Steve Sweeting

SONGS FROM THE HILLS
Roots Music

Bargain Boogie Woogie
Halloween March
Inside Out
Make Believe
Pineapple Rag
Snake Blues
Something Exotic
Song from the Hills
The Yaya Boogie

Xano Music

Steve Sweeting

Cover and book graphic design by Toyi Matos

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SONGS FROM THE HILLS

Roots Music

As an American jazz pianist, roots music for me relates to the blues, boogie woogie, ragtime and given my mid-Western background, probably even to marches. If I were true to my heritage, there ought to be some spiritual music in this volume as well. **Bargain Boogie Woogie** was written for one of my piano students who was working on a simple left-hand motor. **Halloween March** is my prelude to a holiday concert where all the costumed singers paraded in to this opening number and made scary noises. While I was working on a series of songs without words, **Inside Out** seemed to sound much better as a bouncing or swinging tune than at the ballad tempo where it began. My second attempt at ragtime was written when my son was in kindergarten in 2001 and I remember because his class used to play "freeze dance" with me on piano in the auditorium. I like calling it **Make Believe Rag**, because when you say it out loud, it is hard to distinguish from the landmark Joplin piece. **Pineapple Rag** was written for my wife while we were in Bangladesh in 1995. She used to play ragtime secretly when I was not home.

As I was trying to illustrate to a piano teacher different ways of playing boogie woogie and blues left hand patterns, I stumbled upon this ostinato figure for **Snake Blues**. My improvising probably ventures into different meters and modes more often than my composing. **Something Exotic** is a clear exception to that trend. **Song From the Hills** sounds very down home to me, though I am a city boy and don't have these rural feelings very often. Yaya of course means grandmother and I wrote the **Yaya Boogie** for my mother-in-law's birthday so she could play a boogie woogie piece that didn't have too many chords.

-- Steve Sweeting

To hear recordings of these pieces please check:
SteveSweeting.com

TOYAMA

SONGS FROM THE HILLS

Roots Music

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BARGAIN BOOGIE WOOGIE

NOT TOO SLOW

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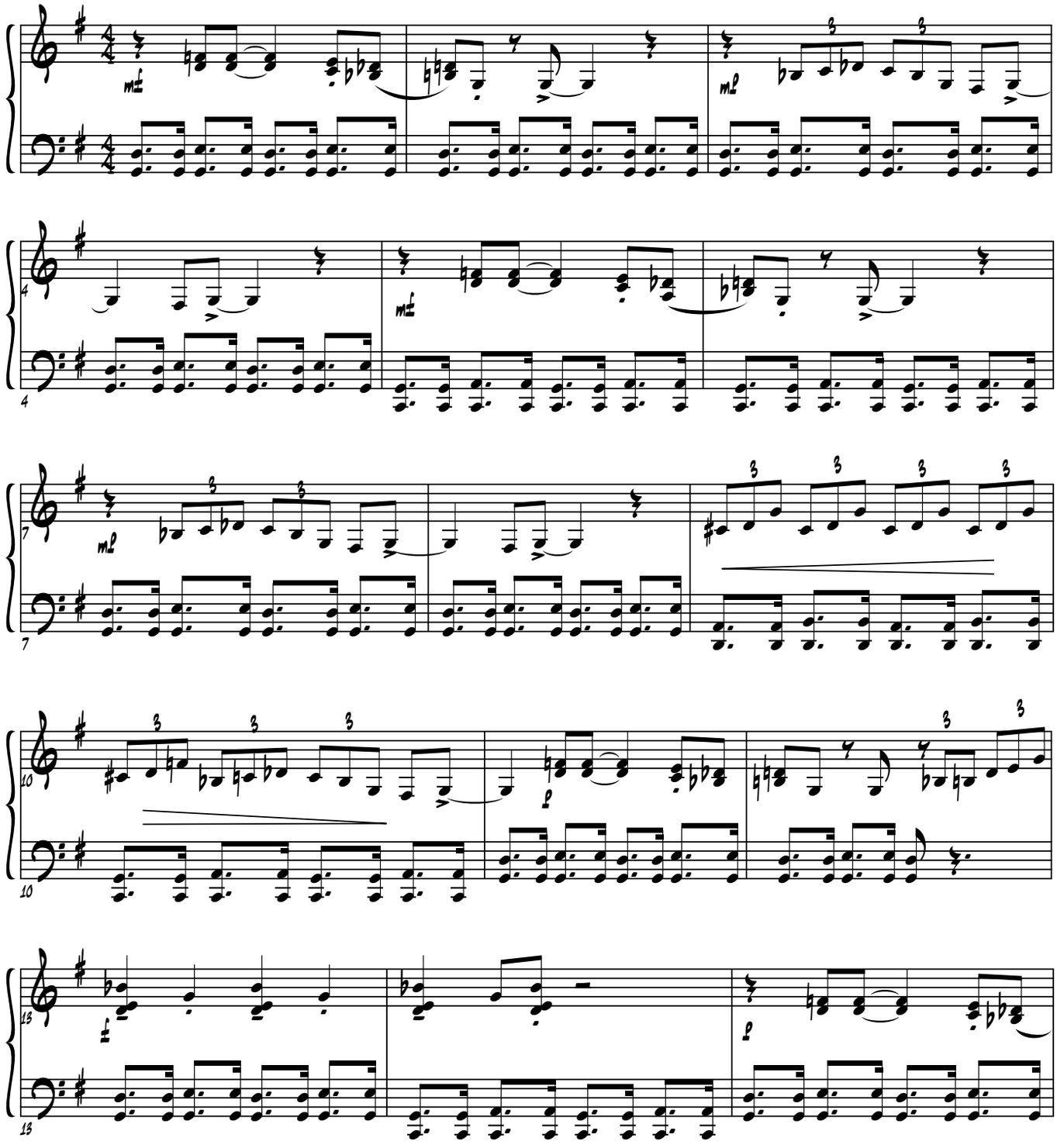

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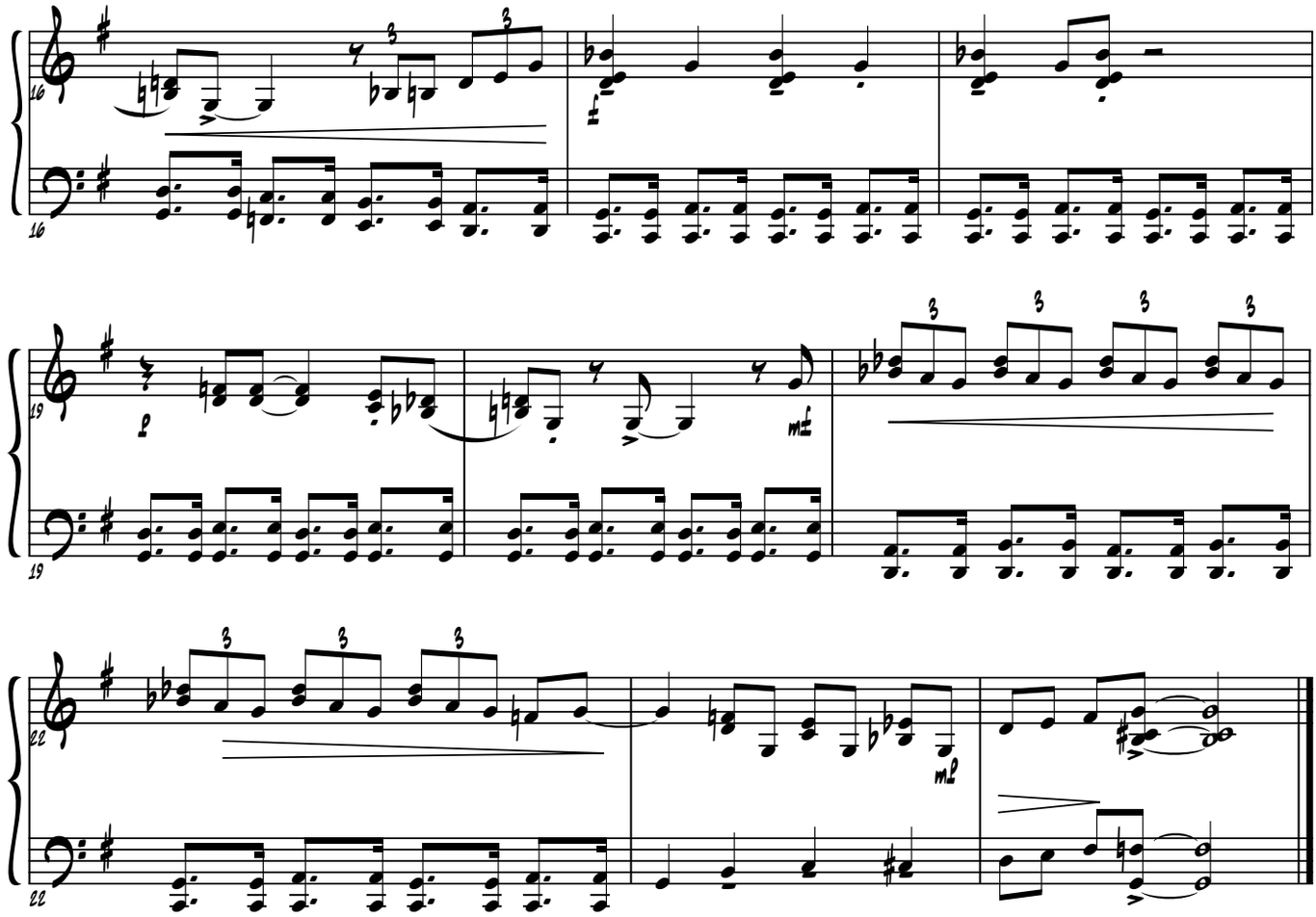

HALLOWEEN MARCH

SPOOKY MARCH ♩=132

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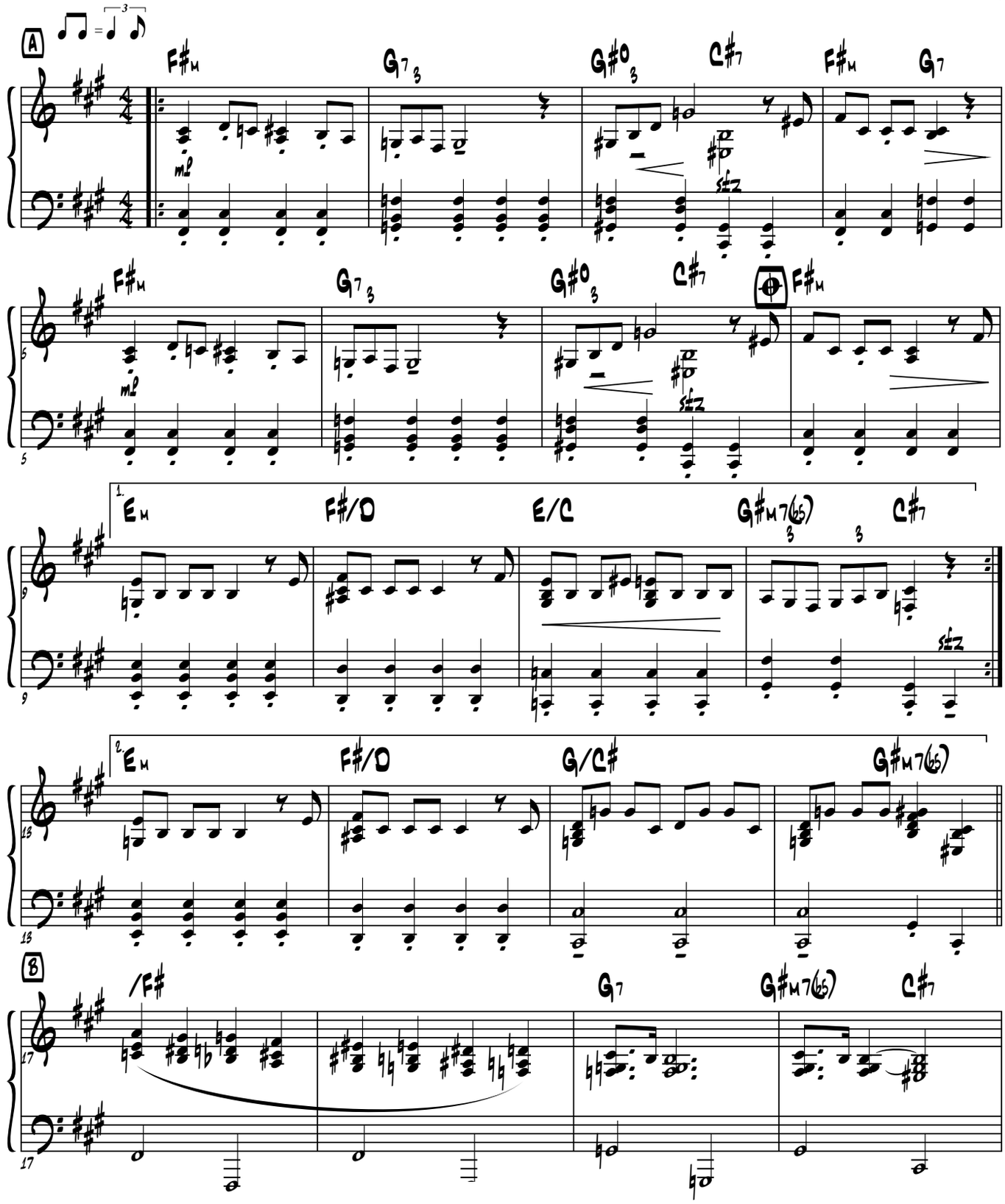

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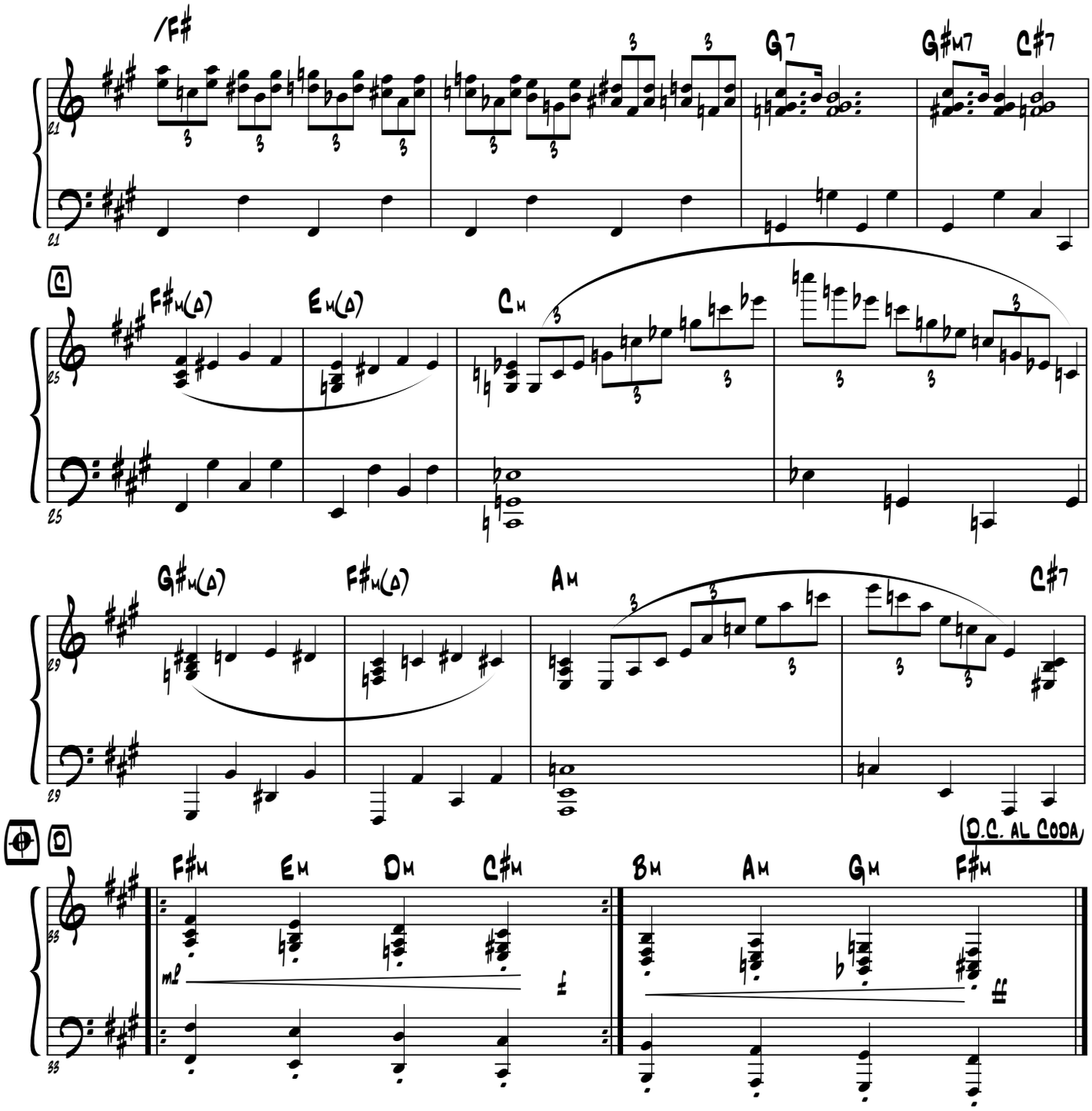
/F#
G7
G#M7
C#7
C
F#M(D)
EM(D)
CM
G#M(D)
F#M(D)
AM
C#7
D
F#M
EM
DM
C#M
BM
AM
GM
F#M
D.C. AL CODA

INSIDE OUT

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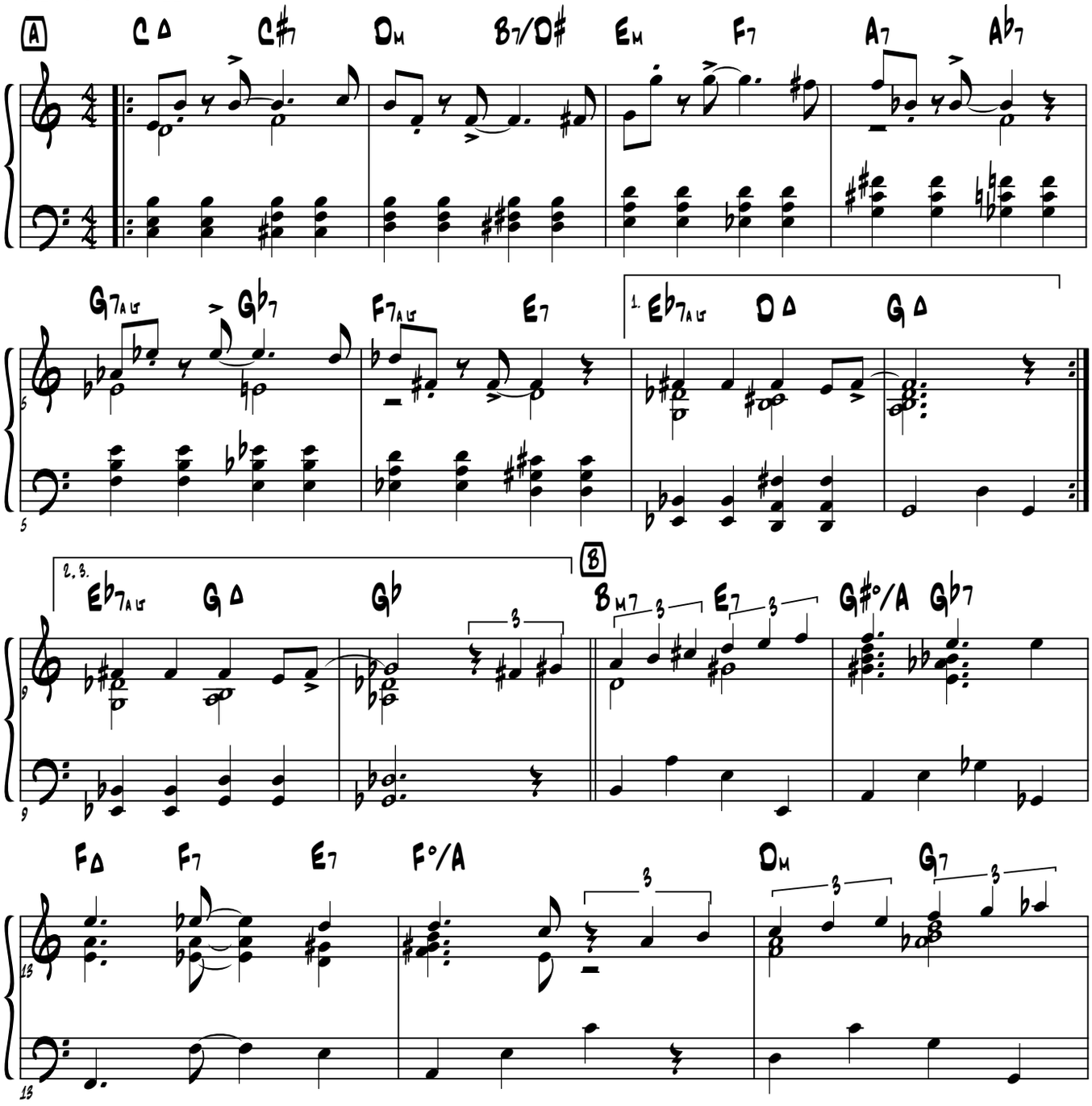
MEDIUM BOUNCE



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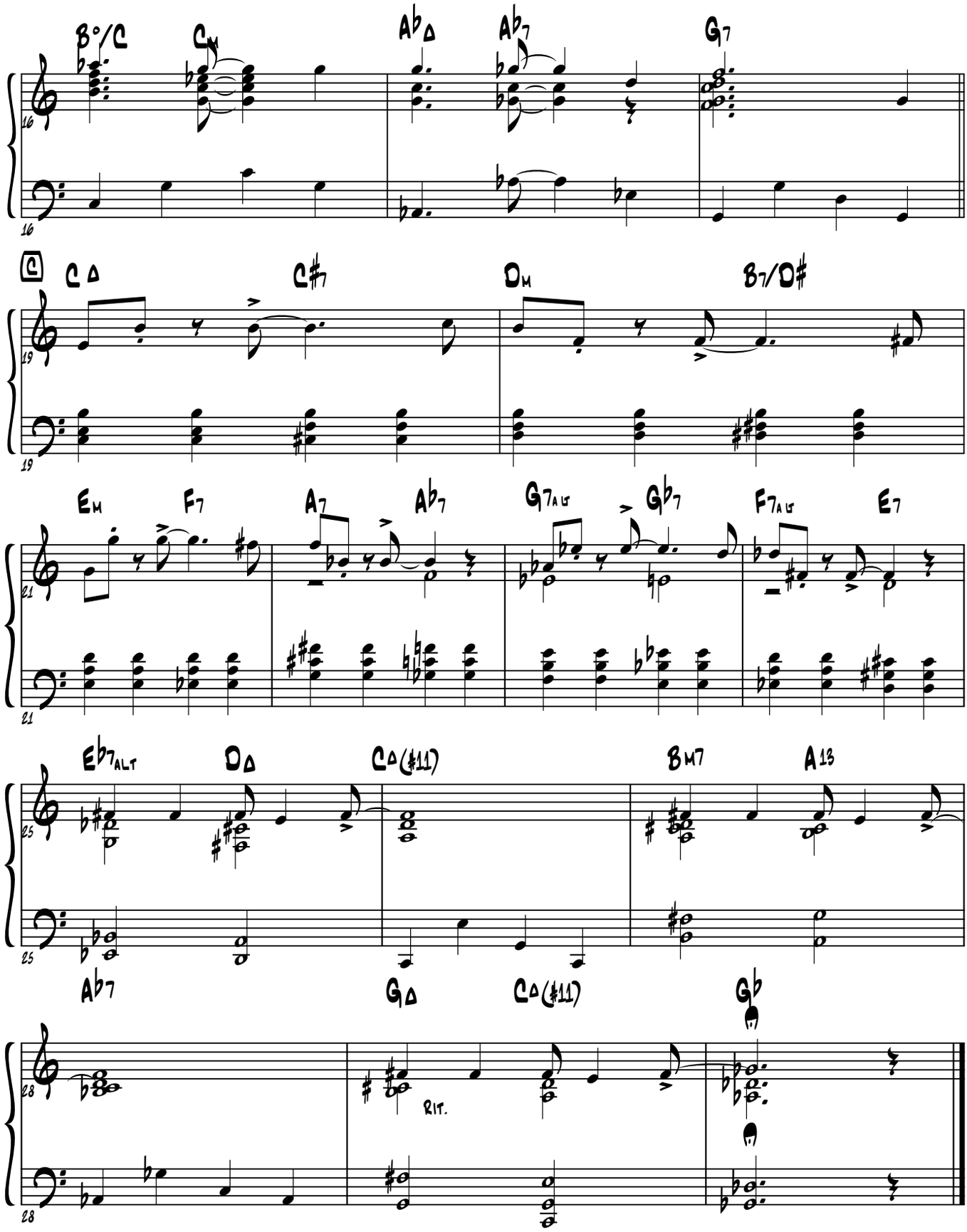
B°/C
CM
Ab Δ
Ab7
G7
16
C
C Δ
C#7
DM
B7/D#
19
EM
F7
A7
Ab7
G7ALT
Gb7
F7ALT
E7
21
Eb7ALT
D Δ
C Δ(#11)
BM7
A13
25
Ab7
G Δ
C Δ(#11)
Gb
RIT.
28

MAKE BELIEVE RAG

RAGTIME

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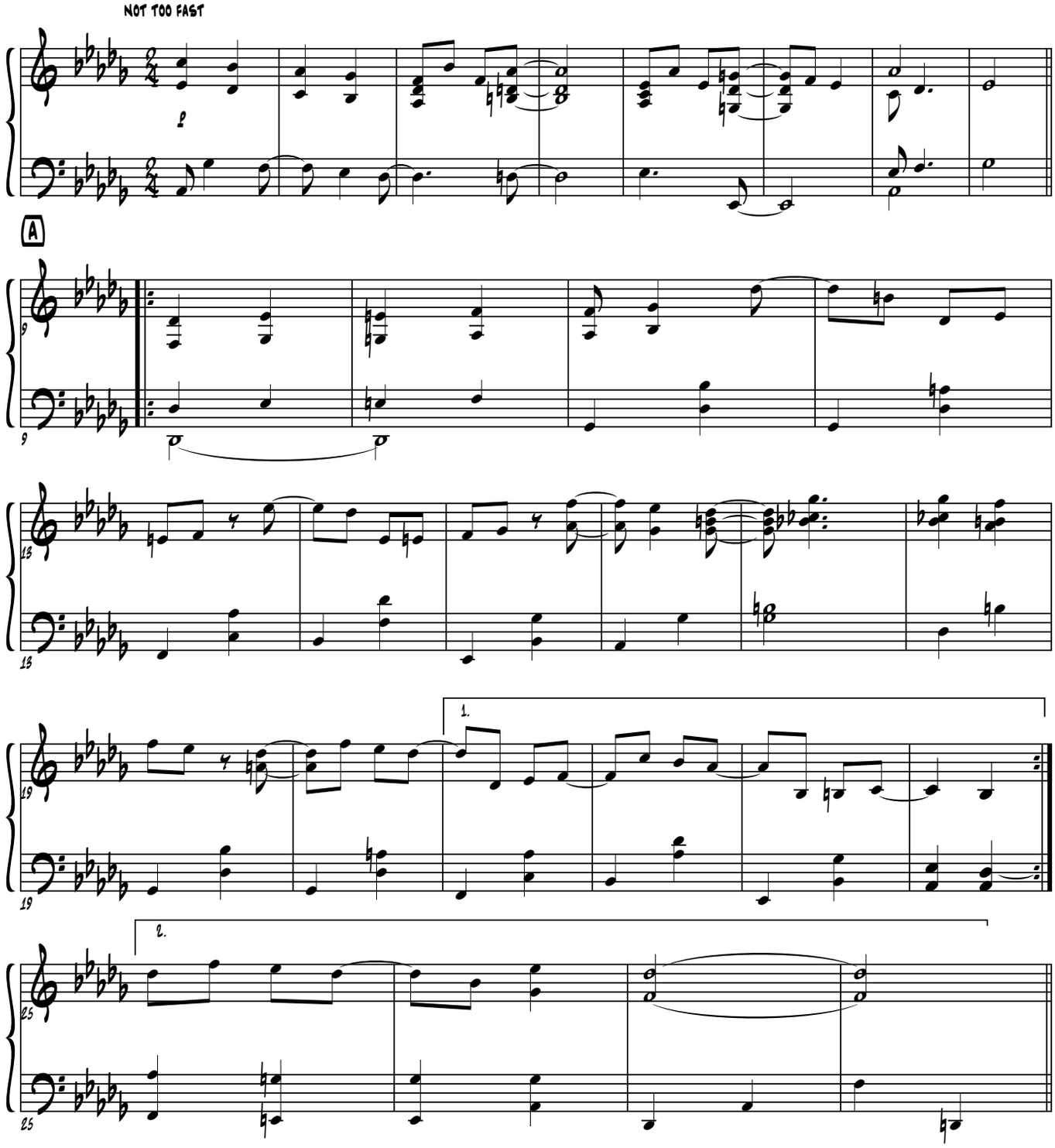

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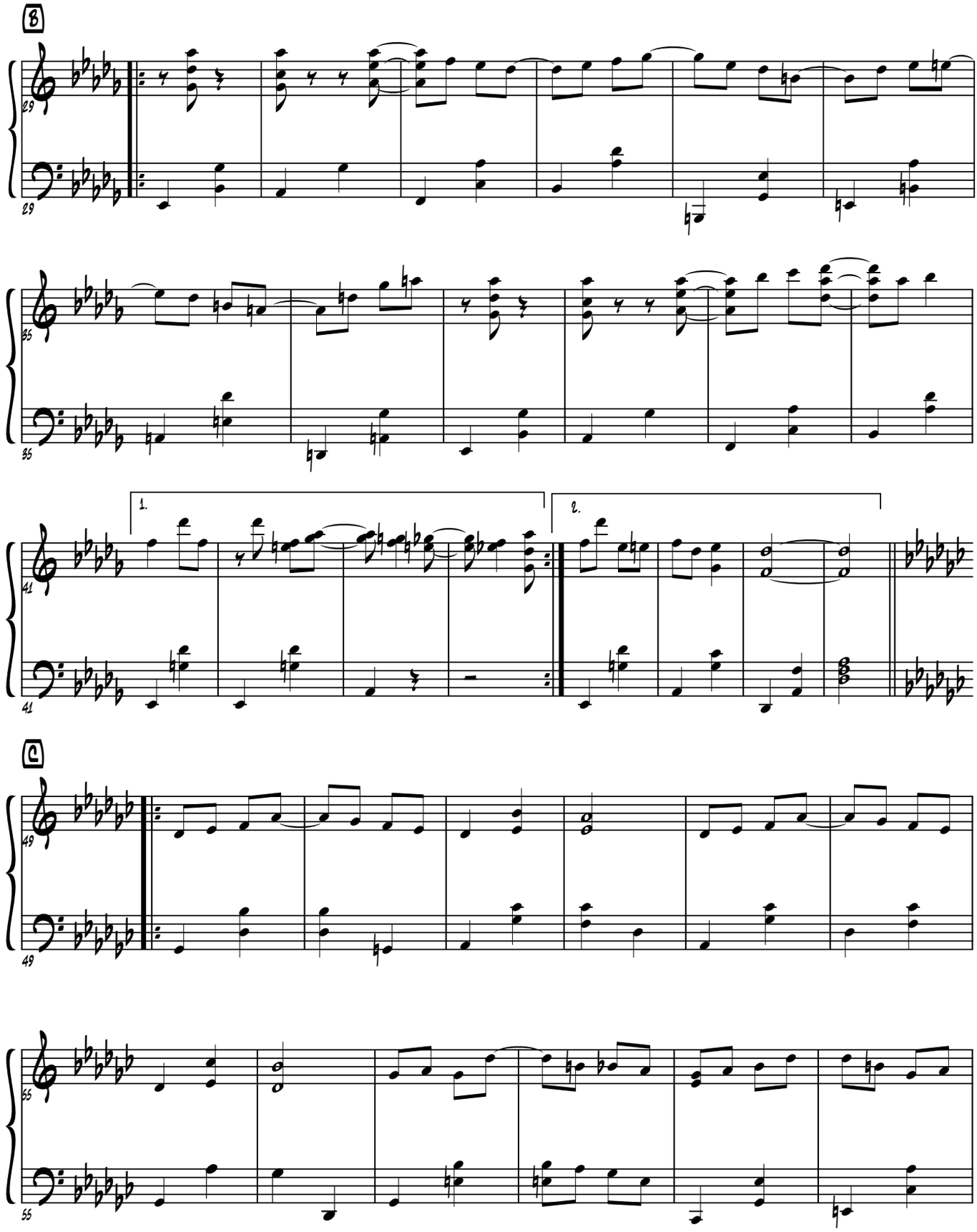
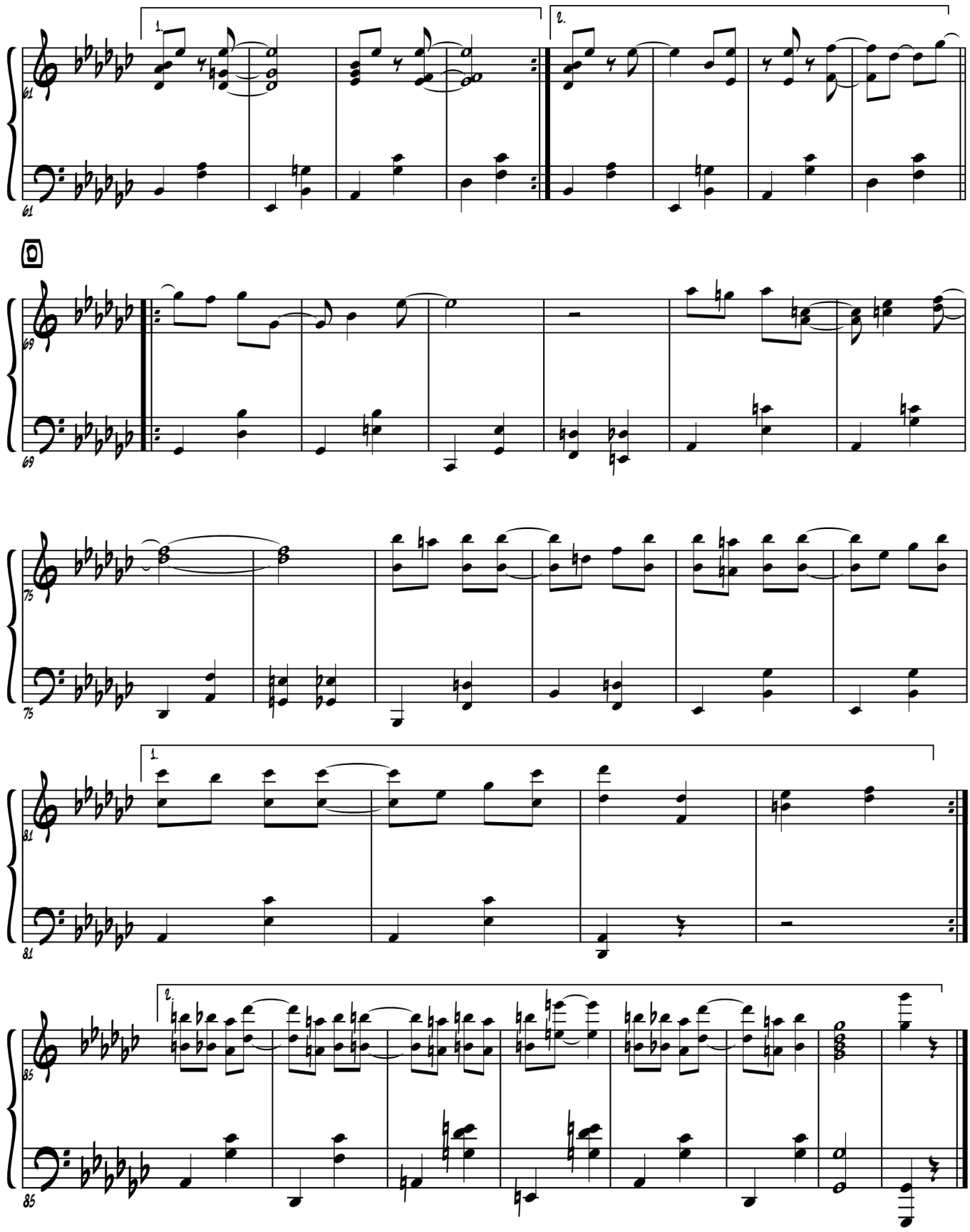

B
29
35
1.
2.
41
C
49
55


1.
2.
61
69
75
81
85

PINEAPPLE RAG

NOT TOO FAST ♩=76

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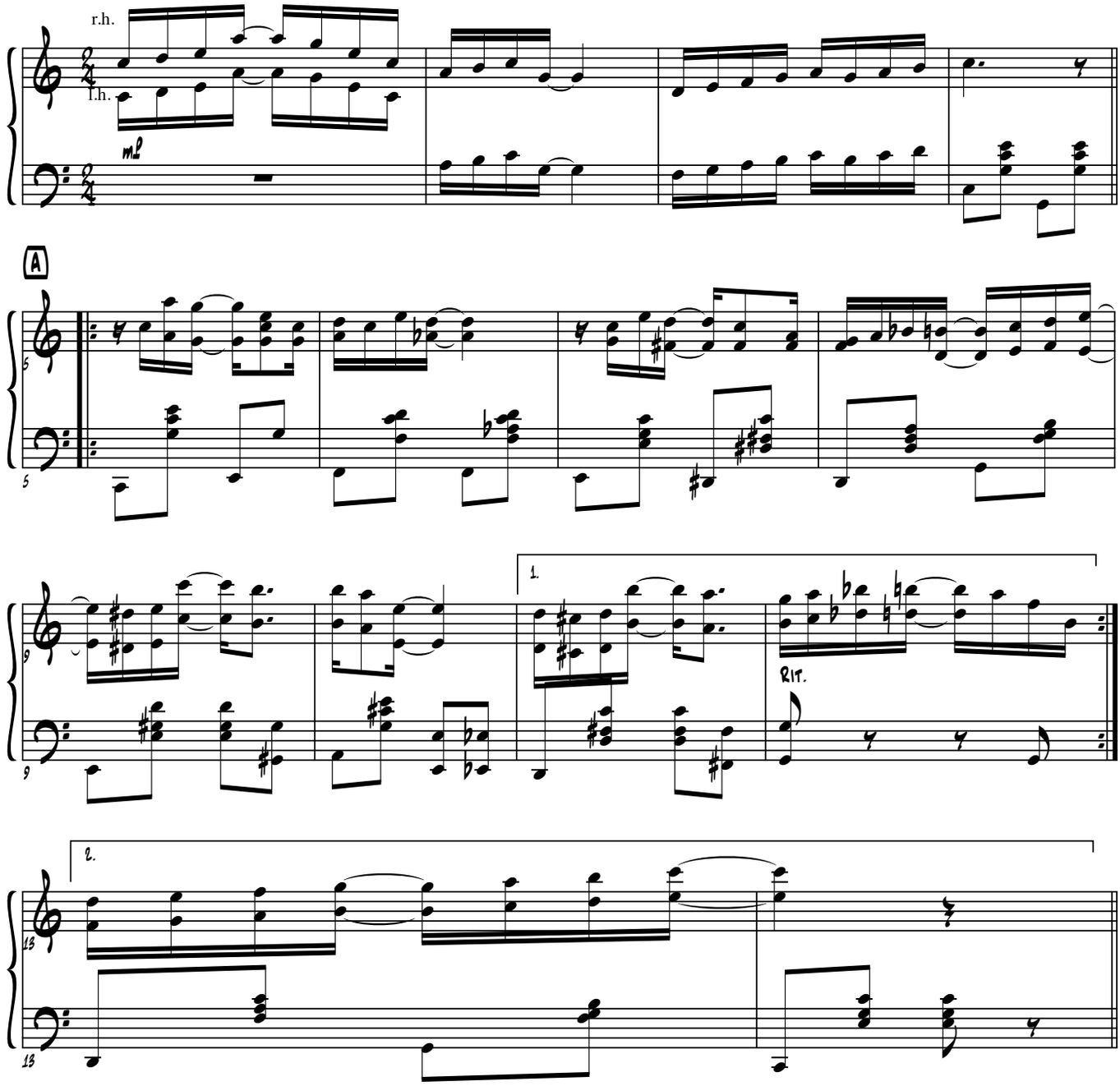

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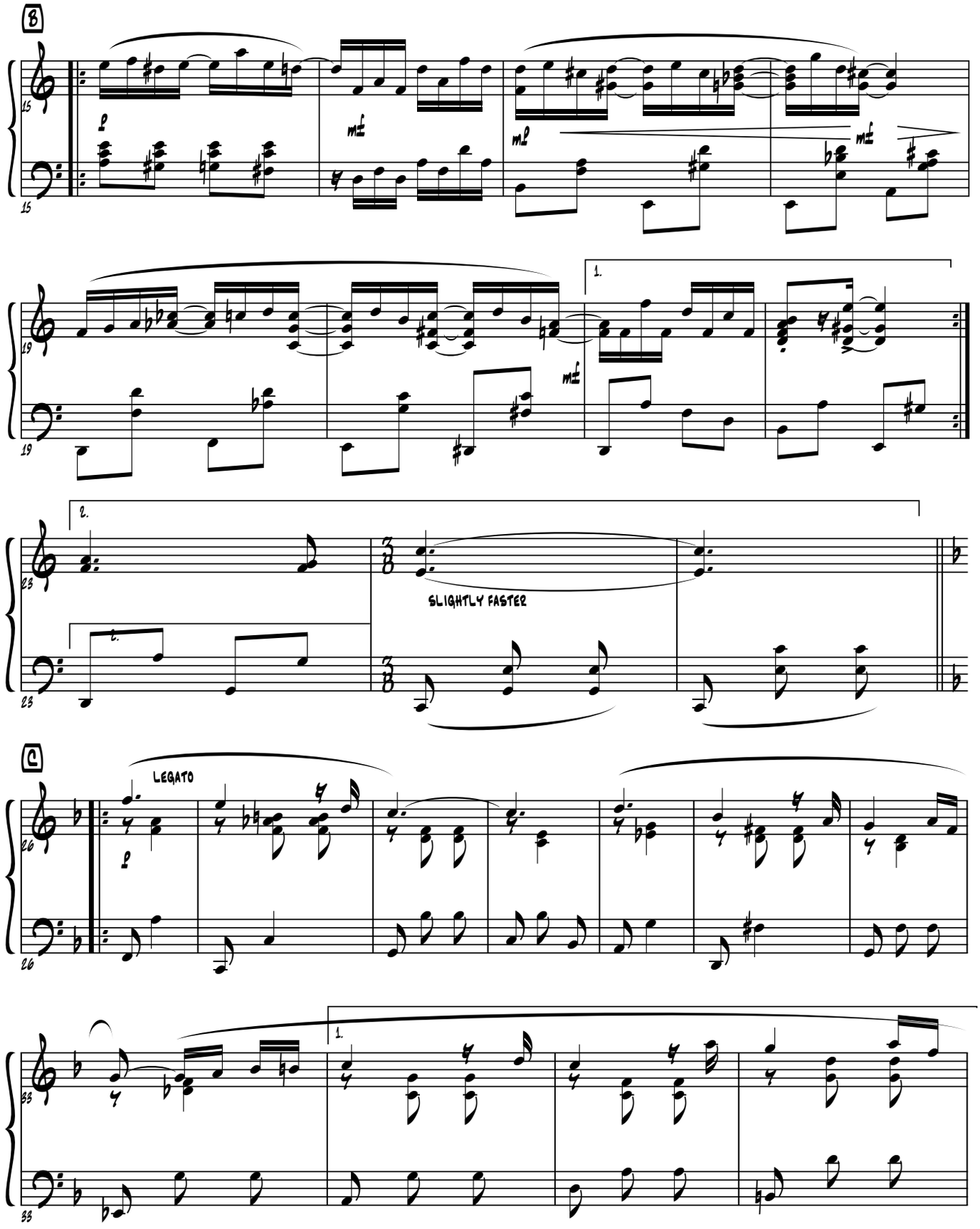
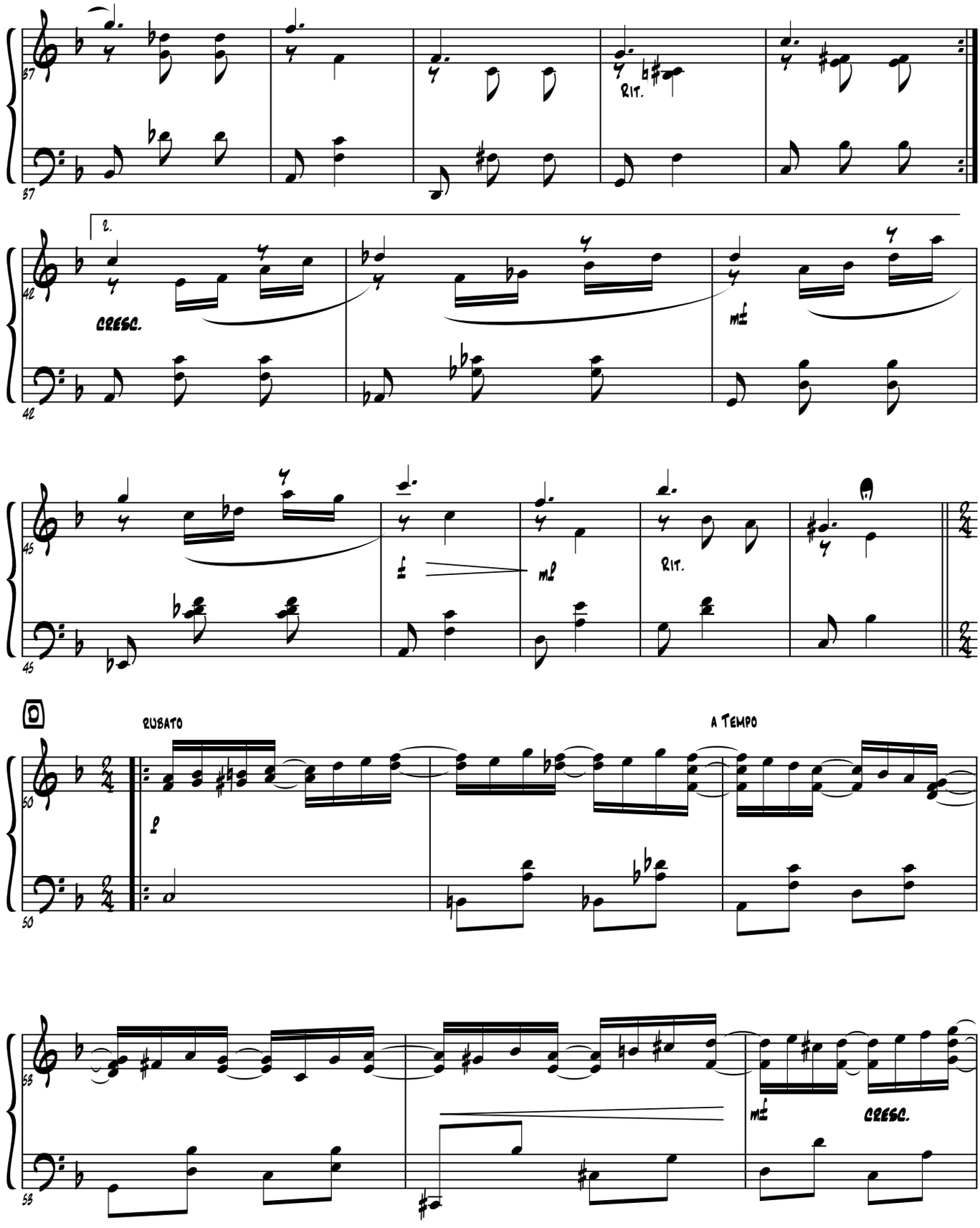
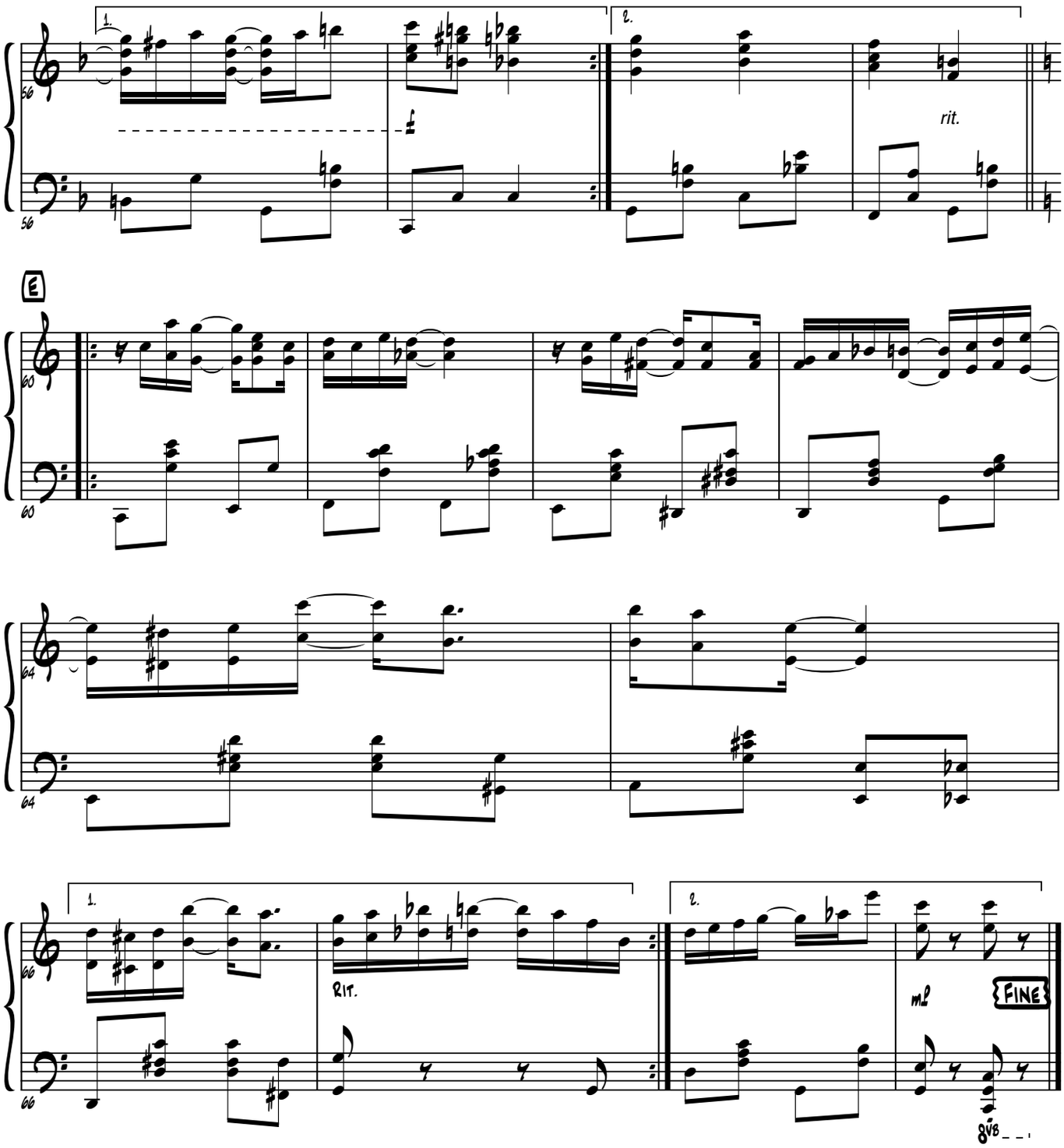

B
SLIGHTLY FASTER
C
LEGATO


37
Rit.
42
2.
CRESC.
mf
45
mf
Rit.
50
RUBATO
A TEMPO
53
mf
CRESC.


1.
2.
rit.
E
Rit.
mf
FINE
8va

SNAKE BLUES

NEW ORLEANS BLUES ♩=144

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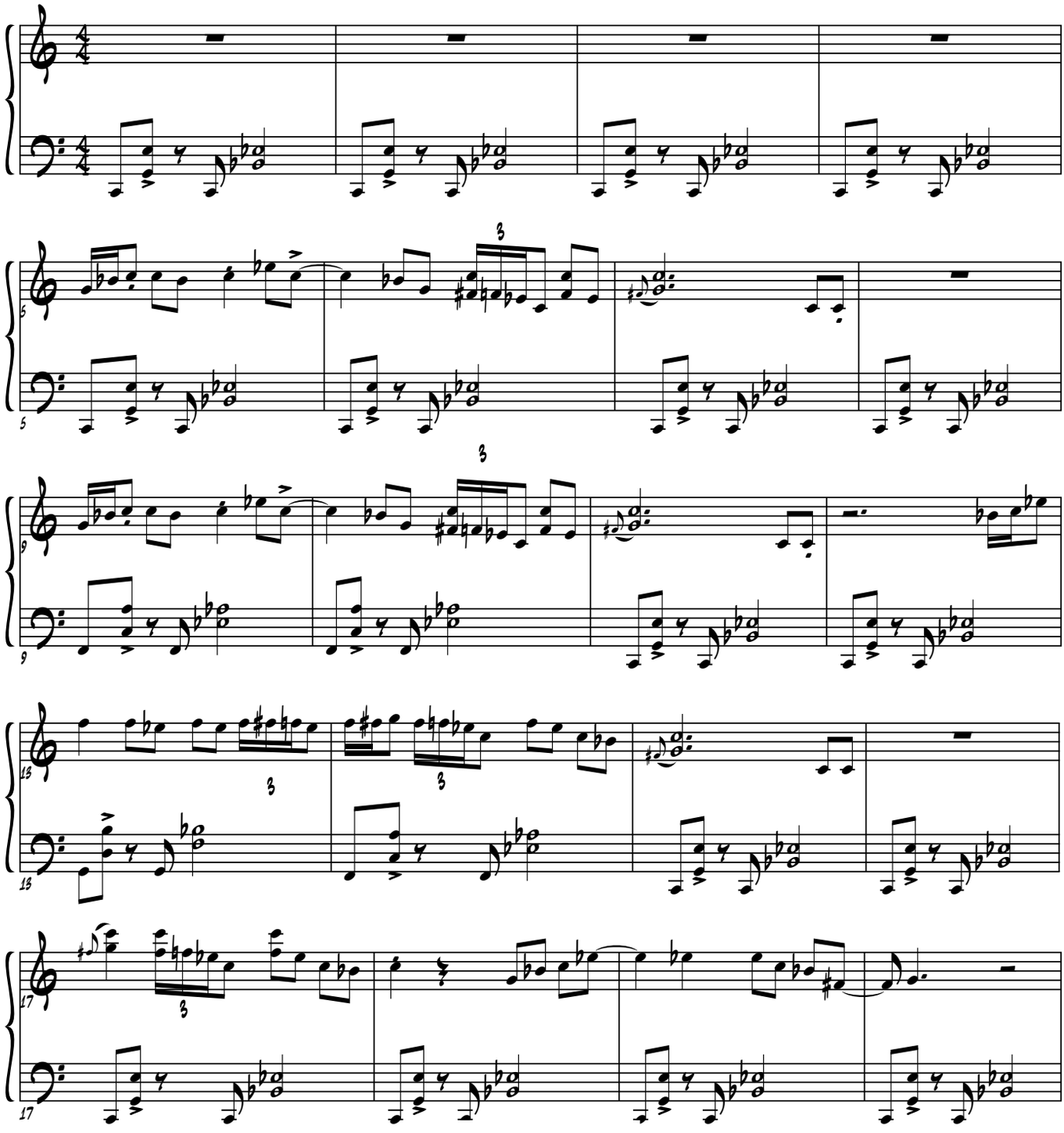

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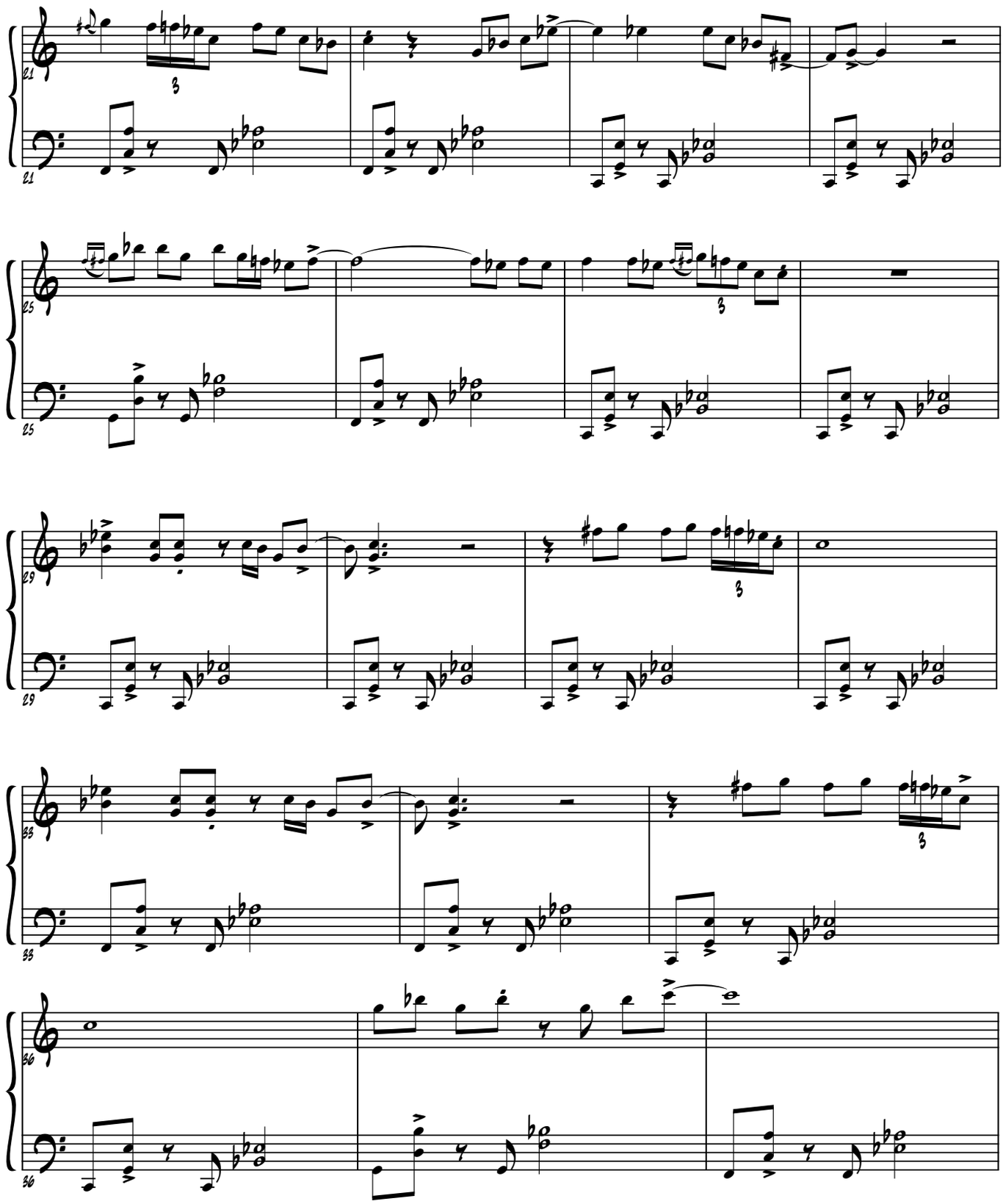

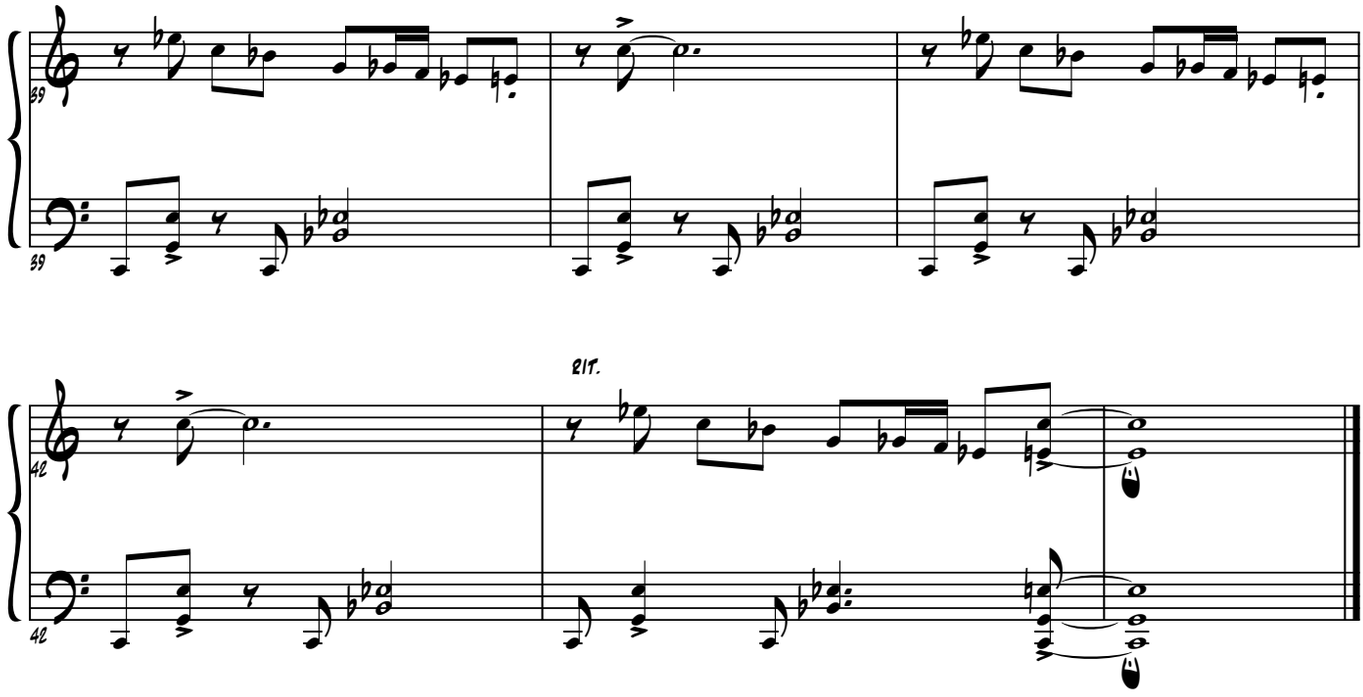
39
39
rit.
42
42

SOMETHING EXOTIC

WHIRLING

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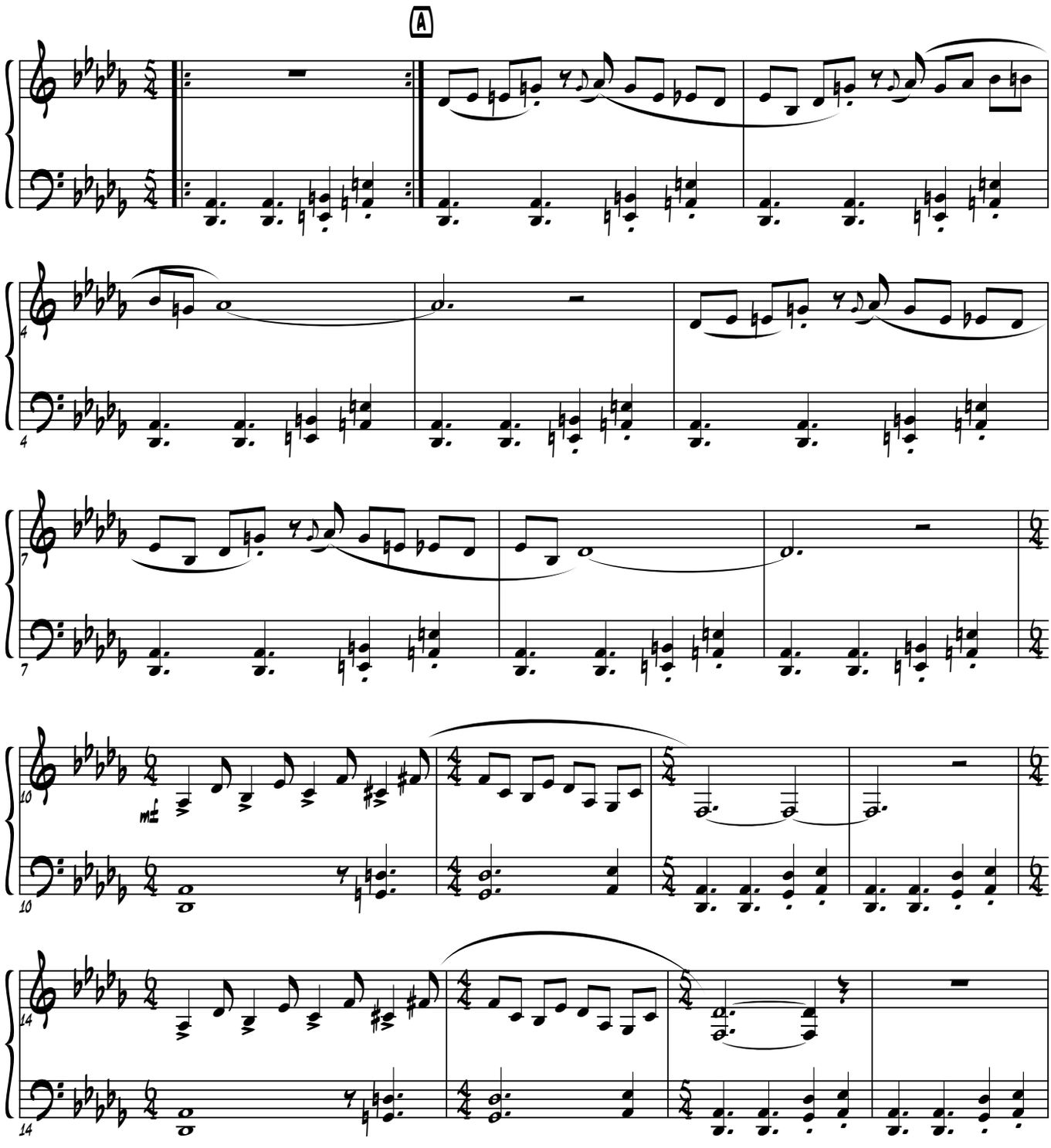

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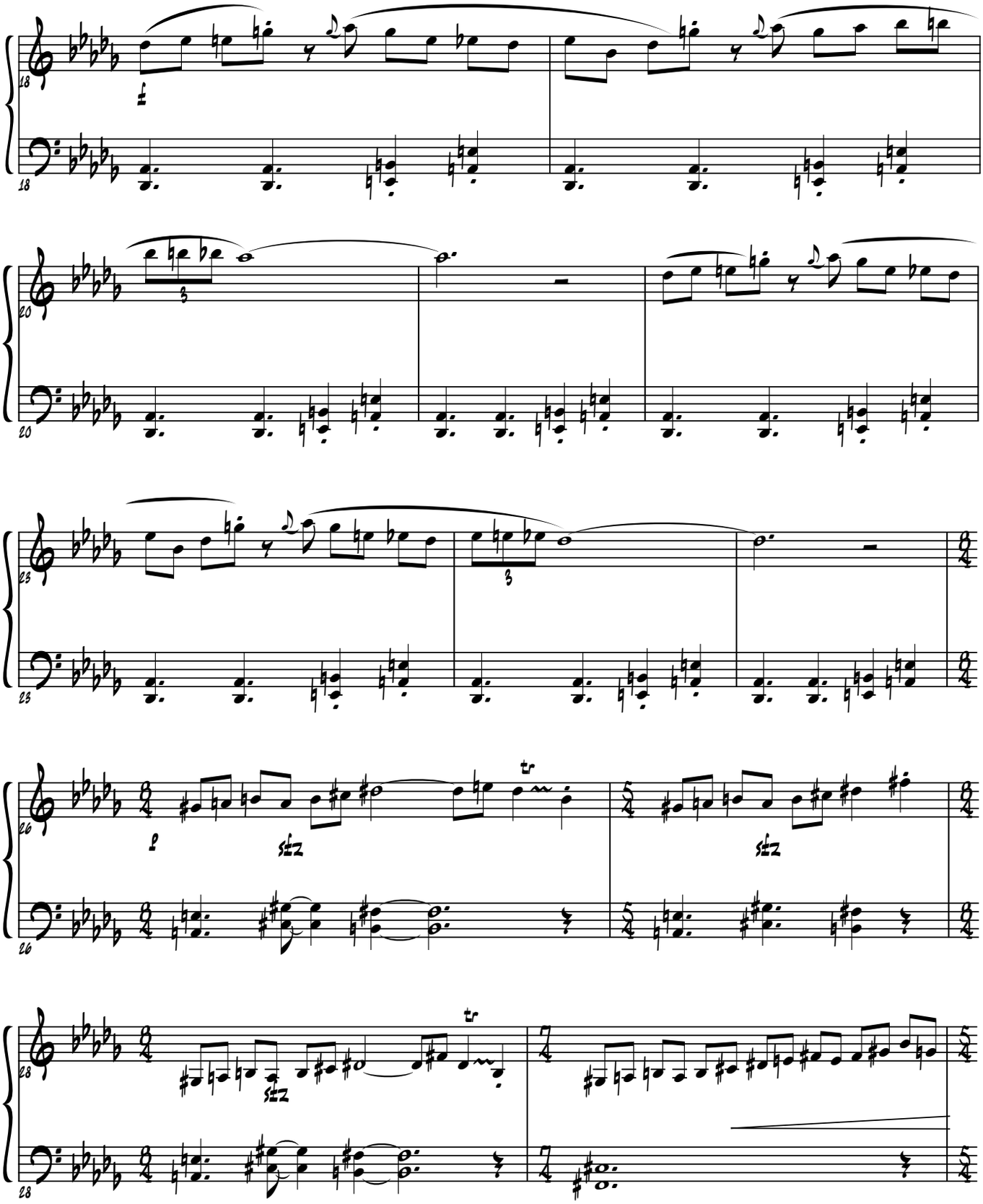
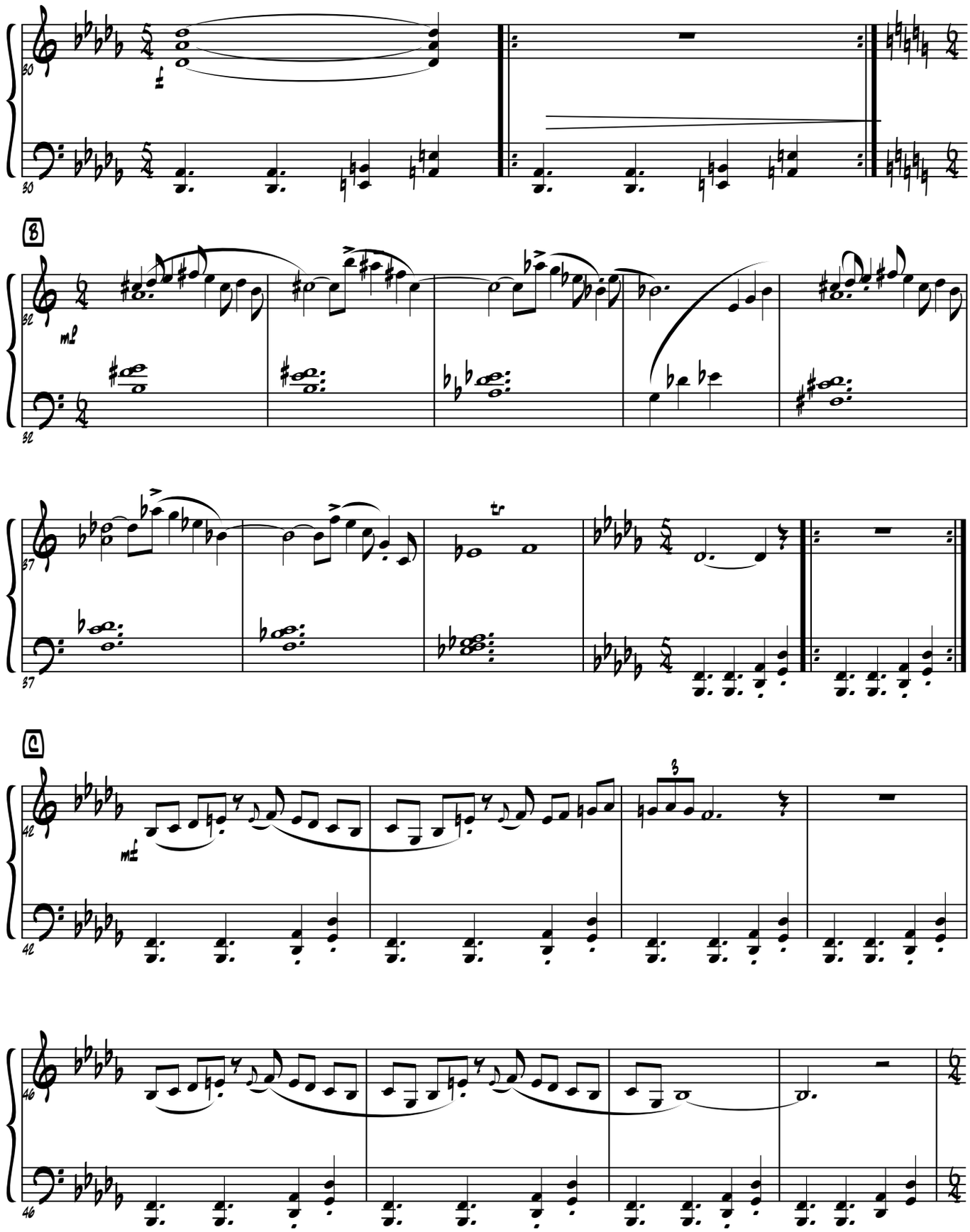
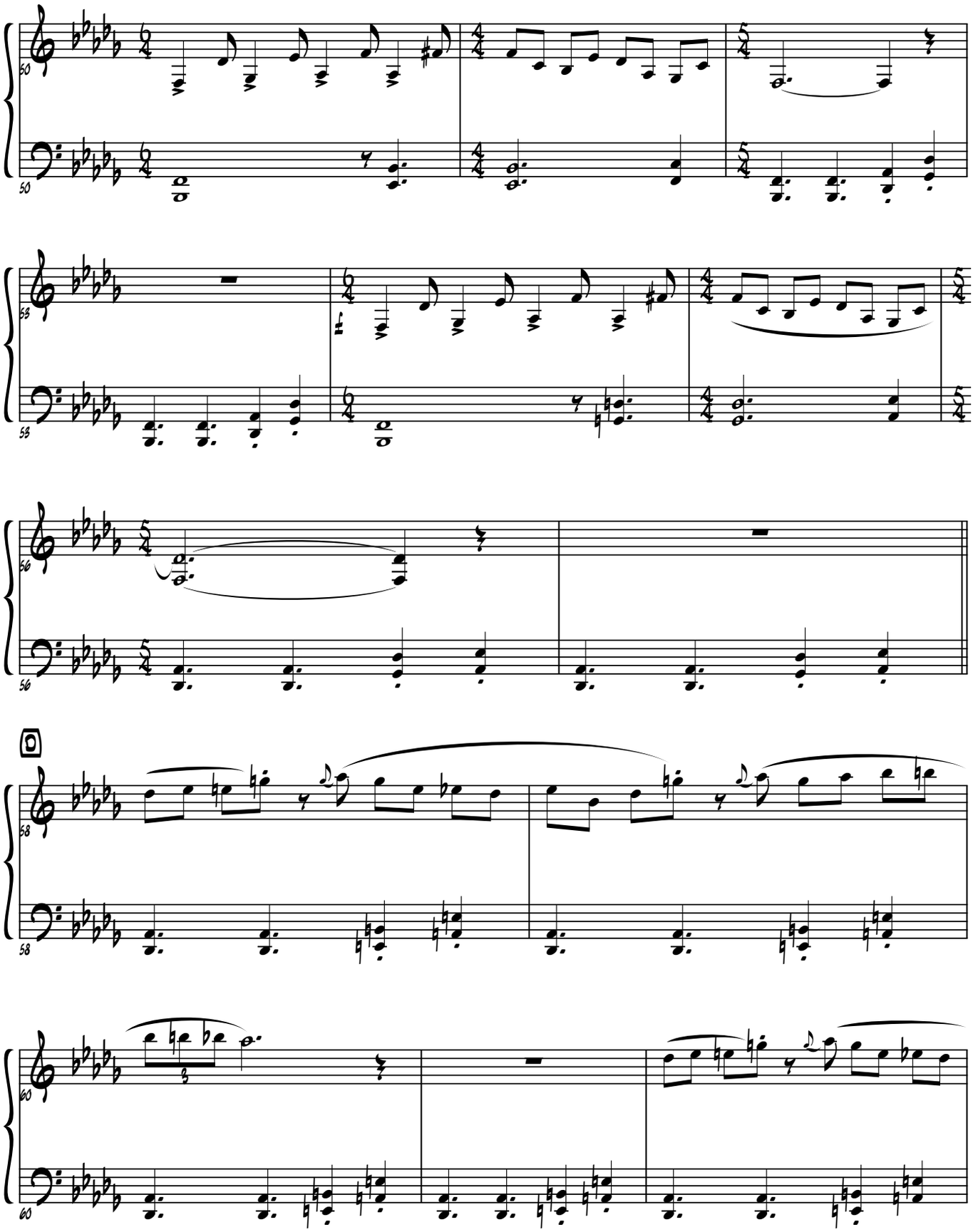
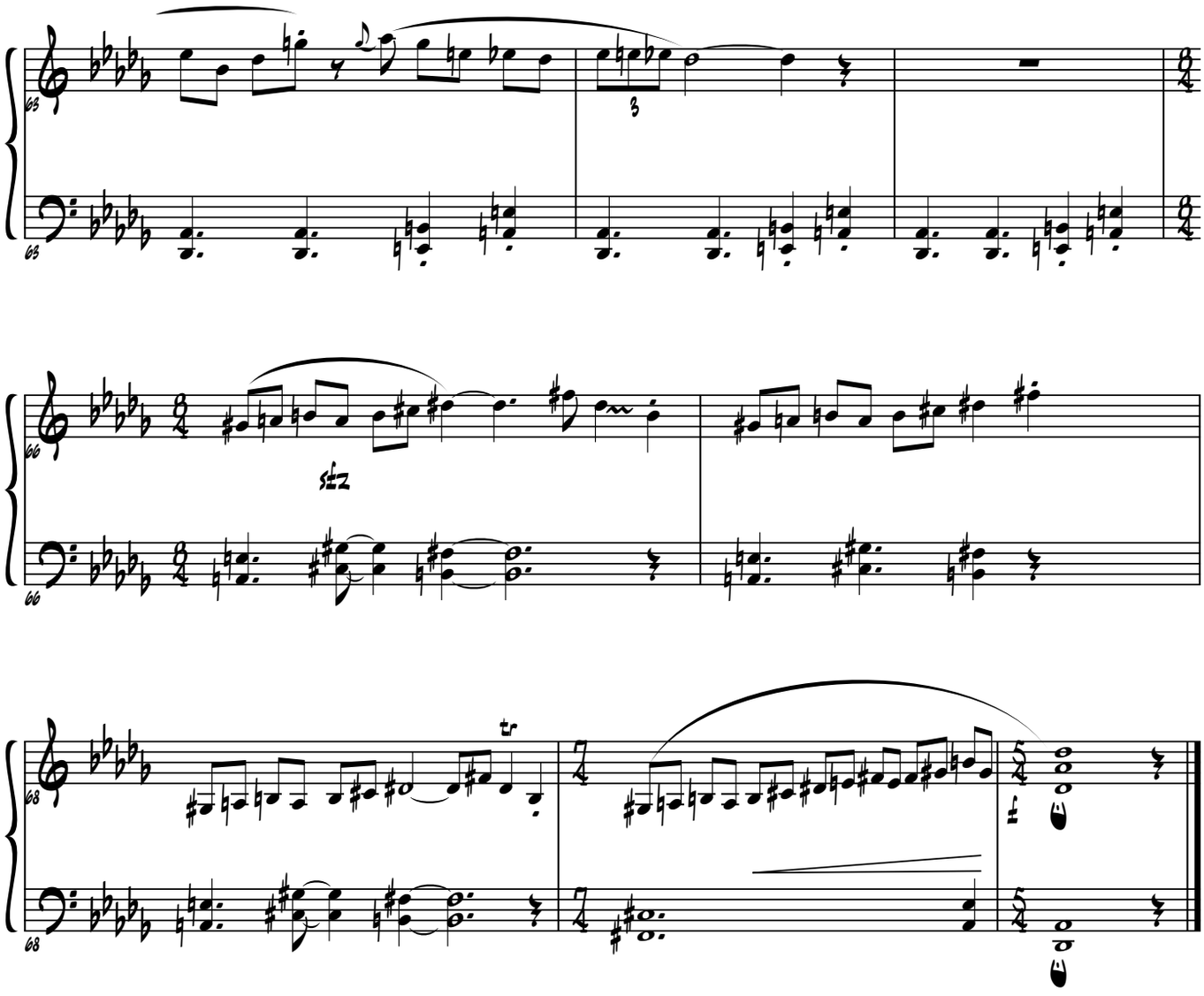
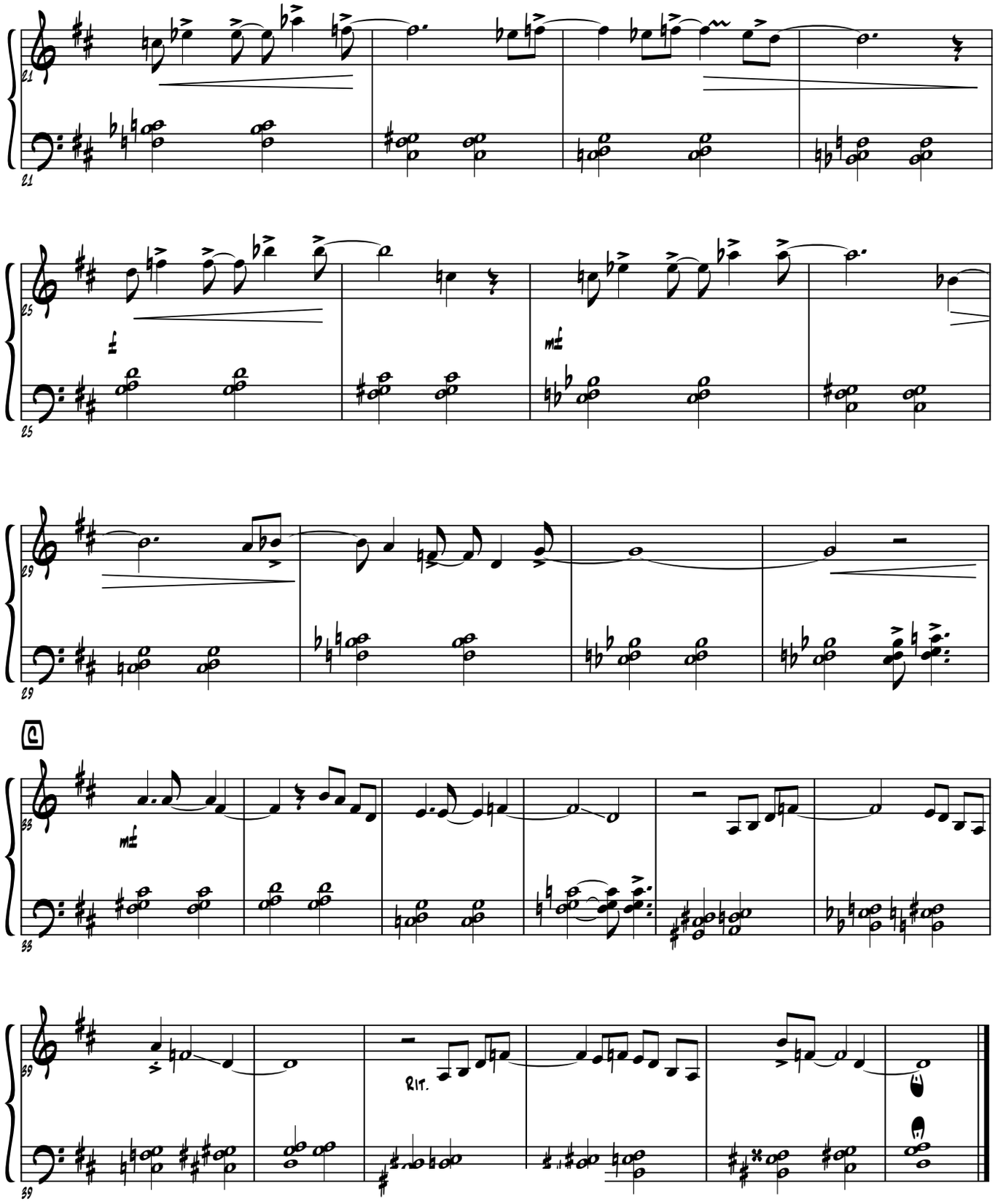
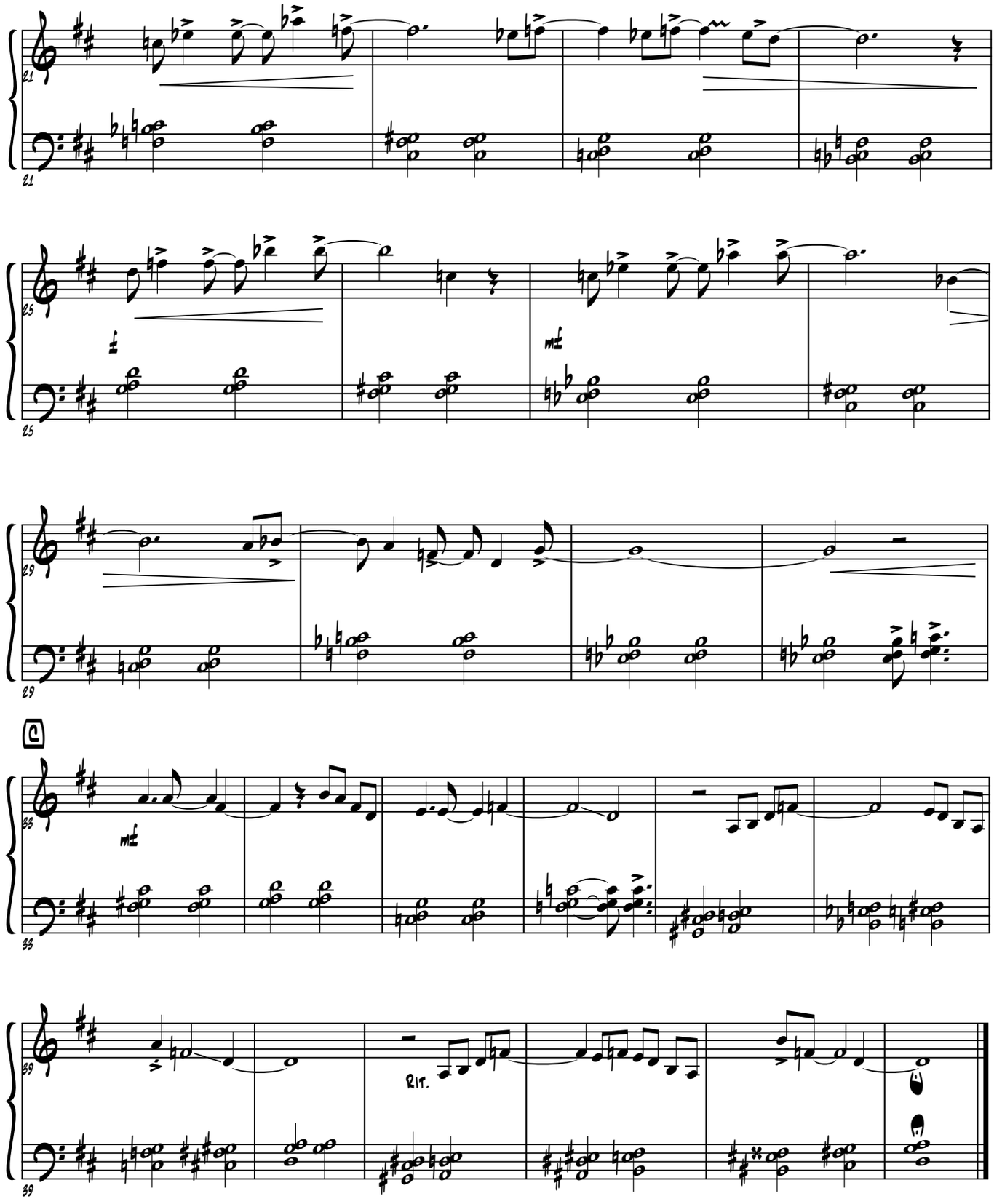



30
B
32
mf
37
tr
C
42
mf
46






21
25
29
C
33
mf
Rit.
39


21
25
29
C
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mf
39
Rit.

THE YAYA BOOGIE

FAST BLUES

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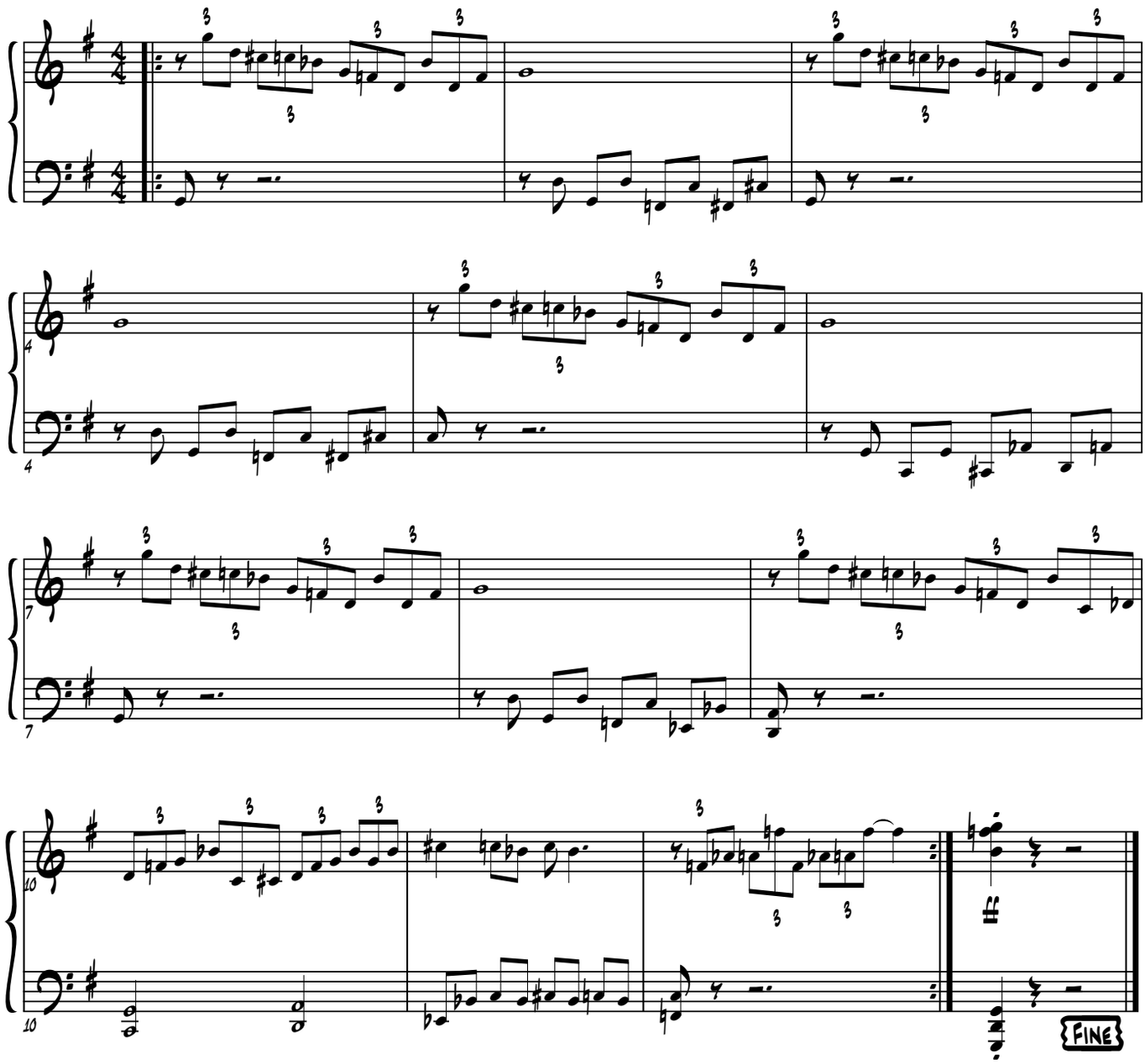

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Nicky Almasy

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