WELCOME

ANKENY HIGH SCHOOL
VOCAL MUSIC AUDITIONS
2023-2024

@ahs_vocal_music

www.ankenychoralmusic.org

Dear Vocal Music Students & Families,

WELCOME to Ankeny High School's award-winning vocal music department! We are excited that you are interested in vocal music activities at AHS! This packet contains all of the information you will need to prepare for placement auditions for the 23-24 school year for both curricular choirs and show choirs. Please read the information in this packet carefully and prepare thoroughly for auditions; we want you to do your best! If you have questions about the audition or placement process, please contact us. Good luck to all!

Mr. Ben Walters
Director of Choral Activities

Mr. Adam Brown
Assistant Director of Choirs

General Audition Information

Purpose:
We have many talented students at Ankeny High School, and as a result, the need for several choirs & show choirs. The purpose of auditions is to assess students for participation in both curricular choirs (meeting during the school day) and show choirs (that meet outside of the school day-typically Monday and Thursday nights). The audition packet is available online at www.ankenychoralmusic.org on either the "Curricular Choirs" or "Show Choirs" page and on Canvas. A limited number of copies will be available at Ankeny High School and Southview Middle School. ***Please print the entire packet for your reference!***

Important Audition Dates:
Vocal auditions for students auditioning for show choirs only (Including all incoming 9th graders): Monday, April 24: 4:00PM-8:30PM
Vocal Auditions for 10th-12th grade select curricular choirs: April 25, 26, and 27 (4:00PM-8:30PM each day)
Choreography Clinics: May 15 & 16
Show Choir *Recorded* Dance Audition: Due May 19

PRIOR to your audition you MUST fill out the audition form (electronically) which includes parent consent. Additionally, you must complete a contact & volunteer information form electronically. (See "How to prepare" below.) The electronic audition form and information form must be completed prior to the audition.

How to prepare:

1.) Spend time preparing the required vocal solo(s) (in this packet.) While it does not have to be memorized, the more comfortable you are with it, the better your chances are to show us what you are really capable of. Take a deep breath, do your best, and RELAX!
2.) Fill out the AUDITION GOOGLE FORM at the following link: **https://forms.gle/N89EuXaAVLhUYCwM6** Recognition of parent/guardian consent of your audition is required on the form. You will not be permitted to audition without completing the audition form and the next step below.
3.) Complete the contact & volunteer information form (**REQUIRED**) prior to your audition at the following link: **https://forms.gle/iPuGP3ZFPUeHK6jU6**
4.) Show Choir *Only* Auditionees (Including all incoming 9th grade students): Join the Show Only audition Google Classroom: **jurdgmk**
5.) Sign-up for an audition time using the following link:
   - Current SV 8th Graders & 9th-11th graders auditioning for show choir ONLY:
     https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F4FA5AD2BA6F49-show4
   - Current 9th-11th Graders auditioning for Cantorei or Concert Choir:
     https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F4FA5AD2BA6F49-ahs20232024
   - Plan to arrive approximately 15-20 minutes prior to your scheduled time in order to warm-up in a practice room. Be prepared to go slightly earlier or later than your scheduled time depending on the progress of auditions.

Evaluation & Results:
Auditions are evaluated objectively using a rubric (the components of which are discussed later in this packet.) The high school vocal music directors as well as an outside "guest judge"score each audition.

Results of auditions will be posted on the vocal music website (**www.ankenychoralmusic.org**) on June 1, 2023 sometime after 4:00 p.m. Each student will be evaluated and placed in ensembles based on performance in the audition and where the directors/audition evaluators feel that the most personal growth can occur. *We understand that not every student will be placed in the ensemble they desire.*
NOTE: work ethic, teamwork, attitude, attendance, and rehearsal skills demonstrated on a daily basis during the previous school year is also a significant audition component.
It is our hope that students with a love of music will share their talents and passions with whichever ensemble(s) they are placed in.

Audition Components

Auditions for the 2023-2024 school year will consist of the following:

Component 1 (Required for Concert Choir, Cantorei, and all show choirs)

1.) Prepared solo: Prepare the solo(s) (in this packet) for your voice part; students will sing the selection a cappella receiving the key (tonal center) and starting pitch before beginning. For this component, students will be evaluated on tone quality, intonation, rhythmic accuracy, and musicianship.
    a. This component will be performed LIVE if you are auditioning for Concert Choir or Cantorei & will be RECORDED and submitted via Google Classroom for students auditioning for show choir only.

Component 2 (Required for Concert Choir, Cantorei, and all show choirs)

1.) Tonal Memory: Students will sing back 2-4 short melodic patterns played on the piano using a neutral syllable. Students may ask to hear each example up to three times. Students are evaluated on aural ability and pitch accuracy.
2.) Sing "Happy Birthday" a cappella. Starting pitches: High voices:E; Low voices: C. Students are evaluated on aural ability and pitch accuracy.
3.) Some students may be asked to sing general exercises/scales, etc. to help determine range.
    a. This component will be performed LIVE.

Component 3 (Required for Concert Choir & Cantorei)

1.) Sight-Reading: Students will sing 1-3 musical examples using solfege or a neutral syllable. The starting pitch and key (tonal center) will be played on the piano. Students will be evaluated on pitch and rhythm accuracy.
    a. This component will be performed LIVE.

Component 4 (Required for Concert Choir)

1.) Written Essay: (Turn in at the time of your audition or sooner (to Mr. Walters)--500 words or less/1 page, typed, 12 point font, 1 inch margins) (Be sure to address all aspects of the question in your answer in a clear and concise manner.)
2.) *Concert Choir is the most select choral ensemble at Ankeny High School.*
    a. First Time Auditionees: Why are you interested in being in Concert Choir? What qualities do you bring to Concert Choir and how do you see this benefitting the ensemble? What expectations do you have for the other members and your director? Consider your individual character, musical skill, leadership, as well as areas for growth in your answer. In other words, why is Concert Choir the "right place" for you?

    b. Returning Members: What makes being in Concert Choir a unique experience and what have you most appreciated about being in the group? Why do you wish to be in Concert Choir again? What valuable lessons or skills have you learned in Concert Choir this year and how have you improved as a singer/musician from previous years? Finally, if selected again, how will you demonstrate leadership within the ensemble as a veteran of this select group?

Component 5-Dance (Required for all show choirs)

1.) Students interested in show choirs should make arrangements to learn the audition choreography IN ADVANCE by:
    a. Attending a choreography clinic on May 15 & 16 in the AHS Choir Room.
    b. Learning the dance by viewing a YouTube link to be posted on the AHS Vocal Music website (www.ankenychoralmusic.org) and the Show Choir Audition Google Classroom on Friday, May 12.
    c. Dance auditions will be RECORDED and submitted via Google Classroom
        i. Show Choir Dance Google Classroom Code: **p54se5p**
        ii. Submissions are DUE by May 19 at 11:59PM.

AHS Choral Ensemble Descriptions & Audition Requirements

Concert Choir
Concert Choir is the most select ensemble at AHS open to all students in grades 10-12. This ensemble is intended for the serious singer who desires an intensive music-making experience. In depth study of music from each period of music history will be explored with focus on vocal production, independence, music literacy, musical precision, and advanced ensemble skills. Ensemble Requirements: Attend a retreat (scheduled for Sunday, August 13), attend all scheduled rehearsals and performances (including occasional outside of school commitments). All students enrolled in choir will be assessed a $30 uniform fee to cover the costs of cleaning and repairing the concert formal wear. Audition Requirements: Components 1, 2, 3, 4

Cantorei
Cantorei is an auditioned treble clef ensemble. All treble voices in grades 10-12 are eligible to audition. Study of vocal pedagogy related specifically to the treble voice will be explored. Integration of solfege and music literacy skills will also be implemented through a varied repertoire. Ensemble Requirements: Attend all events scheduled for the ensemble. All students enrolled in choir will be assessed a $30 uniform fee to cover the costs of cleaning and repairing the concert formal wear. Audition Requirements: Components 1, 2, 3

Ankeny Singers
Ankeny Singers is a mixed choir open to any 10th-12th grade student who enjoys singing and being a part of a musical team working towards common goals. Any student choosing not to go through the audition process will be placed in this ensemble as well as bass clef voices not placed in Concert Choir and treble clef voices not placed in Concert Choir or Cantorei. Ensemble Requirements: Attend all events scheduled for the ensemble. All students enrolled in choir will be assessed a $30 uniform fee to cover the costs of cleaning and repairing the concert formal wear. Audition Requirements: No audition required.

Visual Adrenaline
Visual Adrenaline is the mixed varsity show choir open to all students in grades 9-12 by selective audition. Ensemble Requirements: Students must be enrolled and making regular progress in a curricular choir. **Those students who are placed in a show choir must be willing to commit to the performance schedule, rehearsal schedule and participation fees associated with each ensemble.** Audition Requirements: Components 1, 2, 5

Perpetual Motion
Perpetual Motion is the intermediate mixed show choir open to all students in grades 9-12 by audition. Ensemble Requirements: Students must be enrolled and making regular progress in a curricular choir. **Those students who are placed in a show choir must be willing to commit to the performance schedule, rehearsal schedule and participation fees associated with each ensemble.** Audition Requirements: Components 1, 2, 5

Intensity
Intensity is a treble junior-varsity show choir open to all treble voices in grades 9-12 by audition. Ensemble Requirements: Students must be enrolled and making regular progress in a curricular choir. **Those students who are placed in a show choir must be willing to commit to the performance schedule, rehearsal schedule and participation fees associated with each ensemble.** Audition Requirements: Components 1, 2, 5

Show Choirs: Additional Audition Information

All students (grades 9-12) ***enrolled in a curricular choir*** are eligible to participate in show choir. Those students who are placed in a show choir must be willing to commit to the performance schedule, rehearsal schedule and fees associated with each ensemble. In the past, the vocal music department has been successful in working with students who are active in other activities including drama, band, speech, athletics, dance, and other school activities. We make every effort to accommodate these activities if we know about potential conflicts in advance. *Also note that no student is turned away from participation in show choir due to financial concerns. Directors will work with families on a case by case basis.*

Dance Google Classroom Code: p54se5p

- **ALL students auditioning for show choir will need to join this Google Classroom to submit their recorded dance audition.**

*Show Choir Financial Contributions**

Visual Adrenaline: $475.00
Perpetual Motion: $400.00
Intensity: $325.00

Show Choir Contributions fund a portion of the expenses for our show choirs. Contributions are used in the following way:

	VA	PM	Intensity	
Costume Rental:	$225	$180	$125	(Depends on show design)
Choreography:	$150	$120	$100	
Music:	$50	$50	$50	
Competitions/Travel:	$50	$50	$50	

Additional Anticipated Costuming Requirements (To include but not limited to:)

Dress Wearers:
Nylons/Body tights
Bloomers
Makeup
Shoes (ordered through AHS)

Suit Wearers:
Shoes (ordered through AHS)
Black socks
Compression shorts

Show Choir Rehearsal Information:

- Summer Camps: (These are required rehearsals!)
  - Visual Adrenaline: August 15-20; additional dates in the fall.
  - Perpetual Motion: August 2-5
  - Intensity: August 2-3; additional dates in the fall
- Regular Monday rehearsals begin August 28
  - Visual Adrenaline: 6:00-9:00 PM or as announced*
  - Perpetual Motion: 7:00-9:00 PM or as announced*
  - Intensity: 6:00-7:30PM or as announced*
    - *Rehearsal times may vary depending on a variety of factors.
- Rehearsals on Thursdays will begin October 26.
- Winter Camp: (All show choirs) January 5-7, 2024. Clear the entire day; details TBA.
- Competition/Performance Schedule will be announced in the fall.

Submitting Recorded Audition Materials

The following audition materials will be RECORDED and submitted to Google Classroom:

- Prepared vocal solo (for all incoming 9th grade students and students only auditioning for show choir.)

- Show Choir Dance Audition (ALL students auditioning for show choir.)

Recorded Vocal Audition Process (Incoming 9th Graders & those auditioning for show choir only.)

Utilize the following procedure to prepare and submit your vocal audition video.

- IMPORTANT! Make sure you record your video in a quiet place free from distractions. Be sure you are completely visible in your video.

1.) At the beginning of the video, INTRODUCE yourself as follows: Name (first and last), Grade (next year), and Voice Part you will be auditioning on.

2.) Using the "starting pitch links" located on the Auditon Google Classroom page, have the starting pitches/tonality played for the prepared solo. (Note: ALL auditionees should use this recording to receive their starting pitches.) Press pause on the audio link, then sing the required audition solo.

3.) Stop and save your video; you can record the video as many times as you want to get the "best take," then submit the video to Google Classroom under the "RECORDED AUDITION" assignment.

- Vocal Audition Google Classroom Code: **jurdgmk**

Show Choir Choreography Recorded Audition Process:

1. EVERYONE will submit their choreography audition via recorded video.
2. Record your video in a space that allows you to move and dance "full out." Wear loose fitting clothes that are easy to dance in and be sure you are *fully visible in your video*--***including your feet!***
3. At the beginning of the video, INTRODUCE YOURSELF (first and last name) and what grade you will be in NEXT YEAR.
4. Use either the YouTube choreography video, or the rehearsal track posted on the vocal music website or the Audition Google Classroom and record yourself performing the choreography.
5. Submit your video to the Show Choir Audition Google Classroom.
    a. Show Choir Choreography Audition Google Classroom Code: **p54se5p**
6. A reminder that the audition choreography, music tracks, and additional resources will be released on the AHS Vocal Music Website (www.ankenychoralmusic.org) as well as the Show Choir Choreography Audition Google Classroom on Friday, May 12.

Questions??

Mr. Walters (ben.walters@ankenyschools.org)
*Information about the AHS Vocal Music program
*Musical or procedural questions about the audition
*Questions about Concert Choir, Cantorei, or Visual Adrenaline

Mr. Brown (adam.brown@ankenyschools.org)
*Technical questions about the audition (Google Classroom, video preparation, Sign-Up Genius)
*Questions about Ankeny Singers or Perpetual Motion

Mr. Oswald (nick.oswald@ankenyschools.org)
*Questions about Intensity

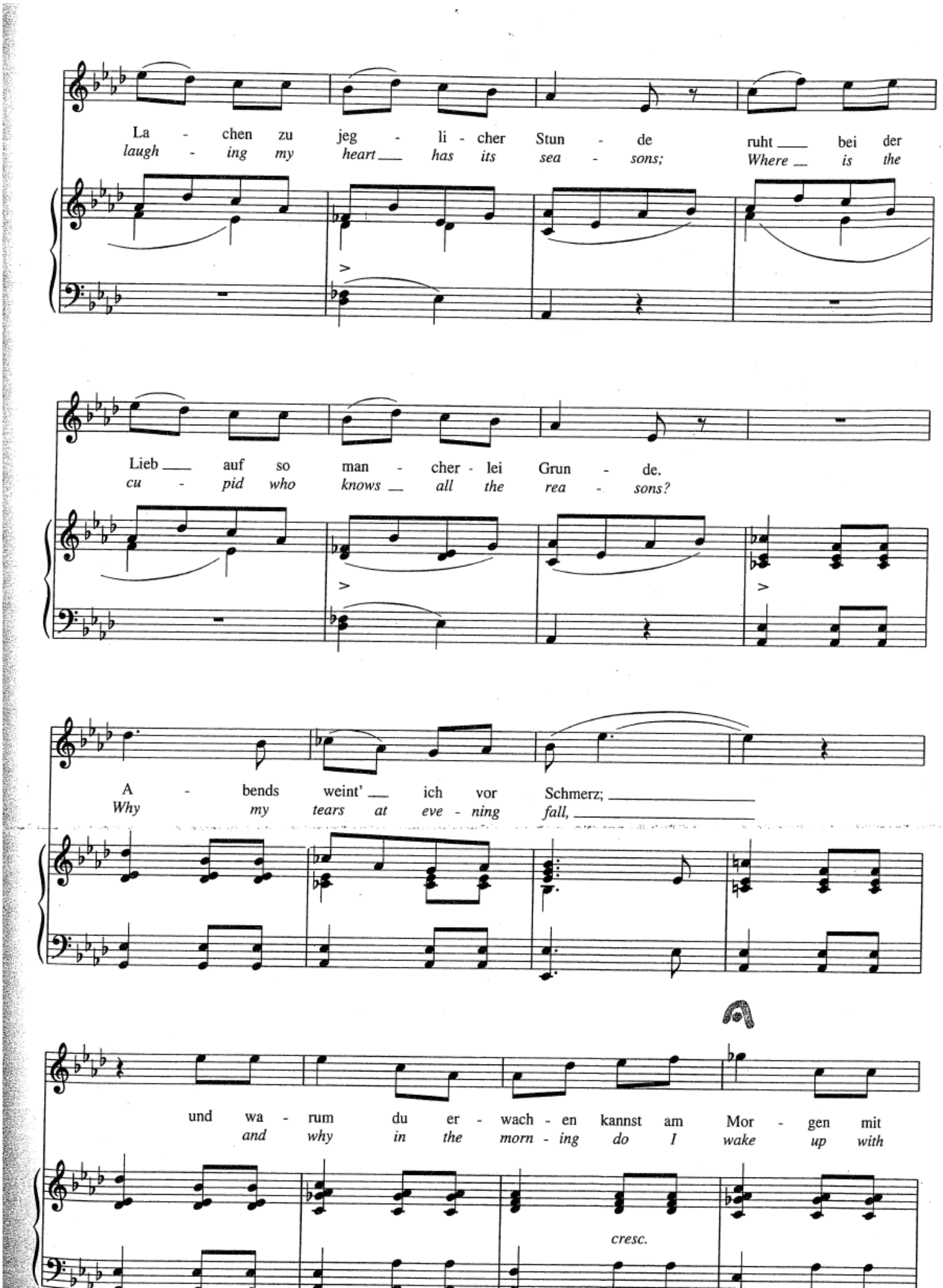
Lachen und Weinen - SOPRANO

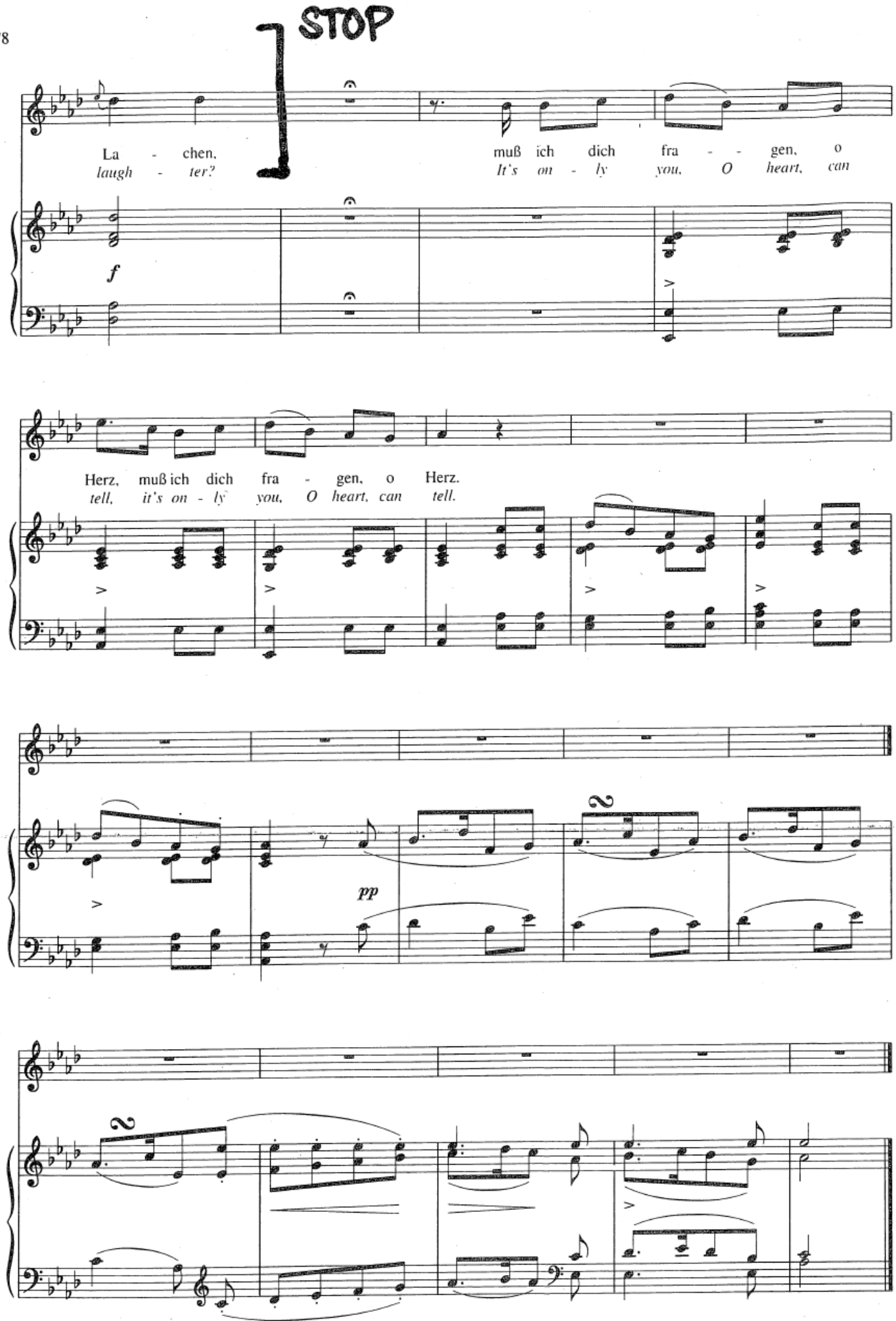
wußt, ist mir selb'____ nicht be - wußt.
know, I my - self ____ do not know.

pp

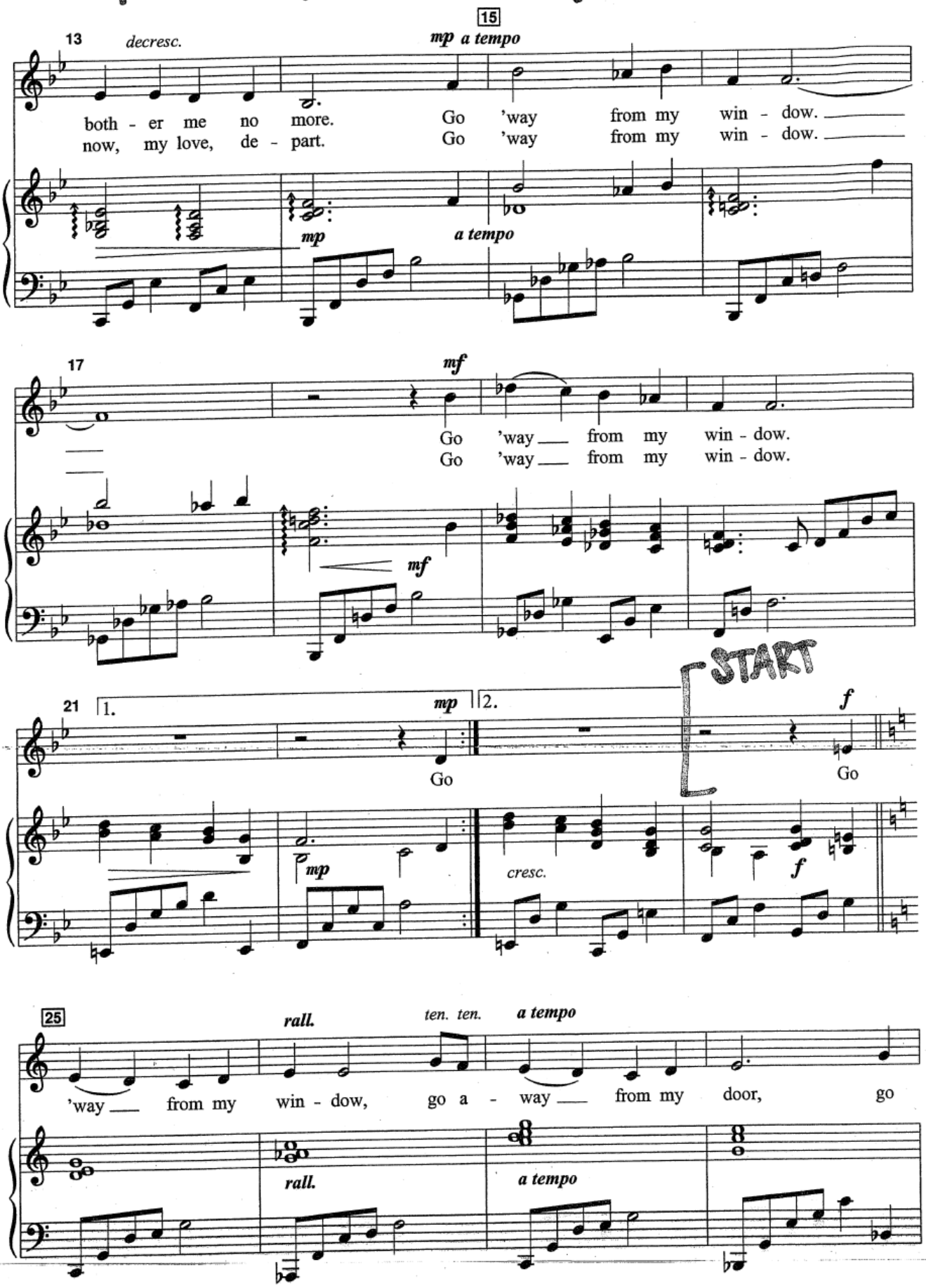
START

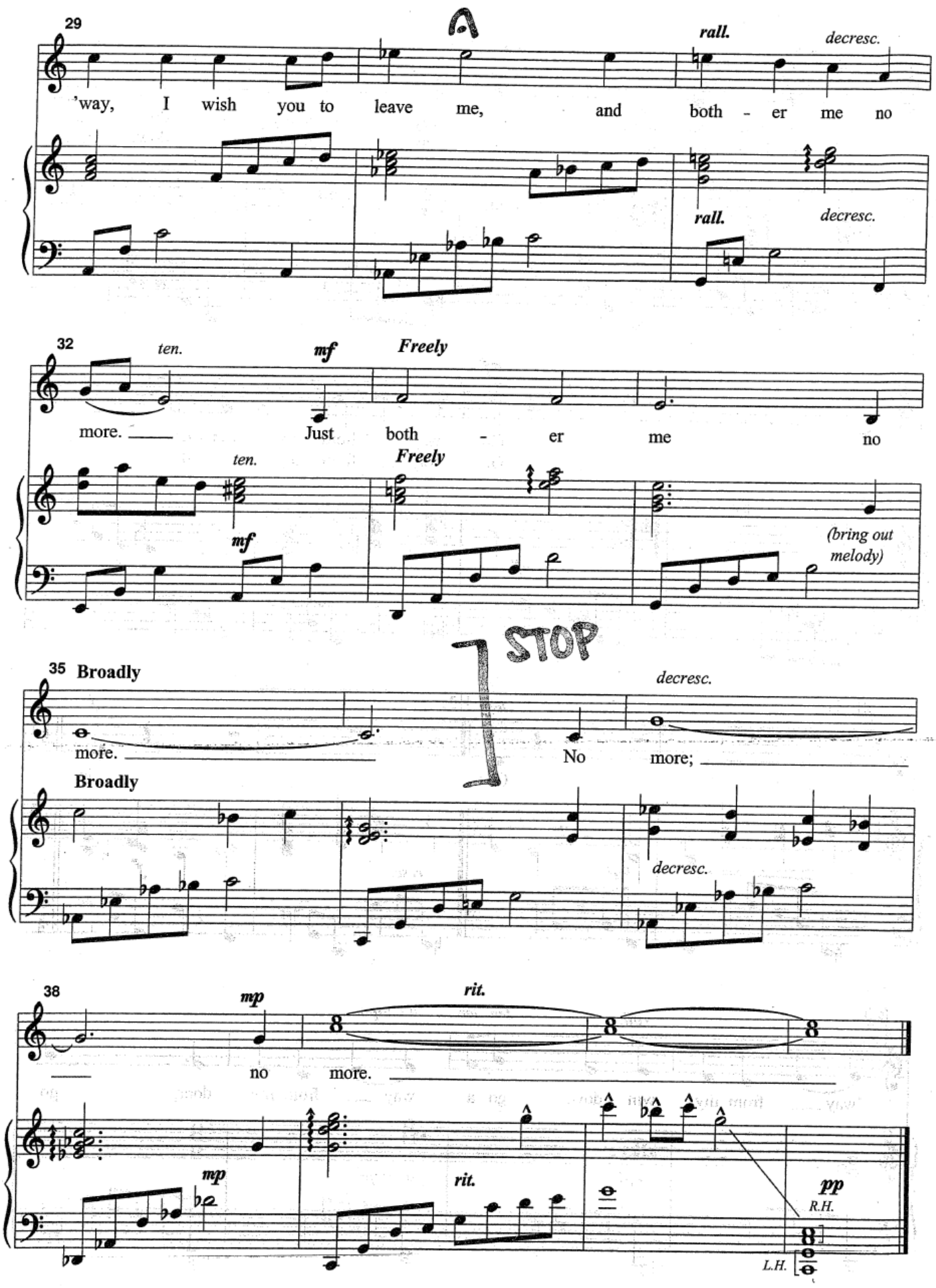
Wei - nen und
Cry - ing and


La - chen zu jeg - li - cher Stun - de ruht bei der
laugh - ing my heart has its sea - sons; Where is the
Lieb auf so man - cher - lei Grun - de.
cu - pid who knows all the rea - sons?
A - bends weint' ich vor Schmerz;
Why my tears at eve - ning fall,
und wa - rum du er - wach - en kannst am Mor - gen mit
and why in the morn - ing do I wake up with
cresc.


STOP
La - chen, muß ich dich fra - - gen, o
laugh - ter? It's on - ly you, O heart, can
f
Herz, muß ich dich fra - gen, o Herz.
tell, it's on - ly you, O heart, can tell.
pp

Go 'Way From My Window - ALTO



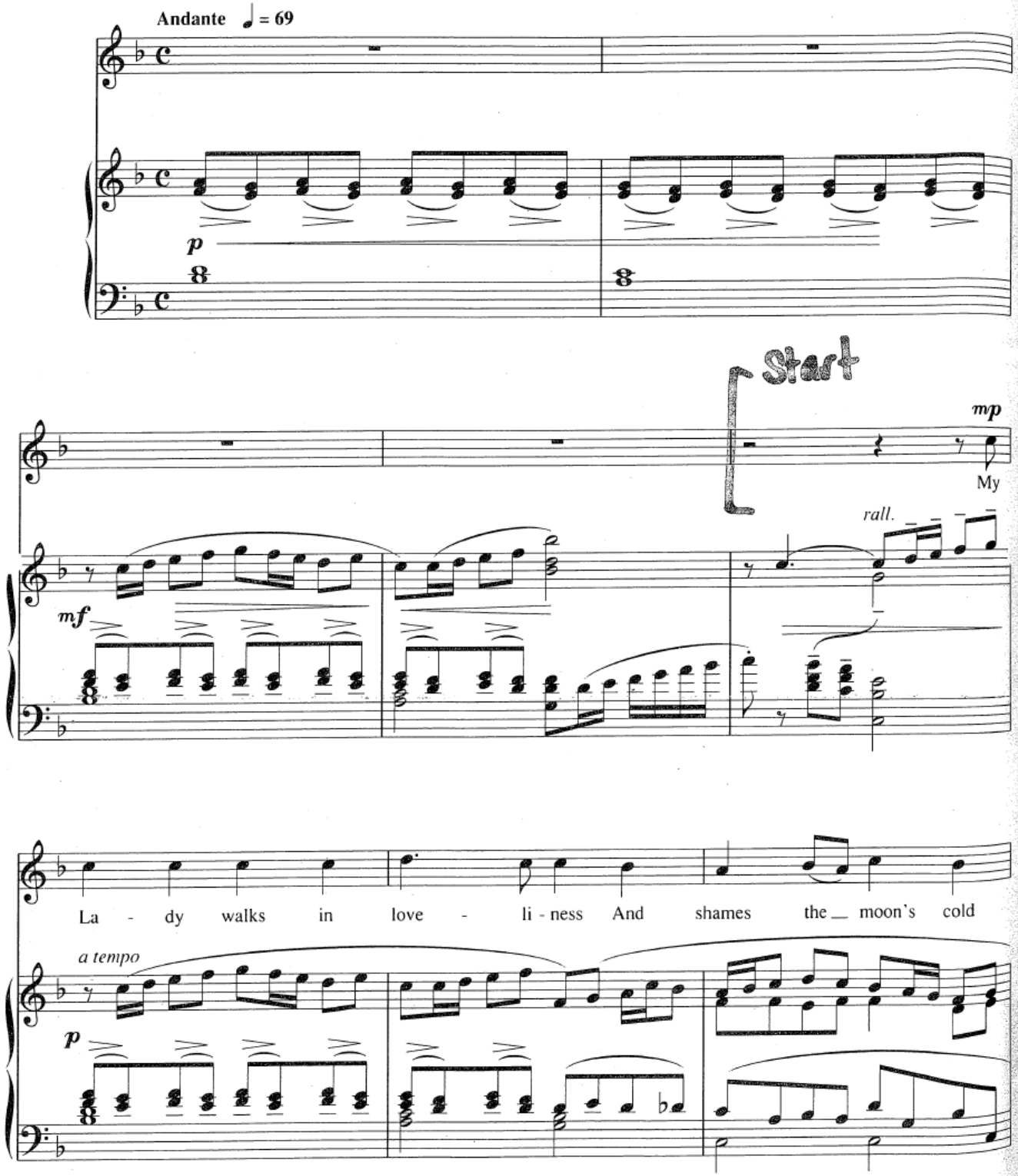

29
'way, I wish you to leave me, and both - er me no
rall.
decresc.
rall.
decresc.
32
more. Just both - er me no
ten.
mf
Freely
ten.
mf
Freely
(bring out melody)
35
Broadly
more. No more;
decresc.
Broadly
decresc.
STOP
38
no more.
mp
rit.
mp
rit.
pp
R.H.
L.H.

MY LADY WALKS IN LOVELINESS

Tenor

Mona Modini Wood*

Ernest Charles



* Poem used by permission.

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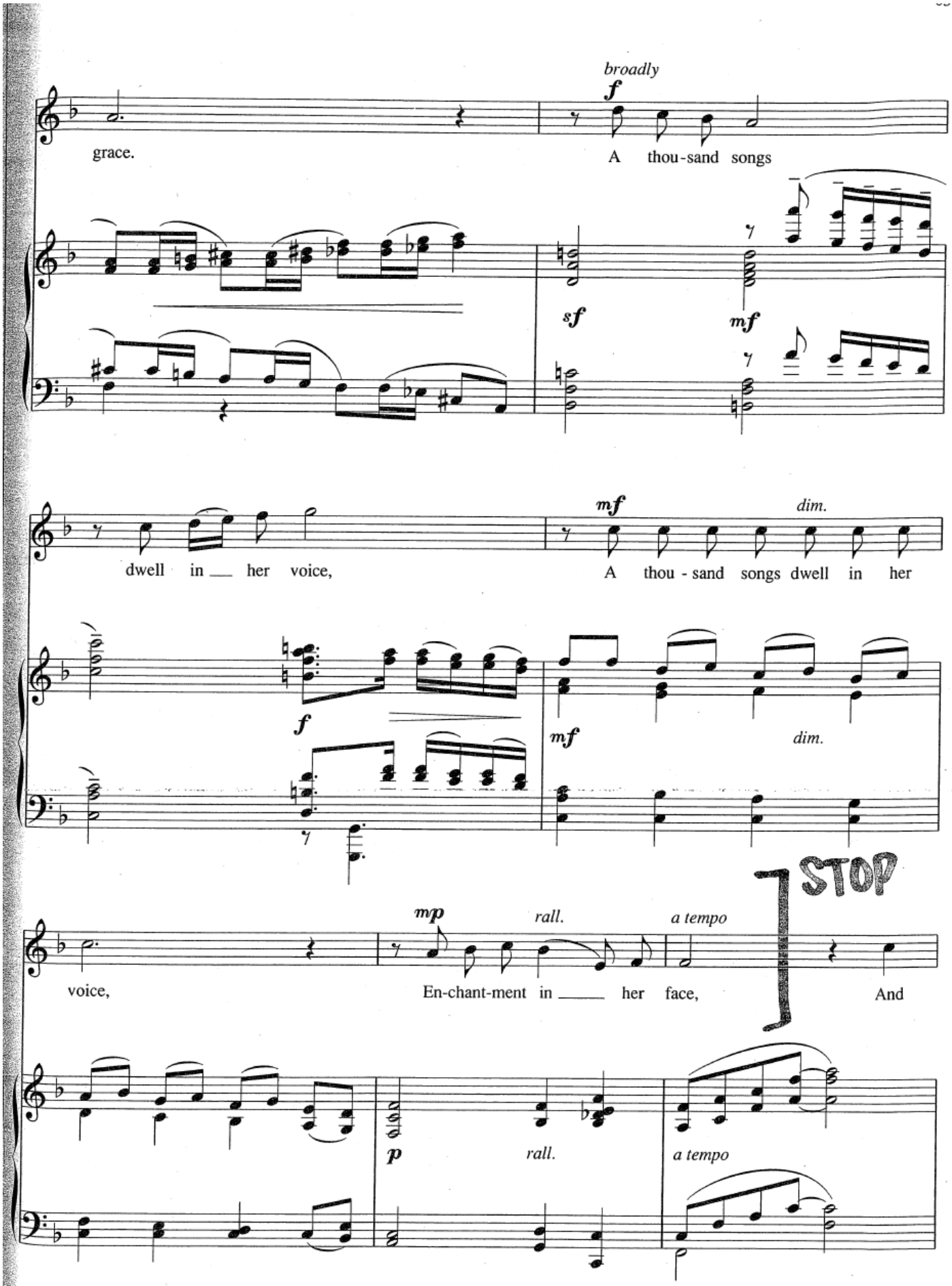
broadly
f
grace.
A thou-sand songs
sf
mf
dwell in her voice,
mf
dim.
A thou - sand songs dwell in her
f
mf
dim.
STOP
mp
rall.
a tempo
voice,
En-chant-ment in her face,
And
p
rall.
a tempo

Scarborough Fair - Bass

34

2.

37

39

f

mine. Scar - bor - ough Fair, Scar - bor - ough

f

42

Fair, Are you goin' to Scar - bor - ough Fair?

47

START

52

mf

Tell her to wash it in yon - der dry well,

mf

56

Pars - ley, sage, rose - mar - y and thyme.

60

Where wa - ter ne'er sprang nor drop of rain

64

fell, For once she was a true love of

68

mine.

STOP

f