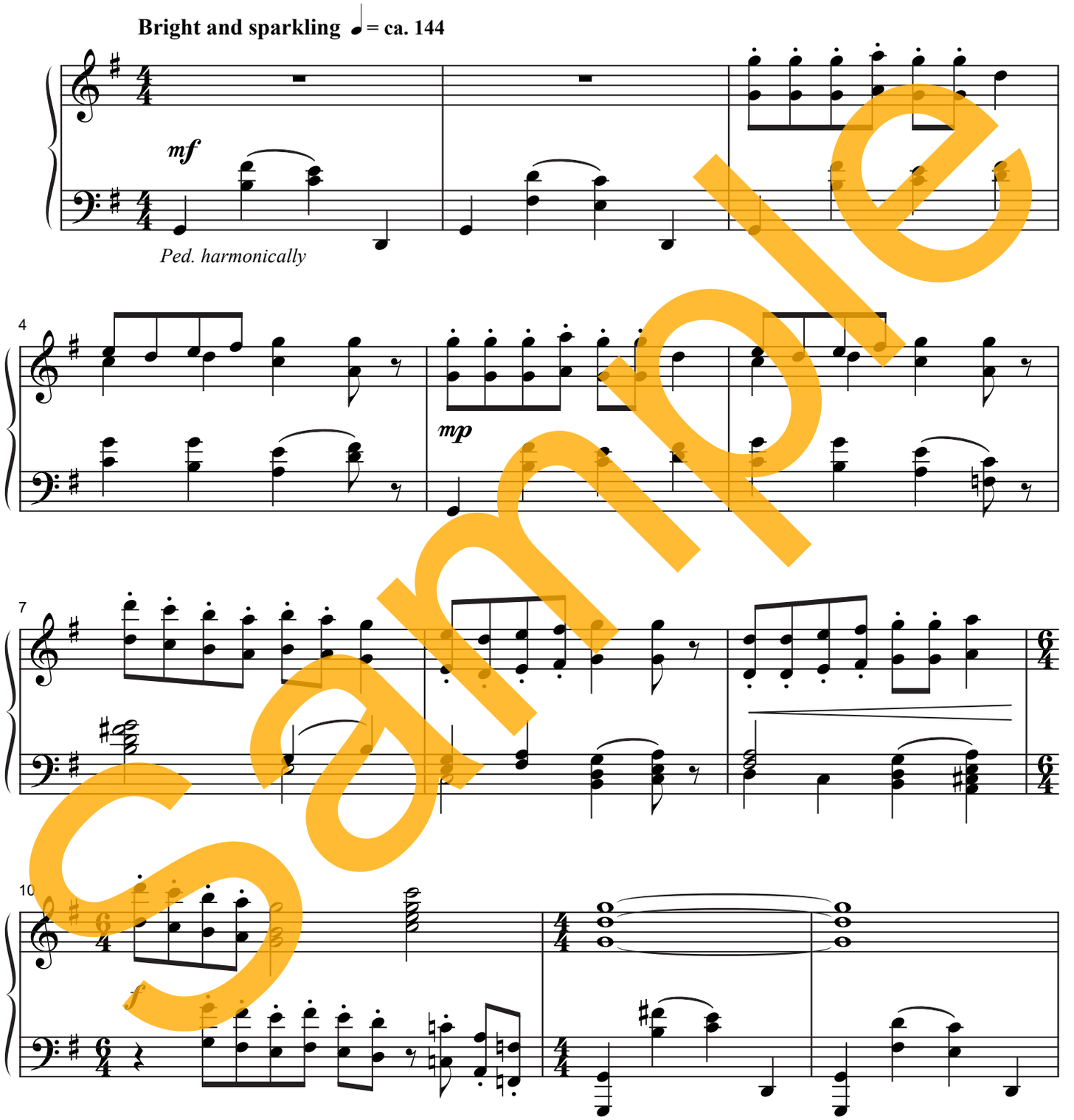


Sample

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

Rodney Abriol

Tune: **TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM**
from *Piae Cantiones*, 1582



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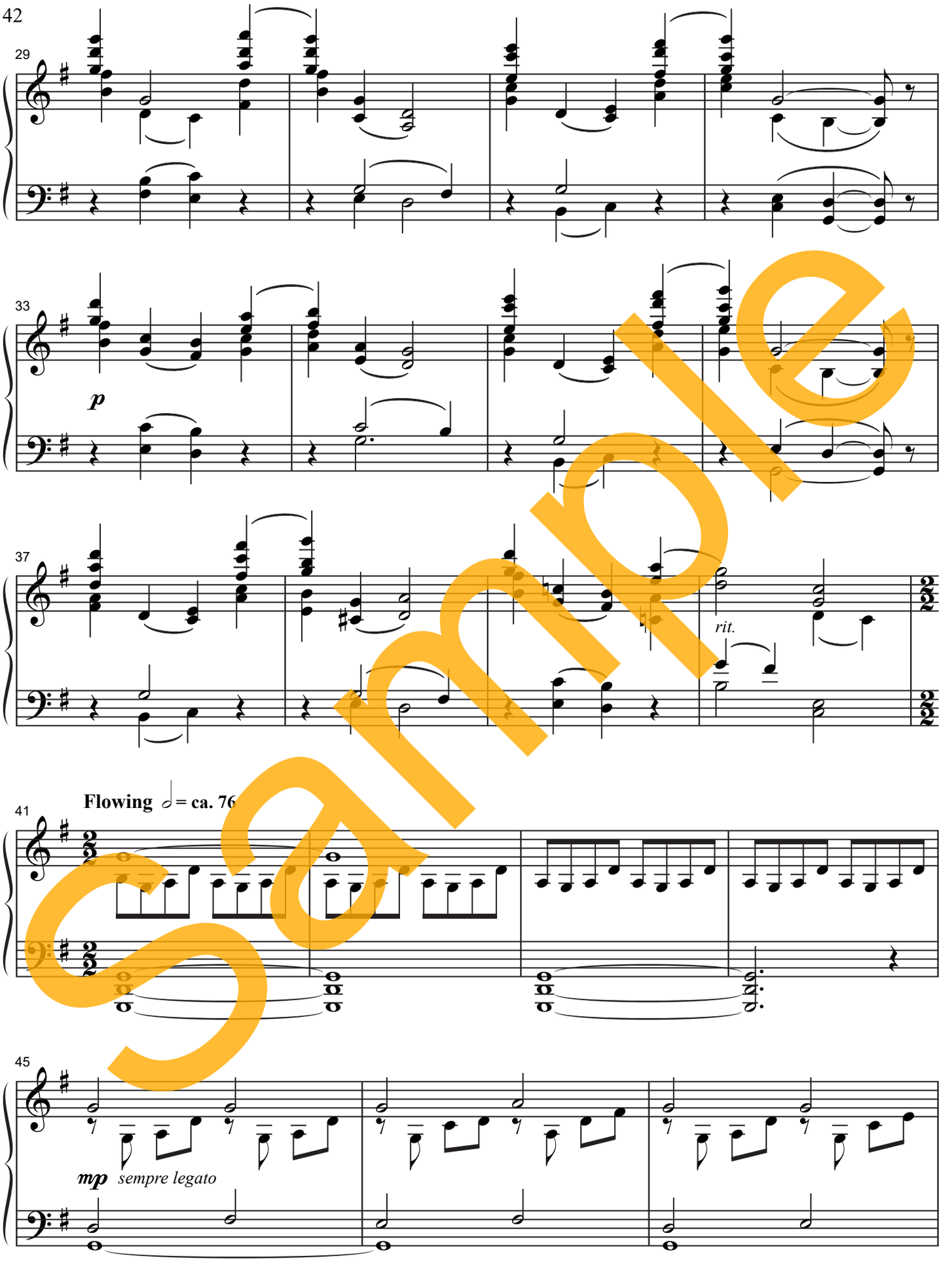

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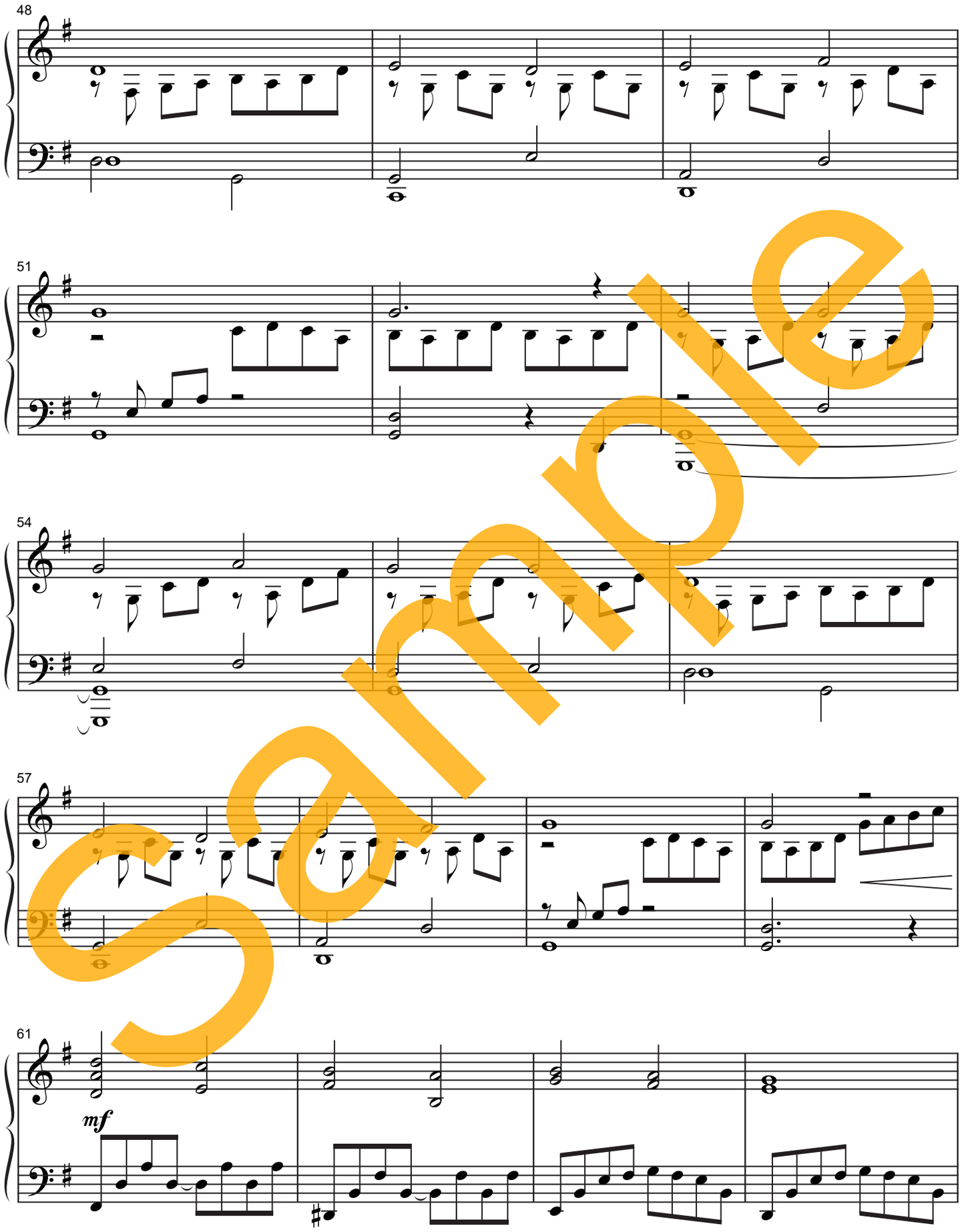

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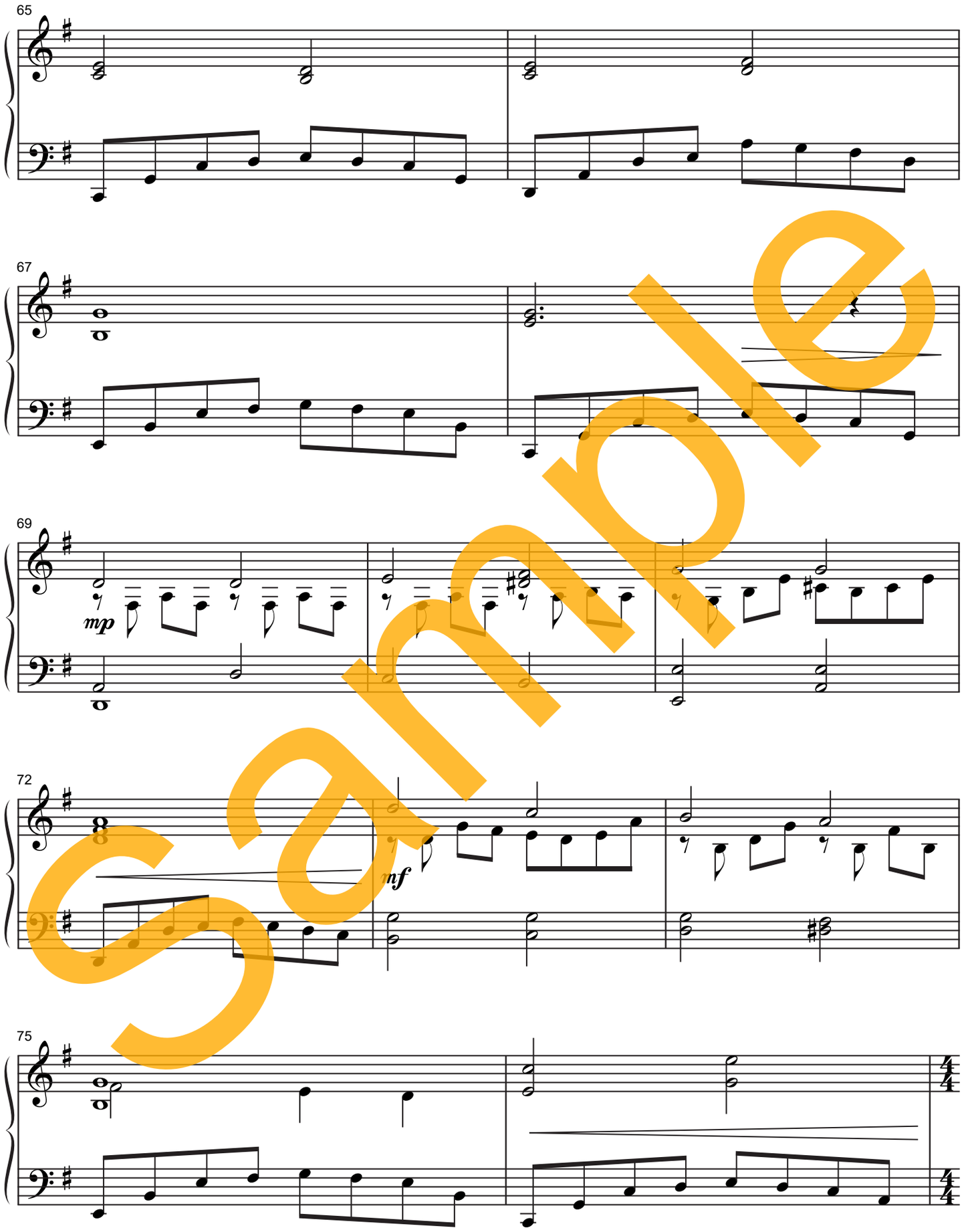

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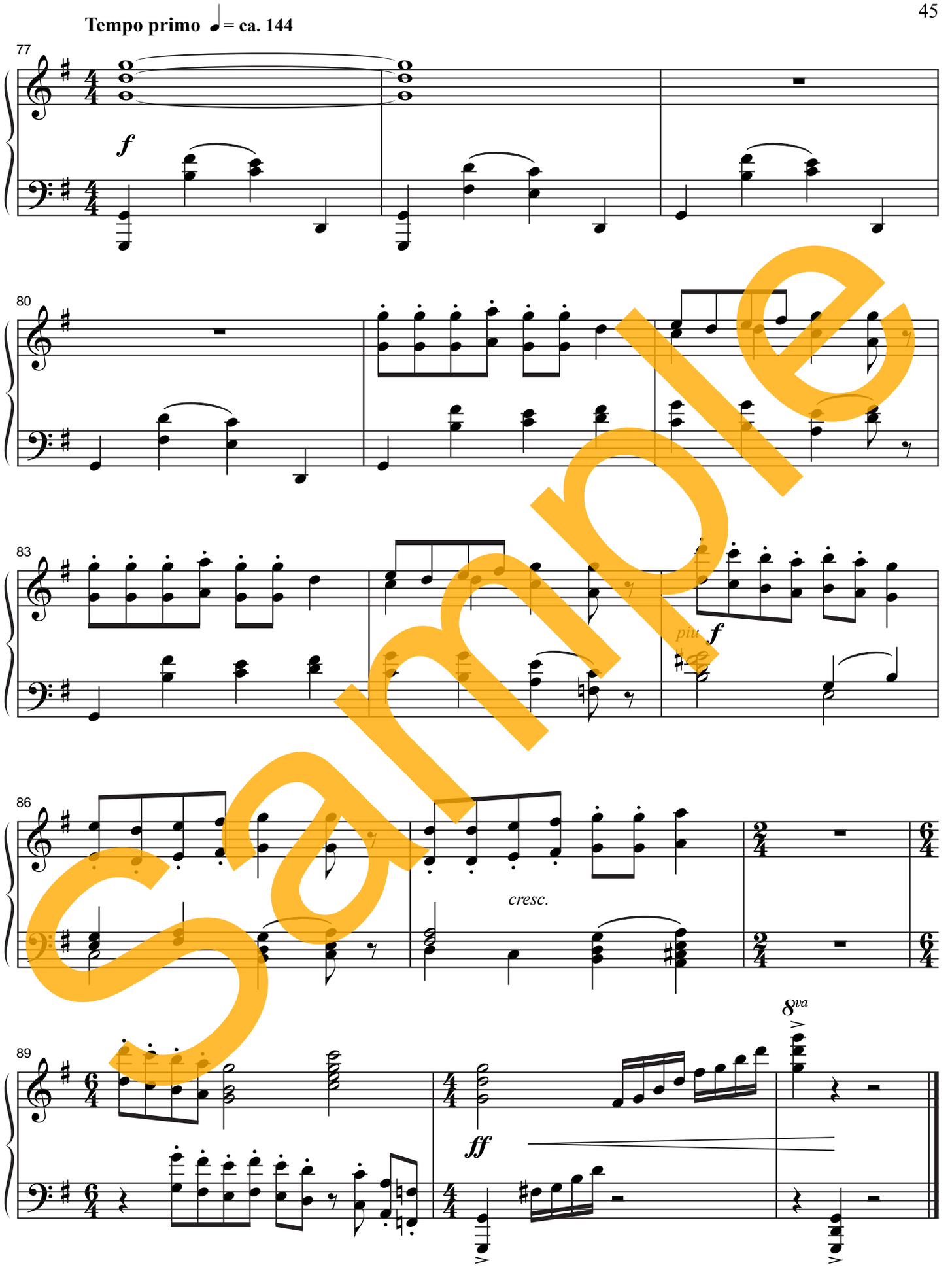
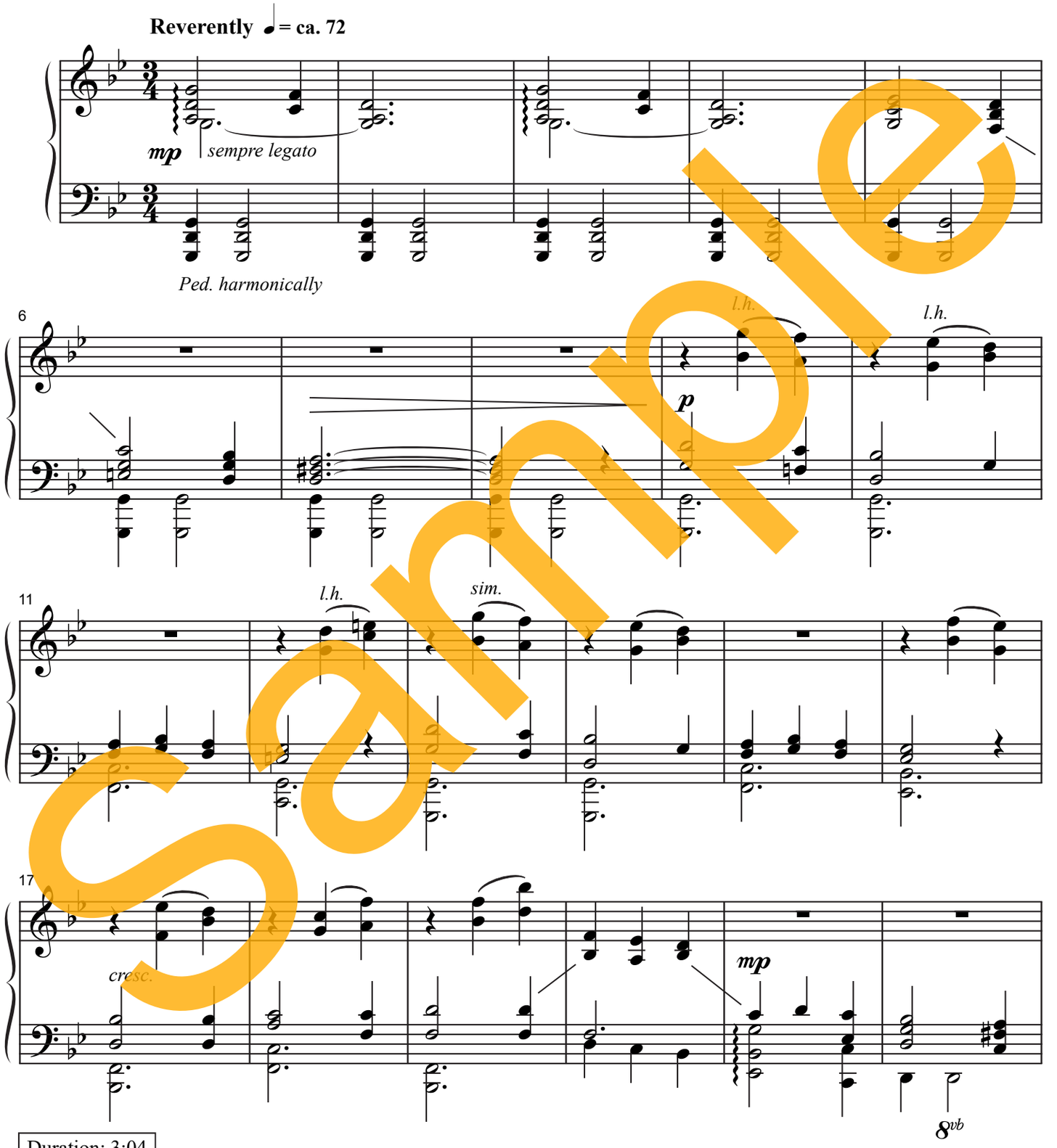


sample

We Three Kings

Rodney Abriol
Tune: **KINGS OF ORIENT**
by **John Henry Hopkins Jr.** (1820-1891)



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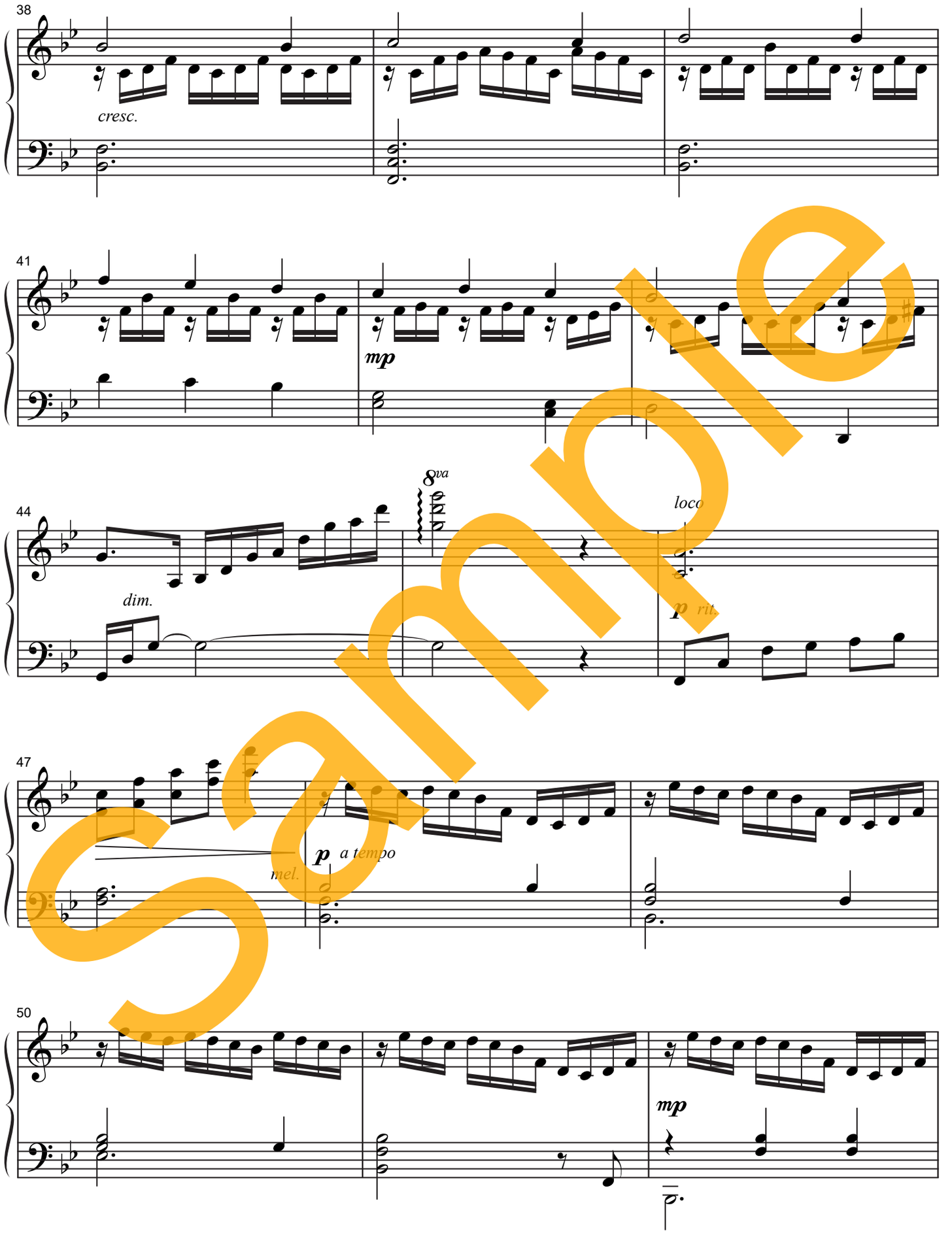

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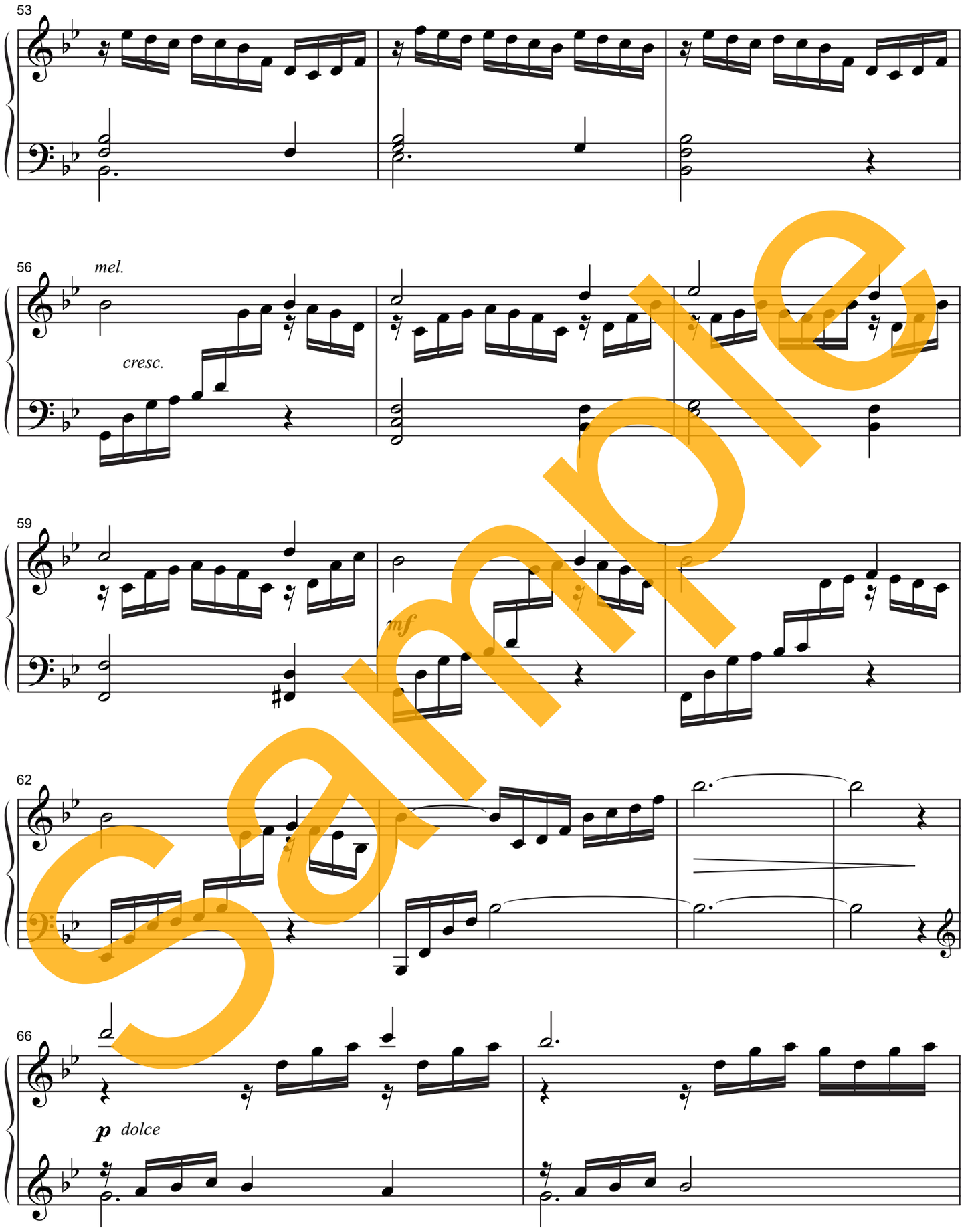

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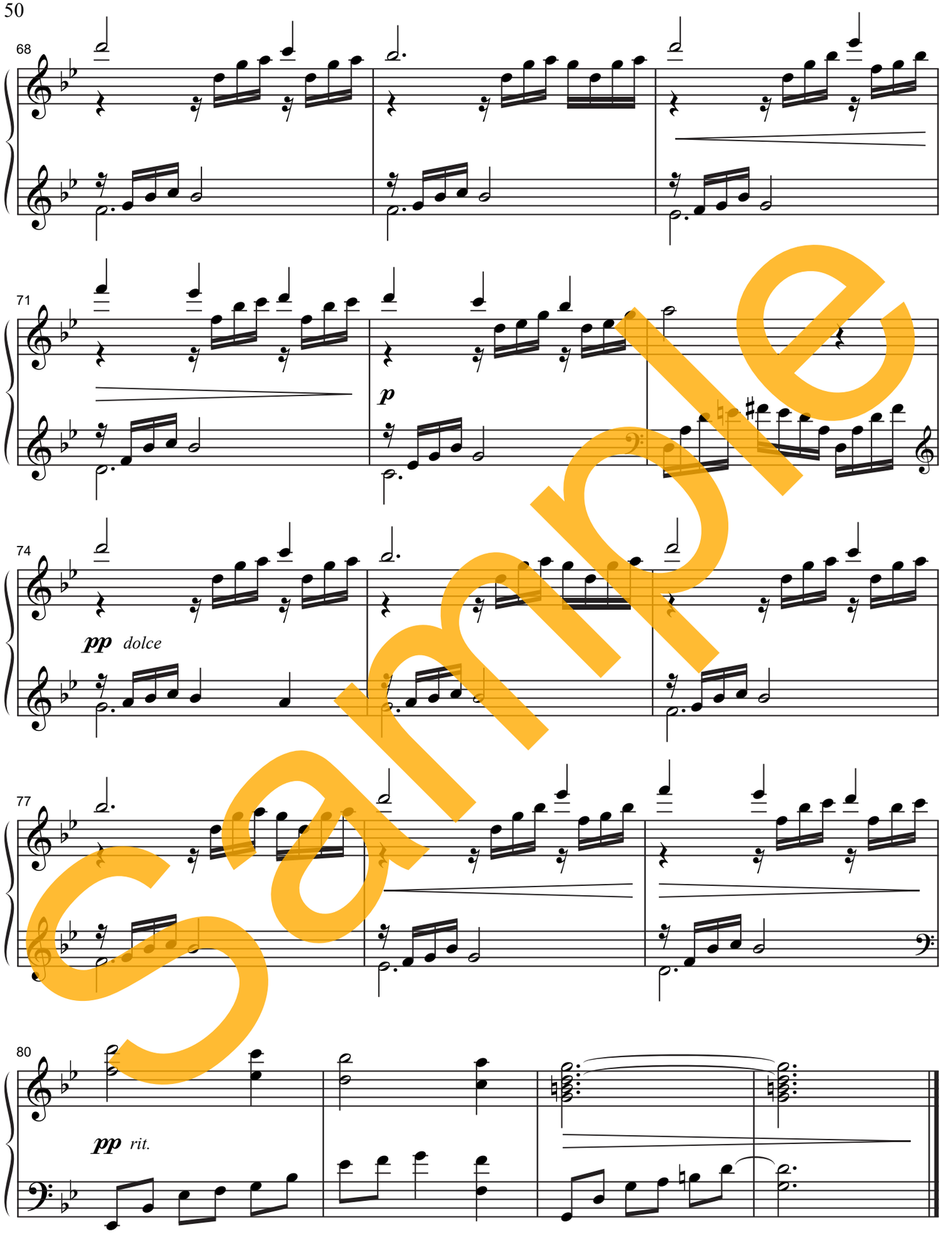

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