Orison of Ste Theresa

for SATB choir, string quartet and harp

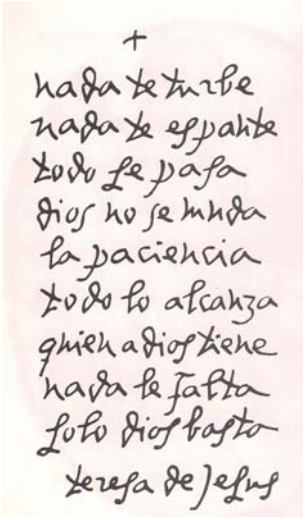
Joelle Wallach

Orison of Ste Theresa

Orison of Ste Theresa is a setting of Longfellow's English translation of a prayer by 16th century mystic, Ste. Theresa of Avila, who believed in the sanctity of simple acts when those acts were imbued with the grace of faith.

The focus of the prayer (or Orison) is faith as consolation, portrayed in the music by the lullaby-like choral lines which gently soothe the quietly gasping sobs of the strings.

A Spanish Carmelite nun, mystic, and Doctor of the Church, best known for her spiritual writings, *The Interior Castle* and *The Way of Perfection*, she also wrote this luminous prayer survives in her own handwritten Spanish as well as in Longfellow's literal yet lyrical translation:



Nada te turbe,
nada te espante,
todo se pasa,
Dios no se muda.
La paciencia todo lo alcanza
quien a Dios tiene
nada le falta:
sólo Dios basta.

Saint Theresa of Avila
(1515-1582)

Let nothing disturb thee,
Nothing affright thee.
All things are passing;
God never changeth;
Patient endurance
Attaineth to all thjings.
Who God possesseth
In nothing.is wanting;
Alone God sufficeth.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
(1807-1882)

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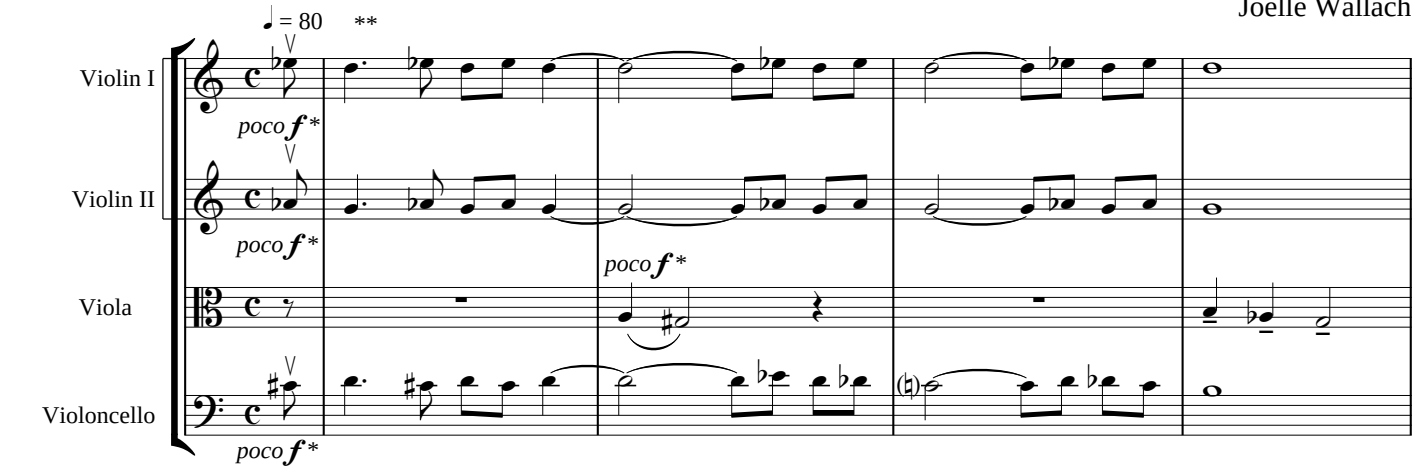
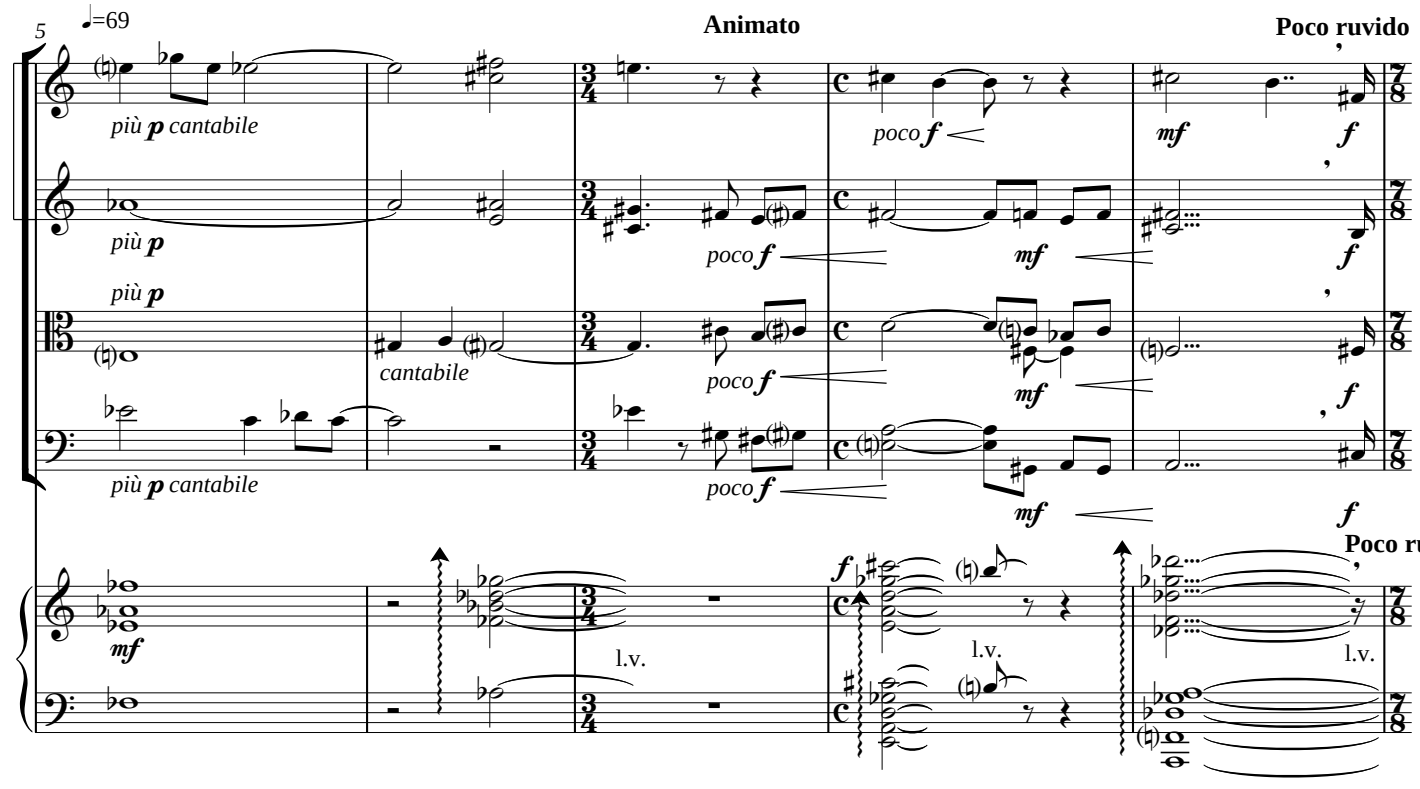


* *poco* ***f*** *is always quieter than* ***mf***

** *second time,* ***p*** *con sord.*

During repeat, strings may either maintain mutes throughout or may remove mutes as follows: Violin I measure 7; Violin II stagger removeal through measures 5-7; Viola measure 1; cello measure 6; contrabass at measure 4. From then on mute as indicated.



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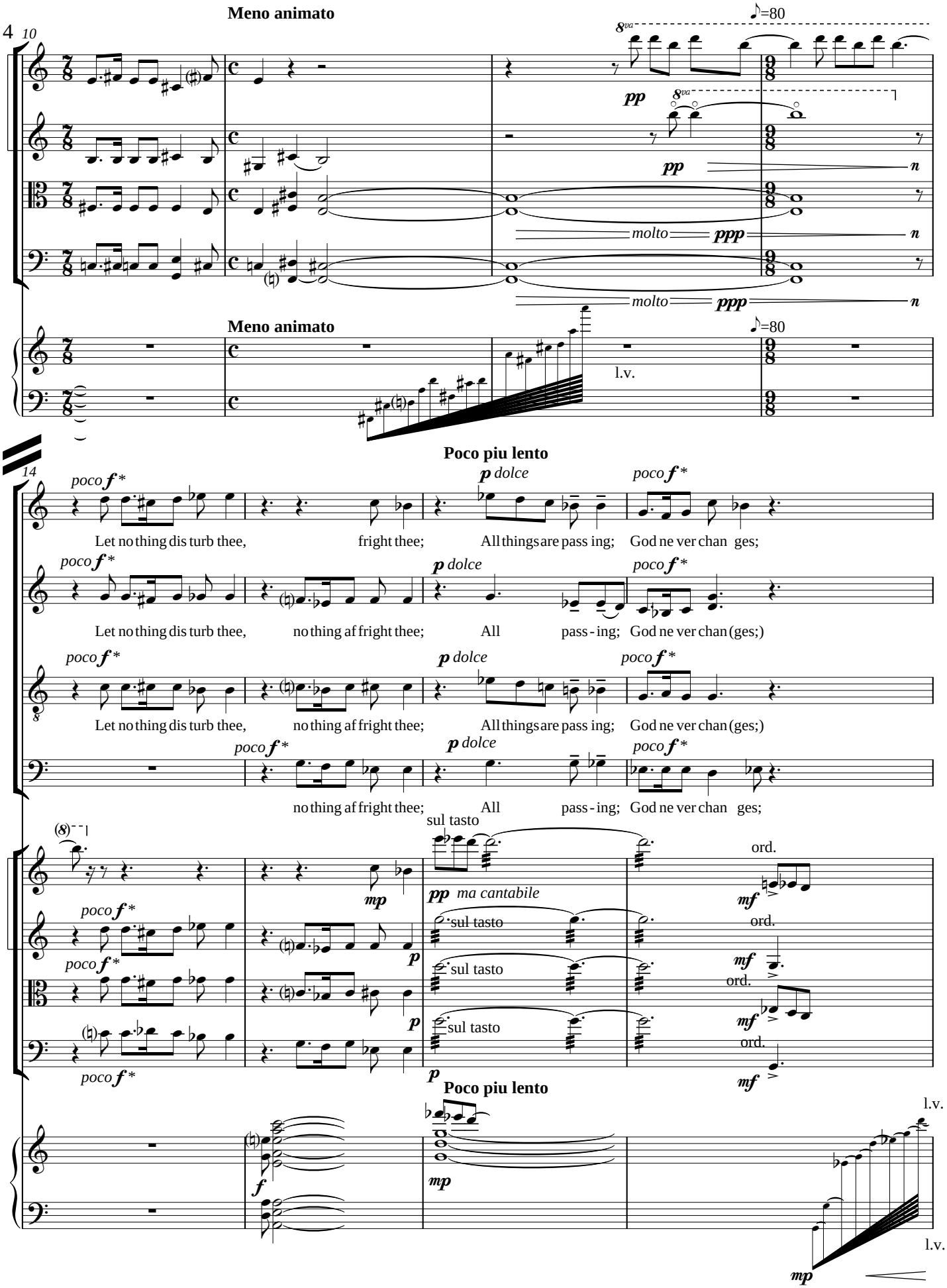
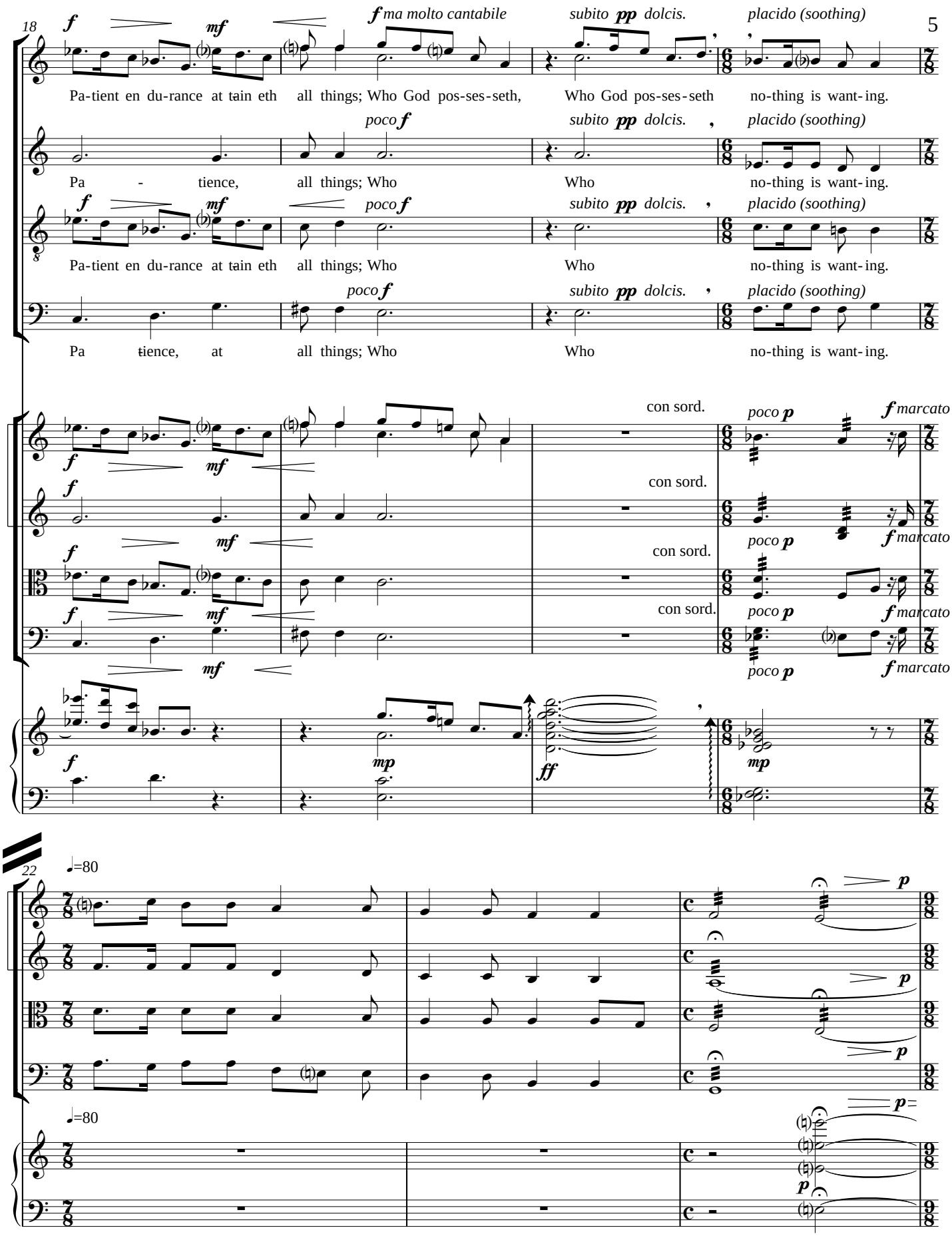
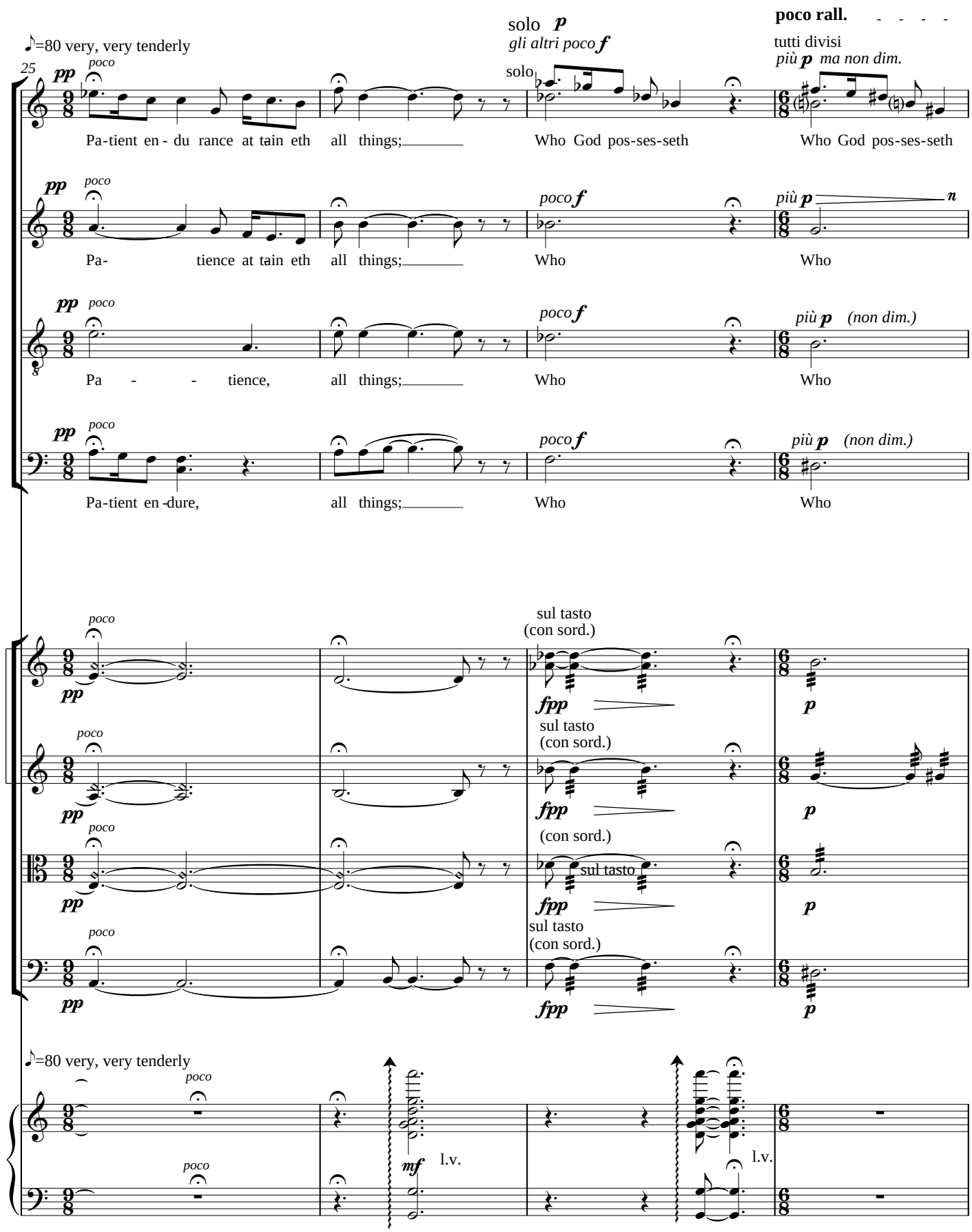
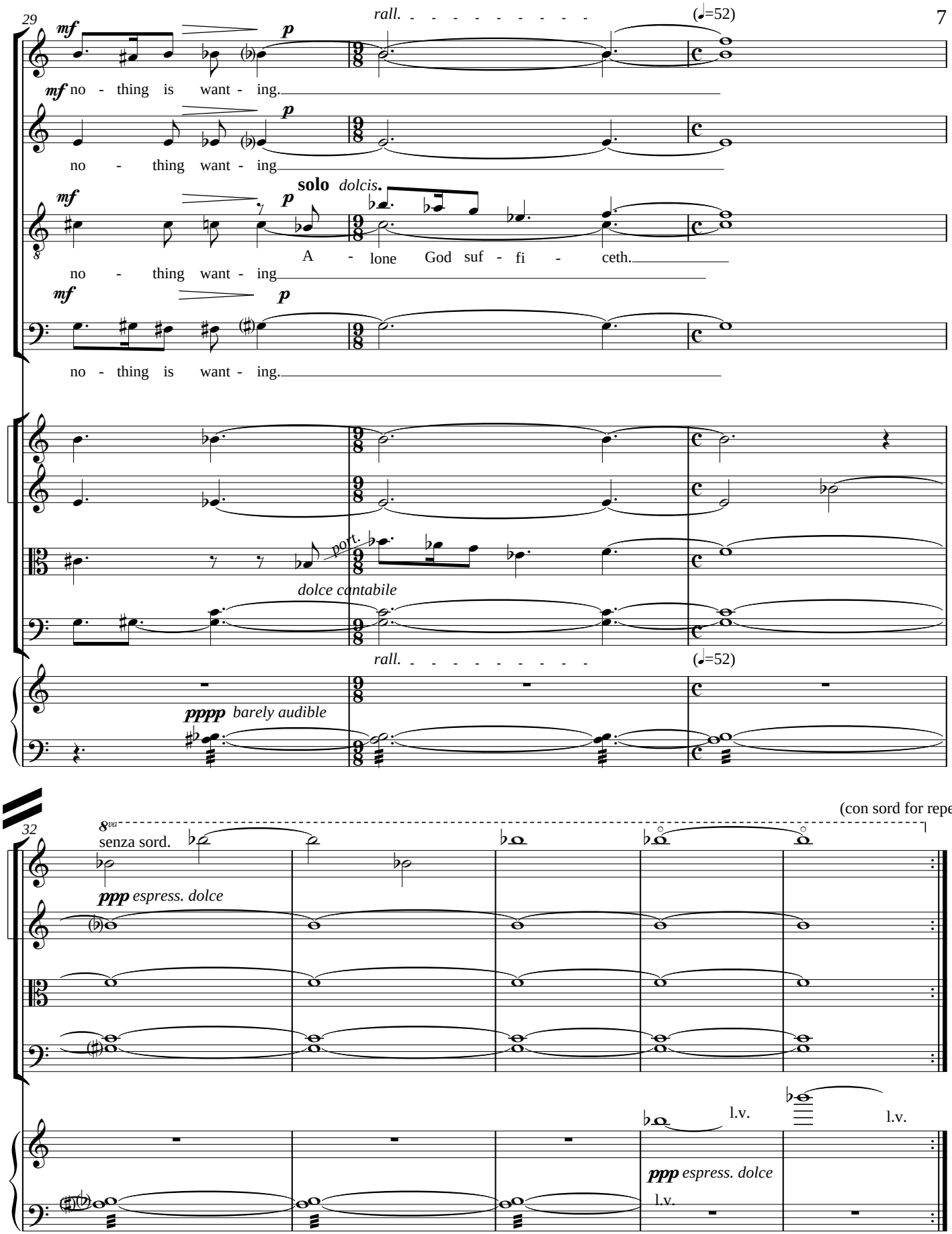
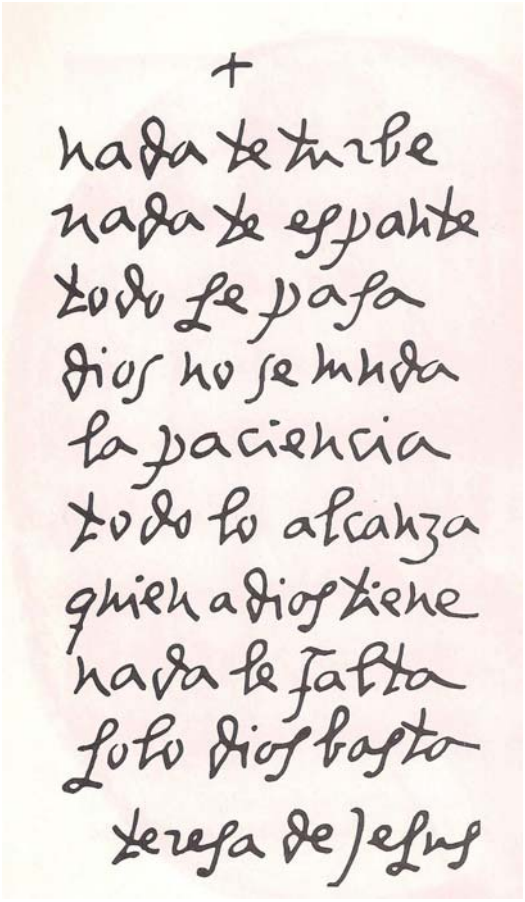

Meno animato
♪=80
8va
pp
molto
ppp
n
l.v.
Poco piu lento
poco f*
p dolce
Let no thing dis turb thee, fright thee; All things are pass ing; God ne ver chan ges;
Let no thing dis turb thee, no thing af fright thee; All pass - ing; God ne ver chan (ges;)
Let no thing dis turb thee, no thing af fright thee; All things are pass ing; God ne ver chan (ges;)
no thing af fright thee; All pass - ing; God ne ver chan ges;
sul tasto
ord.
mp
pp ma cantabile
mf
p
f


18
f
mf
f ma molto cantabile
subito pp dolcis.
placido (soothing)
Pa-tient en du-rance at tain eth all things; Who God pos-ses-seth, Who God pos-ses-seth no-thing is want-ing.
poco f
Pa - tience, all things; Who Who no-thing is want-ing.
Pa-tient en du-rance at tain eth all things; Who Who no-thing is want-ing.
Pa tience, at all things; Who Who no-thing is want-ing.
con sord.
poco p
f marcato
mp
ff
22
♩=80
p


♪=80 very, very tenderly
25
poco
pp
Pa-tient en - du rance at tain eth all things;
solo p
gli altri poco f
solo
Who God pos-ses-seth
poco rall.
tutti divisi
più p ma non dim.
Who God pos-ses-seth
Pa- tience at tain eth all things;
poco f
Who
più p
n
Who
Pa - - tience, all things;
(non dim.)
Pa-tient en-dure, all things;
sul tasto
(con sord.)
fpp
p
sul tasto
(con sord.)
sul tasto
sul tasto
(con sord.)
♪=80 very, very tenderly
mf
l.v.
l.v.


29
rall.
(𝅗𝅥=52)
mf
p
mf no - thing is want - ing.
no - thing want - ing
solo dolcis.
A - lone God suf - fi - ceth.
no - thing want - ing
no - thing is want - ing.
port.
dolce cantabile
pppp barely audible
32
8va
senza sord.
ppp espress. dolce
(con sord for repeat.)
l.v.
ppp espress. dolce



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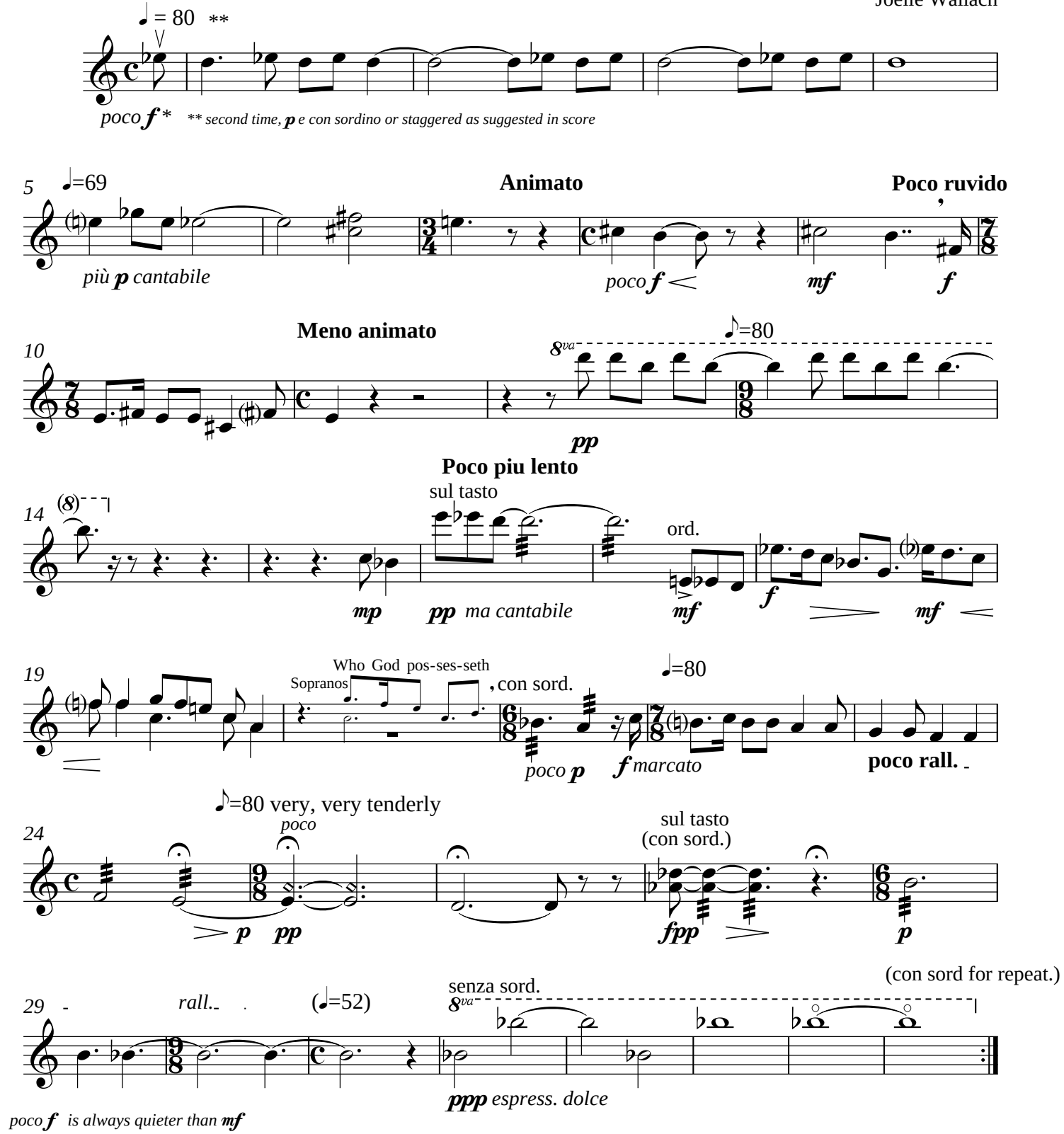
Violin I

Orison of Ste Theresa

for SATB choir, string quartet and harp

Santa Theresa d'Avila (1515-1581)
translated by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Joelle Wallach



* *poco* ***f*** *is always quieter than* ***mf***

** *second time,* ***p*** *e con sordino or staggered as suggested in score.*

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Violin II

Orison of Ste Theresa

for SATB choir, string quartet and harp

Santa Theresa d'Avila (1515-1581)
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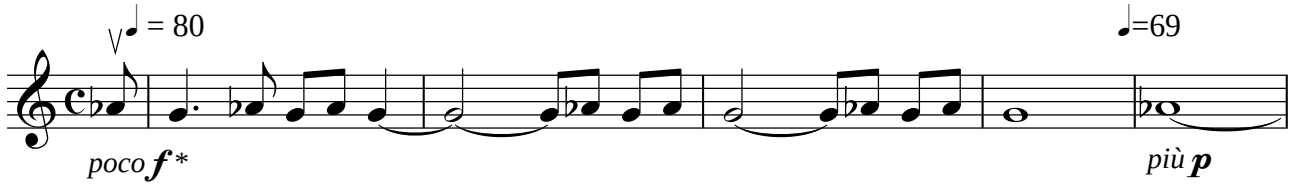
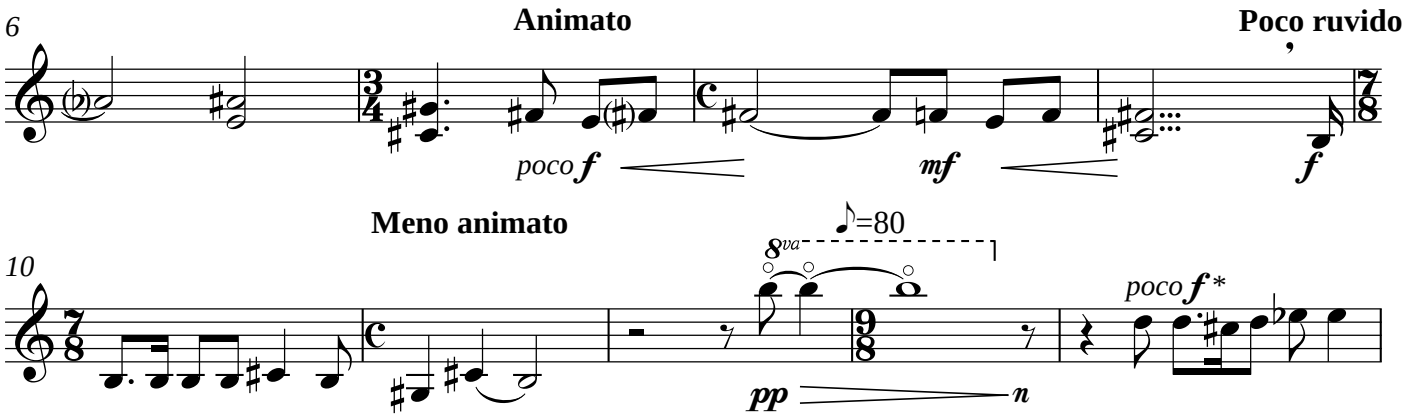
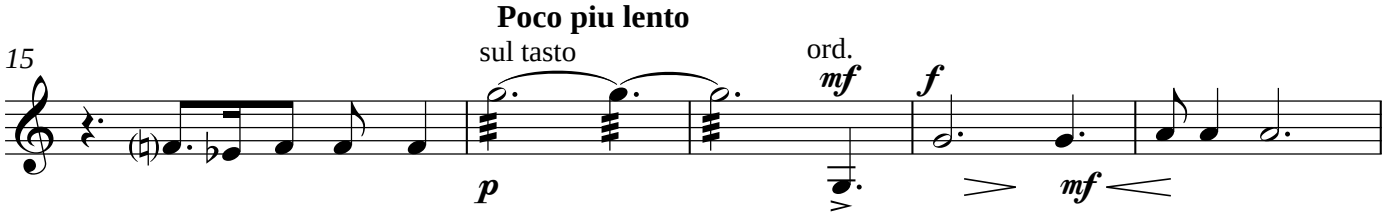
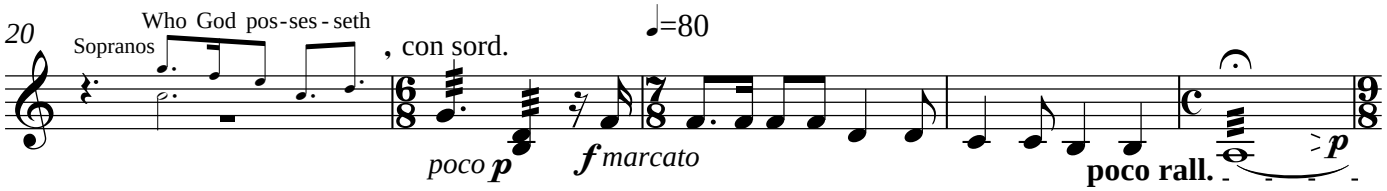
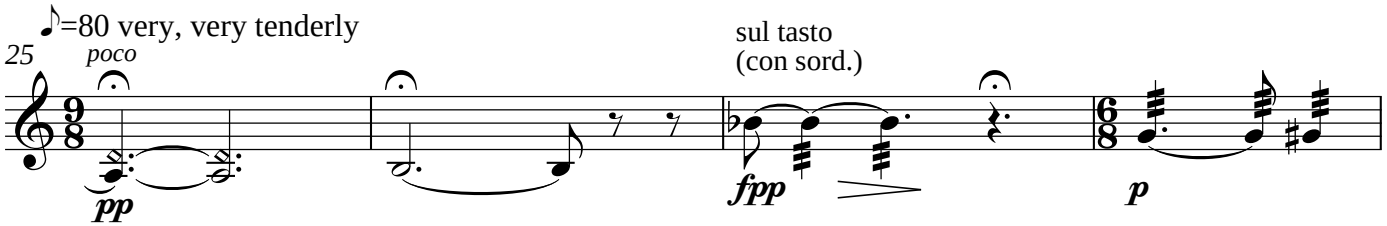


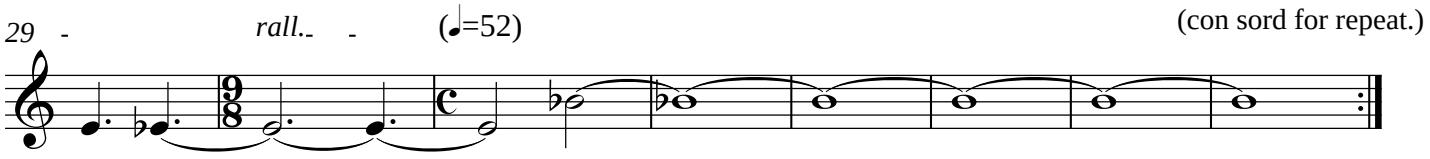
* *poco* ***f*** *is always quieter than* ***mf***
** *second time,* ***p*** *e con sordino or staggered as suggested in score*











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Orison of Ste Theresa

Viola

for SATB choir, string quartet and harp

Santa Theresa d'Avila (1515-1581)
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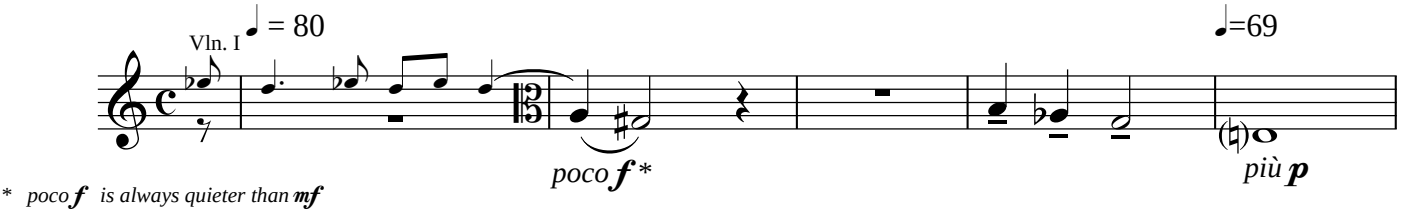
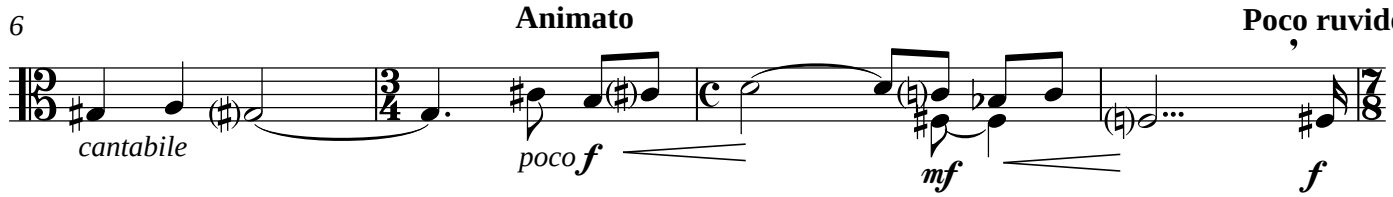
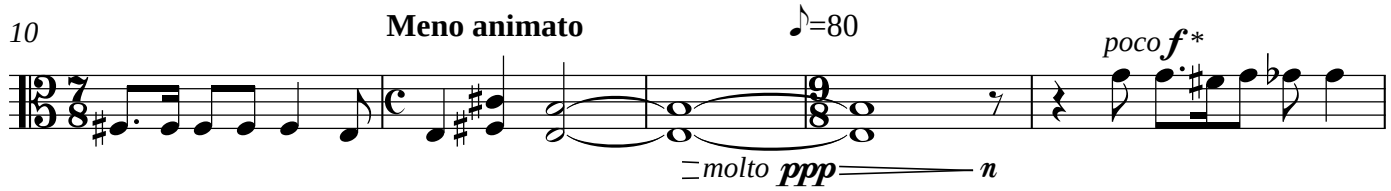
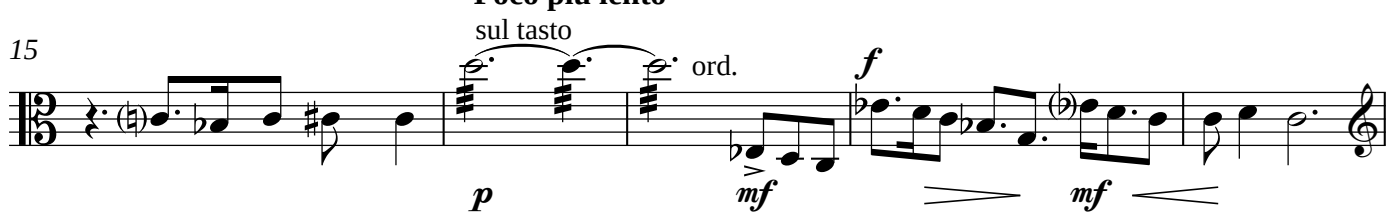
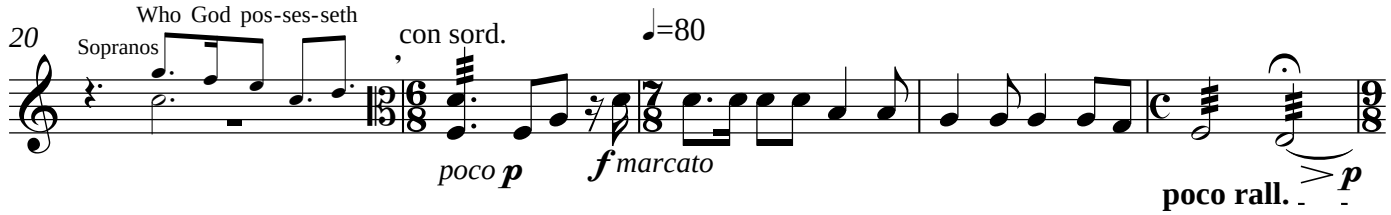


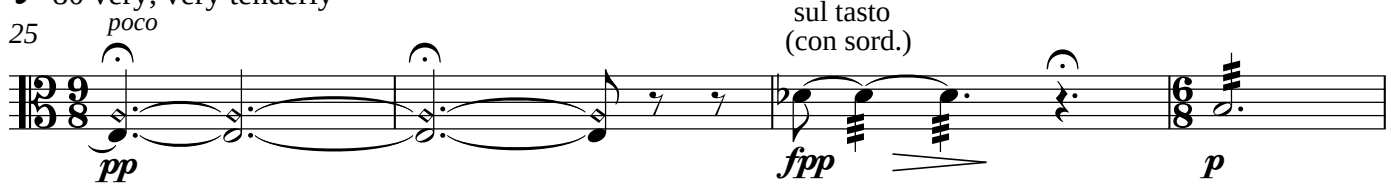
* *poco* ***f*** *is always quieter than* ***mf***
** *second time,* ***p*** *e con sordino or staggered as suggested in score*



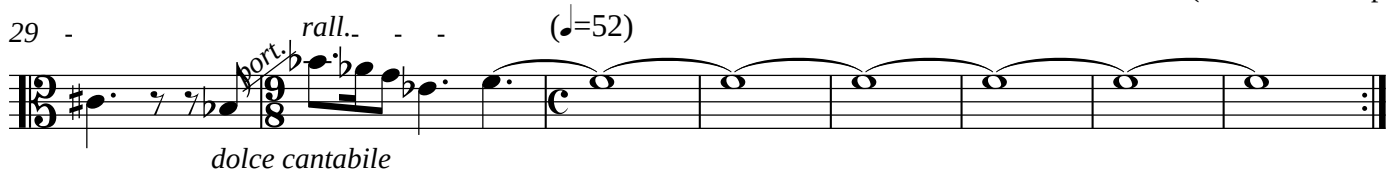








(con sord for repeat.)



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Orison of Ste Theresa

Violoncello

for SATB choir, string quartet and harp

Santa Theresa d'Avila (1515-1581)
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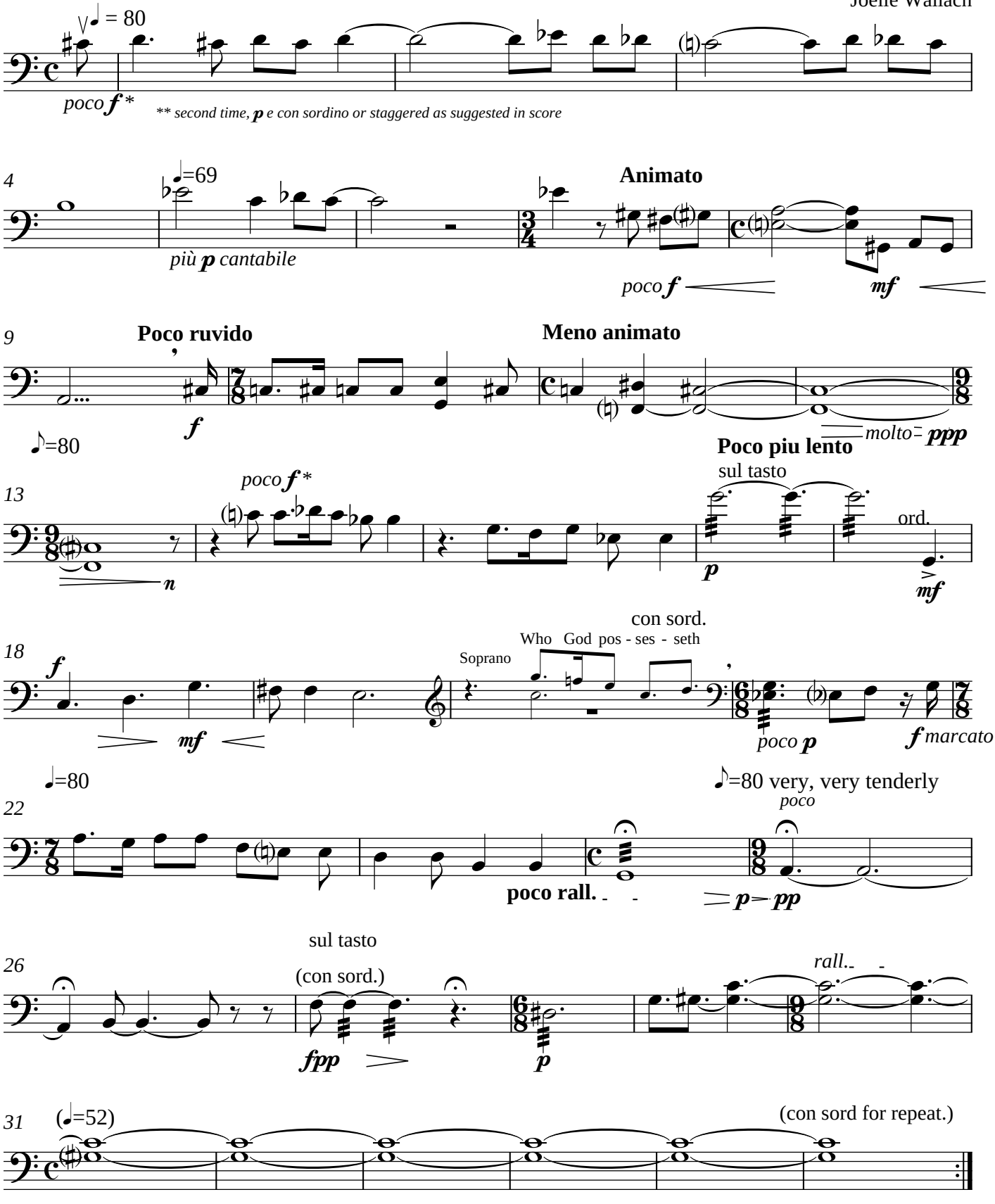

* poco f is always quieter than mf
** second time, p e con sordino or staggered as suggested in score

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Orison of Ste Theresa

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Santa Theresa d'Avila (1515-1581)
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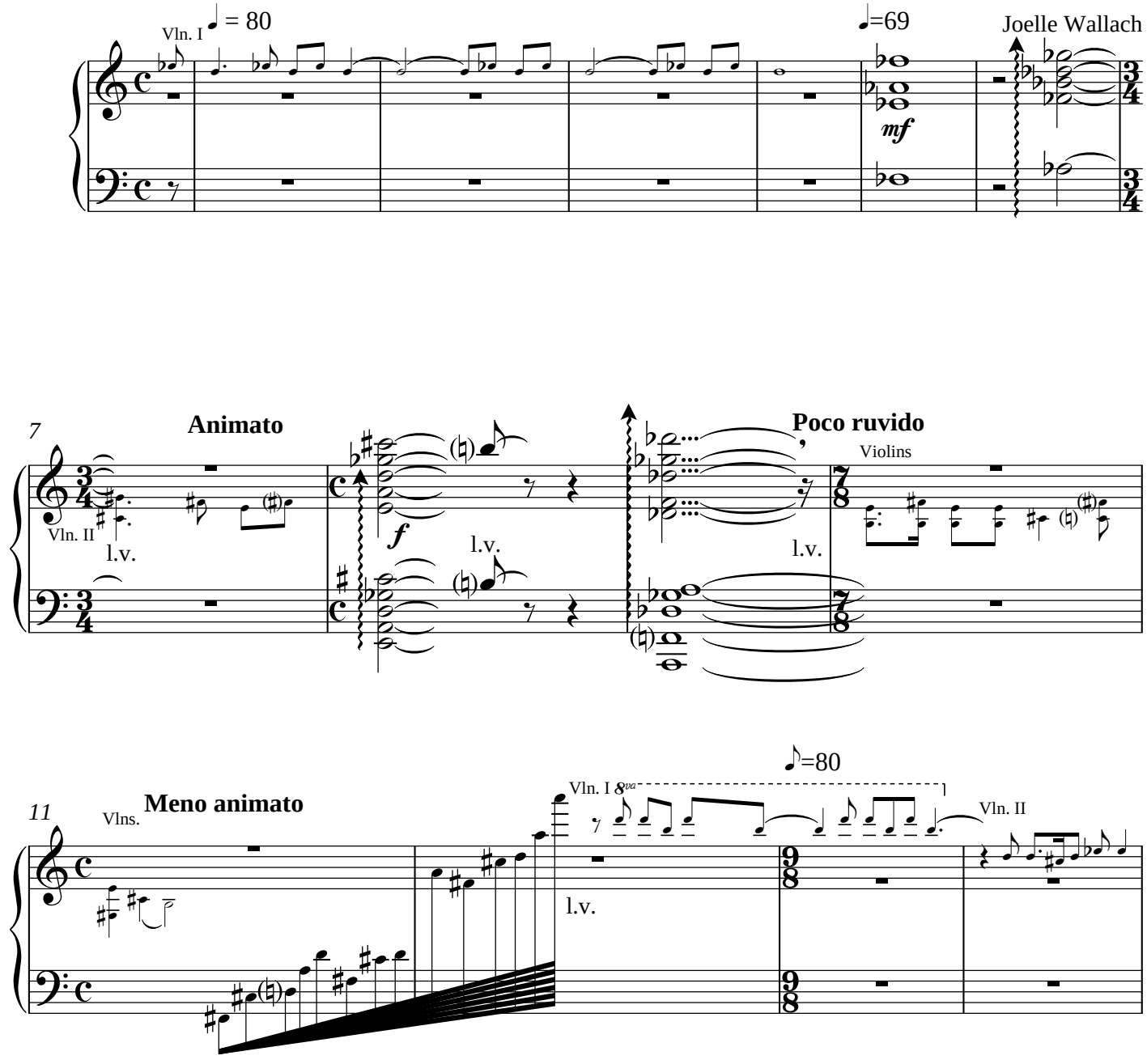

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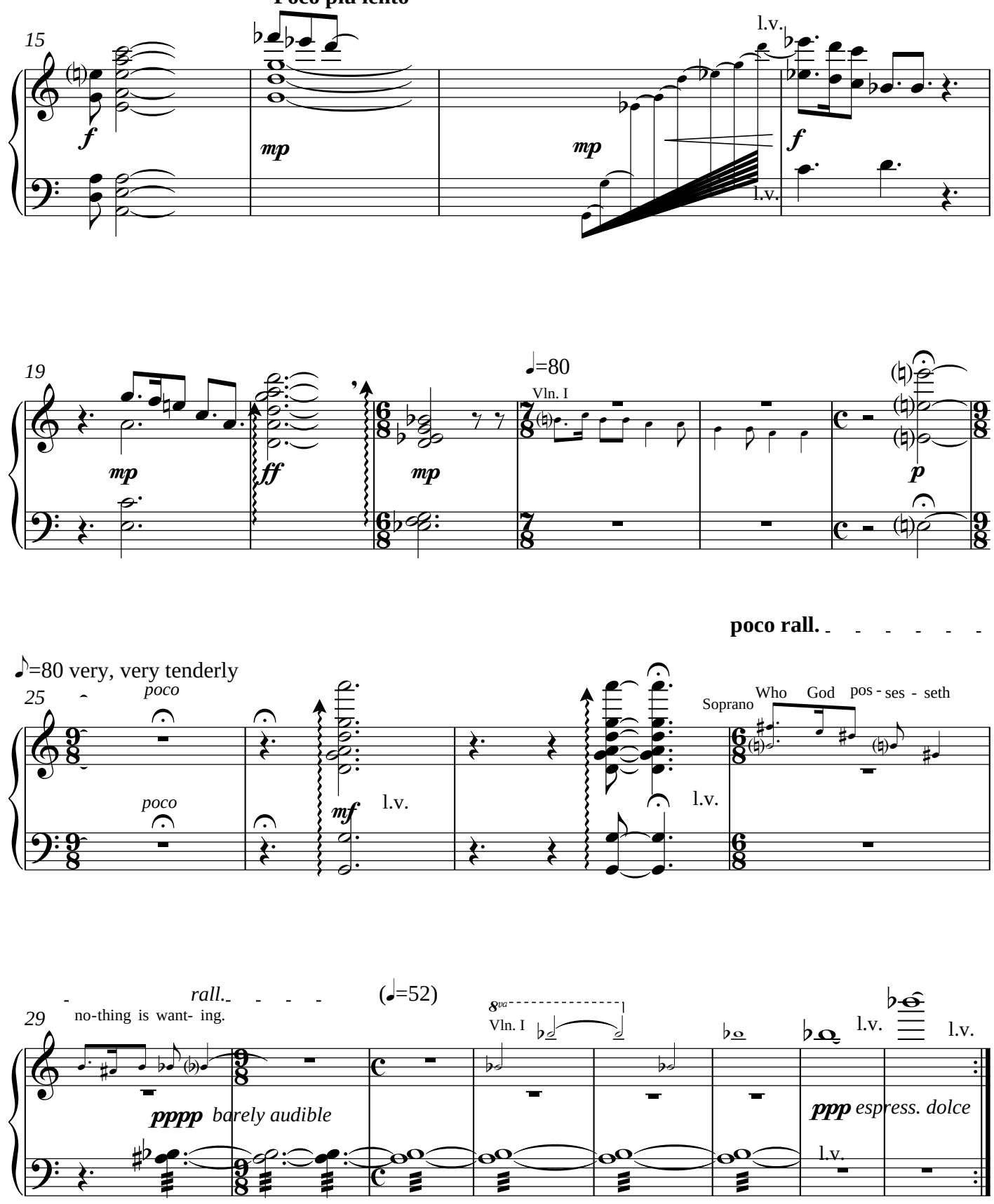
Poco piu lento
15
f
mp
mp
l.v.
f
l.v.
19
mp
ff
mp
♩=80
Vln. I
p
poco rall.
♪=80 very, very tenderly
25
poco
poco
mf
l.v.
l.v.
Soprano
Who God pos - ses - seth
rall.
(♩=52)
29
no-thing is want- ing.
8va
Vln. I
l.v.
l.v.
pppp barely audible
ppp espress. dolce
l.v.