HOWARD HANSON

SONATA IN A MINOR

FOR PIANO, OP. 11 (1918)

CARL FISCHER®

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ABOUT THE SONATA IN A MINOR

Most listings of Howard Hanson's works include a reference to a "Piano Sonata, Opus 11" written in 1918. However, only incomplete versions of the manuscript were known to exist, so the work had been essentially unknown to the world for nearly eighty years.

In 2007, the Eastman School of Music acquired a manuscript of the Piano Sonata that had been in private hands since Mrs. Hanson's death in 1996. The manuscript, entitled by Hanson "Pianoforte Sonata in A minor, Opus 11 (1918)," was complete, and Carl Fischer Music set out to make this edition available to the general public.

The manuscript seems to be a copy that he took with him to Rome in 1921 when he began his three-year fellowship at the American Academy in Rome. In addition, the manuscript indicated the titles of the movement in Italian and included a prefatory note about how the composer, the piece and its movements should be listed.

Hanson provided an interesting note on the first page of the manuscript regarding the third movement:

> It is possible and—to me—desirable to omit the last movement entirely as the first two are in perfect harmony and the third is unnecessary and even anti-climactic. I have lately always omitted it myself and the work is big enough without it. However, this is of course at the artist's discretion.
>
> —Howard Hanson

Before anyone might consider that the third movement, *Triumphal Ode*, is weaker music, take into account the fact that Hanson made an arrangement of the movement for concert band. In fact, *Triumphal Ode* is considered the first symphonic-type composition for band by an American composer. More information on the band arrangement may be found in a wonderfully written essay by James C. Ripley, the editor of the Carl Fischer Music publication (catalog number J760), which was released in 2008.

Carl Fischer Music is honored to add the Sonata for Piano (and the *Triumphal Ode*) to the body of Howard Hanson's work and hopefully to add to the knowledge of this seminal American composer.

—The Publisher

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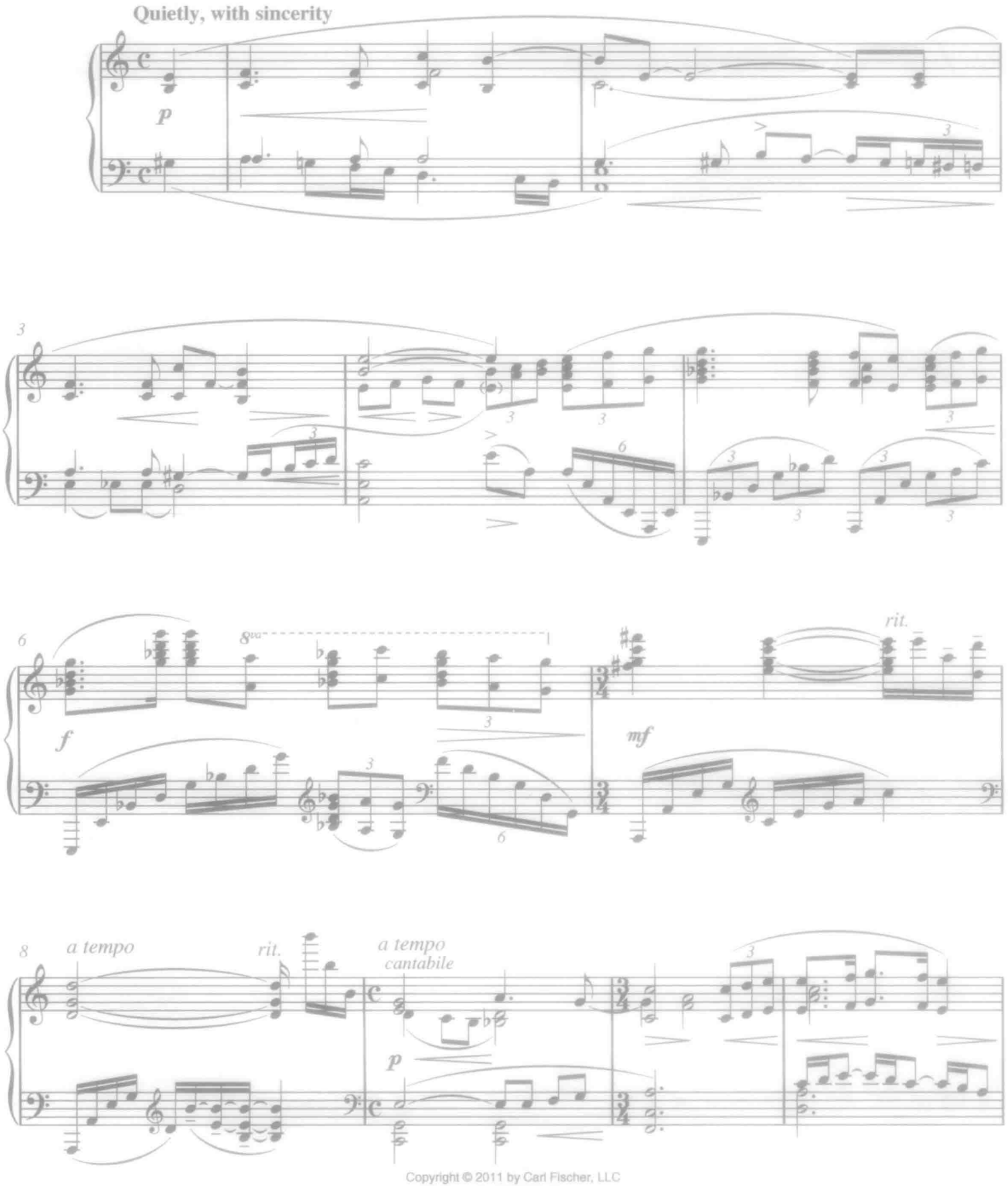
SONATA IN A MINOR
for Piano, Op. 11 (1918)

1. Andante espressivo

HOWARD HANSON
(1896–1981)



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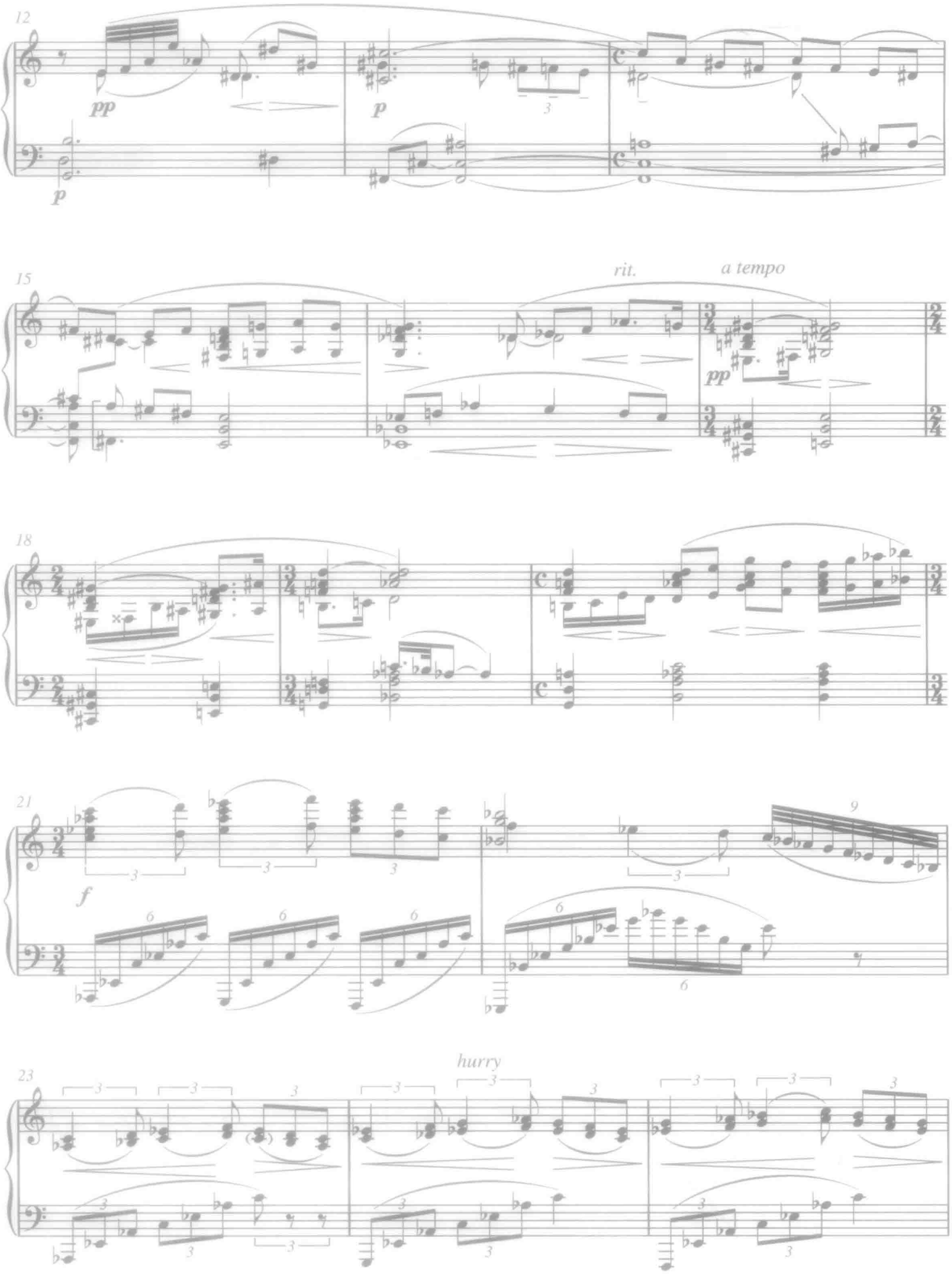
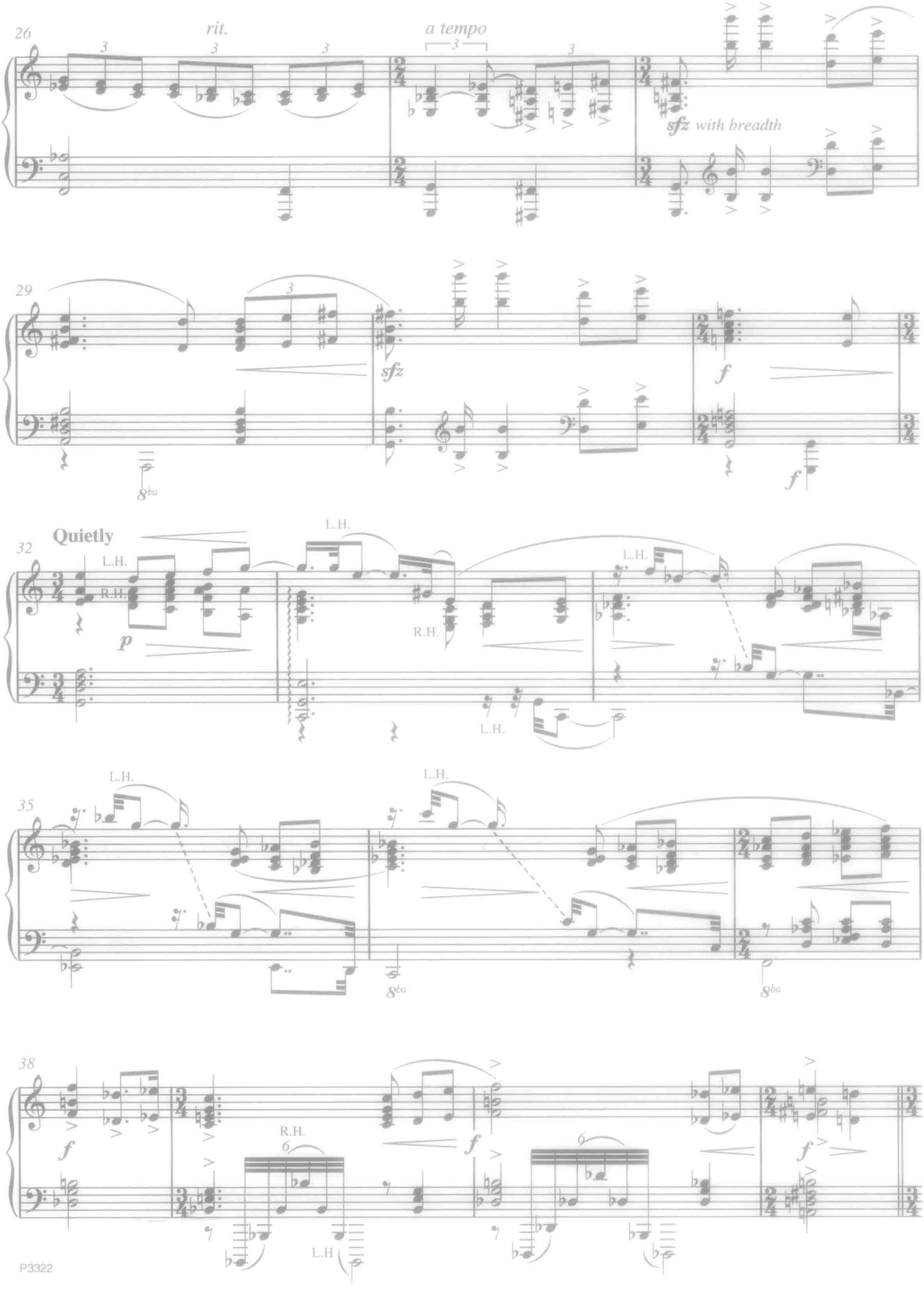
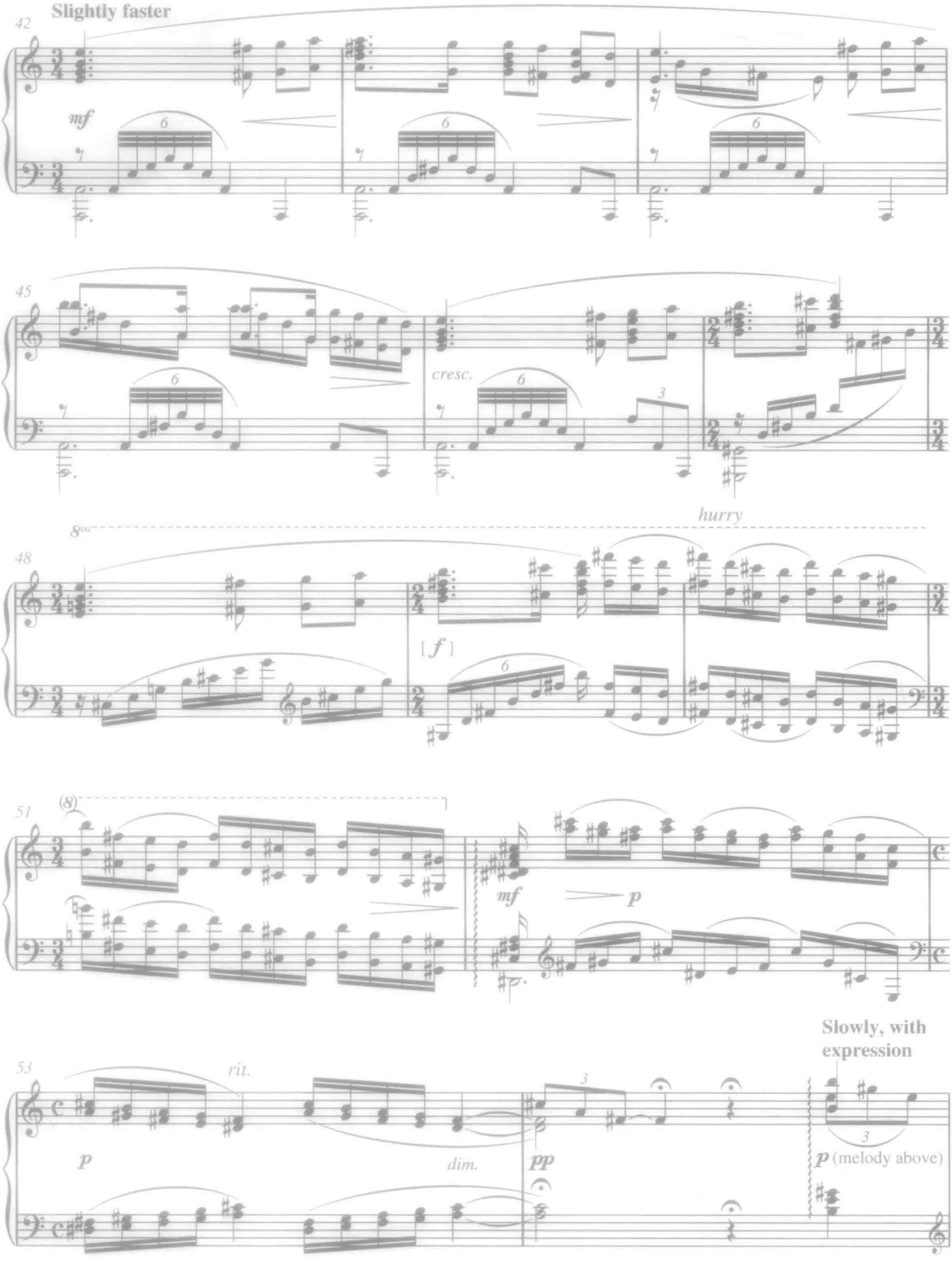
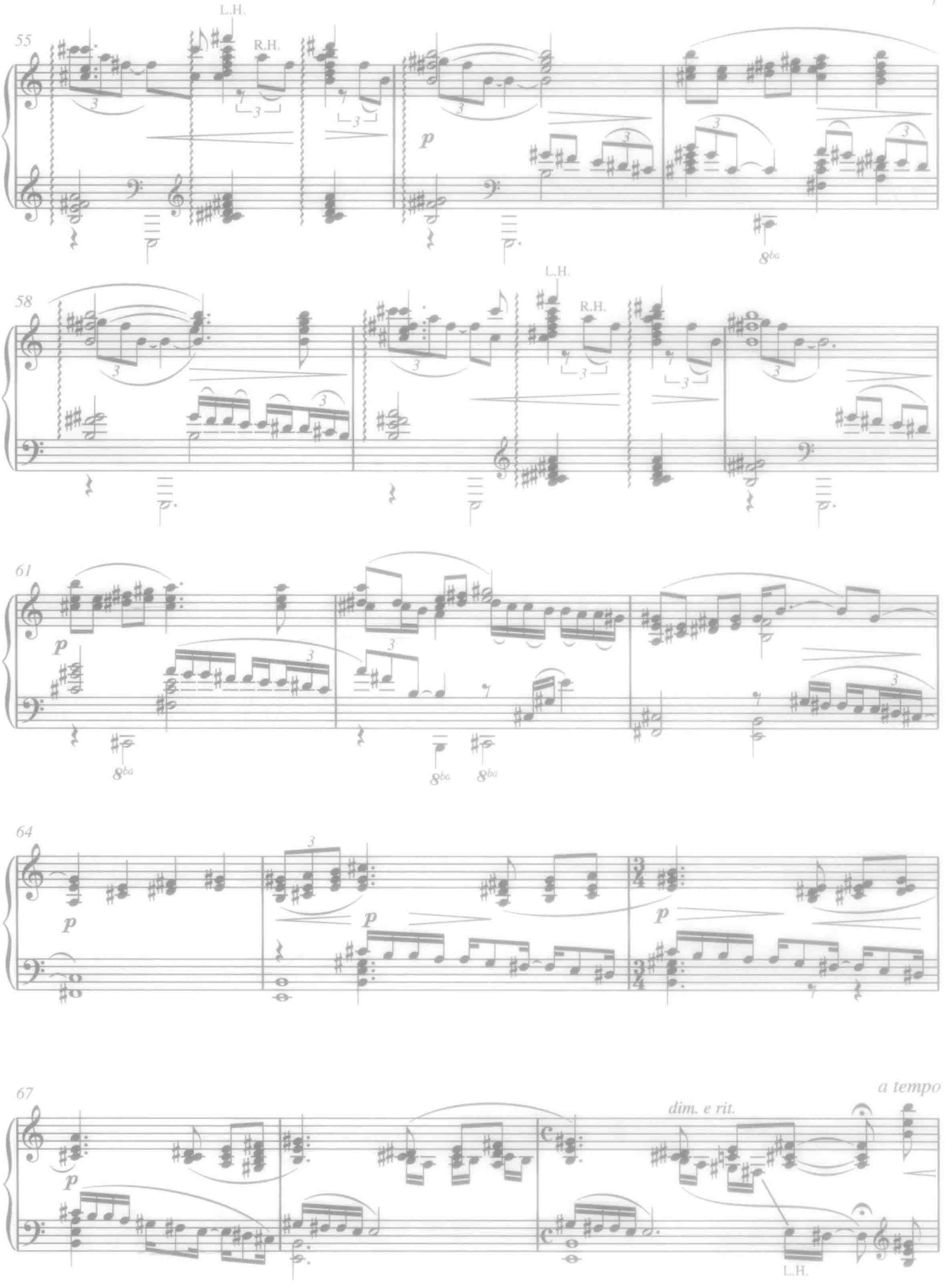
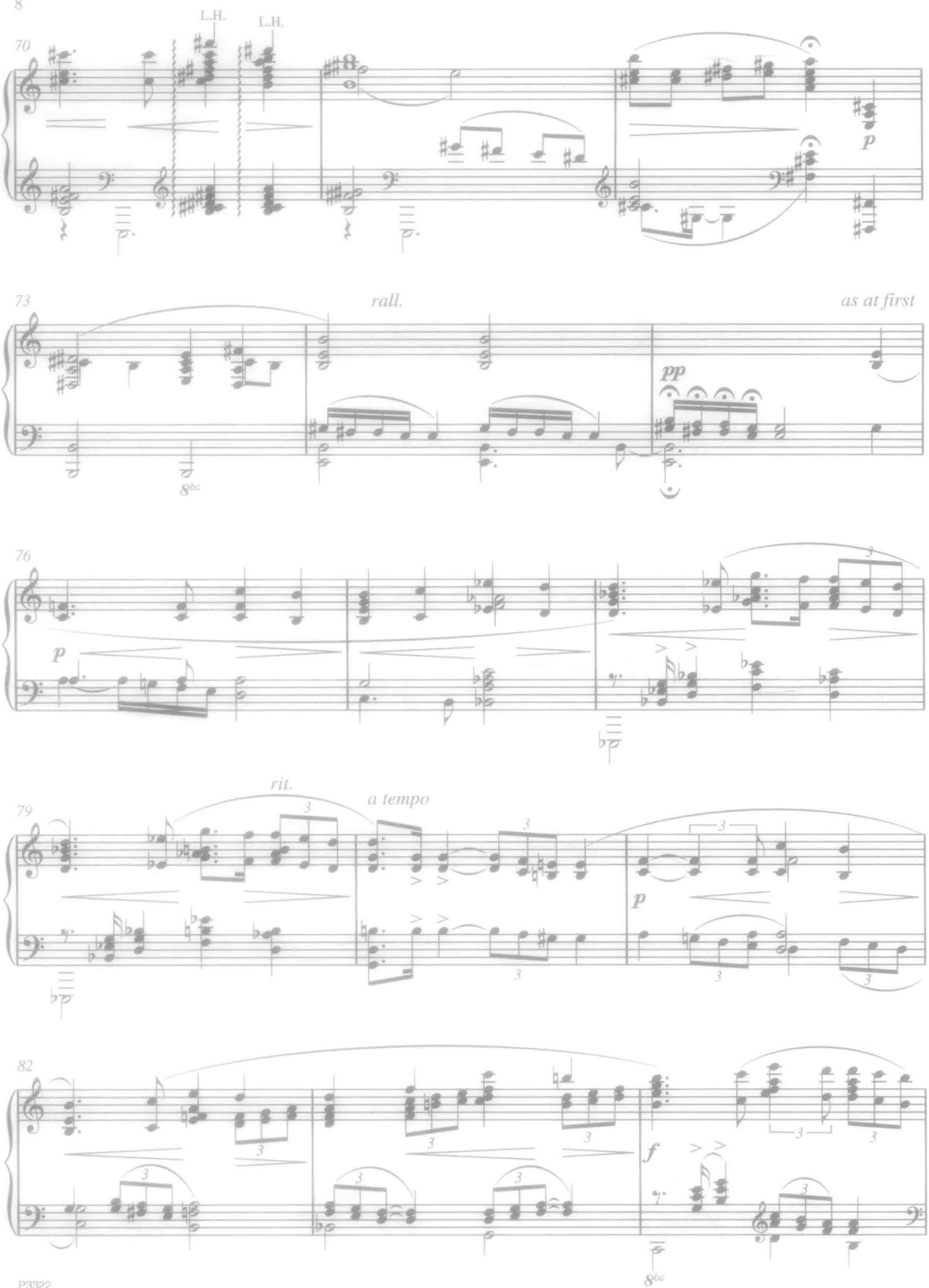

12
pp
p
p
15
rit.
a tempo
pp
18
21
f
9
23
hurry


26
rit.
a tempo
sfz with breadth
29
sfz
f
f
8ba
32
Quietly
L.H.
R.H.
p
L.H.
R.H.
L.H.
L.H.
35
L.H.
L.H.
8ba
8ba
38
f
R.H.
6
L.H
f
6
f


Slightly faster
42
mf
45
cresc.
hurry
48
[f]
51
mf
p
Slowly, with expression
53
rit.
p
dim.
pp
p (melody above)


55
L.H.
R.H.
p
8ba
58
L.H.
R.H.
61
p
8ba
8ba
8ba
64
p
p
p
67
a tempo
dim. e rit.
p
L.H.



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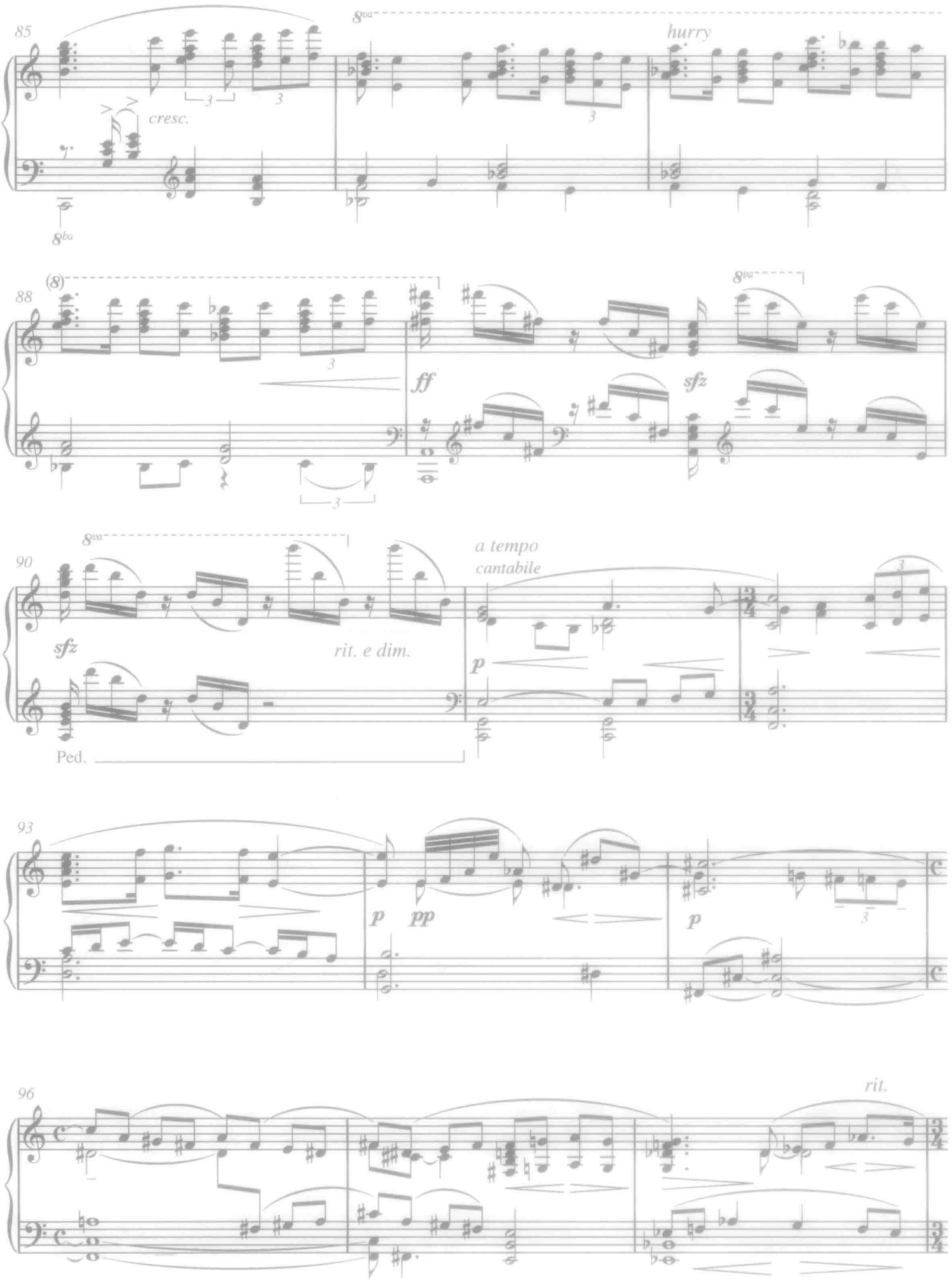
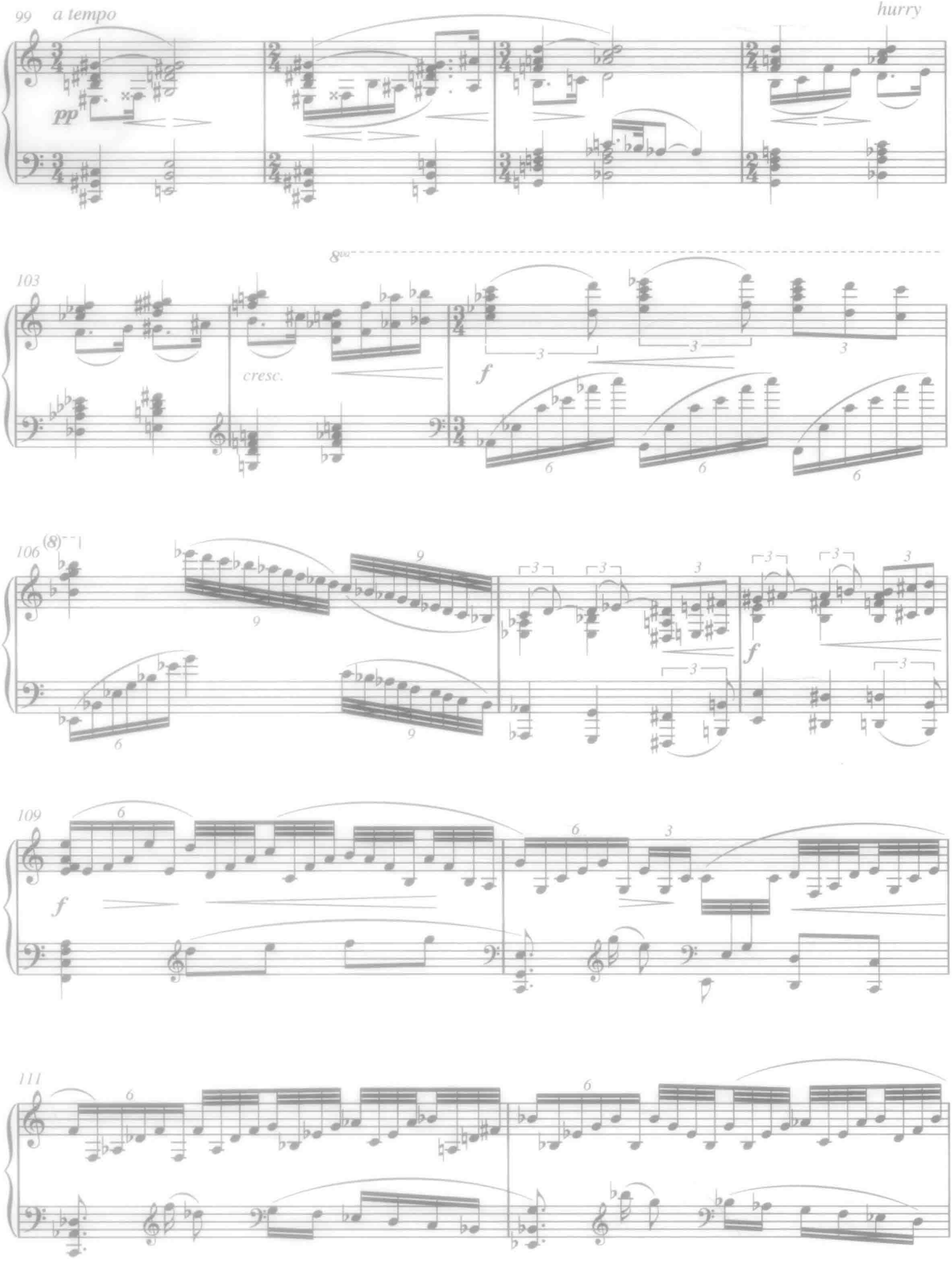
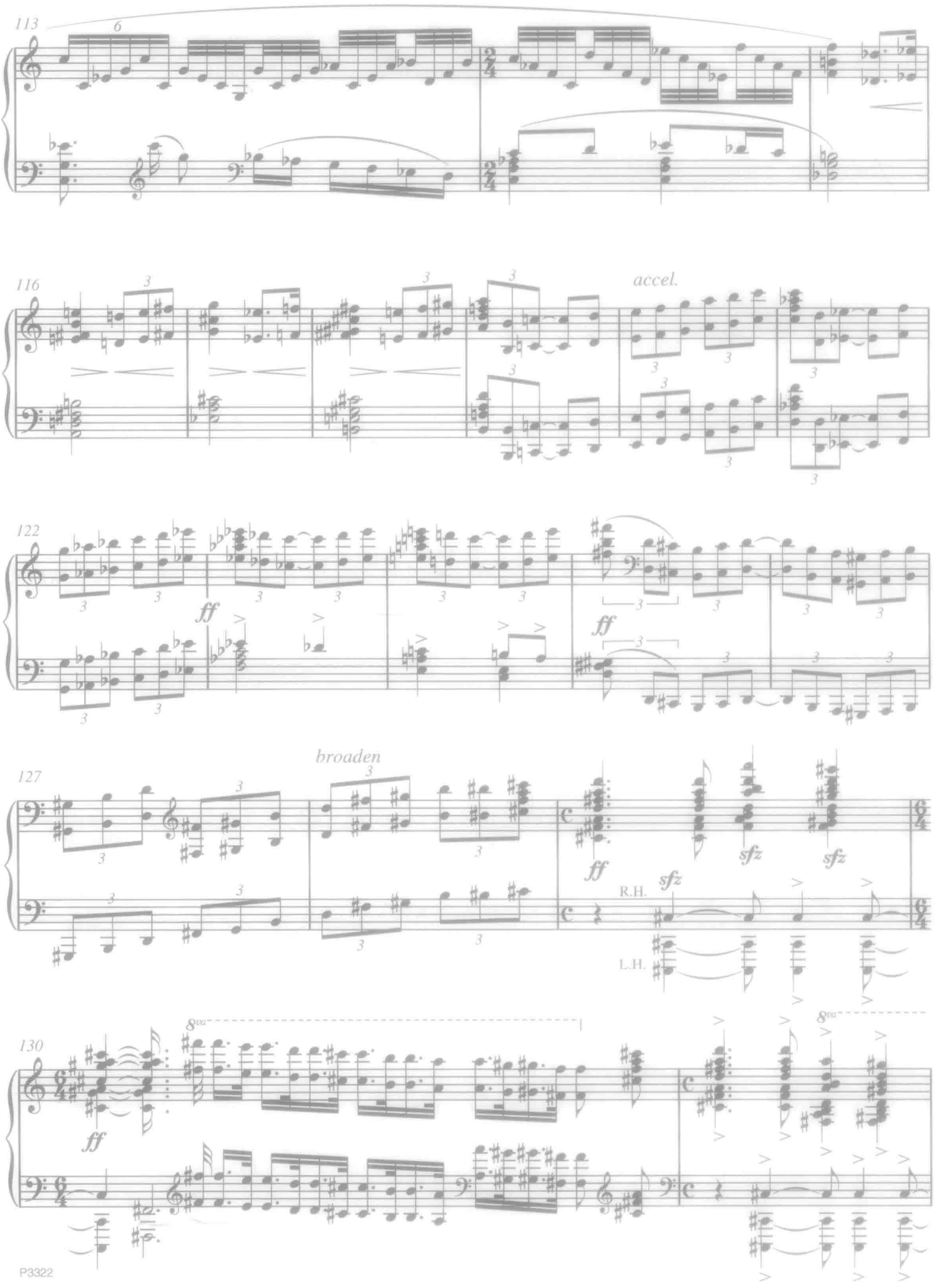
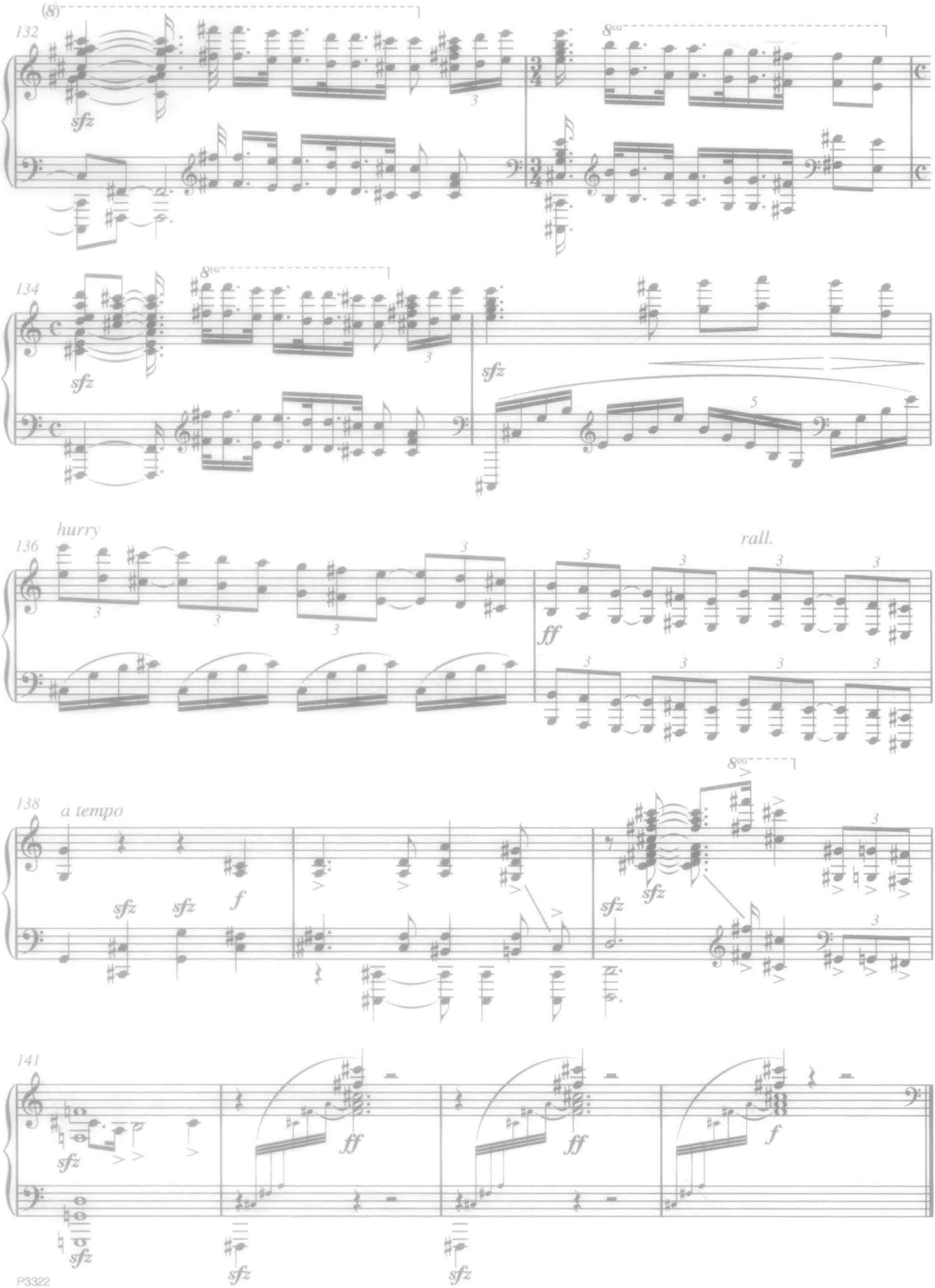

85
8va
hurry
cresc.
8ba
88
(8)
8va
ff
sfz
90
8va
a tempo
cantabile
sfz
rit. e dim.
p
Ped.
93
p
pp
p
96
rit.

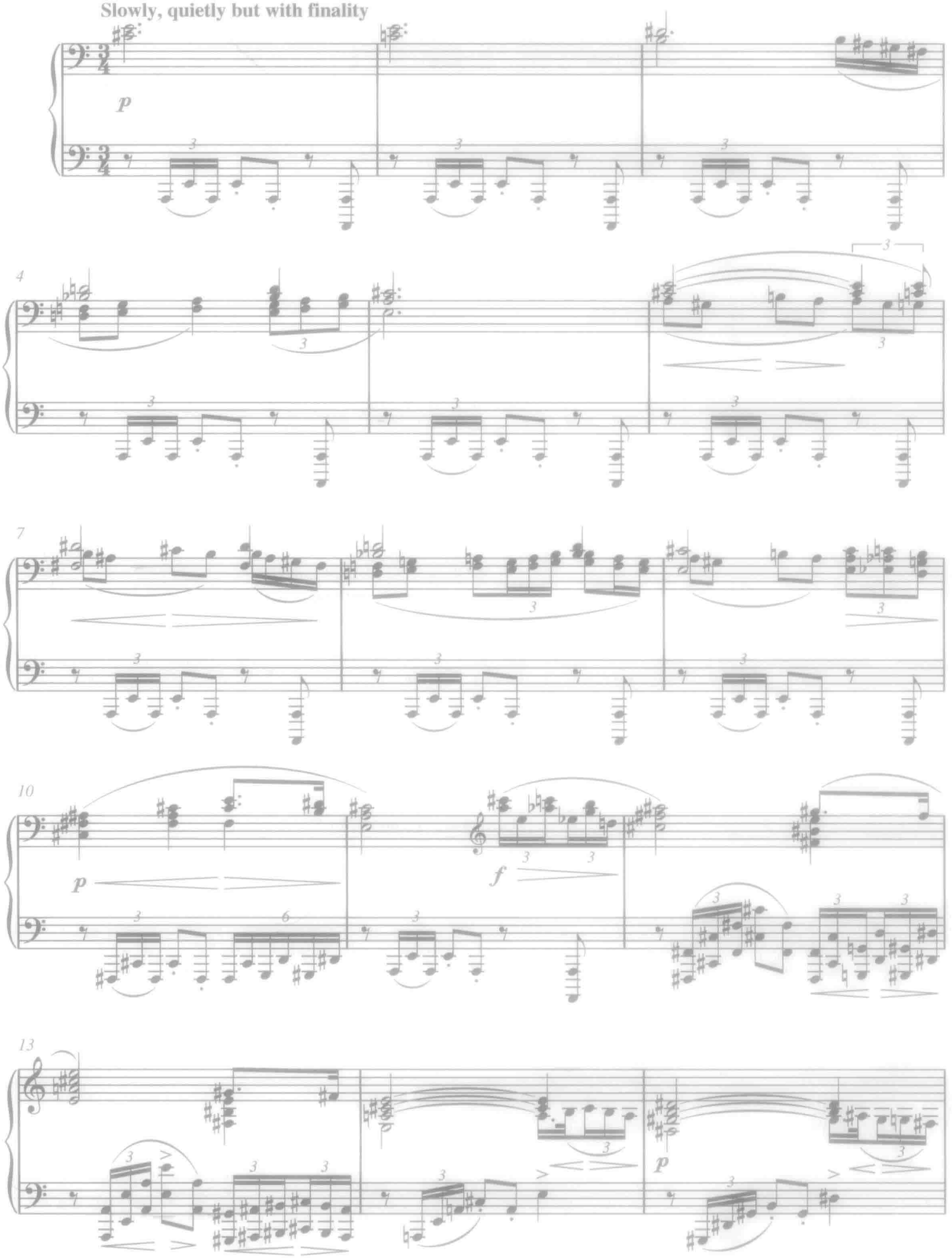

99
a tempo
hurry
pp
103
8va
cresc.
f
106
(8)
9
f
109
6
3
f
111
6
6

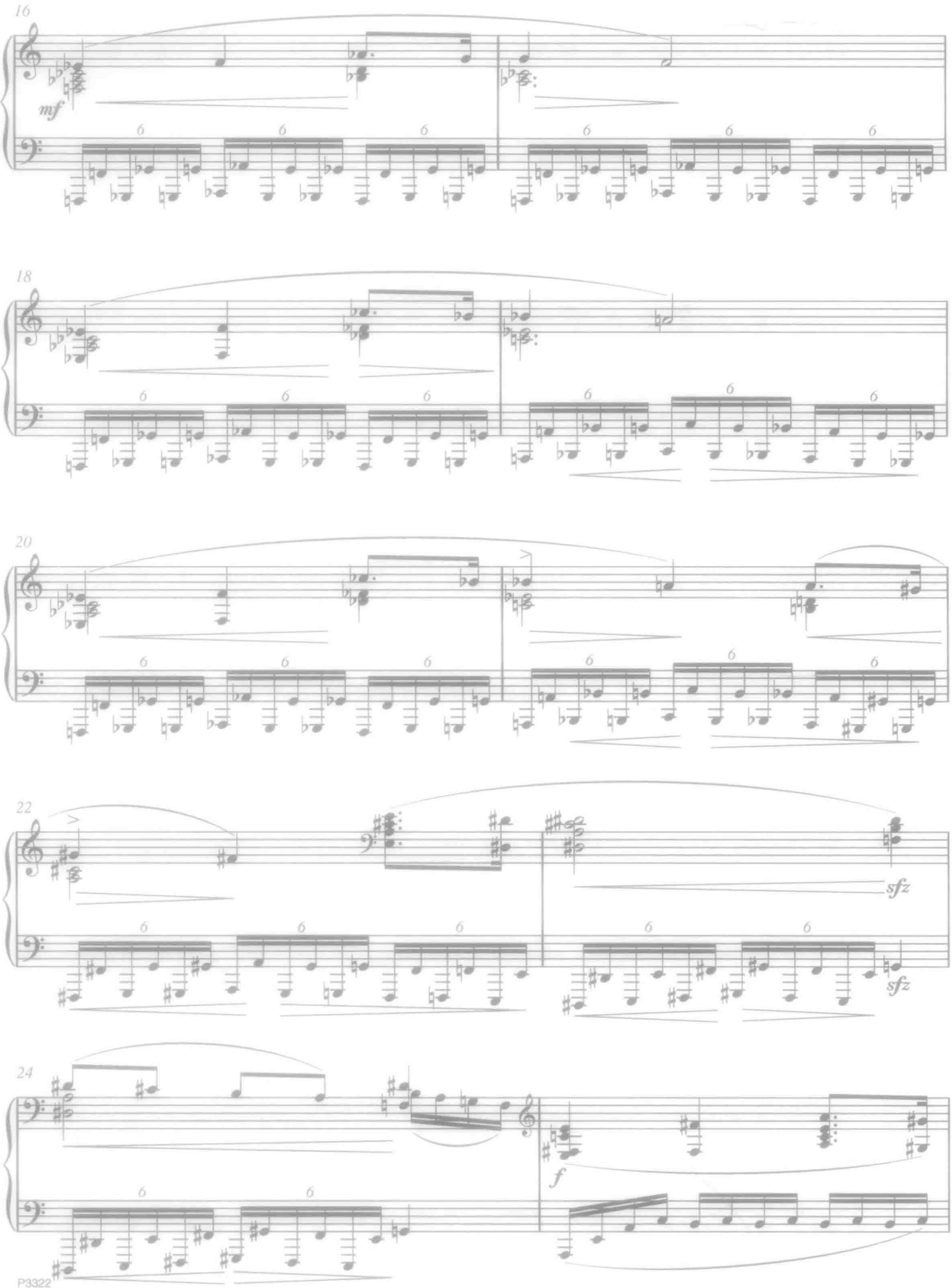

113
116
accel.
122
ff
ff
127
broaden
ff
sfz
sfz
sfz
R.H.
L.H.
130
8va
8va
ff


(8)
132
sfz
8va
134
sfz
sfz
hurry
136
ff
rall.
138
a tempo
sfz
sfz
f
sfz
sfz
141
sfz
ff
ff
f
sfz
sfz
sfz

2. Elegie heroique

Slowly, quietly but with finality





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