Eric Lacy

Disconsolate

for Piano

Disconsolate

I. Denial

II. Anger

III. Bargaining

IV. Depression

Duration: Approximately 20 minutes

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Scores can be purchased at ericbrianlacy.com

Disconsolate

for piano

"*Disconsolate* is based on the five stages of grief proposed by Elisabeth Kübler-Ross – denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance. My intention when composing *Disconsolate* was to represent each stage of the grieving process musically.

Denial is the attempt to fight against an unfortunate reality – the existence of a great loss of some kind. To create a true representation of this struggle in musical terms, I established tension in a number of different ways – harmonically, dynamically, and rhythmically. This movement, for example, is largely bitonal and rhythmically dissonant.

Anger is the response to what may seem like an unfair situation. In *Disconsolate*, anger is represented harmonically with minor and diminished chords. The rhythmic complexity and dynamic intensity is intended to produce a sense of urgency, indignation, and instability.

Bargaining is the expression of regret and typically ponders the possibility of a "do-over". Musically, I decided to express this concept by going back to the first movement and creating a scenario where the themes used in that movement are contextualized differently.

Depression happens just before acceptance. I thought depression would be best expressed with a slow tempo and somber harmonies. What hopefully stands out, however, is the recurring bass end motive that relentlessly and hauntingly reminds us that depression doesn't easily go away.

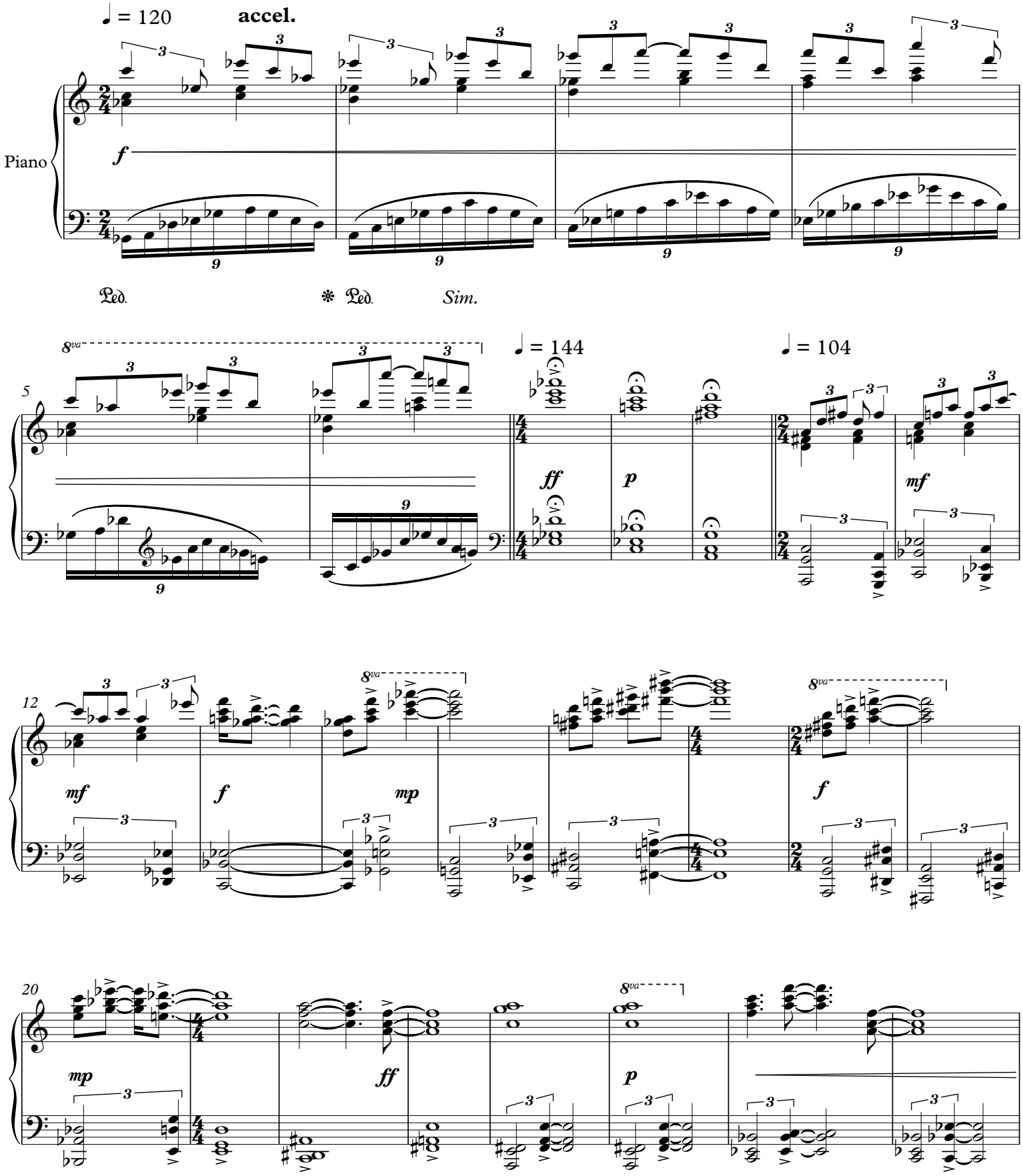
The final stage of grief is *Acceptance*, which normally would have been the fifth movement. For reasons that I won't disclose here, I intentionally left that movement unwritten."

Disconsolate

for Piano

I. Denial

Eric Lacy



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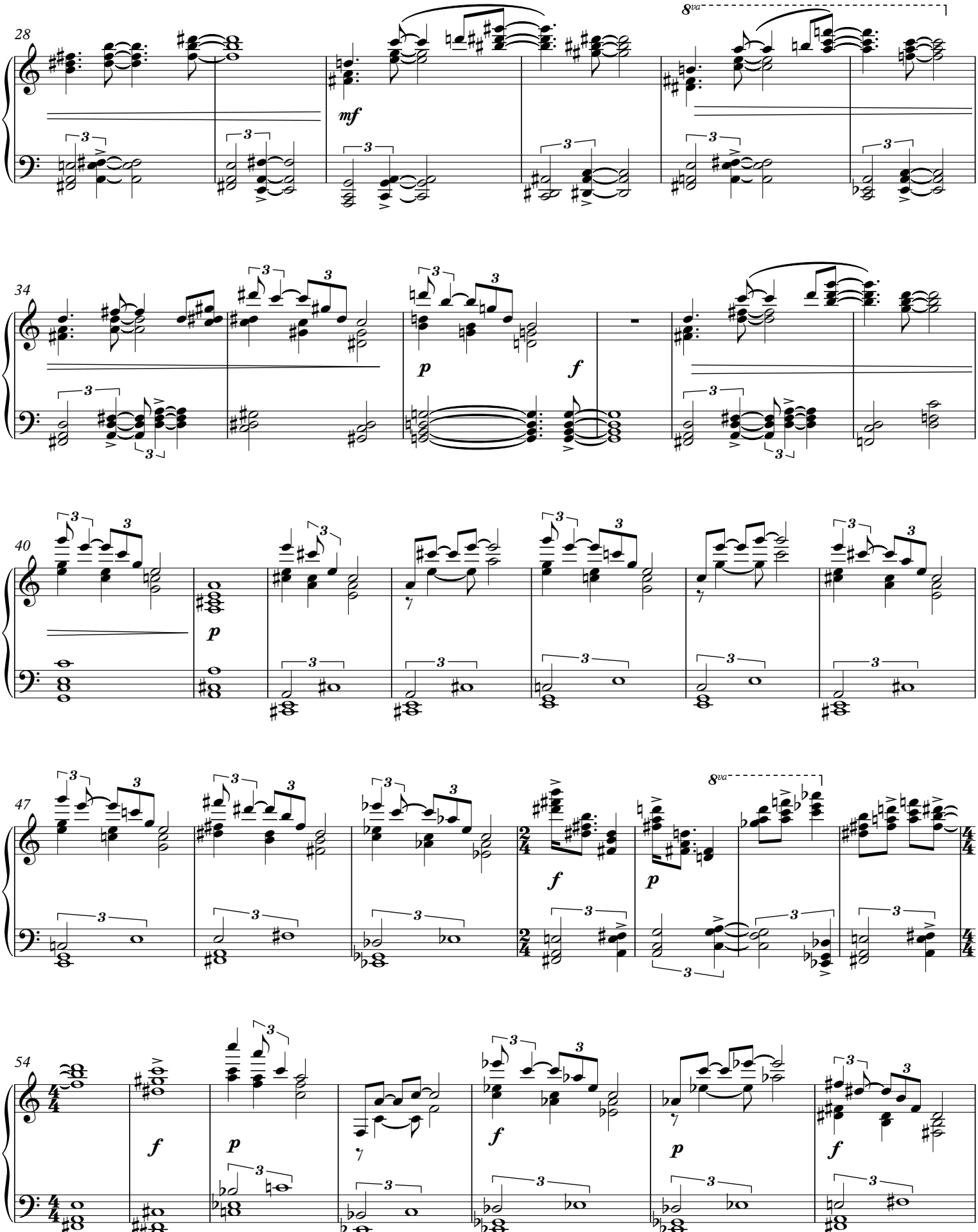
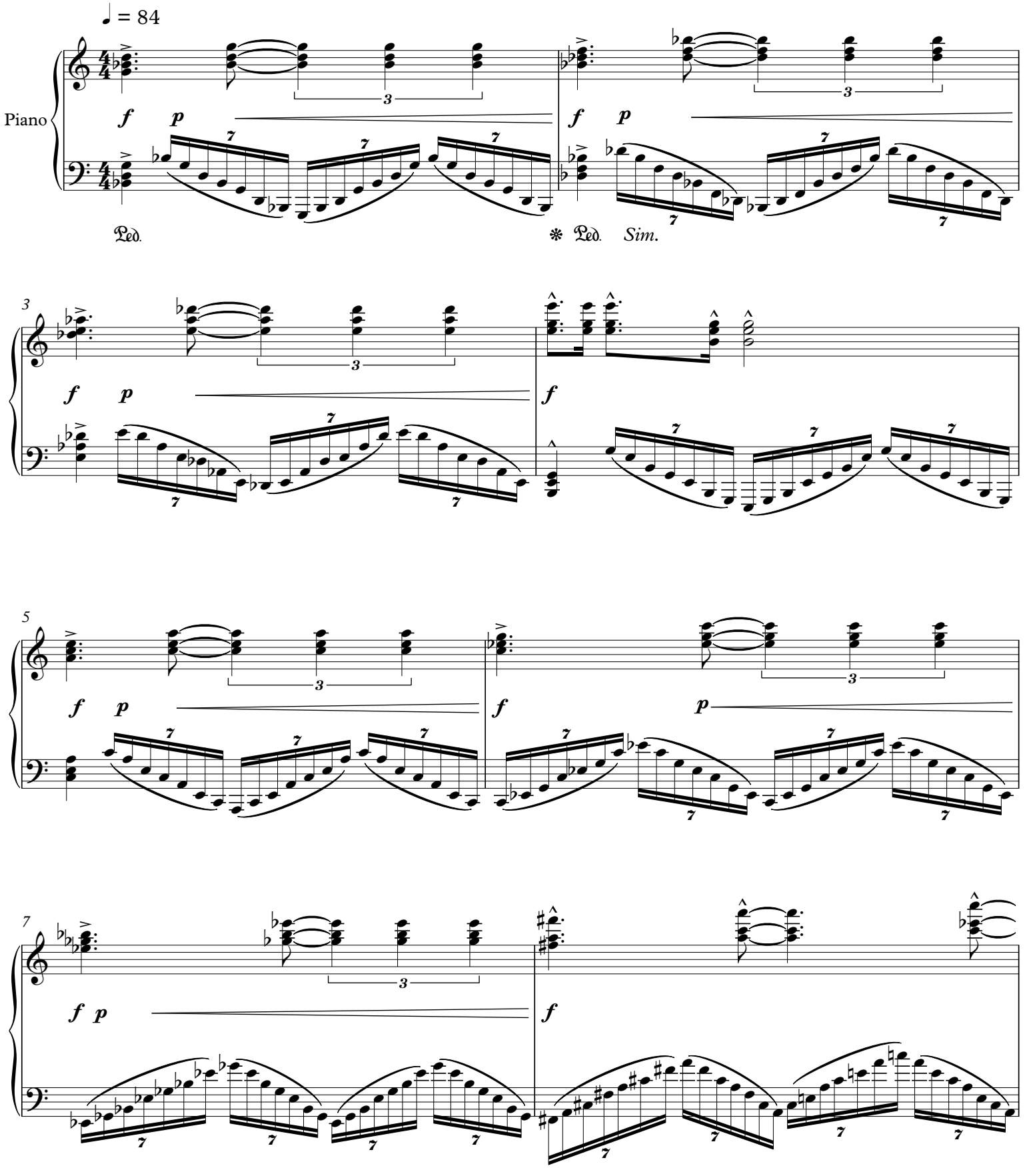
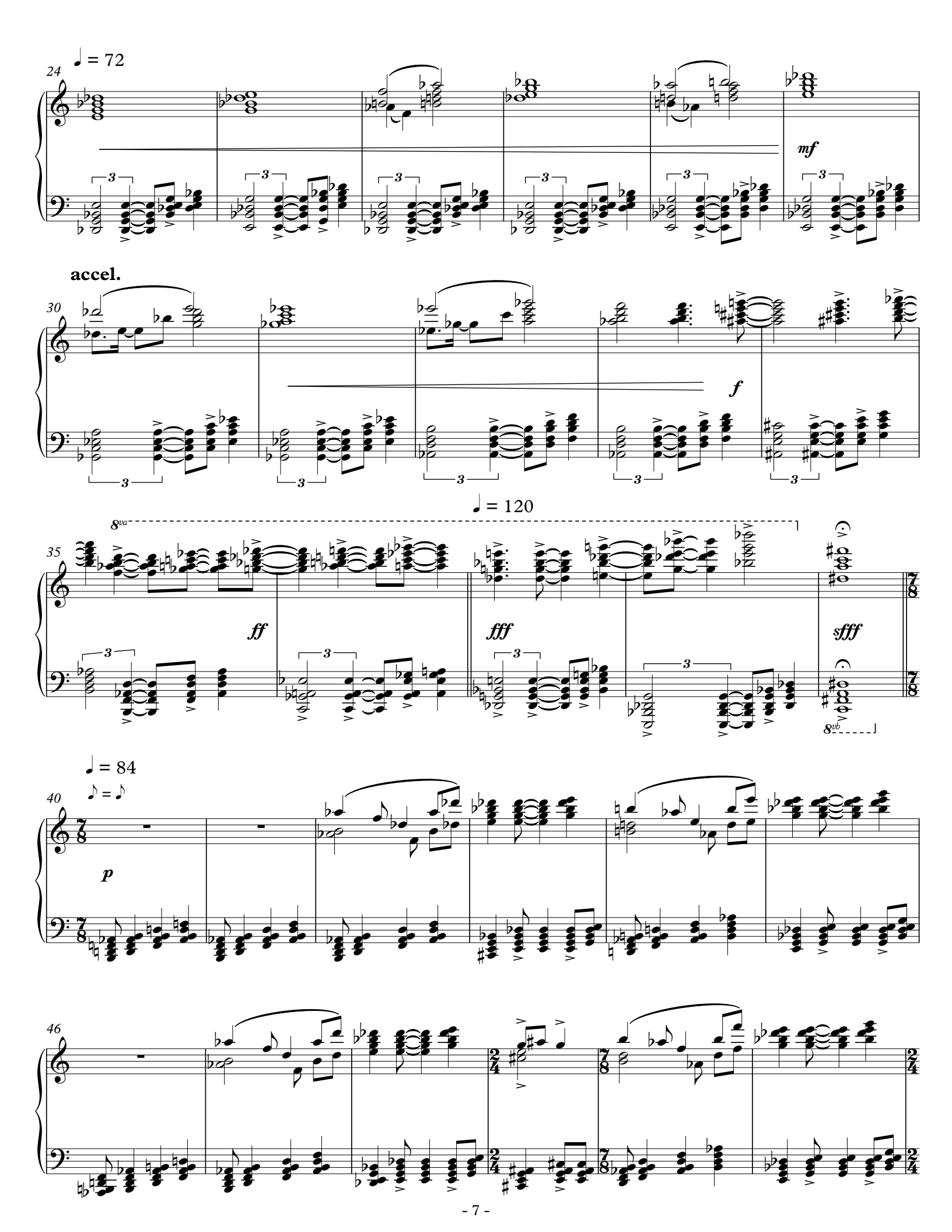
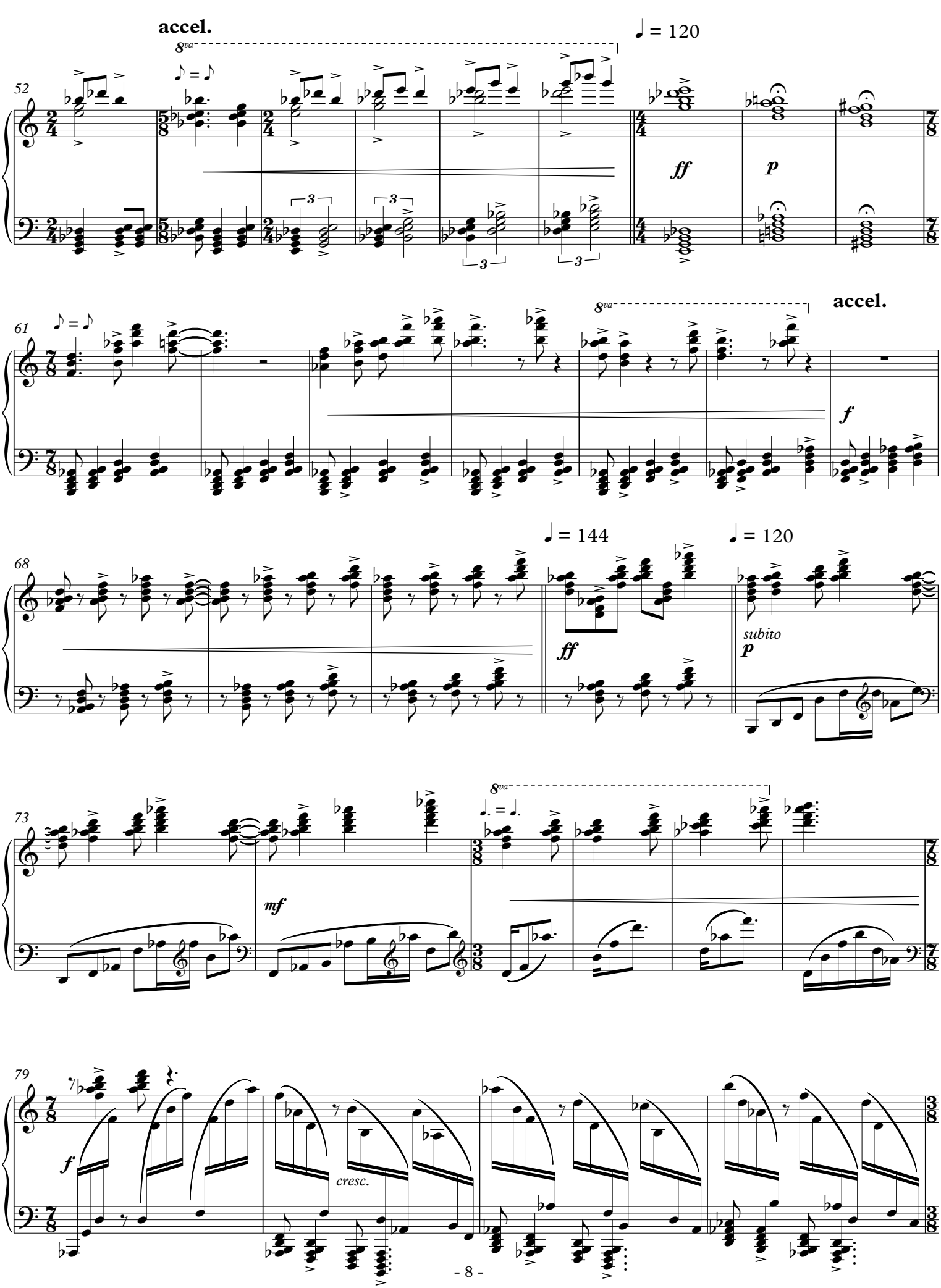

28
mf
8va
34
p
f
40
p
47
f
p
8va
54
f
p
f
p
f

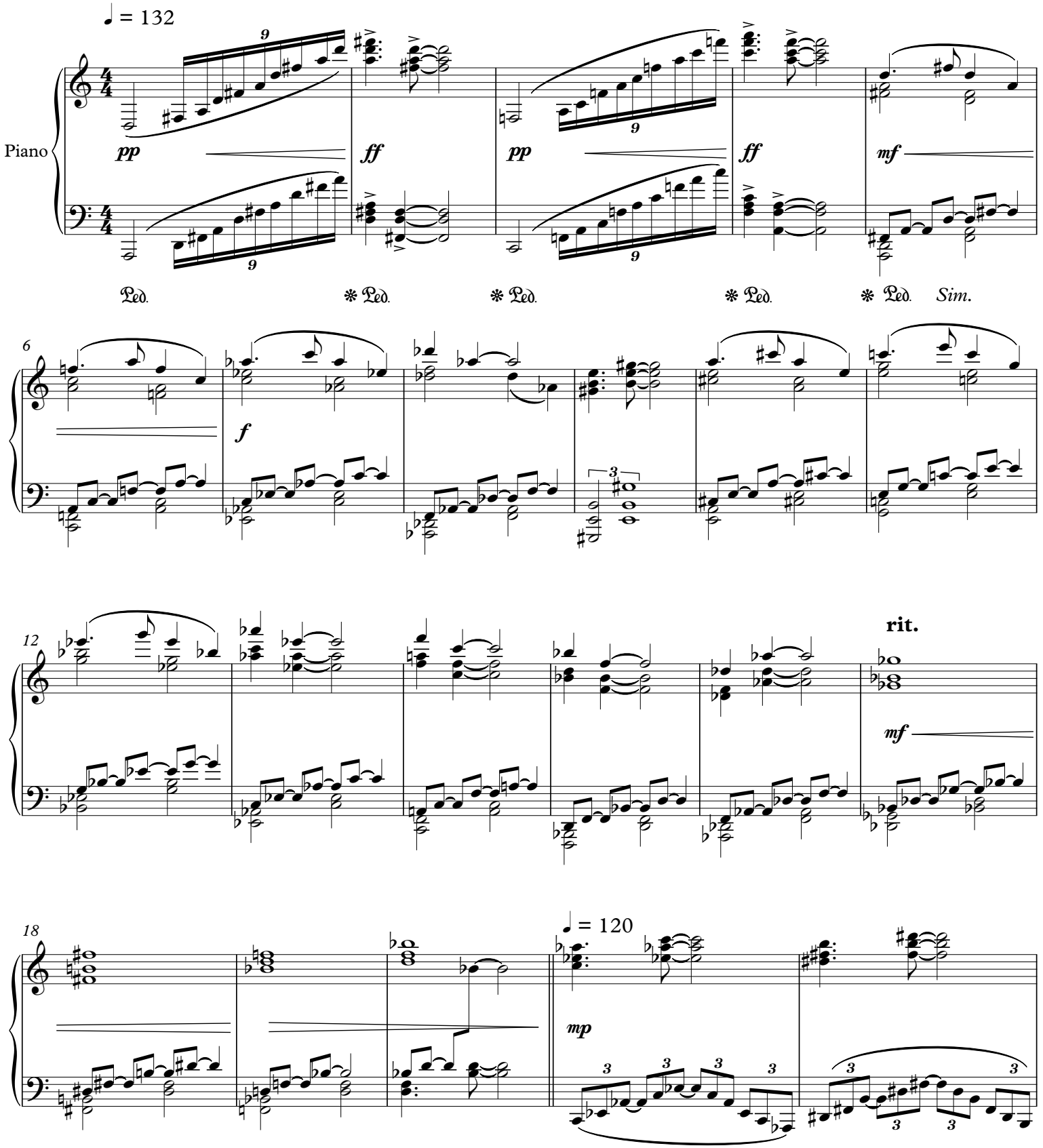
II. Anger

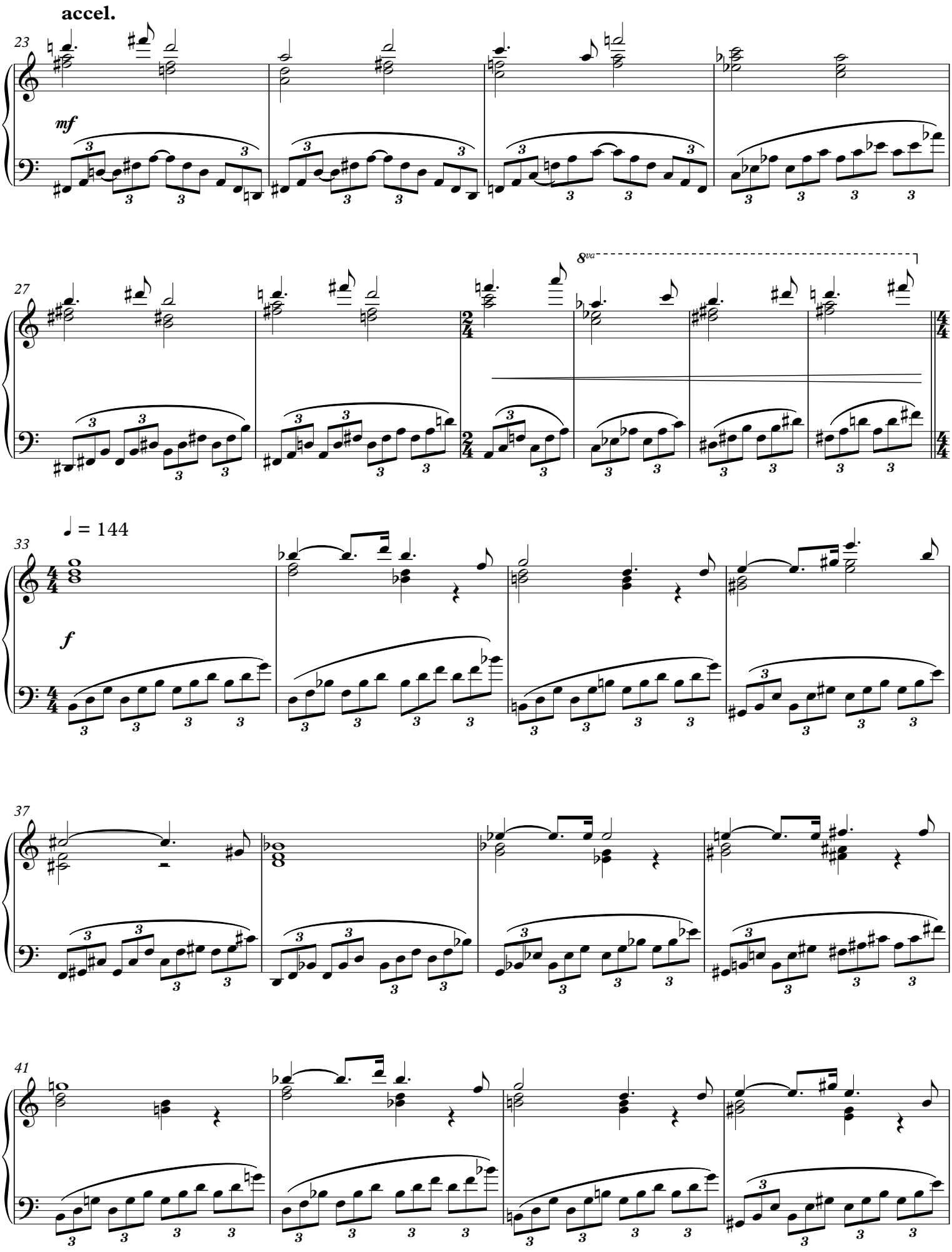



♩ = 72
24
mf
accel.
30
f
♩ = 120
8va
35
ff
fff
sfff
8vb
♩ = 84
♪ = ♪
40
p
46

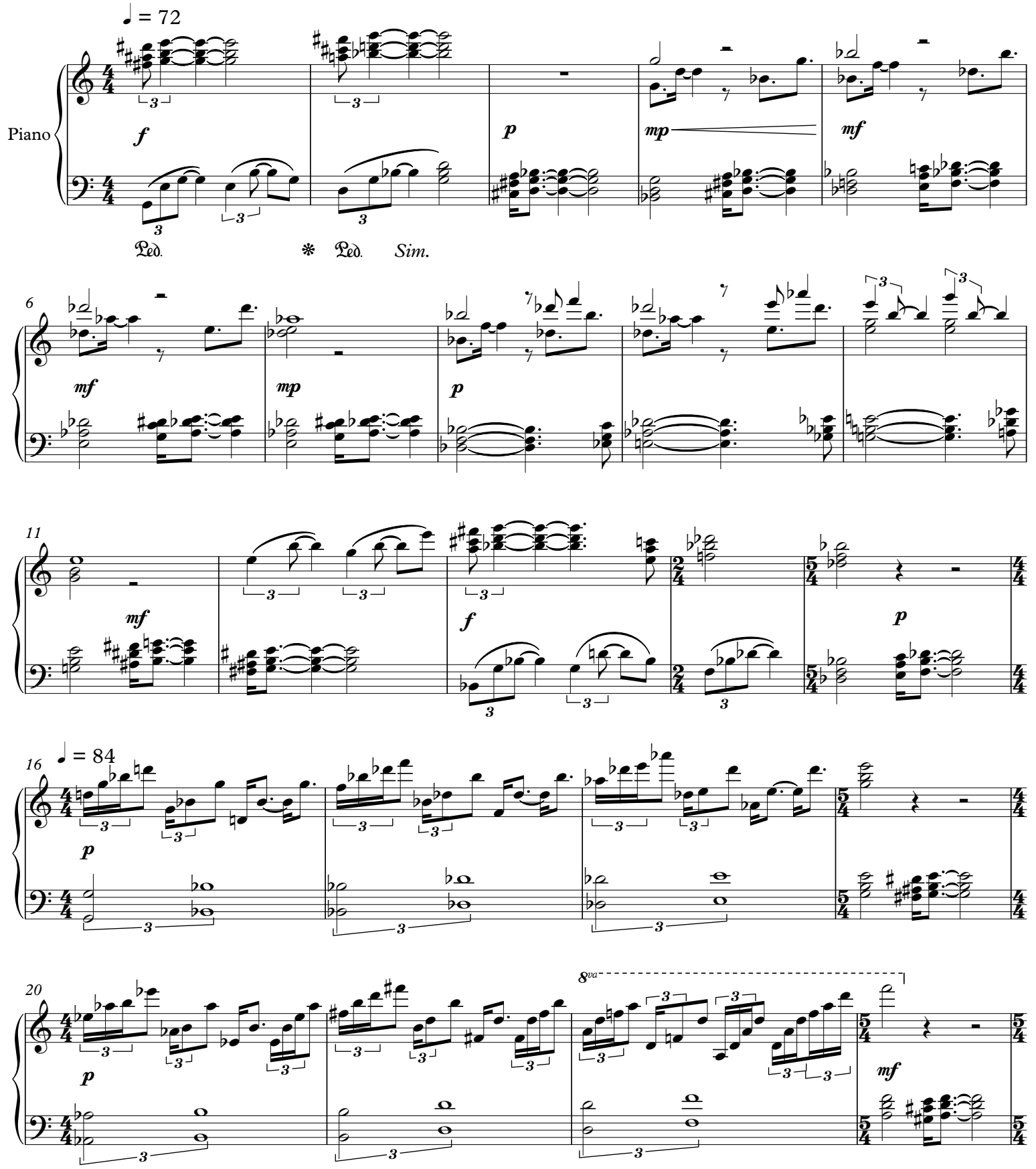

accel.
8va
♩ = 120
52
♪ = ♪
ff
p
61
♪ = ♪
8va
accel.
f
68
♩ = 144
♩ = 120
ff
subito
p
73
8va
♩. = ♩.
mf
79
f
cresc.

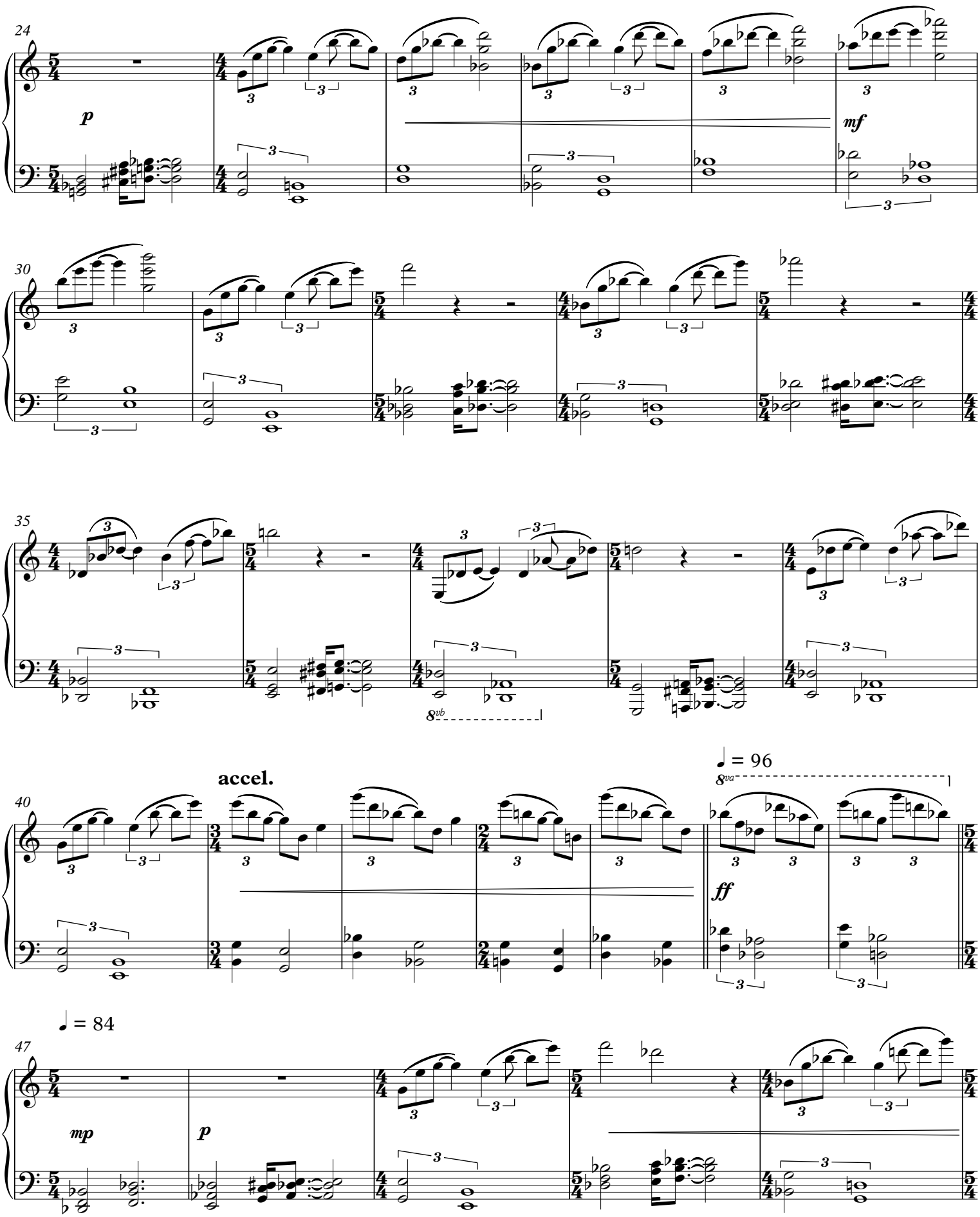
III. Bargaining




accel.
23
mf
27
8va
33
♩ = 144
f
37
41

IV. Depression




24
p
mf
30
35
8vb
accel.
40
♩ = 96
8va
ff
47
♩ = 84
mp
p