## THE ASSENT OF THE SWALLOW

for Narrator, Orchestra, and Voices

Joelle Wallach 1985

Based on "The Happy Prince" by Oscar Wilde

## Notes

Time indications in seconds are meant to be suggestive of the composer's intention rather than rigid, durational requirements.

• indicates that the duration is to be determined by the time taken by the narrator to speak the text.

d snap pizz

+stopped with the hand (brass)

"Gently muted" indicates a non-brassy muted sound

Orchestral (and vocal) choirs are given instructions in brackets. It is further indicated at each of these episodes whether the members of the choir are to perform synchonously or a-synchonously.

In places where pitches are held for long periods by wind instruments as part of "background harmony," breathing may either be circular or may be done, as choral singers breathe in such situations, at irregular, inconspicuous intervals.

In the vocal parts, words which are left incomplete are meant to remain so. Simply continue singing the vowel sound of the assigned syllable until something else is indicated.

O+in brass parts indicates that note is to be stopped with the hand in the bell immediately AFTER the note has been attacked unstopped.

When the solo strings are not functioning in a especially notated soloistic capacity, they ought to take part in what their respective sections are doing. The only exception to this is when, at the discretion of the conductor, they may be used to inconspicuously support the vocal chair.

The composer gratefully acknowledges the Vogelstein Foundation and the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts whose generosity and graciousness helped this work come into being.

## Instrumentation

Optional mime

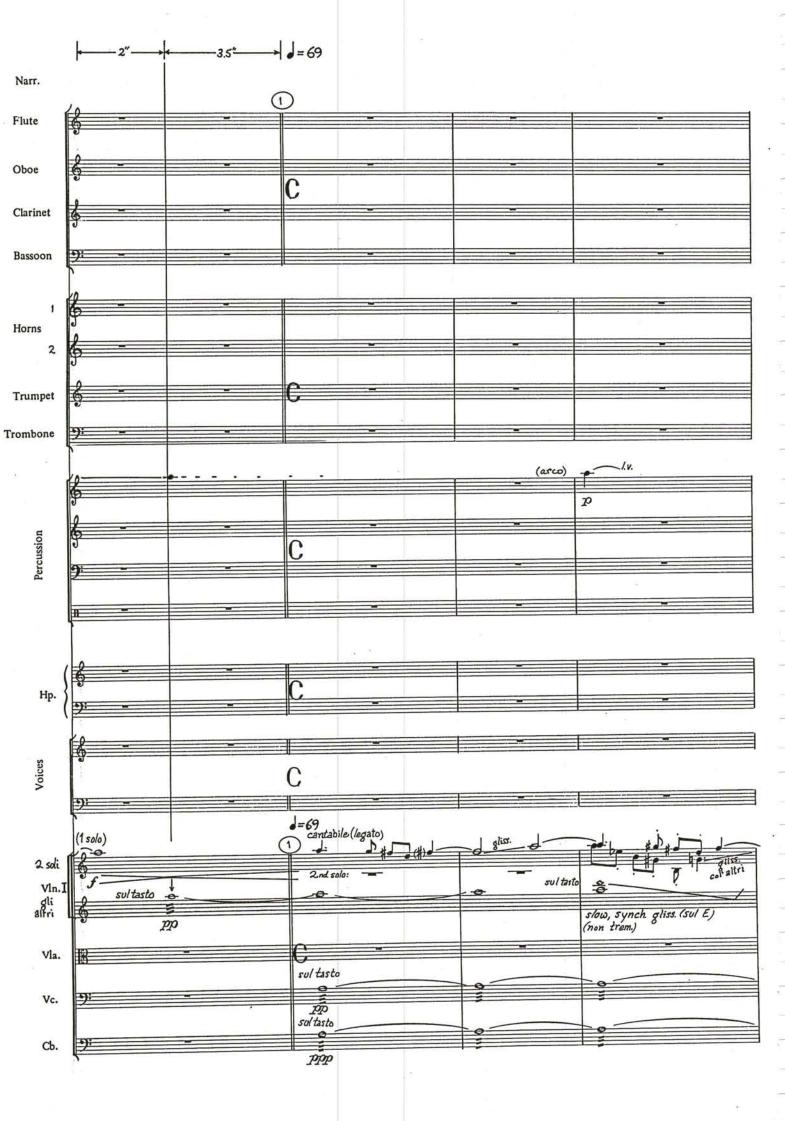
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1 Flute/piccolo
1 Oboe
1 Clarinet (Bb)
1 Bassoon
2 French horns
1 Trumpet
1 Tenor/bass trombone
Choir (at least 6 voices: S1,2, A1,2, T, B)
Percussion - 4 players
      timpani
      tam-tam 2
     xylophone
     vibraphone
     marimba (can be replaced)
     temple blocks
     Japanese temple bowls
     crotales
      glockenspiel
     celeste
     suspended cymbals
bass drum
     triangle
     orchestral bells (can be replaced)
     thunder sheet
String orchestra, with solos involving the first chairs of each section
Narrator (preferably male)
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All instruments sound as written with the exception of conventional octave displacements (Piccolo, Contrabass . . .).

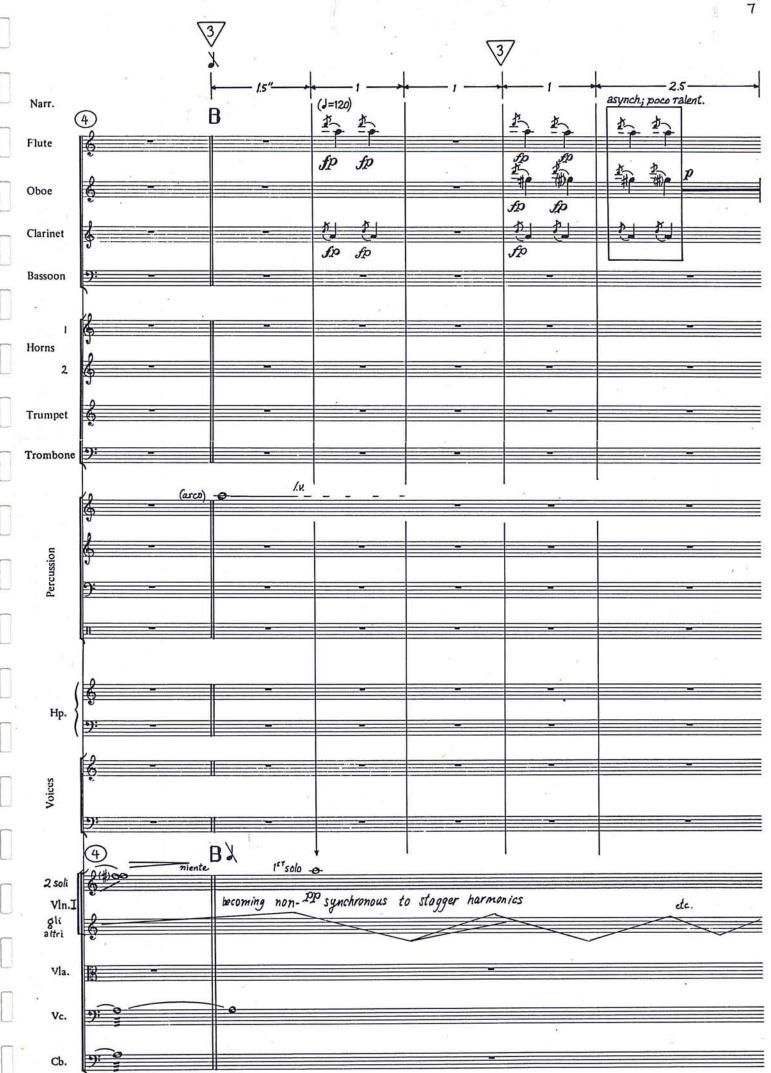
Score i'u C

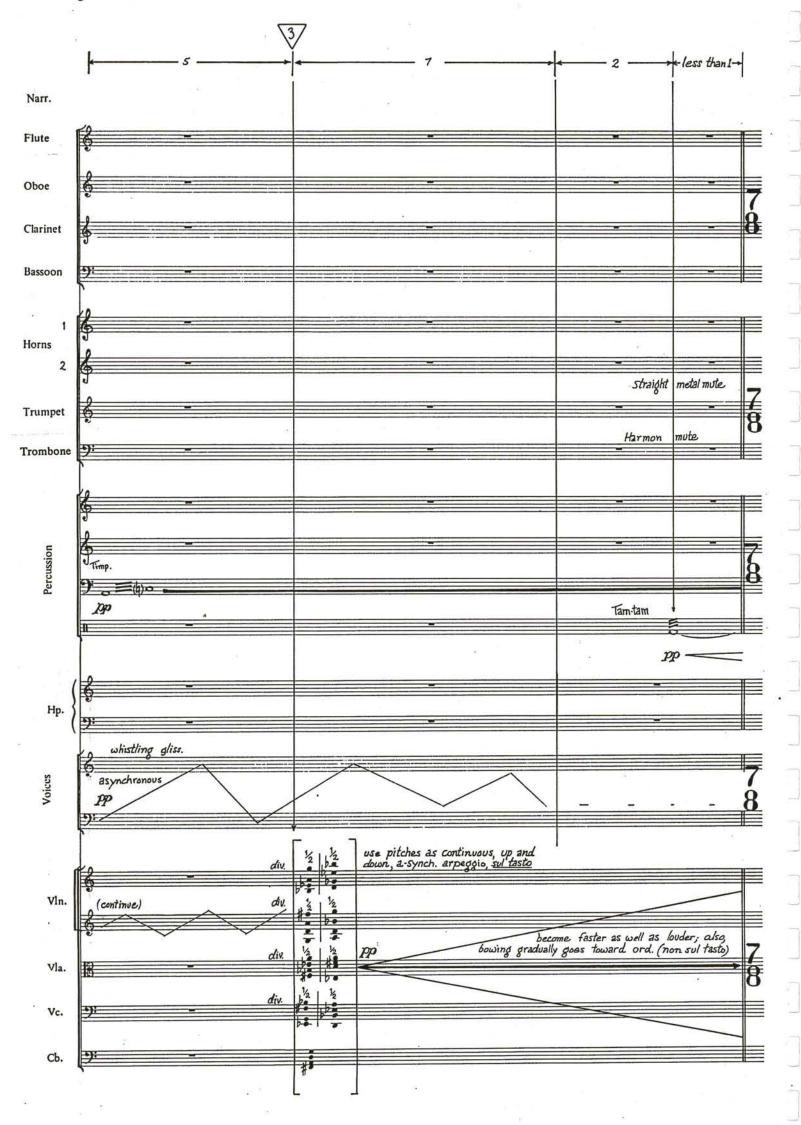
Cb.

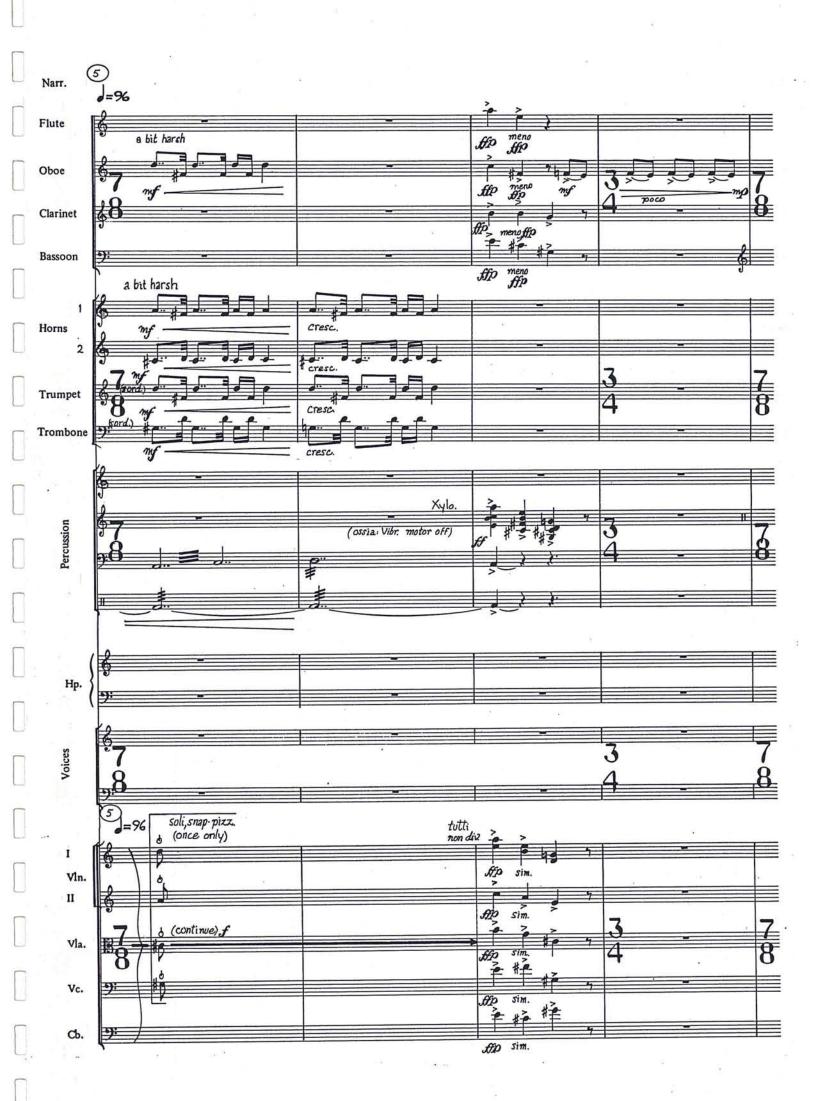
## THE ASSENT OF THE SWALLOW Joelle Wallach 2 Narr. Flute Oboe Clarinet Bassoon Horns Trumpet Trombone Crotales arco (ossia) p Percussion Hp. Voices A 1 500 pp Vln. II Vla. Vc.



. . . . .





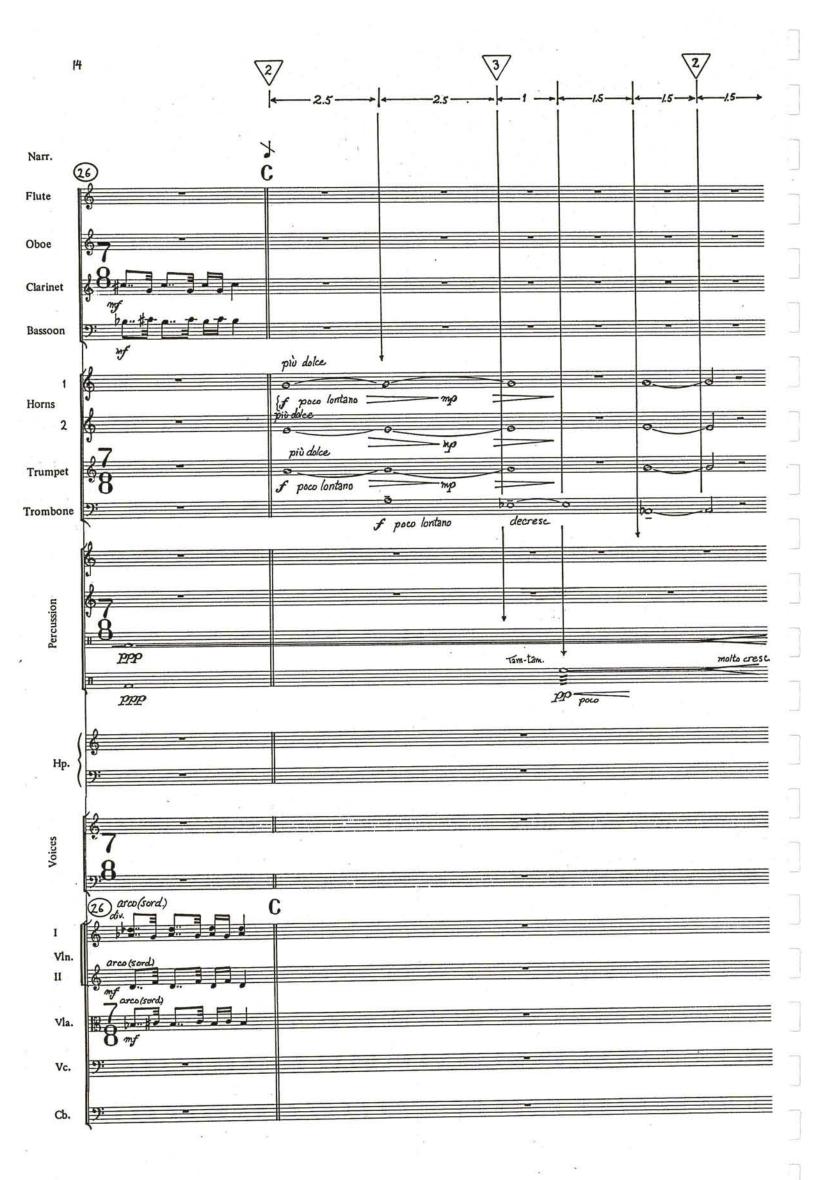




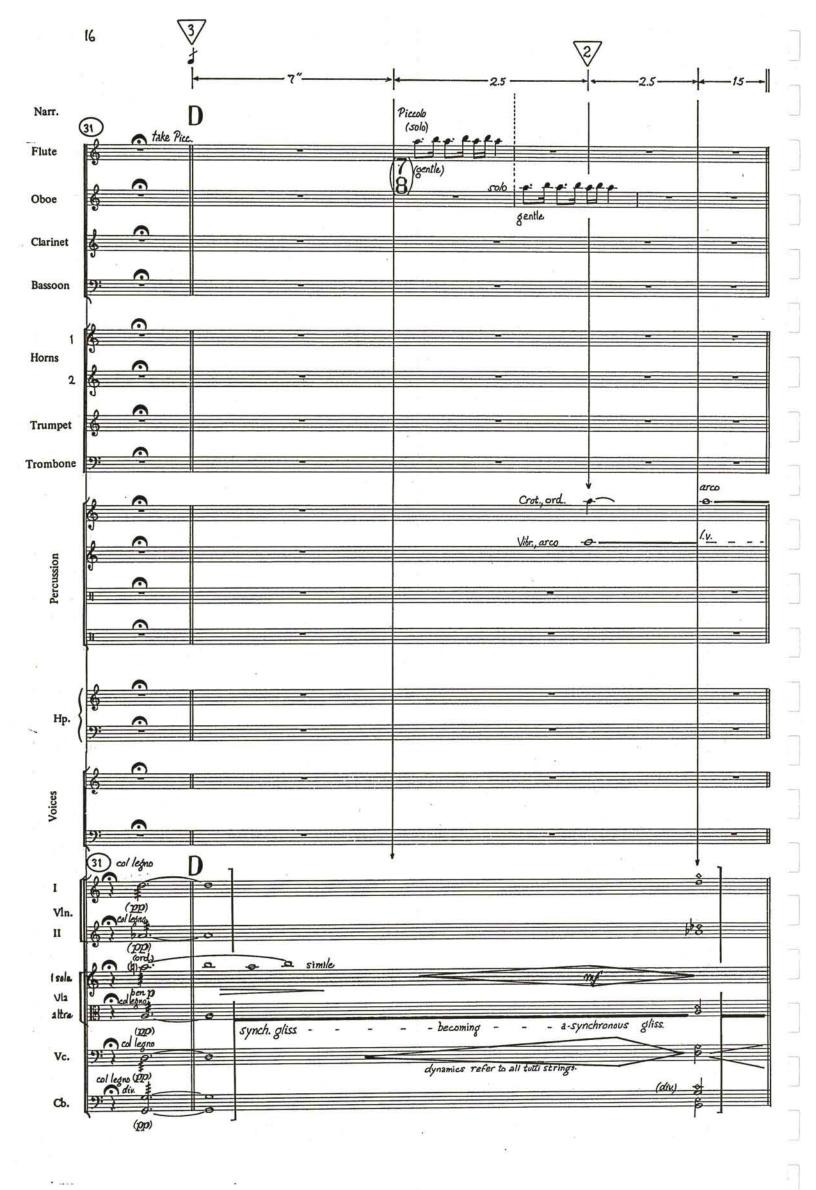




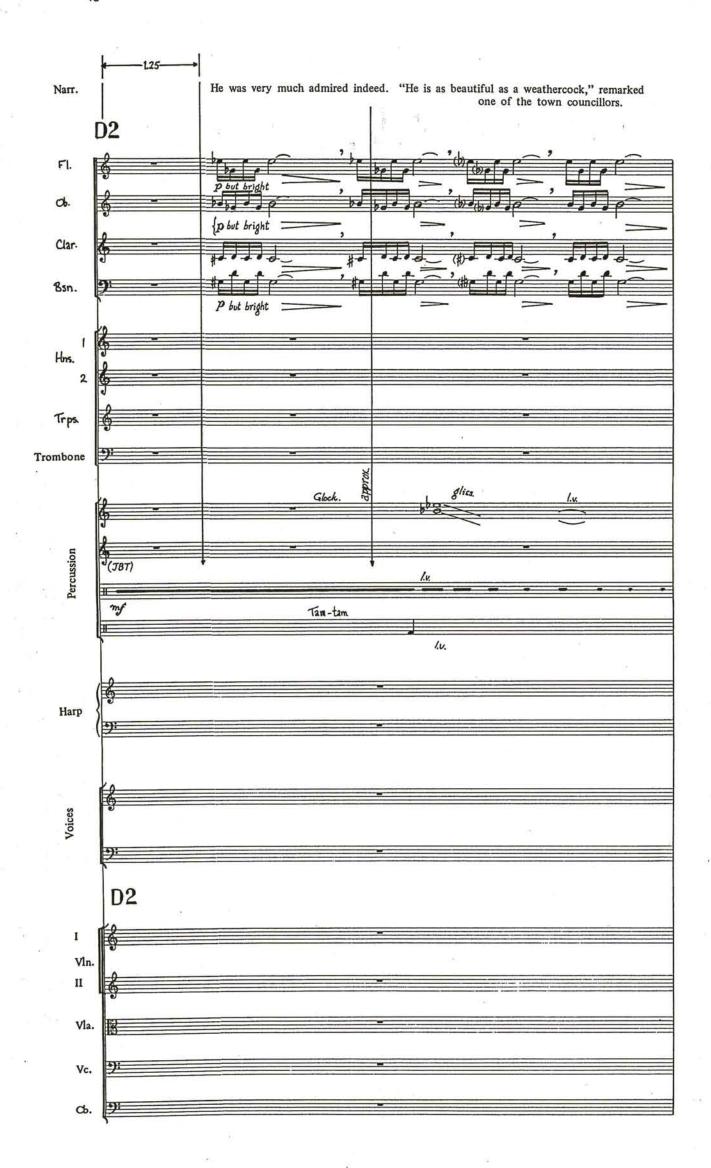


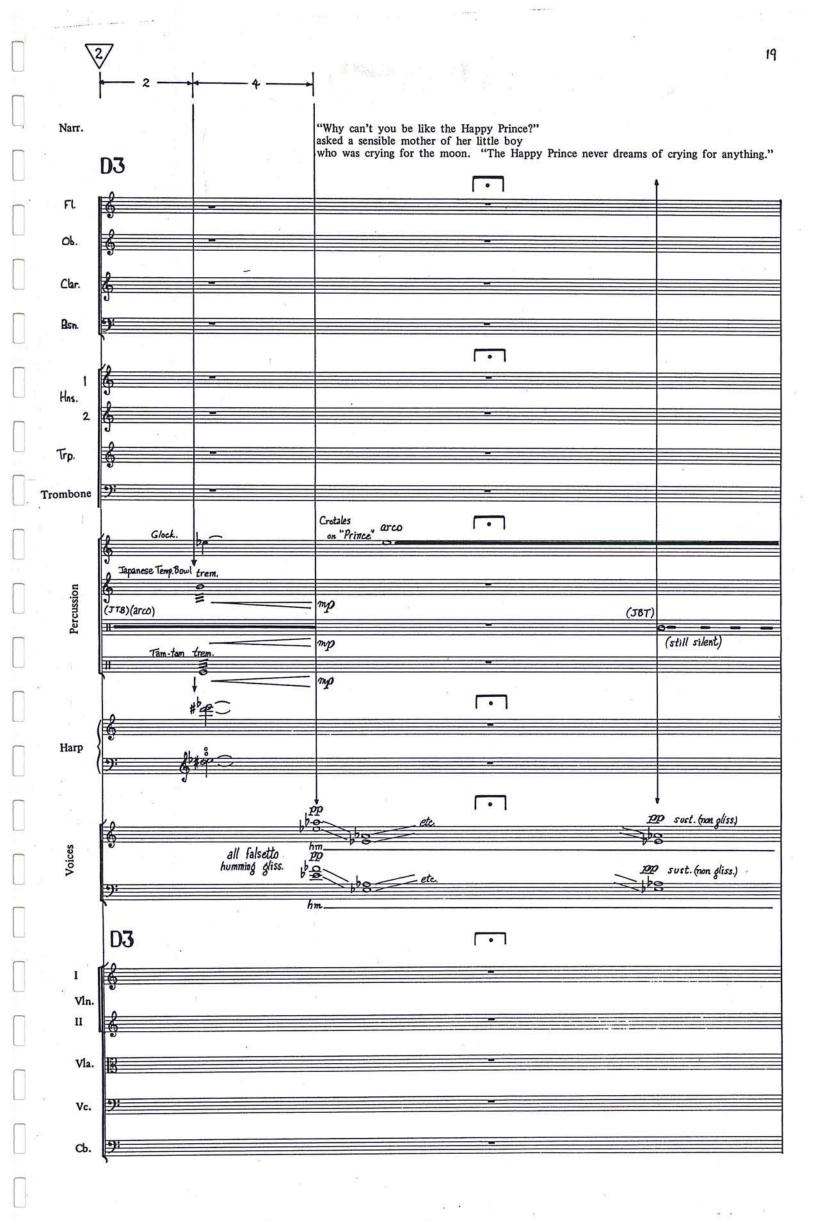






High above the city, on a tall column, stood the statue of the Happy Prince. He was gilded all over with thin leaves of fine gold, for eyes he had two bright sapphires, and a large red ruby glowed on his sword hilt. Narr. D1harp eve take Flute Piccolo Ob. Clar. Bsn. • senza sord Hns. 2 harp we (sord.) Trps. Trombone • • (Crot, arco) (0) Japanese Temple bowl arco begin to stroke (still soundless) Percussion - $\overline{\phantom{a}}$ Harp 直 • • Voices D1 • 1 Vln. II Vla. a-synch harmonic gliss. Vc. Cb.







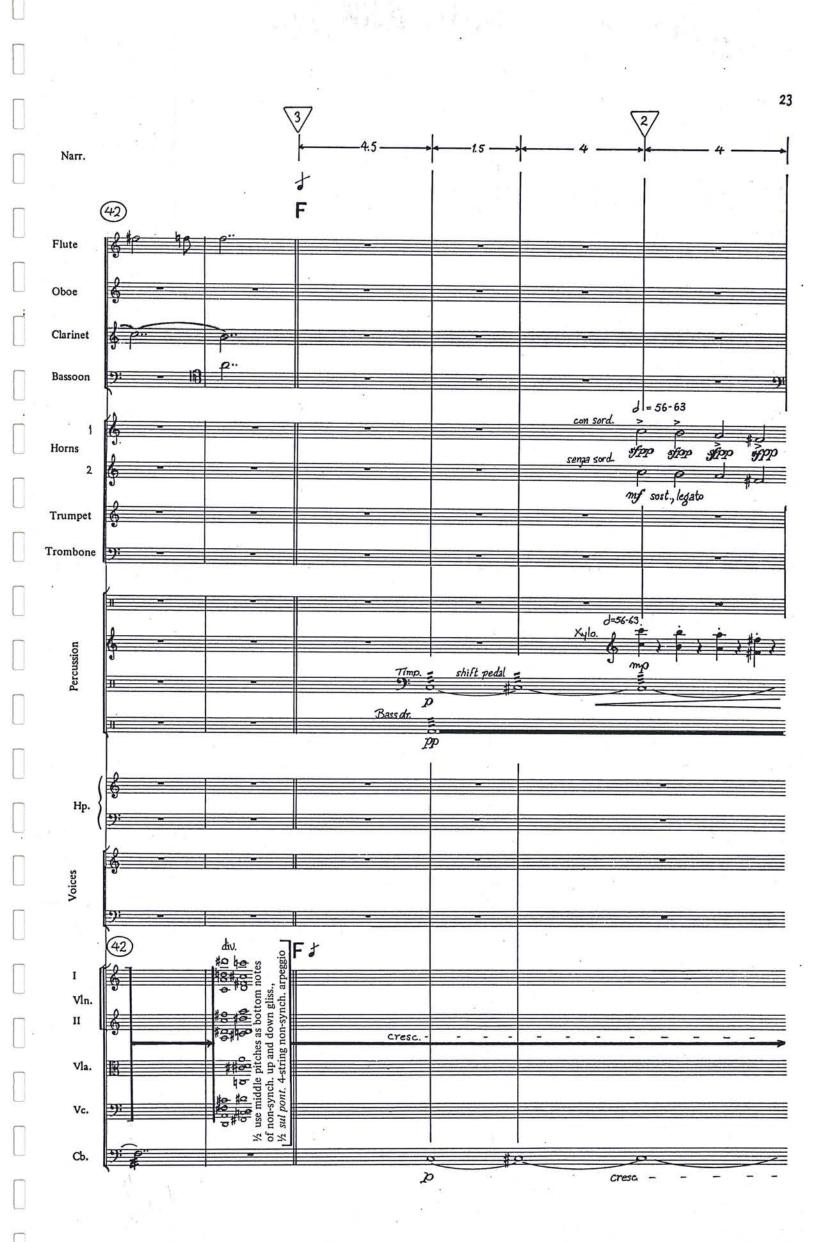
sola Vla. altre

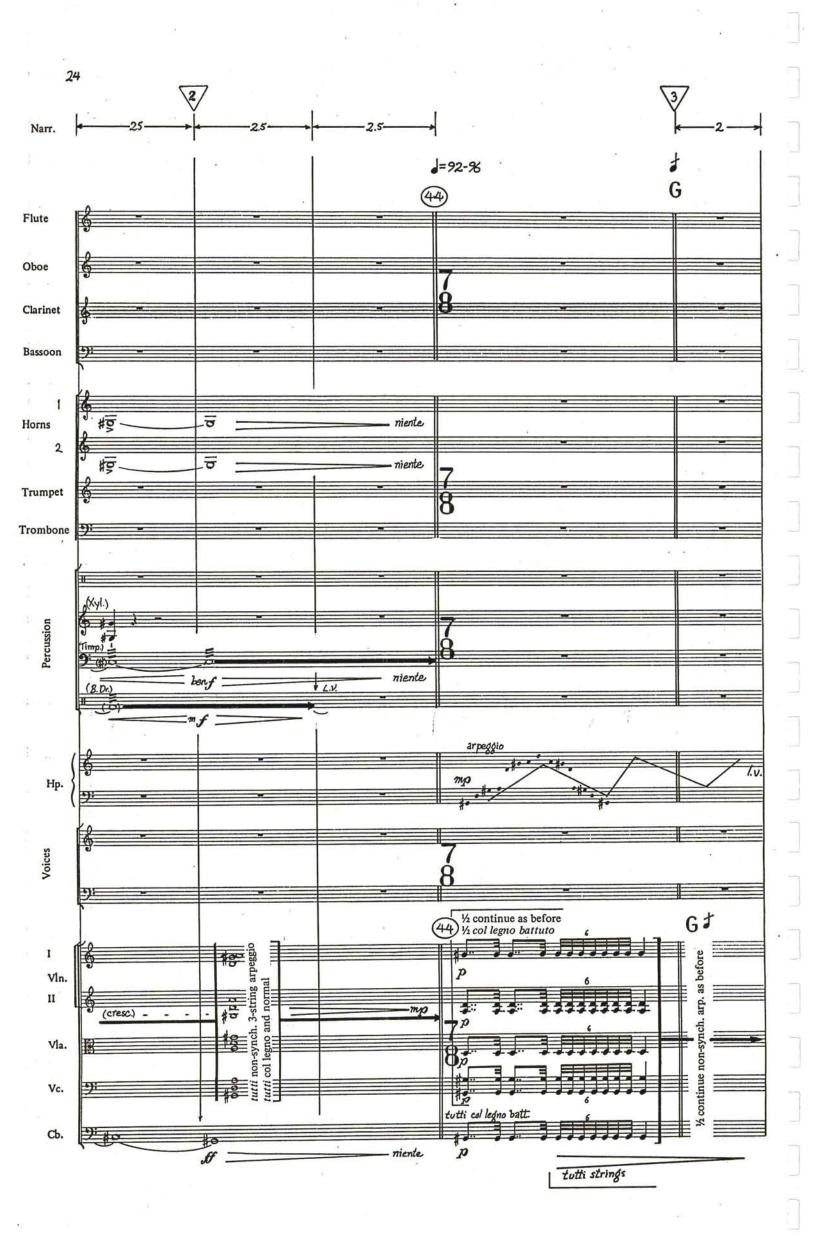
solo Vc. altri

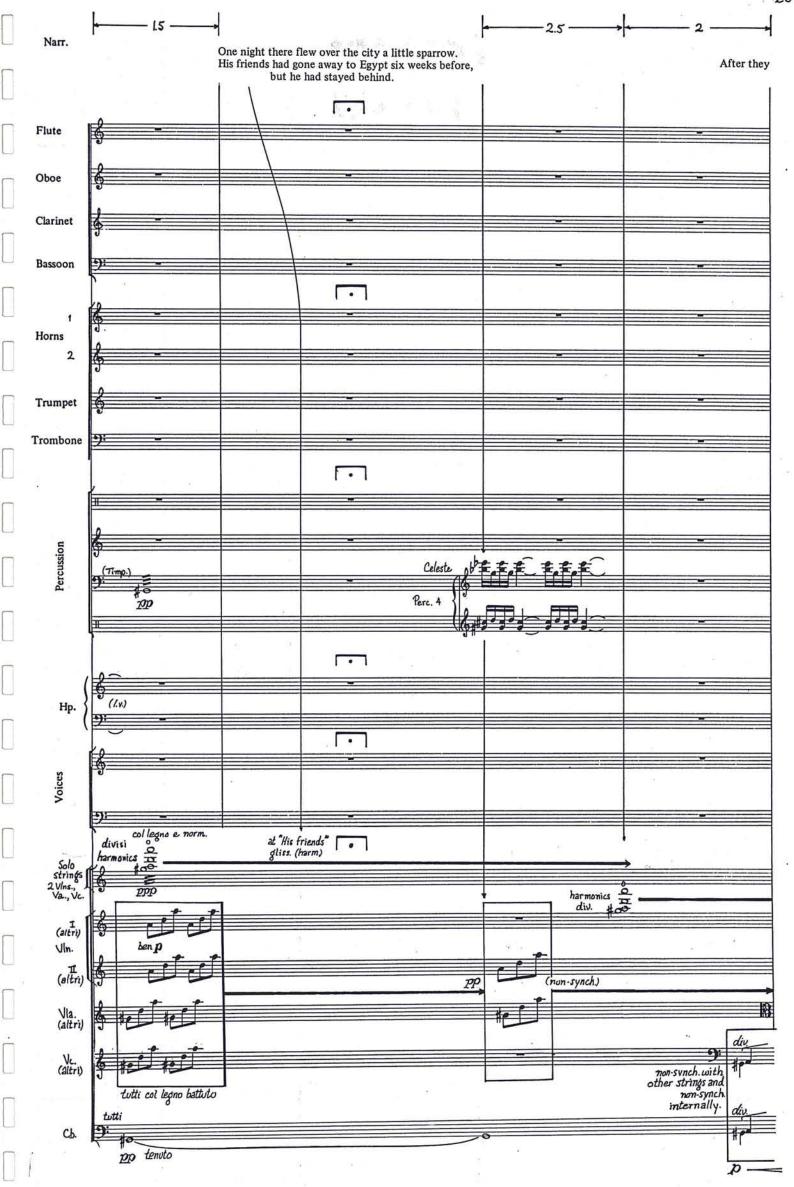
Cb.

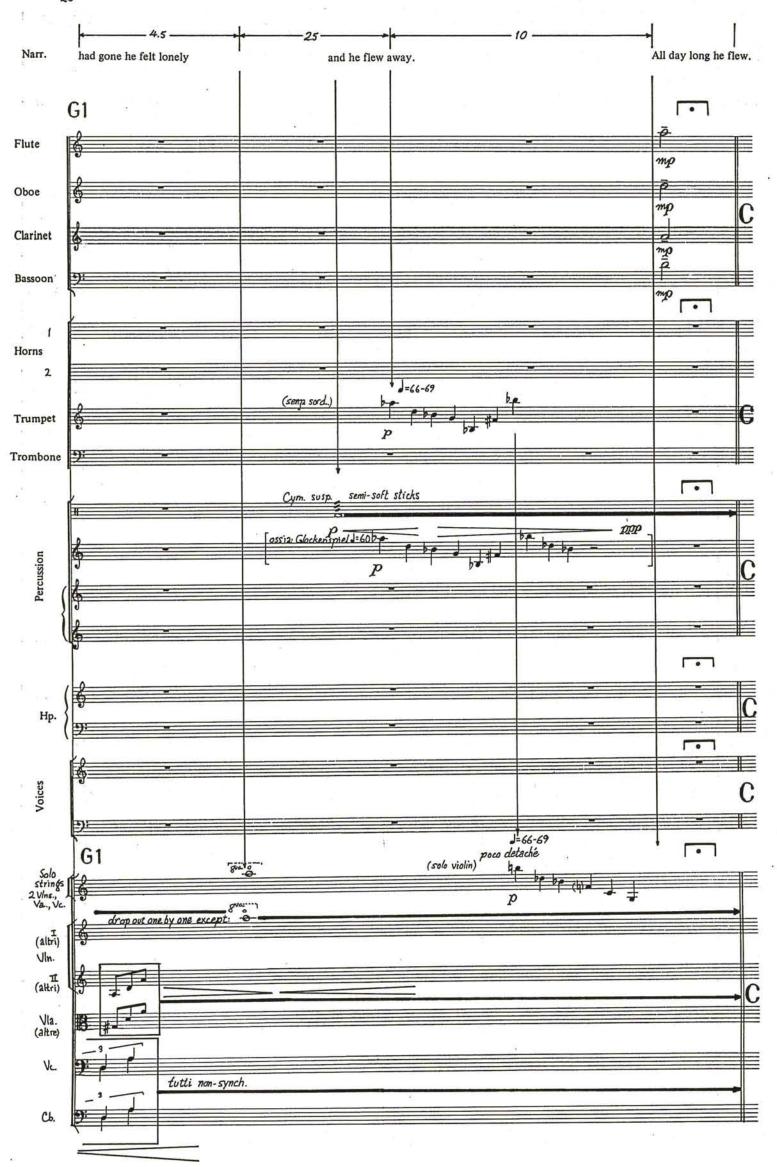
Narr.





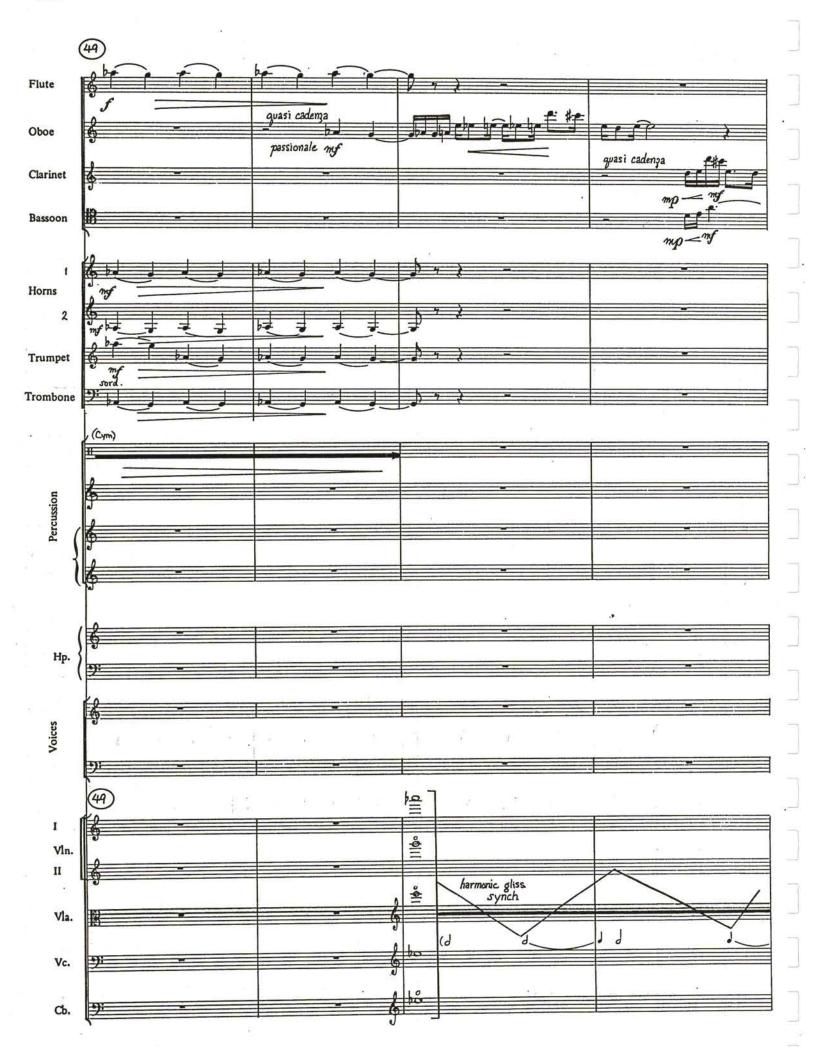


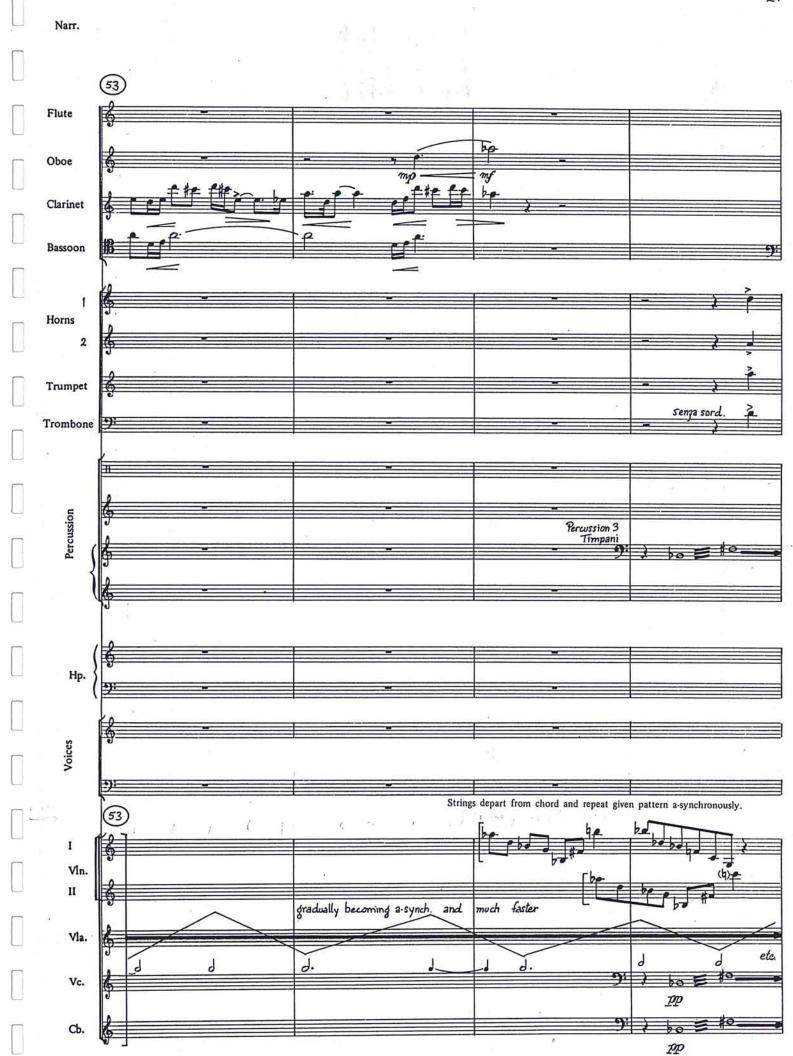




Narr. 45 J=80-82 poco 检 Flute fp 0 Oboe 0 Clarinet fp #0 <u></u> Bassoon Poco fp Horns 0 2 0 Trumpet 0 Trombone POLO 0 Percussion (Celeste) Poco Нр. 0 Voices 45 J=80-82 detaché Ula solo Poco ula. sola I Vln. 11 <u>\_</u> Vla. Vc. 0 and Cb.

Narr.

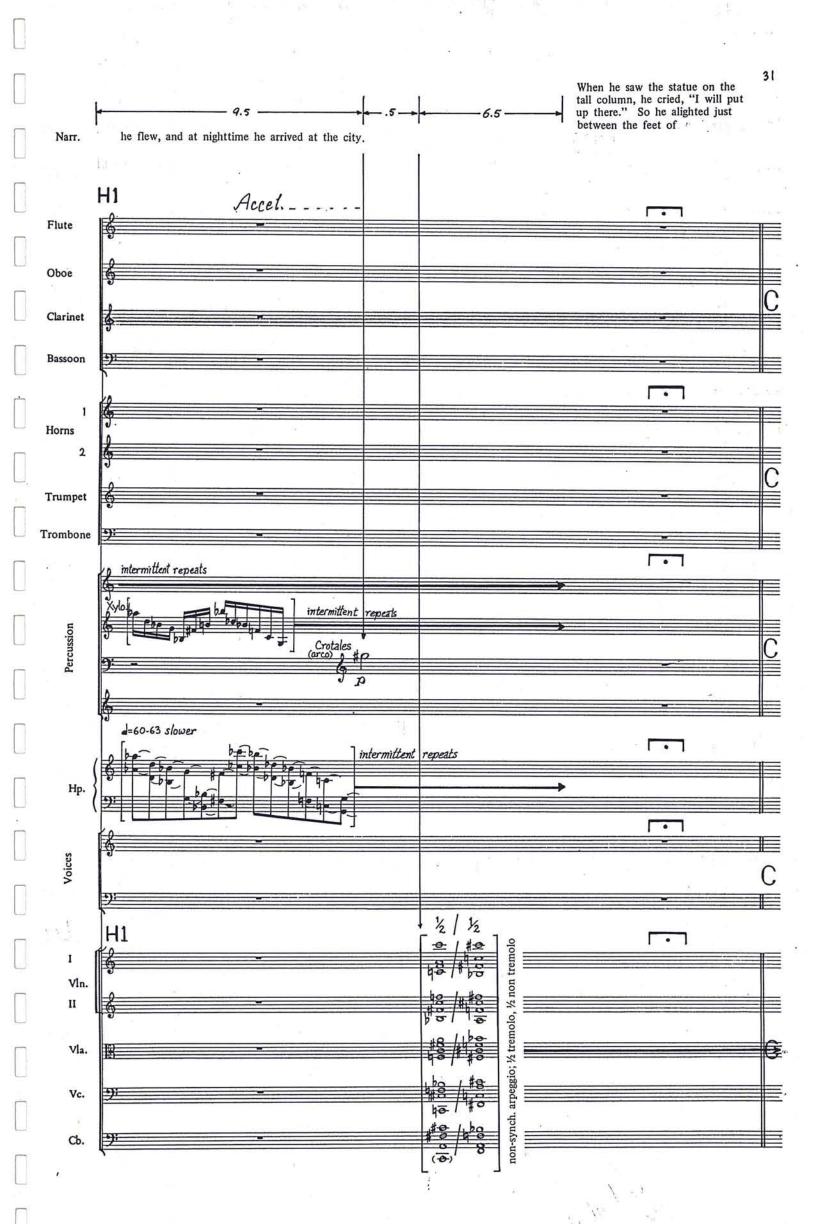


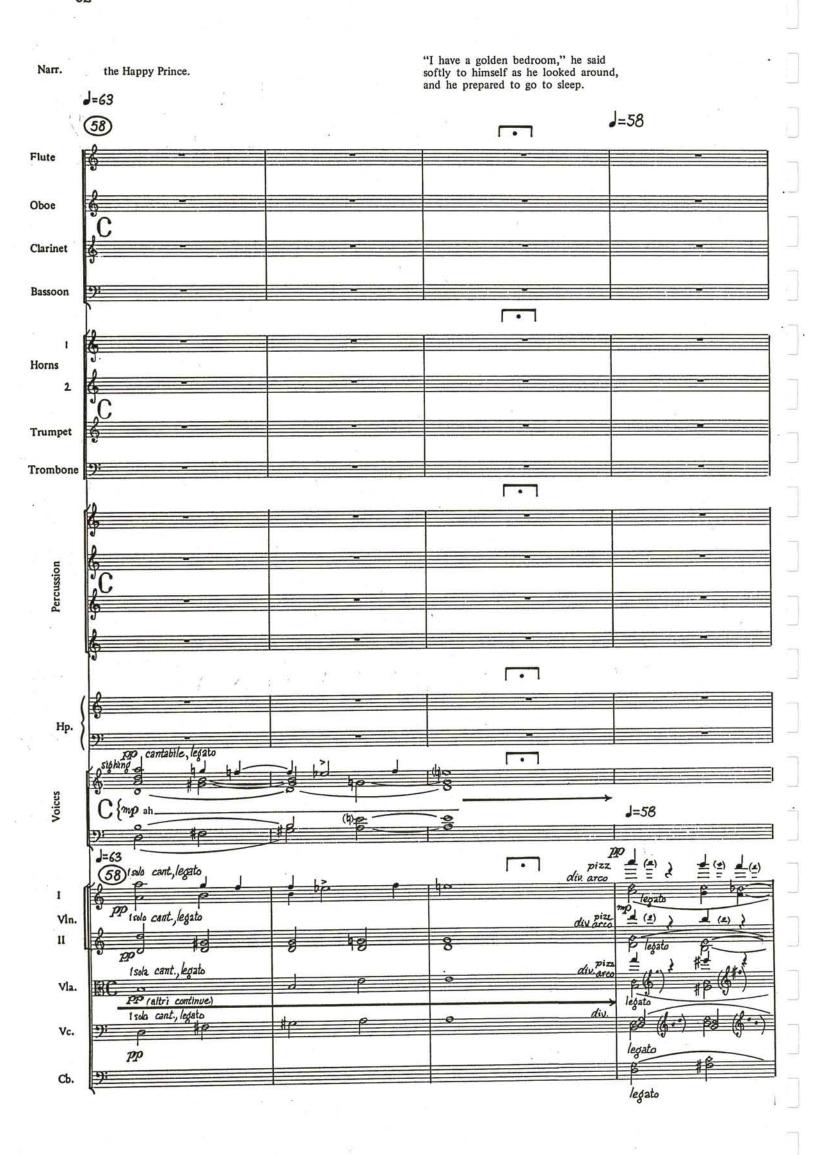


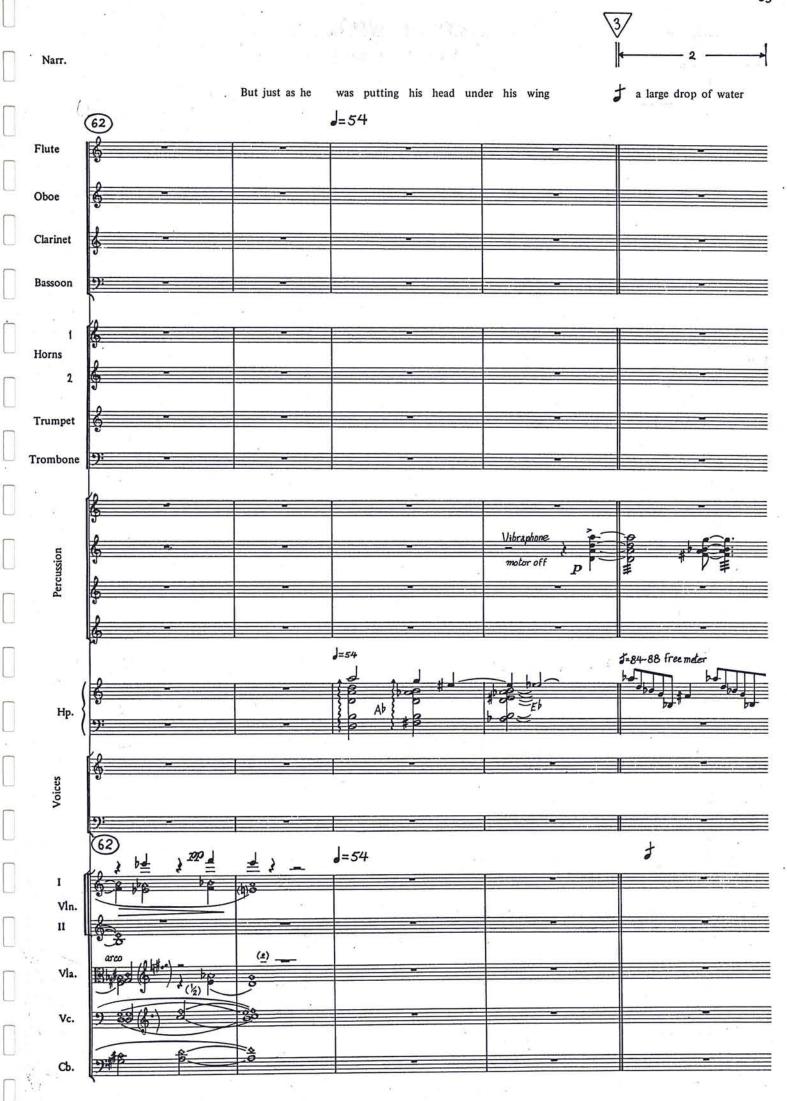


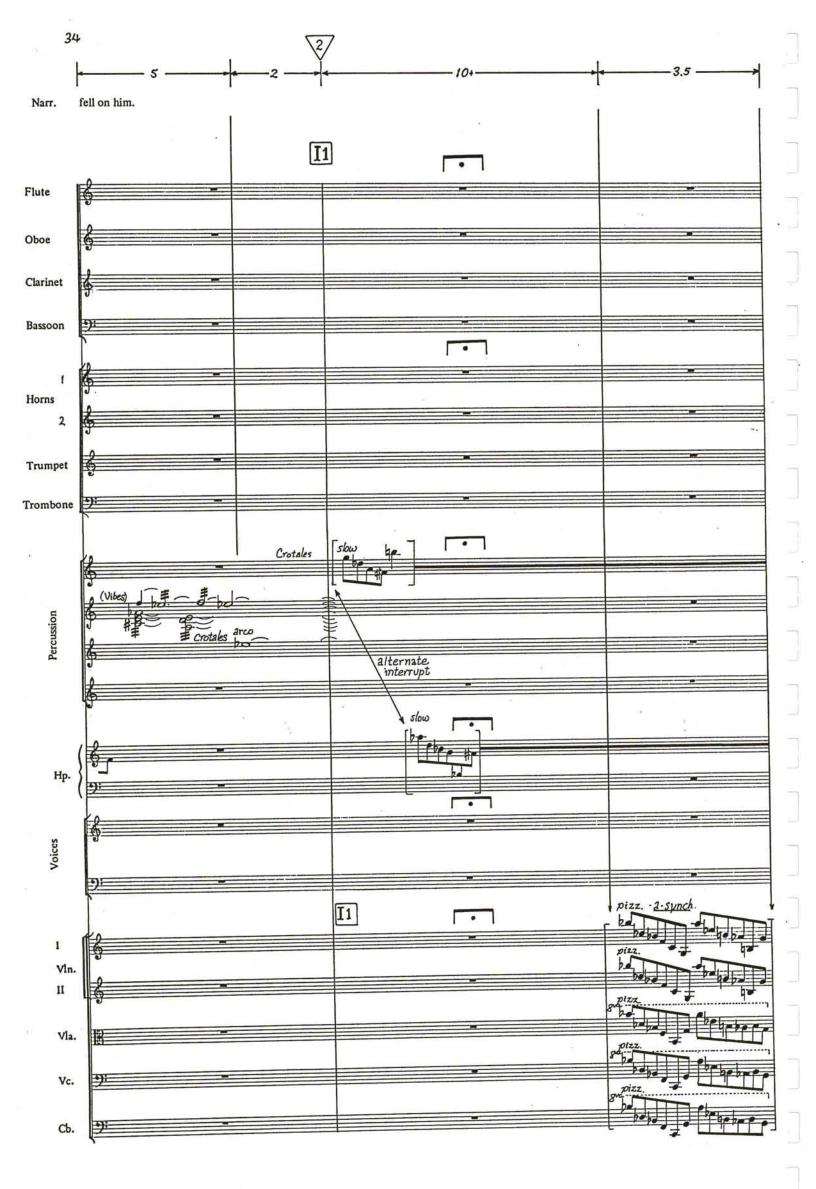
\*Intermittent repeats respond to other attacks

tslowly becoming a-synch and much faster.

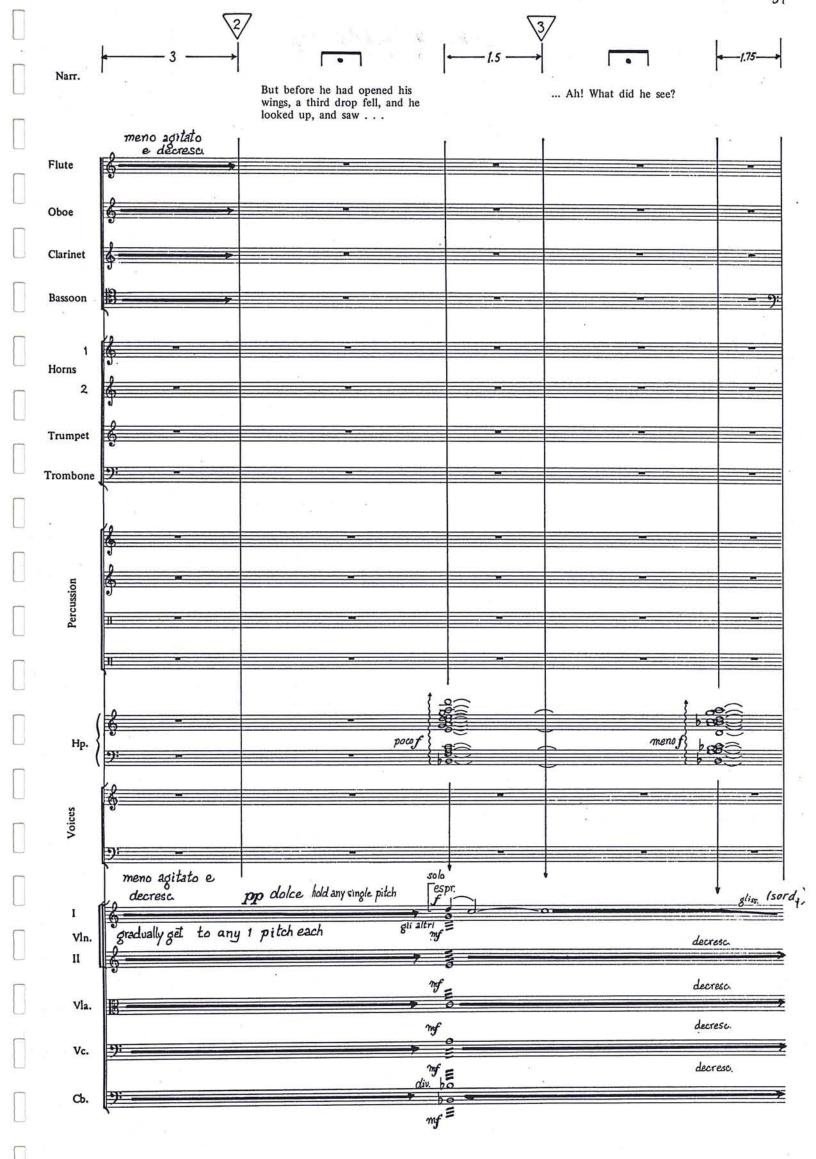


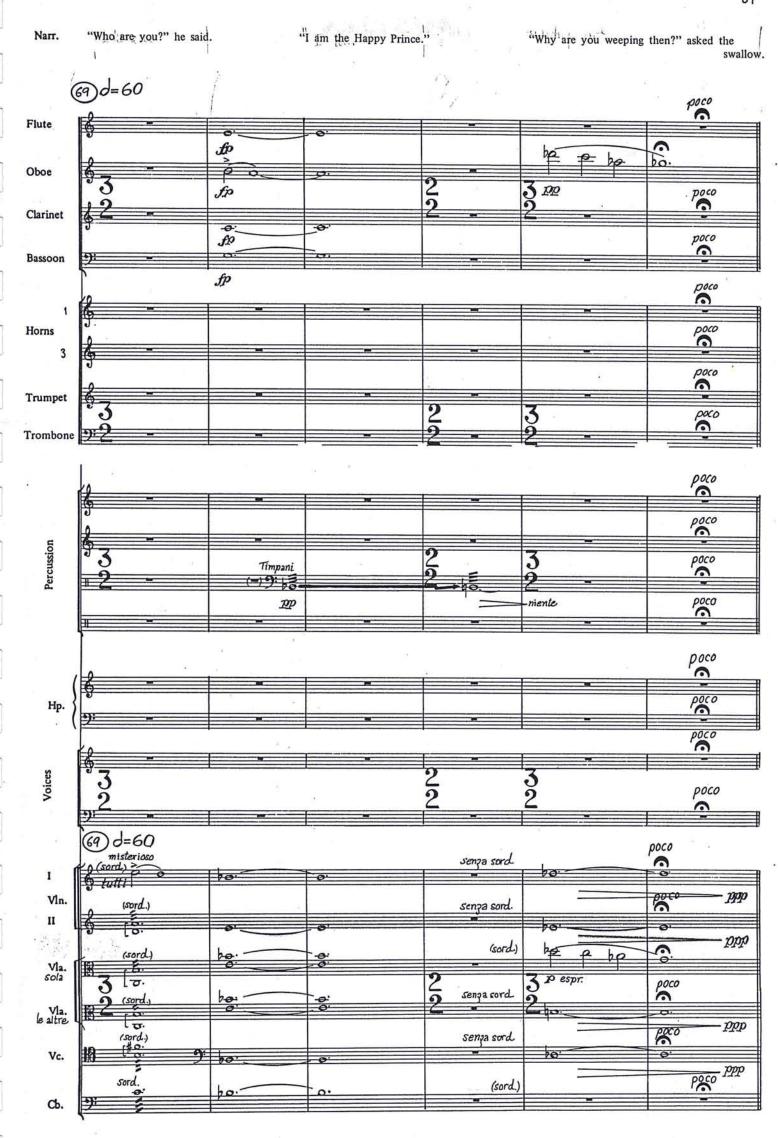




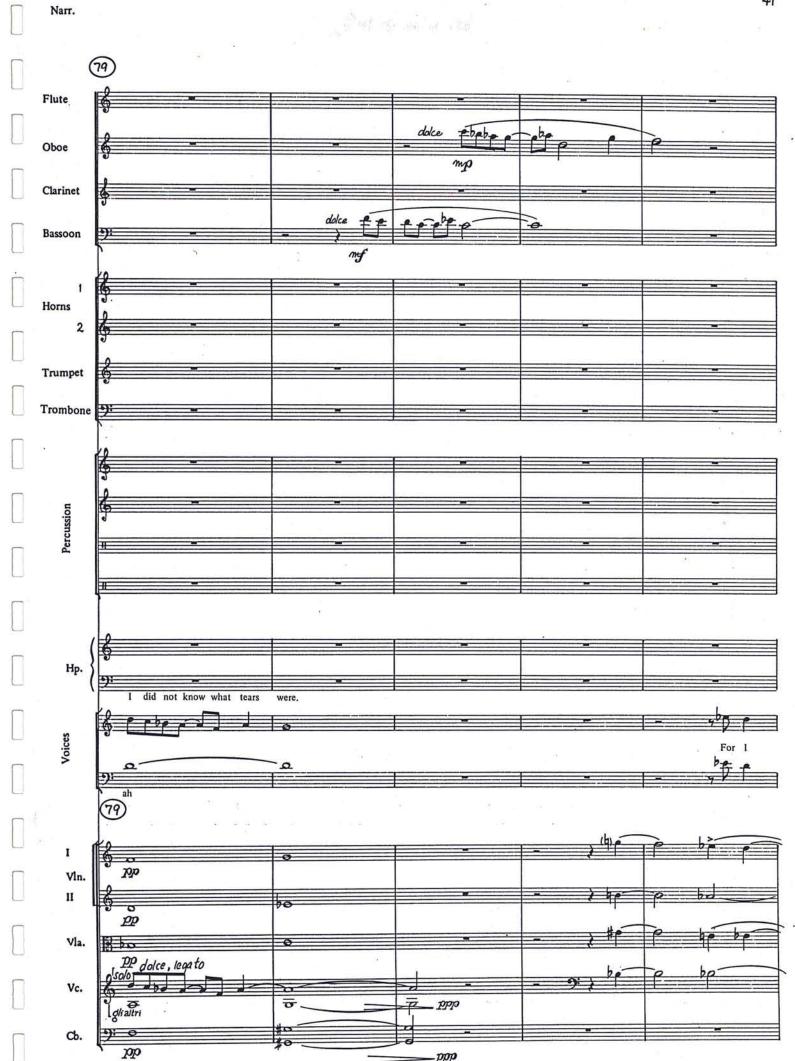














Vc. Сb.

ppp 9:0

ppp

ppp

pp





Vc.

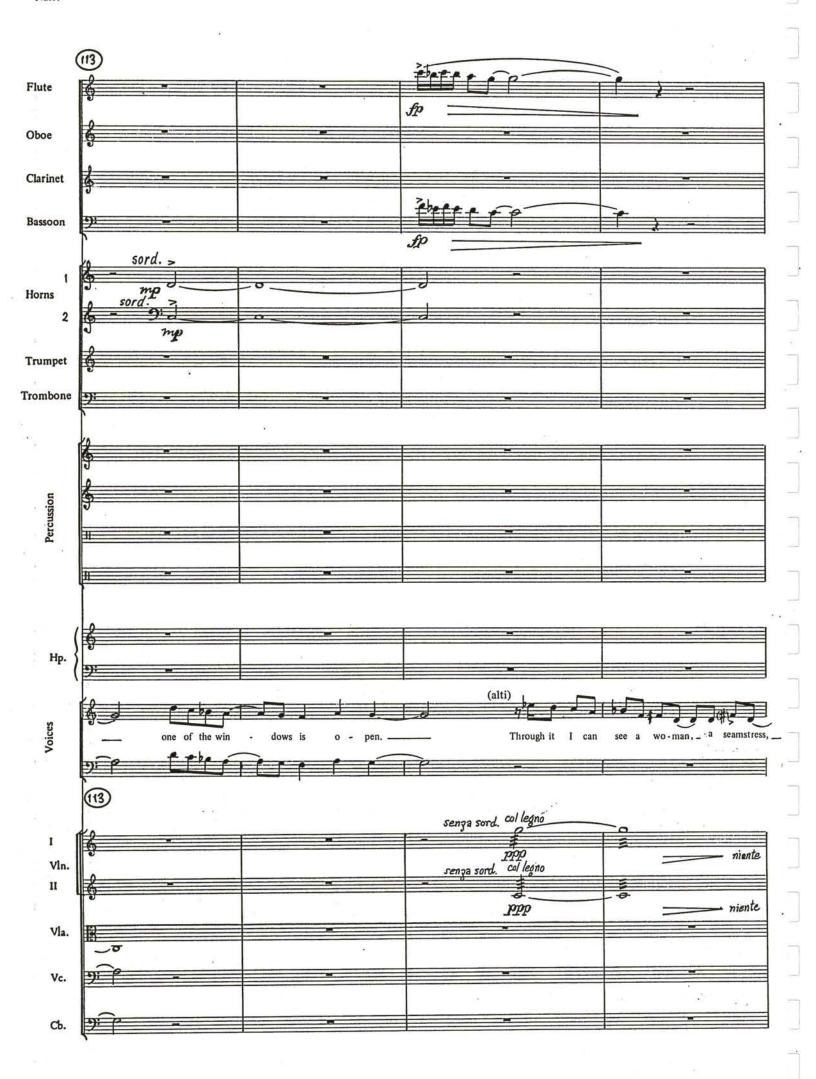
Cb.

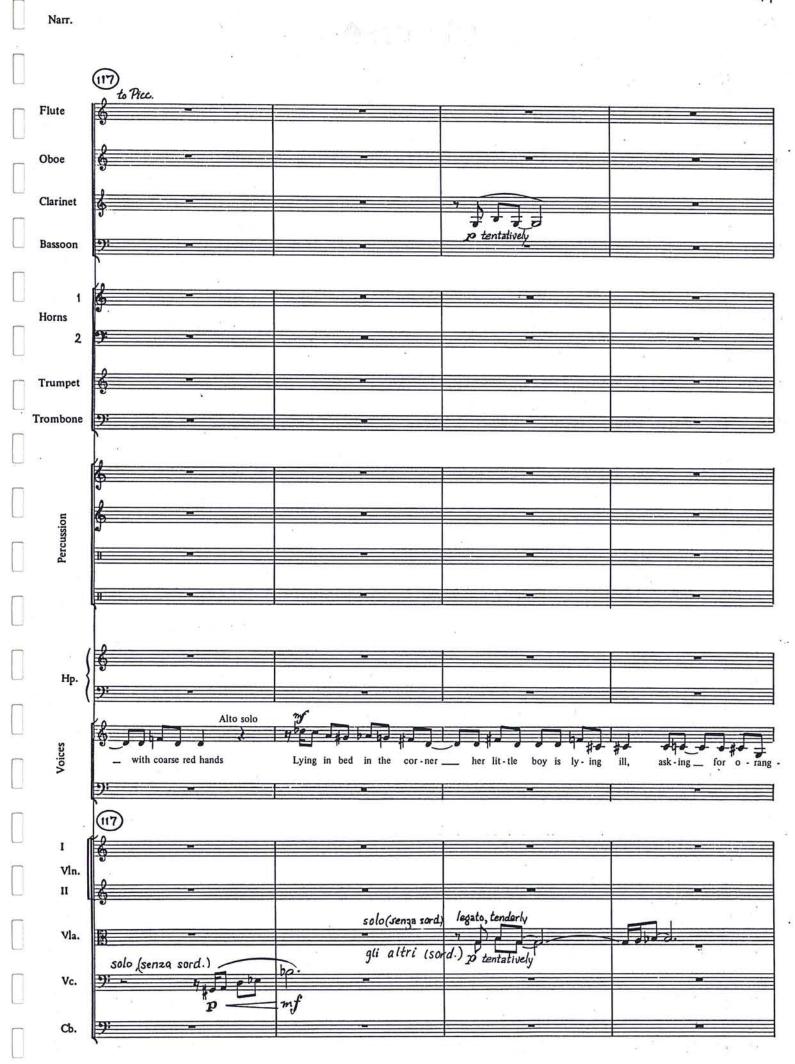
ossia - Narr.: (as an aside)
"What, is he not solid gold?" said the
swallow to himself. He was too polite
to make any personal remarks out loud. Narr. 108 Flute pp Oboe pp Clarinet pp 0 Bassoon pp senza sord Horns 2 Trumpet Trombone Percussion Hp. (tutti) Alti Voices there's (tutti) Tenori 108) col legno sord. I P col legno Vln. 11 col legno Vla. collegno ord. non trem P sord.

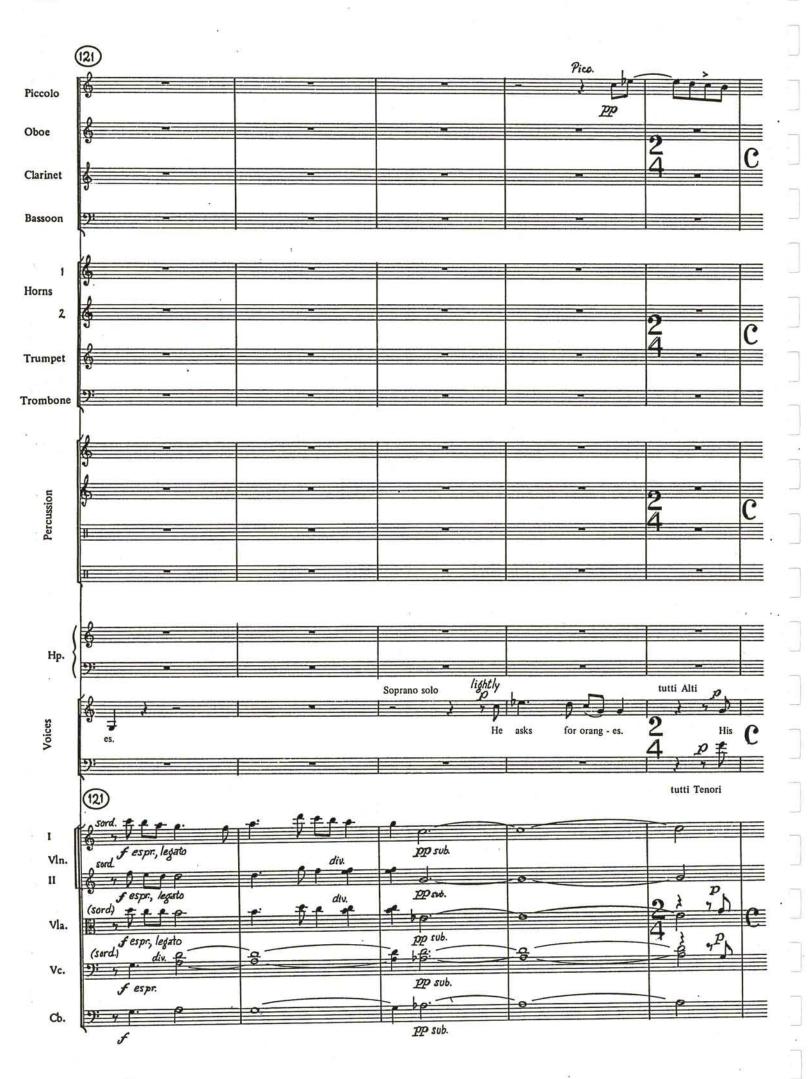
p

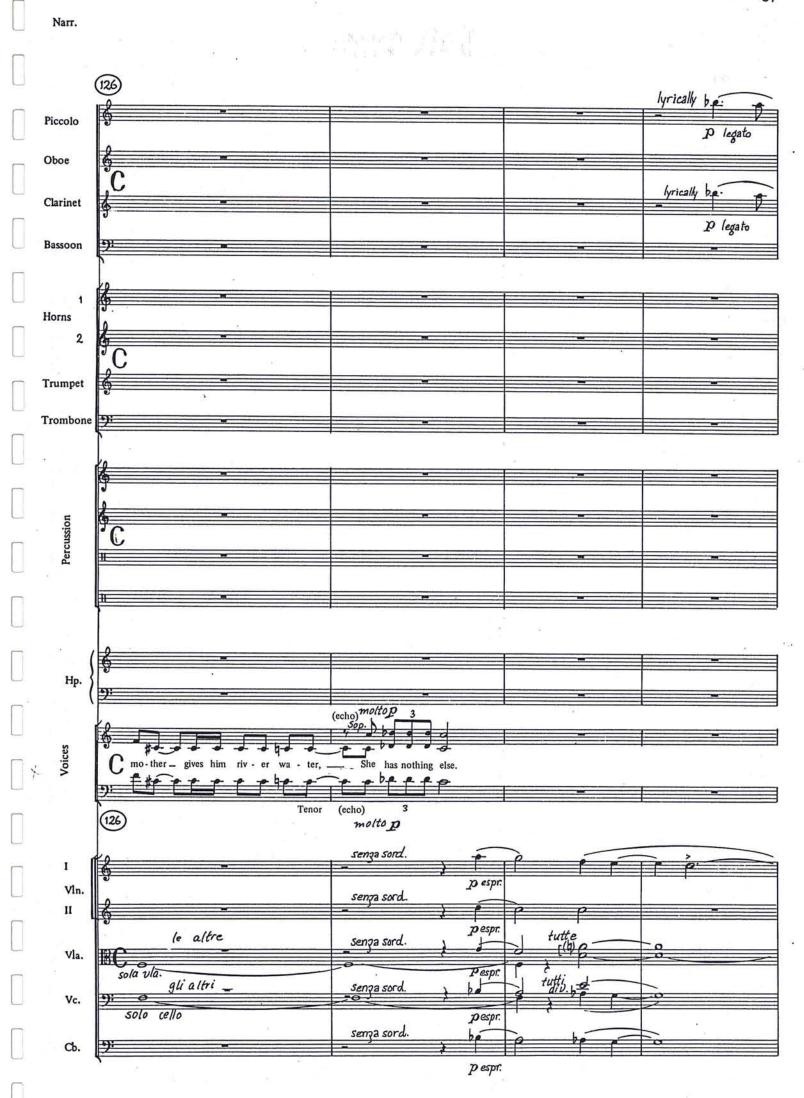
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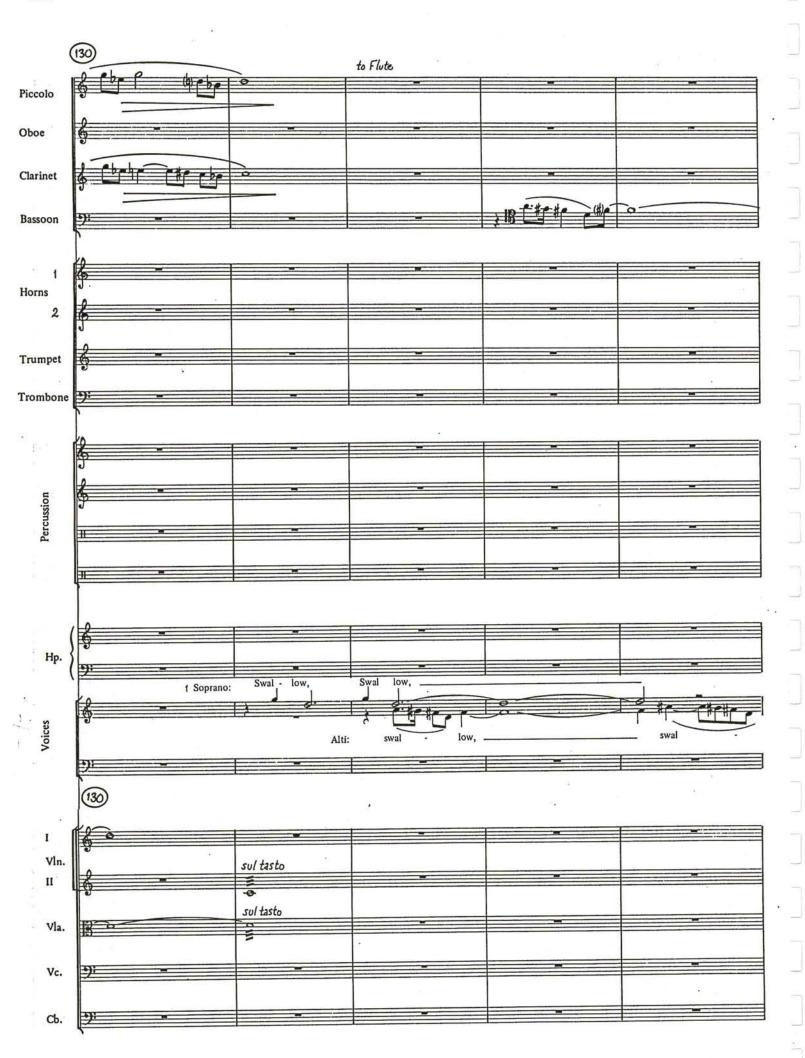
sord.







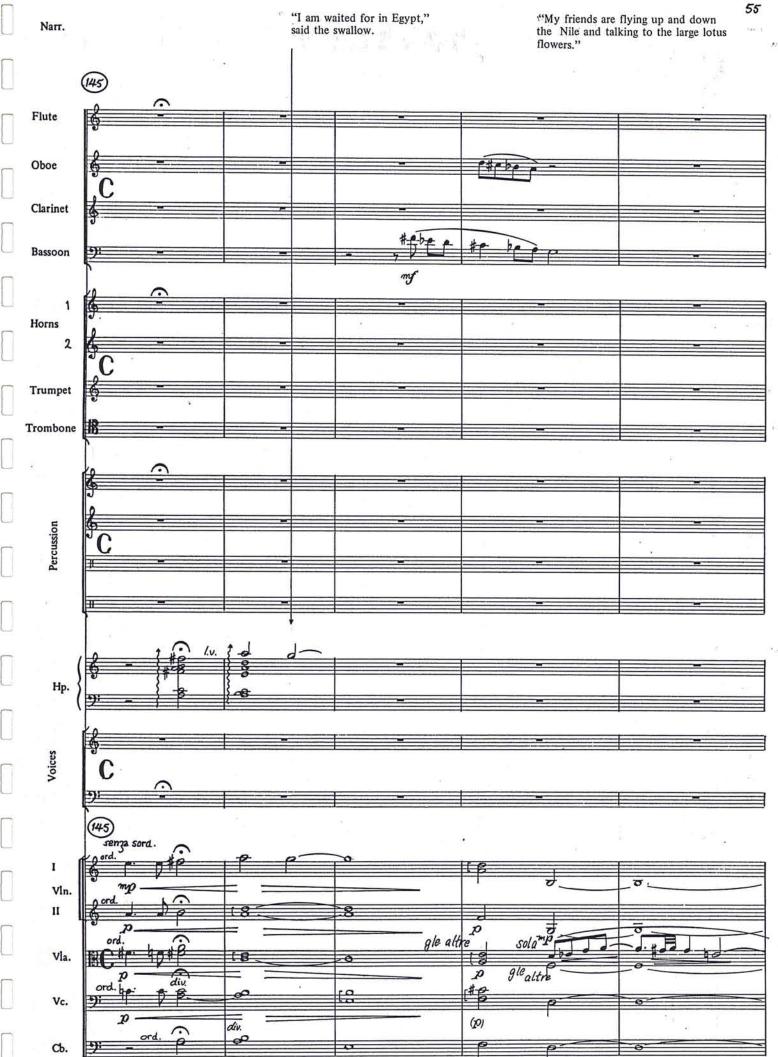








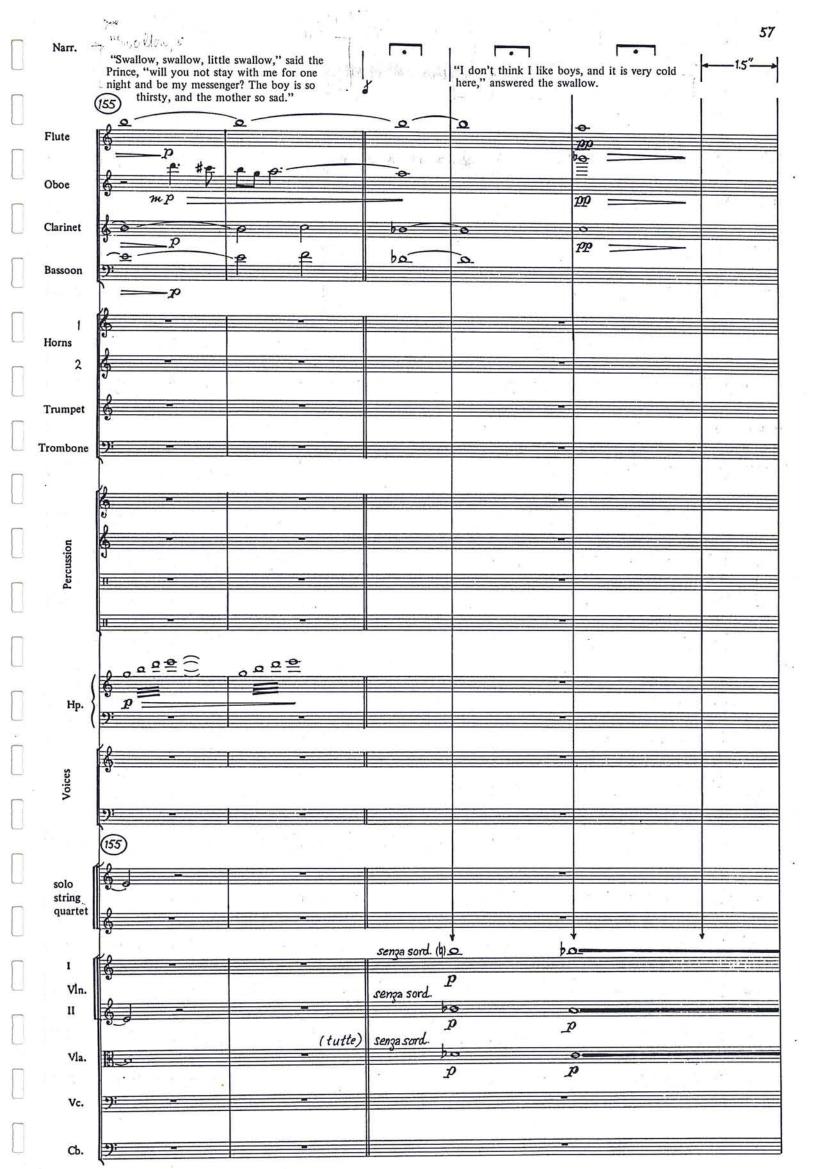


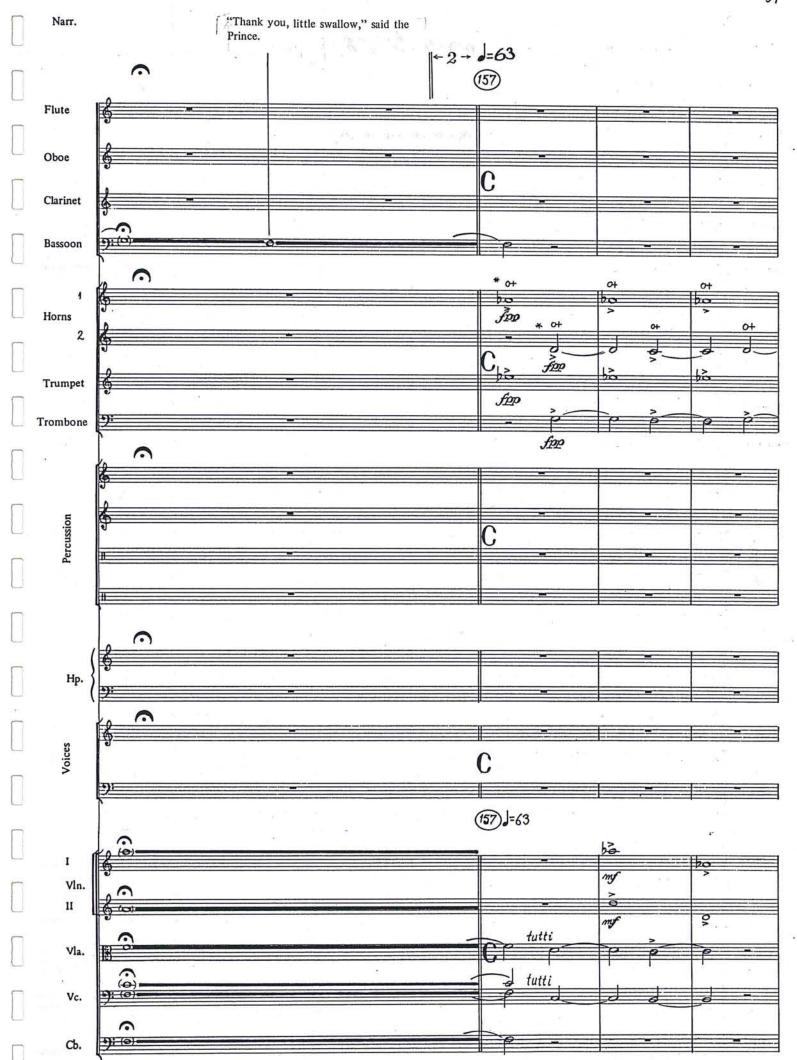


(p)

P

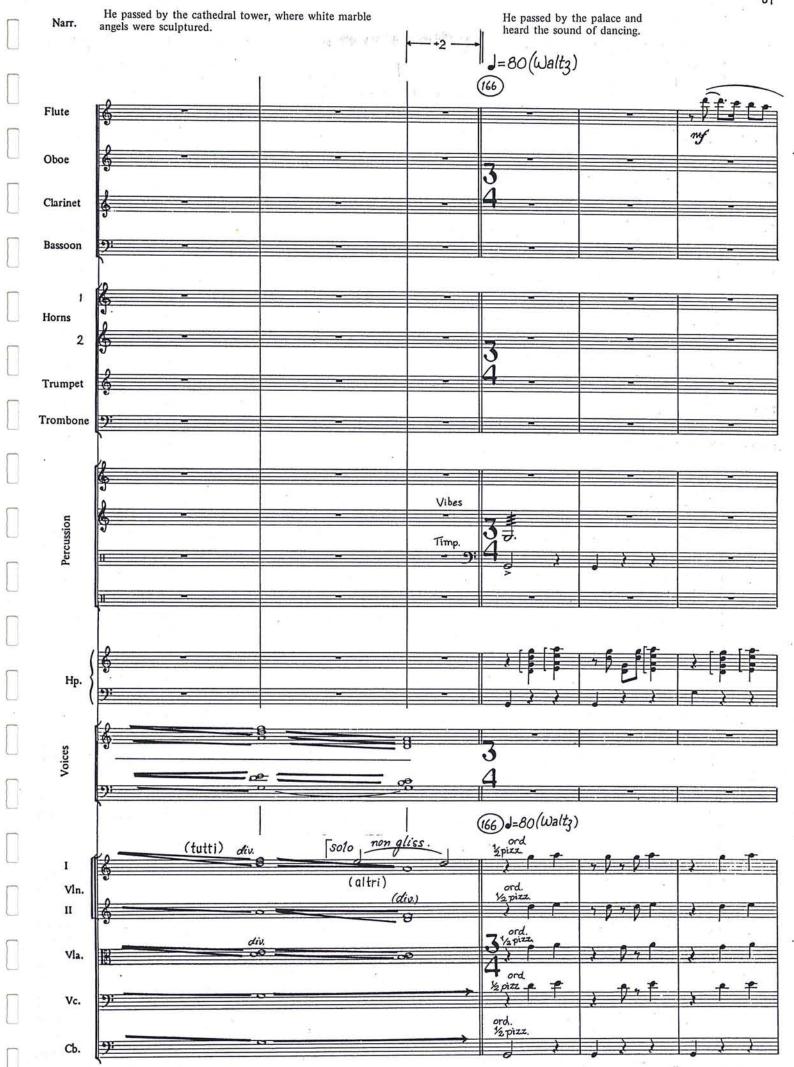


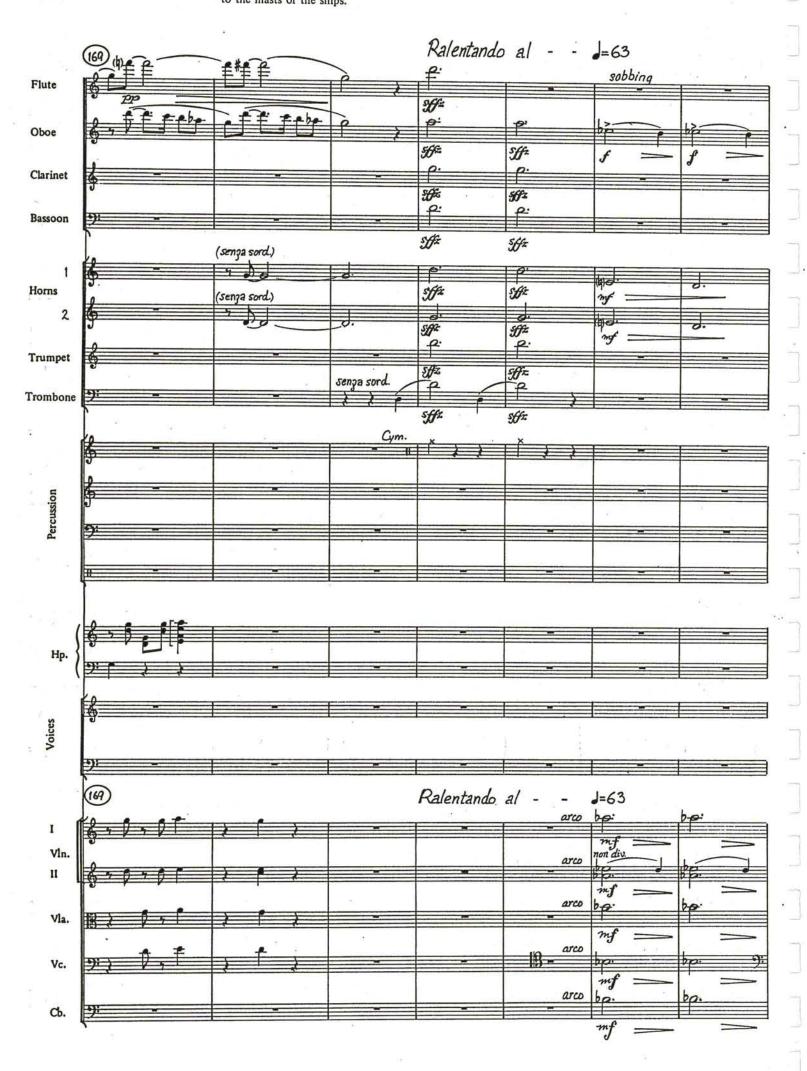




\*Stopped with hand after each attack.



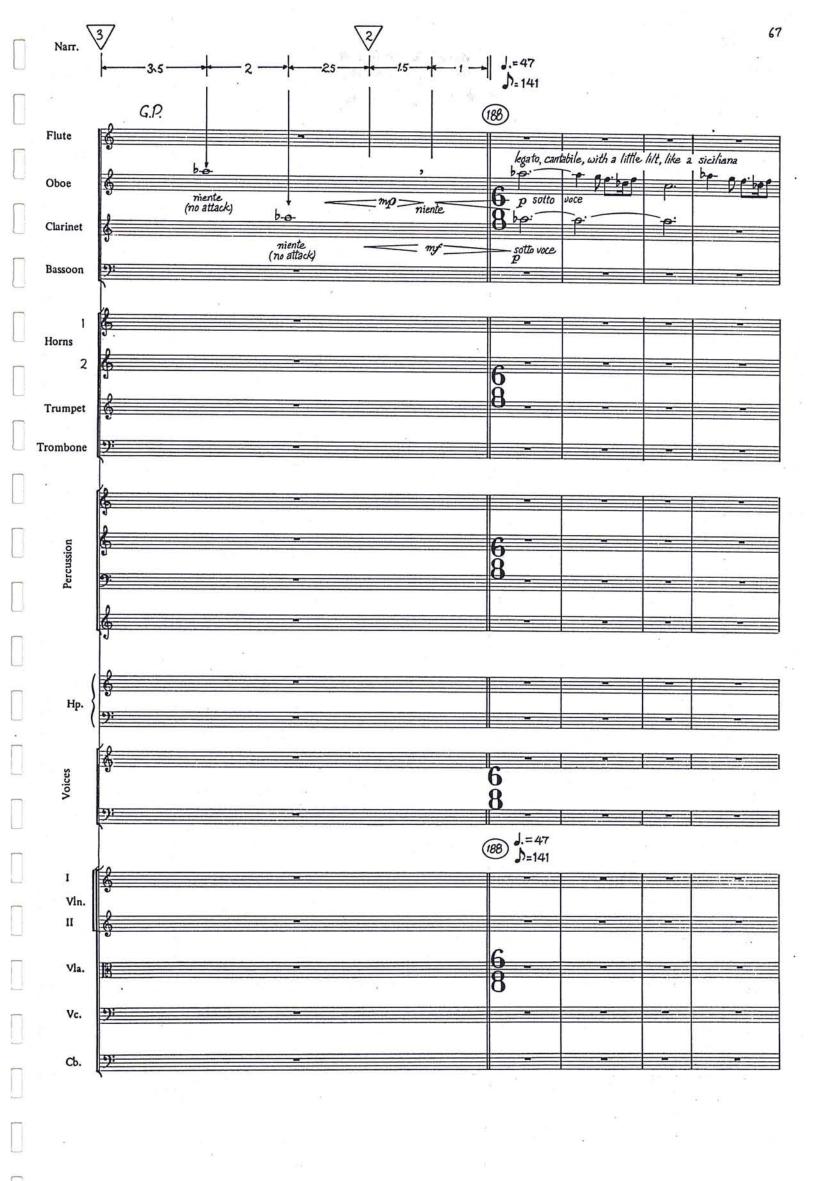


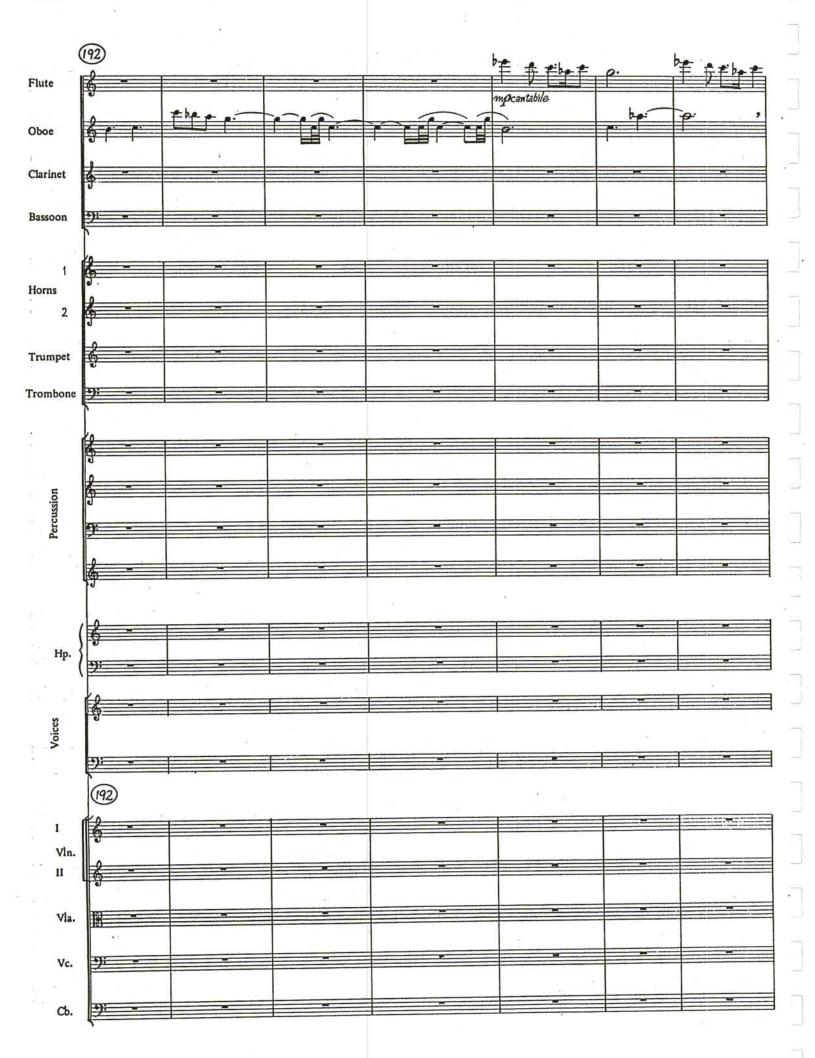


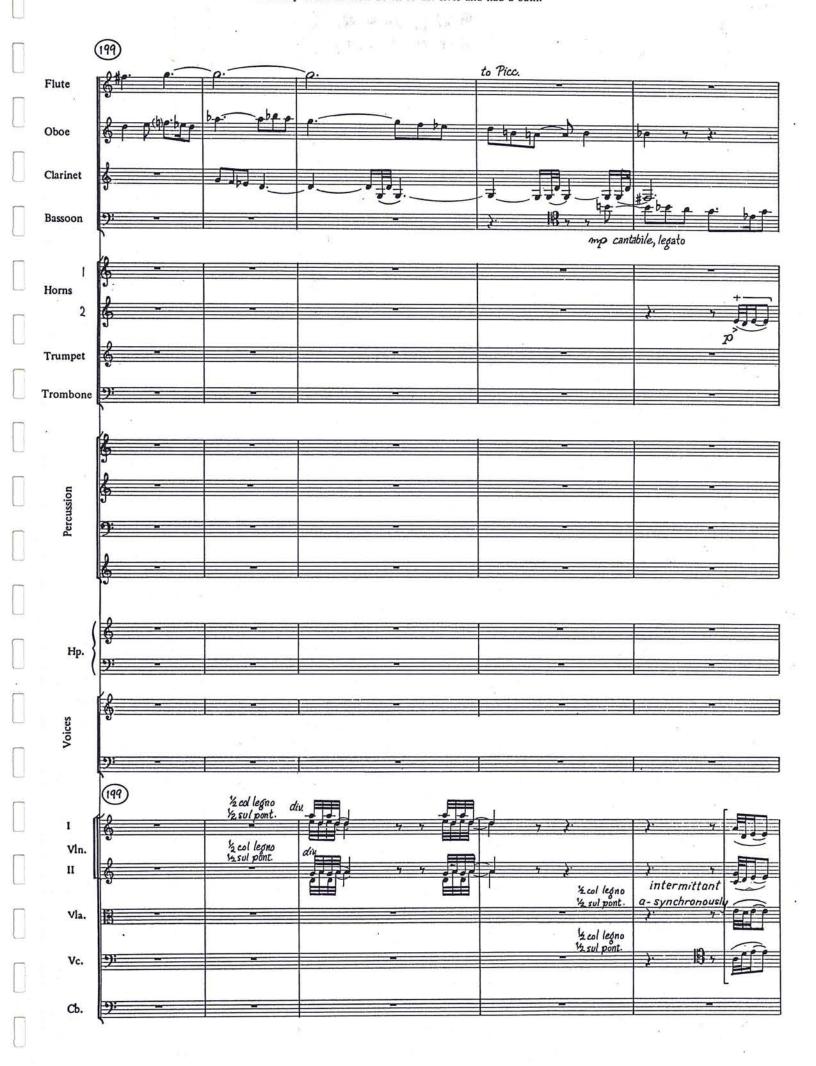
The boy was tossing feverishly on his bed, and the mother was so tired she had fallen asleep.





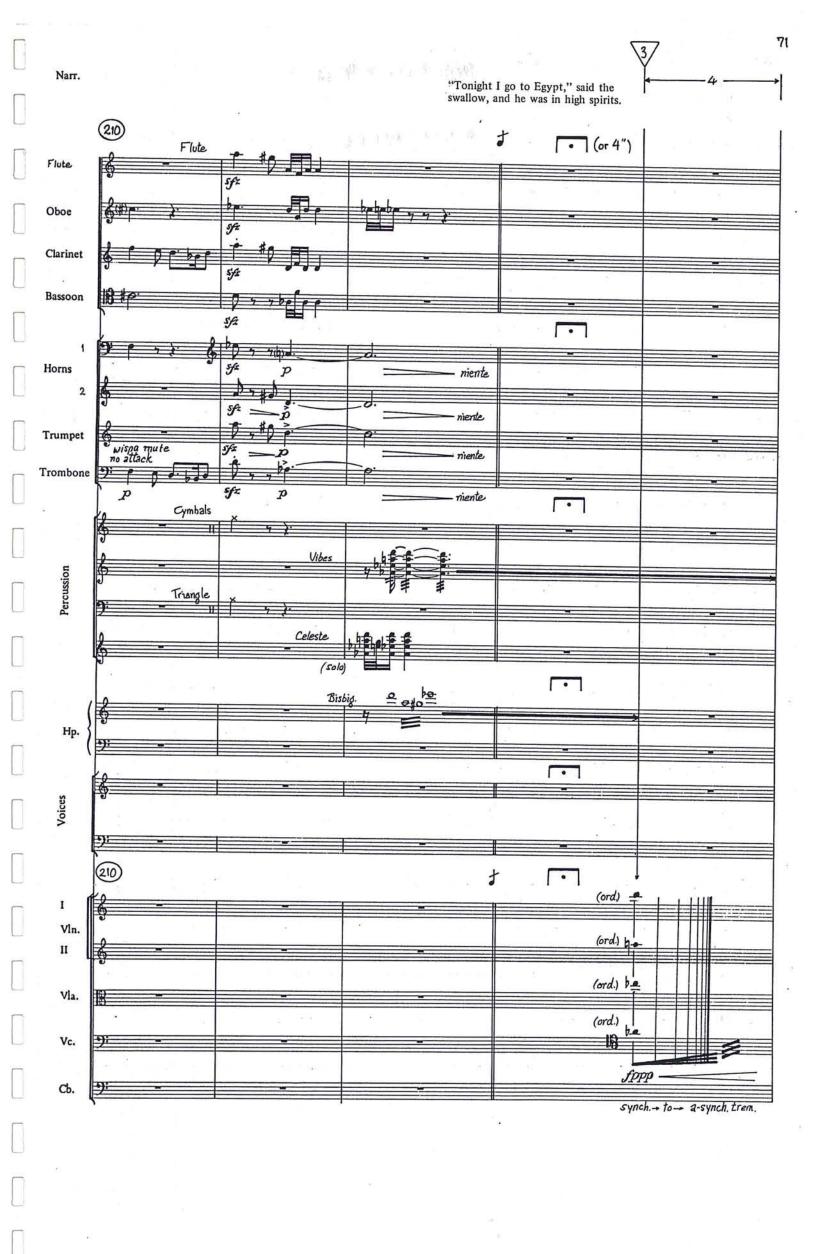


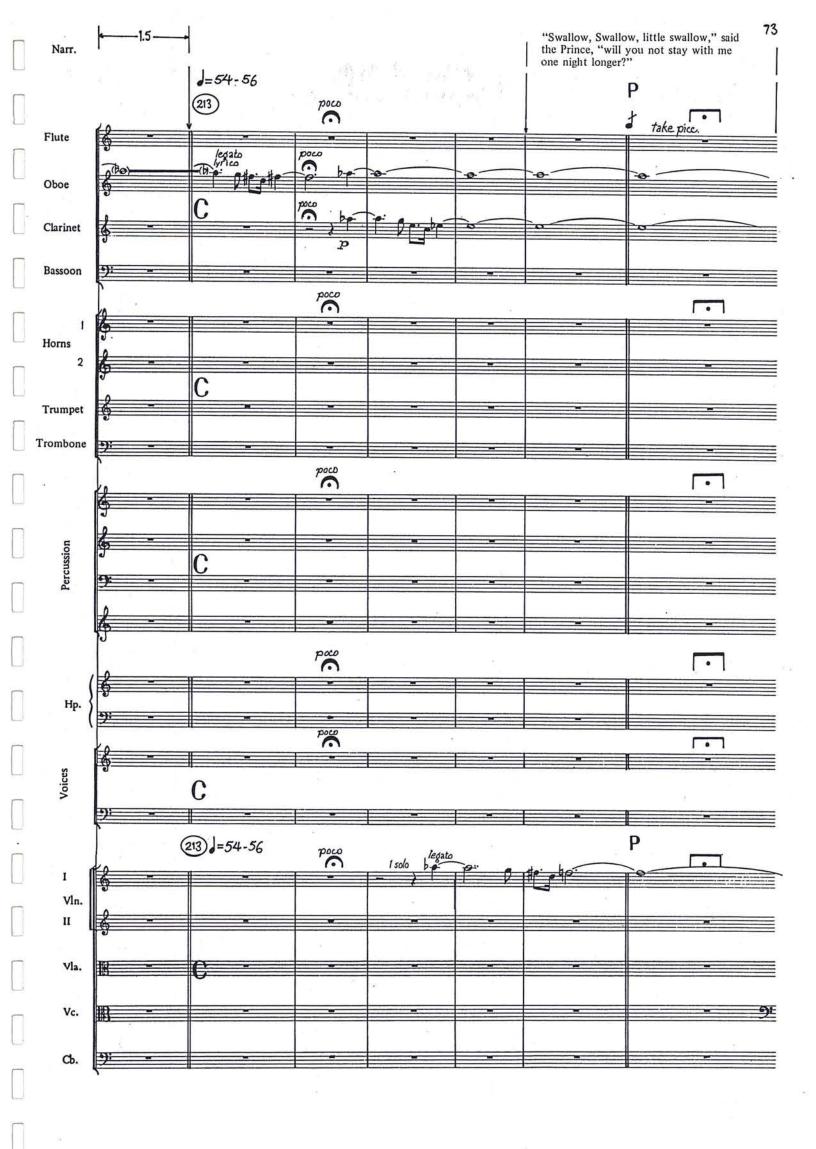




Narr. "What a remarkable phenomenon," said the professor of ornithology as he was passing. "A swallow in winter!"





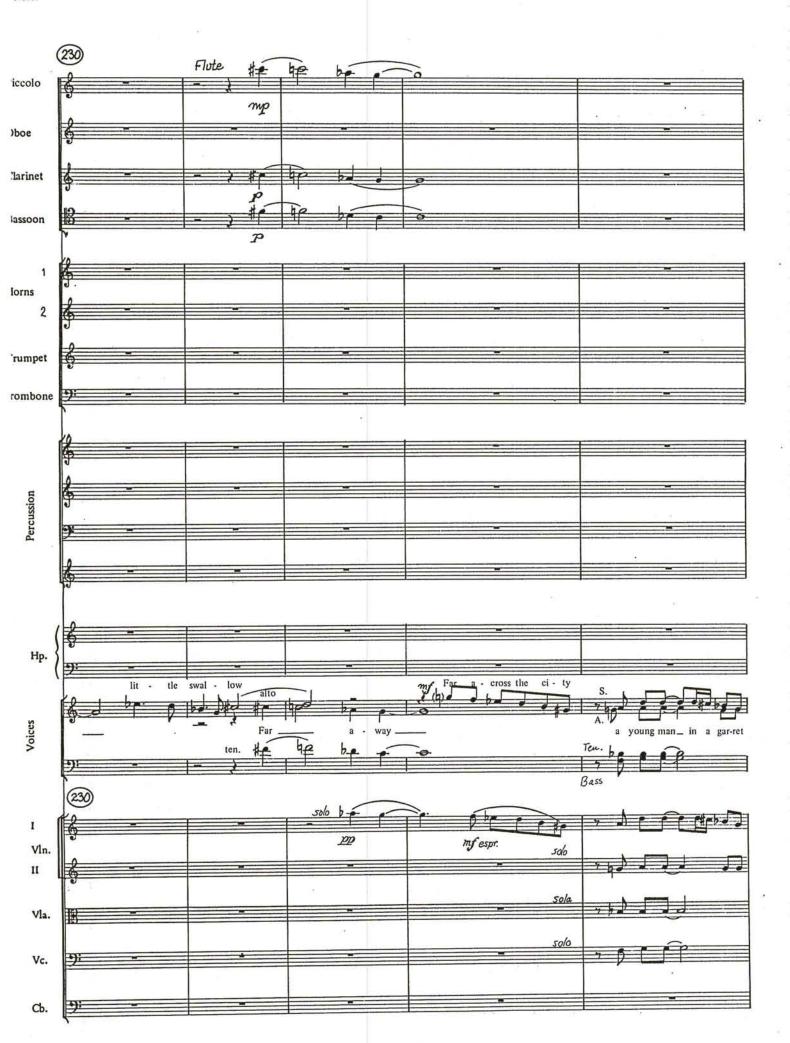


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pp

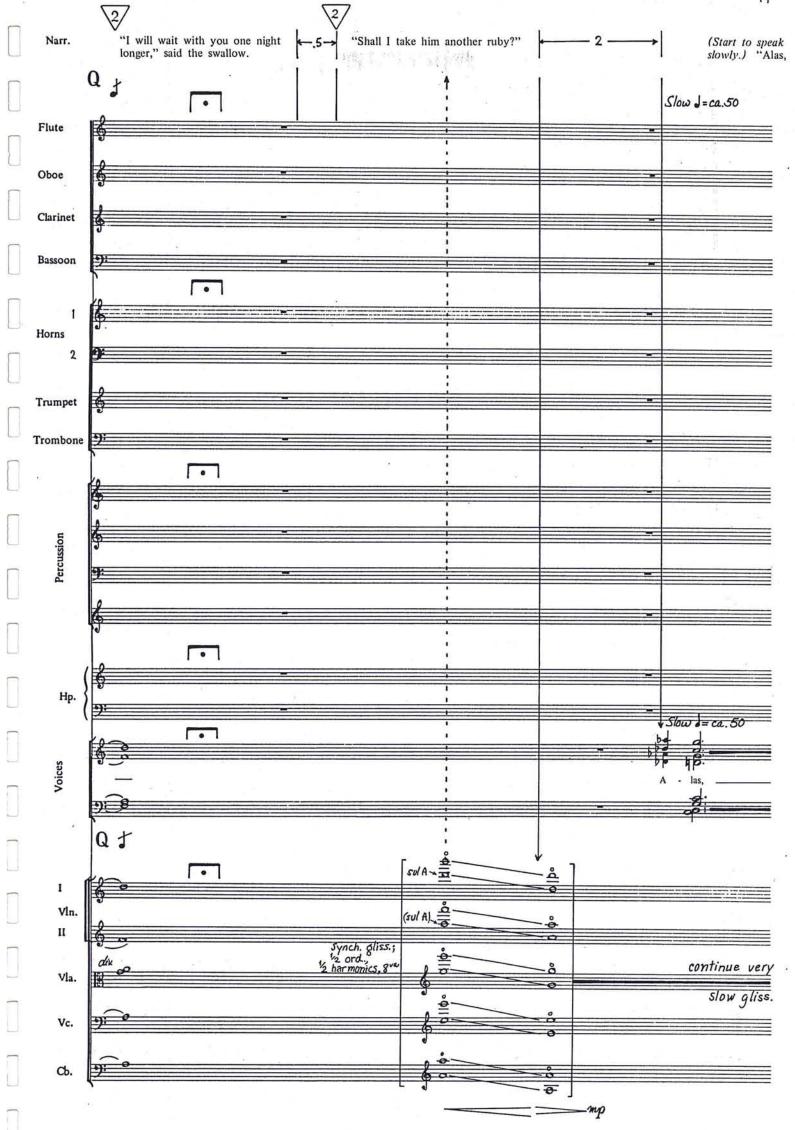
Vc.

Cb.









80 "I have no ruby now," said the Prince. "My eyes are all that I have left. Narr. They are made of rare sapphires which were brought out of India a thousand years ago. Pluck out one of them and take it to the cold young author. He will sell it and buy food and firewood, and finish his play." Flute Oboe Clarinet Bassoon 1 Horns 2 Trumpet Trombone pp poco cresc. Percussion JIB poco cresc. 70PP Tam-tam pp Hp. Voices sulpont I Vln. sul pont.

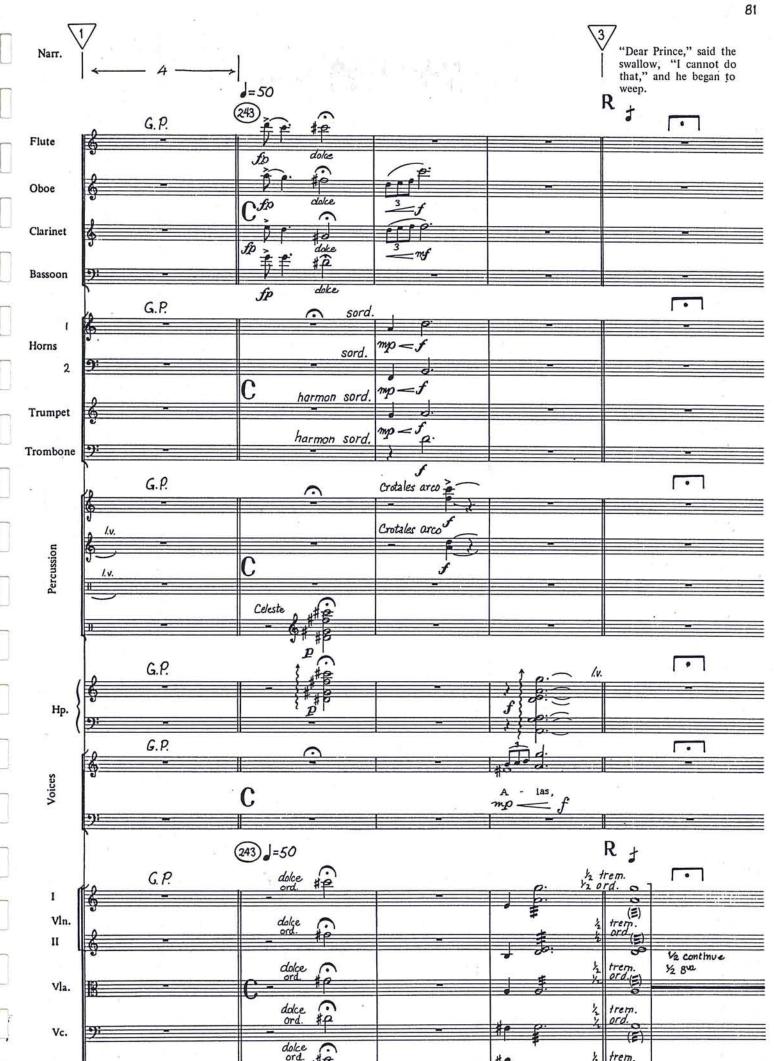
sul pont.

11

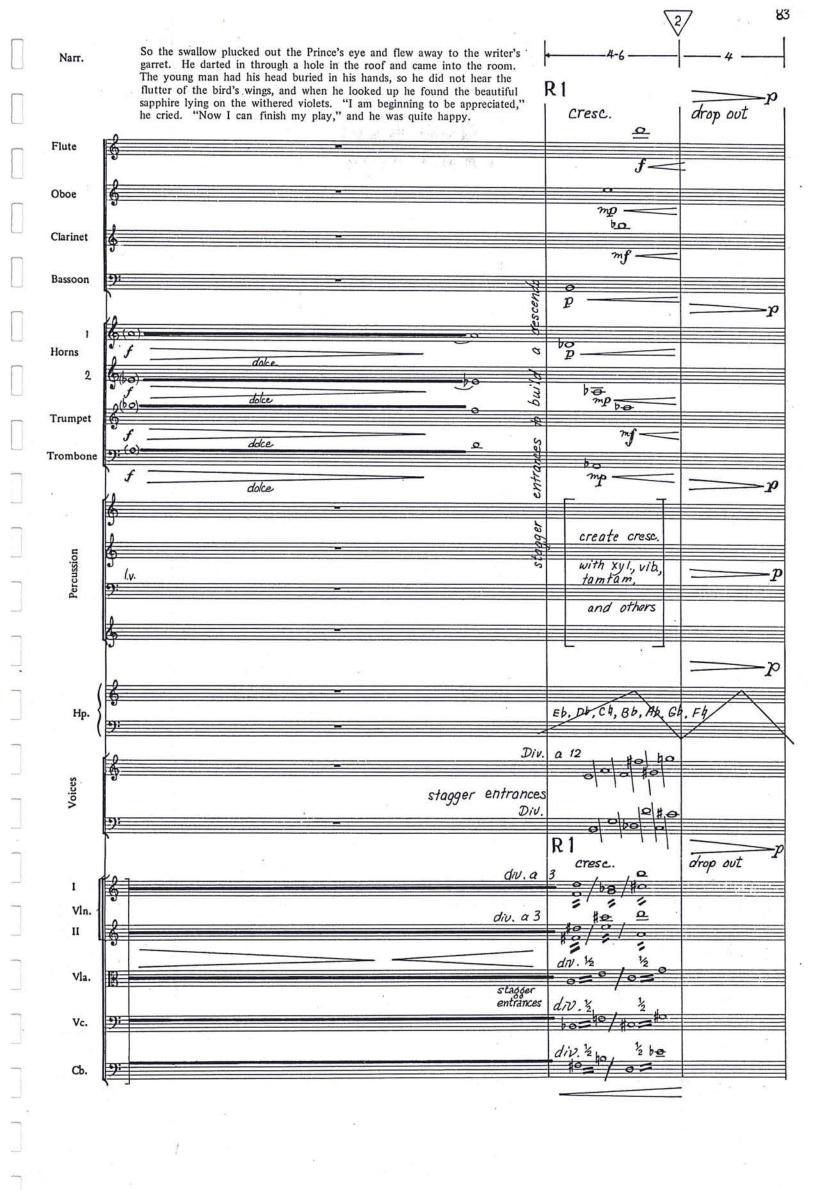
Vla.

Vc.

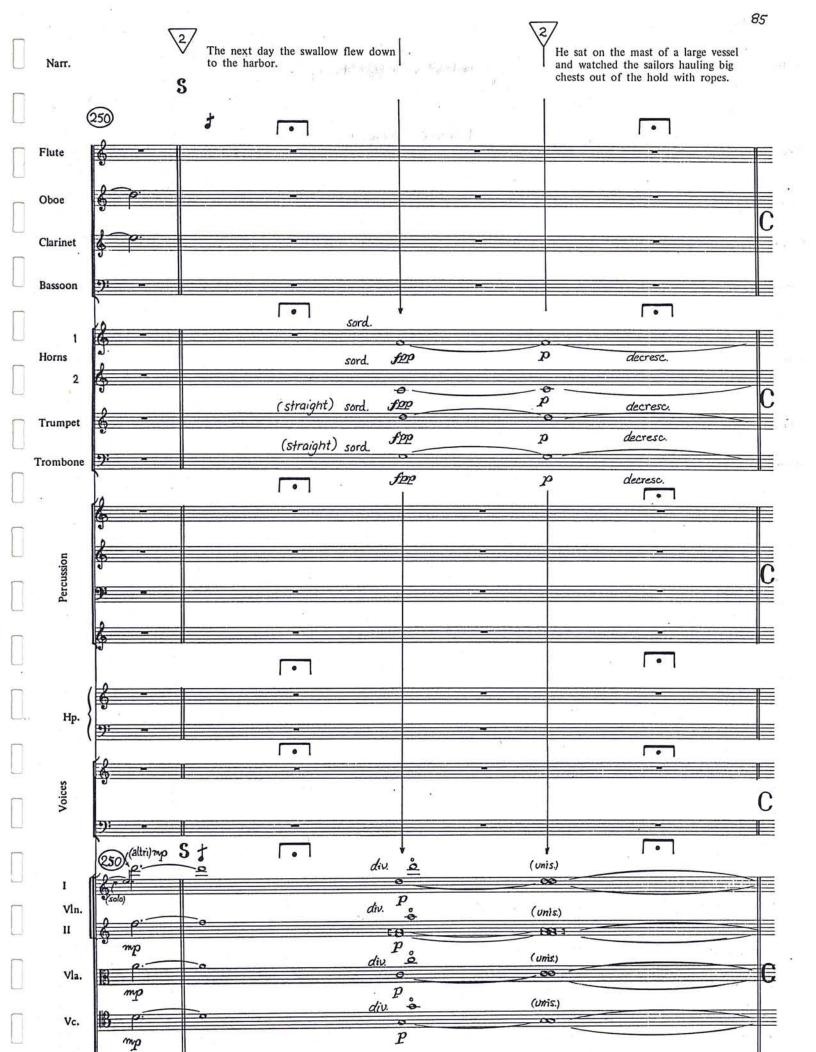
poco cresc.



Сь.

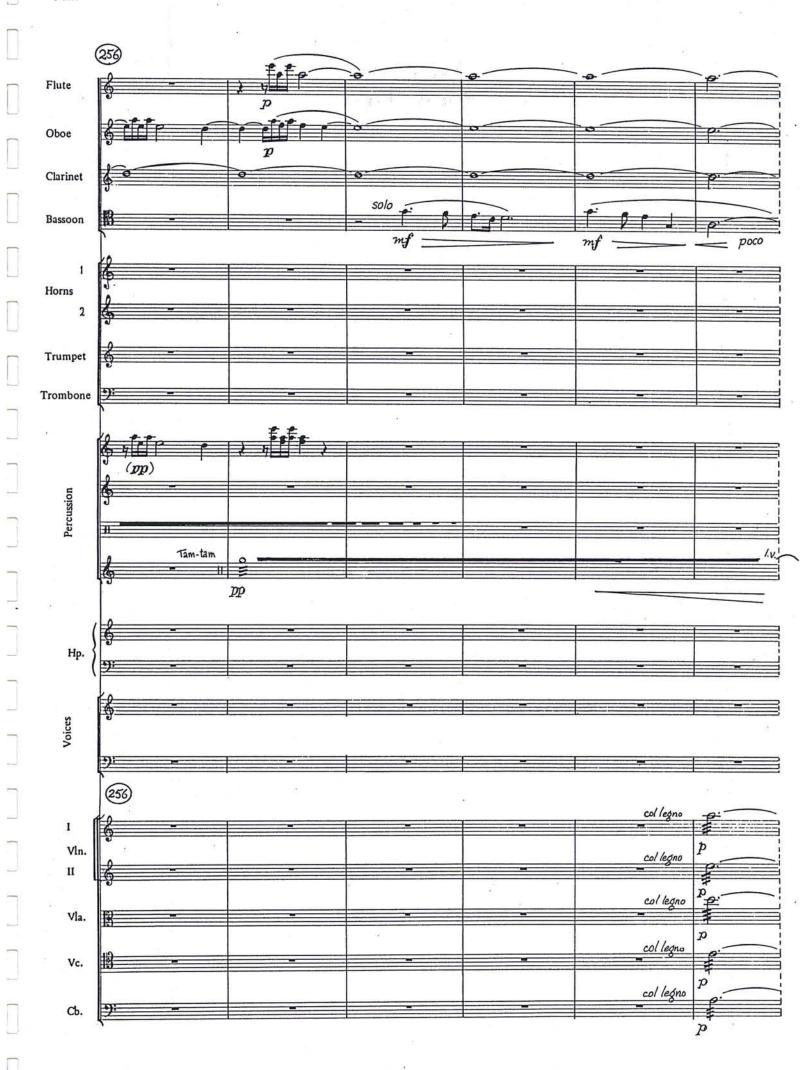


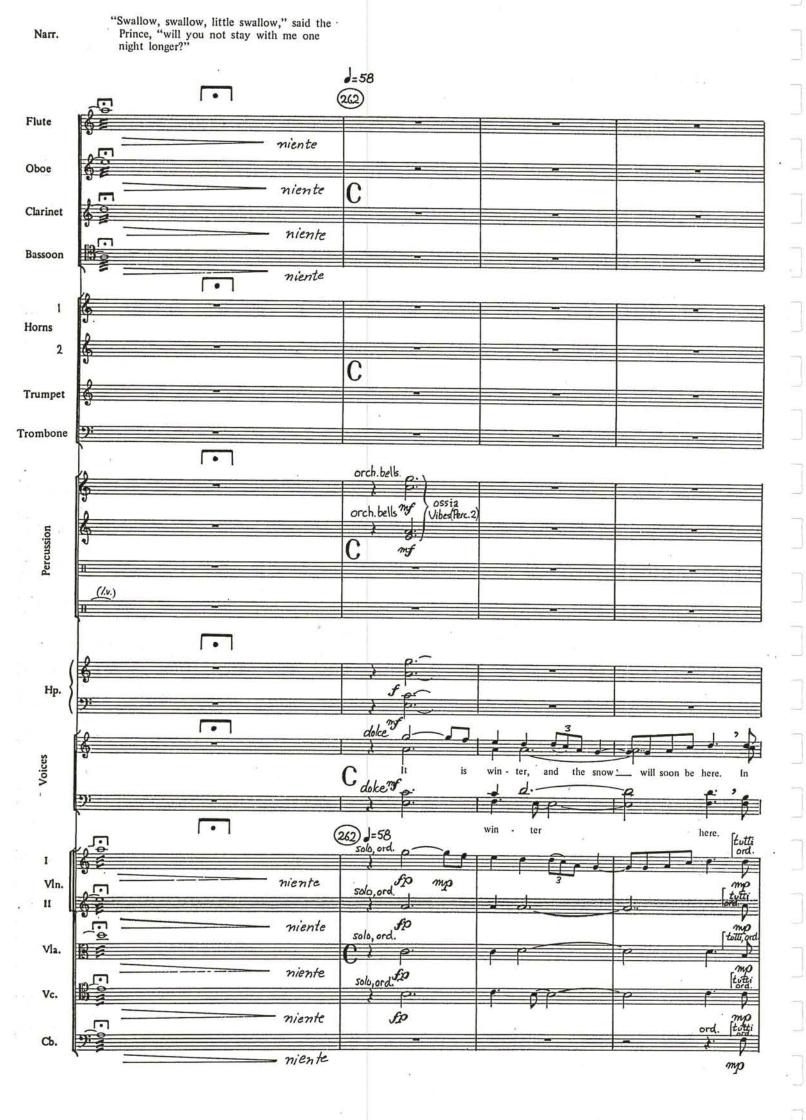




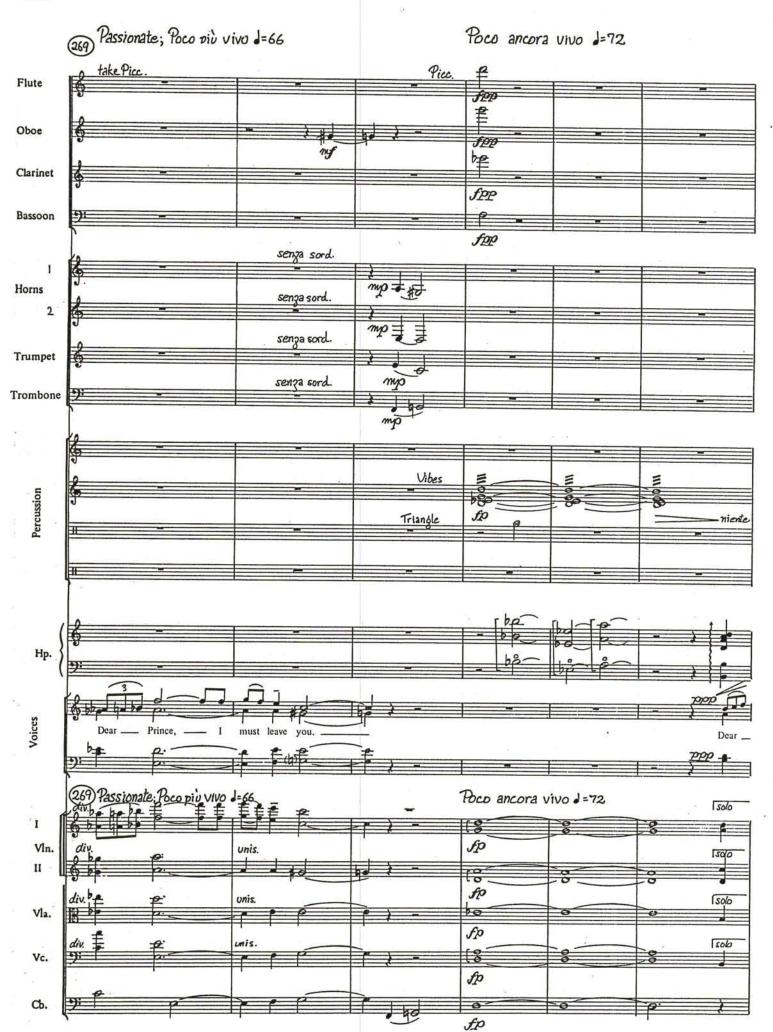
Cb.

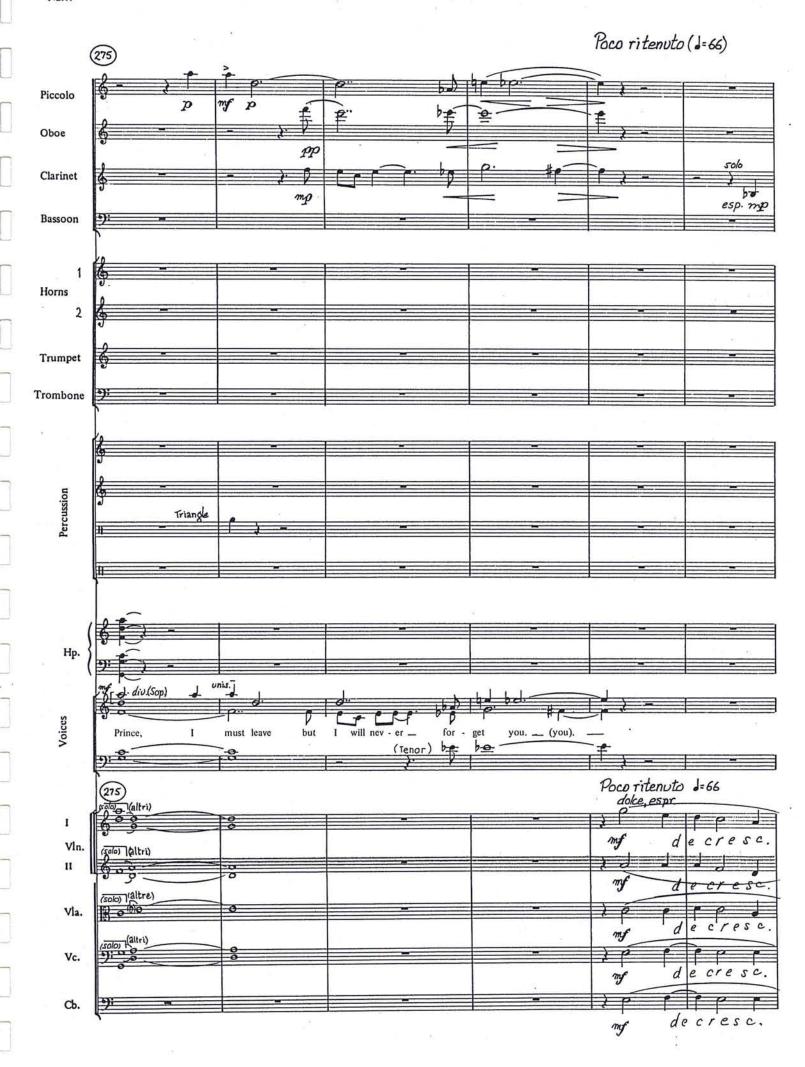






Narr. 265) Flute Oboe Clarinet Trumpet Trombone Percussion Voices green 3 lie in the mud. 265) 0 Vln. 11 Vla.

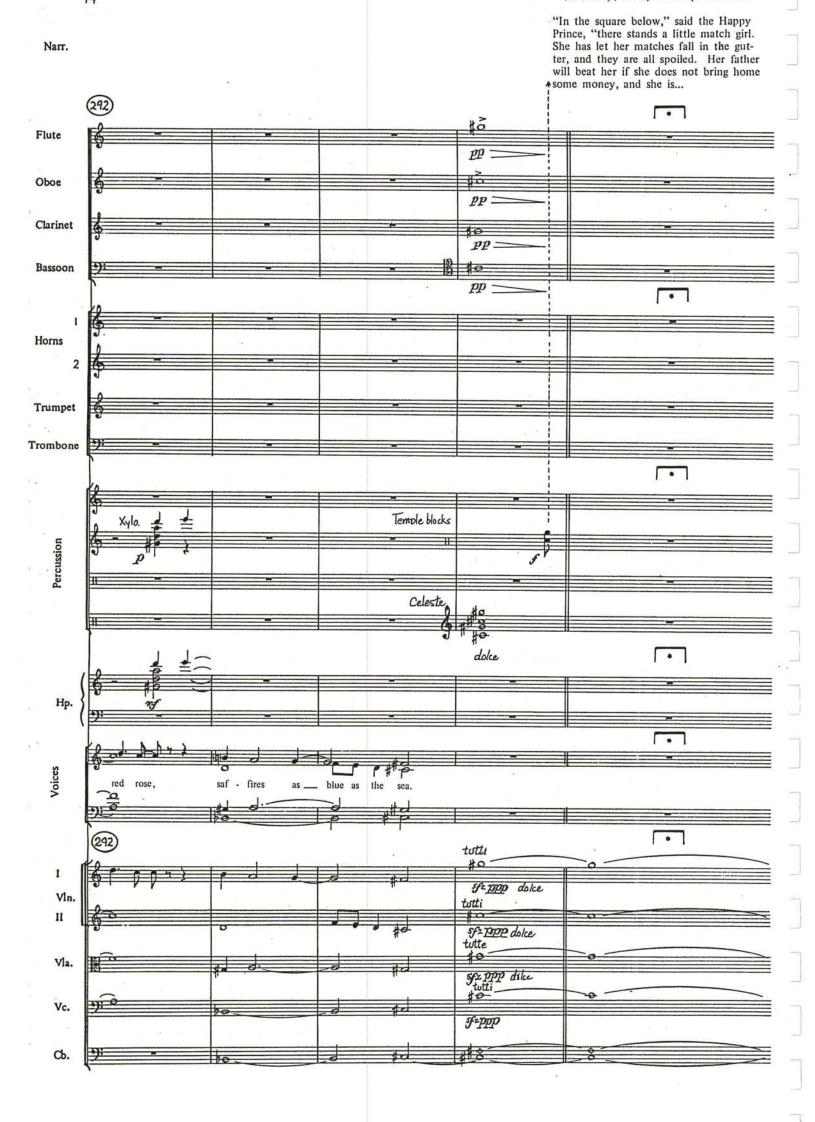






Minster Washing Narr. 287) Flute Oboe Clarinet Bassoon 1 Horns 2 Trumpet (wispa mute) Trombone pp0 Percussion Hp. Voices The T ru by will be , red der than the jewels. molto legato € totti molto legato Vln. solo п molto legato tutte solo Vla. molto legato solo be Vc. molto legato

Cb.

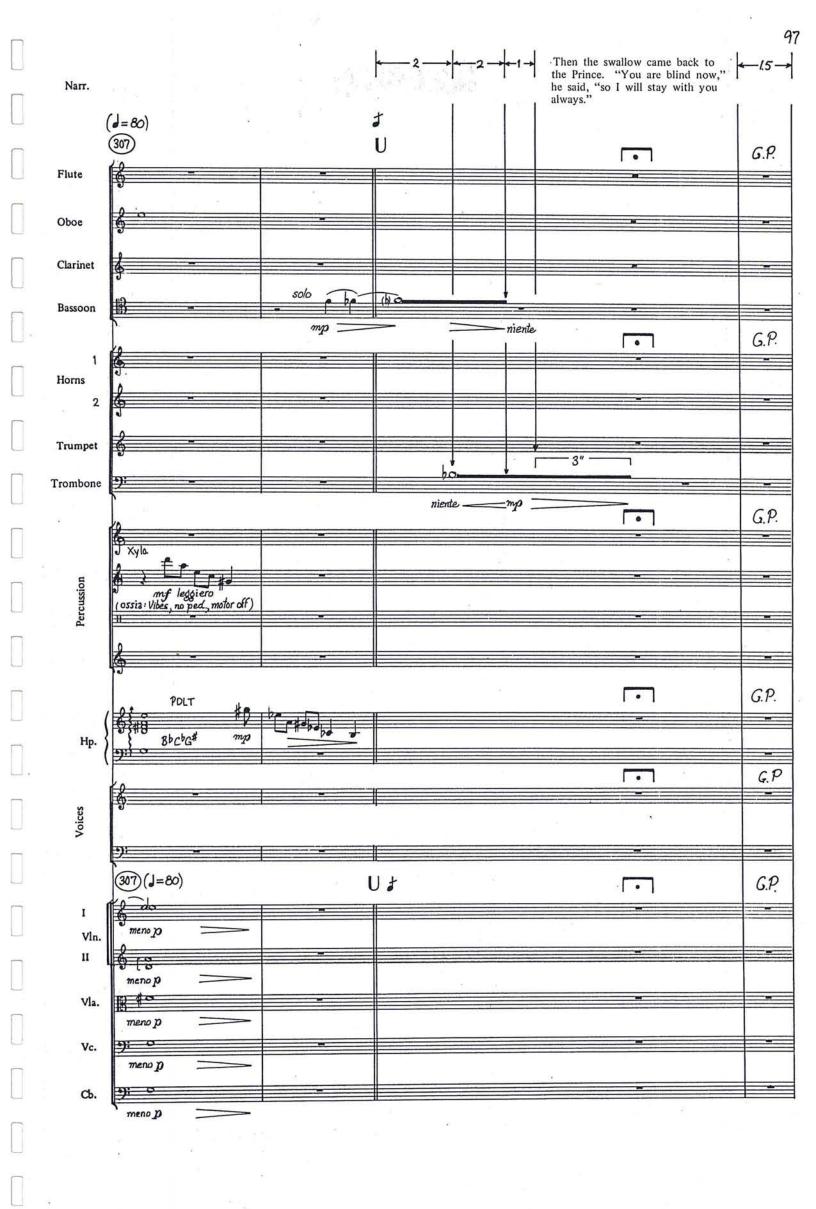


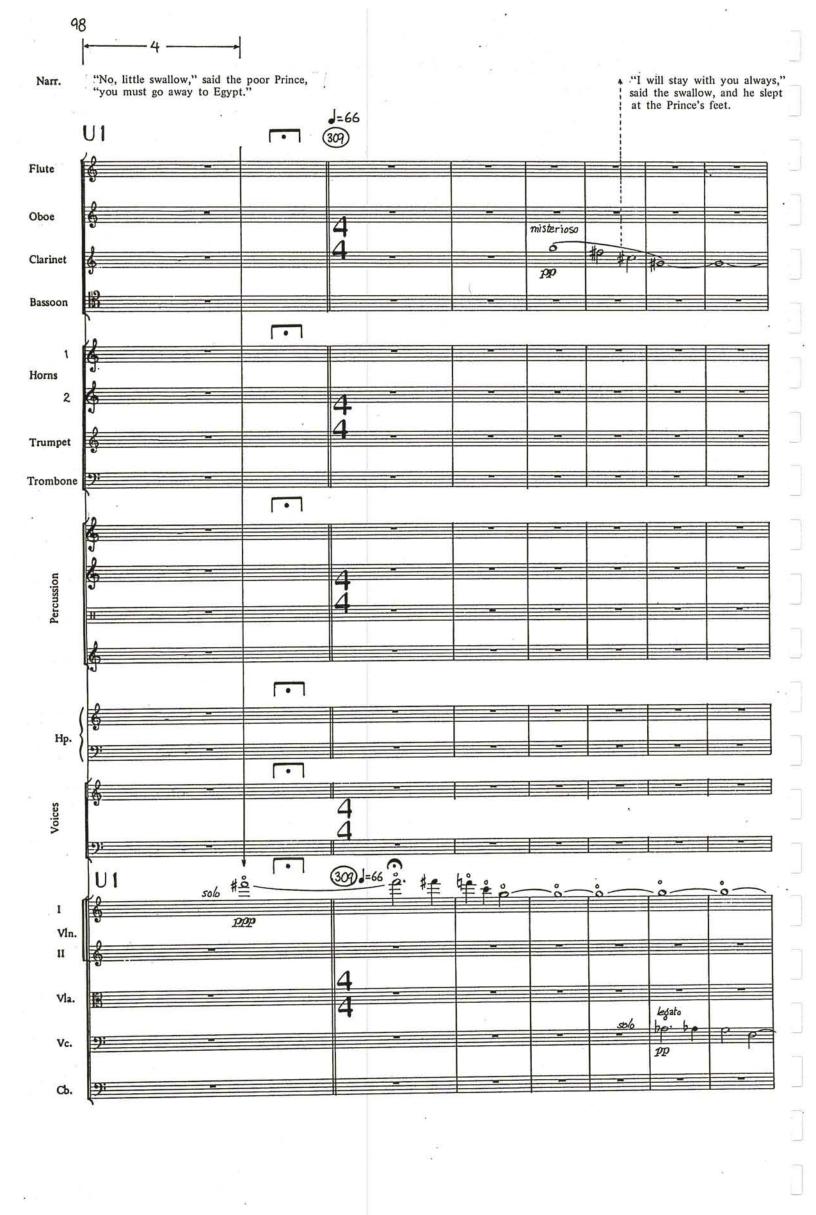


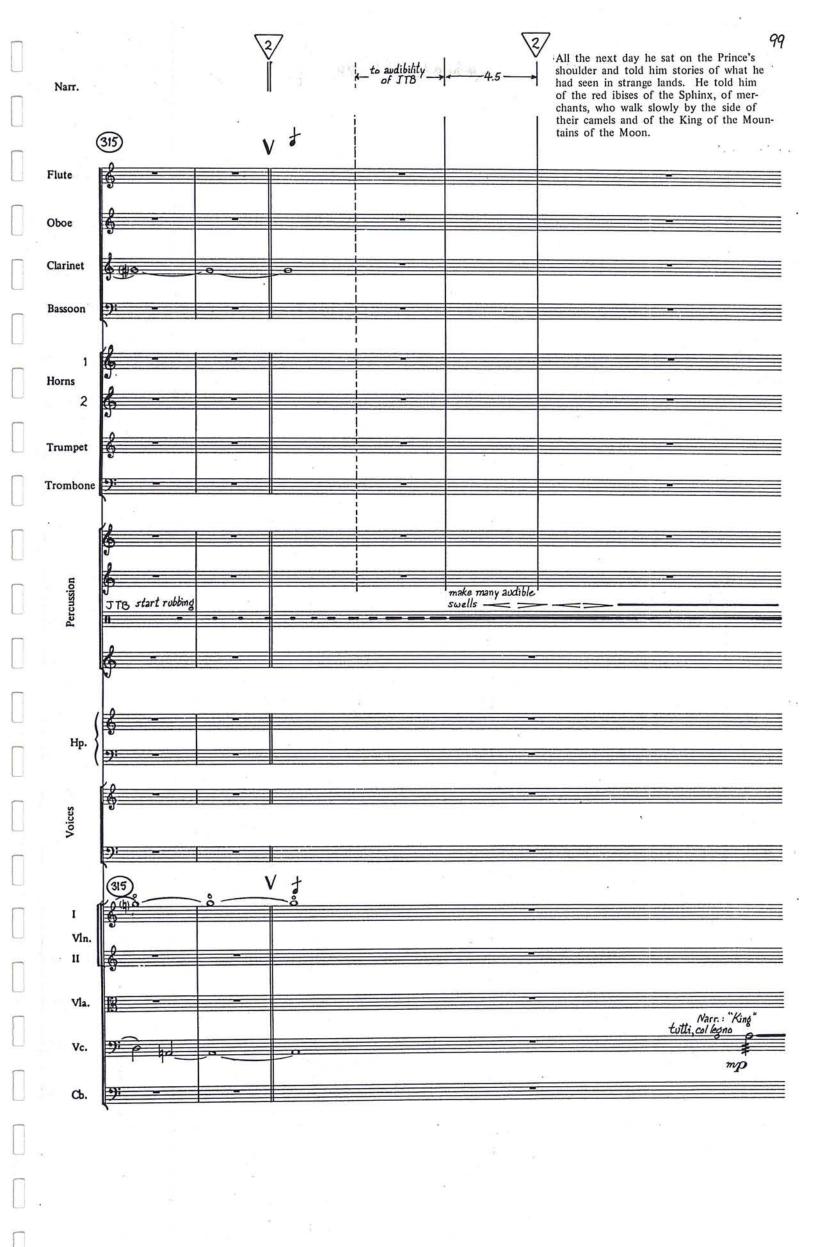
Narr. "Swallow, swallow, little swallow," said the Prince, "do as I command you."

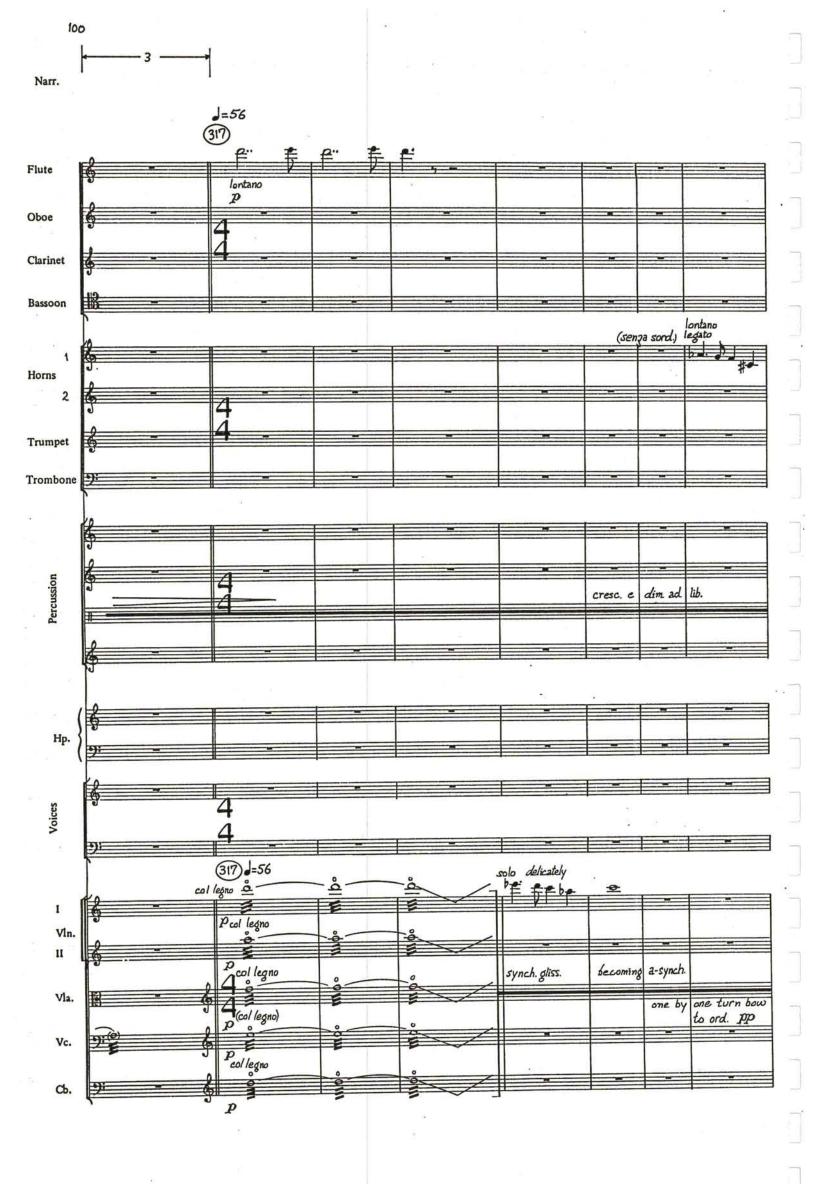
So he plucked out the Prince's other eye and darted down with it. He swooped past the match girl and slipped the jewel into the palm of her hand. "What a lovely bit of glass," cried the little girl, and she ran home, laughing.

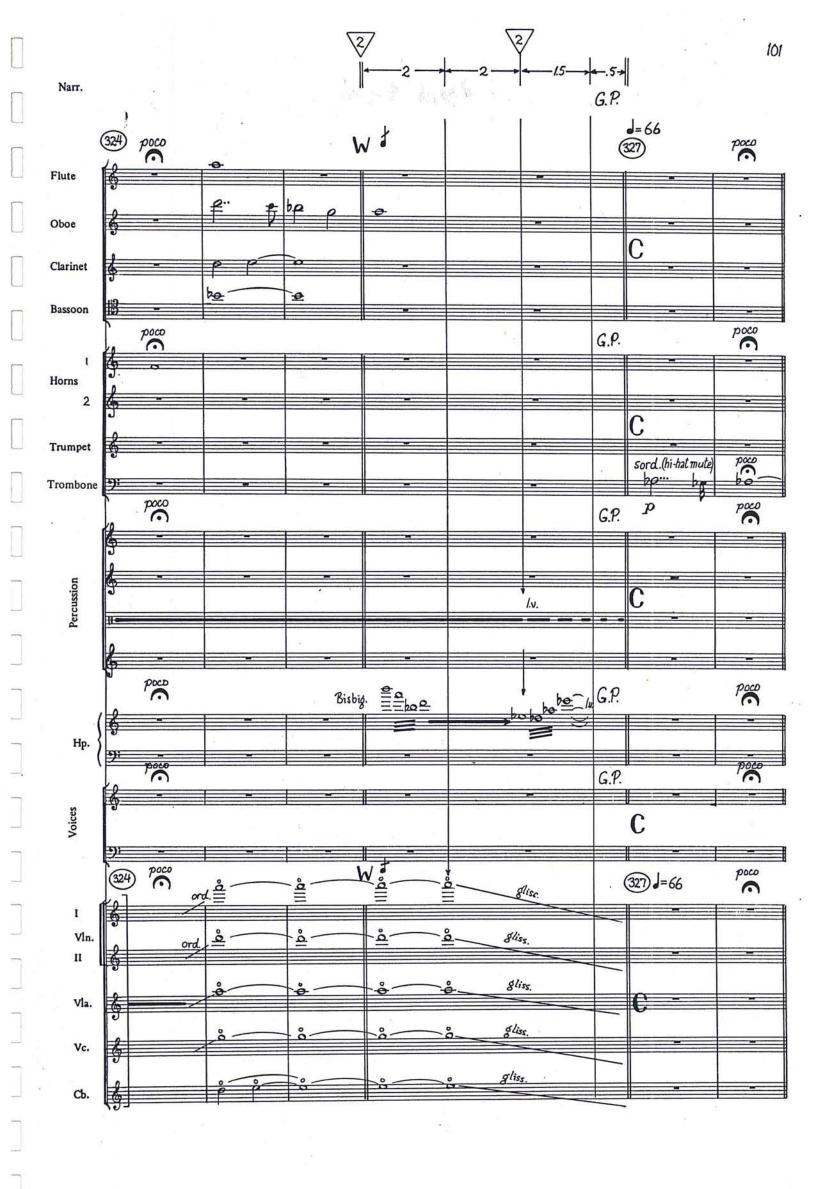


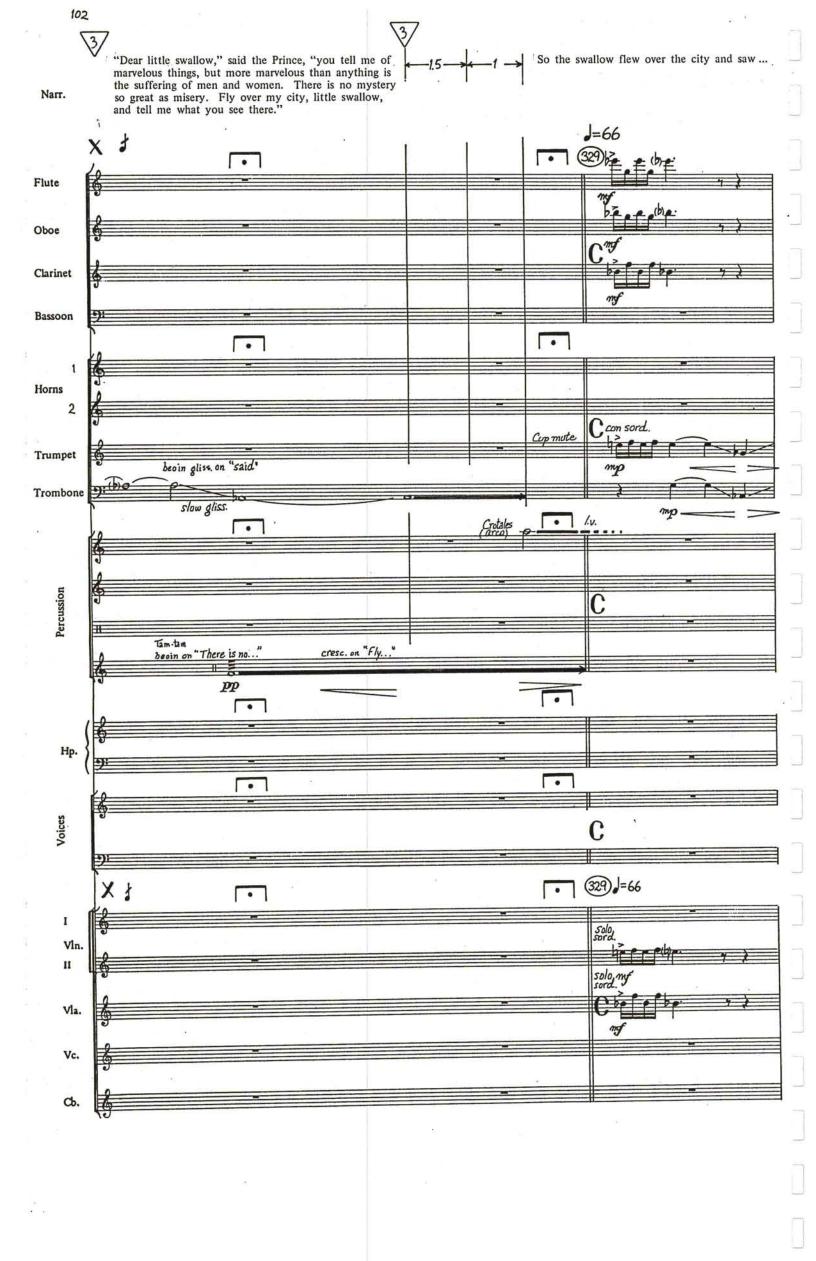






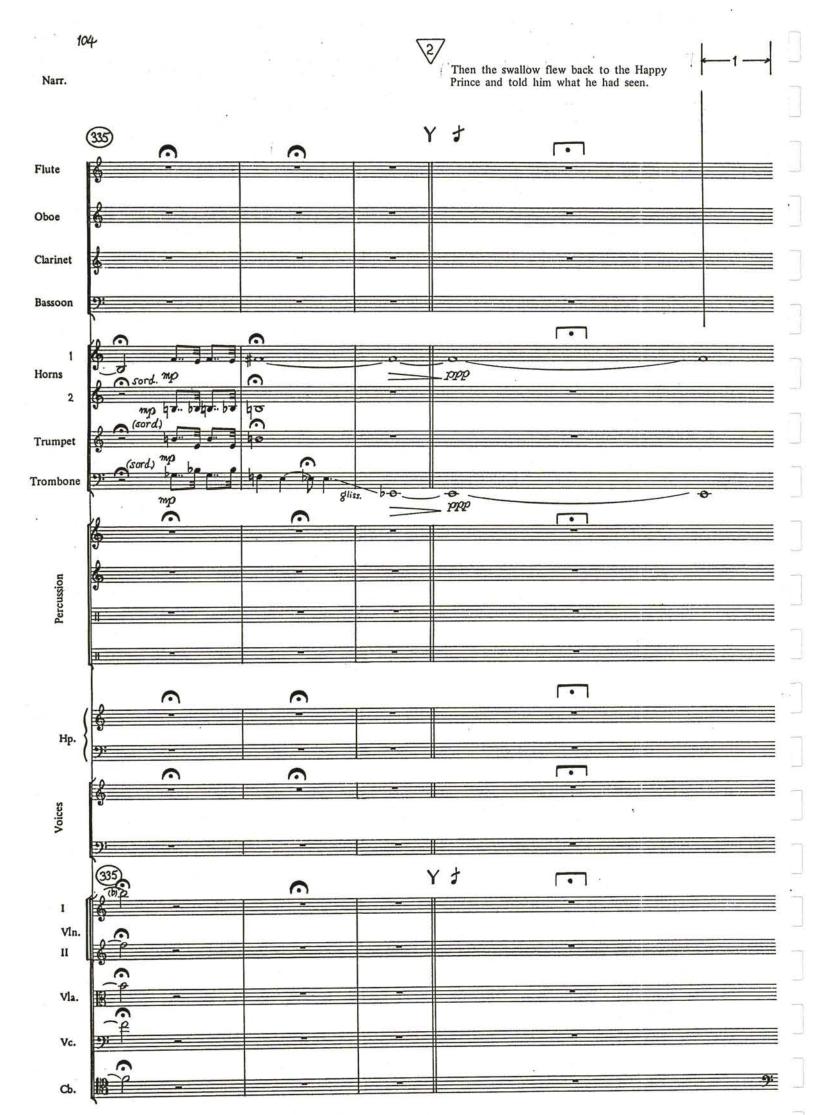






the rich making merry in their beautiful houses while the beggars were sitting at the gates. He flew into dark lanes and saw the white faces of the starving children looking out listlessly.





off, till the Happy Prince looked quite dull and gray.

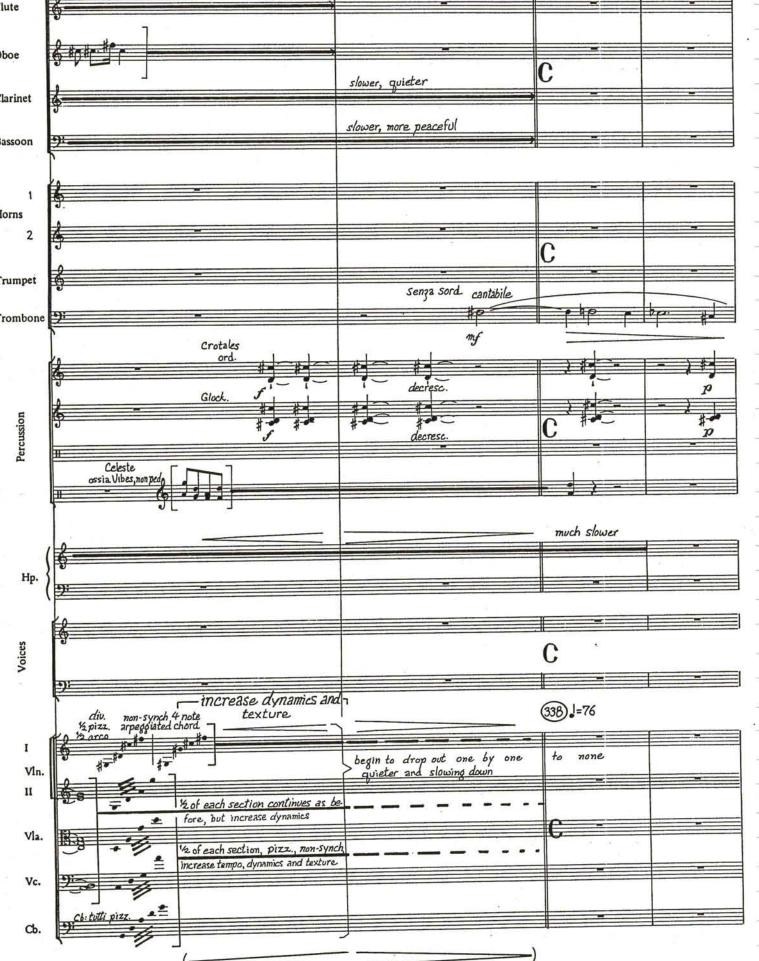
Leaf after leaf of the fine gold he brought to the poor, and the children's faces grew rosier, and they laughed and played games in the street.n. . .

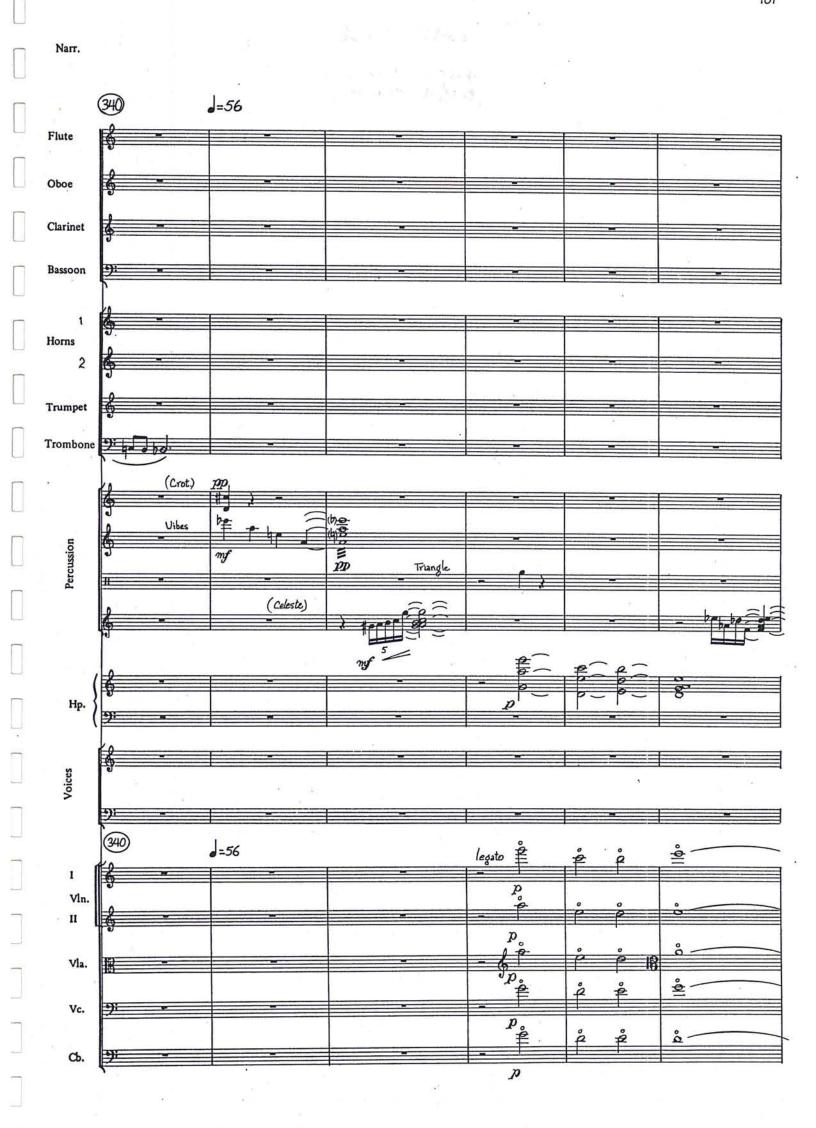
"We have bread now!" they cried.

(Narration may continue through but does not have

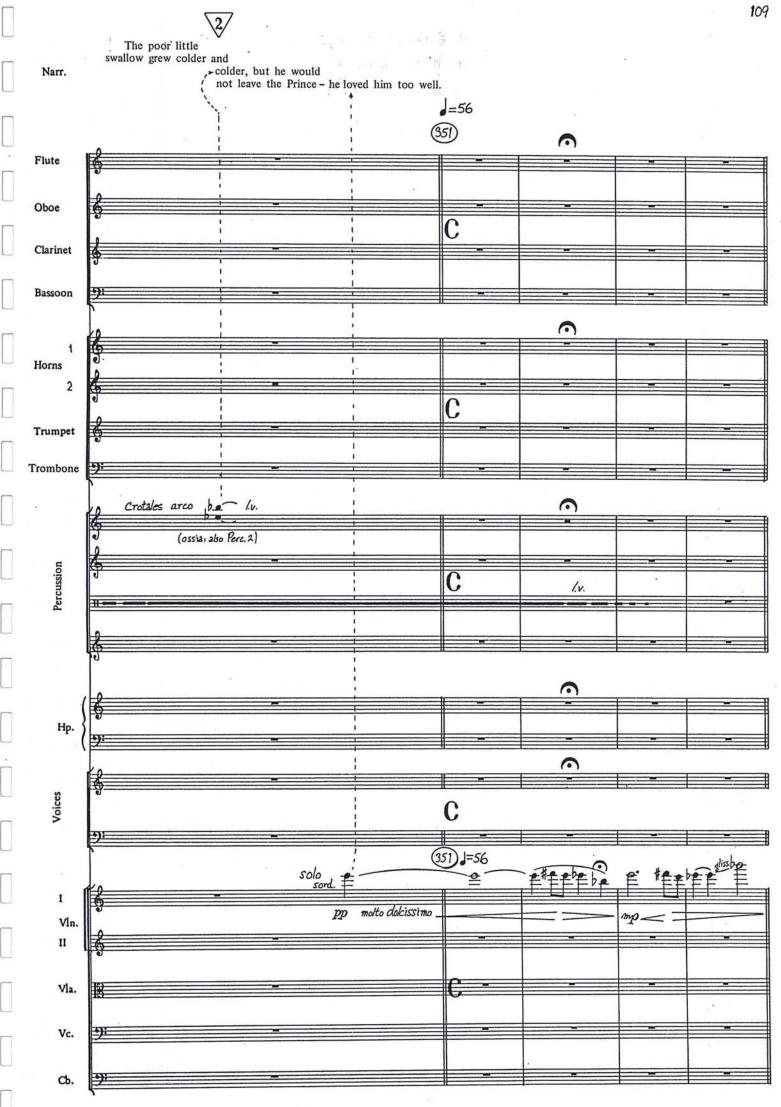


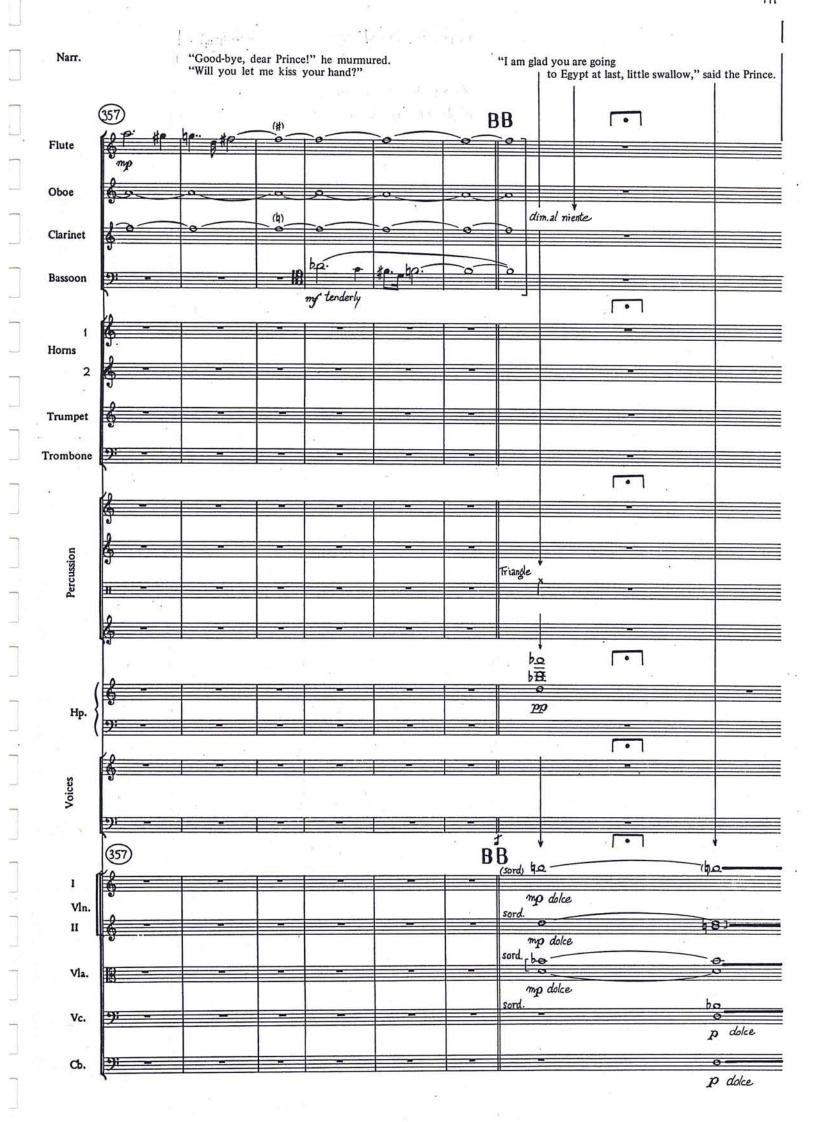
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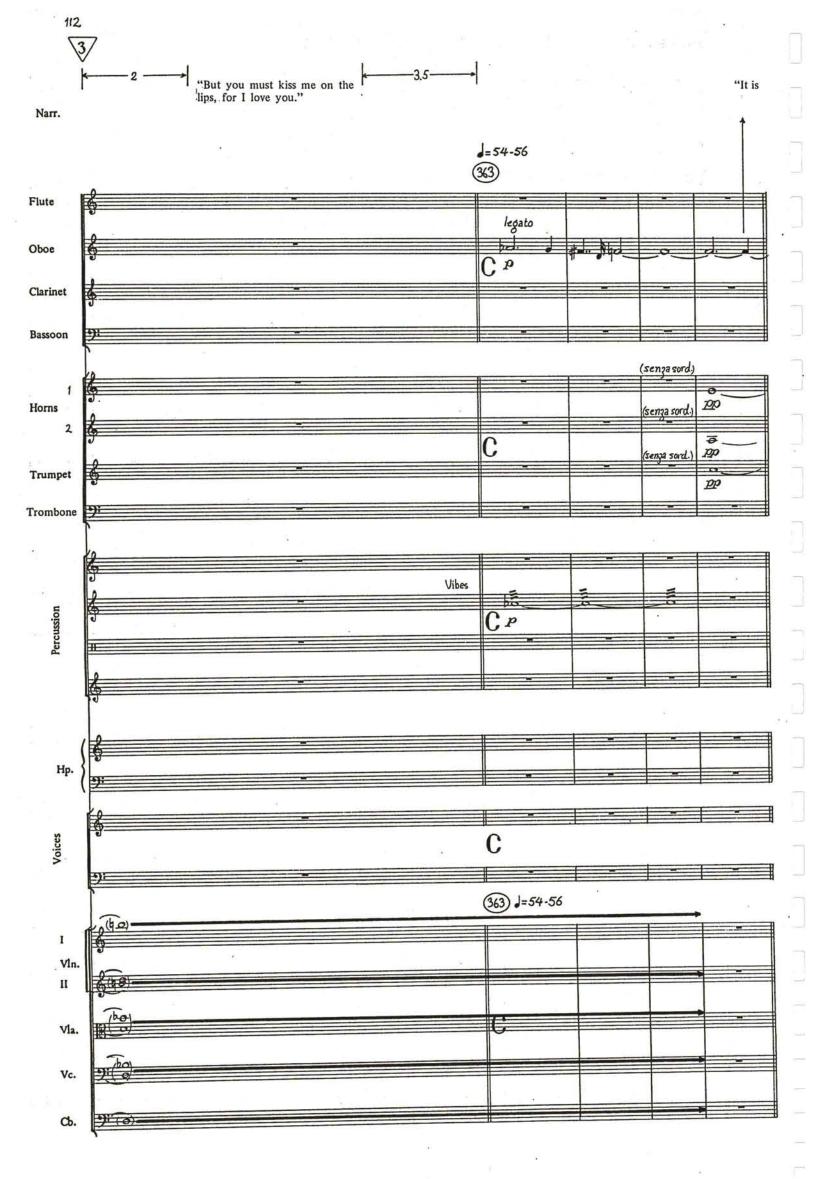


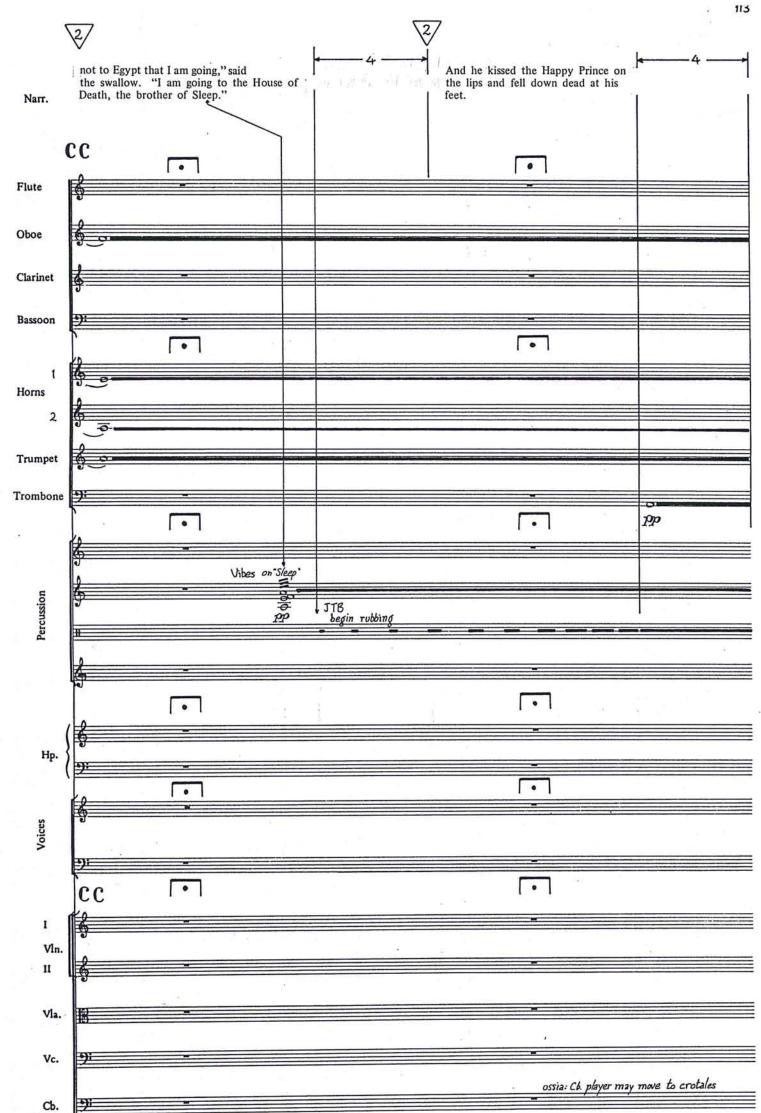


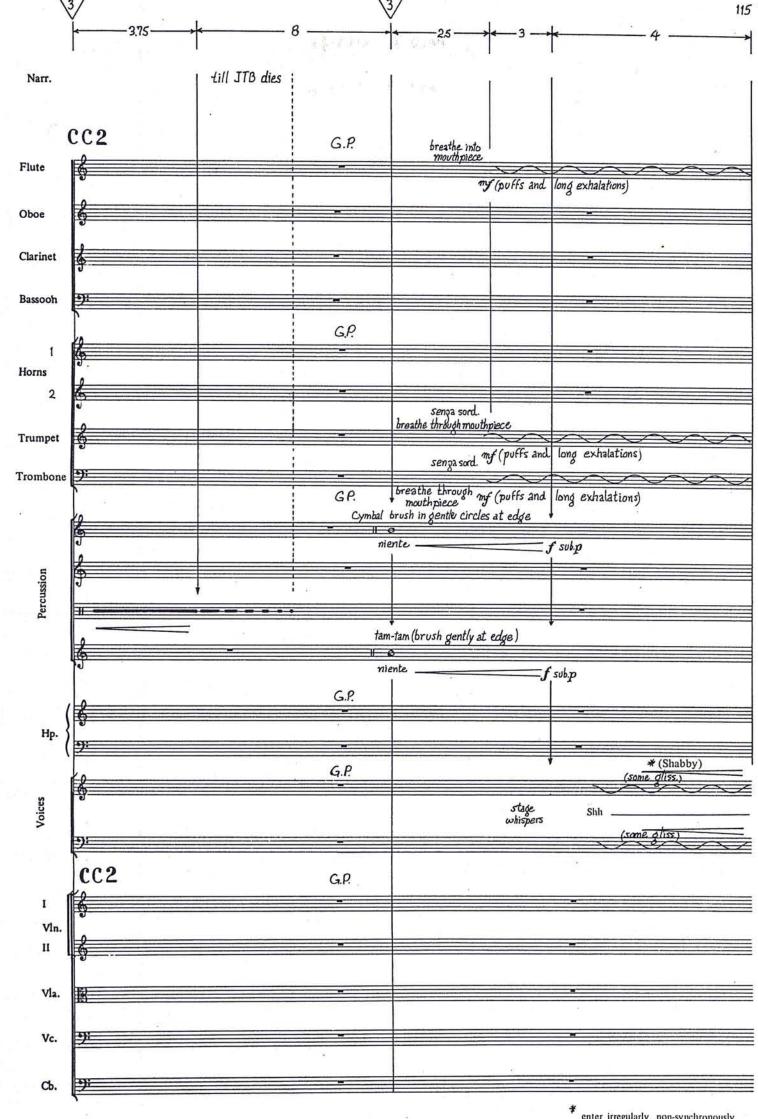




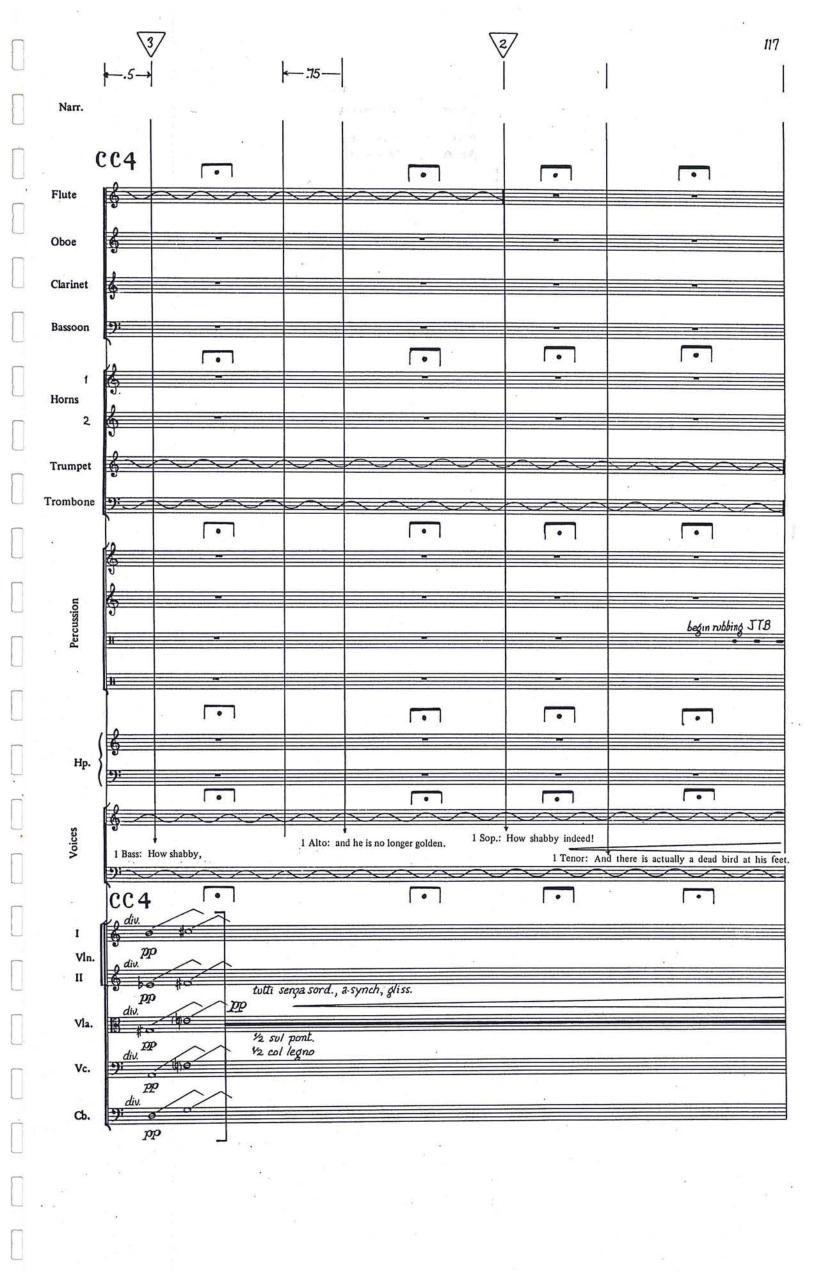


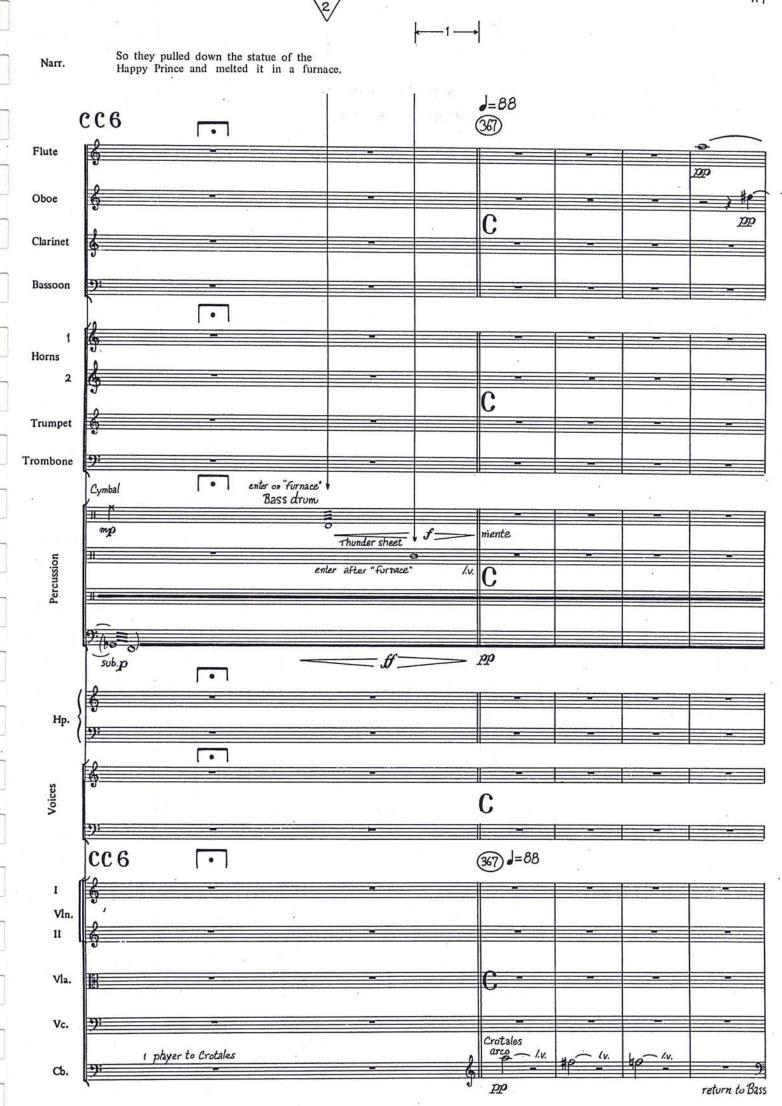






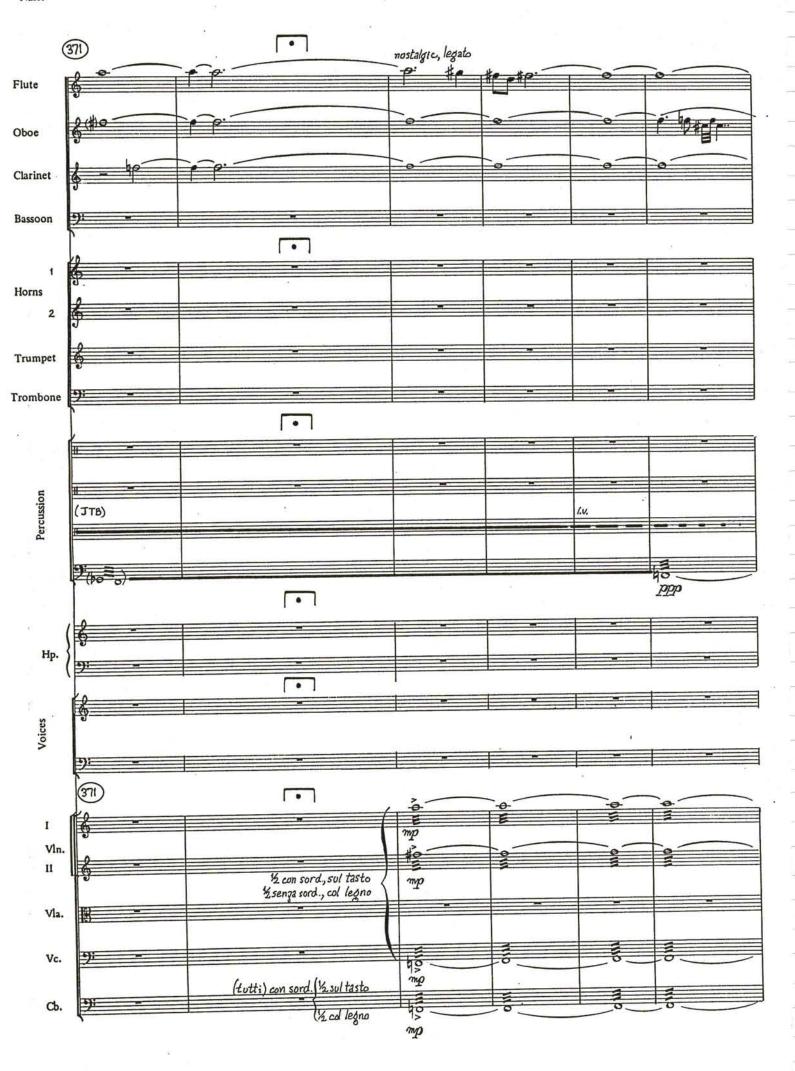
enter irregularly, non-synchronously, becoming faster and more frequent on crescendo, softer and more occassional on decrescendo.

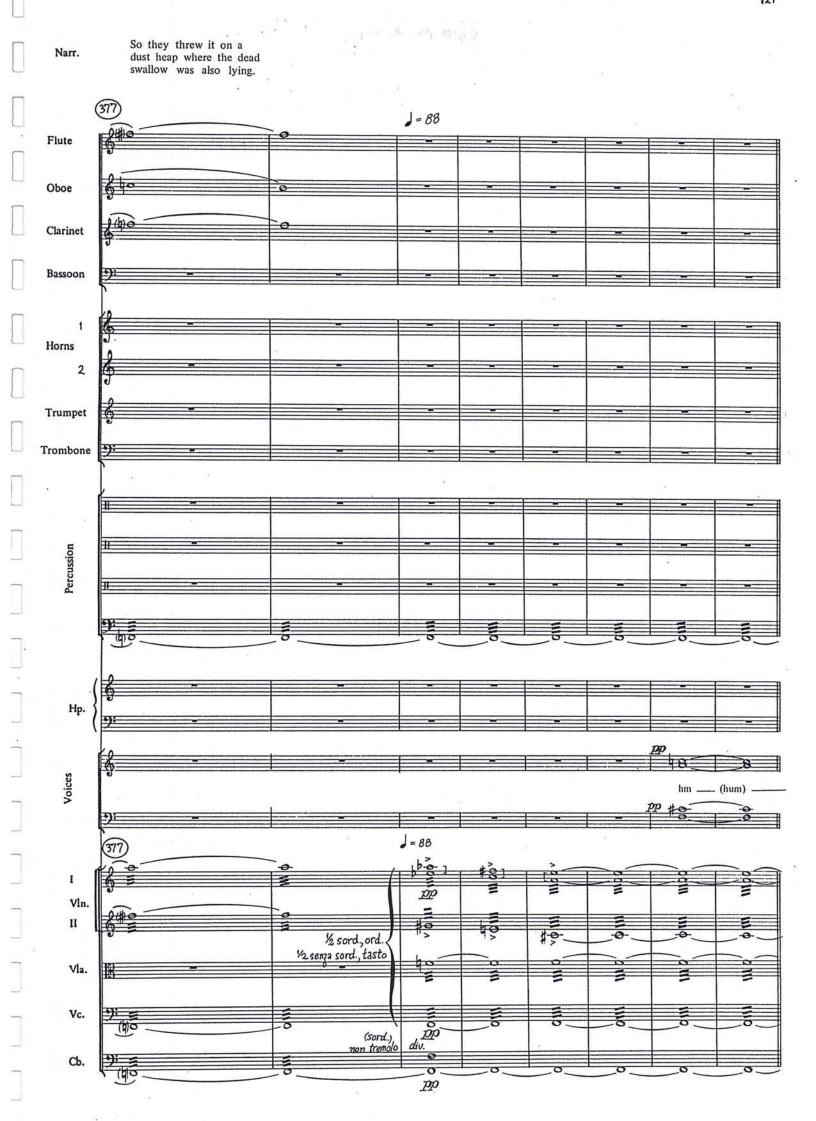




Yet the broken lead heart would not melt in the furnace.

Narr.









I

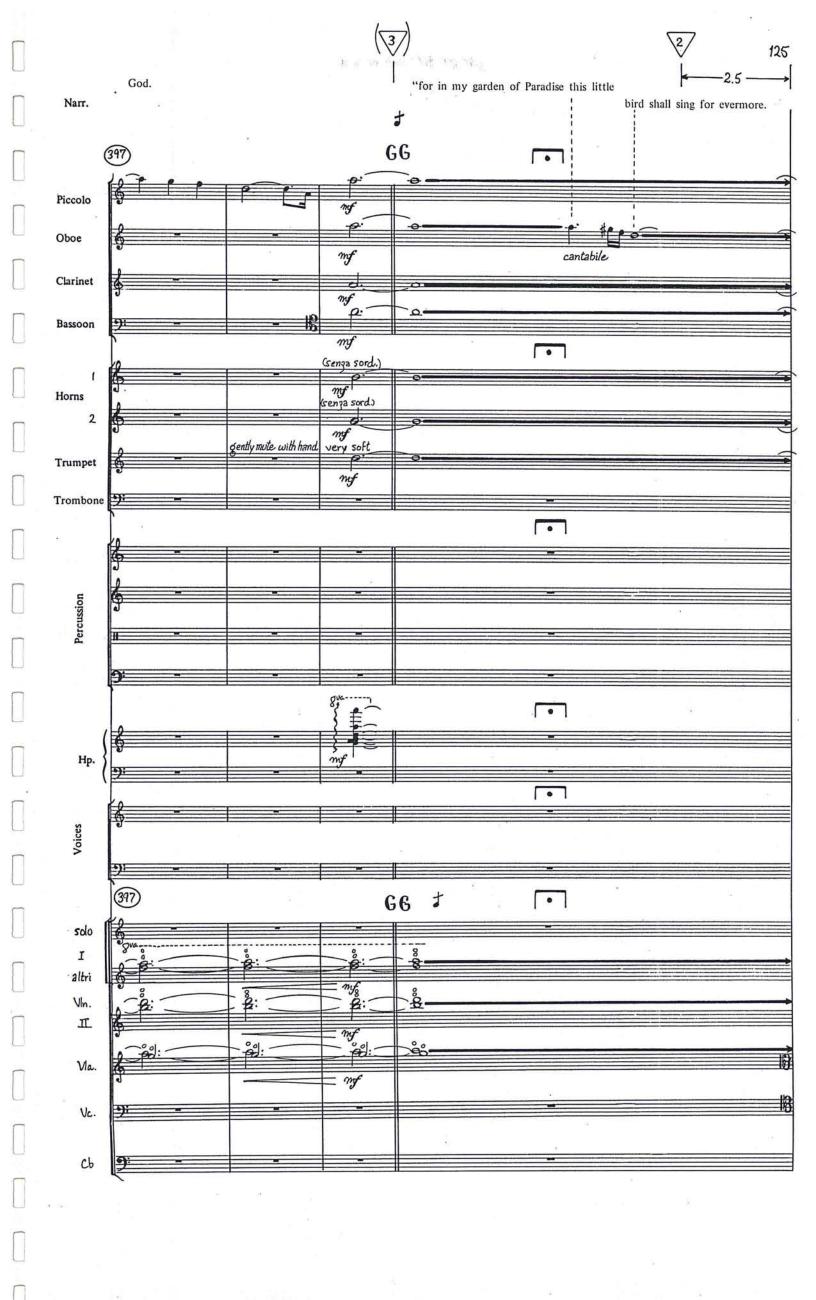
Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

4 ppp

ppp



<u>.</u> 220....





