Spilled Milk

for Mezzo-Soprano and Piano

by Coleman Rowlett

(2017)

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Hush now, my child.
Rest your worried eyes.
Remember always
How loved you are.

Sleep now, my child.
Your mother's by your side.
In my arms, you are safe.
Do not be afraid.

Be still, my heart.
Do not worry of the bottle that drips,
the milk seeping into the cracks
of the cold hardwood floor.

Smile, my eyes.
Surely, I have not dried.
This fear, I must hide,
A dignified lie,
I must keep inside!

Oh, my sweet child.
Please do not cry.
Soon, you will drink again.
Remember, sweet angel,
Mommy always loved you.

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for Mezzo-Soprano and Piano

Duration 5'38"

About the Piece:

Spilled Milk (2017) is a song about a loving mother struggling to make ends meet. She is singing a lullaby to her hungry and weeping child, reassuring them that all will be ok. Her facade begins to crumble as her struggles worsen. Nevertheless, she reassures the child to the end that everything will be alright and that they were loved.

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About the Composer:

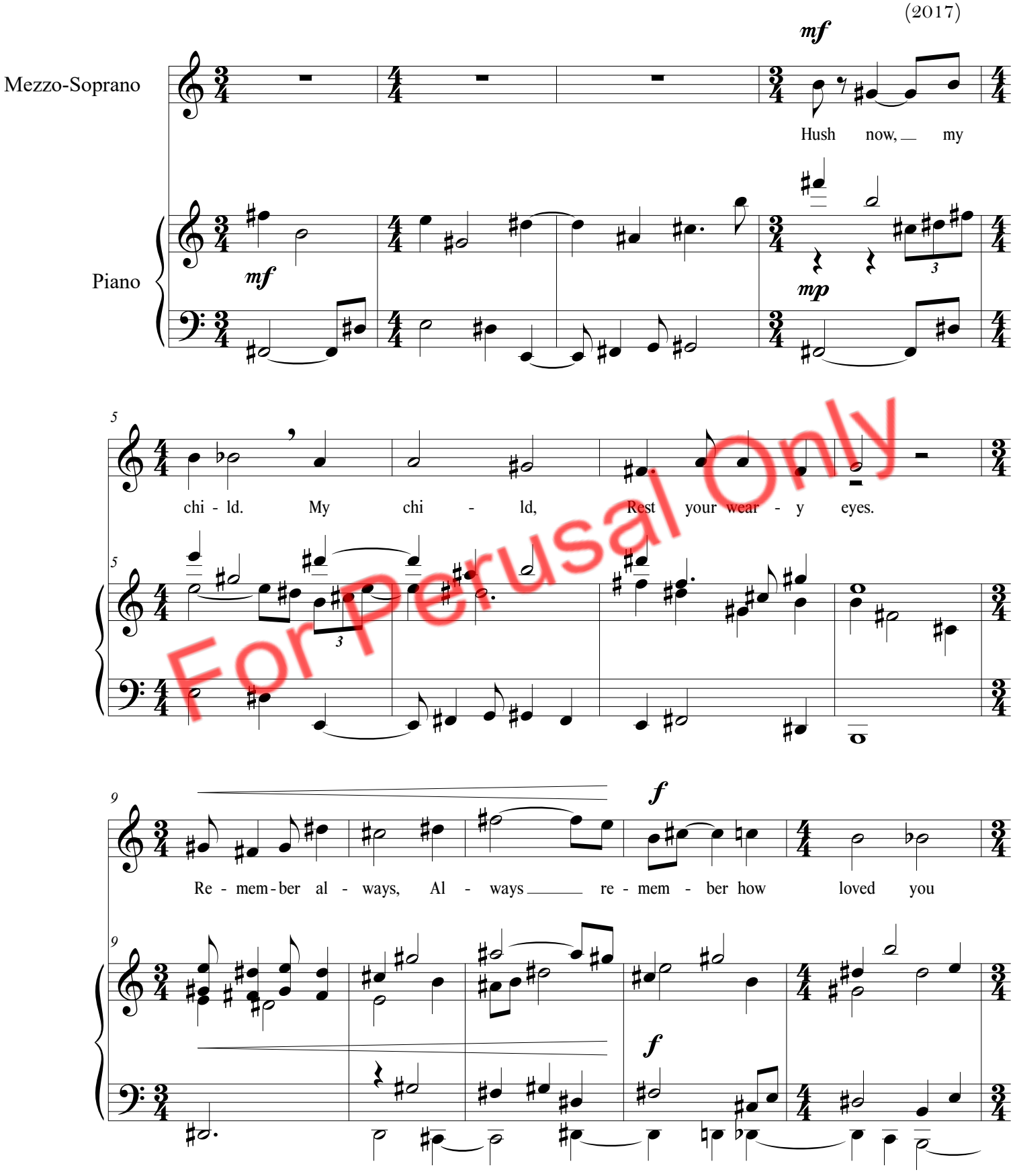
Coleman Rowlett received his B.M. in Music Composition at Susquehanna University in 2016 where he studied composition under Dr. Patrick Long. In addition, Rowlett holds a M.M. in Music Composition from Butler University where he studied under Michael Schelle and James Aikman. Rowlett has been commissioned by Dr. Gail B. Levinsky, the Akira Quartet, Joshua Heaney, the SUSQ Quartet, the Quakertown Community Band, and the Mifflinburg Area High School Symphonic Band. In addition to his studies under Dr. Long, Dr. Schelle, and Dr. Aikman, Rowlett has had the privilege to participate in masterclasses and lessons with composers such as Marilyn Shrude and Libby Larsen and attended the 2016 Snow Pond Composer's workshop with Dr. Ed Jacobs and Dr. Richard Nelson. Rowlett has had compositions performed at multiple North American Saxophone Alliance conferences as well as the 40th Annual Navy Band Saxophone Symposium.

Rowlett's compositions are eclectic in style, mixing various elements of some of his favorite music including jazz, classical, expressionist, avant-garde, serialist, and others. In addition to his compositional activities, Rowlett is also an active performer and teacher of the saxophone. When he is not composing or performing, Rowlett can be found hiding in the woods, meditating by bodies of water, or playing with his cat, Buttons.

Score

Spilled Milk

Coleman Rowlett
(2017)



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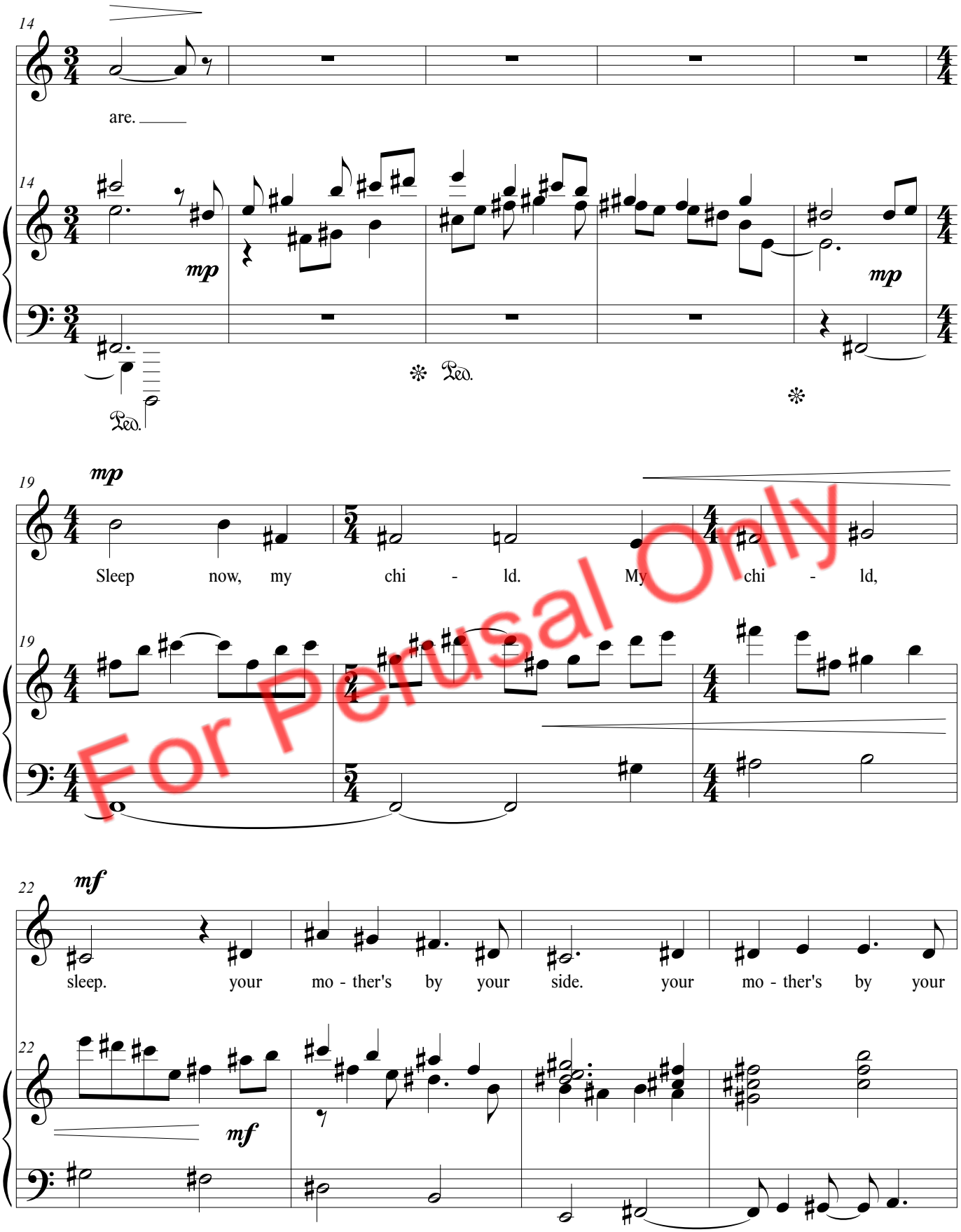

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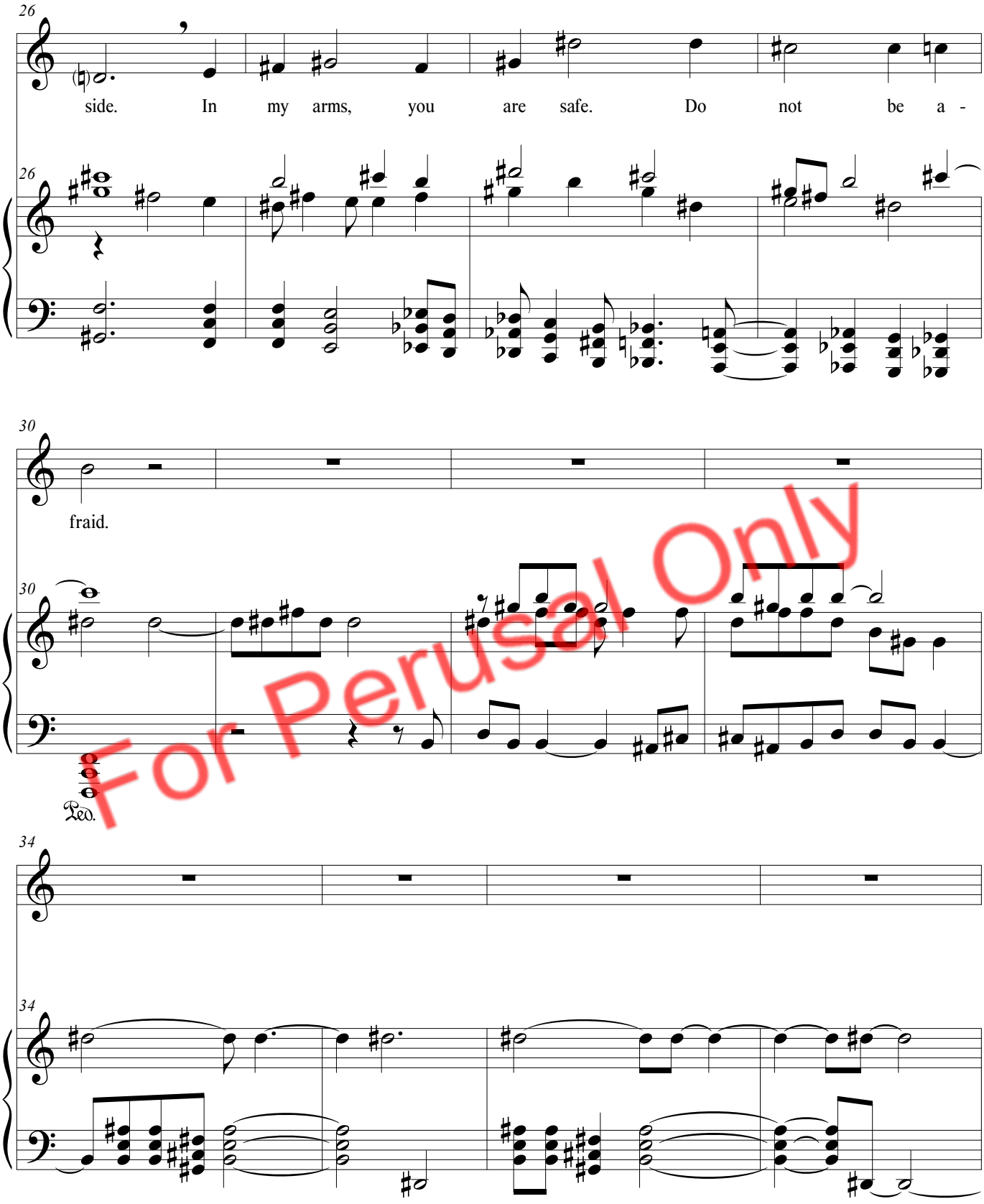

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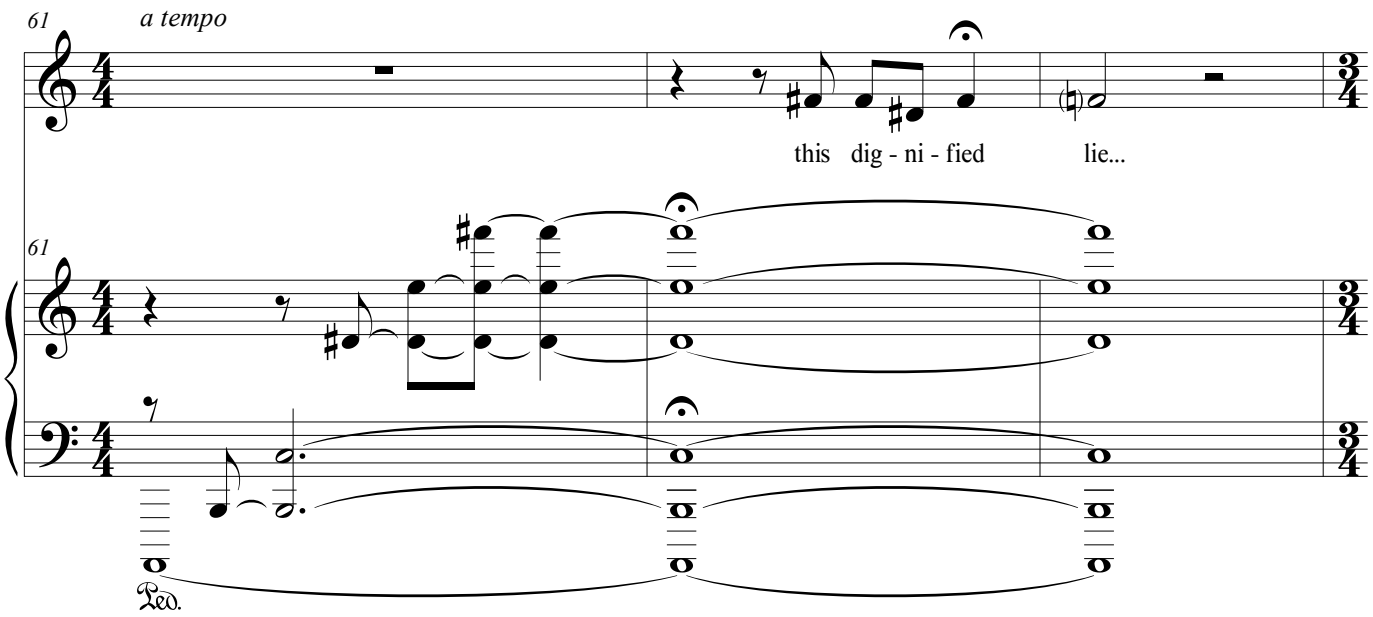

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