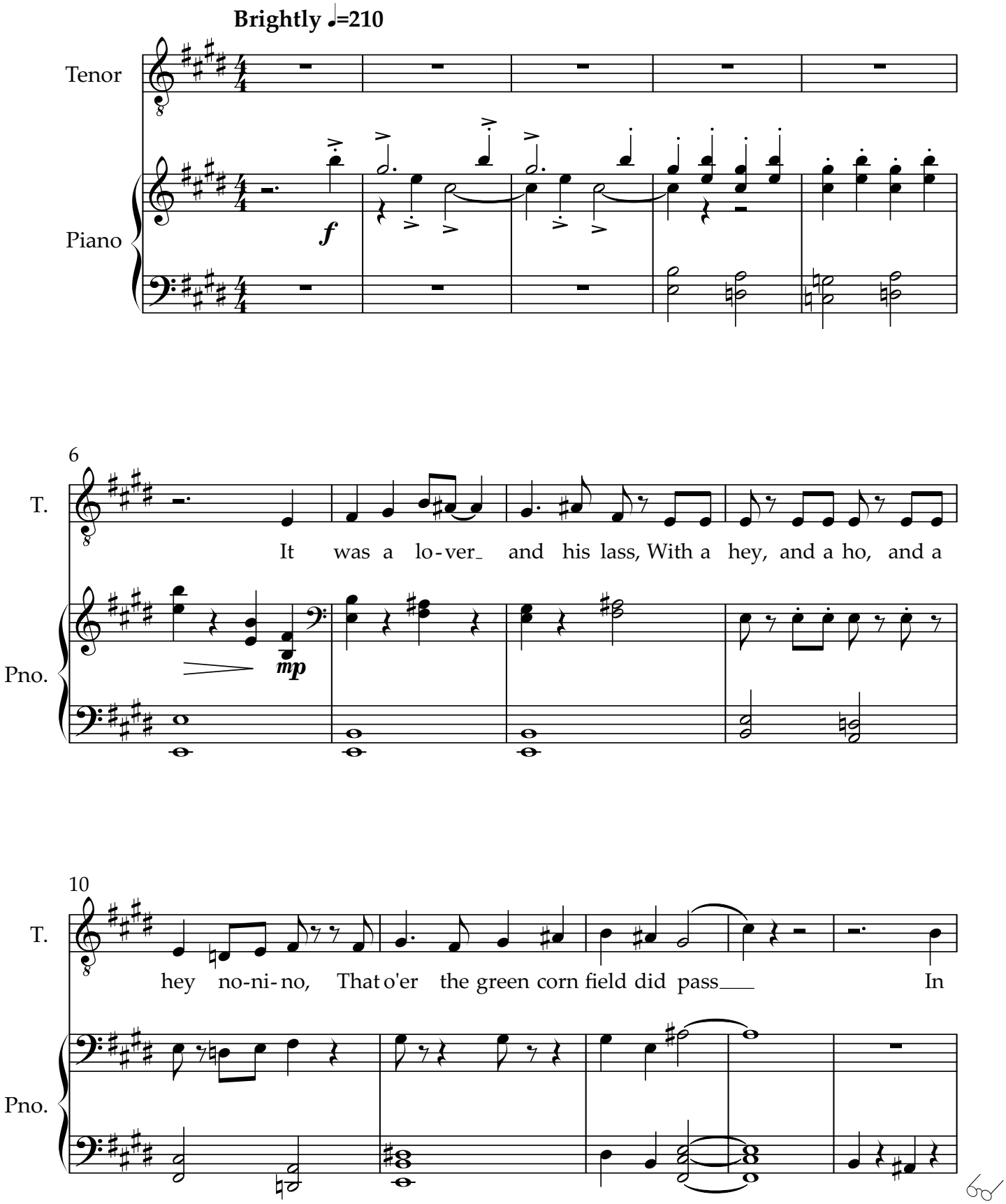
For John Tolley

Four Poems by William Shakespeare

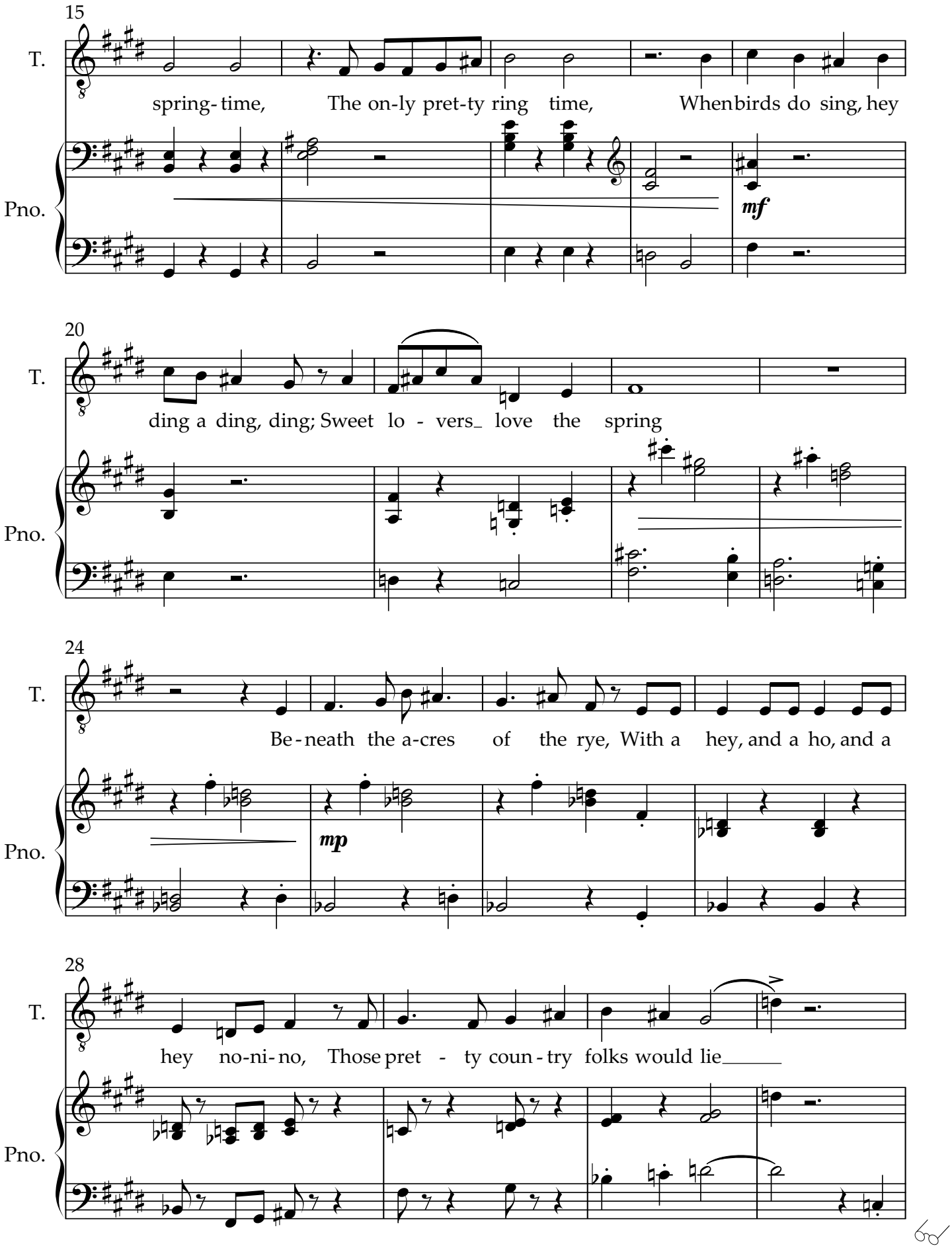
for Tenor and Piano

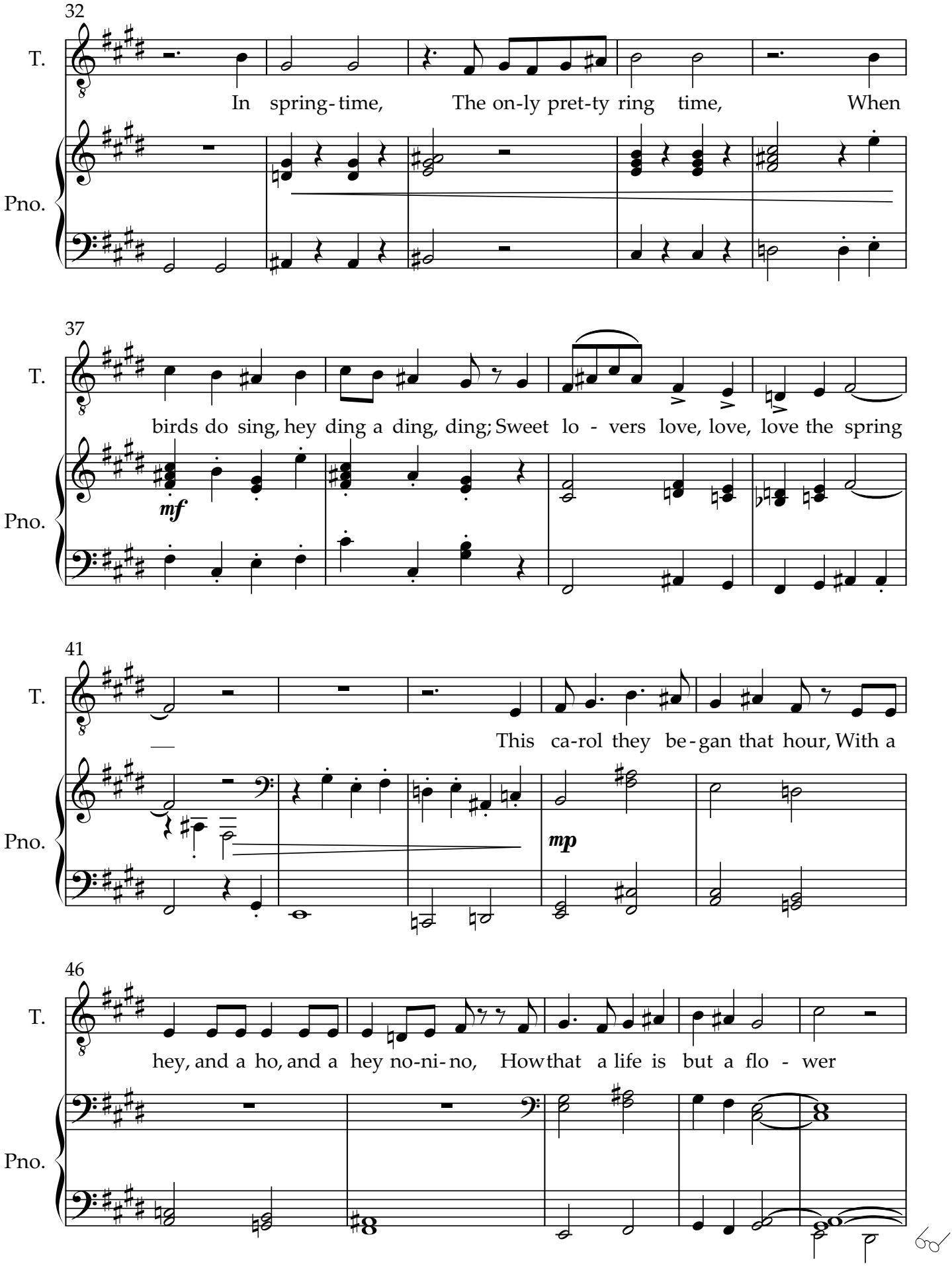
Mark Tolley

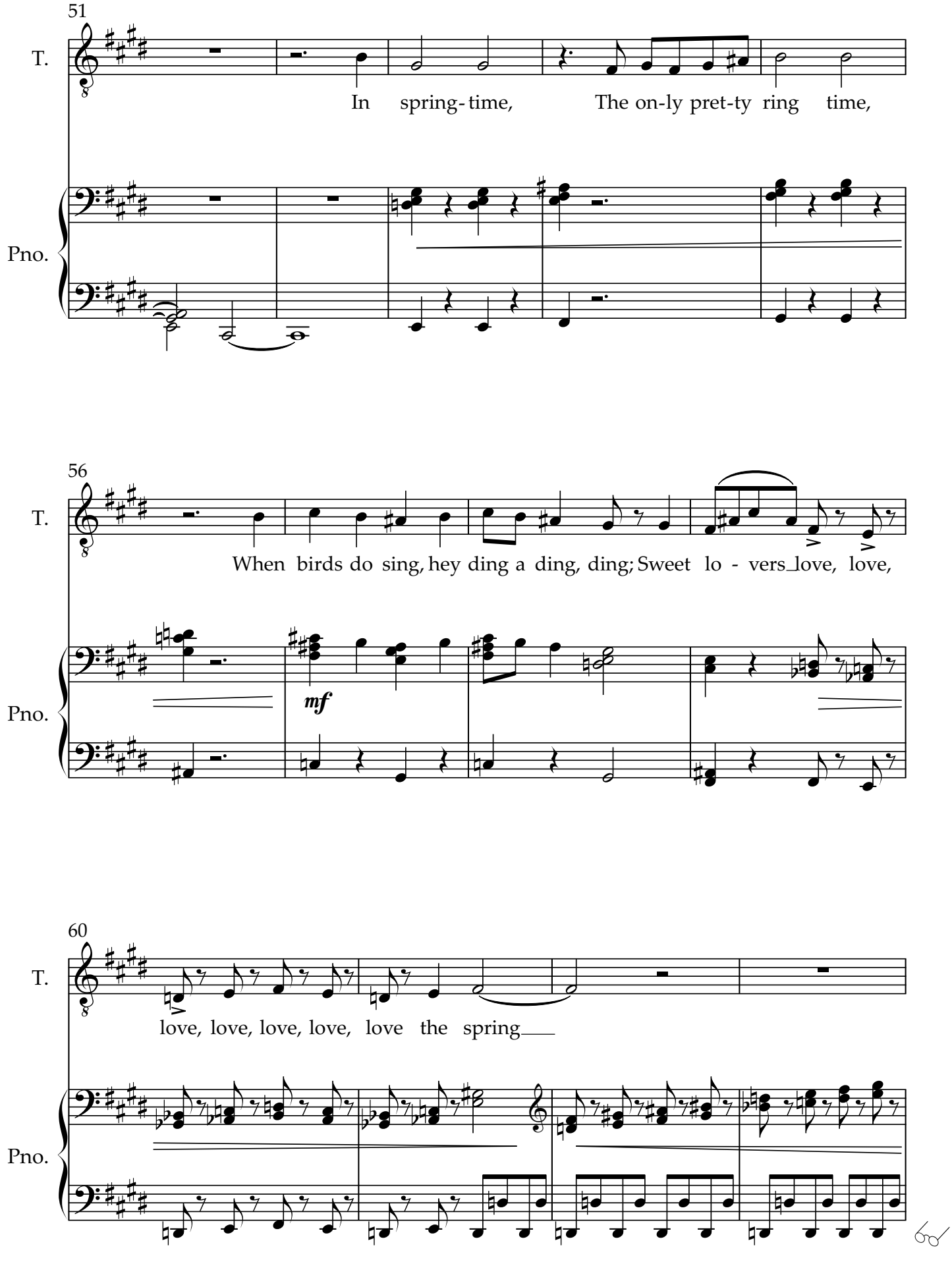
1. It was a Lover and his Lass

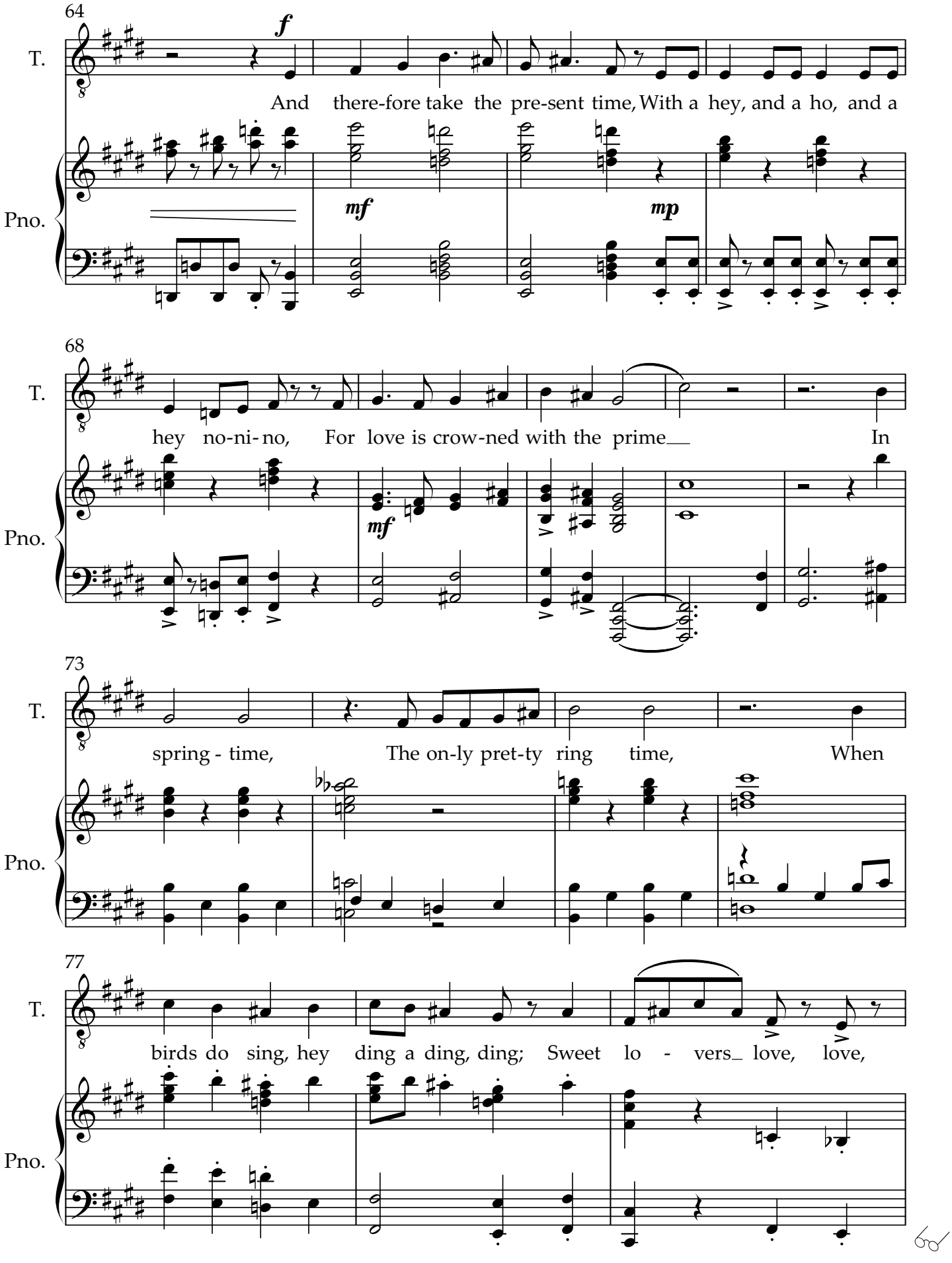


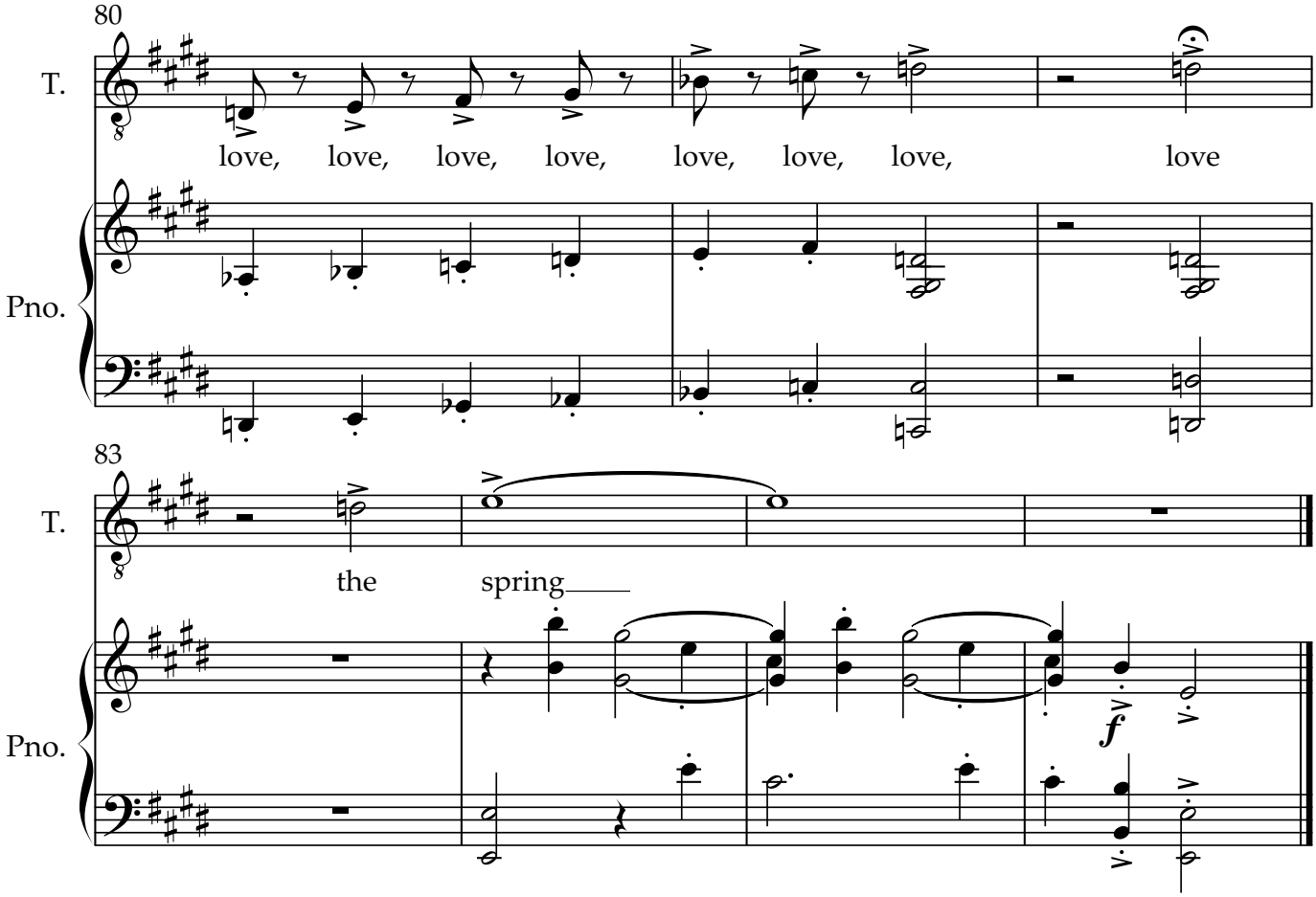
Copyright © 2025 Mark Tolley under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License
http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/

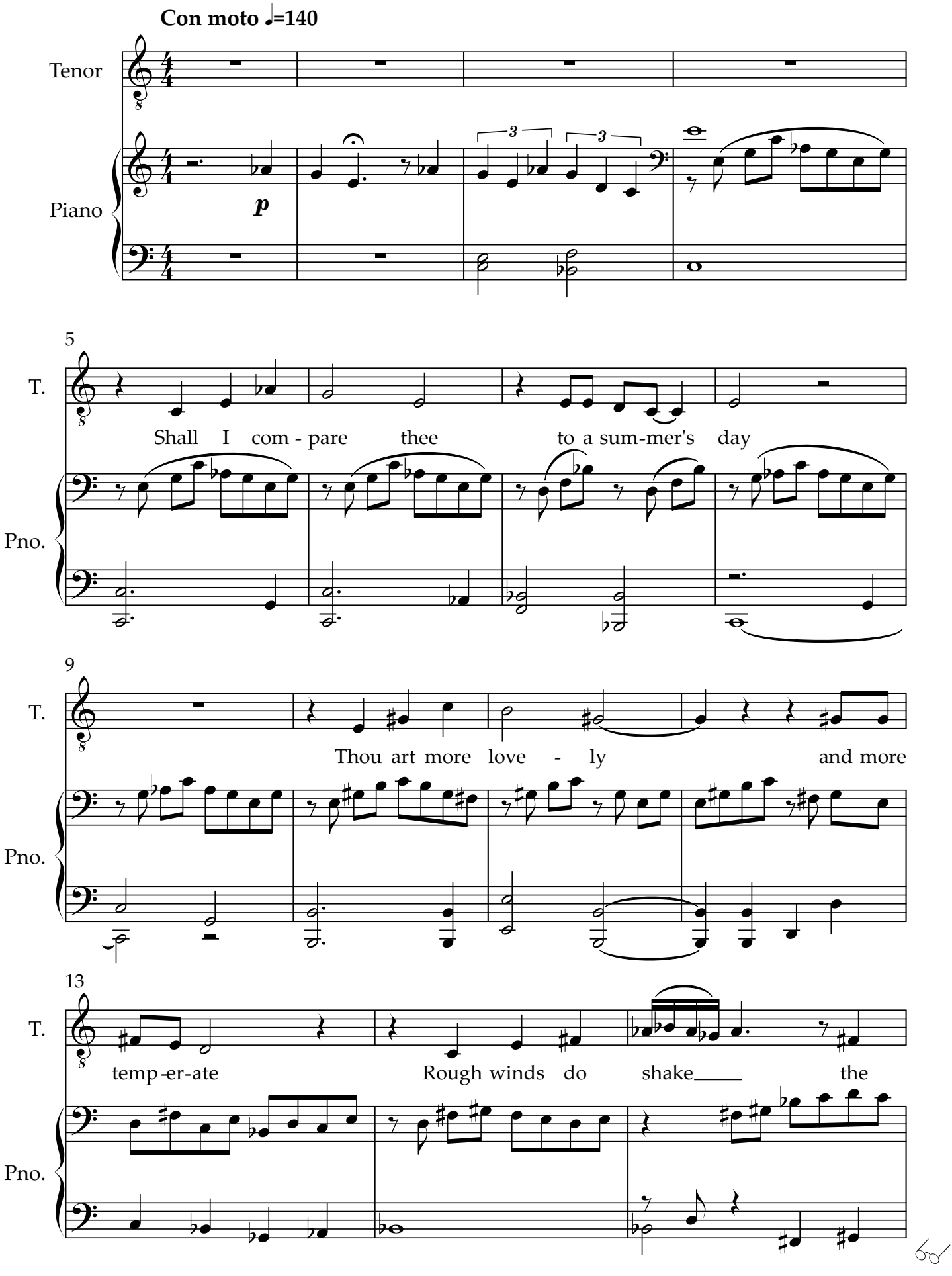

15
T.
spring- time, The on-ly pret-ty ring time, When birds do sing, hey
Pno.
mf
20
T.
ding a ding, ding; Sweet lo - vers_ love the spring
Pno.
24
T.
Be - neath the a-cres of the rye, With a hey, and a ho, and a
Pno.
mp
28
T.
hey no-ni- no, Those pret - ty coun - try folks would lie_____
Pno.

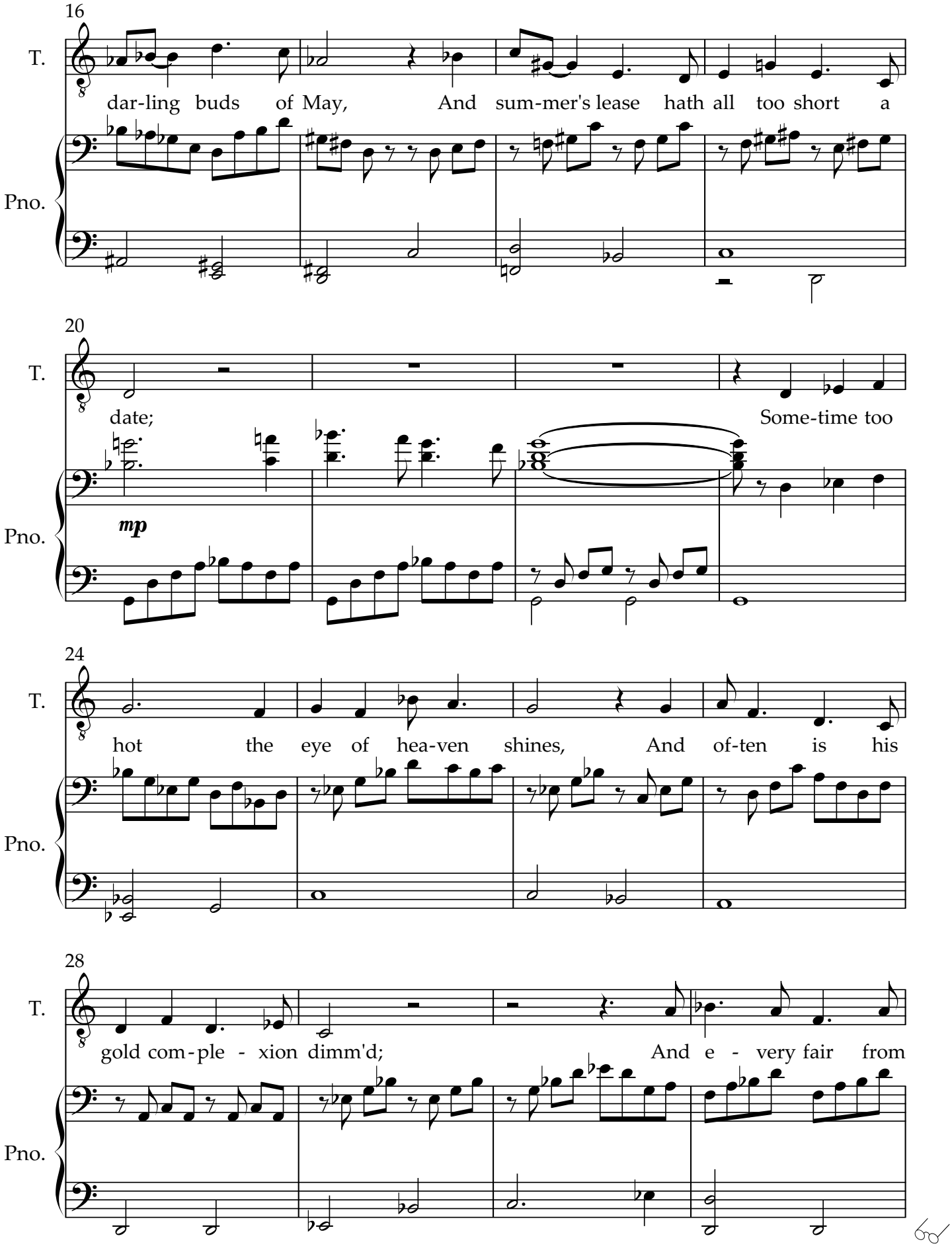

32
T.
In spring- time, The on-ly pret-ty ring time, When
Pno.
37
T.
birds do sing, hey ding a ding, ding; Sweet lo - vers love, love, love the spring
mf
Pno.
41
T.
This ca-rol they be - gan that hour, With a
mp
Pno.
46
T.
hey, and a ho, and a hey no-ni- no, How that a life is but a flo - wer
Pno.

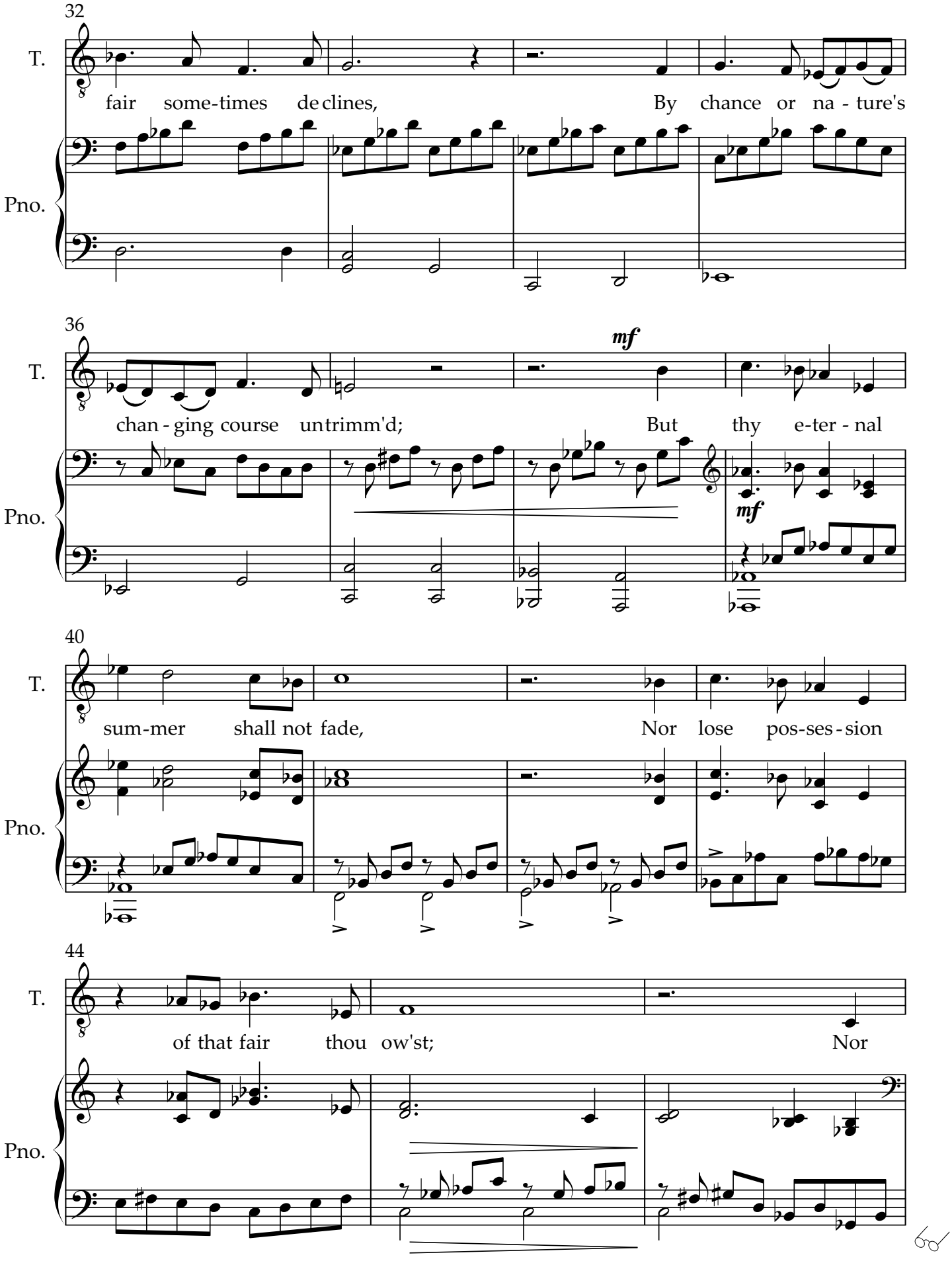

51
T.
In spring- time, The on-ly pret-ty ring time,
Pno.
56
T.
When birds do sing, hey ding a ding, ding; Sweet lo - vers love, love,
mf
Pno.
60
T.
love, love, love, love, love the spring
Pno.

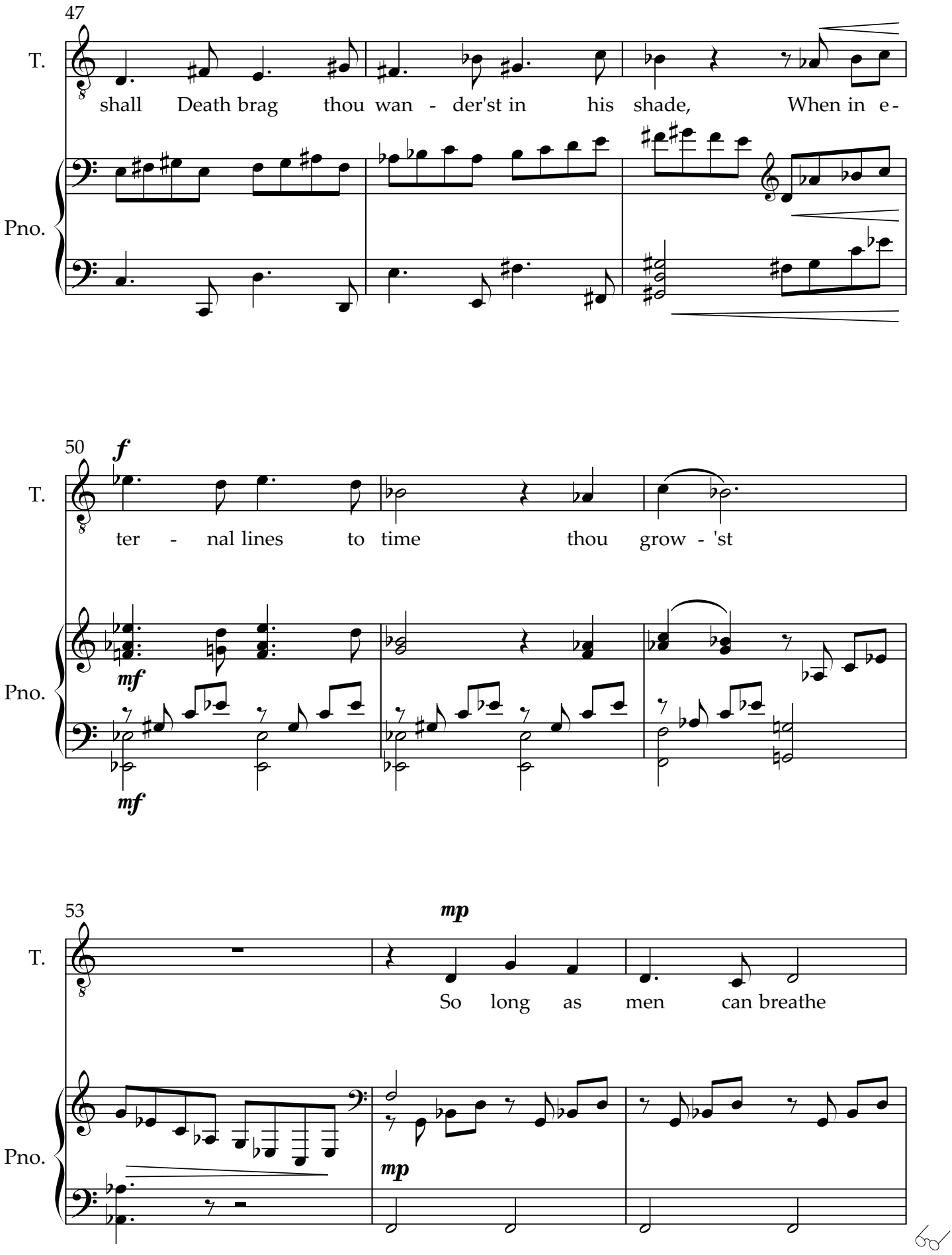

64
T.
Pno.
f
And there-fore take the pre-sent time, With a hey, and a ho, and a
mf
mp
68
T.
Pno.
hey no-ni- no, For love is crow-ned with the prime__ In
mf
73
T.
Pno.
spring - time, The on-ly pret-ty ring time, When
77
T.
Pno.
birds do sing, hey ding a ding, ding; Sweet lo - vers_ love, love,

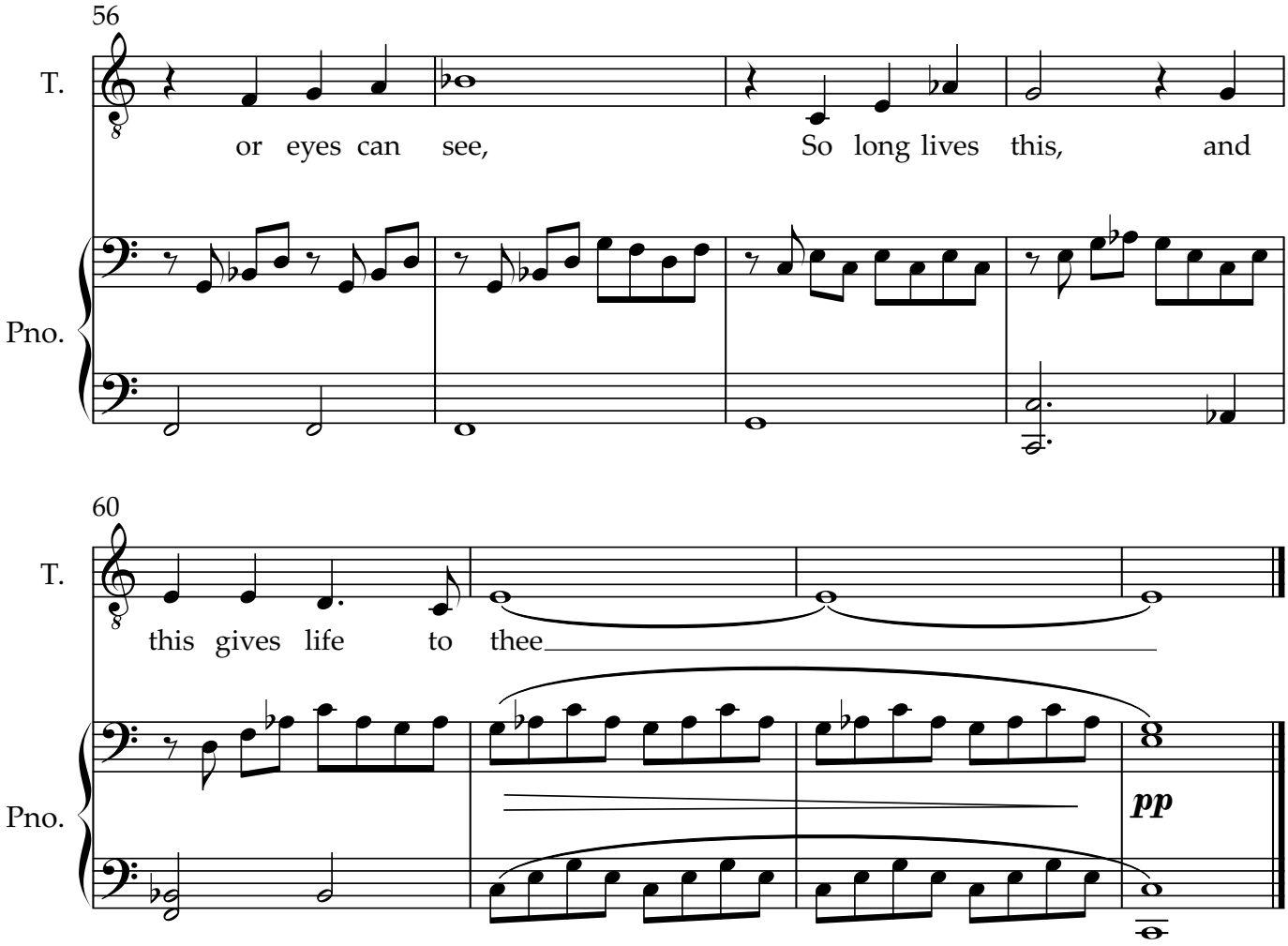

80
T.
love, love, love, love, love, love, love, love
Pno.
83
T.
the spring
Pno.
f

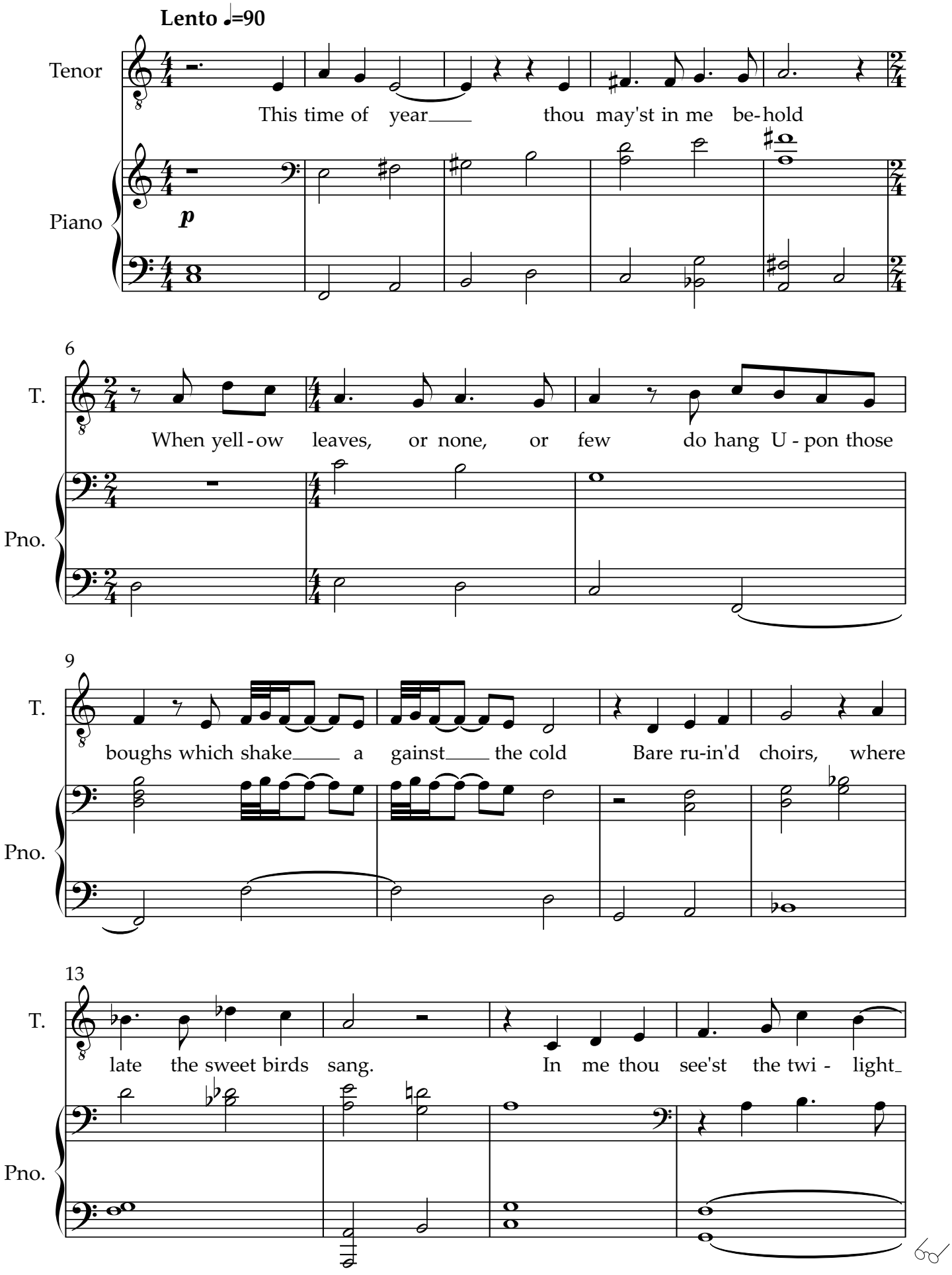

Con moto ♩=140
Tenor
Piano
p
5
T.
Pno.
Shall I com - pare thee to a sum-mer's day
9
T.
Pno.
Thou art more love - ly and more
13
T.
Pno.
temp-er-ate Rough winds do shake the

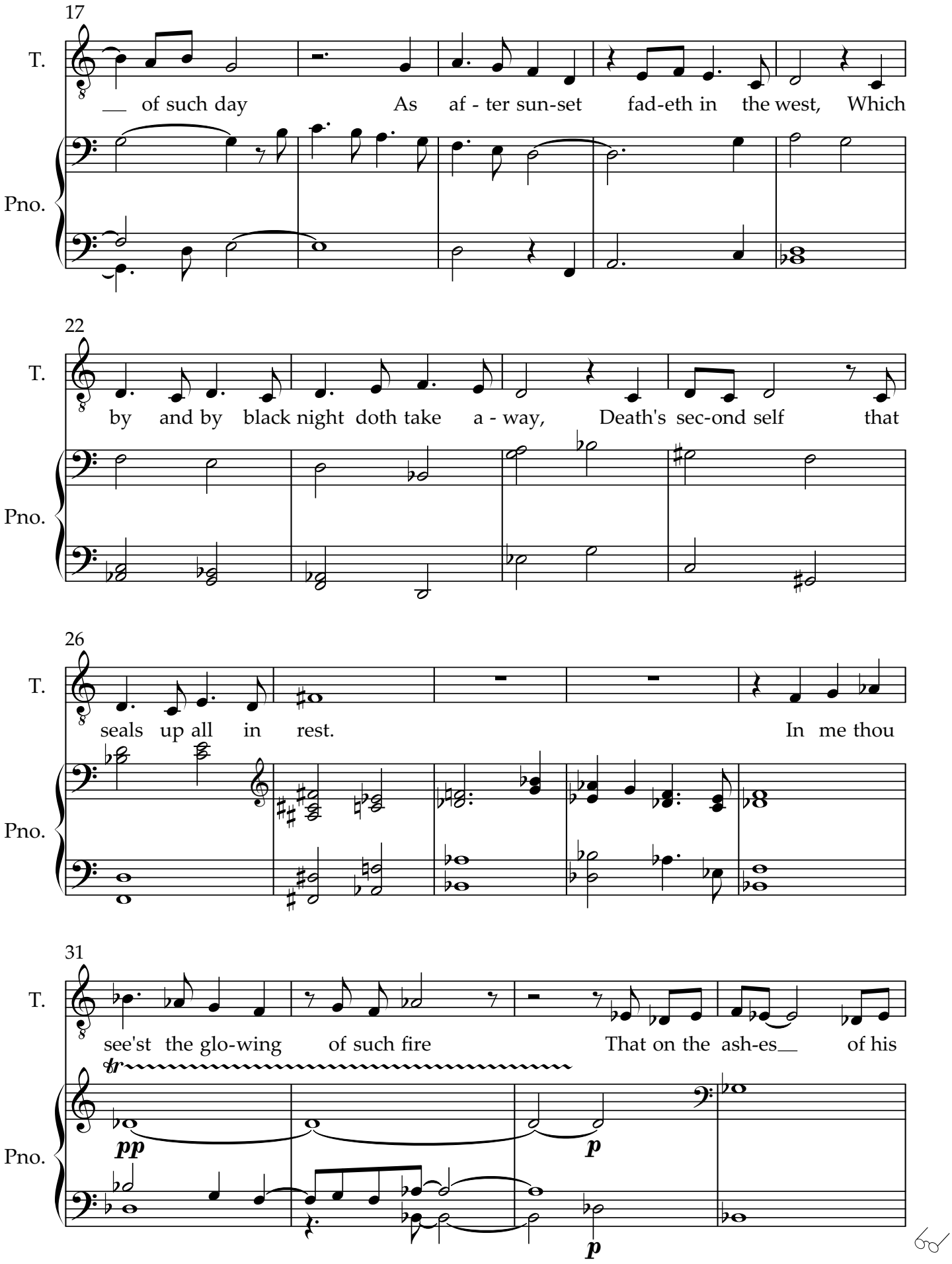

16
T.
dar-ling buds of May, And sum-mer's lease hath all too short a
Pno.
20
T.
date; Some-time too
mp
Pno.
24
T.
hot the eye of hea-ven shines, And of-ten is his
Pno.
28
T.
gold com-ple - xion dimm'd; And e - very fair from
Pno.

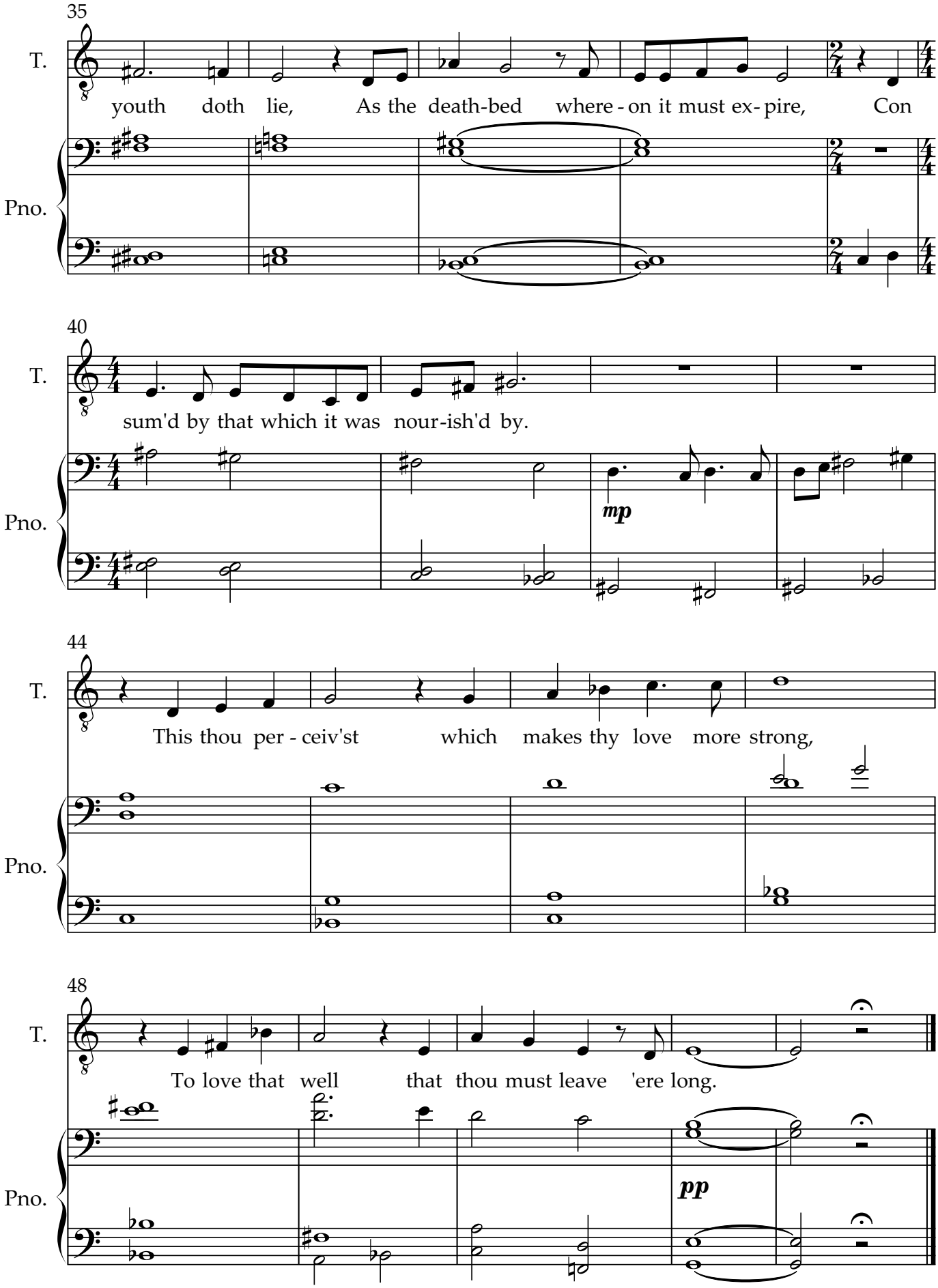

32
T.
fair some-times de clines, By chance or na - ture's
Pno.
36
T.
mf
chan - ging course un trimm'd; But thy e-ter - nal
Pno.
mf
40
T.
sum-mer shall not fade, Nor lose pos-ses - sion
Pno.
44
T.
of that fair thou ow'st; Nor
Pno.

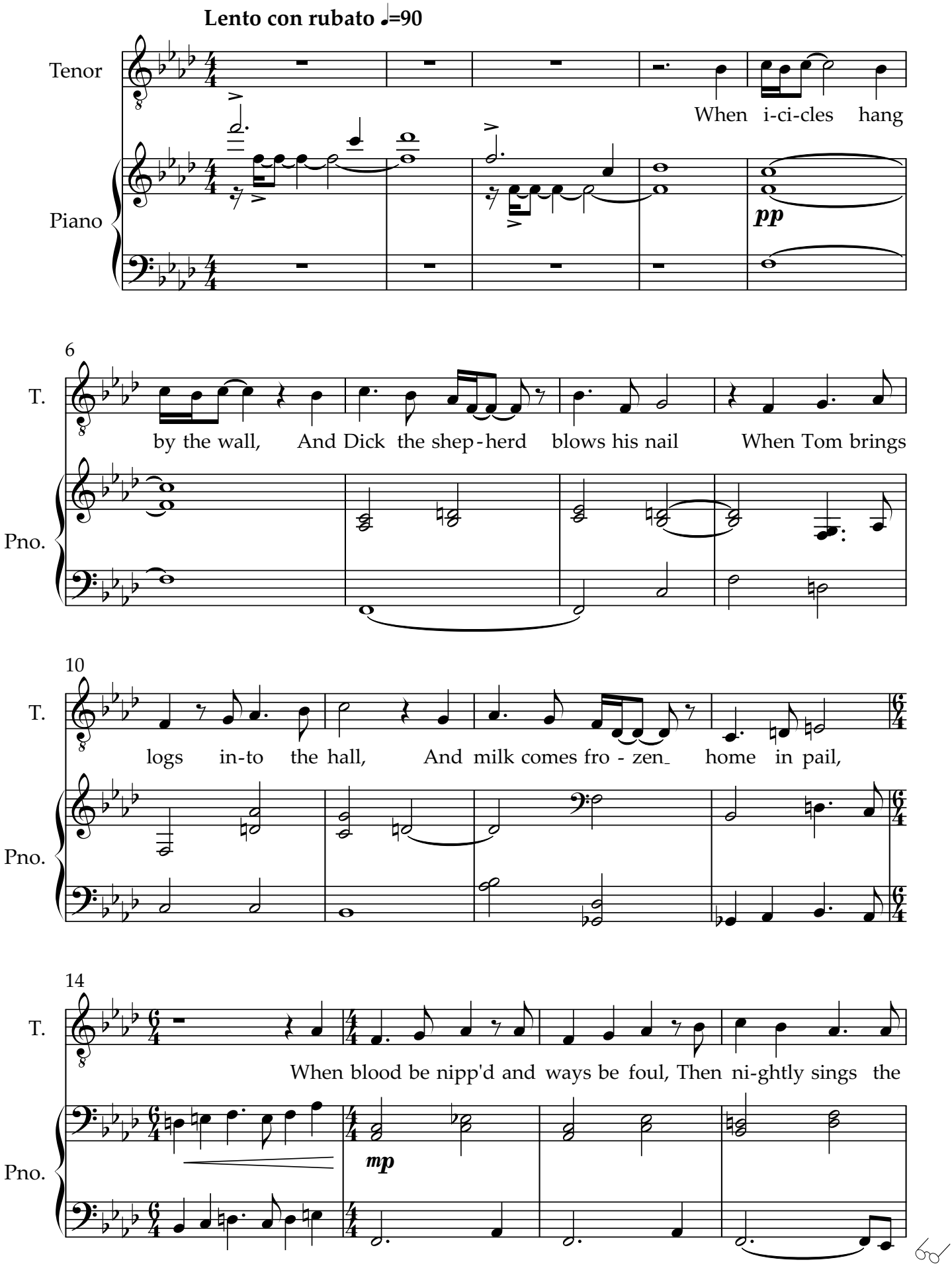

47
T.
shall Death brag thou wan - der'st in his shade, When in e-
Pno.
50
f
T.
ter - nal lines to time thou grow - 'st
mf
Pno.
mf
53
mp
T.
So long as men can breathe
Pno.
mp

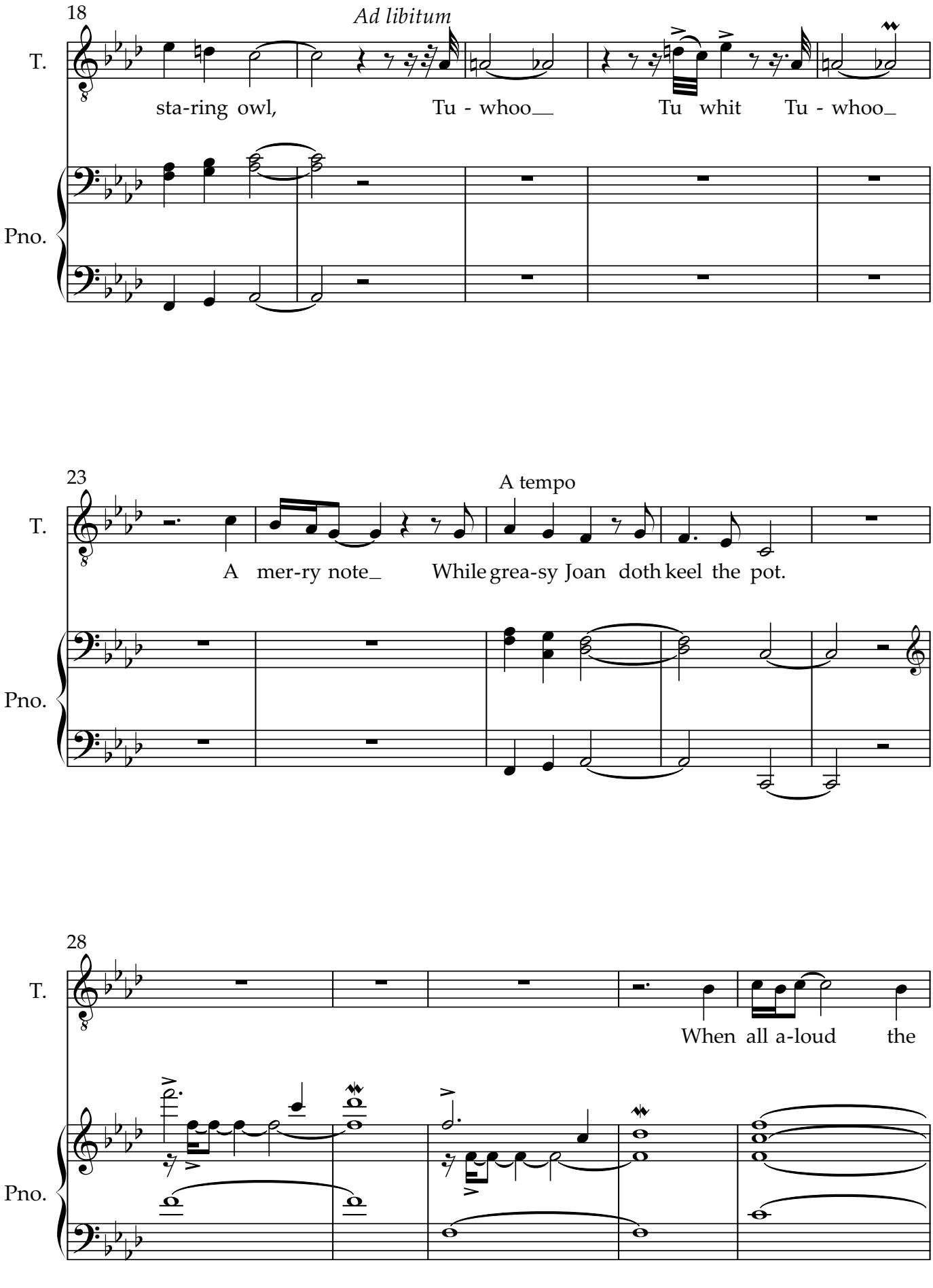

56
T.
or eyes can see, So long lives this, and
Pno.
60
T.
this gives life to thee
Pno.
pp

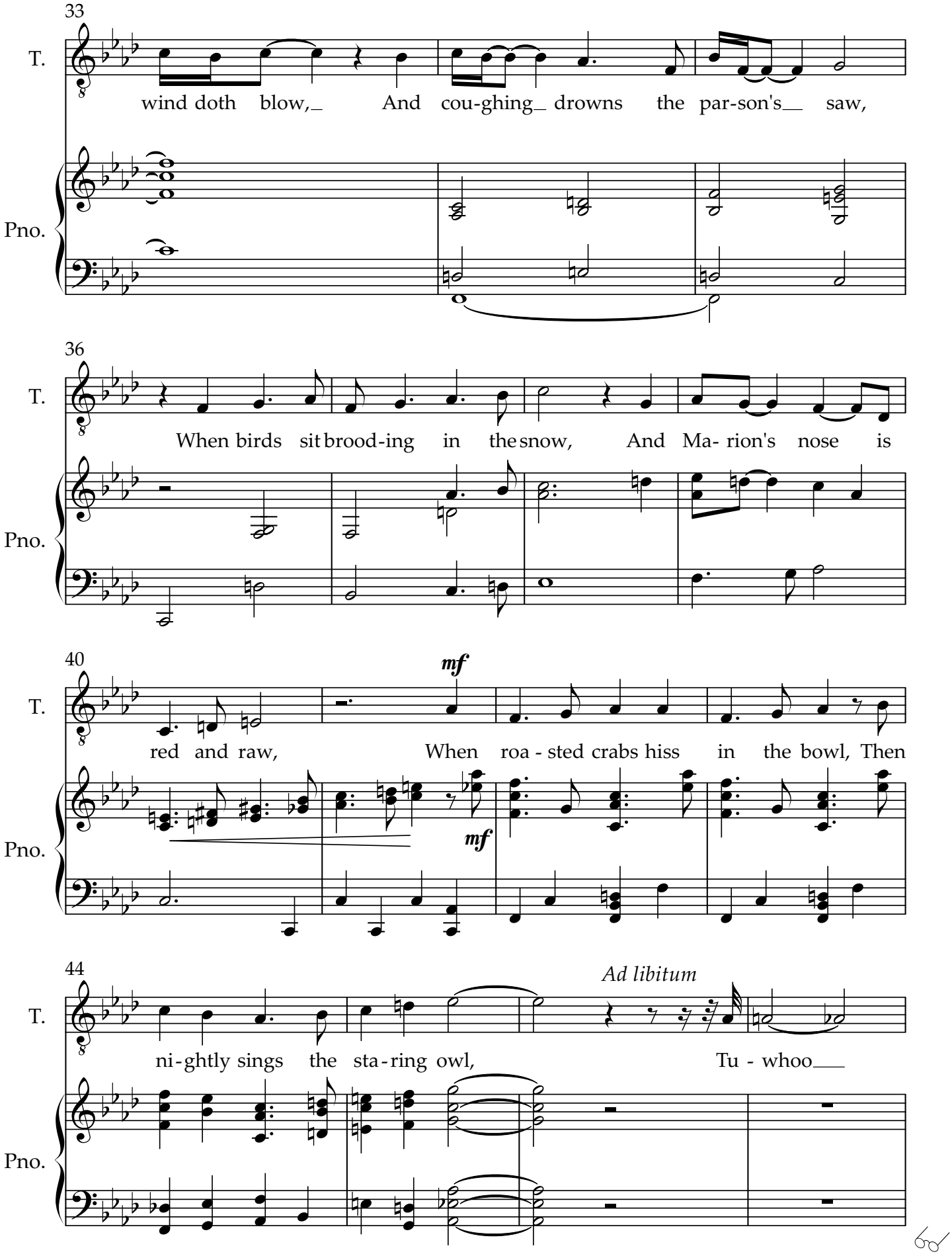

Lento ♩=90
Tenor
This time of year thou may'st in me be-hold
Piano
p
6
T.
When yell-ow leaves, or none, or few do hang U-pon those
Pno.
9
T.
boughs which shake a gainst the cold Bare ru-in'd choirs, where
Pno.
13
T.
late the sweet birds sang. In me thou see'st the twi - light
Pno.

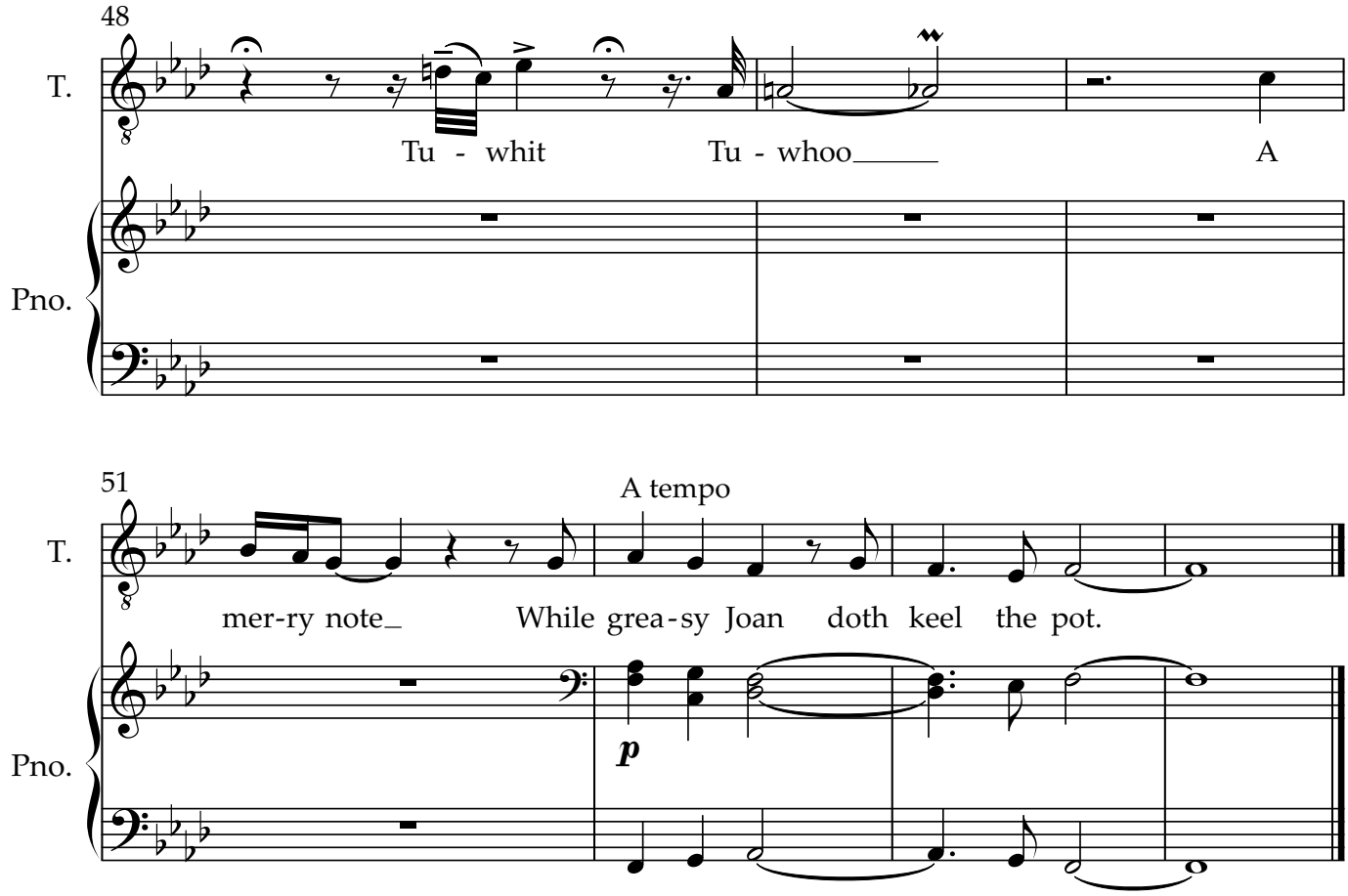

17
T.
__ of such day As af - ter sun-set fad-eth in the west, Which
Pno.
22
T.
by and by black night doth take a - way, Death's sec-ond self that
Pno.
26
T.
seals up all in rest. In me thou
Pno.
31
T.
see'st the glo-wing of such fire That on the ash-es__ of his
tr
pp
p
Pno.
p


35
T.
youth doth lie, As the death-bed where - on it must ex- pire, Con
Pno.
40
T.
sum'd by that which it was nour-ish'd by.
Pno.
mp
44
T.
This thou per - ceiv'st which makes thy love more strong,
Pno.
48
T.
To love that well that thou must leave 'ere long.
Pno.
pp


Lento con rubato ♩=90
Tenor
When i-ci-cles hang
Piano
pp
6
T.
by the wall, And Dick the shep-herd blows his nail When Tom brings
Pno.
10
T.
logs in-to the hall, And milk comes fro - zen_ home in pail,
Pno.
14
T.
When blood be nipp'd and ways be foul, Then ni-ghtly sings the
Pno.
mp


18
Ad libitum
T.
sta-ring owl,
Tu - whoo__
Tu whit
Tu - whoo_
Pno.
23
A tempo
T.
A mer-ry note_
While grea-sy Joan doth keel the pot.
Pno.
28
T.
When all a-loud
the
Pno.


33
T.
wind doth blow, And cou-ghing drowns the par-son's saw,
Pno.
36
T.
When birds sit brood-ing in the snow, And Ma- rion's nose is
Pno.
40
mf
T.
red and raw, When roa - sted crabs hiss in the bowl, Then
mf
Pno.
44
Ad libitum
T.
ni-ghtly sings the sta-ring owl, Tu - whoo
Pno.


48
T.
Tu - whit
Tu - whoo
A
Pno.

51
A tempo
T.
mer-ry note
While grea-sy Joan doth keel the pot.
Pno.
p