Gwyneth Walker

This Train

for Women's Chorus (SSAA) and String Orchestra

This Train

duration: 4'30"

Commissioned for the 30th Anniversary of the Saint Mary's College High School Women's Choir Festival
Notre Dame, Indiana, Nancy L. Menk, conductor

Premiered on November 29, 2014

THIS TRAIN is a contemporary arrangement of the American gospel song, *This Train is Bound for Glory*. The train is a metaphor for the way to heaven. Only the "pure" can take a ride. No gamblers, no "midnight ramblers" and certainly no "high steppin' women!"

The train itself comes to life in the song through sounds of the whistle and the steam engine. This is energetic, motion-oriented music. The refrain "This train is bound for glory, glory," is presented in rapid, rhythmic diction as the train goes "rumbling by."

With new lyrics added, this becomes a train for today's times. "This train will stop at the ghetto... and at the factory door." Yet the message is universal. "This is the train of freedom and glory and justice, and it's pulling out tonight."

Hold on tight!

Widely performed throughout the country, the music of American composer **Gwyneth Walker** is beloved by performers and audiences alike for its energy, beauty, reverence, drama, and humor. Dr. Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947) is a graduate of Brown University and the Hartt School of Music. She holds B.A., M.M. and D.M.A. degrees in Music Composition. A former faculty member of the Oberlin College Conservatory, she resigned from academic employment in 1982 in order to pursue a career as a full-time composer. For nearly 30 years, she lived on a dairy farm in Braintree, Vermont. She now divides her time between her childhood hometown of New Canaan, Connecticut and the musical communities of Sarasota, Florida and Randolph, Vermont.

Gwyneth Walker has been a proud resident of Vermont for many years. She is the recipient of the Year 2000 "Lifetime Achievement Award" from the Vermont Arts Council as well as the 2008 "Athenaeum Award for Achievement in the Arts and Humanities" from the St. Johnsbury (VT) Athenaeum. In 2012, she was elected as a Fellow of the Vermont Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Walker's catalog includes over 300 commissioned works for orchestra, chamber ensembles, chorus, and solo voice. A special interest has been dramatic works that combine music with readings, acting, and movement. The music of Gwyneth Walker is published by E. C. Schirmer (choral and vocal music) and Lauren Keiser Music (orchestral and instrumental music).

Further information concerning Gwyneth Walker and her works is available at **www.gwynethwalker.com**

Catalog No. 8098

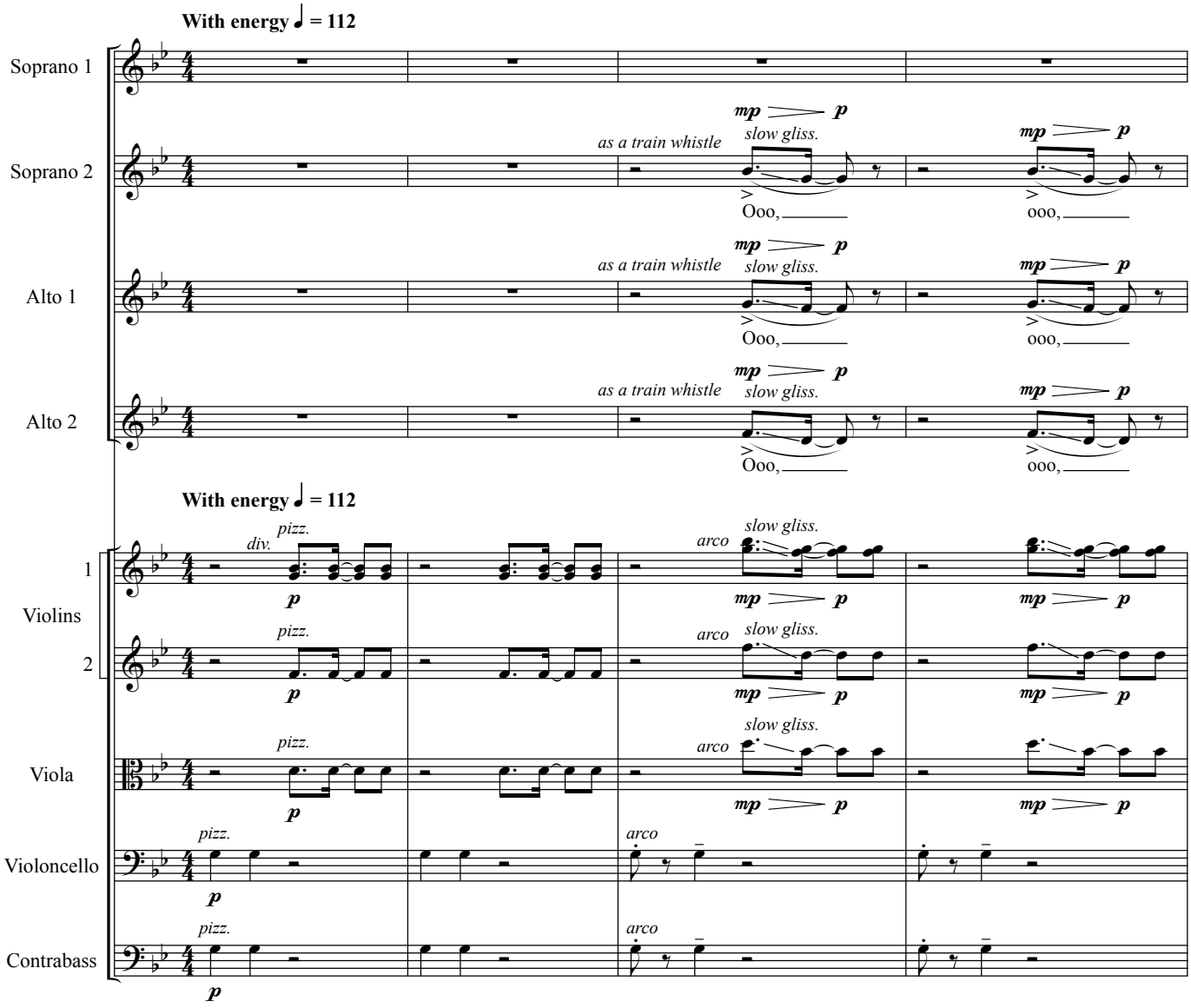
Commissioned for the 30th Anniversary of the Saint Mary's College High School Women's Choir Festival, November 29, 2014

This Train

for Women's Chorus (SSAA) and String Orchestra

Traditional

Gwyneth Walker



Note setting and format by Gwyneth Walker Music Productions.

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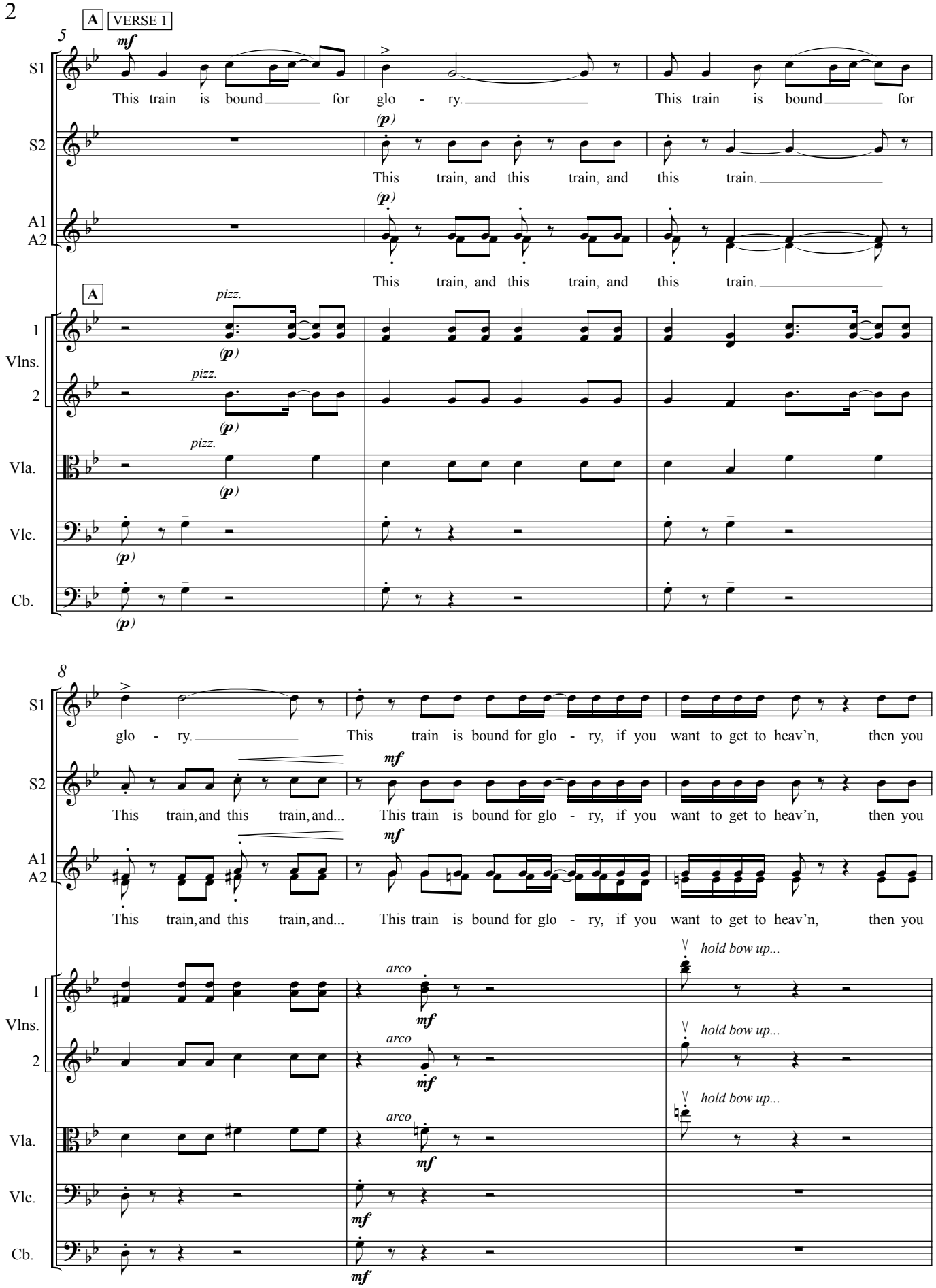
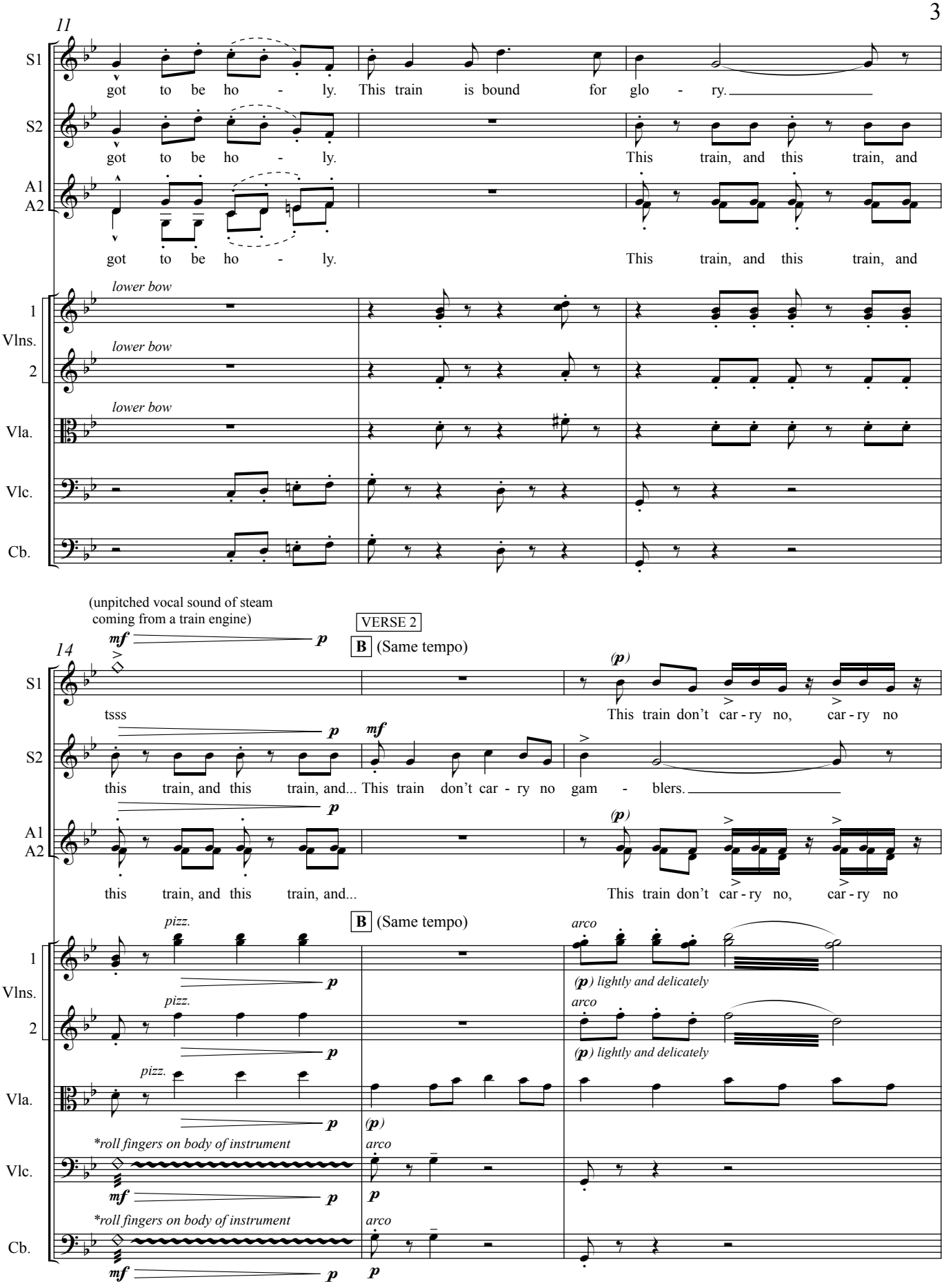
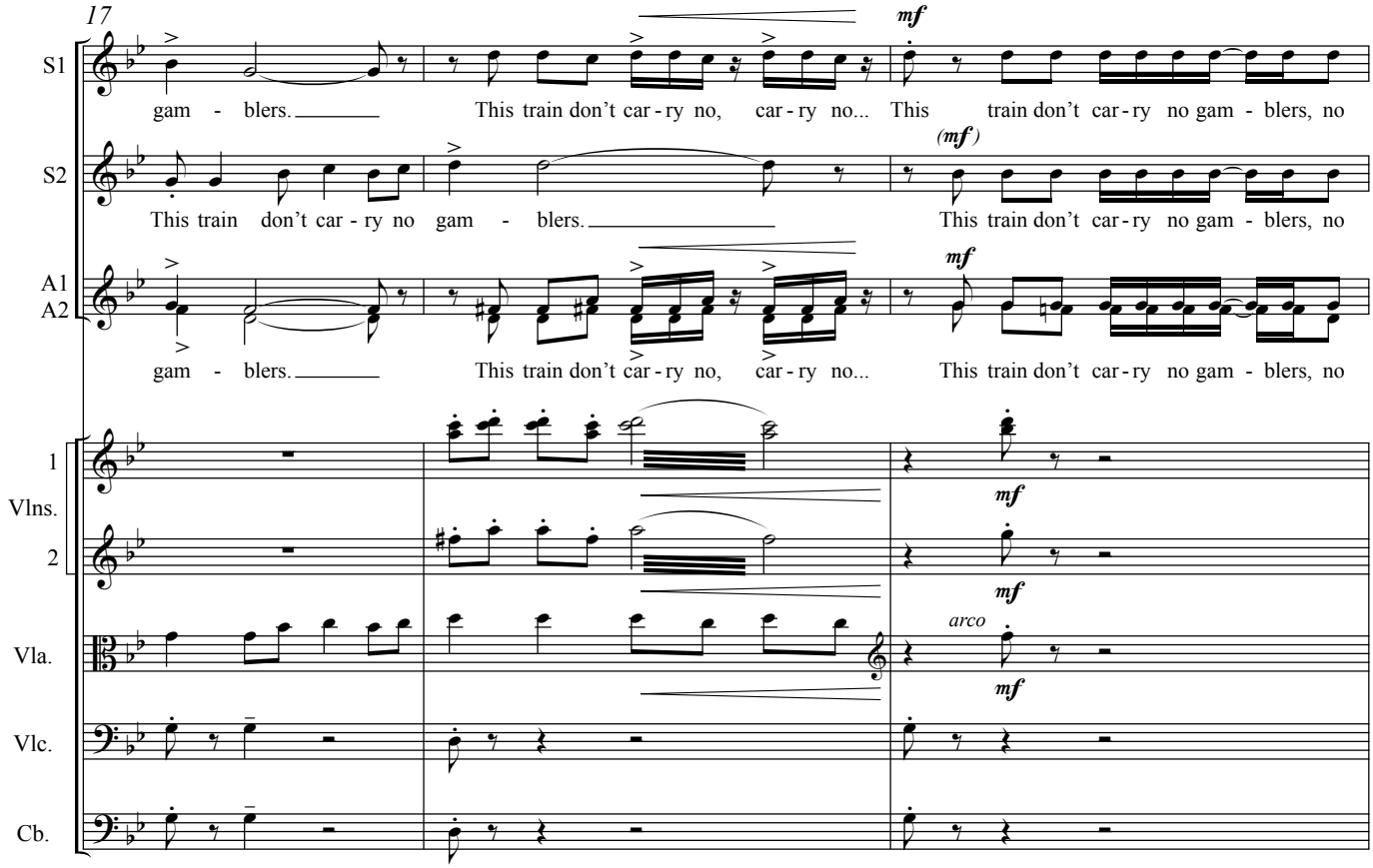
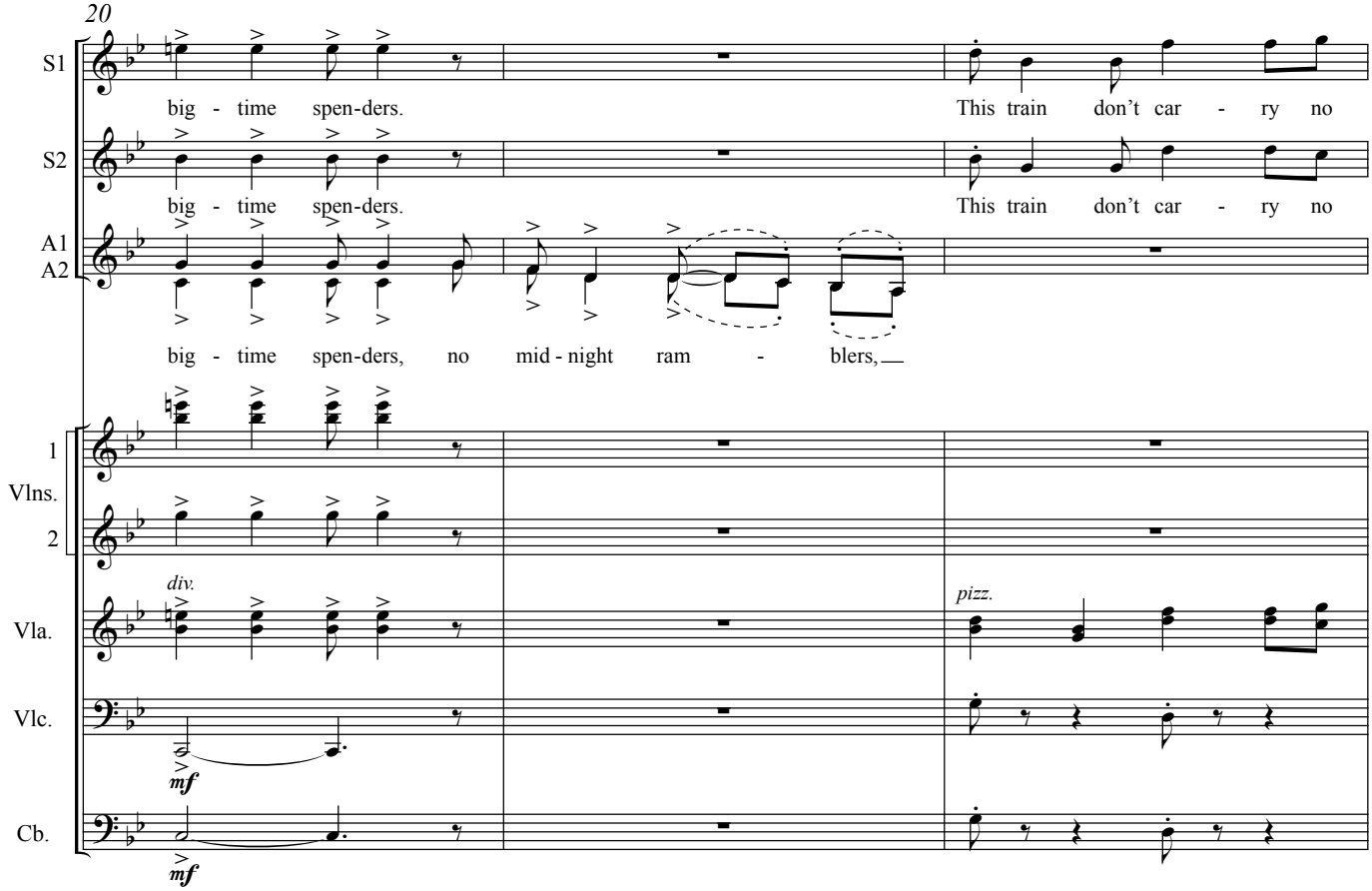

A
VERSE 1
5
mf
S1
This train is bound for glo - ry. This train is bound for
(p)
S2
This train, and this train, and this train.
A1
A2
This train, and this train, and this train.
A
pizz.
1
Vlns.
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
8
glo - ry. This train is bound for glo - ry, if you want to get to heav'n, then you
This train, and this train, and... This train is bound for glo - ry, if you want to get to heav'n, then you
arco
hold bow up...

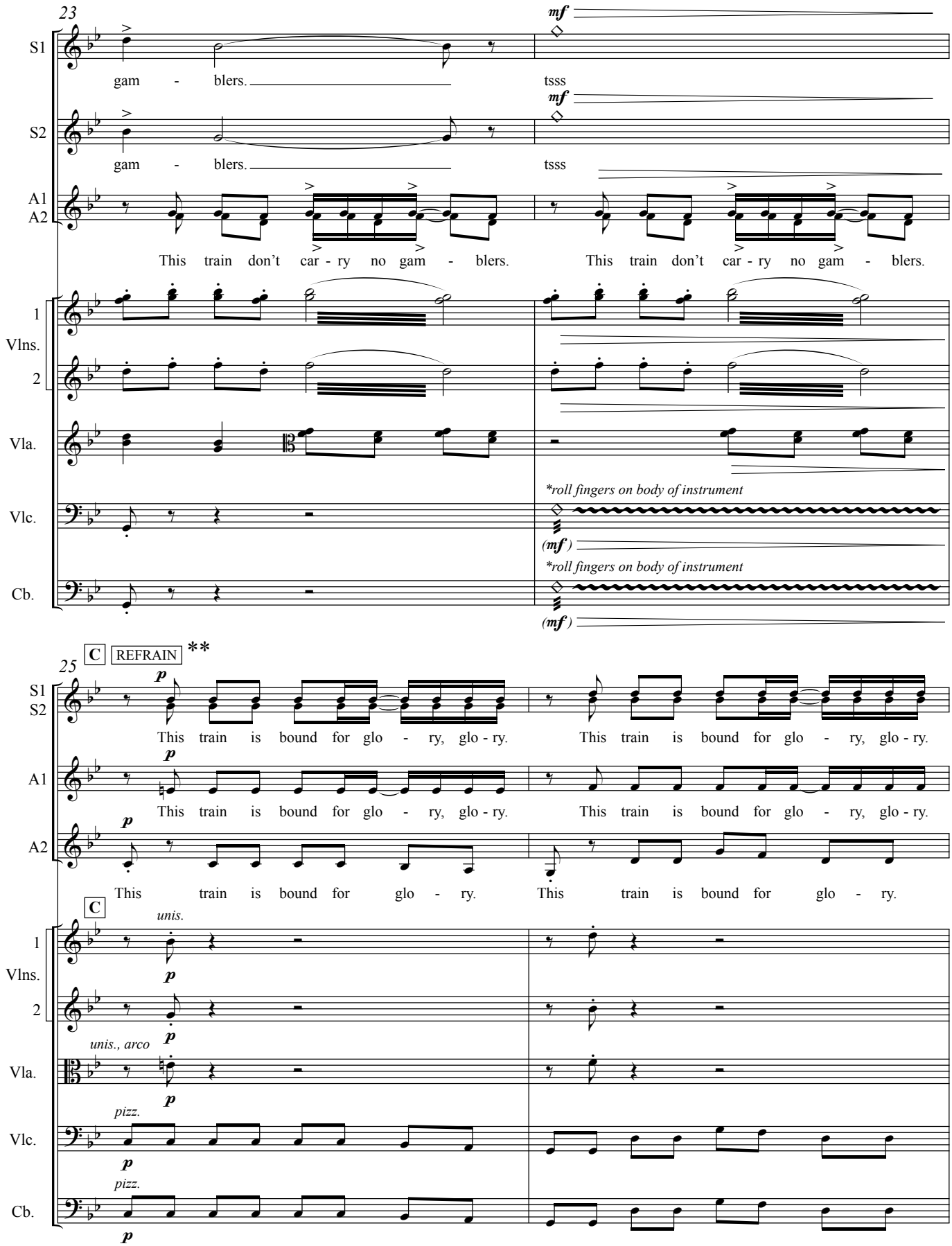


*to simulate a train passing by


17
S1
gam - blers. This train don't car - ry no, car - ry no... This train don't car - ry no gam - blers, no
mf
S2
This train don't car - ry no gam - blers. This train don't car - ry no gam - blers, no
(mf)
A1
A2
gam - blers. This train don't car - ry no, car - ry no... This train don't car - ry no gam - blers, no
mf
1
Vlns.
2
mf
mf
Vla.
arco
mf
Vlc.
Cb.

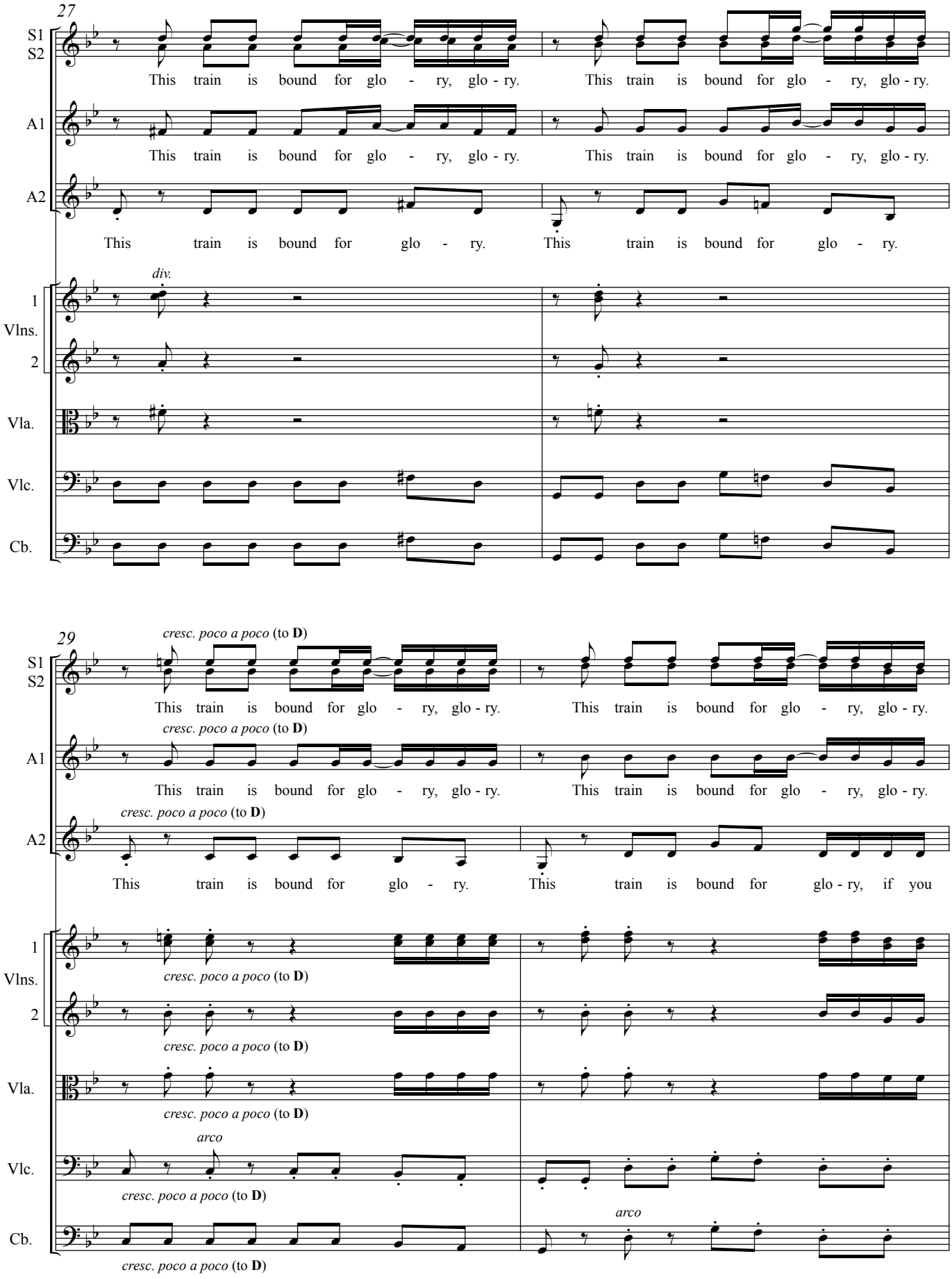

20
S1
big - time spen-ders. This train don't car - ry no
S2
big - time spen-ders. This train don't car - ry no
A1
A2
big - time spen-ders, no mid - night ram - blers,
1
Vlns.
2
div.
Vla.
pizz.
Vlc.
mf
Cb.
mf

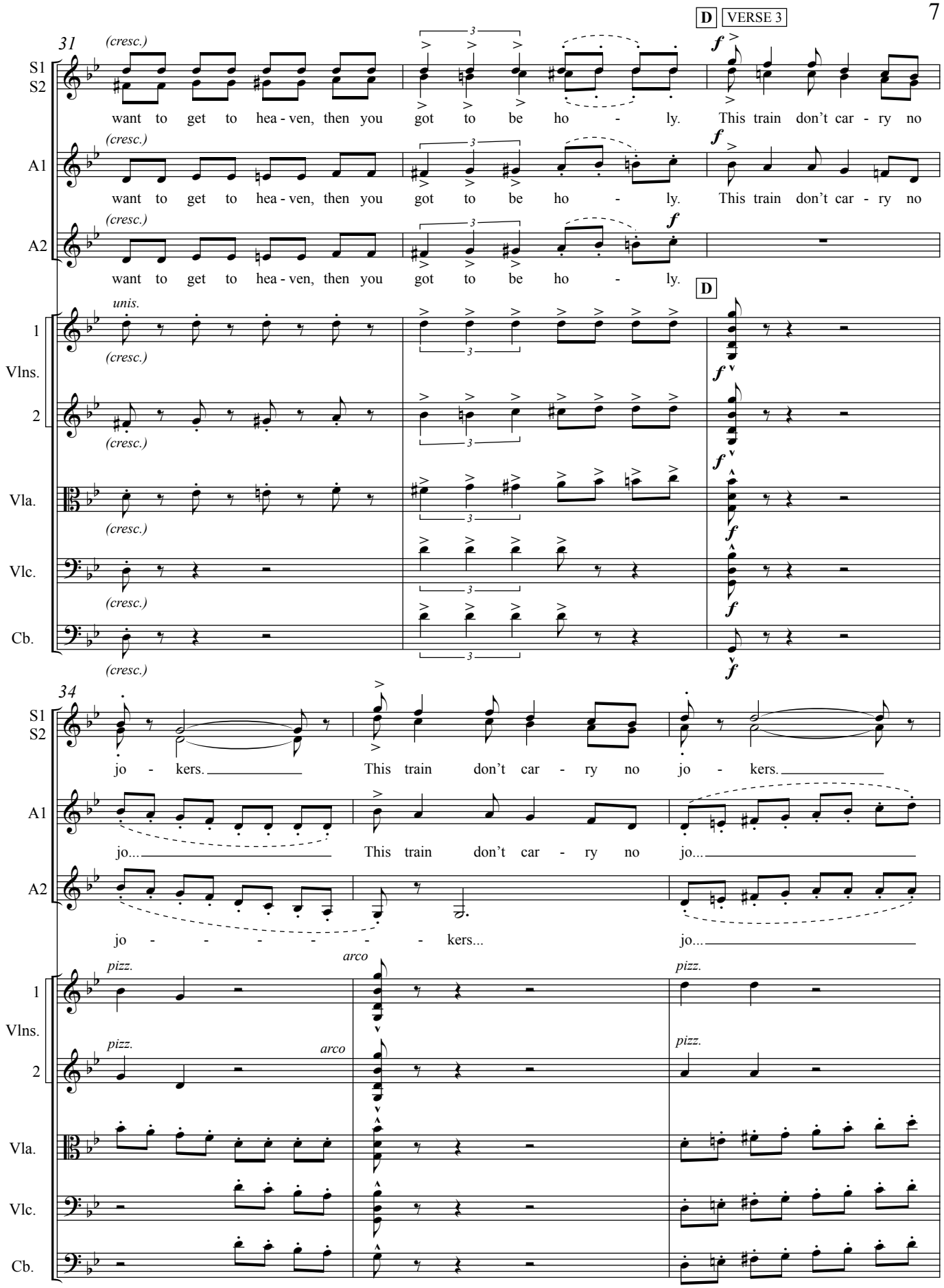
(unpitched vocal sound of steam coming from a train engine)

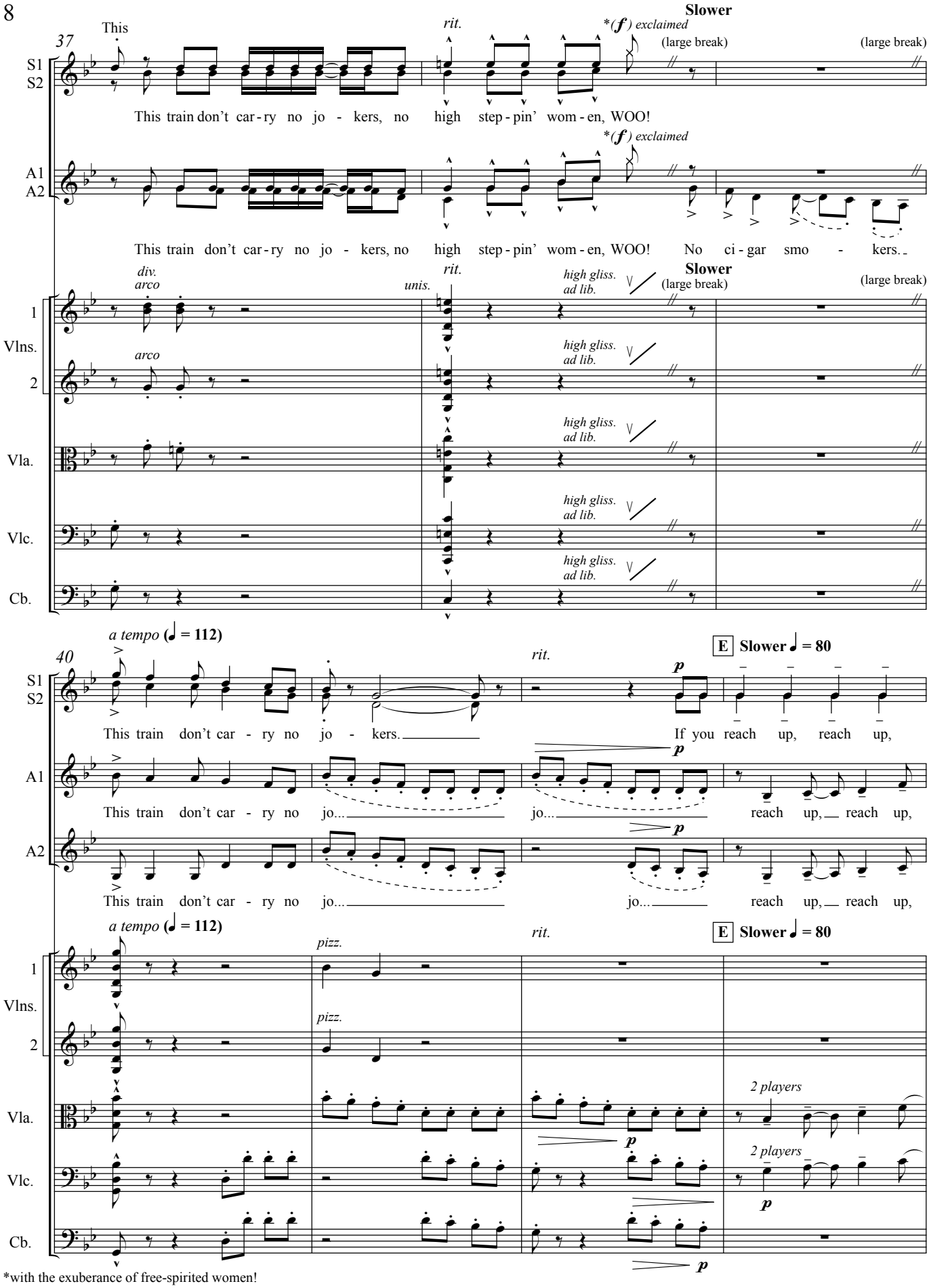


*to simulate a train passing by

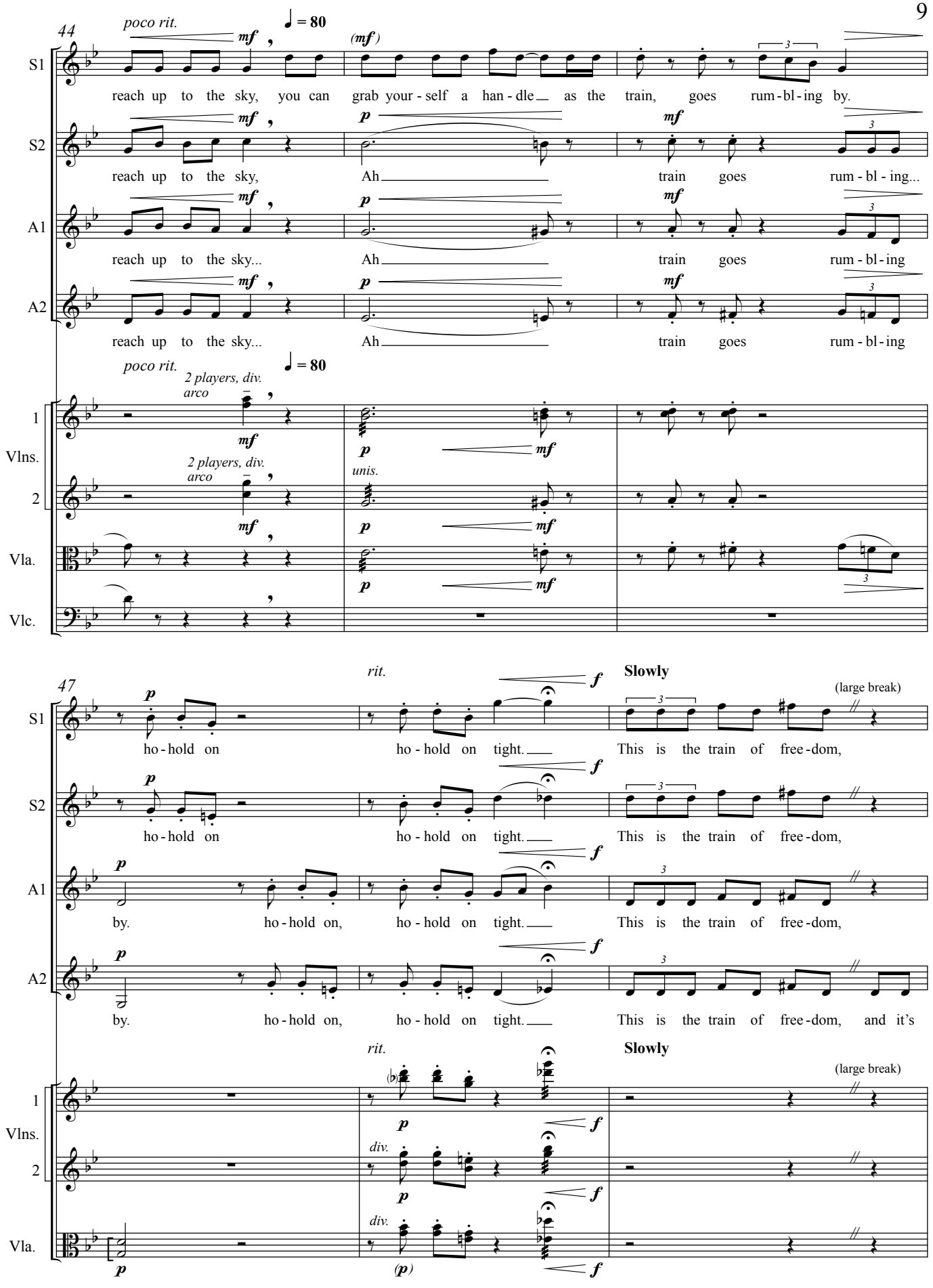
Alto 2 has a prominent "walking bass" part in the Refrains. It will be important to have a good, ***strong*, Alto 2 section, perhaps adding some Alto 1 if needed.

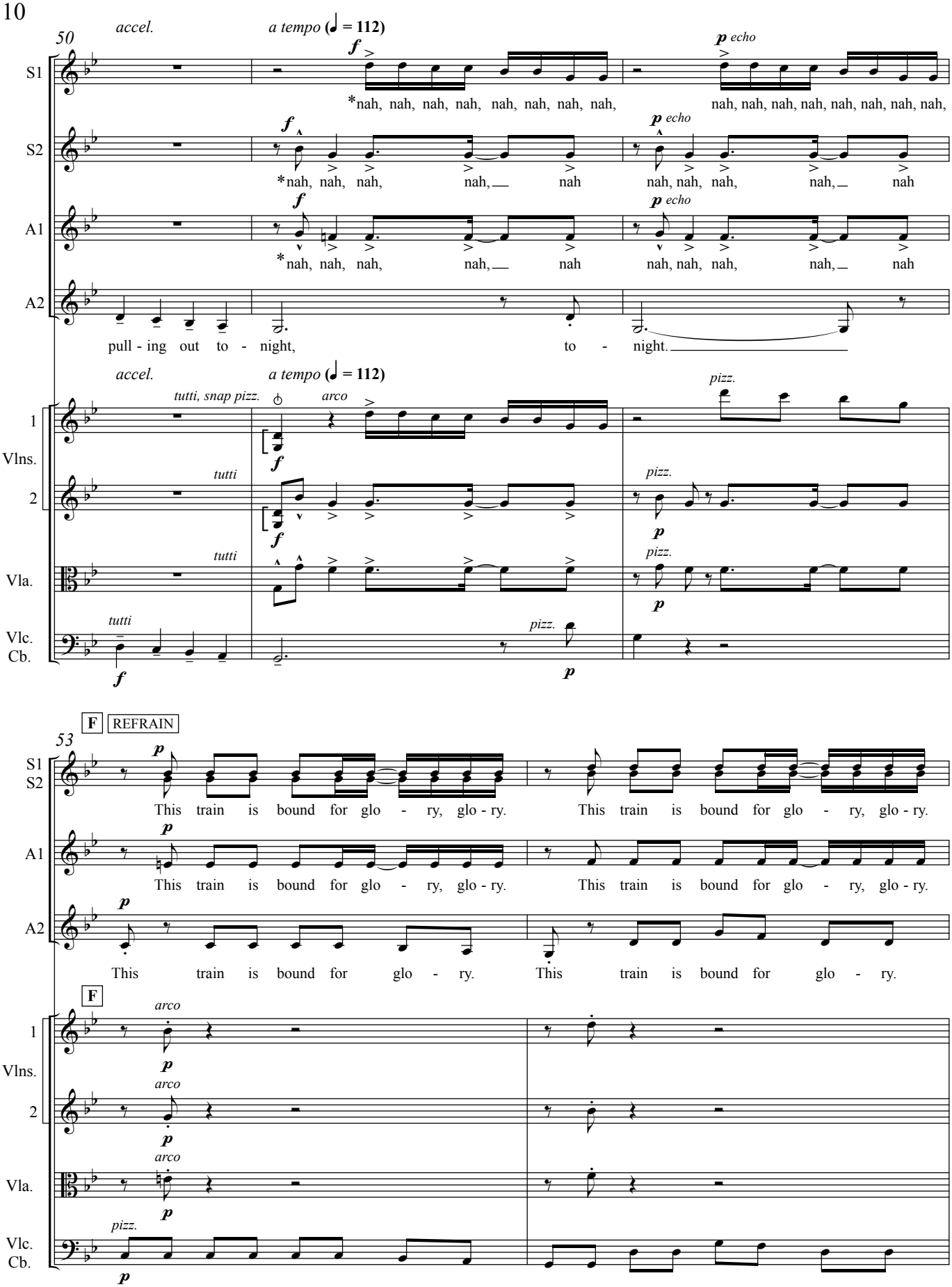

27
S1
S2
This train is bound for glo - ry, glo - ry. This train is bound for glo - ry, glo - ry.
A1
This train is bound for glo - ry, glo - ry. This train is bound for glo - ry, glo - ry.
A2
This train is bound for glo - ry. This train is bound for glo - ry.
div.
1
Vlns.
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
29
cresc. poco a poco (to D)
This train is bound for glo - ry, glo - ry. This train is bound for glo - ry, glo - ry.
This train is bound for glo - ry. This train is bound for glo - ry, if you
arco


D
VERSE 3
31
(cresc.)
S1
S2
want to get to hea - ven, then you got to be ho - ly. This train don't car - ry no
A1
want to get to hea - ven, then you got to be ho - ly. This train don't car - ry no
A2
want to get to hea - ven, then you got to be ho - ly.
unis.
1
Vlns.
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
34
jo - kers. This train don't car - ry no jo - kers.
jo... This train don't car - ry no jo...
jo - - - - - - kers... jo...
pizz.
arco

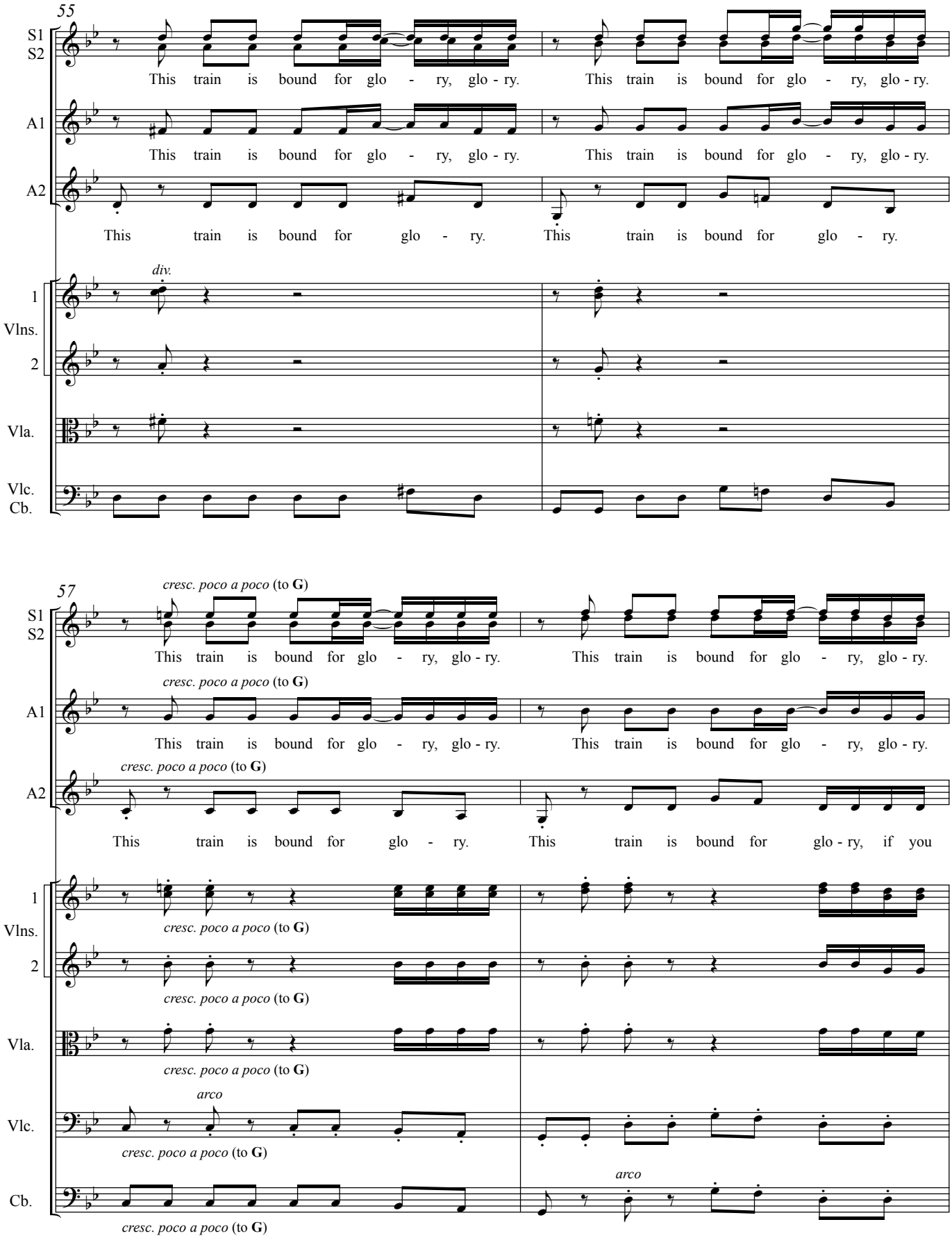


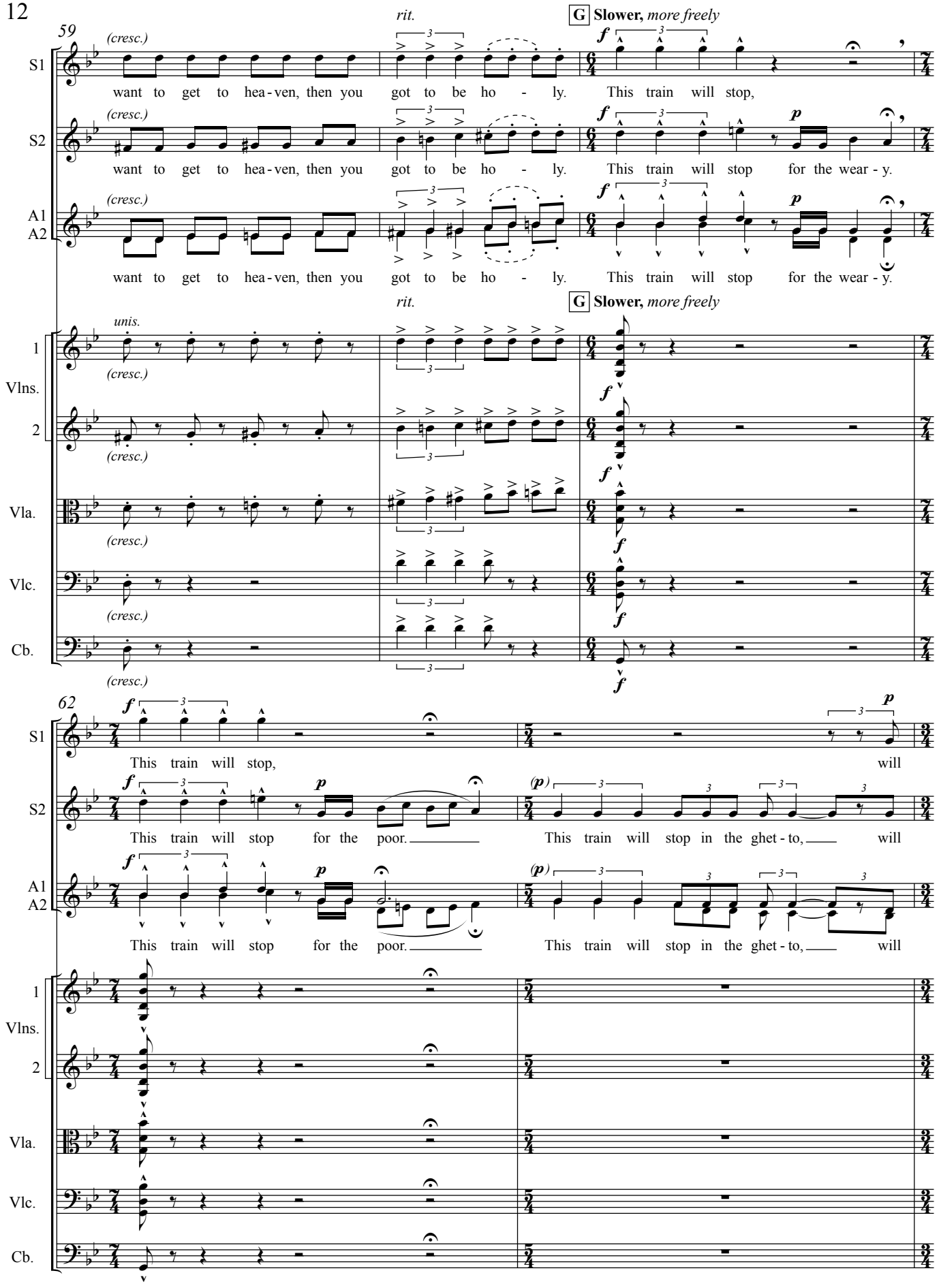
*with the exuberance of free-spirited women!

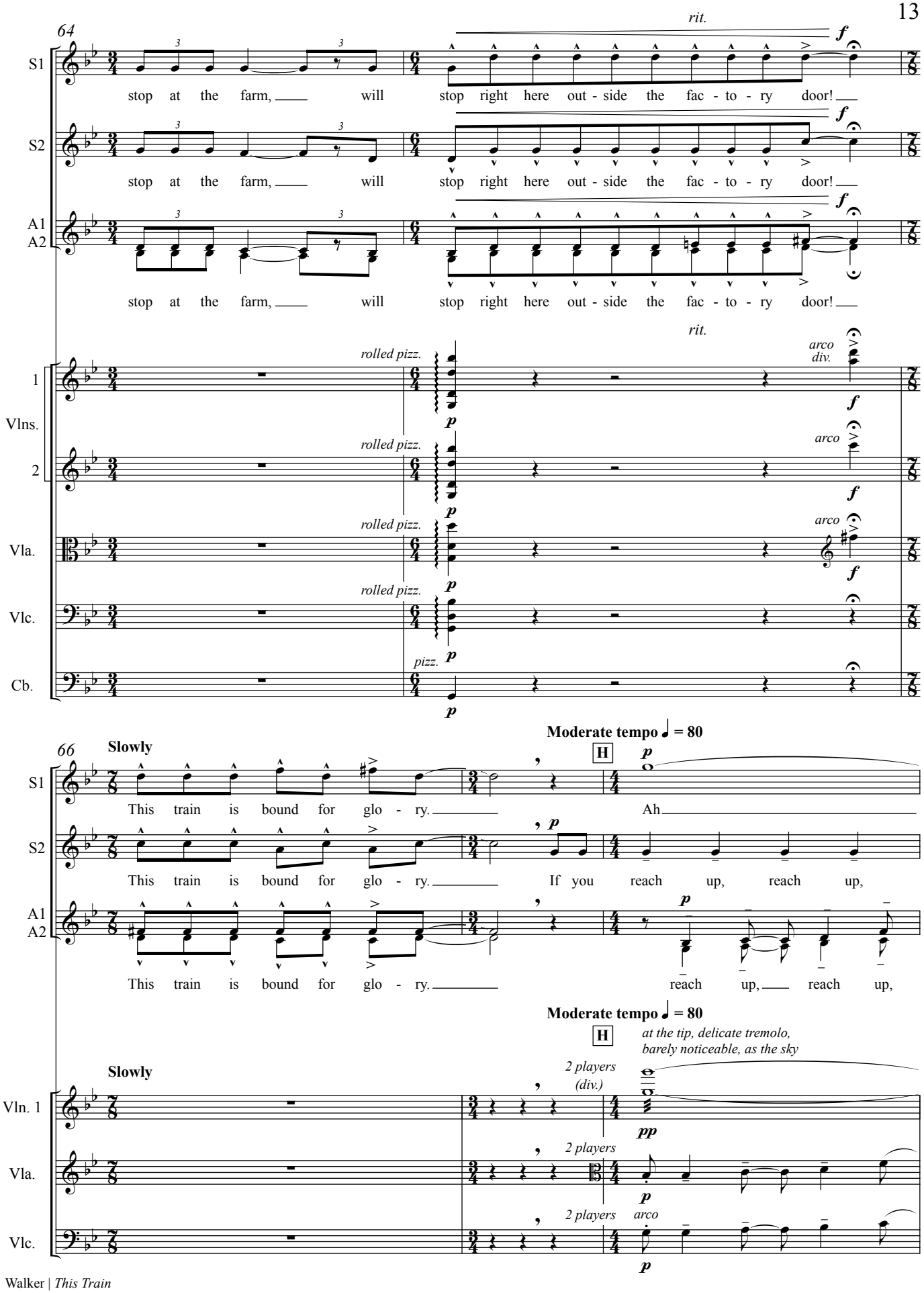

44
poco rit.
♩ = 80
S1
reach up to the sky, you can grab your - self a han - dle as the train, goes rum - bl - ing by.
S2
reach up to the sky, Ah train goes rum - bl - ing...
A1
reach up to the sky... Ah train goes rum - bl - ing
A2
reach up to the sky... Ah train goes rum - bl - ing
poco rit.
♩ = 80
2 players, div.
arco
1 Vlns.
2 players, div.
arco
2
unis.
Vla.
Vlc.
47
rit.
Slowly
(large break)
S1
ho - hold on ho - hold on tight. This is the train of free - dom,
S2
ho - hold on ho - hold on tight. This is the train of free - dom,
A1
by. ho - hold on, ho - hold on tight. This is the train of free - dom,
A2
by. ho - hold on, ho - hold on tight. This is the train of free - dom, and it's
rit.
Slowly
(large break)
1 Vlns.
div.
2
div.
Vla.

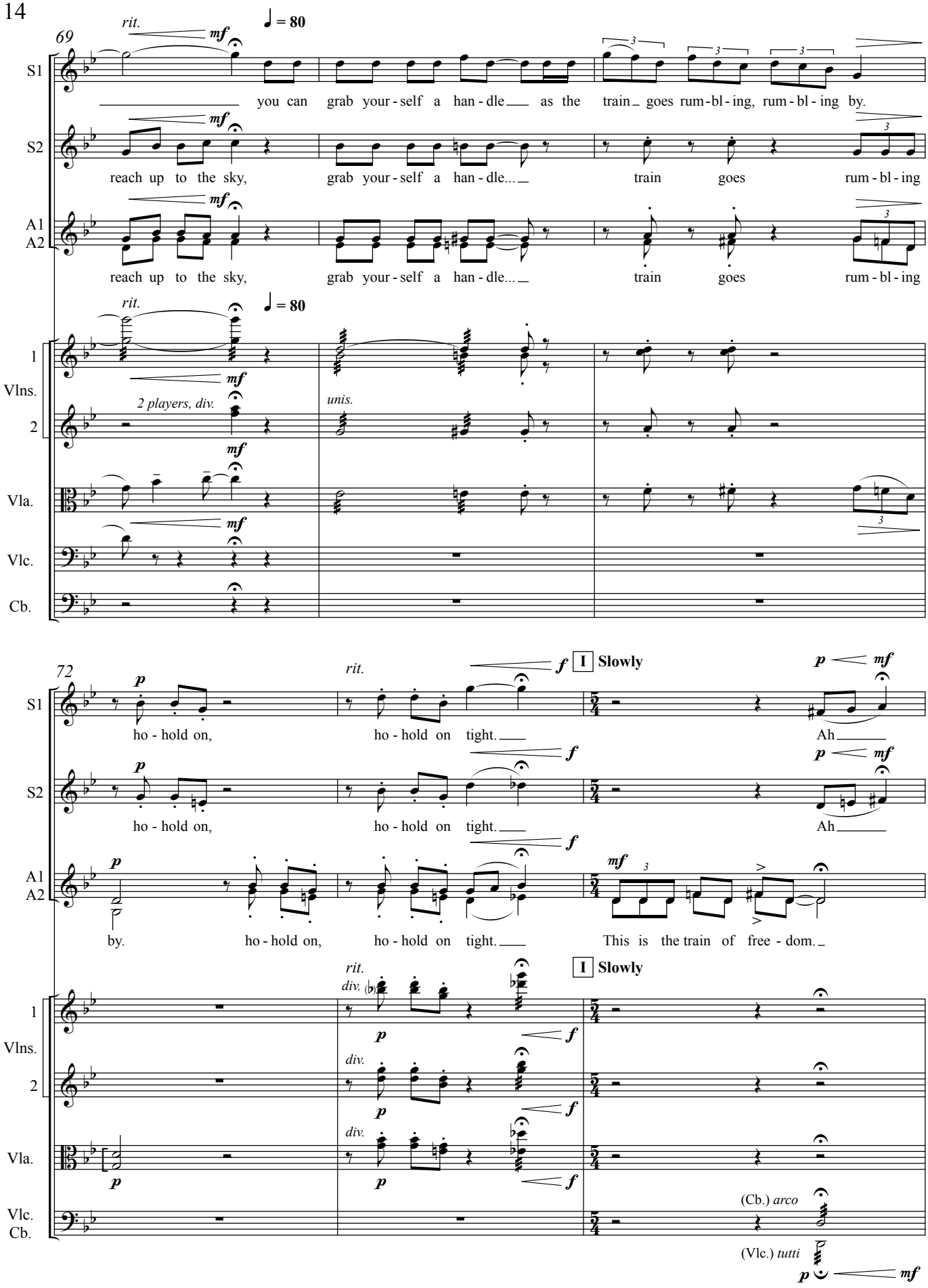


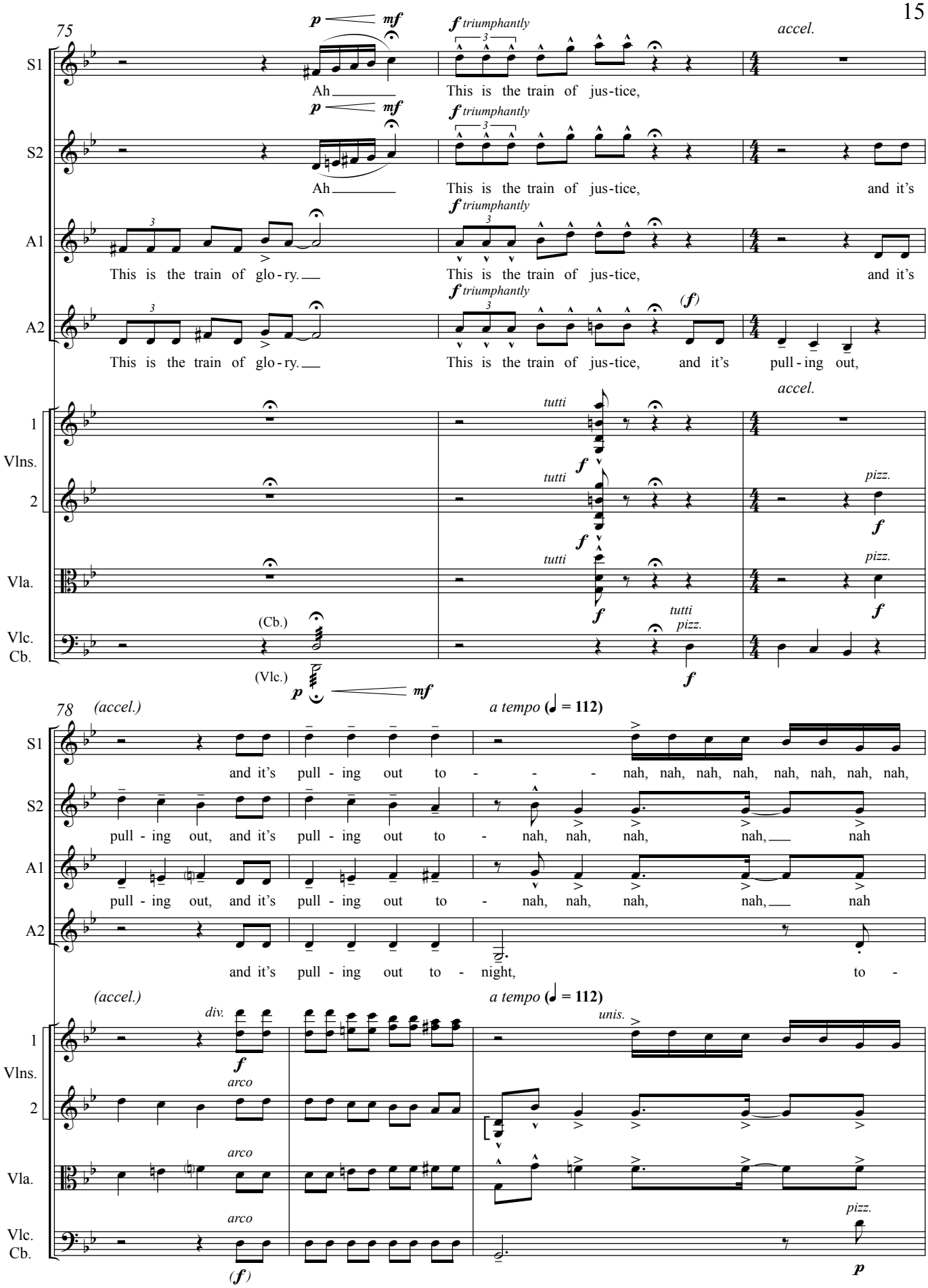
*"nah" matches the vowel sound in "night"

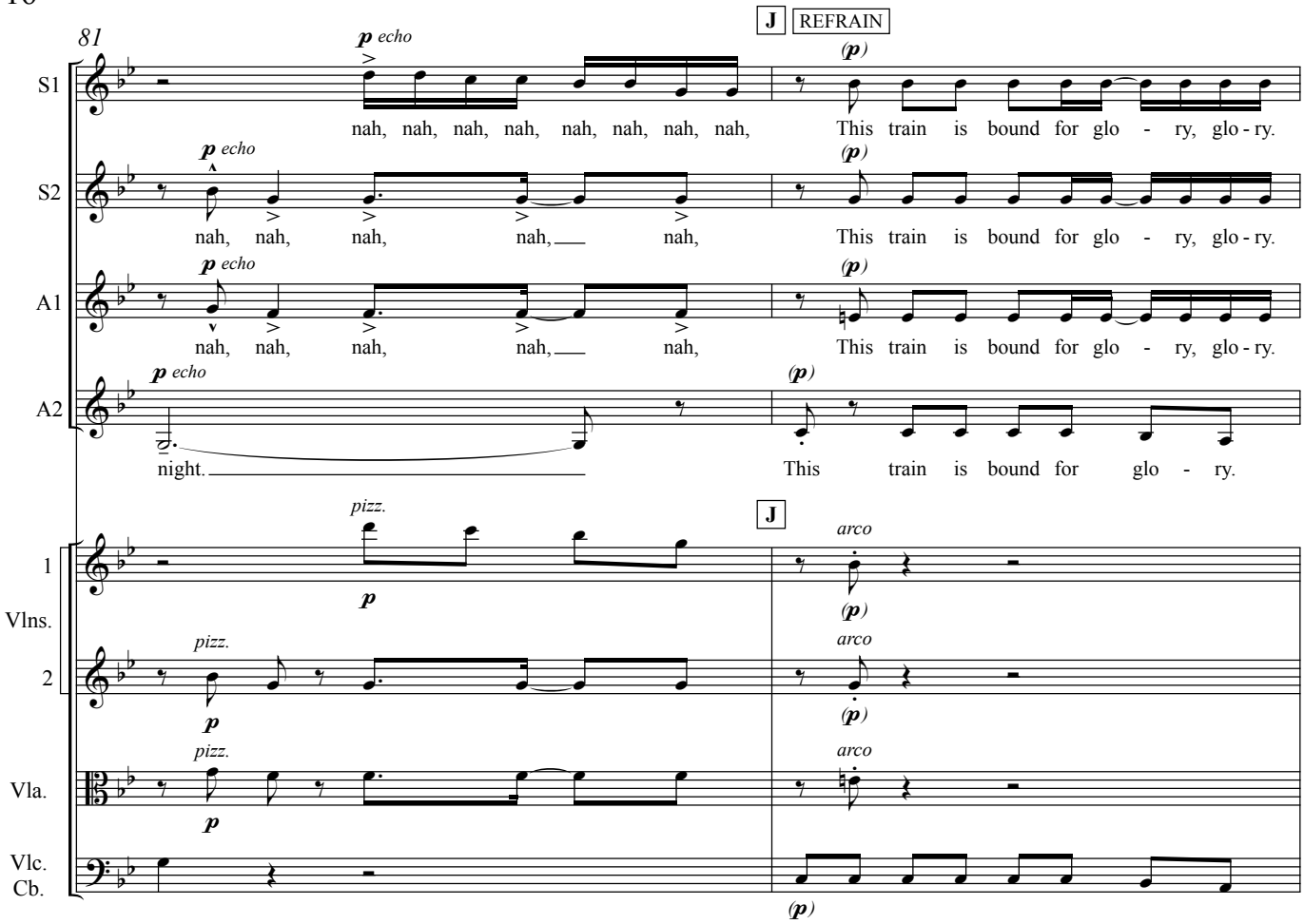

55
S1
S2
This train is bound for glo - ry, glo - ry.
This train is bound for glo - ry, glo - ry.
A1
This train is bound for glo - ry, glo - ry.
This train is bound for glo - ry, glo - ry.
A2
This train is bound for glo - ry.
This train is bound for glo - ry.
div.
1
Vlns.
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
57
cresc. poco a poco (to G)
This train is bound for glo - ry, glo - ry.
This train is bound for glo - ry, glo - ry.
This train is bound for glo - ry.
This train is bound for glo - ry, if you
arco

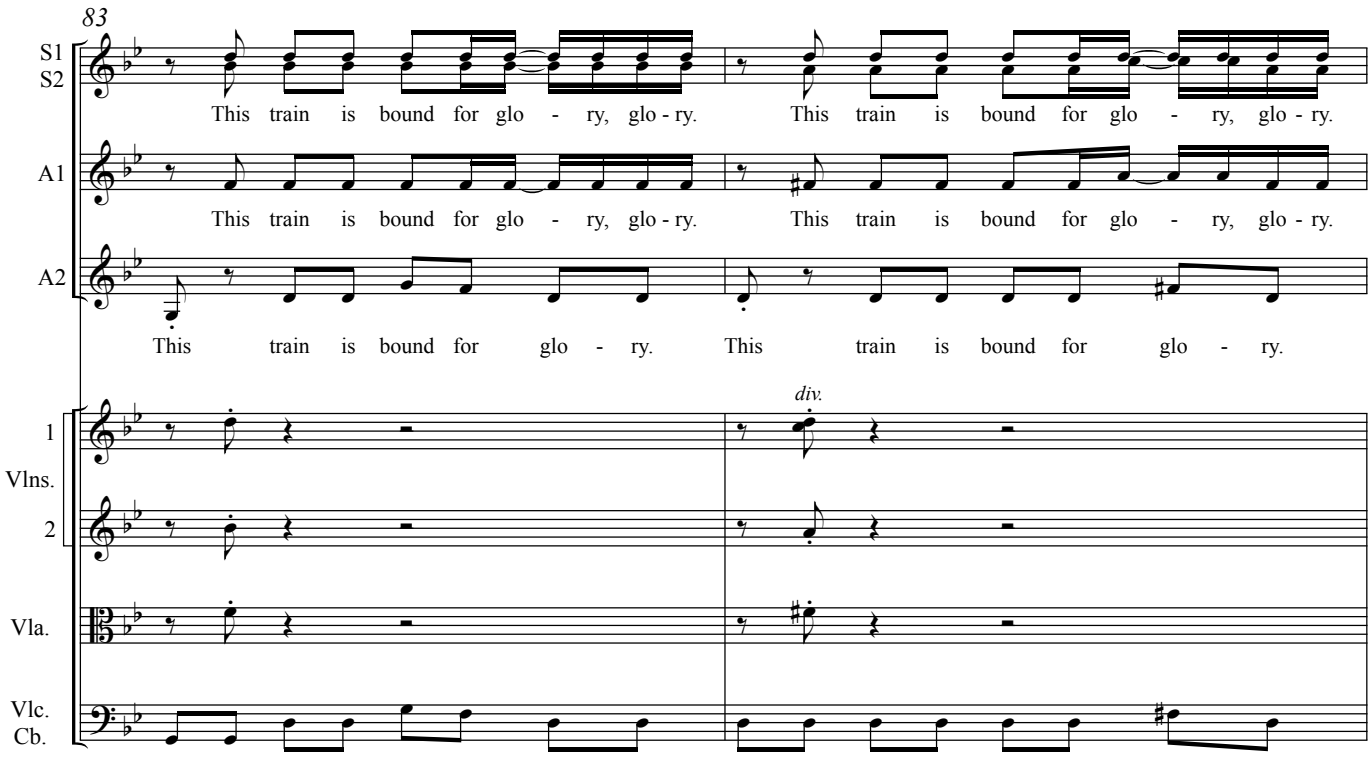

59
(cresc.)
rit.
G Slower, more freely
S1
want to get to hea - ven, then you got to be ho - ly. This train will stop,
S2
want to get to hea - ven, then you got to be ho - ly. This train will stop for the wear - y.
A1
A2
want to get to hea - ven, then you got to be ho - ly. This train will stop for the wear - y.
unis.
1 Vlns.
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
62
This train will stop, will
This train will stop for the poor.
This train will stop in the ghet - to,
This train will stop for the poor.
This train will stop in the ghet - to,

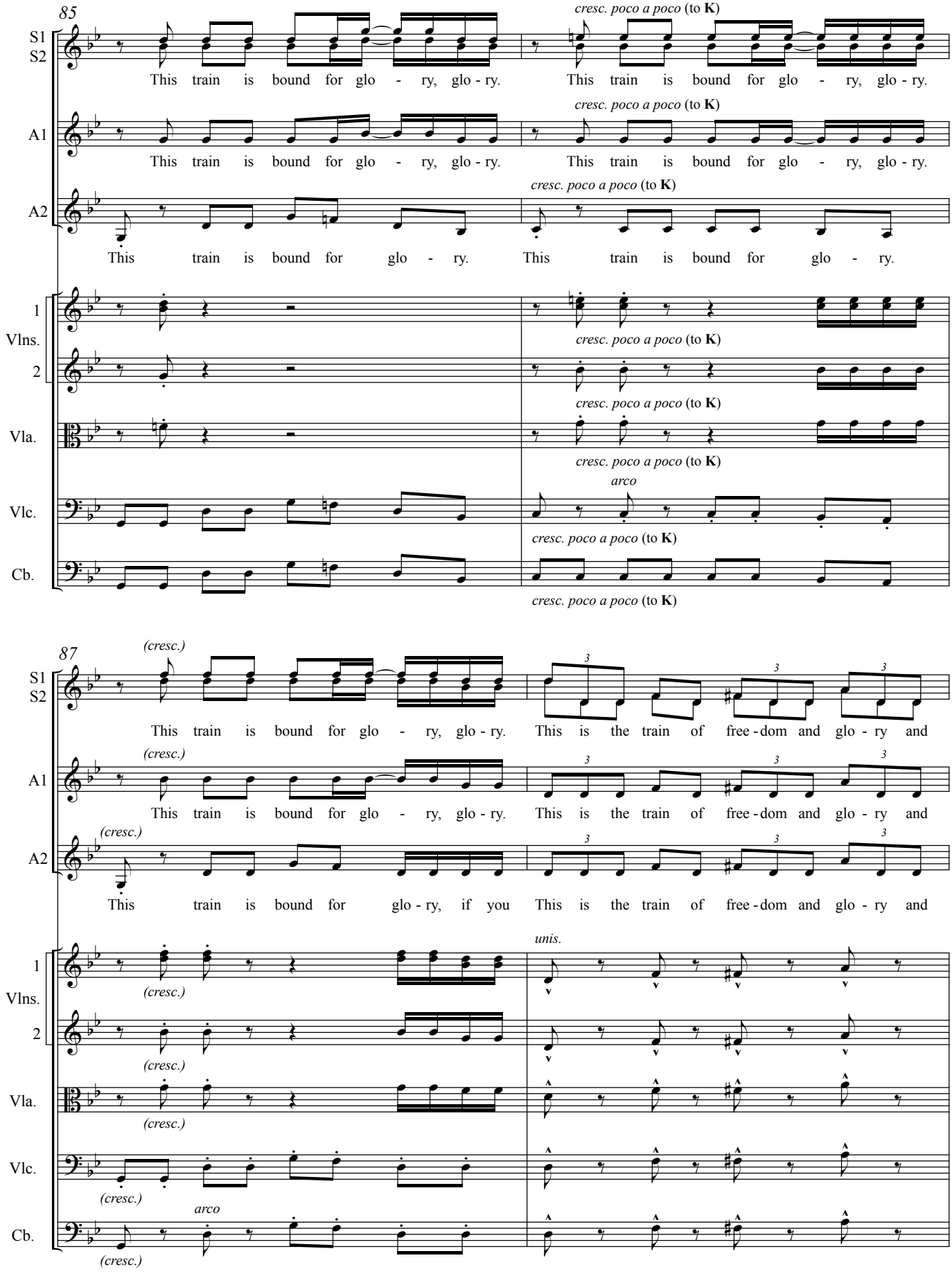

64
rit.
S1
stop at the farm, will stop right here out - side the fac - to - ry door!
S2
stop at the farm, will stop right here out - side the fac - to - ry door!
A1
A2
stop at the farm, will stop right here out - side the fac - to - ry door!
rit.
1
Vlns.
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
rolled pizz.
pizz.
arco
div.
66
Slowly
Moderate tempo ♩ = 80
H
This train is bound for glo - ry.
Ah
If you reach up, reach up,
reach up, reach up,
Vln. 1
2 players
(div.)
at the tip, delicate tremolo,
barely noticeable, as the sky

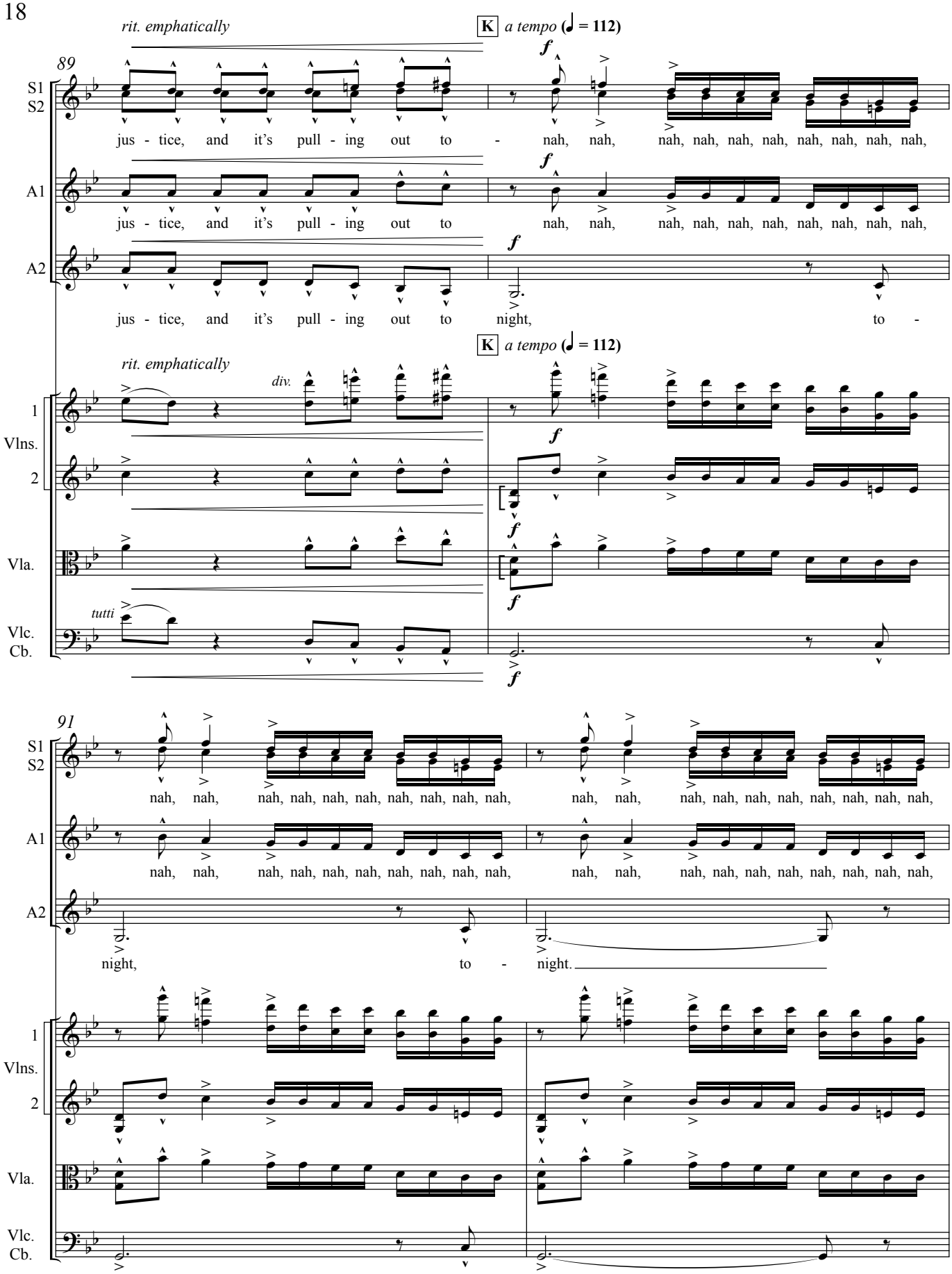

69
rit.
mf
♩ = 80
S1
you can grab your - self a han - dle as the train goes rum - bl - ing, rum - bl - ing by.
S2
reach up to the sky, grab your - self a han - dle... train goes rum - bl - ing
A1
A2
reach up to the sky, grab your - self a han - dle... train goes rum - bl - ing
1
Vlns.
2
2 players, div.
unis.
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
72
rit.
p
f
I Slowly
mf
ho - hold on, ho - hold on tight. Ah
by. ho - hold on, ho - hold on tight. This is the train of free - dom.
div.
(Cb.) arco
(Vlc.) tutti

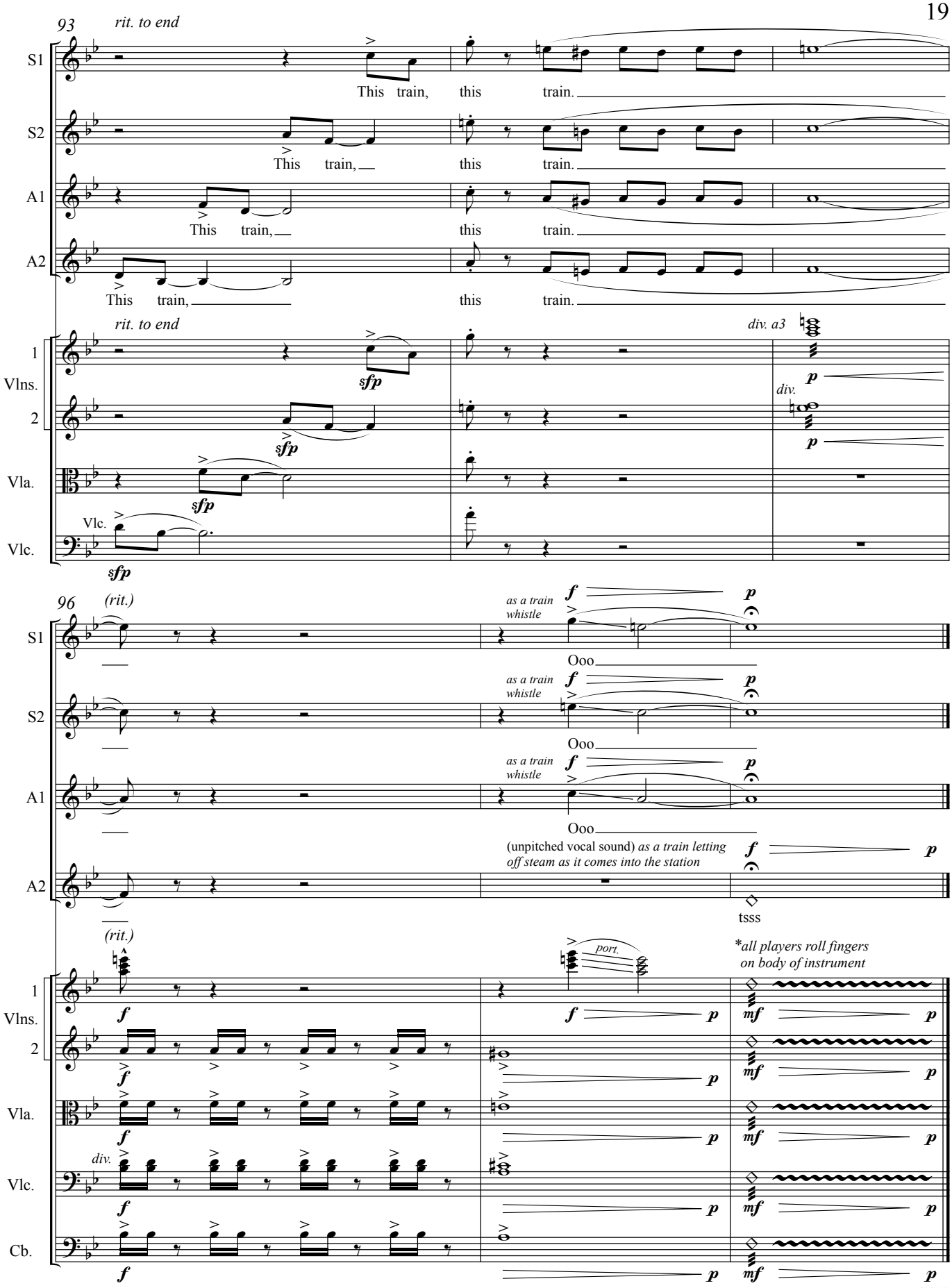

75
S1
S2
A1
A2
Vlns.
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
p mf
f triumphantly
accel.
Ah
This is the train of jus-tice,
This is the train of glo-ry.
and it's
pull-ing out,
tutti
pizz.
(Cb.)
(Vlc.)
78
(accel.)
a tempo (♩ = 112)
and it's pull-ing out to - - - nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah,
pull-ing out, and it's pull-ing out to - nah, nah, nah, nah, nah
and it's pull-ing out to - night, to -
div.
unis.
arco
(f)
p


81
J
REFRAIN
S1
S2
A1
A2
p echo
(p)
nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah,
This train is bound for glo - ry, glo - ry.
night.
This train is bound for glo - ry.
J
1
Vlns.
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
pizz.
arco
p
(p)


83
S1
S2
A1
A2
This train is bound for glo - ry, glo - ry.
This train is bound for glo - ry.
1
Vlns.
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
div.


85
S1
S2
This train is bound for glo - ry, glo - ry.
cresc. poco a poco (to K)
This train is bound for glo - ry, glo - ry.
A1
This train is bound for glo - ry, glo - ry.
cresc. poco a poco (to K)
This train is bound for glo - ry, glo - ry.
A2
This train is bound for glo - ry.
cresc. poco a poco (to K)
This train is bound for glo - ry.
1
Vlns.
2
cresc. poco a poco (to K)
Vla.
cresc. poco a poco (to K)
arco
Vlc.
cresc. poco a poco (to K)
Cb.
cresc. poco a poco (to K)
87
(cresc.)
This train is bound for glo - ry, glo - ry.
This is the train of free - dom and glo - ry and
This train is bound for glo - ry, glo - ry.
This is the train of free - dom and glo - ry and
This train is bound for glo - ry, if you
This is the train of free - dom and glo - ry and
unis.
arco


rit. emphatically
K a tempo (♩ = 112)
89
S1
S2
jus - tice, and it's pull - ing out to - nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah,
A1
jus - tice, and it's pull - ing out to nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah,
A2
jus - tice, and it's pull - ing out to night, to -
K a tempo (♩ = 112)
rit. emphatically
div.
1
Vlns.
2
Vla.
tutti
Vlc.
Cb.
91
S1
S2
nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah,
A1
nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah,
A2
night, to - night.
1
Vlns.
2
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.



*to add drama to the sound of the train coming to a stop in the station.

4'30"

This version completed: October 31, 2013
New Canaan, Connecticut