Kjell Marcussen

Rapunzel

For piano solo

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Musikalsk eventyr i fem satser basert på eventyret Rapunzel av brødrene Grimm.

Verket kan fremføres med - eller uten forteller.

I Den forbudte hagen

II I tårnet

III Romansen

IV Prinsen

V Befrielsen

Rapunzel (Brødrene Grimm)

I Den forbudte hagen

Det var en gang en mann og en kone som lenge hadde ønsket seg et barn forgjeves, endelig fikk konen håp om at den gode Gud ville oppfylle deres ønske. Folket hadde et lite vindu i bak huset sitt, hvorfra man kunne se ut i en praktfull hage, full av de vakreste blomster og urter; men den var omgitt av en høy mur, og ingen våget å gå inn, fordi den tilhørte en trollkvinne som hadde stor makt og var fryktet av alle. En dag sto konen ved dette vinduet og så ned i hagen, da fikk hun øye på et bed som var beplantet med de vakreste rapunsler; og de så så friske og grønne ut at hun ble lysten og fikk et stort begjær etter å spise av rapunslene. Begjæret økte for hver dag, og siden hun visste at hun ikke kunne få noen av dem, ble hun helt avmagret og så blek og elendig ut. Da ble mannen forskrekket og spurte: «Hva feiler deg, kjære kone?» «Akk,» svarte hun, «hvis jeg ikke får spise rapunsler fra hagen bak huset vårt, så dør jeg.»

Mannen, som elsket henne, tenkte: «Før du lar din kone dø, henter du noen rapunsler til henne, koste hva det koste vil.» I skumringen klatret han over muren inn i trollkvinnens hage, plukket i all hast en håndfull rapunsler og brakte dem til sin kone. Hun laget straks en salat av dem og spiste dem med stor appetitt. De hadde smakt så godt, så godt at hun neste dag fikk tre ganger så stor lyst. For at hun skulle få ro, måtte mannen nok en gang klatre inn i hagen. Han begav seg altså ned igjen i skumringen, men da han hadde klatret ned muren, ble han fryktelig skremt, for han så trollkvinnen stå foran seg.

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«Hvordan våger du,» sa hun med et sint blikk, «så klatre inn i min hage og stjele mine rapunsler som en tyv? Det skal du få svi for.»

«Akk,» svarte han, «la nåde gå for rett, jeg bestemte meg bare for dette av nød: min kone så Deres rapunsler fra vinduet og føler et så stort begjær at hun ville dø hvis hun ikke fikk spise av dem.» Da lot trollkvinnen sinnet fare og sa til ham: «Hvis det forholder seg slik som du sier, så vil jeg tillate deg å ta med deg så mange rapunsler du vil, men jeg stiller én betingelse: Du må gi meg barnet som din kone vil bringe til verden. Det skal ha det godt, og jeg vil sørge for det som en mor.» Mannen sa ja til alt i sin angst, og da konen nedkom, dukket trollkvinnen straks opp, ga barnet navnet Rapunsel og tok det med seg.

II I Tårnet

Rapunzel ble det vakreste barnet under solen. Da hun var tolv år gammel, stengte trollkvinnen henne inne i et tårn som lå i en skog. Tårnet hadde verken trapp eller dør, bare et lite vindu helt øverst. Når trollkvinnen ville inn, stilte hun seg nedenfor og ropte:
«Rapunsel, Rapunsel,
Slipp ned håret ditt til meg.»
Rapunsel hadde langt, praktfullt hår, fint som spunnet gull. Når hun hørte trollkvinnens stemme, løsnet hun flettene sine, viklet dem rundt en krok ved vinduet, og så falt håret tjue alen ned, og trollkvinnen klatret opp.

III Romansen

Etter noen år hendte det at kongens sønn red gjennom skogen og kom forbi tårnet. Da hørte han en sang som var så nydelig at han stanset og lyttet. Det var Rapunsel som fordrev tiden i sin ensomhet ved å la sin søte stemme klinge. Kongssønnen ville klatre opp til henne og lette etter en dør i tårnet, men fant ingen. Han red hjem, men sangen hadde rørt hjertet hans så dypt at han dro til skogen hver dag for å lytte. En dag han sto bak et tre, så han en trollkvinne komme, og hørte hvordan hun ropte:
«Rapunsel, Rapunsel,
Slipp ned håret ditt.»
Rapunsel lot flettene falle ned, og trollkvinnen klatret opp til henne. «Er det stigen man kommer opp på, så vil jeg også prøve lykken en gang,» tenkte kongssønnen, og neste kveld, da det begynte å bli mørkt, gikk han til tårnet og ropte:
«Rapunsel, Rapunsel,
Slipp ned håret ditt.»
Straks falt håret ned, og kongssønnen klatret opp.
Først ble Rapunsel veldig forskrekket da en mann kom inn til henne, som øynene hennes aldri hadde sett maken til, men kongssønnen begynte å snakke vennlig med henne og fortalte at sangen hennes hadde beveget hjertet hans så dypt at han ikke fikk ro før han fikk se henne selv. Da mistet Rapunsel frykten, og da han spurte om hun ville bli hans kone, og hun så at han var ung og vakker, tenkte hun: «Han vil elske meg mer enn gamle fru Gothel,» og sa ja, og la hånden sin i hans. Hun sa: «Jeg vil gjerne gå med deg, men jeg vet ikke hvordan jeg skal komme ned. Når du kommer, ta med deg en silketråd hver gang, av den vil jeg flette en stige, og når den er ferdig, klatrer jeg ned og du tar meg opp på hesten din.» De avtalte at han skulle komme til henne hver kveld, for om dagen kom den gamle.

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IV Prinsen

Trollkvinnen merket ingenting før Rapunsel en gang begynte å si til henne: «Si meg, fru Gothel, hvordan kan det ha seg at De er mye tyngre å trekke opp enn den unge kongssønnen, som er hos meg på et øyeblikk?» – «Å, du gudløse barn,» ropte trollkvinnen, «hva må jeg høre, jeg trodde jeg hadde skilt deg fra hele verden, og du har likevel bedratt meg!» I sitt raseri grep hun Rapunsels vakre hår, slo det et par ganger rundt venstre hånd, grep en saks med den høyre, og snipp snapp var det klippet av, og de vakre flettene lå på bakken. Og hun var så ubarmhjertig at hun tok med seg den stakkars Rapunsel til en ørken, hvor hun måtte leve i stor jammer og elendighet.
Samme dag som hun hadde forvist Rapunsel, festet trollkvinnen de avklipte flettene øverst på vinduskroken om kvelden, og da kongssønnen kom og ropte:
«Rapunsel, Rapunsel,
Slipp ned håret ditt.»

V Befrielsen

Så slapp hun håret ned. Kongssønnen klatret opp, men øverst fant han ikke sin kjære Rapunsel, men trollkvinnen, som så på ham med onde og giftige blikk. «Aha,» ropte hun hånlig, «du vil hente din kjære, men den vakre fuglen sitter ikke lenger i redet og synger ikke mer, katten har tatt den og vil også klore ut øynene dine. For deg er Rapunsel tapt, du vil aldri se henne igjen.» Kongssønnen ble ute av seg av

smerte, og i fortvilelse hoppet han ned fra tårnet: han overlevde, men tornene han falt i, stakk ut øynene hans. Da vandret han blind omkring i skogen, spiste ikke annet enn røtter og bær, og gjorde ikke annet enn å klage og gråte over tapet av sin kjæreste. Slik vandret han omkring i elendighet i noen år og kom til slutt til ørkenen hvor Rapunsel levde kummerlig med tvillingene hun hadde født, en gutt og en jente. Han hørte en stemme, og den virket så kjent; da gikk han mot den, og da han kom nær, kjente Rapunsel ham igjen og falt ham om halsen og gråt. To av tårene hennes fuktet øynene hans, da ble de klare igjen, og han kunne se som før. Han førte henne til sitt rike, hvor han ble mottatt med glede, og de levde lykkelig og fornøyd i lang tid.

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Rapunzel

There once lived a man and his wife, who had long wished for a child, but in vain. Now there was at the back of their house a little window which overlooked a beautiful garden full of the finest vegetables and flowers; but there was a high wall all round it, and no one ventured into it, for it belonged to a witch of great might, and of whom all the world was afraid.

One day that the wife was standing at the window, and looking into the garden, she saw a bed filled with the finest rampion; and it looked so fresh and green that she began to wish for some; and at length she longed for it greatly. This went on for days, and as she knew she could not get the rampion, she pined away, and grew pale and miserable. Then the man was uneasy, and asked, "What is the matter, dear wife?"

"Oh," answered she, "I shall die unless I can have some of that rampion to eat that grows in the garden at the back of our house." The man, who loved her very much, thought to himself, "Rather than lose my wife I will get some rampion, cost what it will." So in the twilight he climbed over the wall into the witch's garden, plucked hastily a handful of rampion and brought it to his wife. She made a salad of it at once, and ate of it to her heart's content. But she liked it so much, and it tasted so good, that the next day she longed for it thrice as much as she had done before; if she was to have any rest the man must climb over the wall once more. So he went in the twilight again; and as he was climbing back, he saw, all at once, the witch standing before him, and was terribly frightened, as she cried, with angry eyes, "How dare you climb over into my garden like a thief, and steal my rampion! it shall be the worse for you!"

"Oh," answered he, "be merciful rather than just, I have only done it through necessity; for my wife saw your rampion out of the window, and became possessed with so great a longing that she would have died if she could not have had some to eat." Then the witch said,

"If it is all as you say you may have as much rampion as you like, on one condition - the child that will come into the world must be given to me. It shall go well with the child, and I will care for it like a mother."

In his distress of mind the man promised everything; and when the time came when the child was born the witch appeared, and, giving the child the name of Rapunzel (which is the same as rampion), she took it away with her.

Rapunzel was the most beautiful child in the world. When she was twelve years old the witch shut her up in a tower in the midst of a wood, and it had neither steps nor door, only a small window above. When the witch wished to be let in, she would stand below and would cry,

"Rapunzel, Rapunzel!
Let down your hair!"

Rapunzel had beautiful long hair that shone like gold. When she. heard the voice of the witch she would undo the fastening of the upper window, unbind the plaits of her hair, and let it down twenty ells below, and the witch would climb up by it.

After they had lived thus a few years it happened that as the King's son was riding through the wood, he came to the tower; and as he drew near he heard a voice singing so sweetly that he stood still and listened. It was Rapunzel in her loneliness trying to pass away the time with sweet songs. The King's son wished to go in to her, and sought to find a door in the tower, but there was none. So he rode home, but the song had entered into his heart, and every day he went into the wood and listened to it. Once, as he was standing there under a tree, he saw the witch come up, and listened while she called out,

"O Rapunzel, Rapunzel!
Let down your hair."

Then he saw how Rapunzel let down her long tresses, and how the witch climbed up by it and went in to her, and he said to himself, "Since that is the ladder I will climb it, and seek my fortune." And the next day, as soon as it began to grow dusk, he went to the tower and cried,

"O Rapunzel, Rapunzel!
Let down your hair."

And she let down her hair, and the King's son climbed up by it. Rapunzel was greatly terrified when she saw that a man had come in to her, for she had never seen one before; but the King's son began speaking so kindly to her, and told how her singing had entered into his heart, so that he could have no peace until he had seen her herself. Then Rapunzel forgot her terror,

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and when he asked her to take him for her husband, and she saw that he was young and beautiful, she thought to herself, "I certainly like him much better than old mother Gothel," and she put her hand into his hand.

She said: "I would willingly go with thee, but I do not know how I shall get out. When thou comest, bring each time a silken rope, and I will make a ladder, and when it is quite ready I will get down by it out of the tower, and thou shalt take me away on thy horse." They agreed that he should come to her every evening, as the old woman came in the day-time.

So the witch knew nothing of all this until once Rapunzel said to her unwittingly, "Mother Gothel, how is it that you climb up here so slowly, and the King's son is with me in a moment?"

"O wicked child," cried the witch, "what is this I hear! I thought I had hidden thee from all the world, and thou hast betrayed me!" In her anger she seized Rapunzel by her beautiful hair, struck her several times with her left hand, and then grasping a pair of shears in her right - snip, snap - the beautiful locks lay on the ground. And she was so hard-hearted that she took Rapunzel and put her in a waste and desert place, where she lived in great woe and misery.

The same day on which she took Rapunzel away she went back to the tower in the evening and made fast the severed locks of hair to the window-hasp, and the King's son came and cried,

"Rapunzel, Rapunzel!
Let down your hair."

Then she let the hair down, and the King's son climbed up, but instead of his dearest Rapunzel he found the witch looking at him with wicked glittering eyes.

"Aha!" cried she, mocking him, "you came for your darling, but the sweet bird sits no longer in the nest, and sings no more; the cat has got her, and will scratch out your eyes as well! Rapunzel is lost to you; you will see her no more." The King's son was beside himself with grief, and in his agony he sprang from the tower: he escaped with life, but the thorns on which he fell put out his eyes. Then he wandered blind through the wood, eating nothing but roots and berries, and doing nothing but lament and weep for the loss of his dearest wife.

So he wandered several years in misery until at last he came to the desert place where Rapunzel lived with her twin-children that she had borne, a boy and a girl. At first he heard a voice that he thought he knew, and when he reached the place from which it seemed to come Rapunzel knew him, and fell on his neck and wept. And when her tears touched his eyes they became clear again, and he could see with them as well as ever. Then he took her to his kingdom, where he was received with great joy, and there they lived long and happily.

* * *

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Rapunzel

1. Den forbudte hagen

The forbidden Garden

Kjell Marcussen

Moderato ♩. = 82

Piano

f

6

11

mf

16

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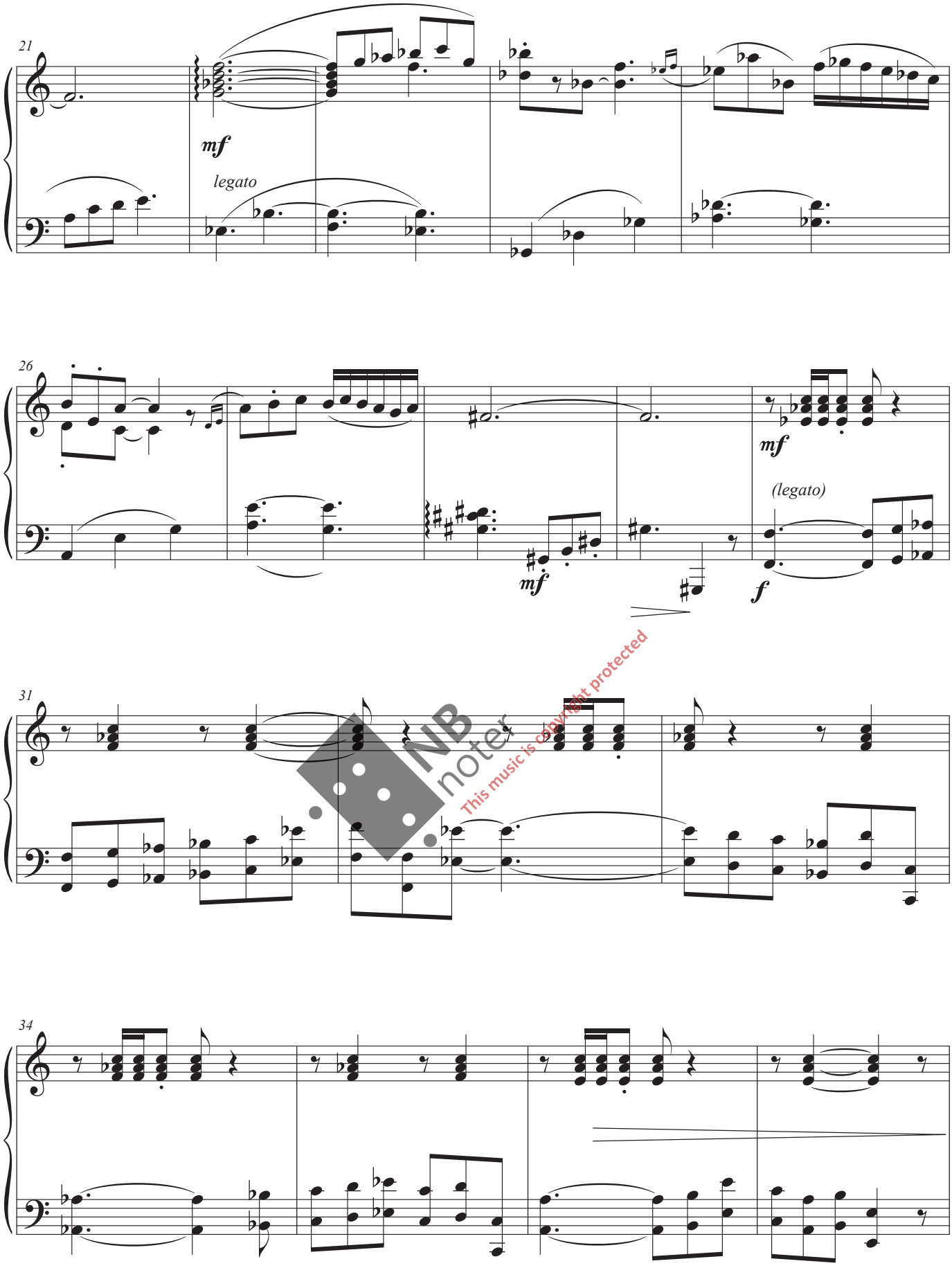

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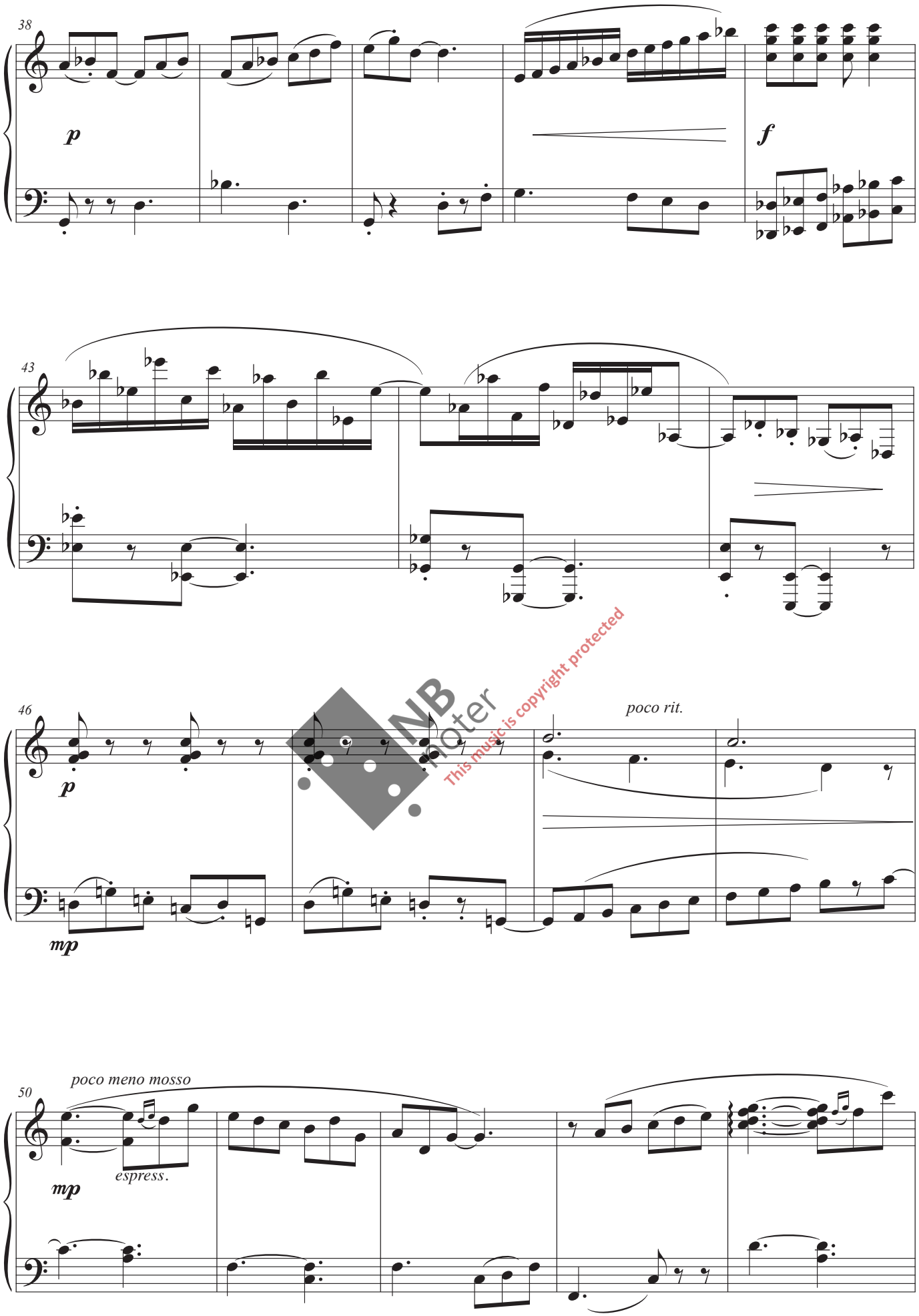

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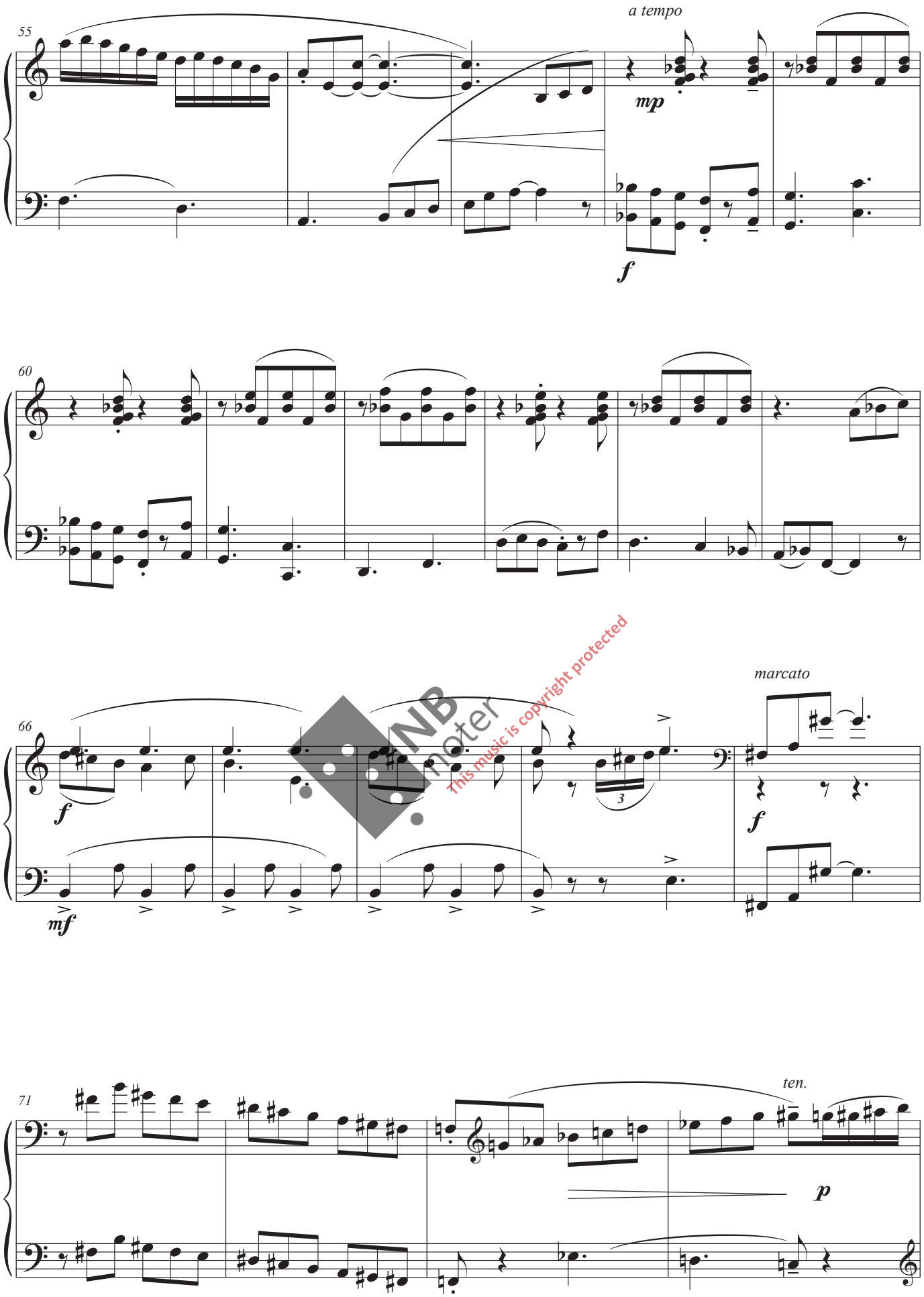

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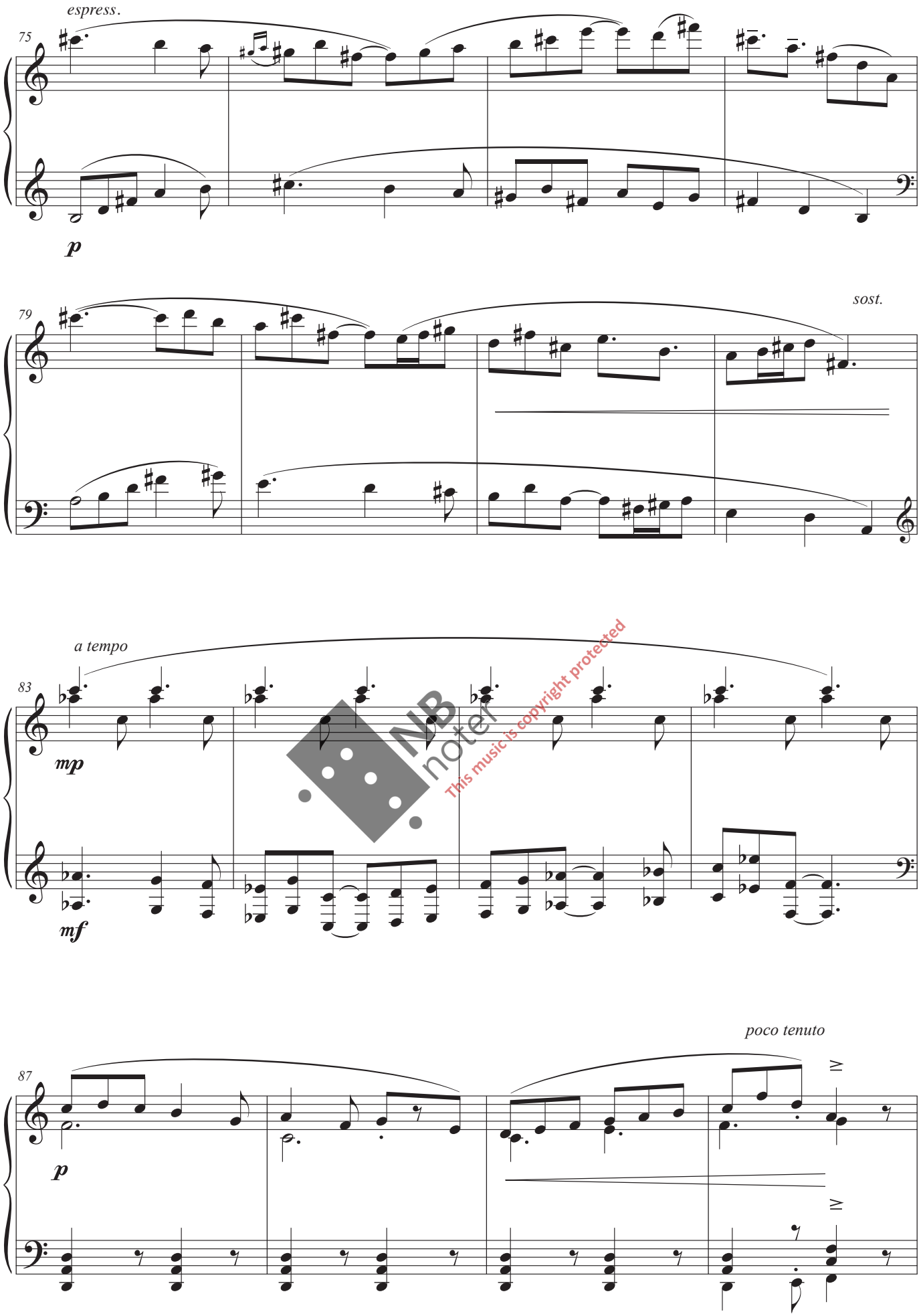

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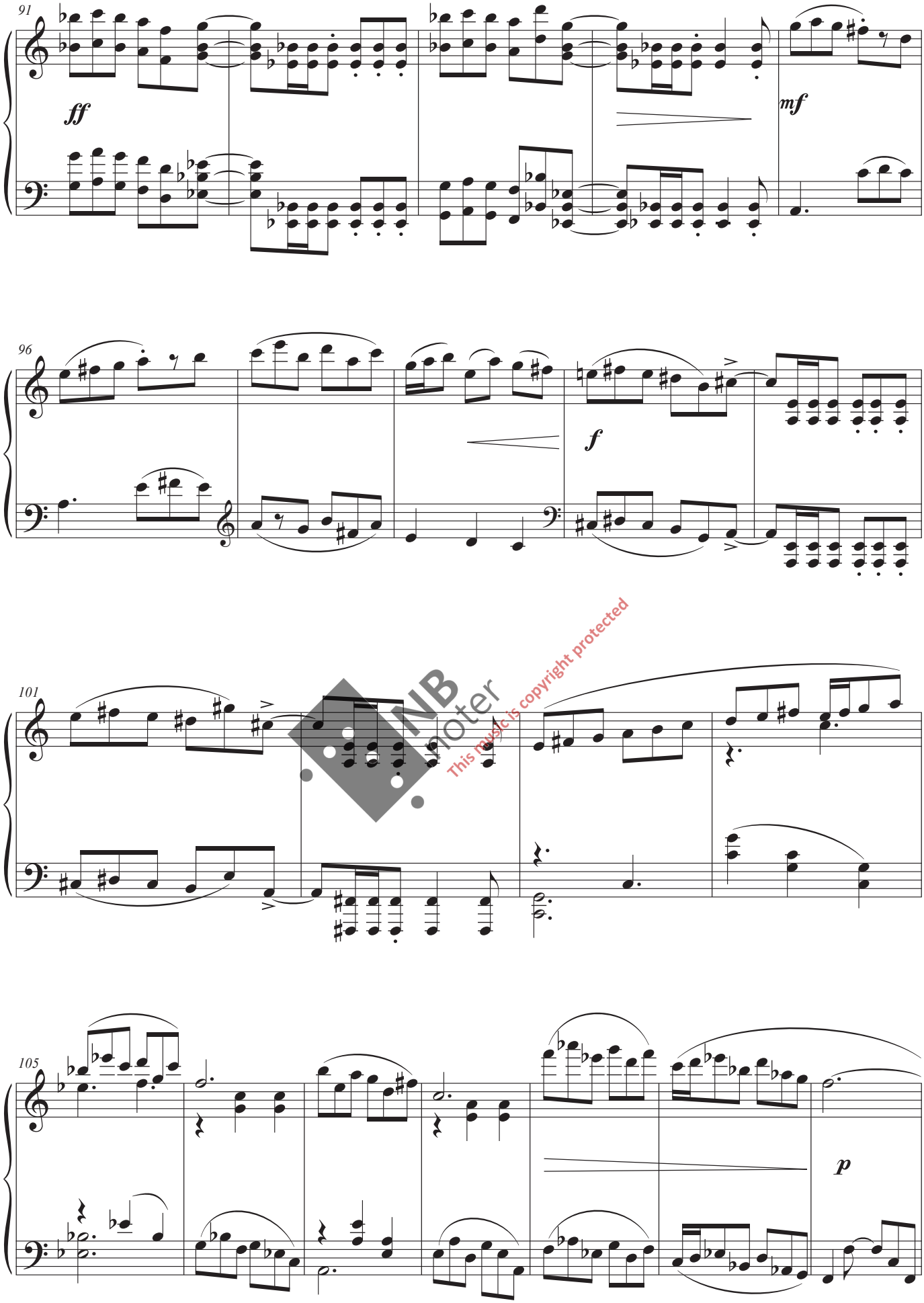

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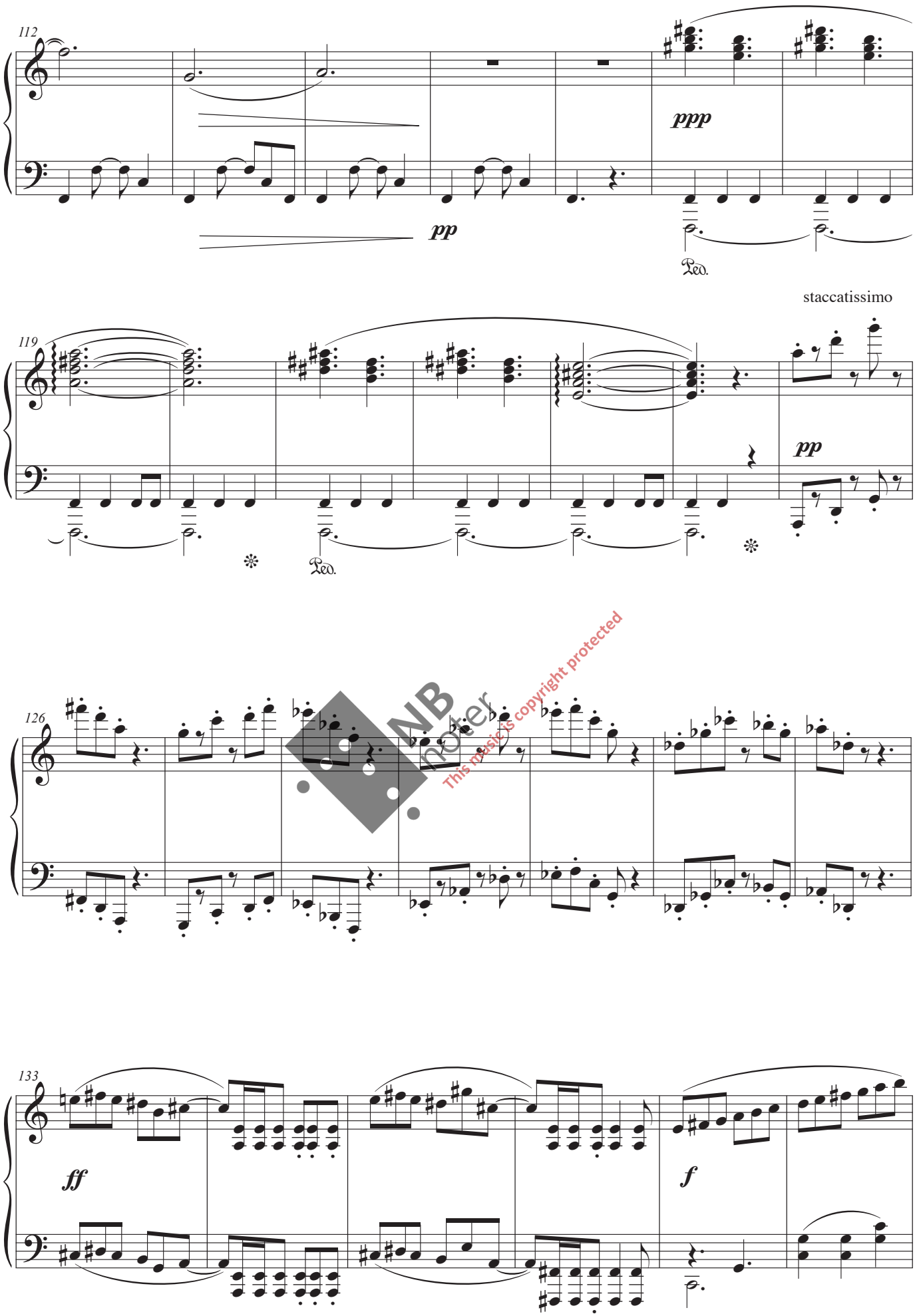

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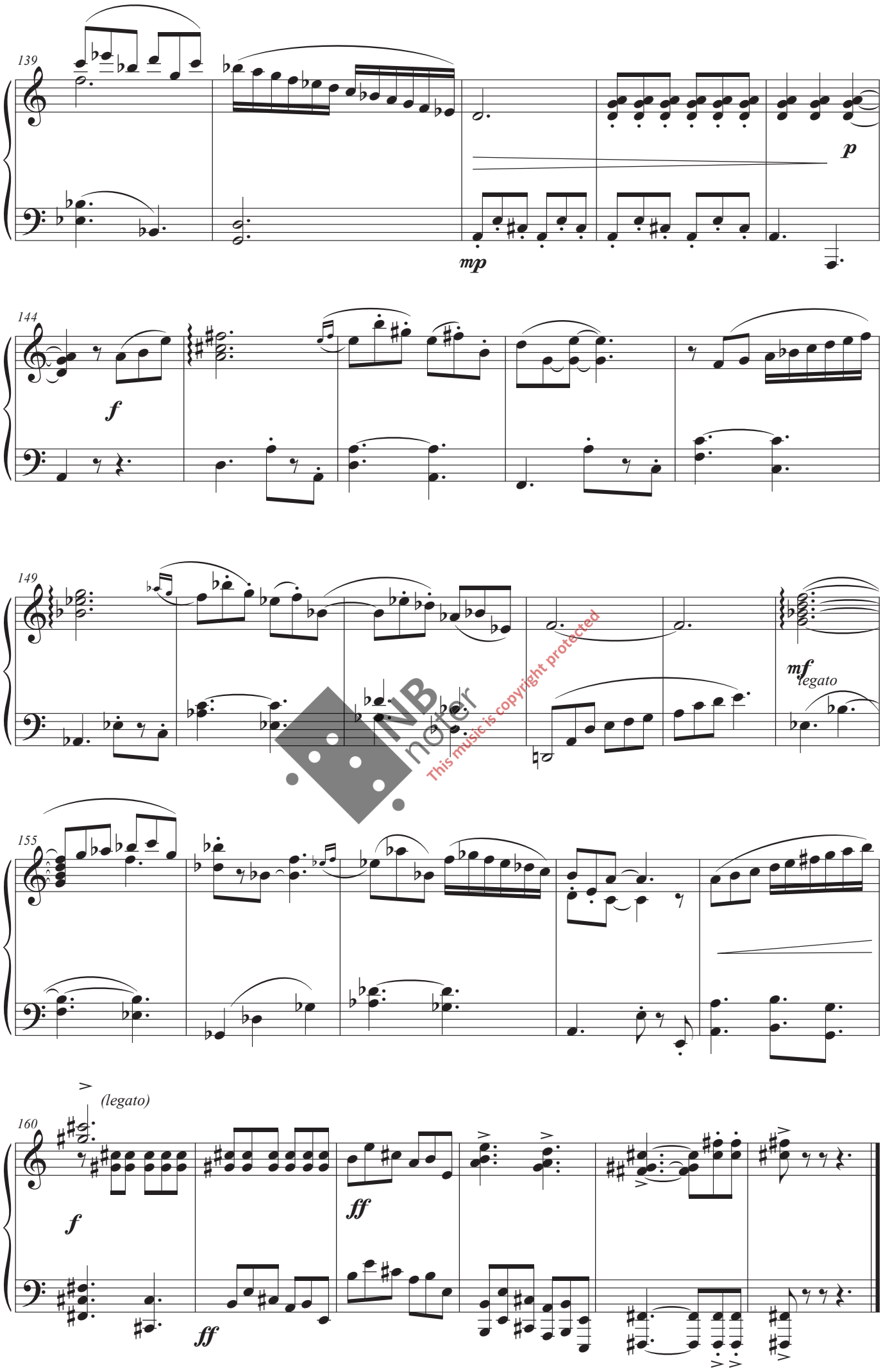

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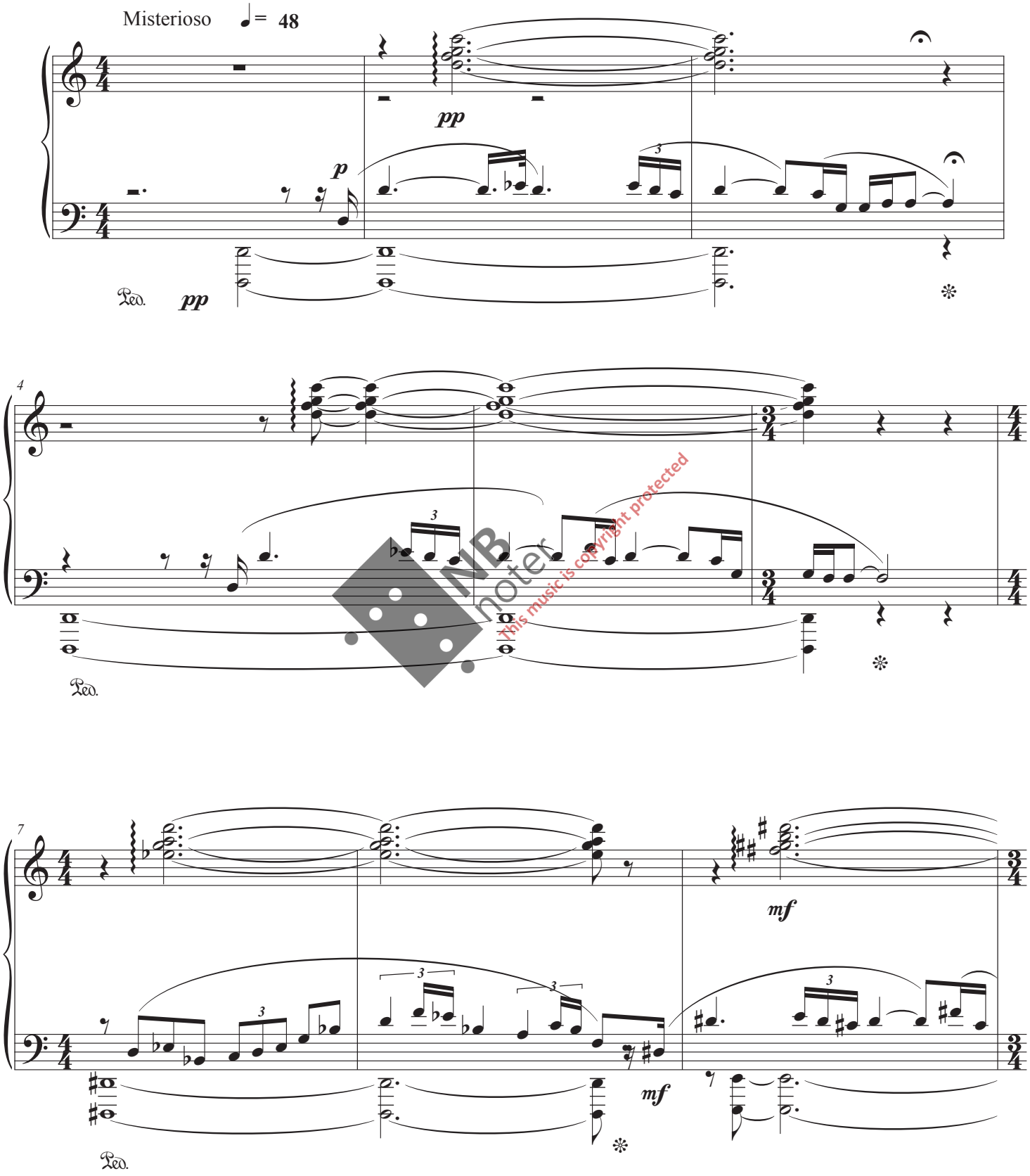
2. I Tårnet

In the Tower



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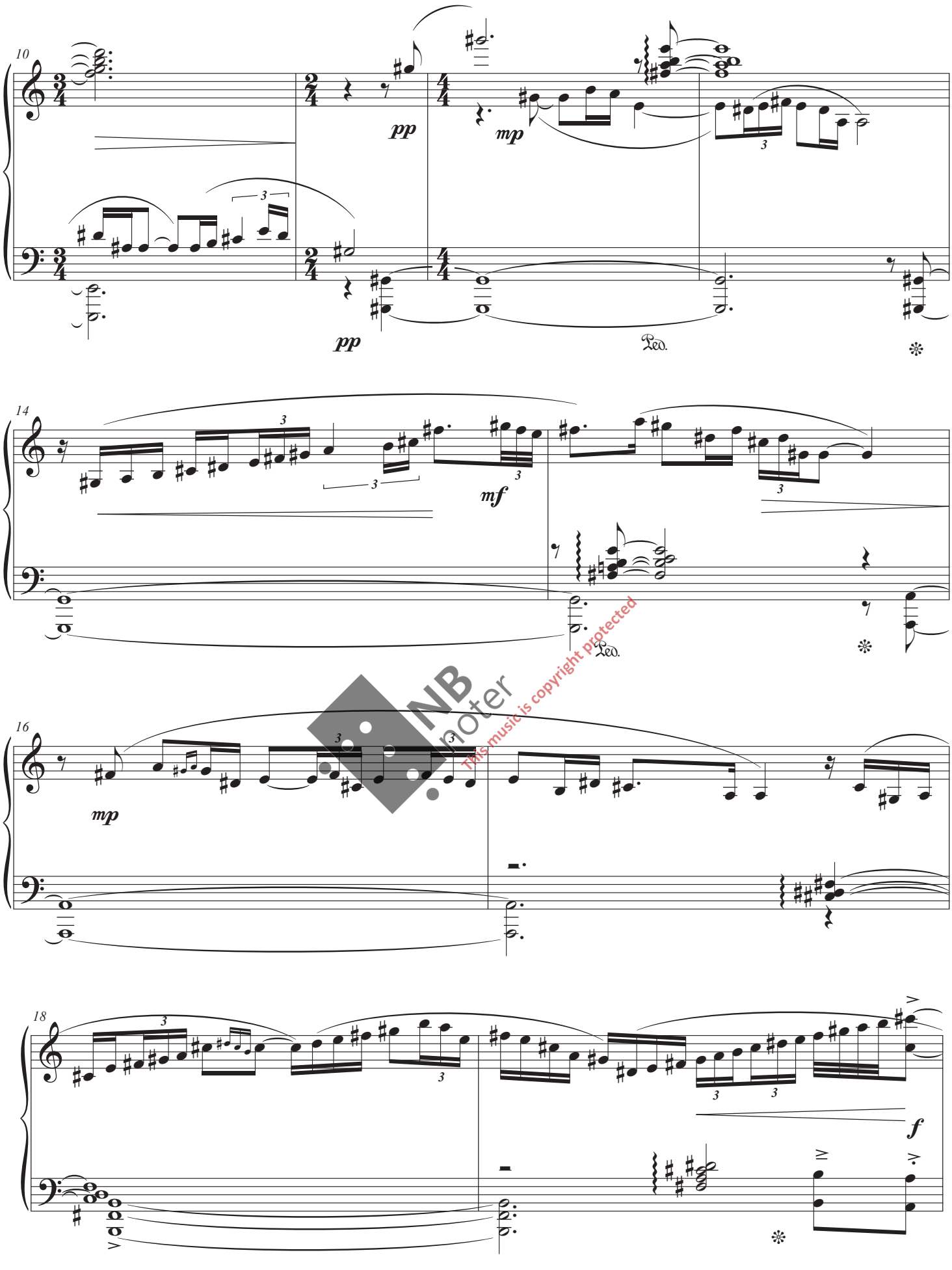

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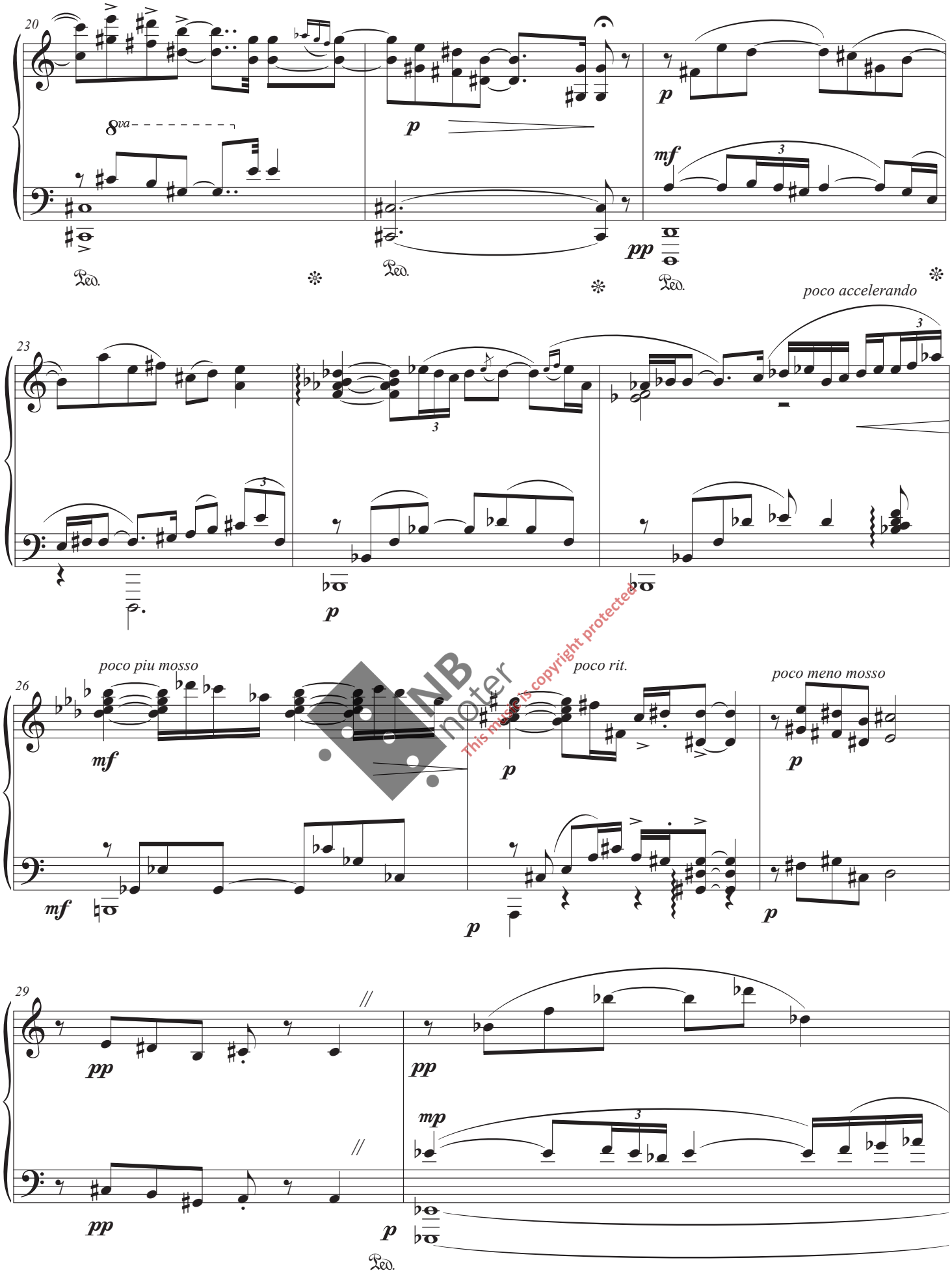

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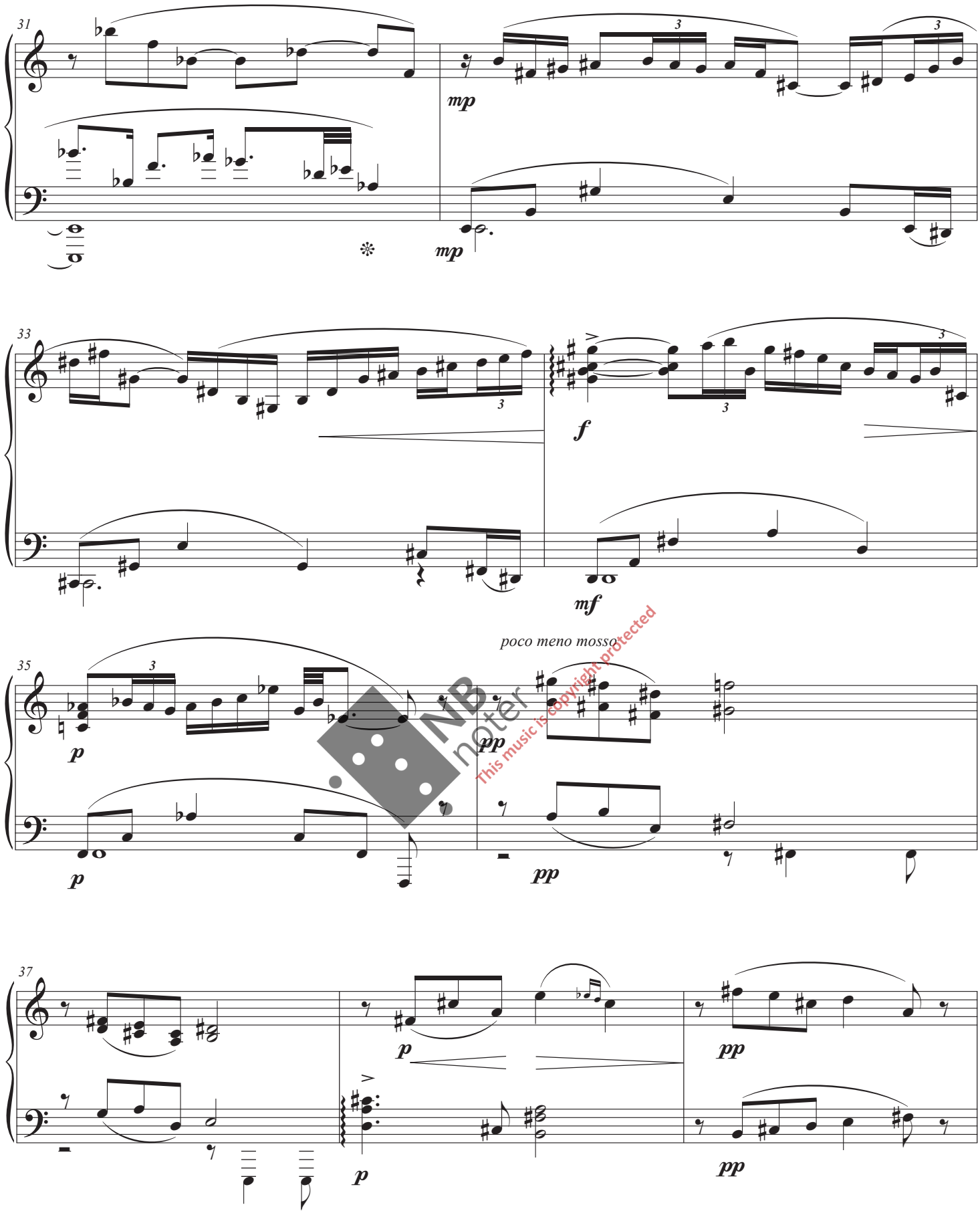

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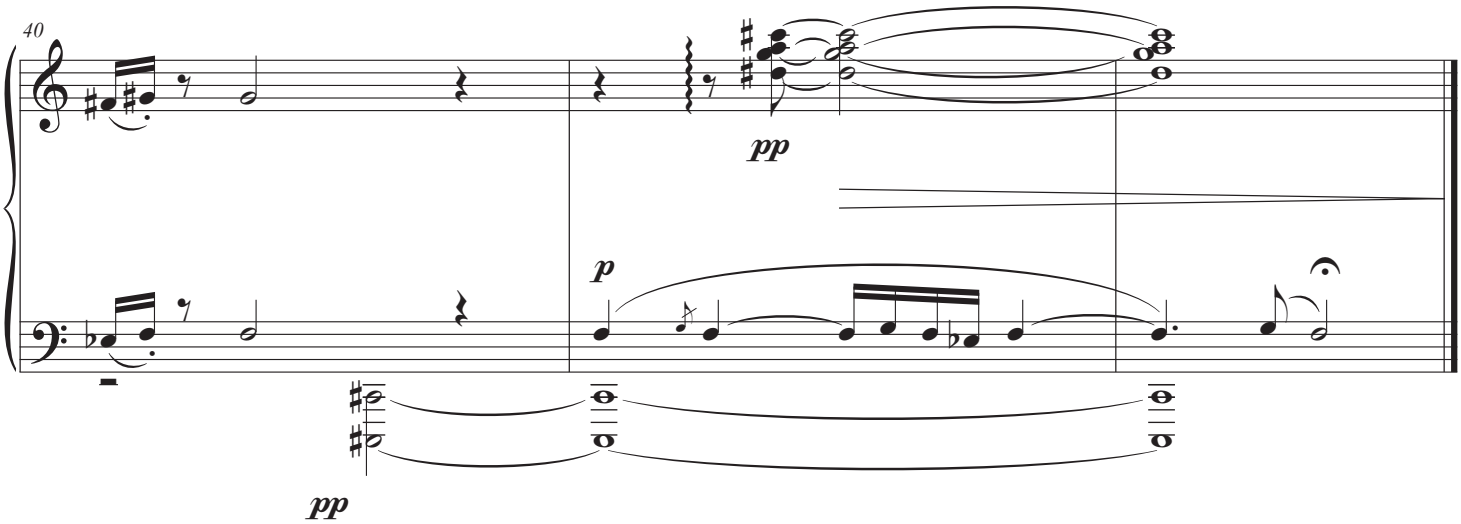

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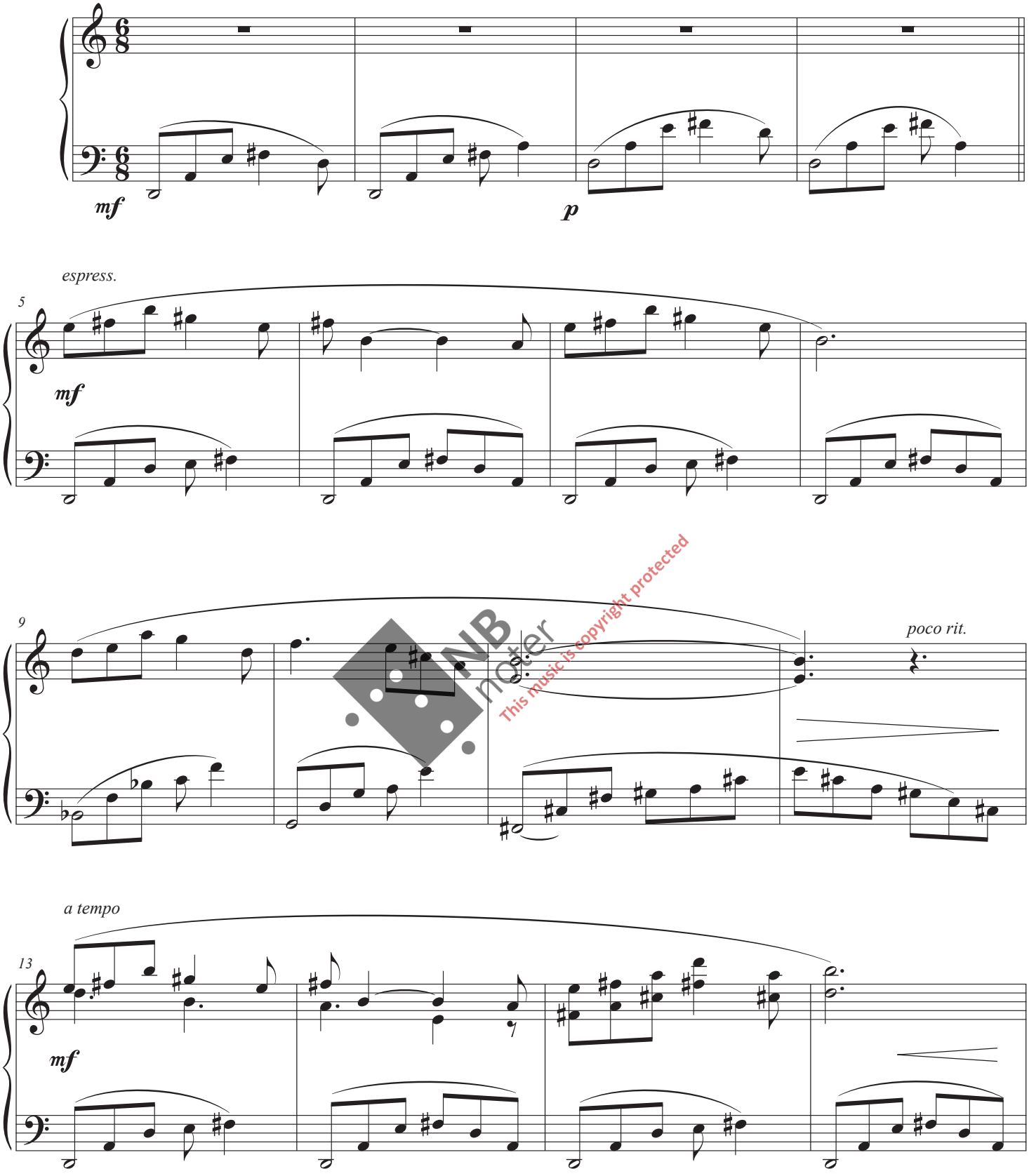
3. Romansen

The Romance

Larghetto ♩. = **54**



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poco accel.

17

f

poco piu mosso ♩. = **56**

21

f

25

mf

p

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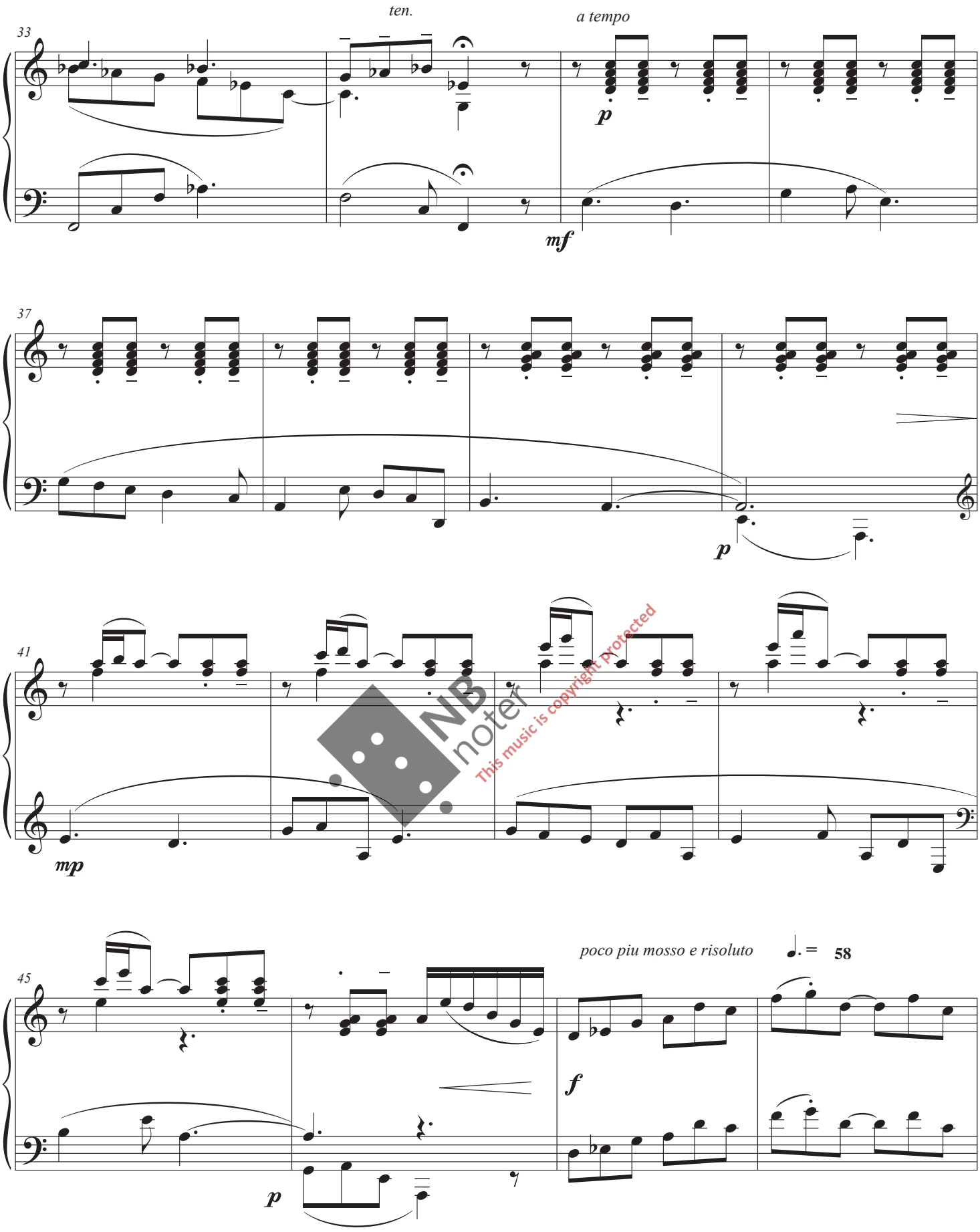
29

mf



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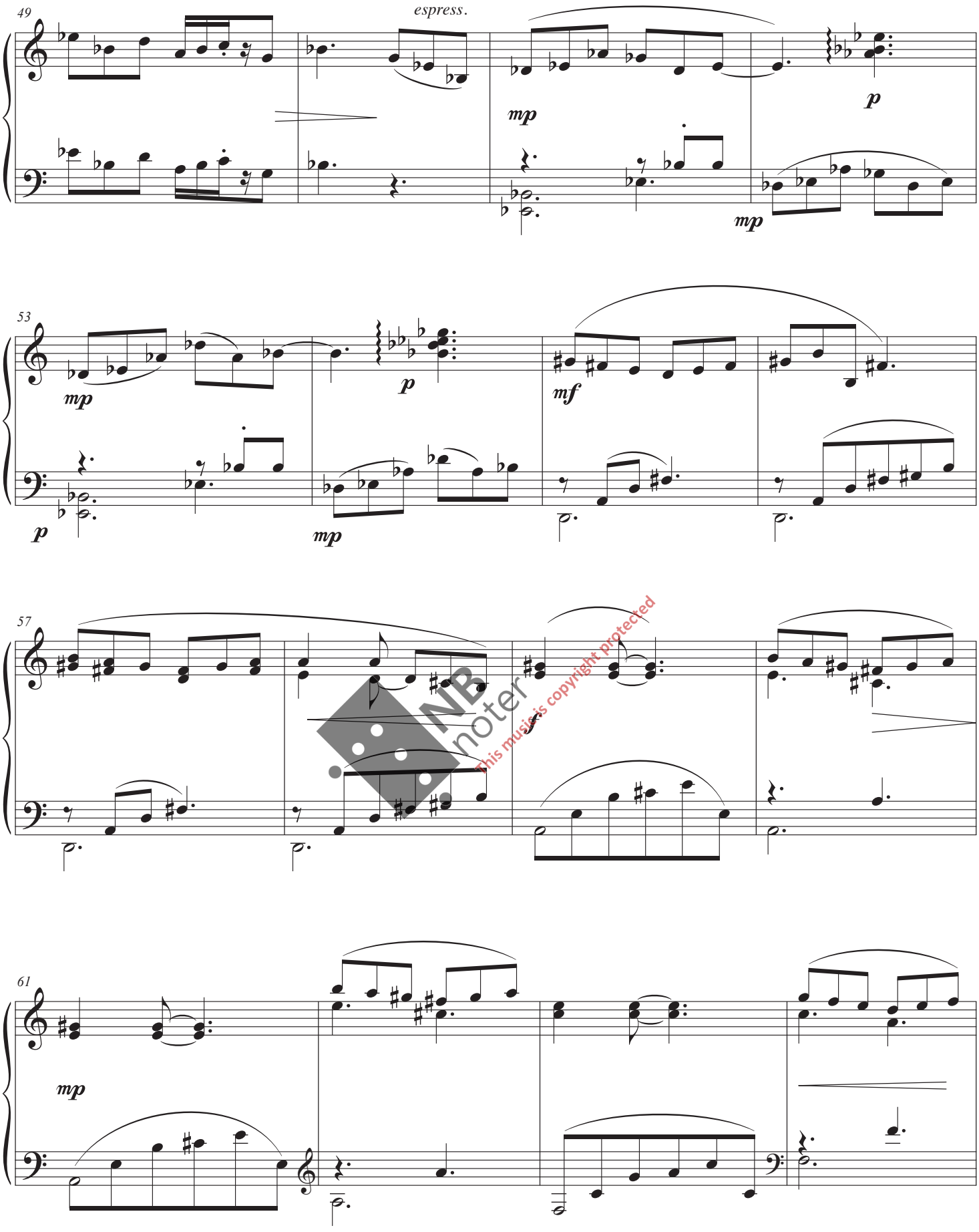

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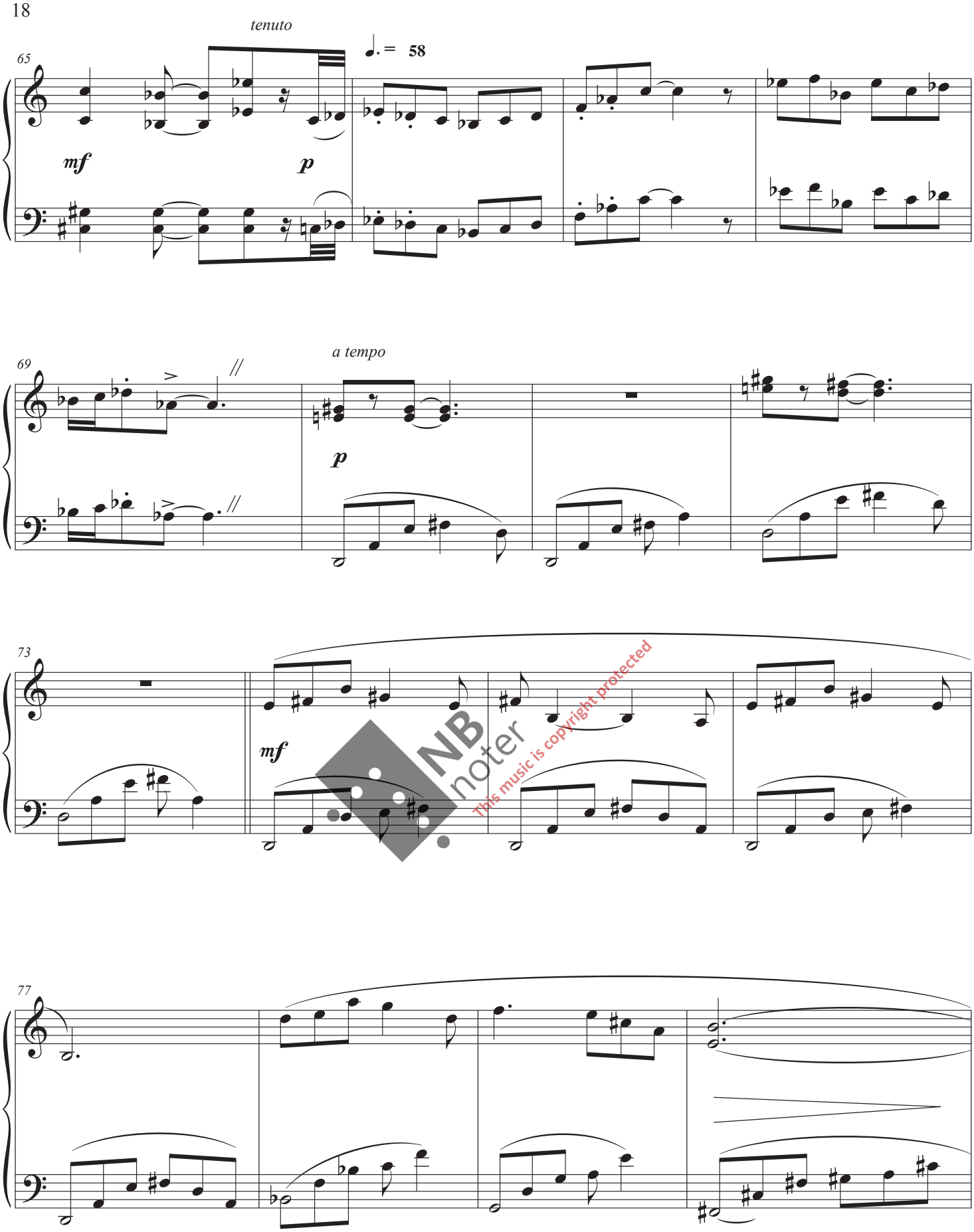

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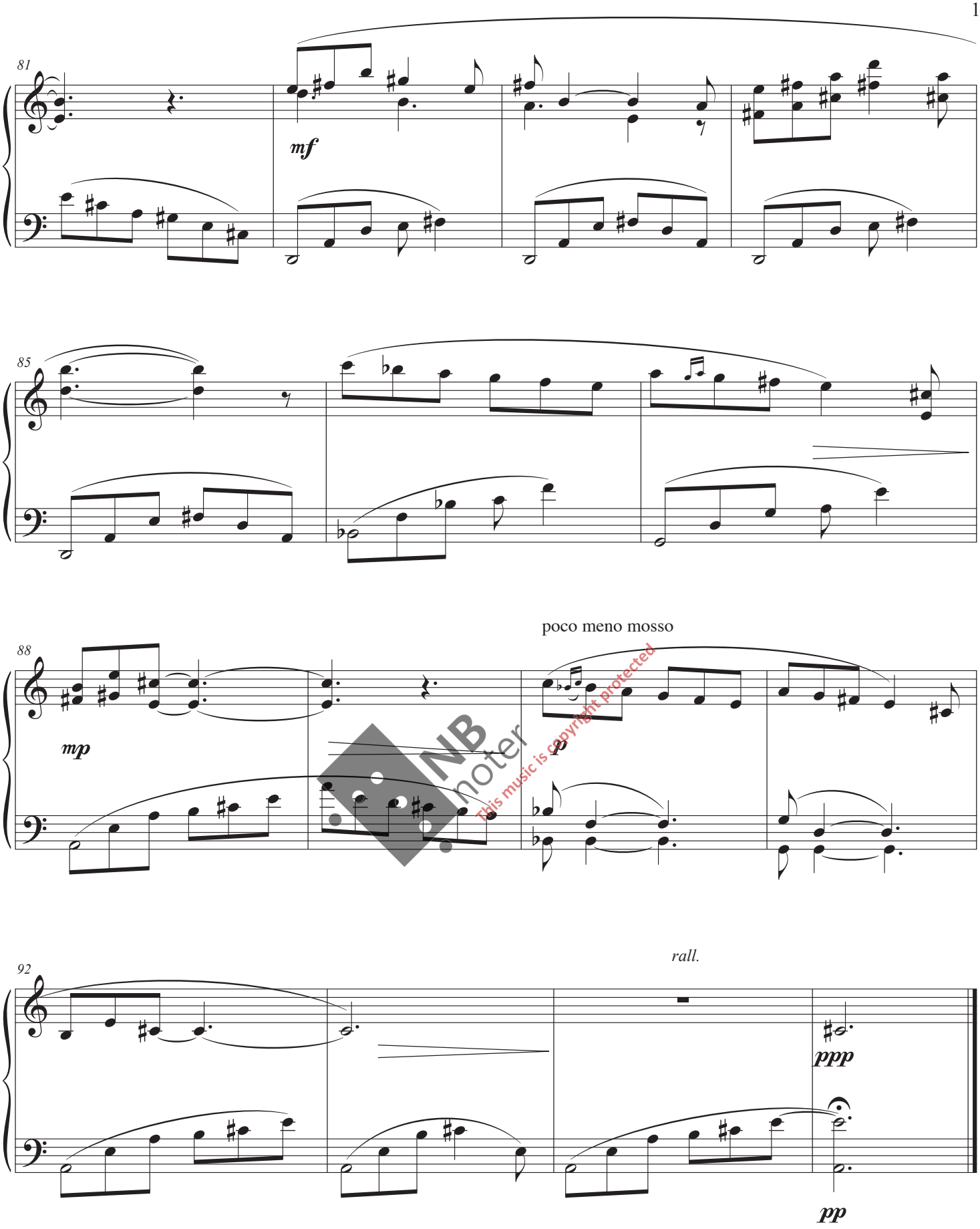

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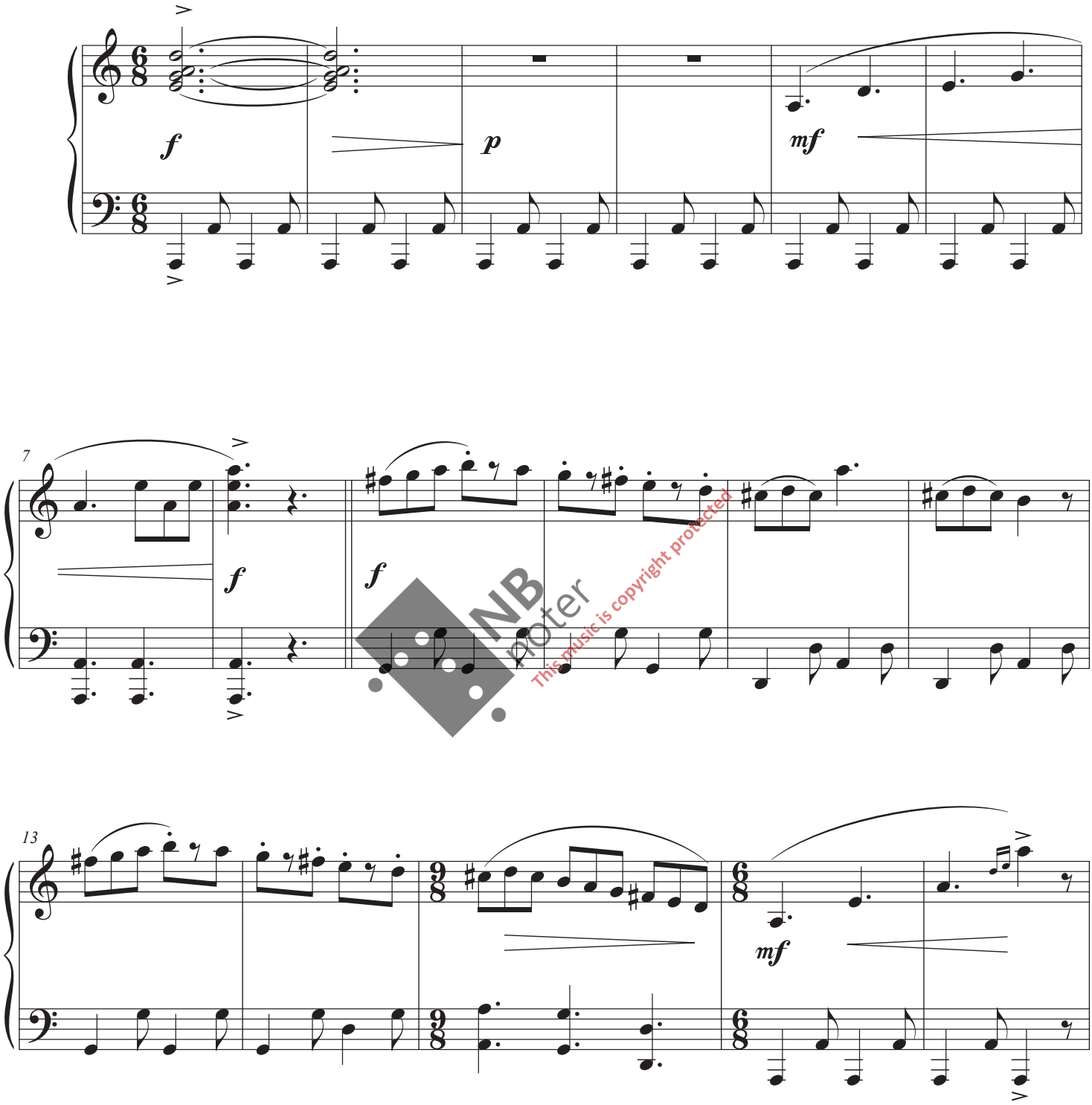
4. Prinsen

The Prince

Allegro moderato ♩. = **124**



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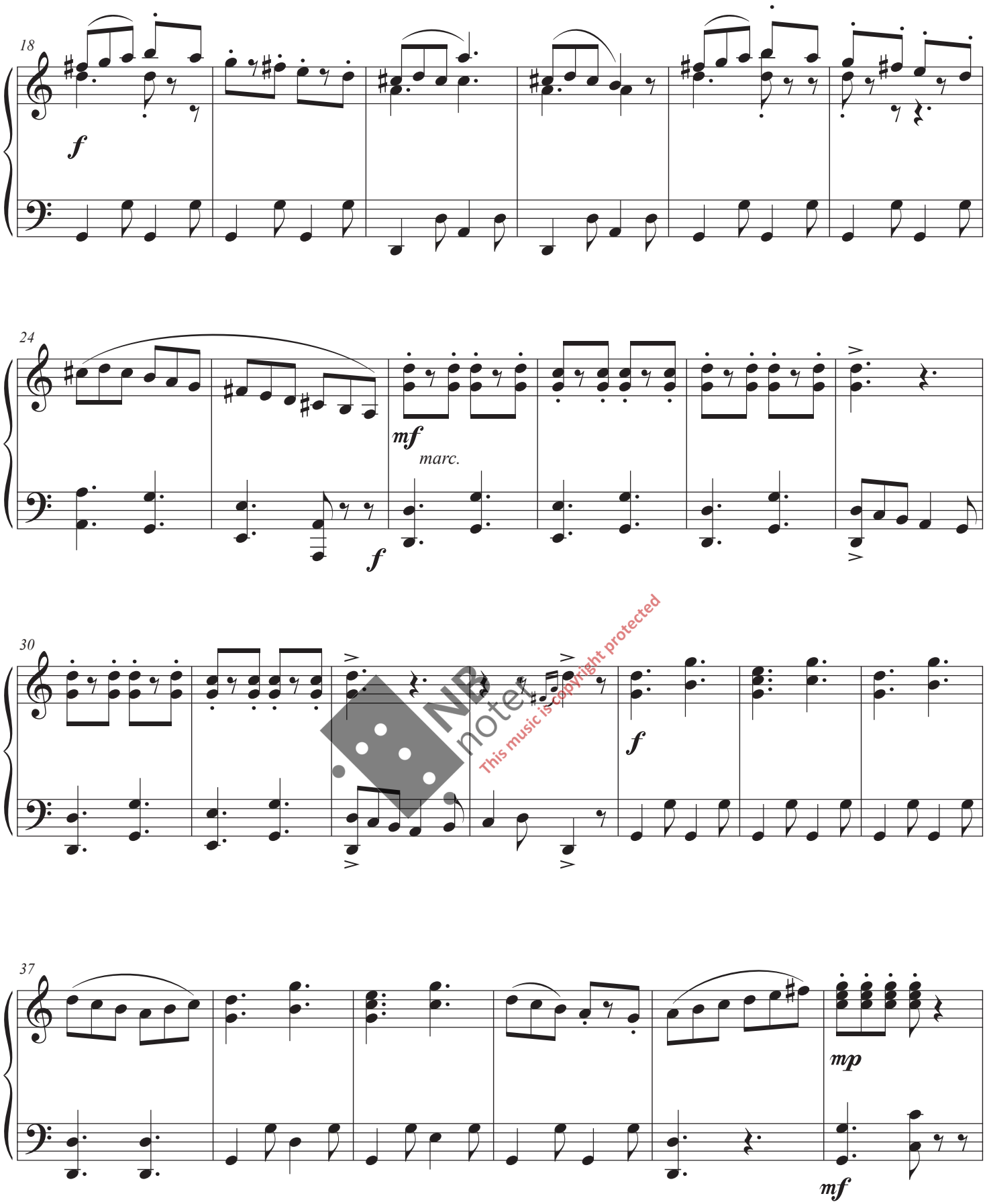

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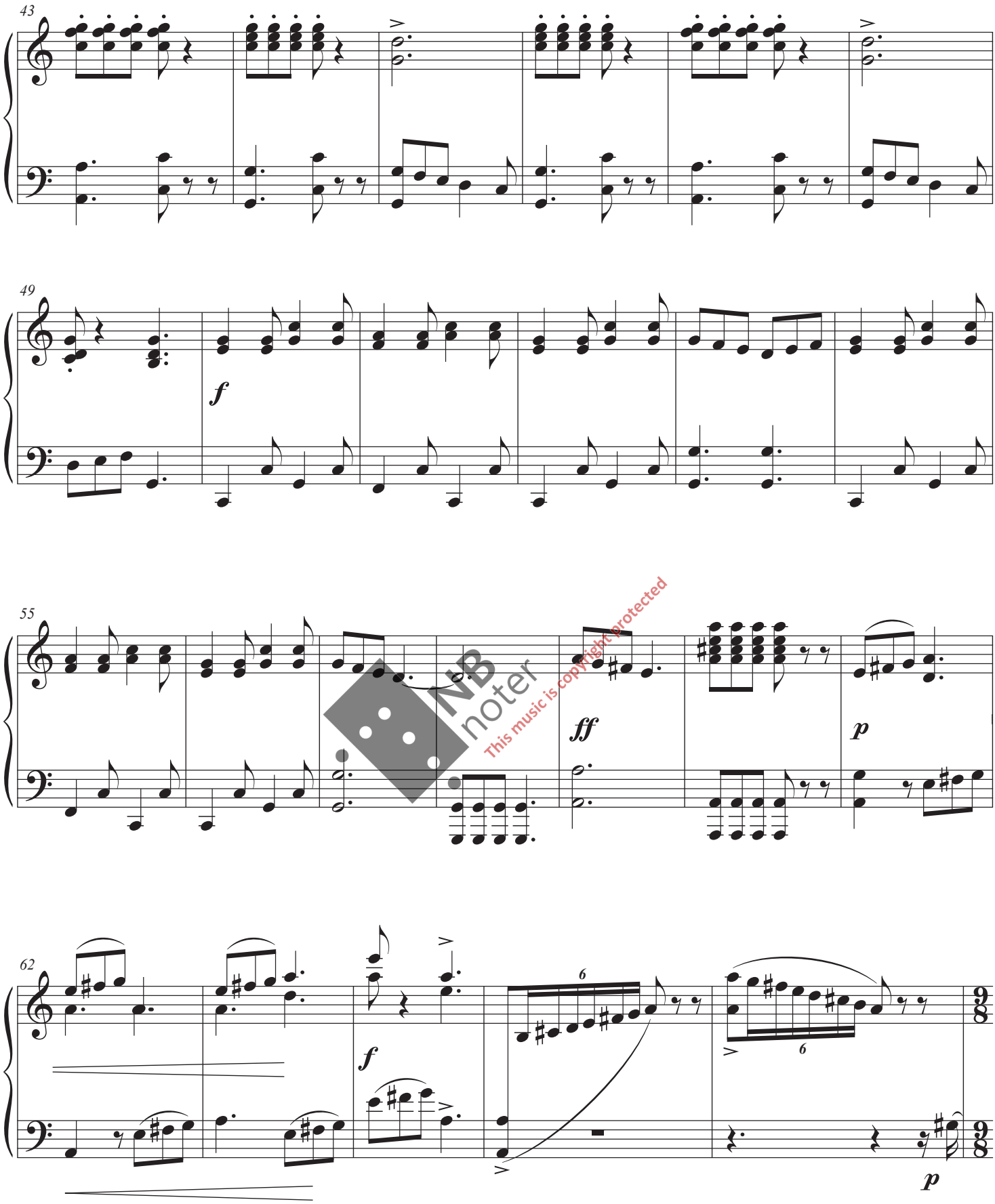

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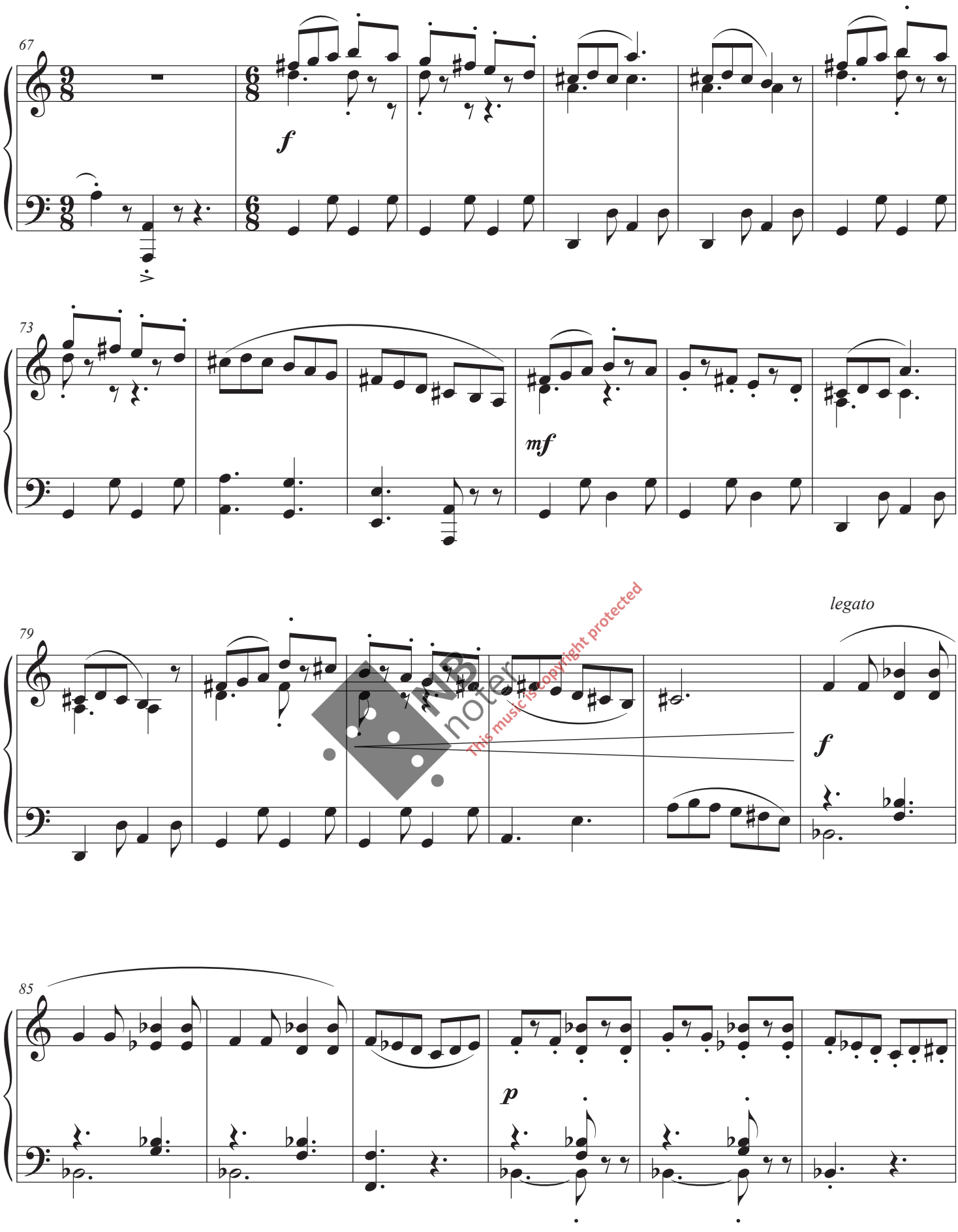

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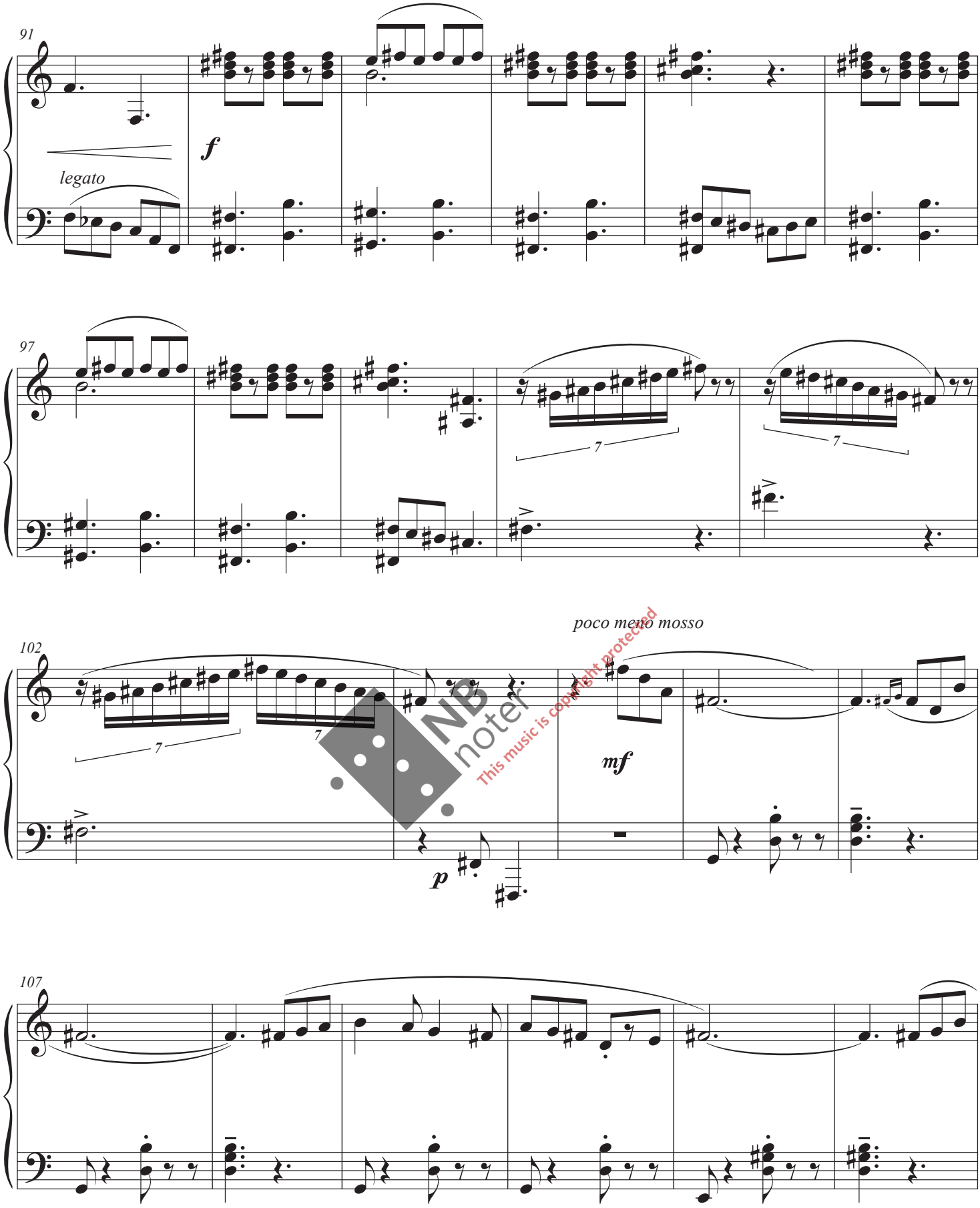

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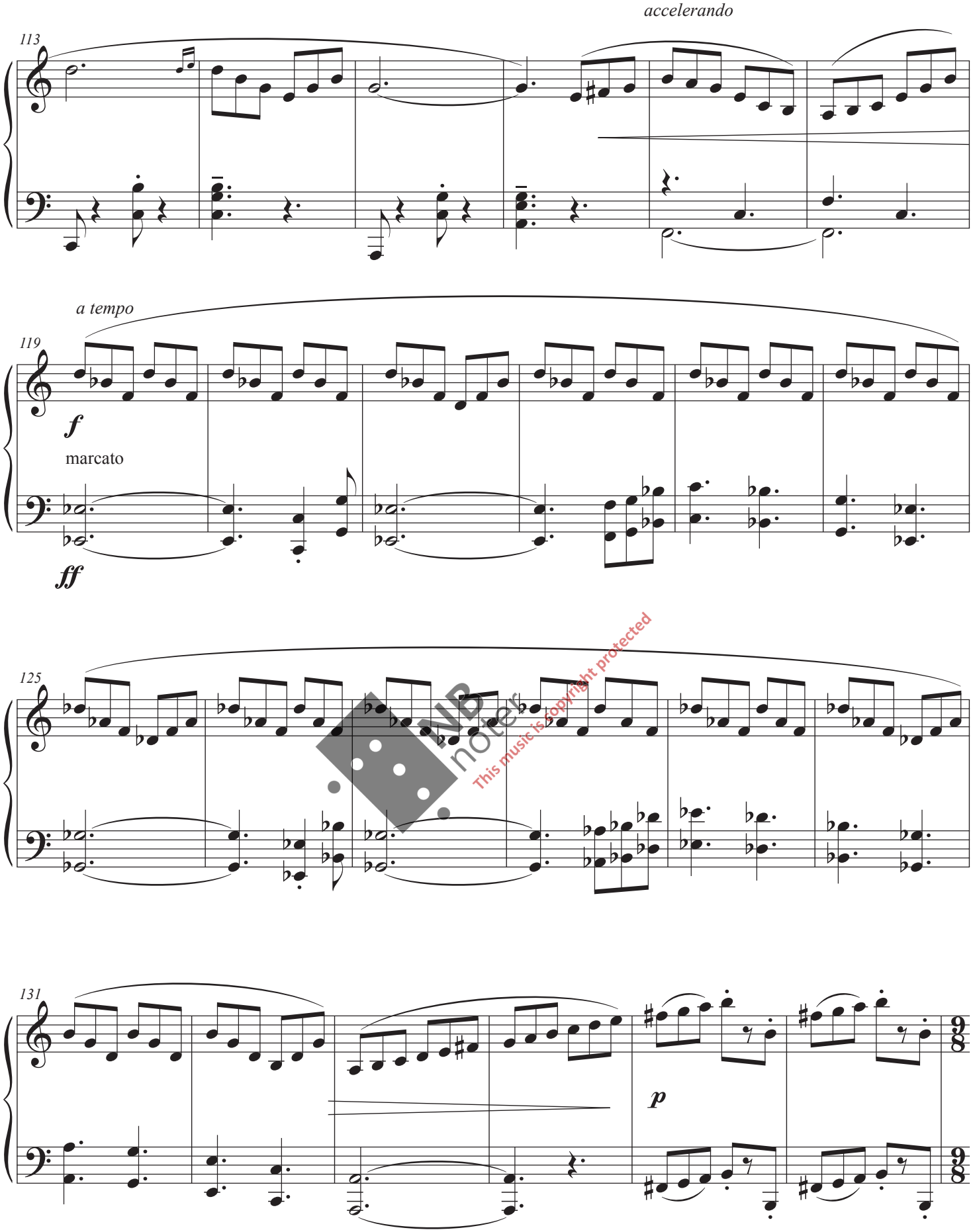

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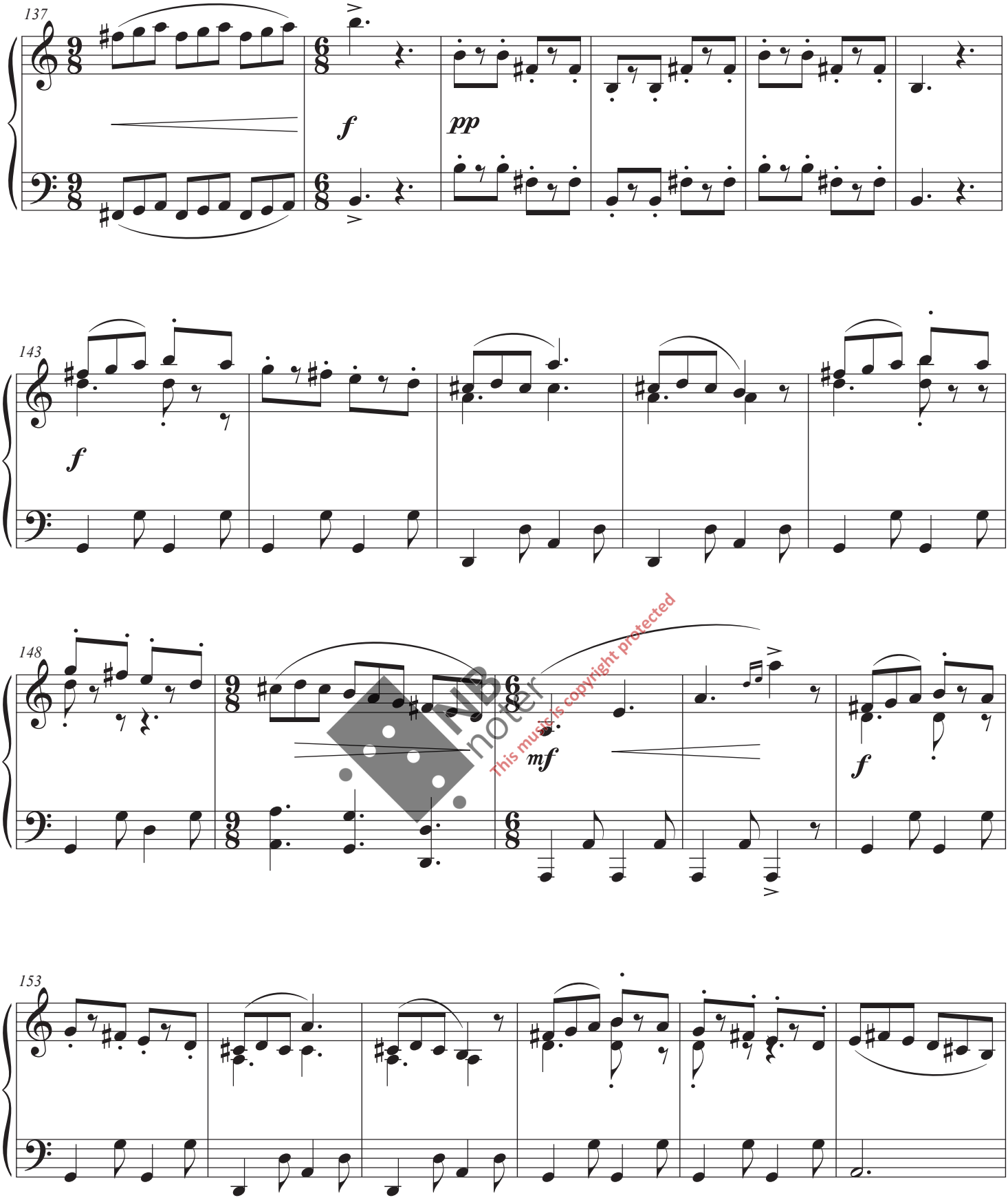

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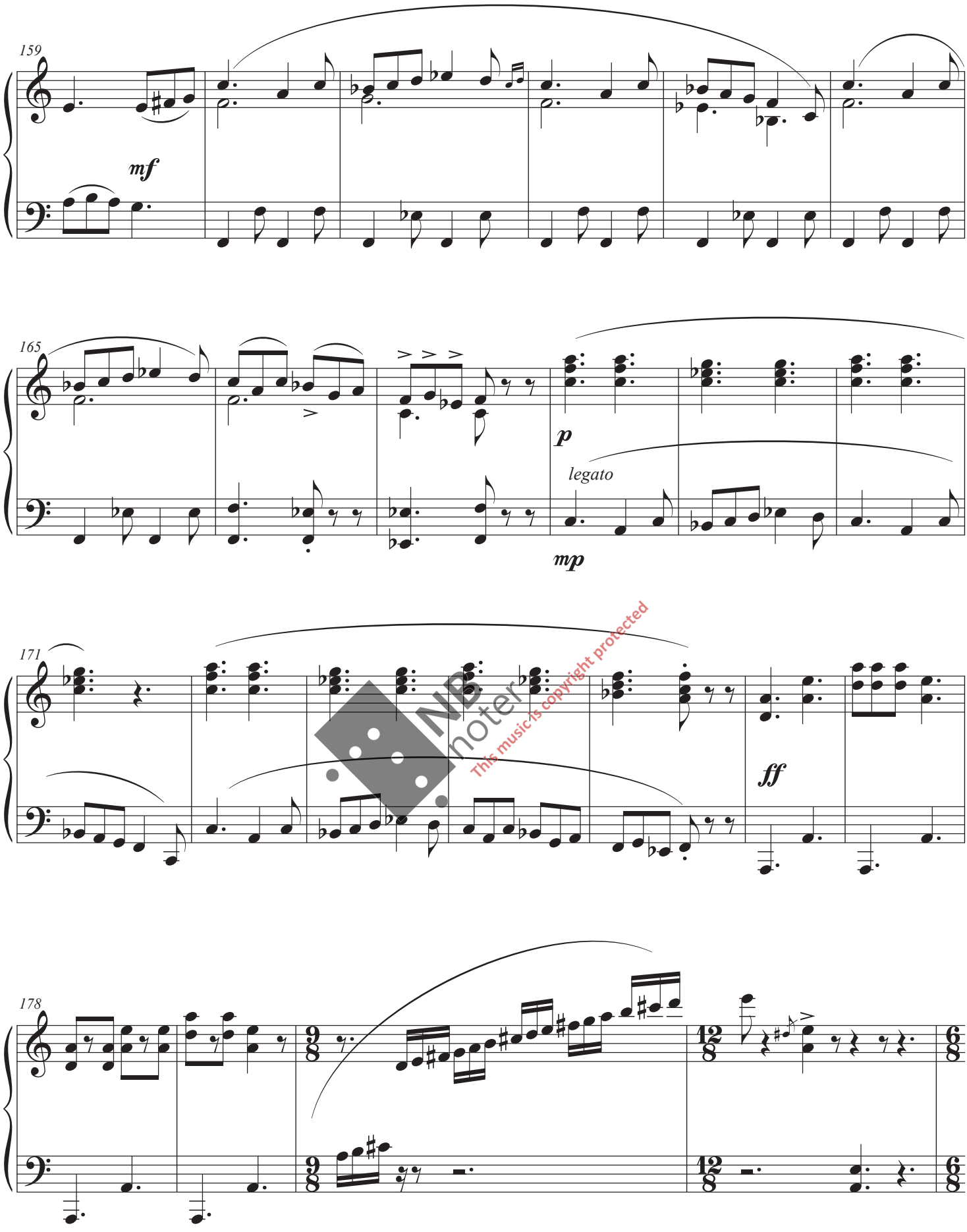

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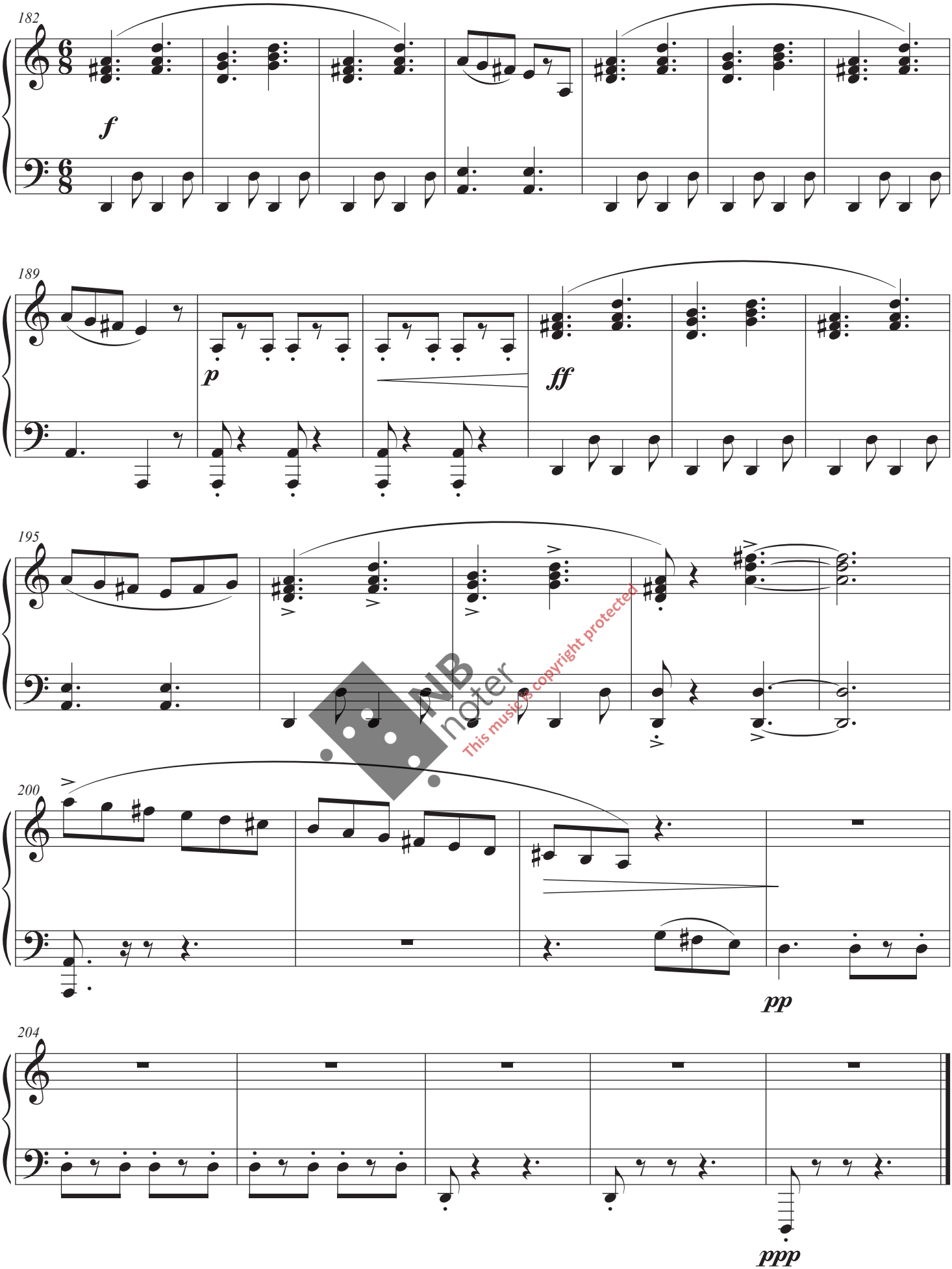

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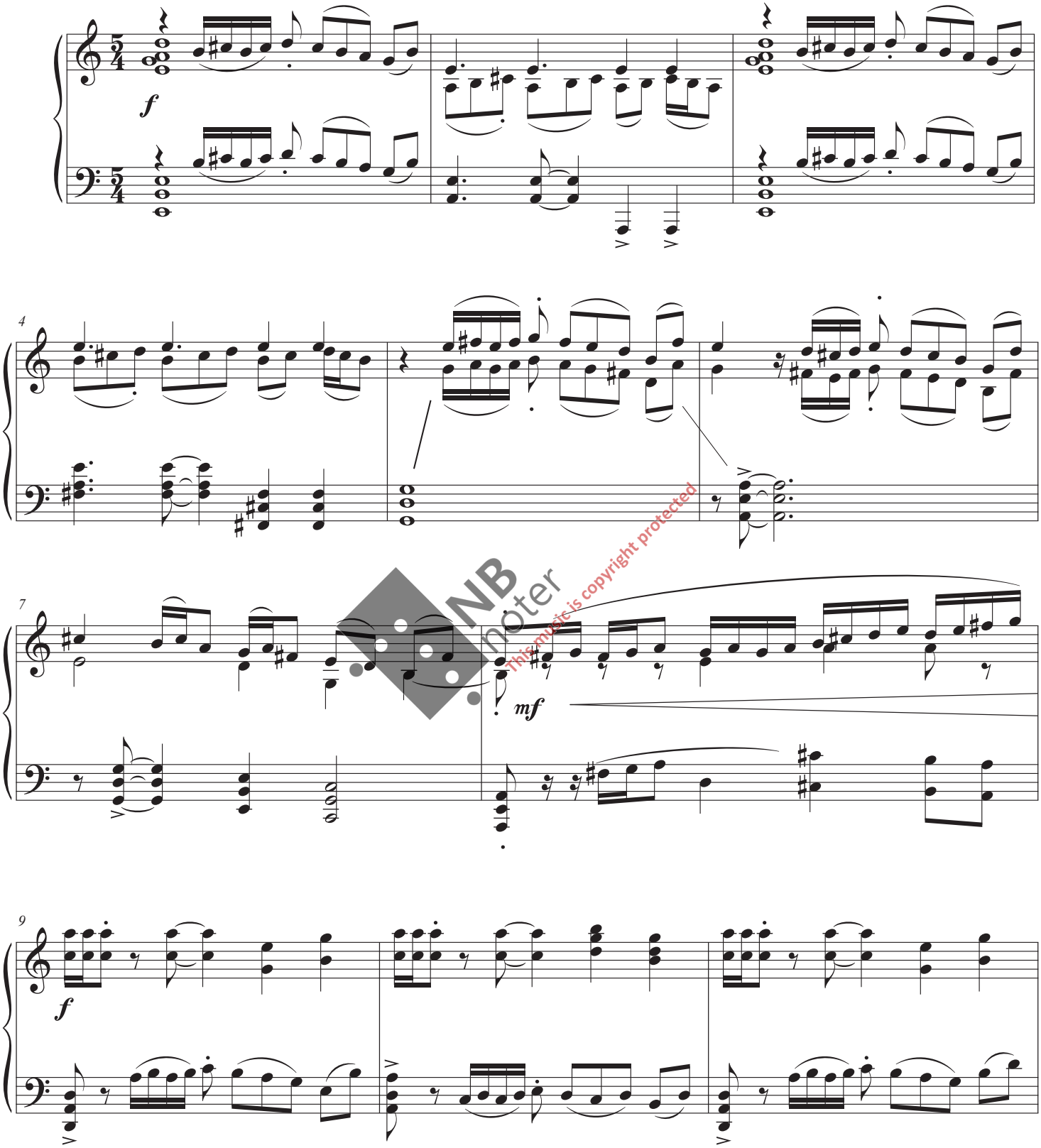
5. Befrielsen

Relife

Allegro agitato ♩= **120**



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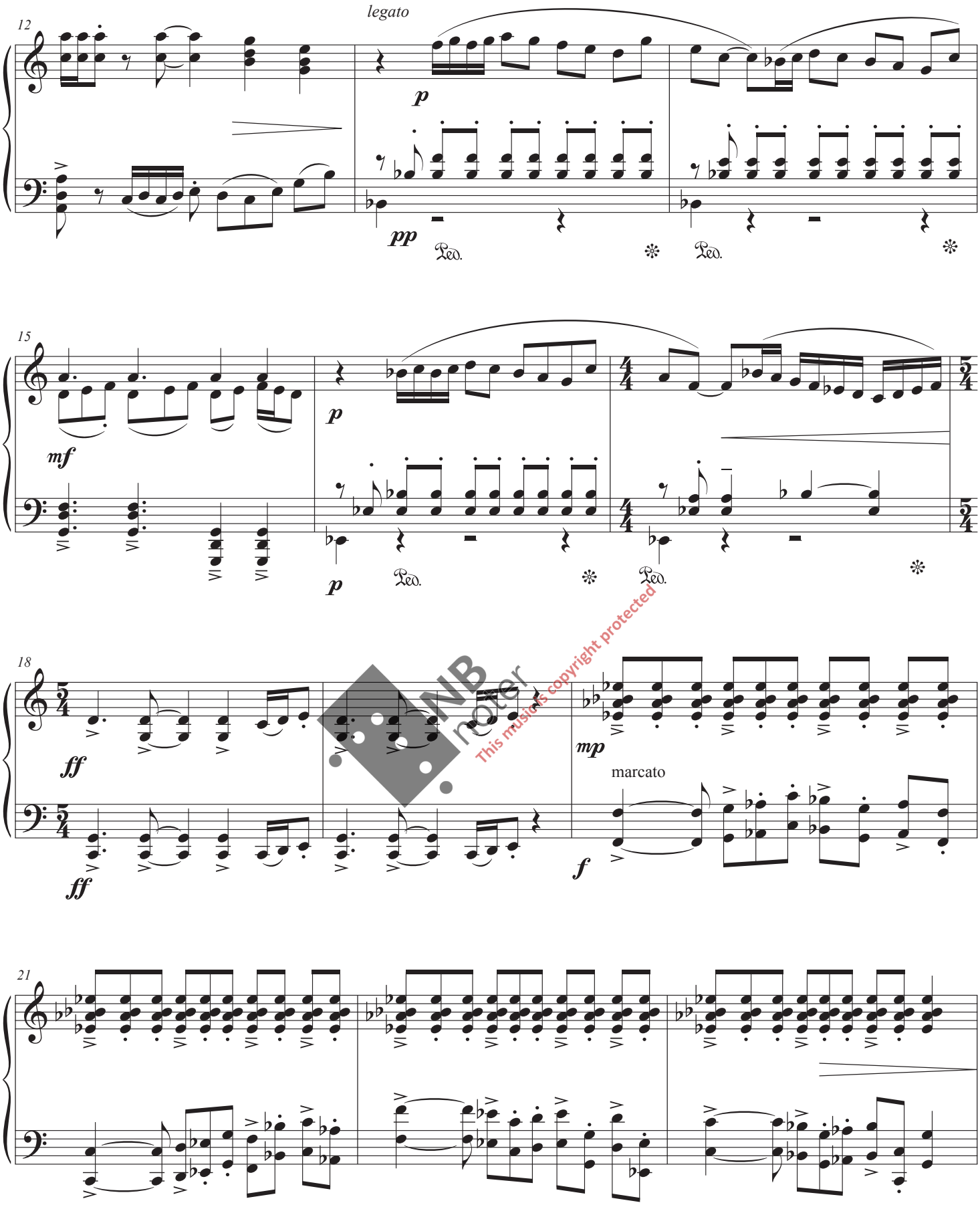

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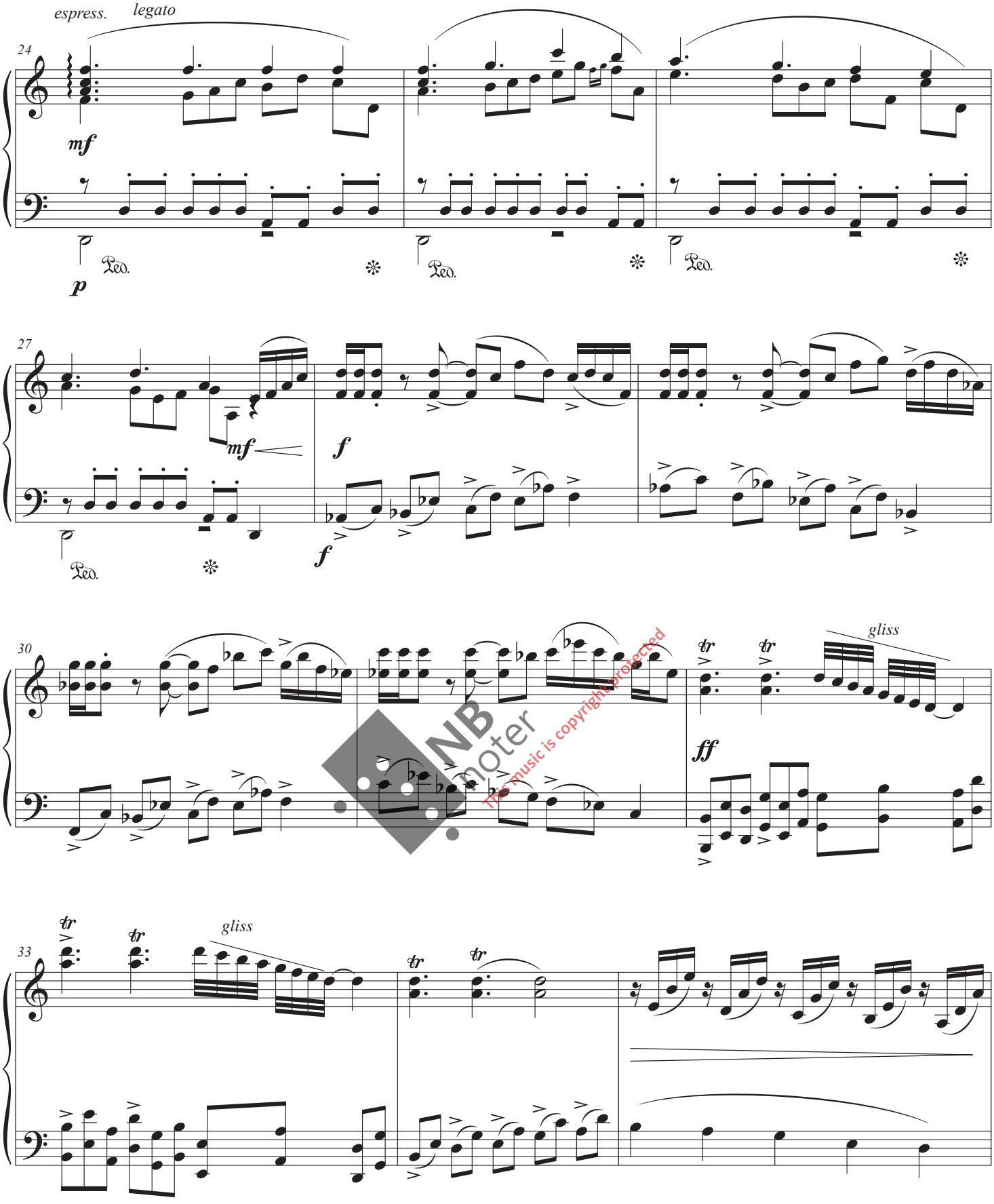

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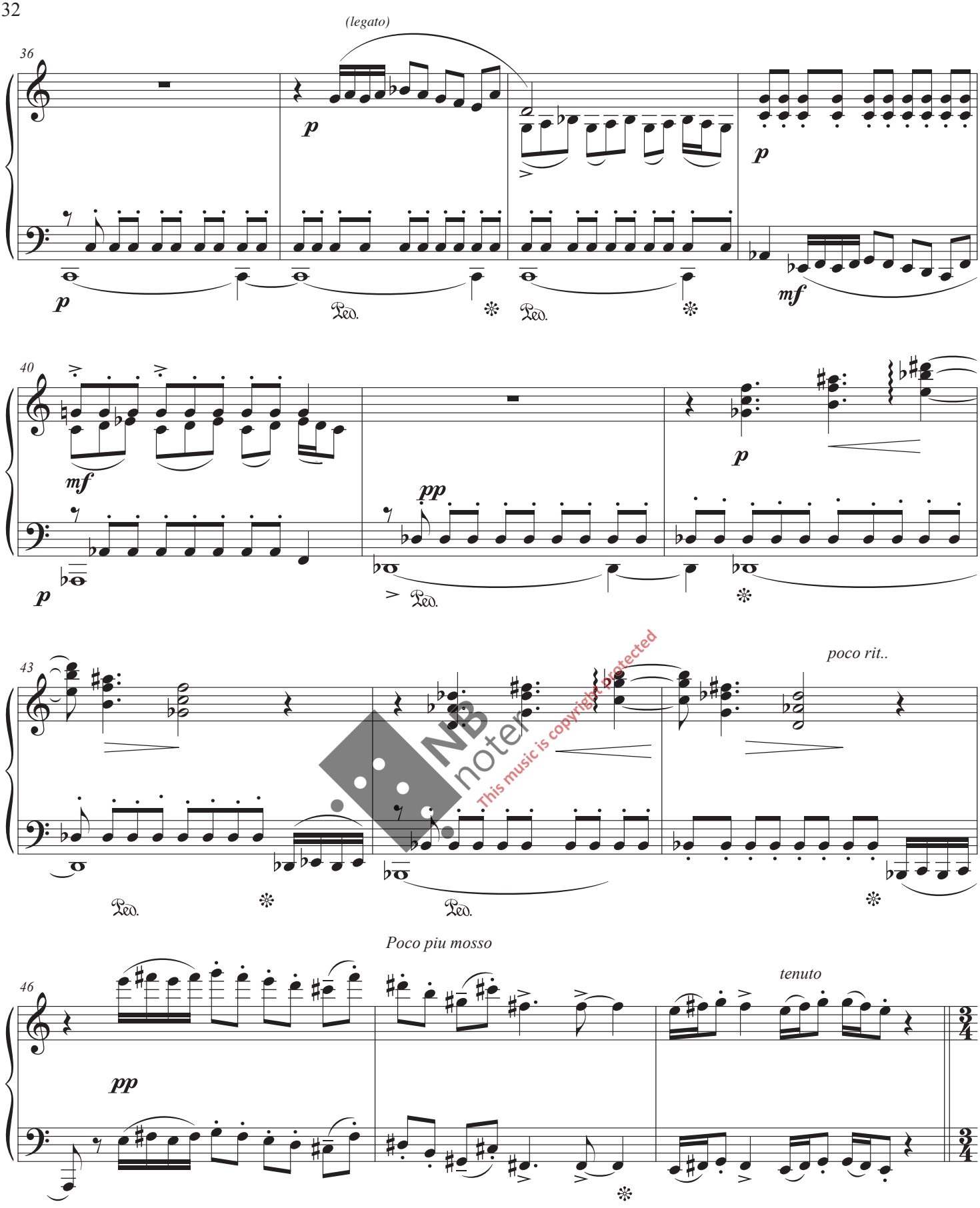

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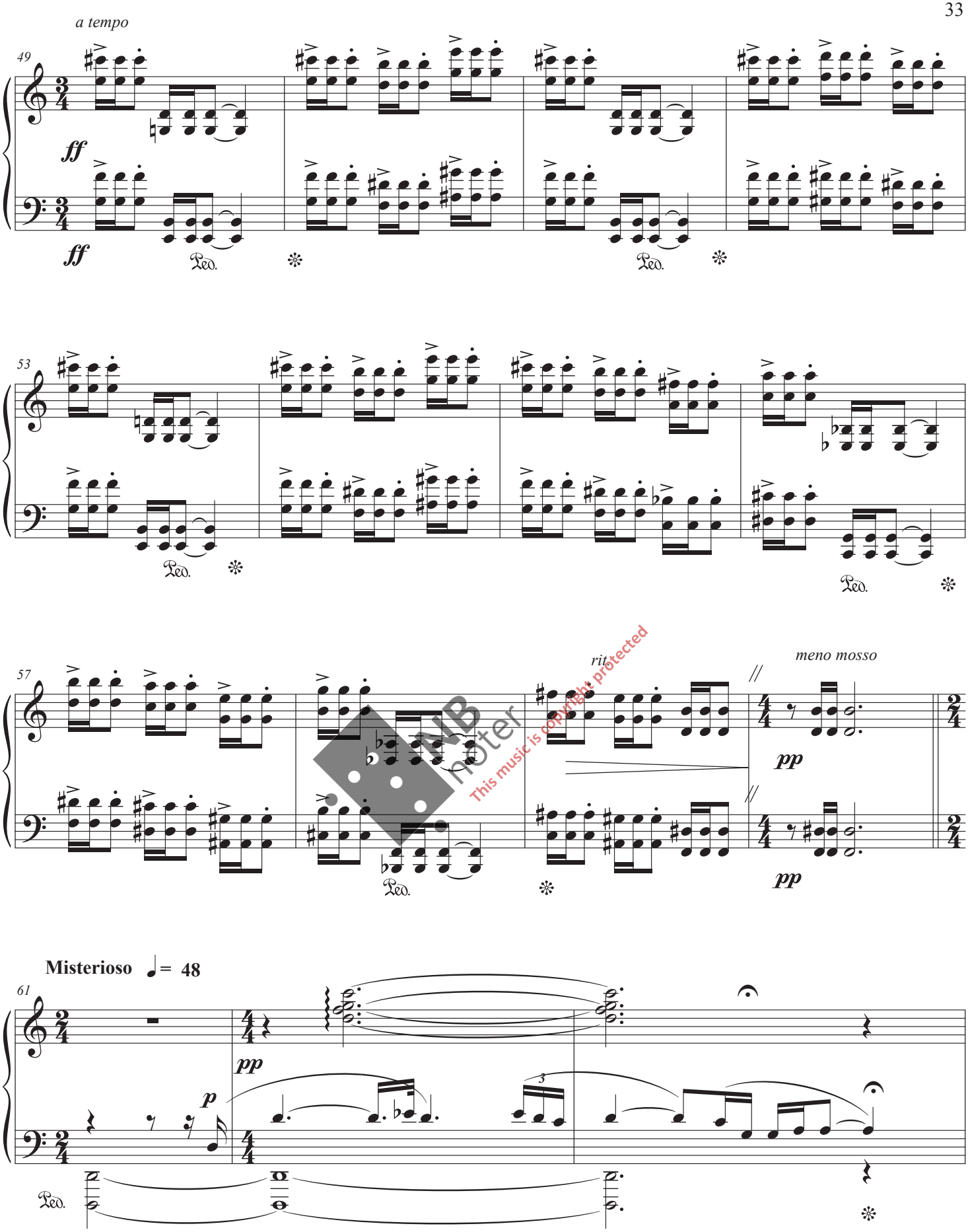

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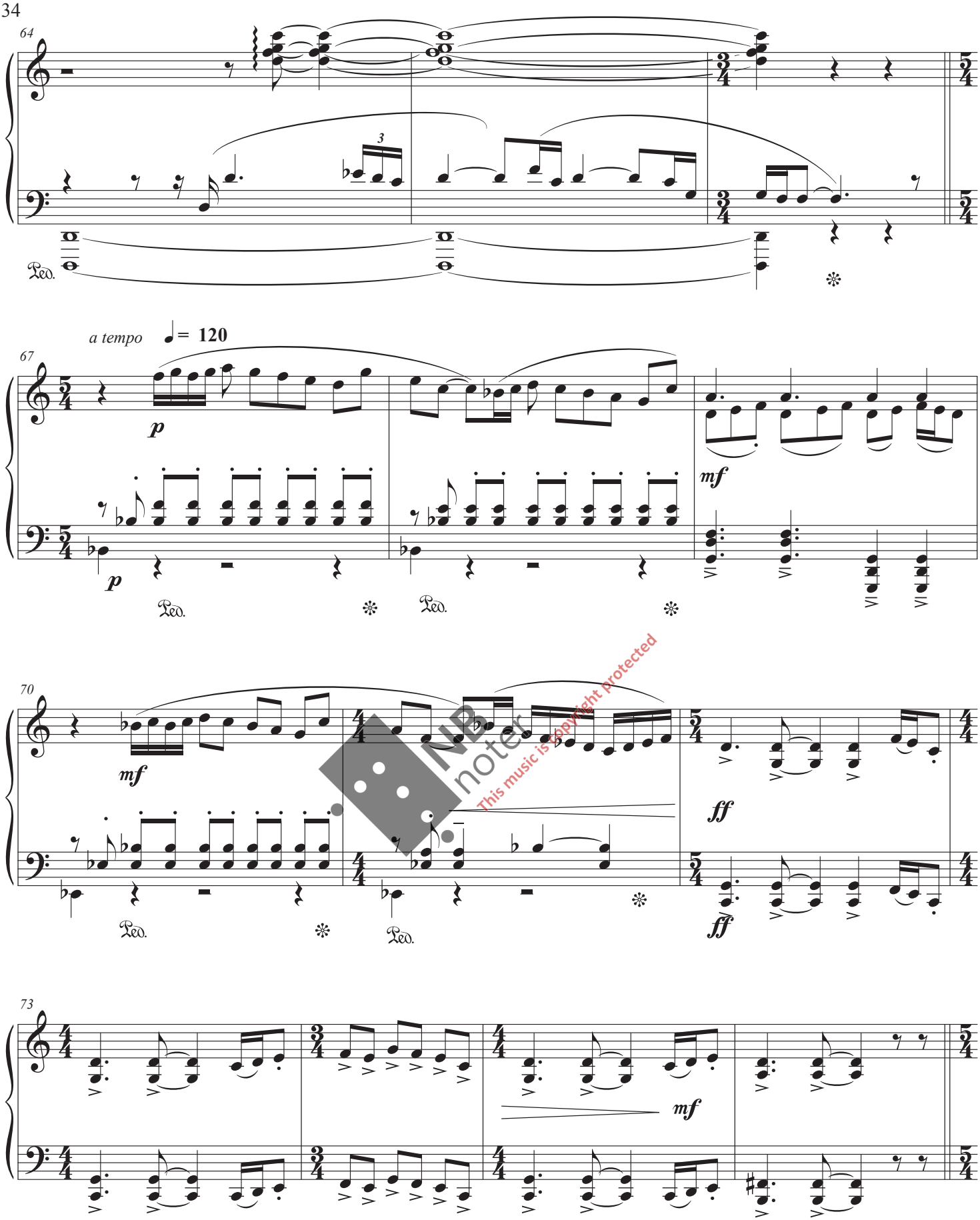

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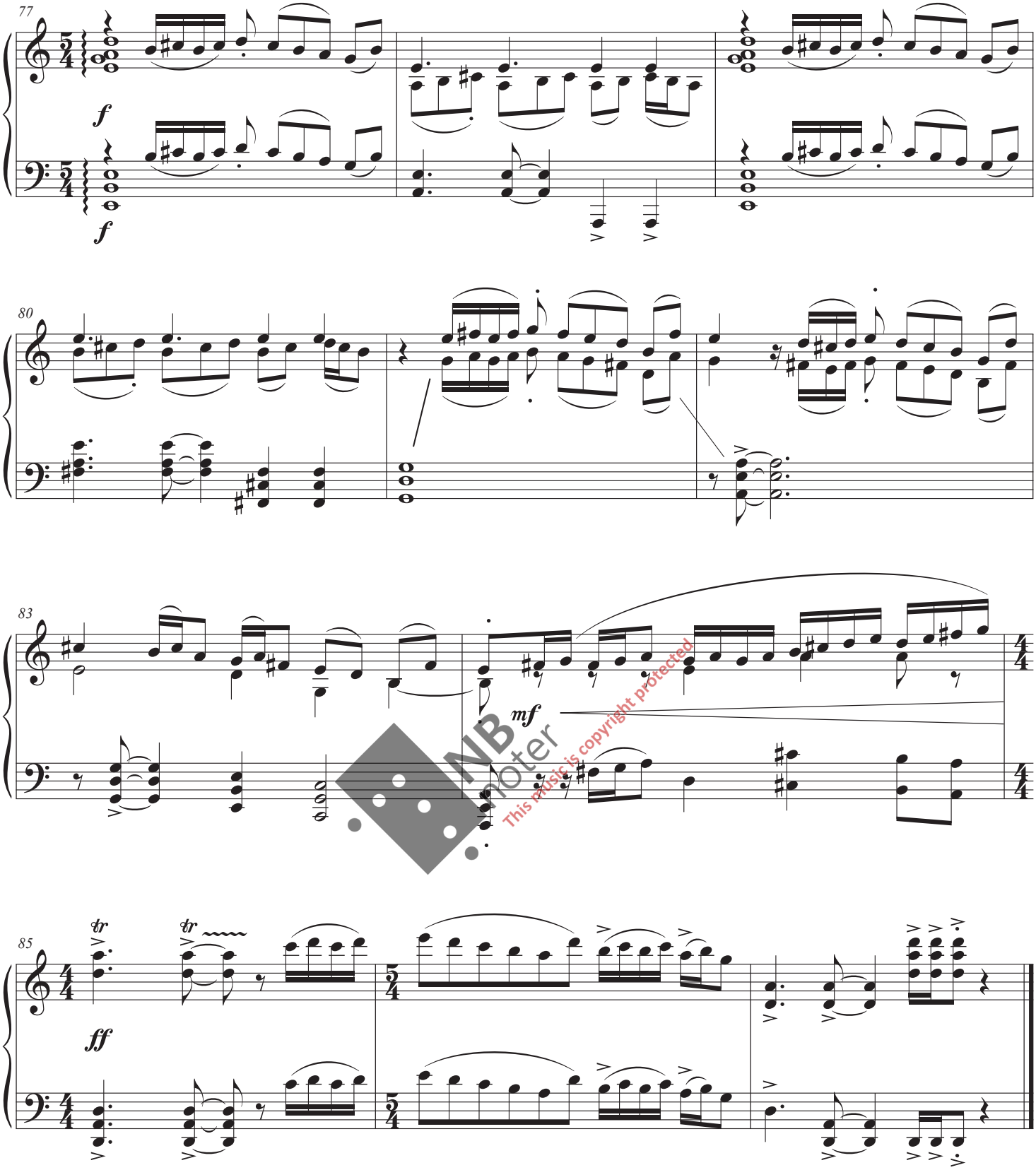

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