The Sweetness of my Dreams (cycle) Jocelyn Hagen $8.00
GP-H008
mezzo-soprano, piano

Jocelyn Hagen

The Sweetness of my Dreams

for mezzo-soprano and piano

I. I Will Sing You a Song
II. Dandelion
III. Theatre Song
IV. Moon Song
V. About my Dreams

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Program Notes:

Welcome to the magical world of Hilda Conkling, poetic prodigy, age 10. This sensationally young girl captures the essence of a child's spirit so ingeniously in these poems, published in 1920. These texts are full of unanswered questions, exaggerated declarations, interrupted thoughts and curiosities, and even profound, altruistic notions. The music strives to capture this same spirit in its melody, harmony, and form. "I will sing you a song!" shows both a young child's eagerness to please as well as their intense vulnerability. "Dandelion," a composed temper-tantrum, with stomping feet and all, brings to light a child's seriousness and fanatical obsession with what we as adults may consider trifle. "Theatre Song" is a theatrical act, and as such, an exaggerated tale, while "Moon Song" captures the spirit of endless questions and bedtime avoidance. Most entrancing, however, is "About my Dreams," when a child is drifting in and out of sleep, with their best intentions and hopes and dreams, illuminating the philosophical aspect of a child's spirit that we so often take for granted.

Performance Notes:

For the singer: These pieces require a commitment of character, however, do not adjust your singing voice to sound as a child's. Only in one section, the 'Moon-Song' of "I will sing you a song!," should adjustments be made.

For the pianist: Most of the time pedal is ad lib and the touch light, bright and easy. The piano accompaniment often reflects the emotions of the character.

The Sweetness of my Dreams - Texts:

5 pieces on poetry by 10 year old poet, Hilda Conkling
(published in 1920)

I. I will sing you a song!

I will sing you a song,
Sweets-of-my-heart,
With love in it,
(How I love you!)
What song shall I sing,
Rose-song or clover-song?
If I find a moon,
I will sing a moon song.

The red moon comes out in the night.
When I'm asleep, the moon comes pattering up
Into the trees.
Then I peep out my window
To watch the moon go by.

Will you love me to-morrow after next?
As if I had a bird's way of singing?

II. Dandelion

O Little Soldier with the golden helmet,
What are you guarding on my lawn?
You with your green gun
And your yellow beard,
Why do you stand so stiff?
There is only the grass to fight!

III. Theatre Song (an exaggerated tale)

Eagles were flying over the sky
And mermaids danced in the gold waters.
Eagles were calling over the sky
And the water was the color of blue flowers.
Sunshine was 'flected in the waves
Like meadows of white buds.
This is what I saw
On a morning long ago...

IV. Moon Song

There is a star that runs very fast,
That goes pulling the moon
Through the tops of the poplars.
It is all in silver,
The tall star:
The moon rolls goldenly along
Out of breath.
Mr. Moon, does he make you hurry?

V. About my Dreams

Now the flowers are all folded
and the dark is going by.
The evening is arising...
it is time to rest.
When I am sleeping
I find my pillow full of dreams.
they are all new dreams:
no one told them to me
before I came through the cloud.
They remember the sky, my little dreams,
they have wings, they are quick, they are sweet.
Help me tell my dreams
to the other children,
so that their bread may taste whiter,
so that the milk they drink
may make them think of meadows in the sky of stars.
Dear God, let me hold up my silver cup
for them to drink,
and tell them the sweetness
of my dreams.

GP - H008

dedicated to young children everywhere

$8.00

The Sweetness of my Dreams

I. I will sing you a song!

Mezzo-Soprano and piano

Hilda Conkling

Jocelyn Hagen

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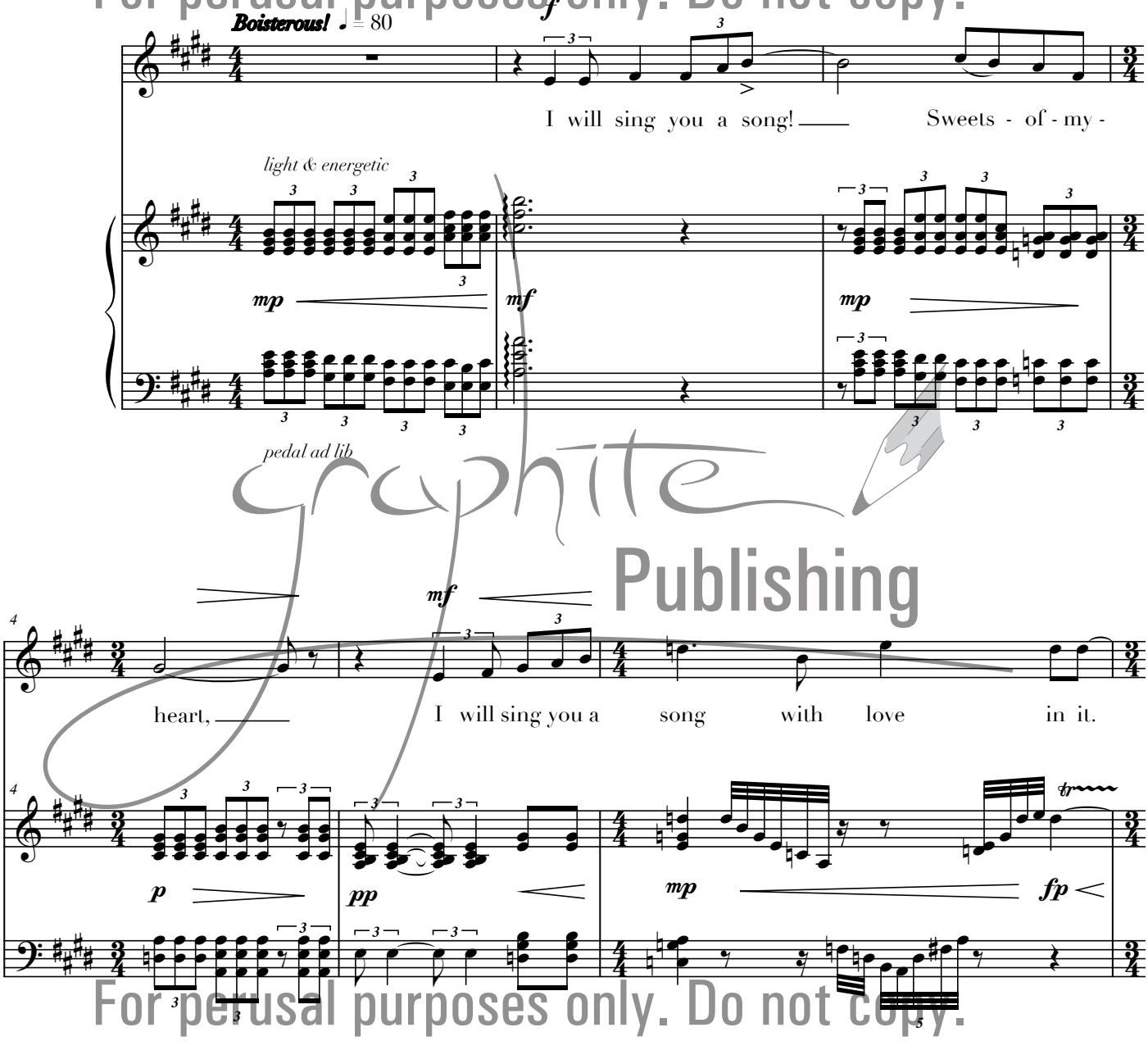

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7

f *mp*

an interrupting thought

(how I love you!) (how I love you!)

an interrupting thought

mf *p*

11

suddenly boisterous again

f

What song shall I sing,

mp

extremely freely
may be spoken or half-sung
with an eagerness to please

14

mf *mp*

Rose-song or clo-ver-song? If I find a moon, I will sing a moon - song.

8va

ppp *pp* *p*

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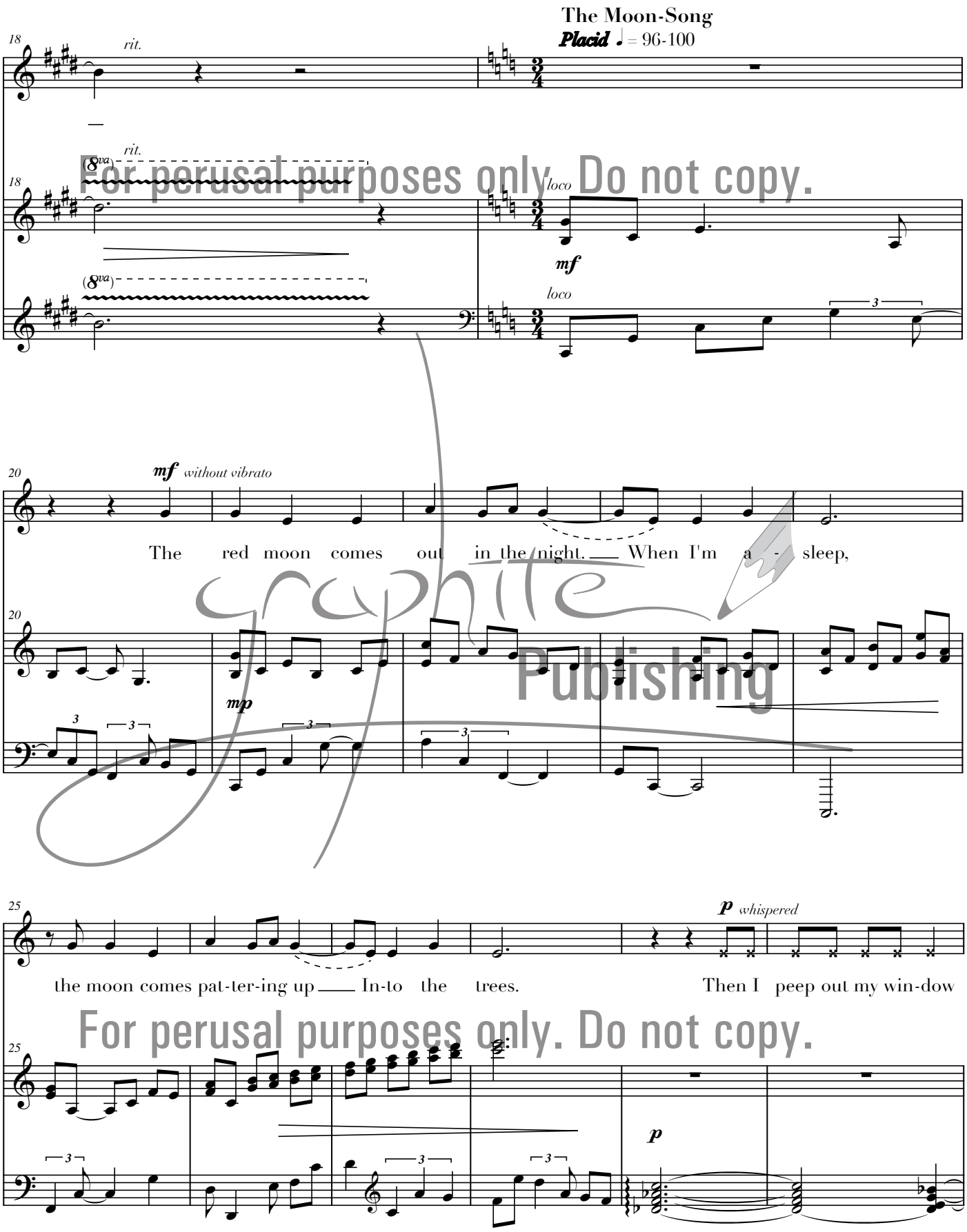

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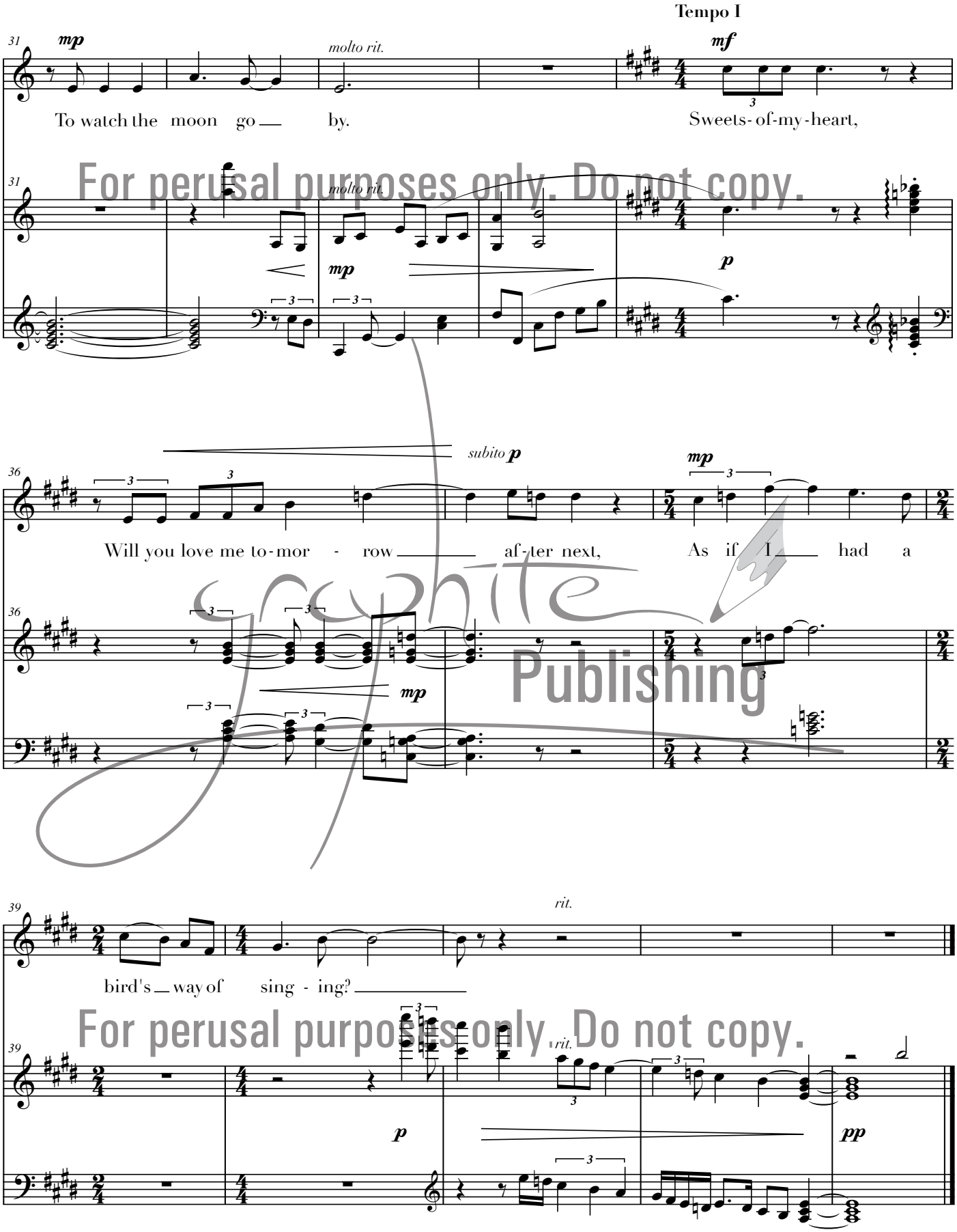

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II. Dandelion

Hilda Conkling

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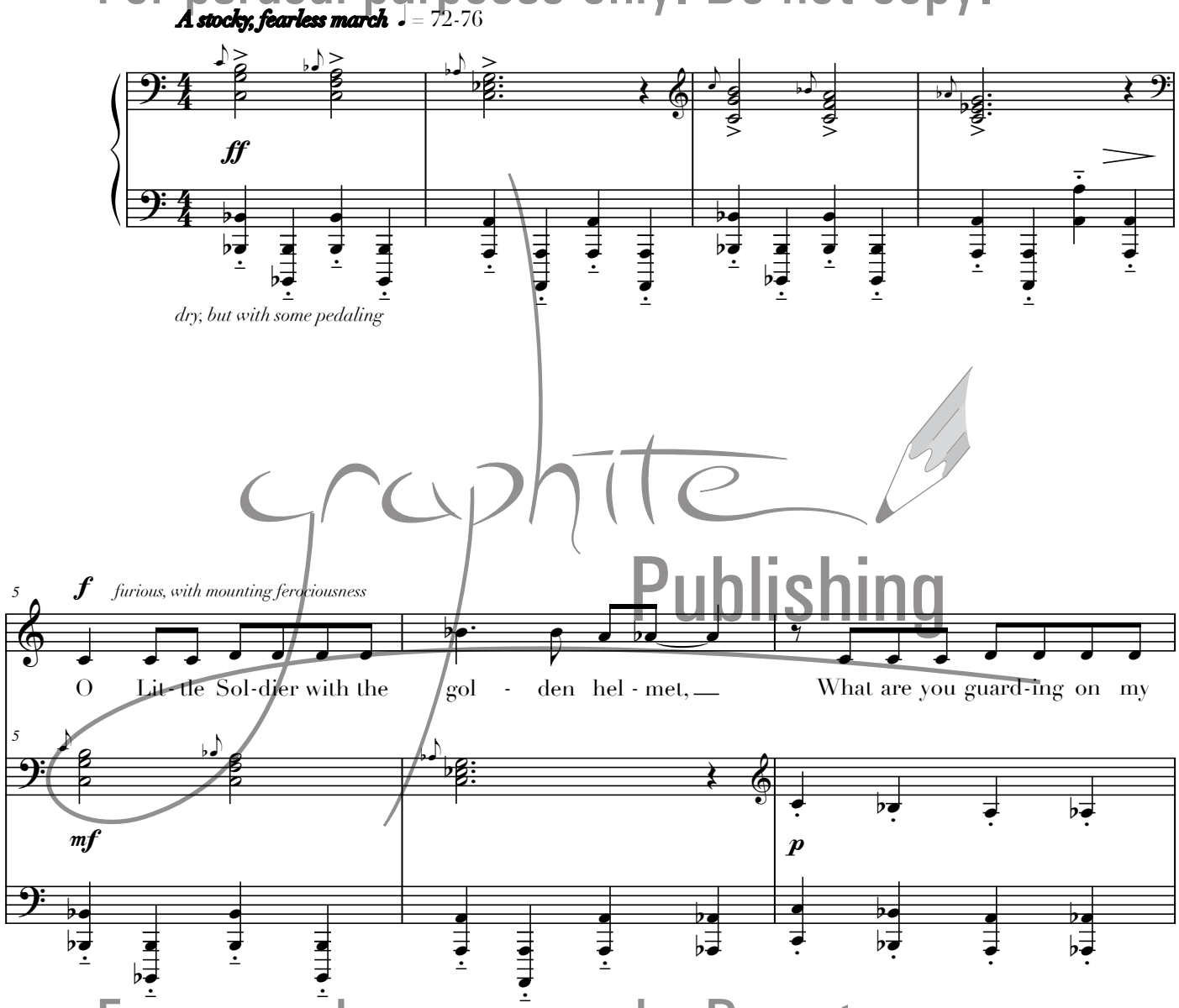

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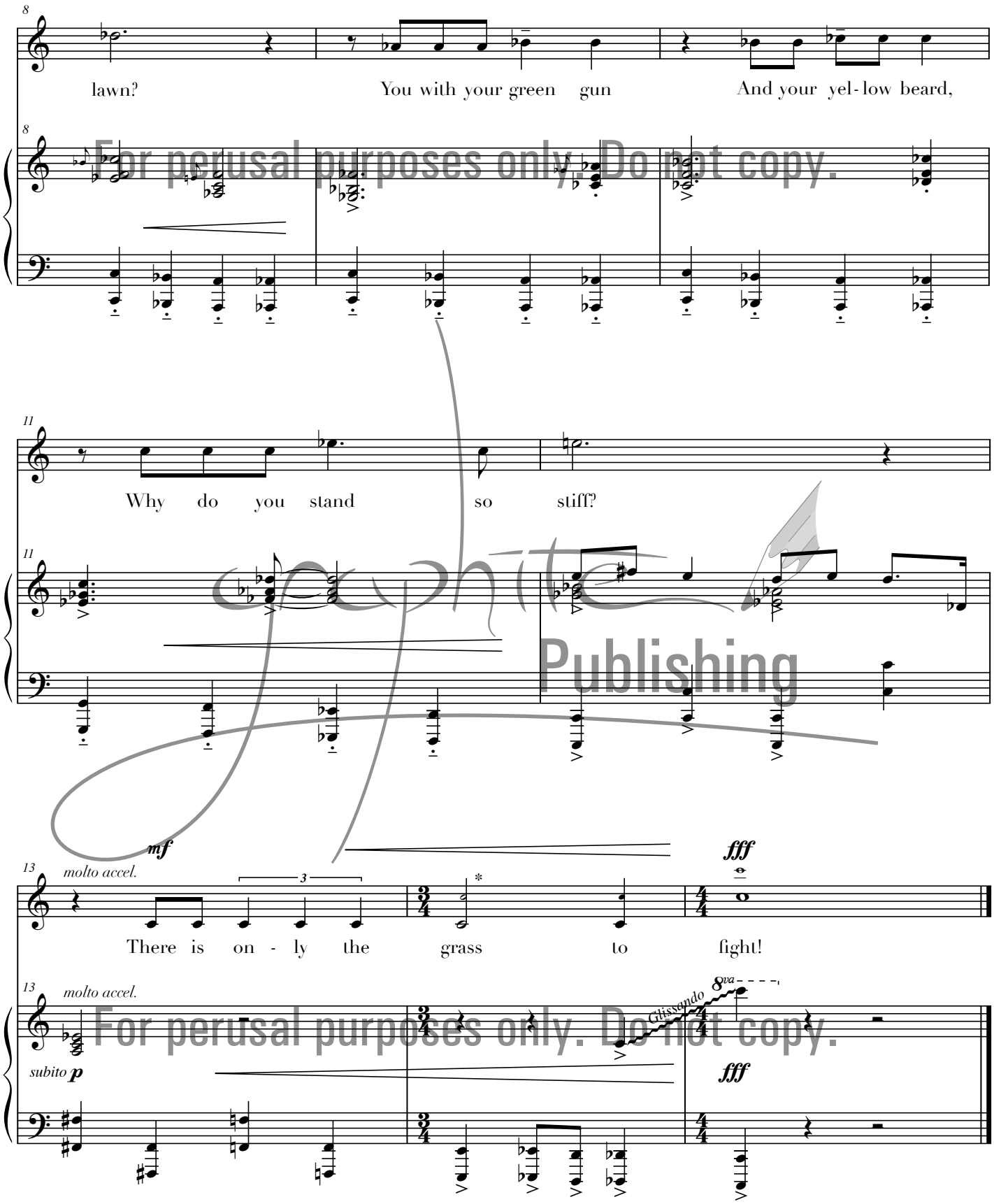

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* optional notes, for the brave

III. Theatre Song

(an exaggerated tale)

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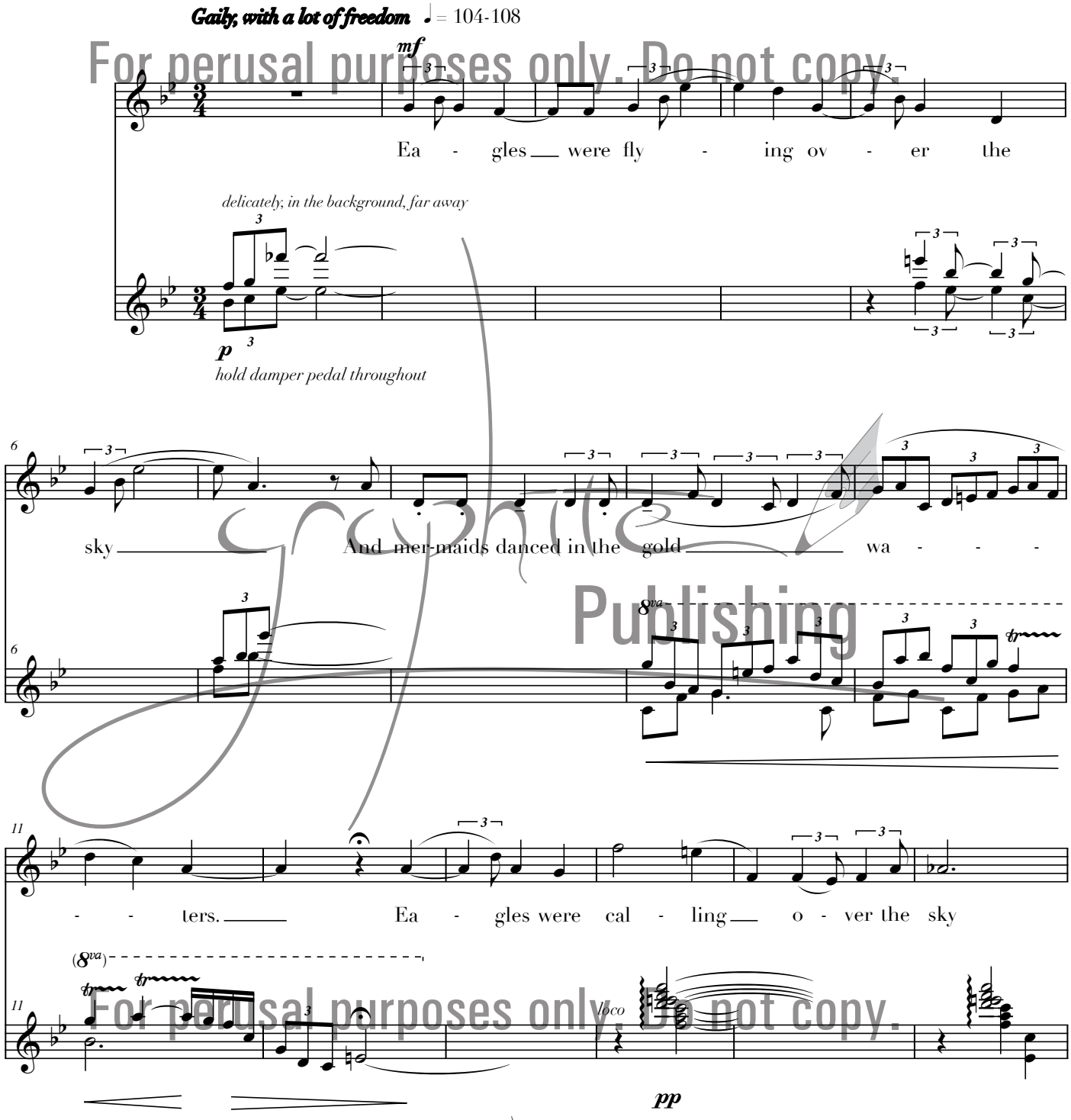

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17

And the wa - ter was the co - lor of blue

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22

mf

flow - ers. Sun - shine was 'flec - ted in the

mp

27

mp

waves Like mead-ows of white buds.

mf

This is what I

p

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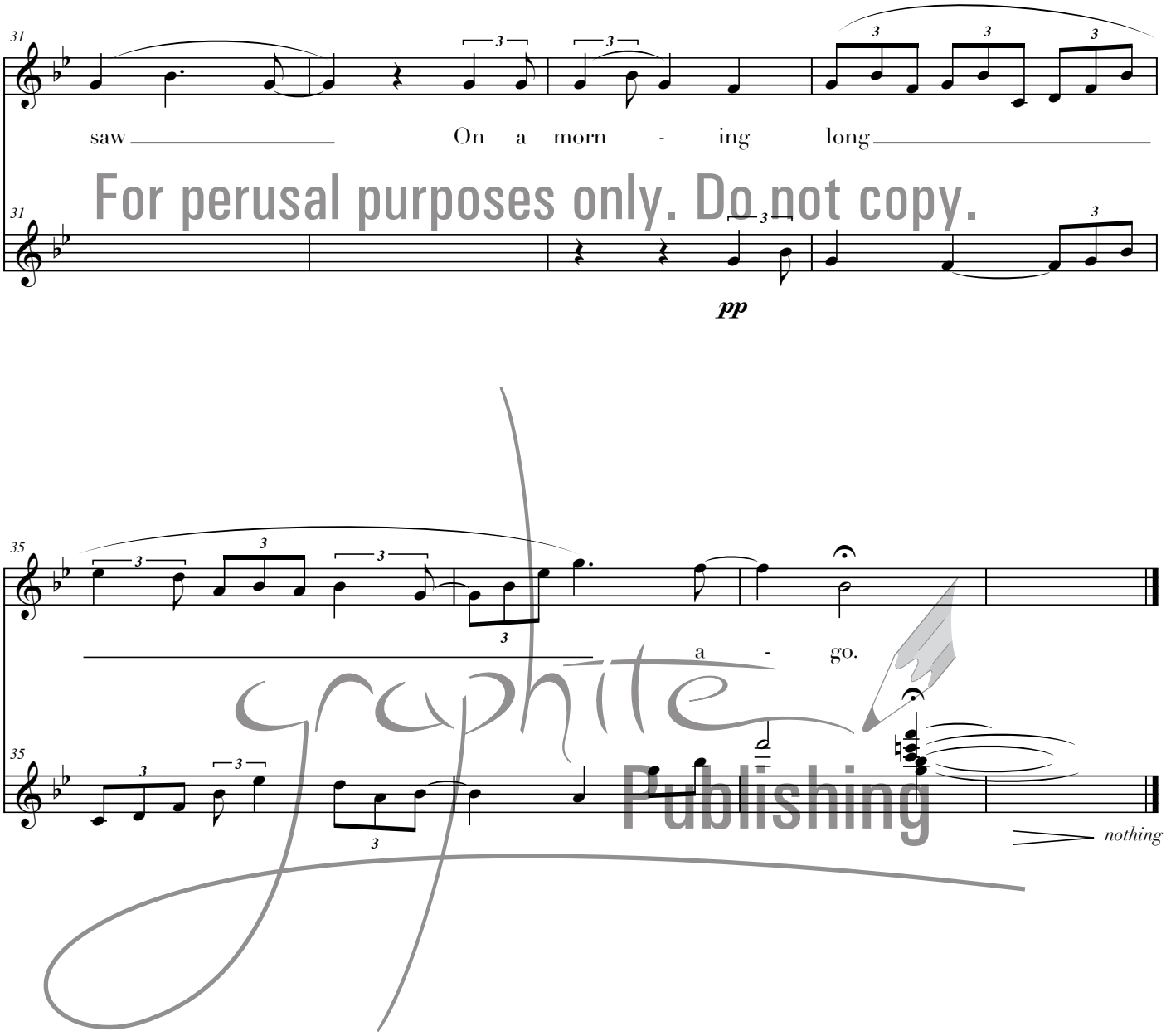

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IV. Moon Song

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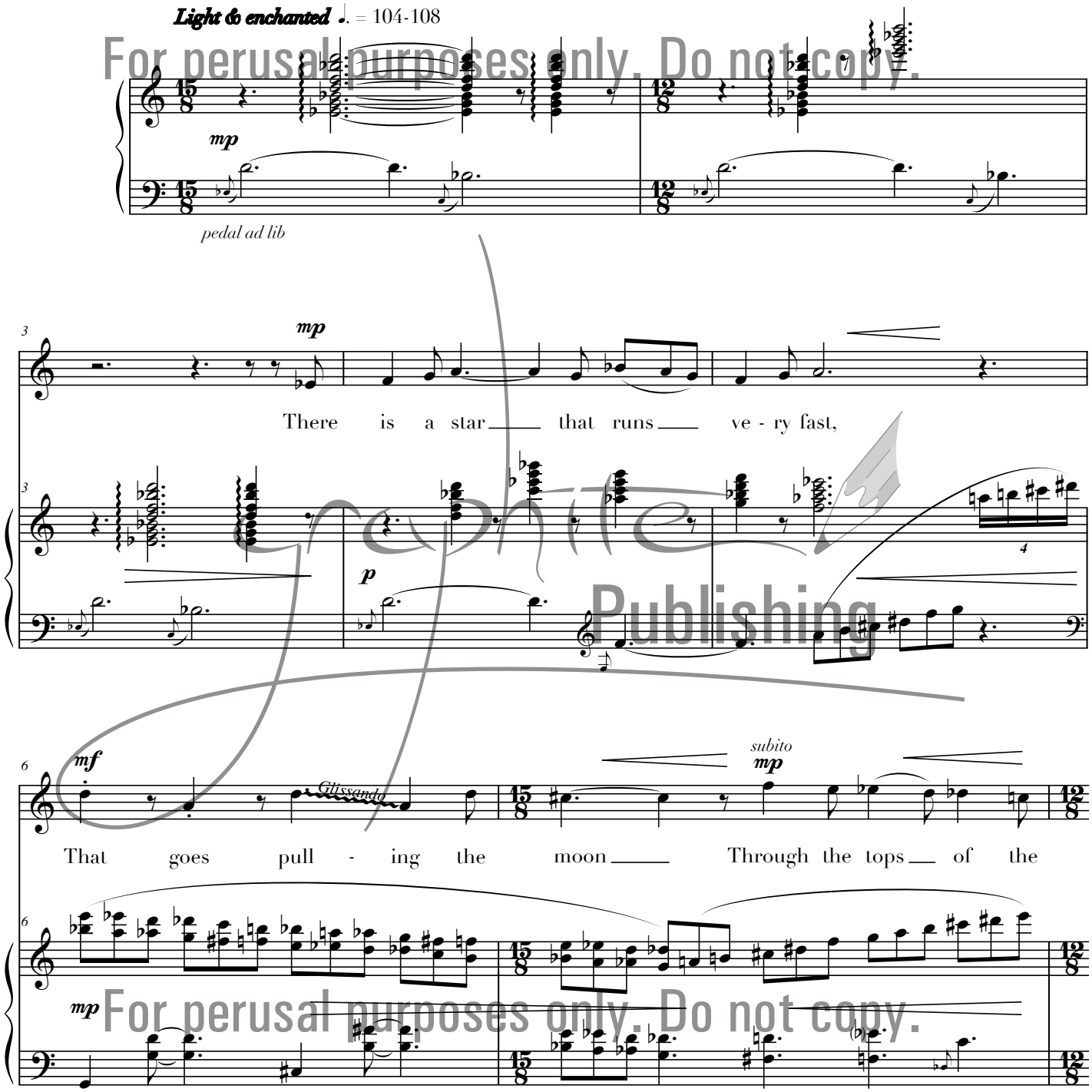

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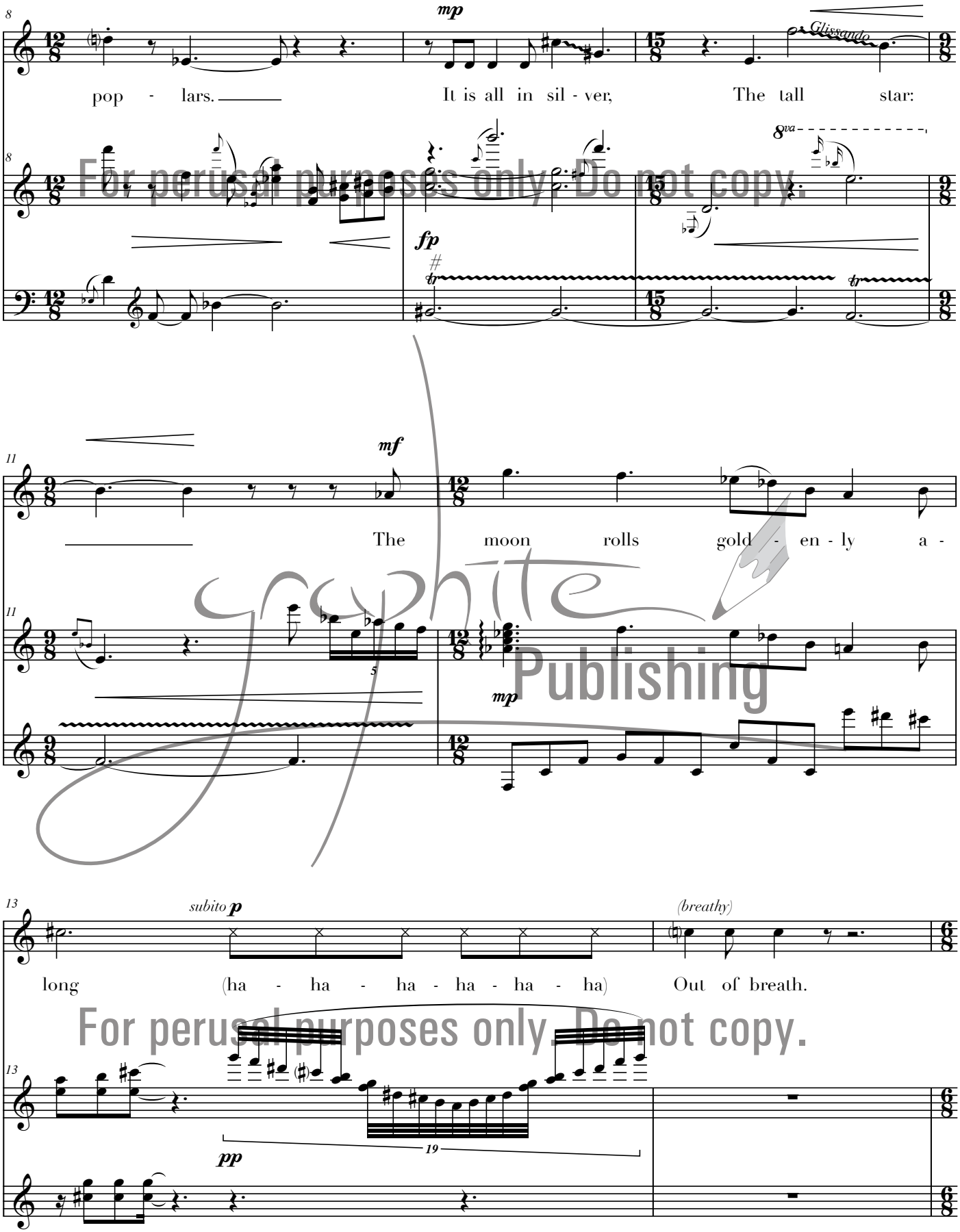

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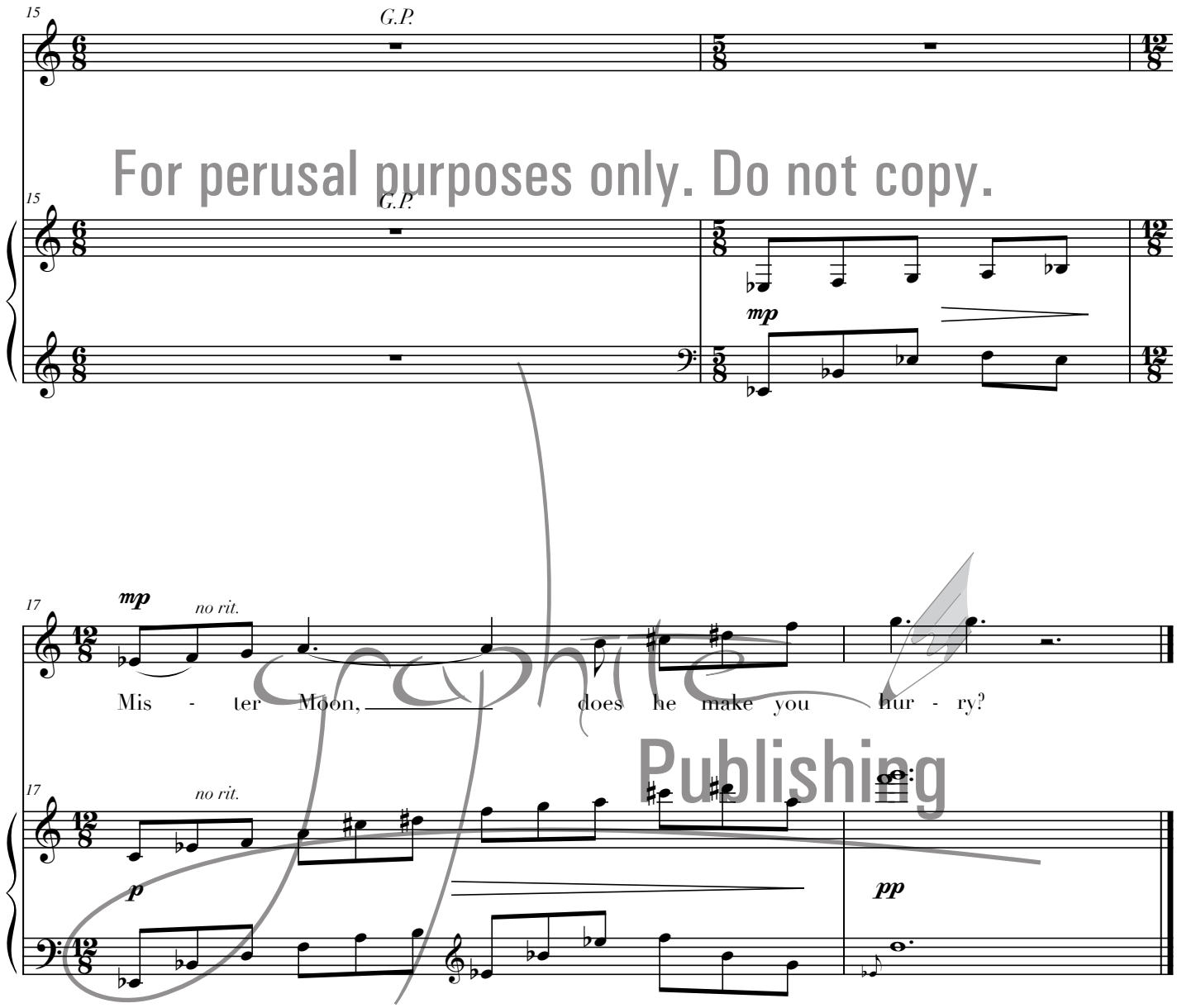

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V. About my Dreams

Hilda Conkling

Jocelyn Hagen

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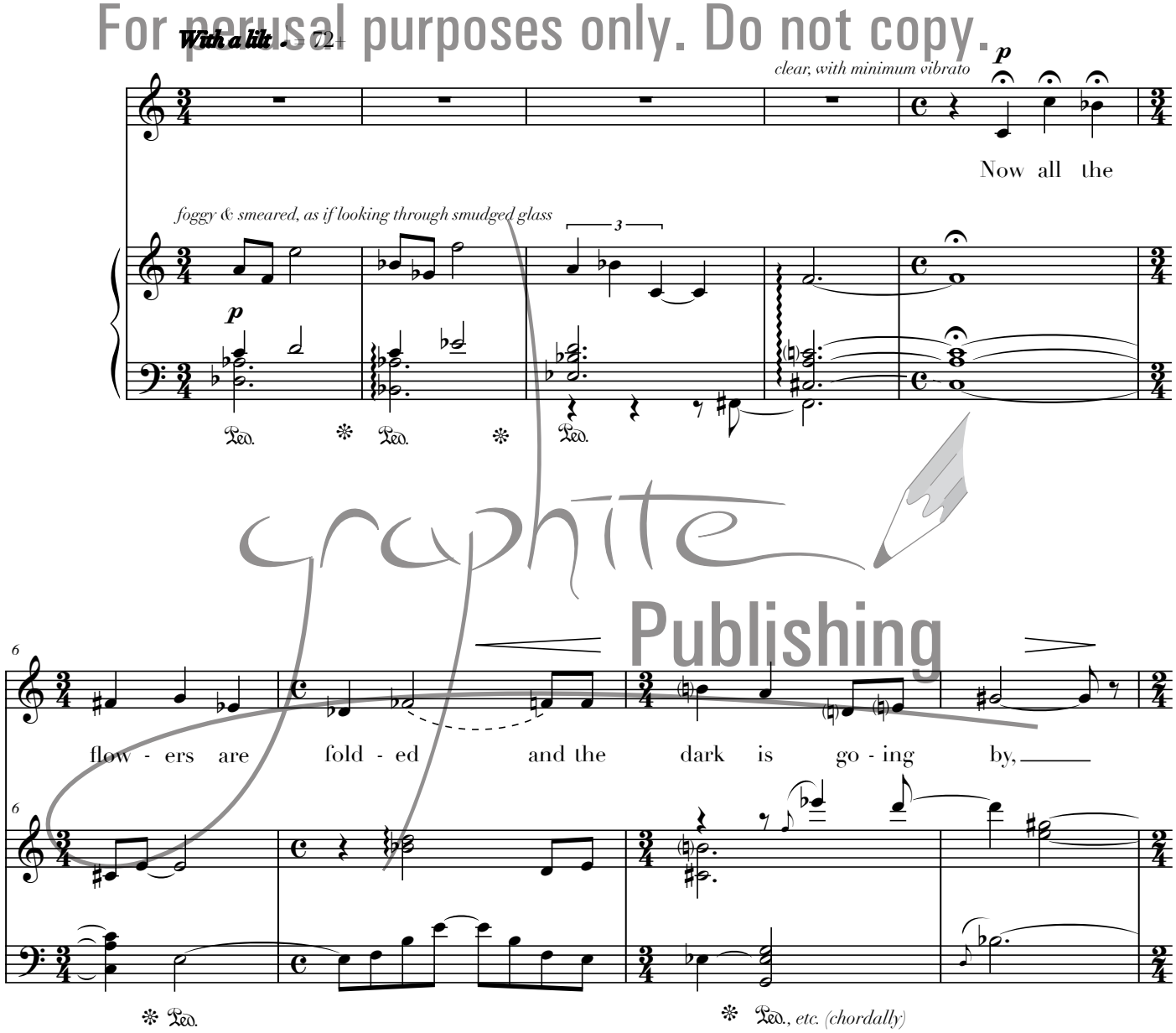

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10

mp

The eve-ning is a - ris-ing... it is time to rest.

16 *accel.* *rit.* *mp*

When I am

mf *mp*

19 *a tempo* *mf* *with motion*

sleep-ing I find my pil - low full of dreams. they are all new dreams;

p *mp*

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23

mp

stark, without vibrato

no one told them to me be-fore I came through the cloud.

23

p

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Faster, ethereal ♩ = 88-92

26

mp

They re-mem-ber the sky, my

26

8va

pp

8va

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28

lit - tle dreams, they have wings, they are

28

8va

loco

8va

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30

quick, they are sweet.

8va loco

Broaden, slightly slower

mf

32

Help me tell my dreams to the oth - er

mf

35

accel.

chil-dren, Help me tell my dreams my dreams

rit.

mp

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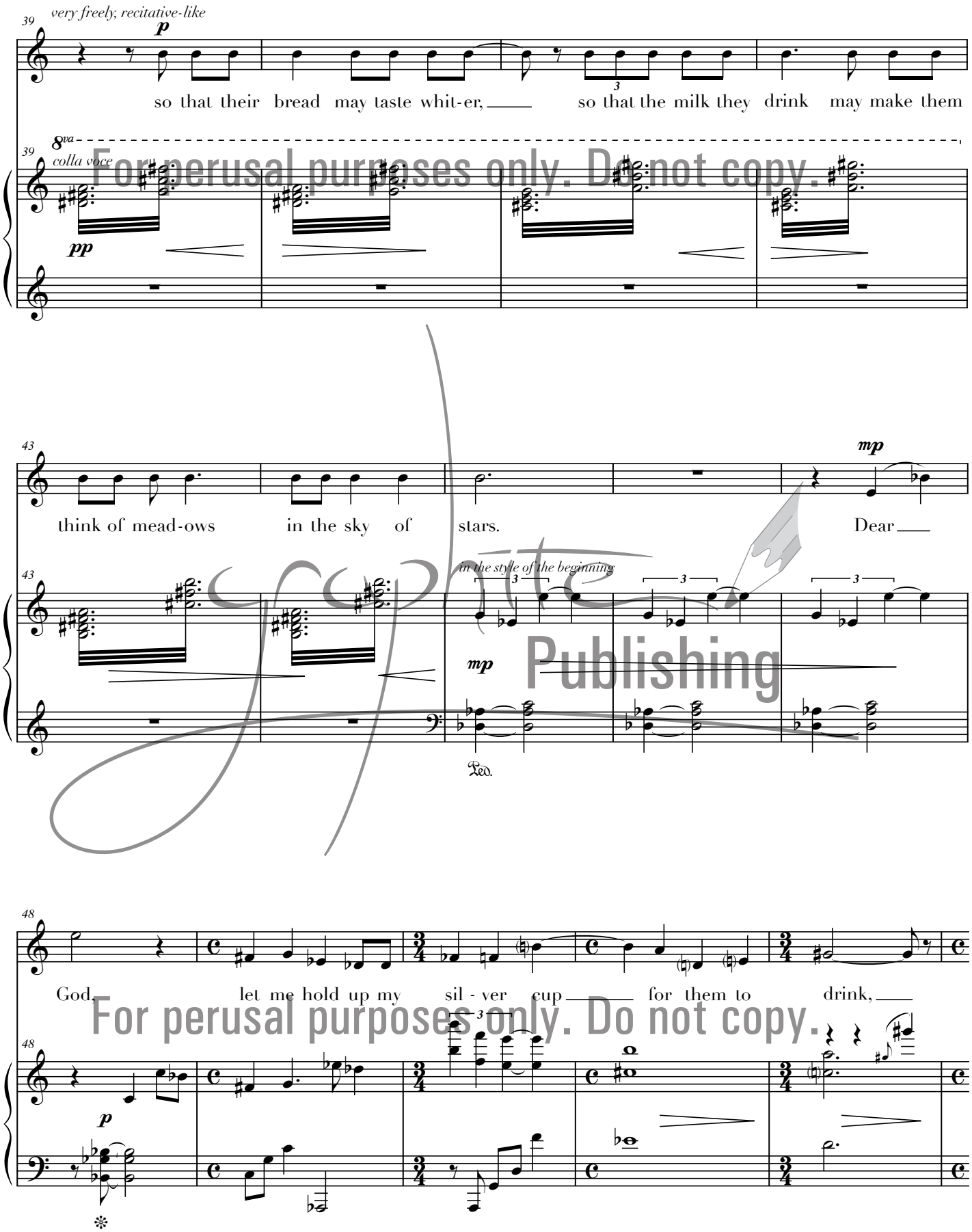

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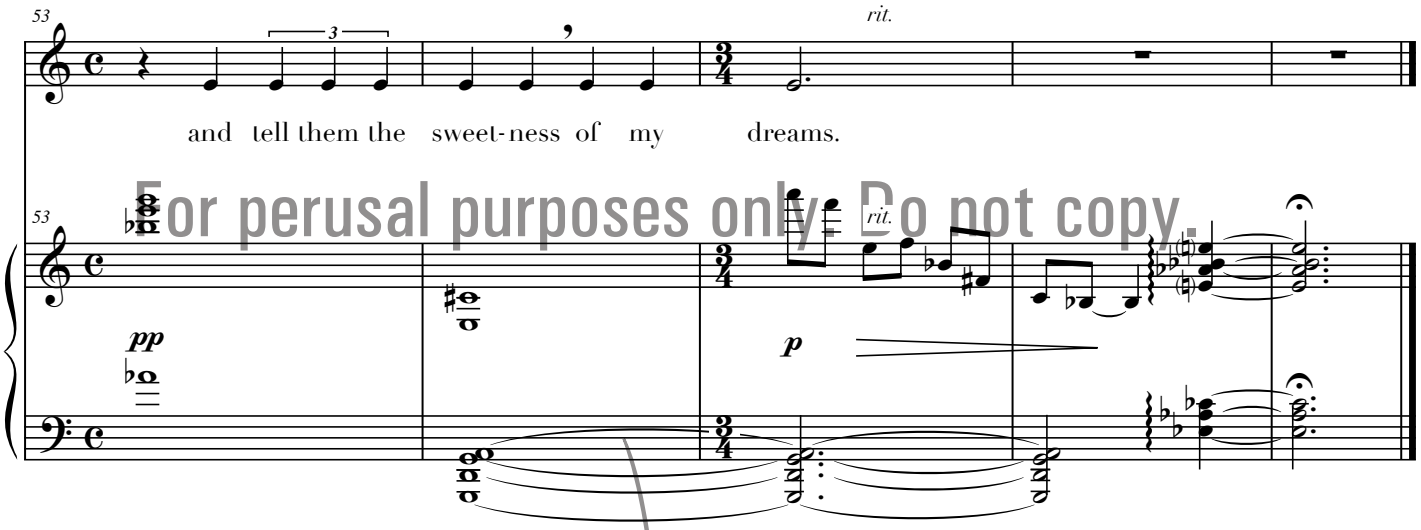

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Jocelyn Hagen

Jocelyn Hagen (b.1980), a graduate of St. Olaf College, holds degrees in both theory and composition and vocal music education. Her work has been commissioned and performed by The Singers: Minnesota Choral Artists, VocalEssence, the Yale Glee Club, the St. Olaf Band, and various professional singers and church, college, and high school choirs. She has also received numerous awards and grants through ASCAP and the American Composers Forum, among others. Her past composition teachers include Judith Lang Zaimont, Mary Ellen Childs, Peter Hamlin, Philip Lasser, and David Maslanka. Jocelyn is also active as a professional accompanist and singer, and is the president of Graphite Publishing.

Other vocal works from Graphite Publishing:

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Christopher Gable	GP - G002	Solstice Lullaby	voice, piano
Jocelyn Hagen	GP - H002	Hope (cycle)	soprano, piano
Jocelyn Hagen	GP - H002.1	Heart, we will forget him (from *Hope)*	soprano, piano
Jocelyn Hagen	GP - H007	Songs of Fields and Prairies (cycle)	soprano, piano
Jocelyn Hagen	GP - H007.1	The Flower of the Field (from *Songs of Fields...)*	high voice, piano
Jocelyn Hagen	GP - H008	The Sweetness of My Dreams (cycle)	mezzo-soprano, piano
Norman Mathews	GP - M001	Songs of the Poet (cycle)	voice, piano
Norman Mathews	GP - M001.1	Sometimes with One I Love (from *Songs of the Poet)*	voice, piano
Norman Mathews	GP - M001.2	Here the Frailest Leaves of Me (from *Songs of the Poet)*	voice, piano
Norman Mathews	GP - M001.3	The Last Invocation (from *Songs of the Poet)*	voice, piano
Norman Mathews	GP - M002	Velvet Shoes	voice, piano
Norman Mathews	GP - M003	Fancy	voice, piano
Scott Robinson	GP - R002	Song of Hannah	med./high voice, vln., vc., 1-3 opt. perc.

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