Please note that not all pages are included. This is purposely done in order to protect our property and the work of our esteemed composers.

If you would like to see this work in its entirety, please order online or call us at 800-647-2117.

Commissioning Choir: Northwestern State University Chamber Choir;
Michael John Trotta, Composer; Michael John Trotta; Conductor; Nicholaus B. Cummins, Conductor;
Northwestern State University Chamber Choir, Chorus;
Leah Forsyth, Oboe; Andrej Kurti, Violin 1; Jonathan Andino, Violin 2;
Sofia Tchetchelashvili, Viola; Alonso Restrepo Cardozo, Violoncello

First Performance/Recording Date: March 1, 2017
Recording Engineer: Pat Divietro

This project was made possible by the Lynn Prince Endowed Professorship in Voice.

CONTENTS

Texts	2
1. Wealth Enough for Me	3
2. Peace Flows Into Me	19
3. Who Gave My Soul to Me	26
4. For You I Am Still	36
5. Spend All You Have On Loveliness	46
6. And I For You	57
7. Let Me Love	65

Duration: 30:27

Copying is illegal
Review copy only

NOTES

Each of the movements of *For a Breath of Ecstasy* chronicles Teasdale's search for solace amidst life's many storms. The tapestry of different vocal forces set against the backdrop of Oboe and Strings reveals moments of yearning, love, joy, and peace. Vivid imagery portrays transcendent moments of solace that are revealed in an individual's relationship to nature and in love.

This work draws texts from *Love Songs,* the anthology of celebrated American poet, Sara Teasdale (1884–1933), and was commissioned to celebrate the centennial of her winning the first Pulitzer Prize in Poetry in 1918.

—Michael John Trotta

AVAILABLE EDITIONS

→ **Piano/Oboe/Choral Score, 1.3523**
Full Score, 1.3523A
Oboe Part, 1.3523B
String Parts, 1.3523C

Extracts from the Piano/Oboe Choral Score
1. Wealth Enough for Me, 1.3524
2. Peace Flows into Me, 1.3525
3. Who Gave My Soul to Me, 1.3526
4. For You I Am Still, 1.3527
5. Spend All You Have on Loveliness, 1.3451
6. And I for You, 1.3528
7. Let Me Love, 1.3529

Michael John Trotta (b. 1978)

For biographical information visit: www.mjtrotta.com

TEXTS

1. Wealth Enough For Me
I have no riches but my thoughts,
Yet these are wealth enough for me;
My thoughts of you are golden coins
Stamped in the mint of memory;

And I must spend them all in song,
For thoughts, as well as gold, must be
Left on the hither side of death
To gain their immortality.

2. Peace Flows into Me
Peace flows into me
As the tide to the pool by the shore;
It is mine forevermore,
It will not ebb like the sea.

I am the pool of blue
That worships the vivid sky;
My hopes were heaven-high,
They are all fulfilled in you.

I am the pool of gold
When sunset burns and dies—
You are my deepening skies;
Give me your stars to hold.

3. Who Gave My Soul to Me
I gave my first love laughter,
I gave my second tears,
I gave my third love silence
Thru all the years.

My first love gave me singing,
My second eyes to see,
But oh, it was my third love
Who gave my soul to me.

4. For You I Am Still
I sang my songs for the rest,
For you I am still;
The tree of my song is bare
On its shining hill.

For you came like a lordly wind,
And the leaves were whirled
Far as forgotten things
Past the rim of the world.

The tree of my song stands bare
Against the blue --
I gave my songs to the rest,
Myself to you.

5. Spend All You Have On Loveliness
Life has loveliness to sell,
All beautiful and splendid things,
Blue waves whitened on a cliff,
Soaring fire that sways and sings,
And children's faces looking up
Holding wonder like a cup.

Life has loveliness to sell,
Music like a curve of gold,
Scent of pine trees in the rain,
Eyes that love you, arms that hold,
And for your spirit's still delight,
Holy thoughts that star the night.

Spend all you have for loveliness,
Buy it and never count the cost;
For one white singing hour of peace
Count many a year of strife well lost,
And for a breath of ecstasy
Give all you have been, or could be.

6. And I For You
The moon is a curving flower of gold,
The sky is still and blue;
The moon was made for the sky to hold,
And I for you;

The moon is a flower without a stem,
The sky is luminous;
Eternity was made for them,
Tonight for us.

7. Let Me Love
Until I lose my soul and lie
Blind to the beauty of the earth,
Deaf though shouting wind goes by,
Dumb in a storm of mirth;

Until my heart is quenched at length
And I have left the land of men,
Oh, let me love with all my strength
Careless if I am loved again.

—Sara Teasdale (1884–1933)

Copying is illegal
Review copy only

Note: These are the texts in their original form. The composer altered them in his settings. See the music for footnotes.

Catalog No. 1.3523

For Choirs of Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, Louisiana
Dr. Nicholaus B. Cummins, Director of Choral Activities and Lynn Prince Endowed Professor

Dedicated to Dr. Greg Handel, Director of the Dear School of Creative and Performing Arts
for his incredible support of the choral arts

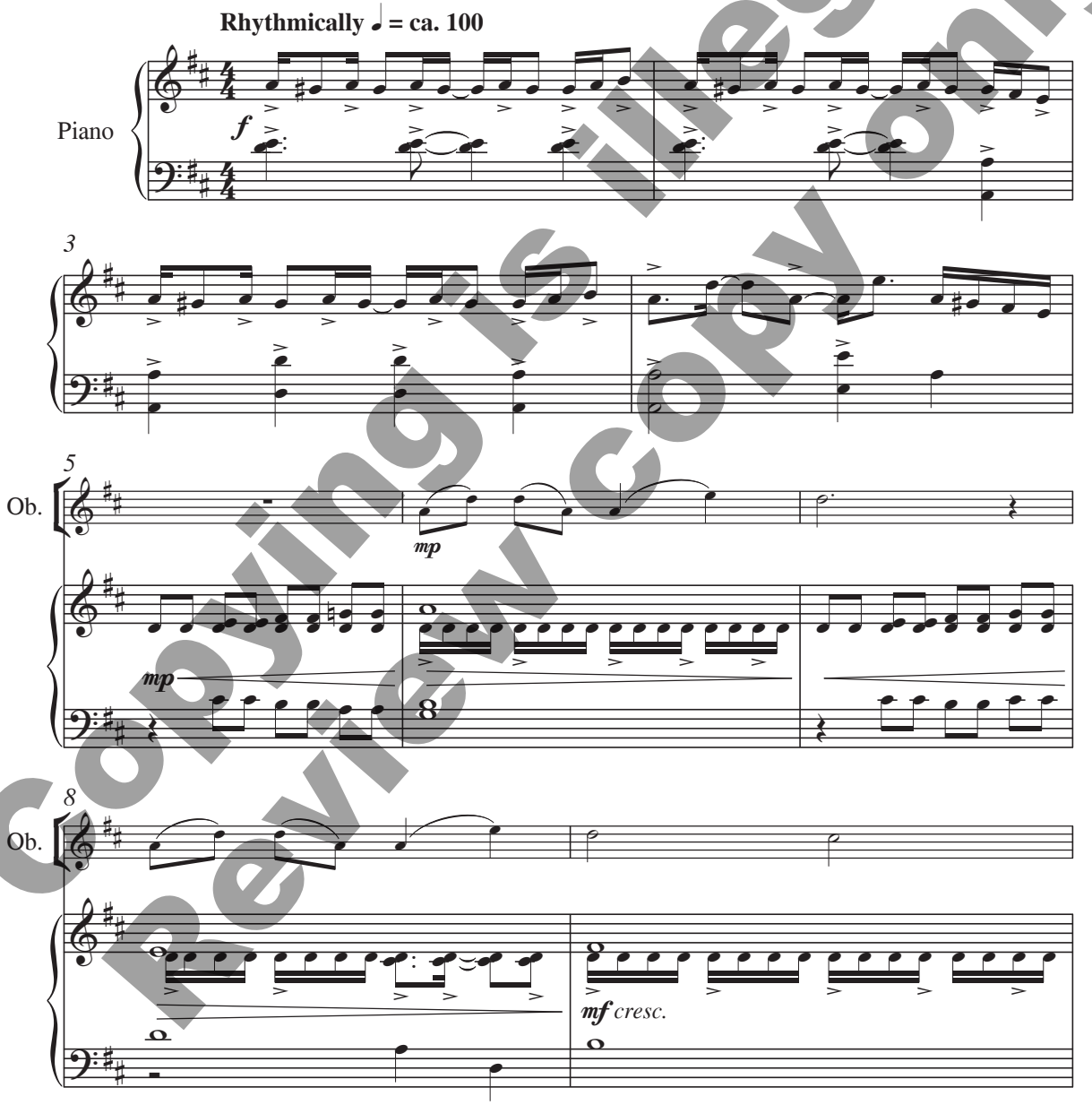
For a Breath of Ecstasy

for SATB Chorus, Oboe, and String Quartet or Piano

Sara Teasdale (1884–1933)
M. J. T., alt.

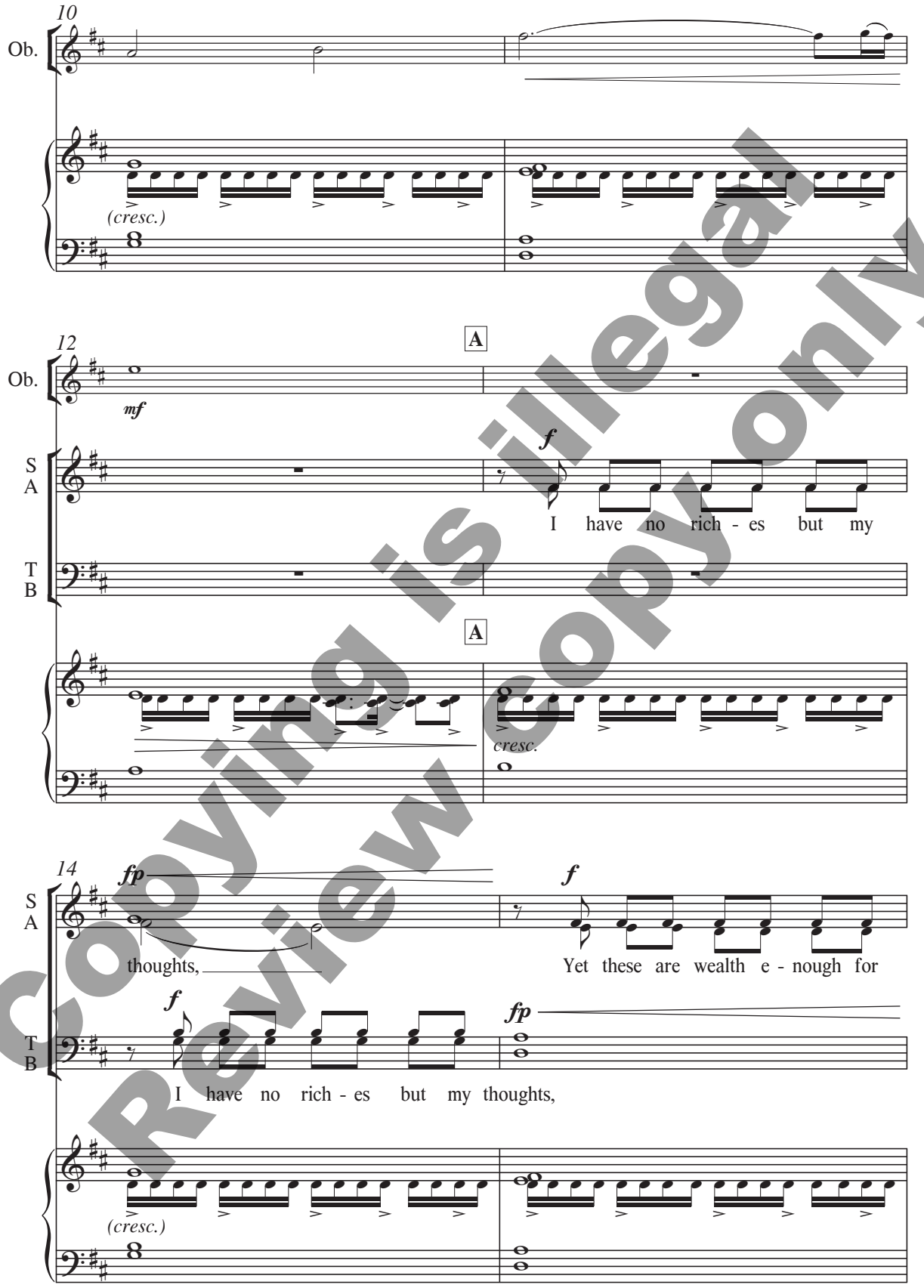
Michael John Trotta
(ASCAP)

1. Wealth Enough for Me

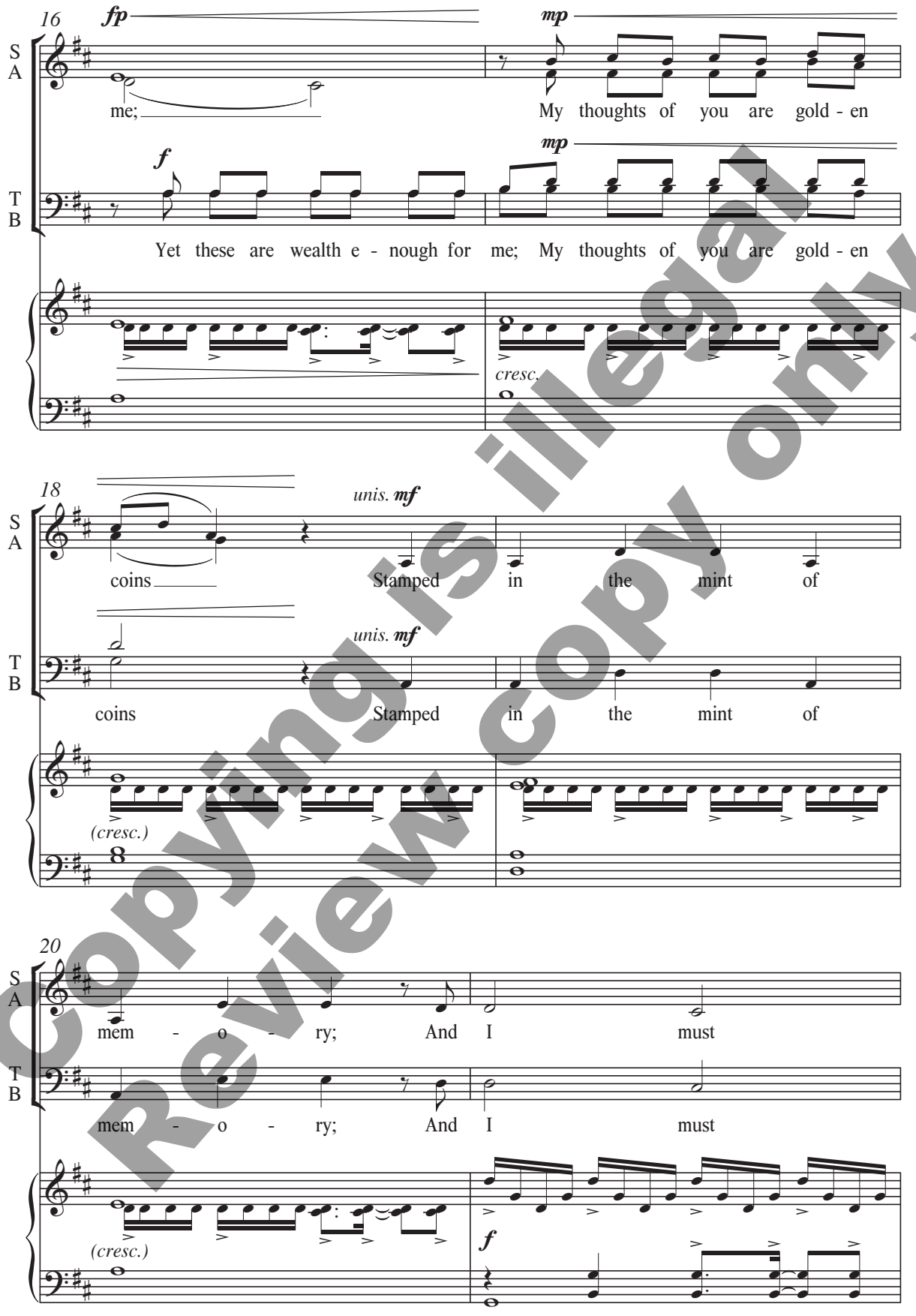


Copying is illegal
Review copy only

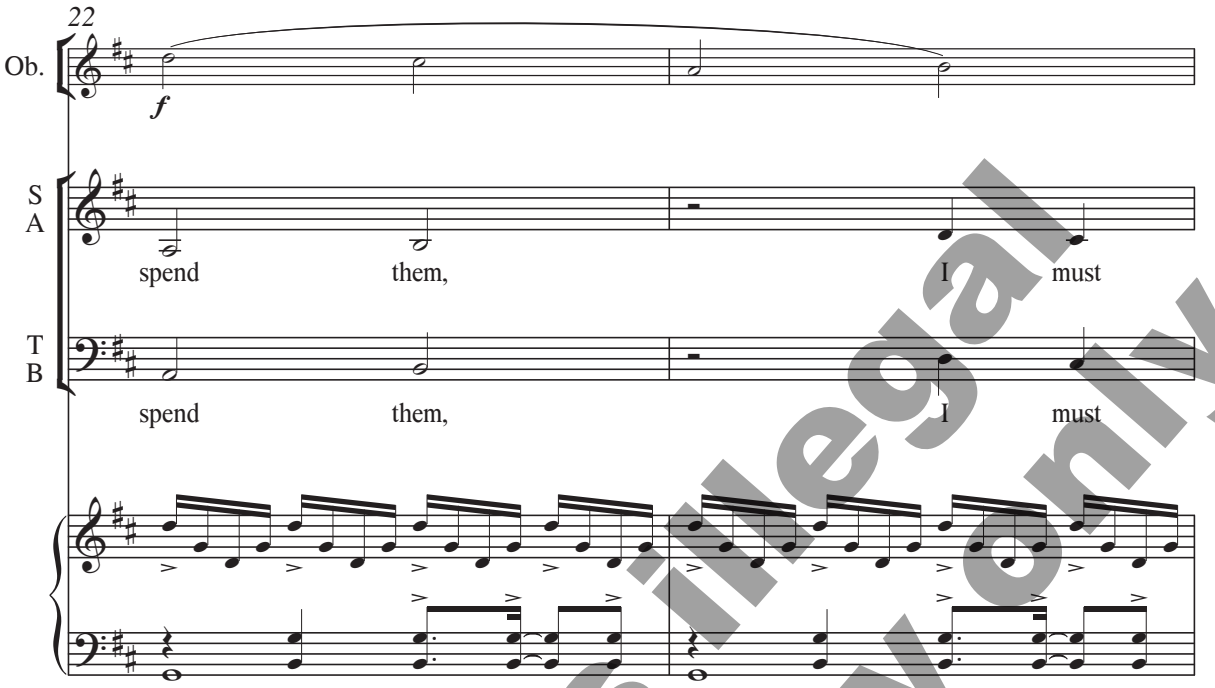
© Copyright 2018 by Galaxy Music Corporation, Inc.,
a division of ECS Publishing Group. www.ecspublishing.com
All rights reserved.

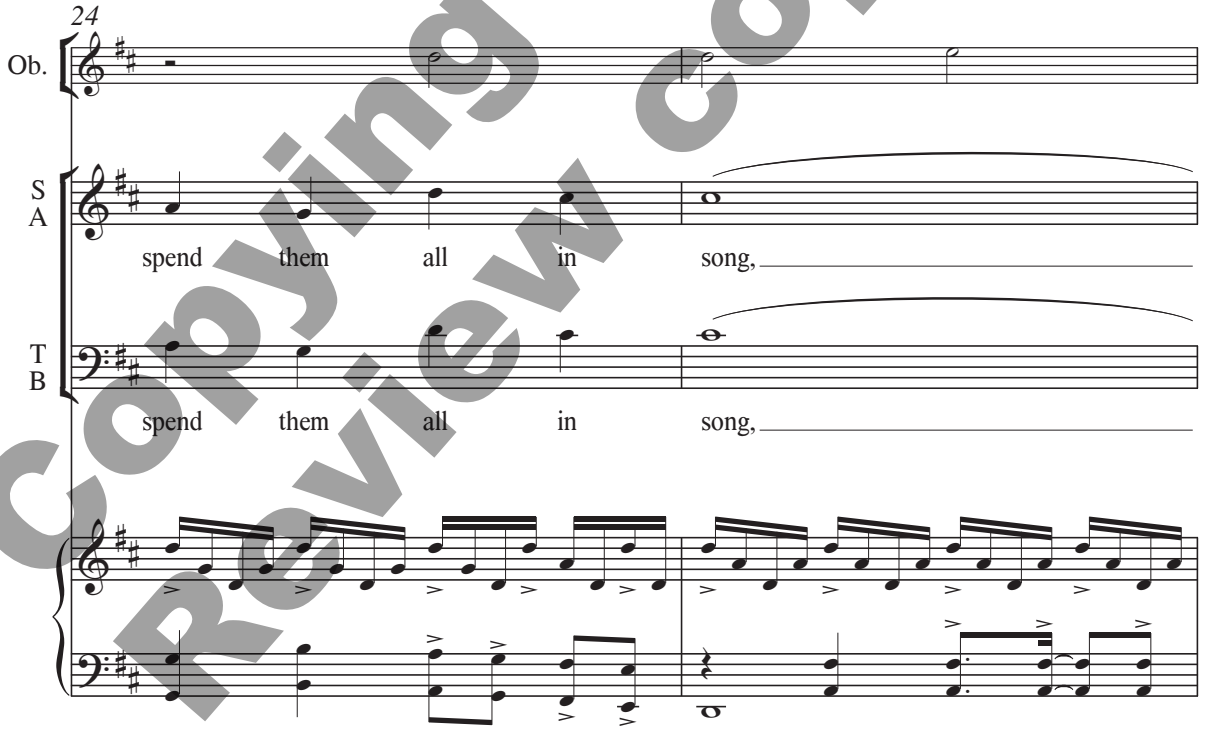


Copying is illegal
Review copy only



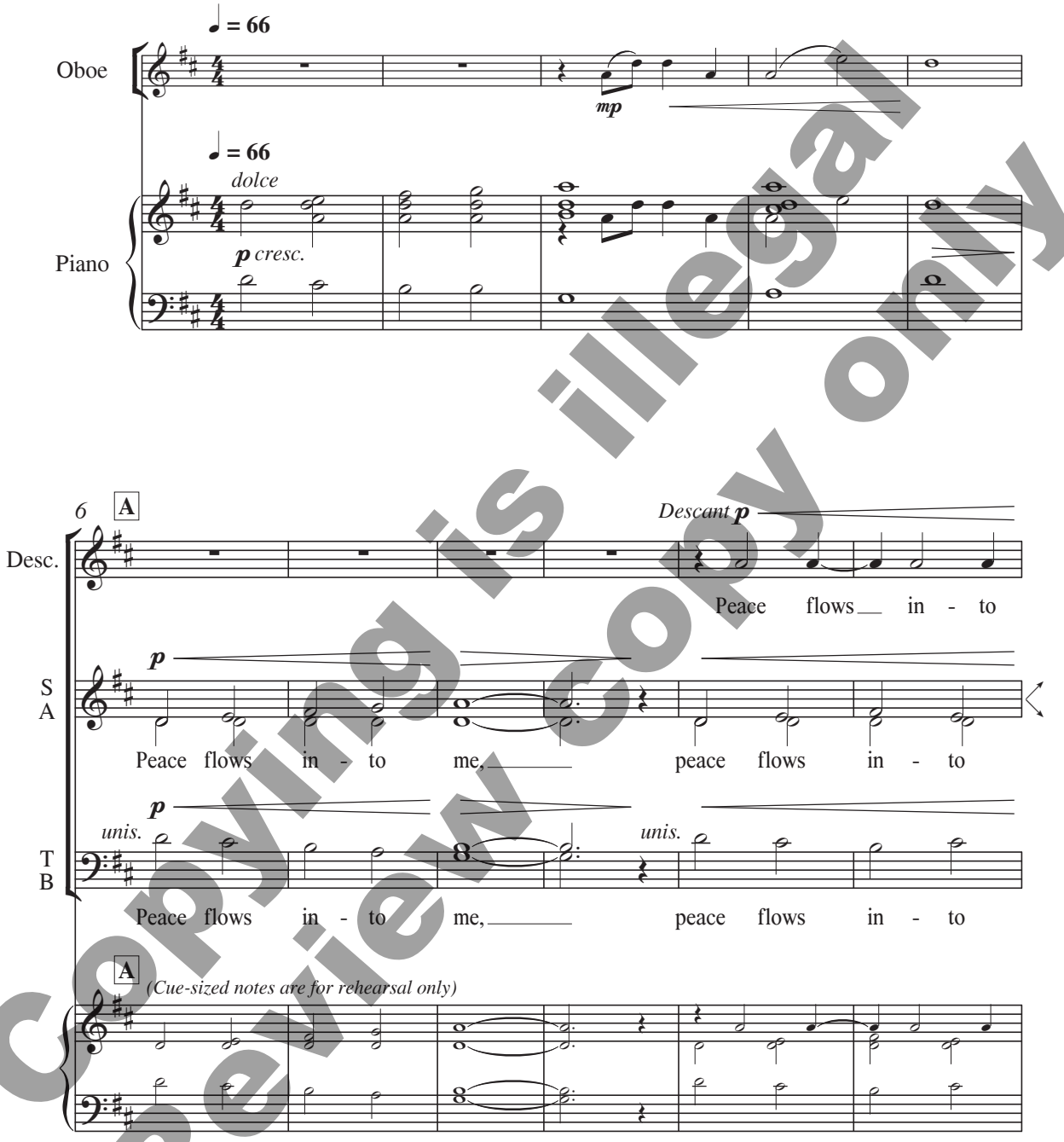
Copying is illegal
Review copy only





Copying is illegal
Review copy only

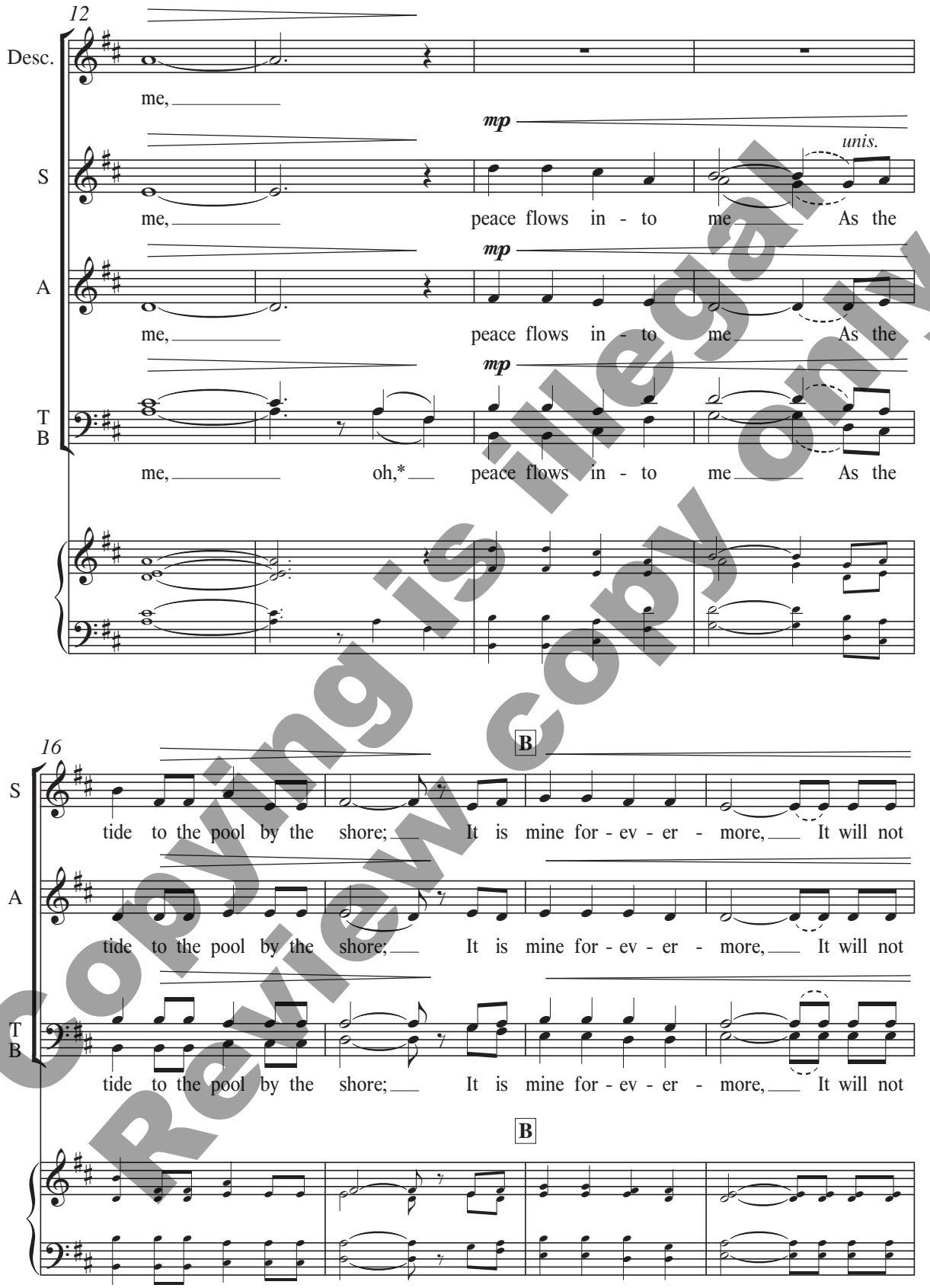
2. Peace Flows Into Me



N.B.: The composer reordered the second and third paragraphs of the text in his setting.

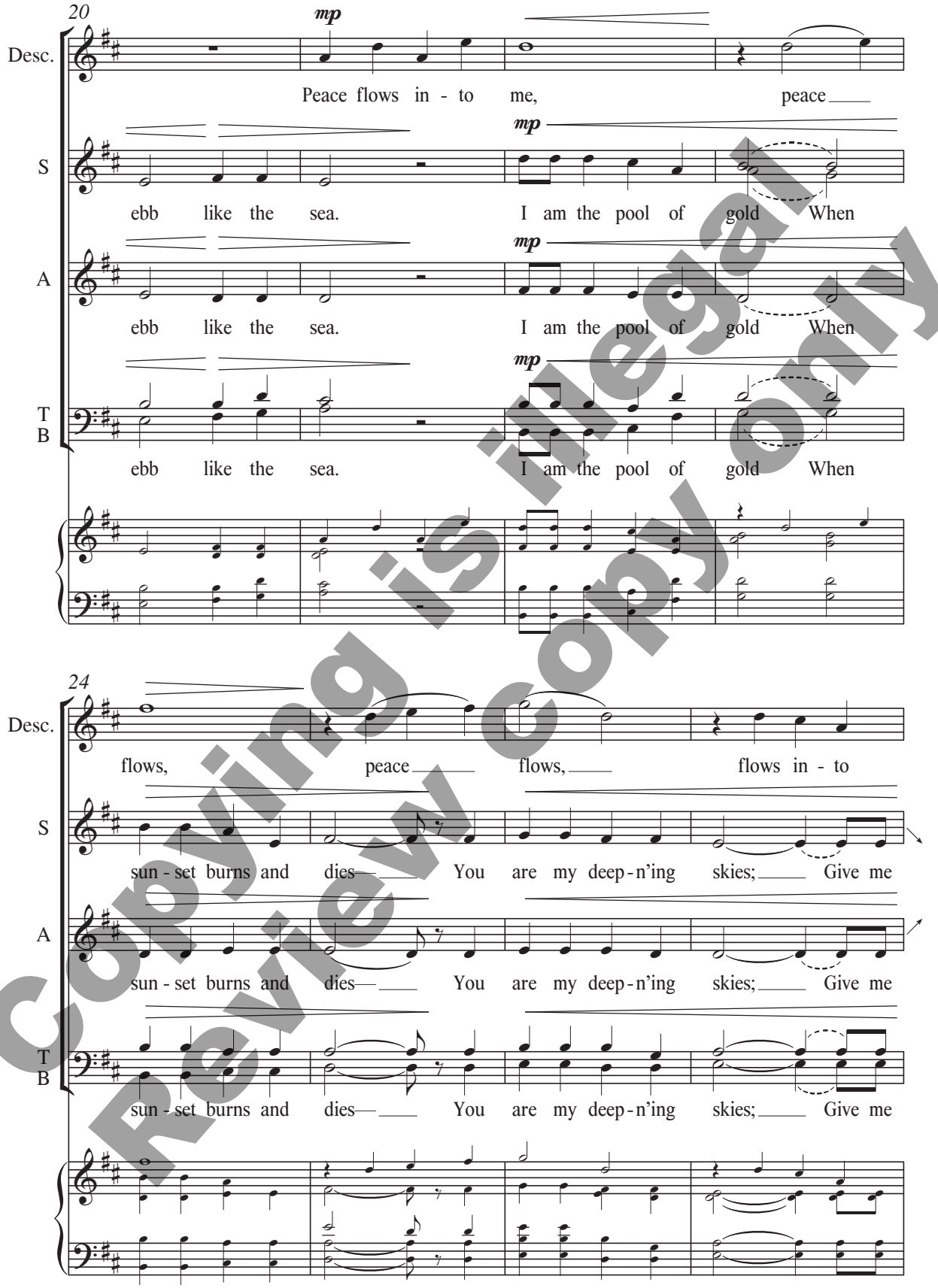
Copying is illegal
Review copy only

© Copyright 2018 by Galaxy Music Corporation, Inc.,
a division of ECS Publishing Group. www.ecspublishing.com
All rights reserved.

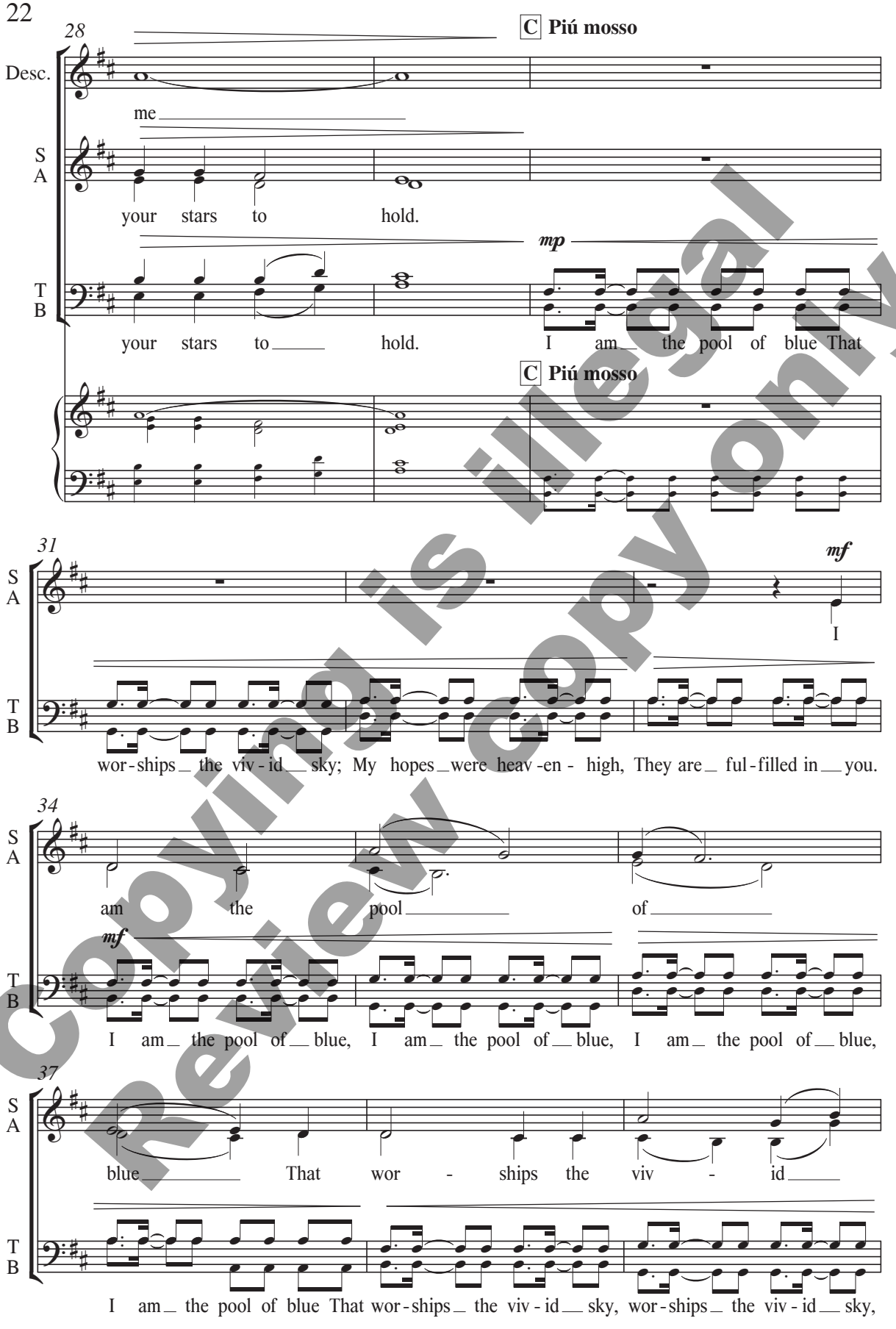


Copying is illegal
Review copy only

* The composer inserted the word “oh” here.

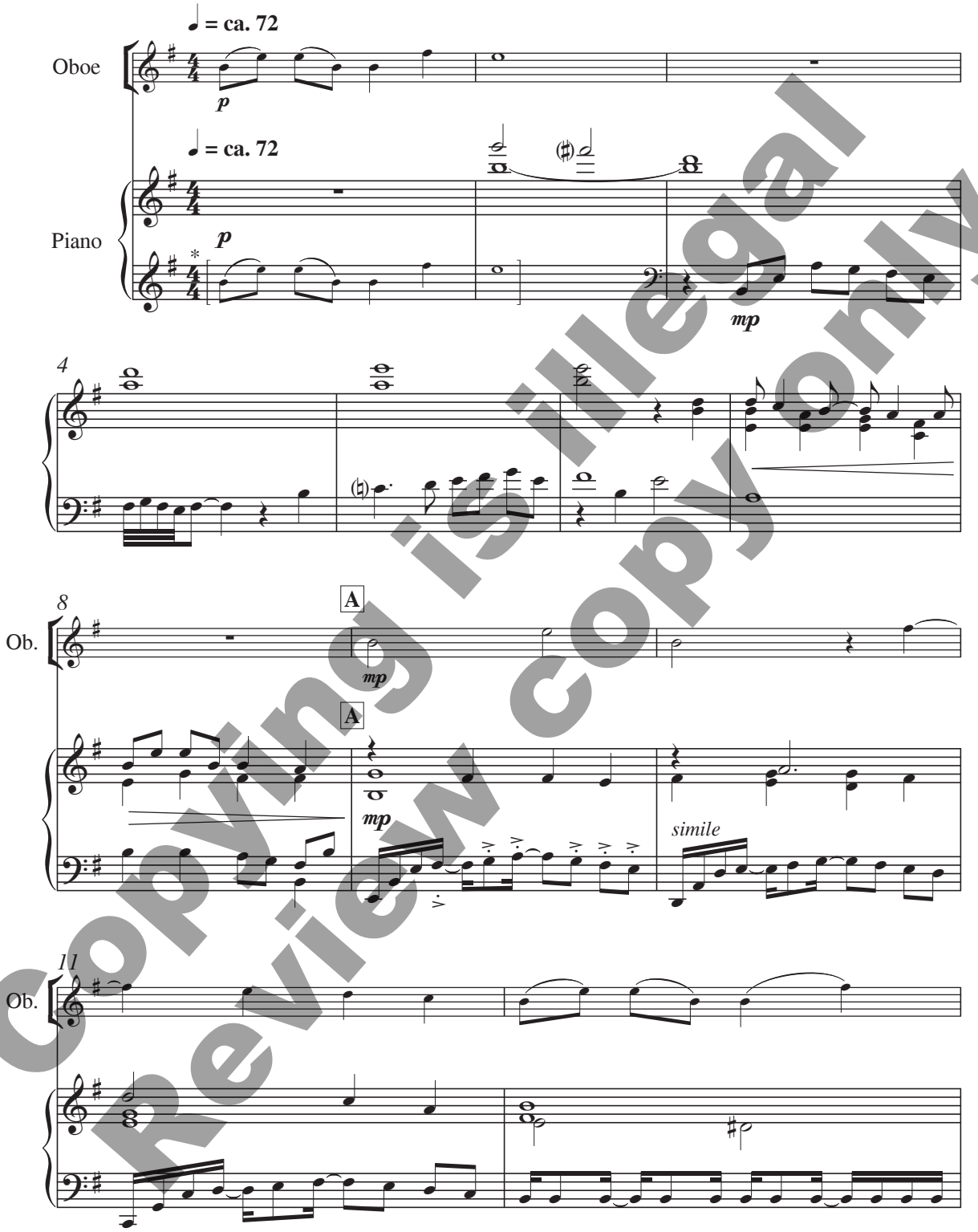


Copying is Illegal
Review Copy only



Copying is illegal
Review copy only

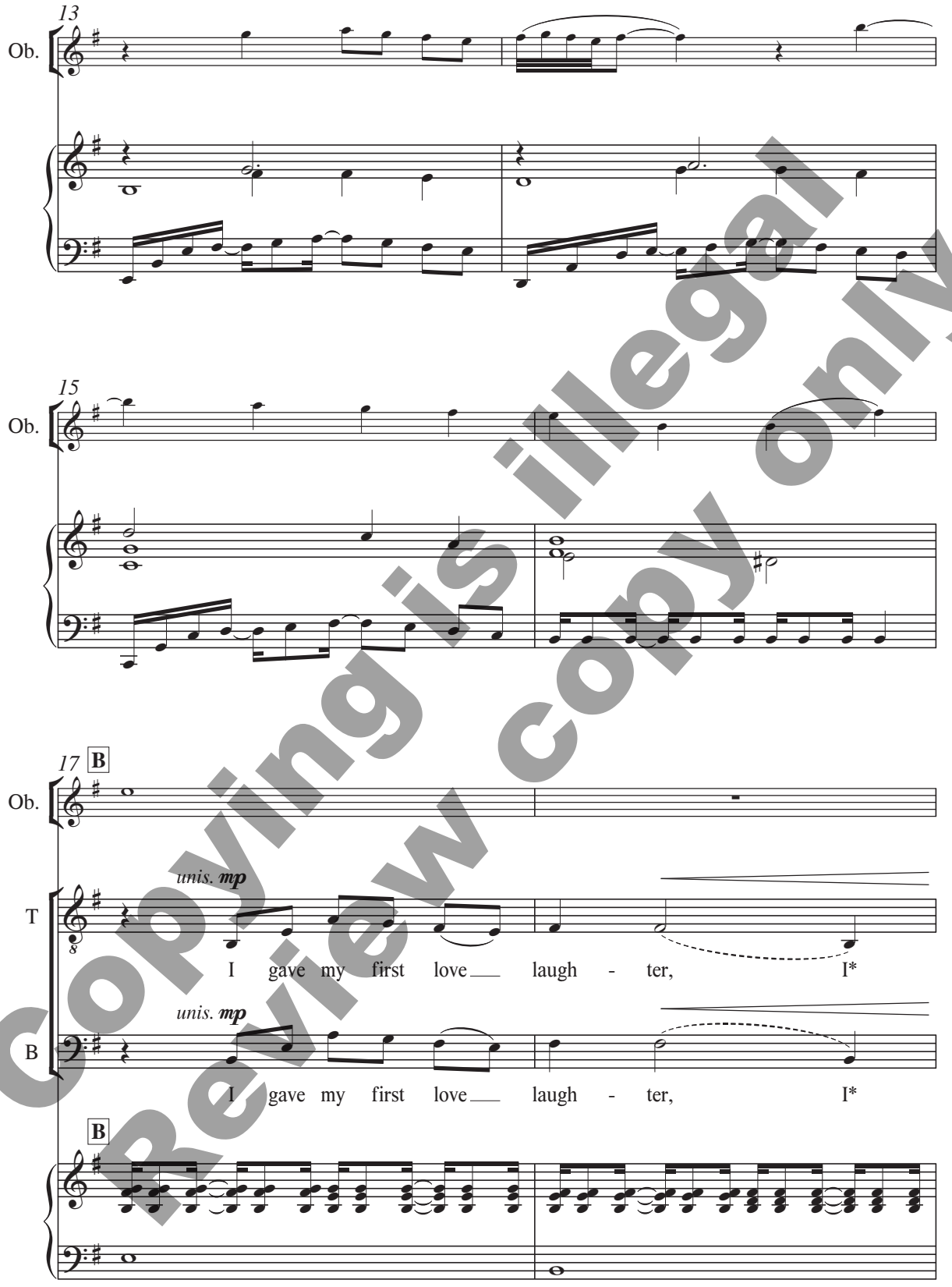
3. Who Gave My Soul to Me



* Play cue-sized notes if Oboe is not present.

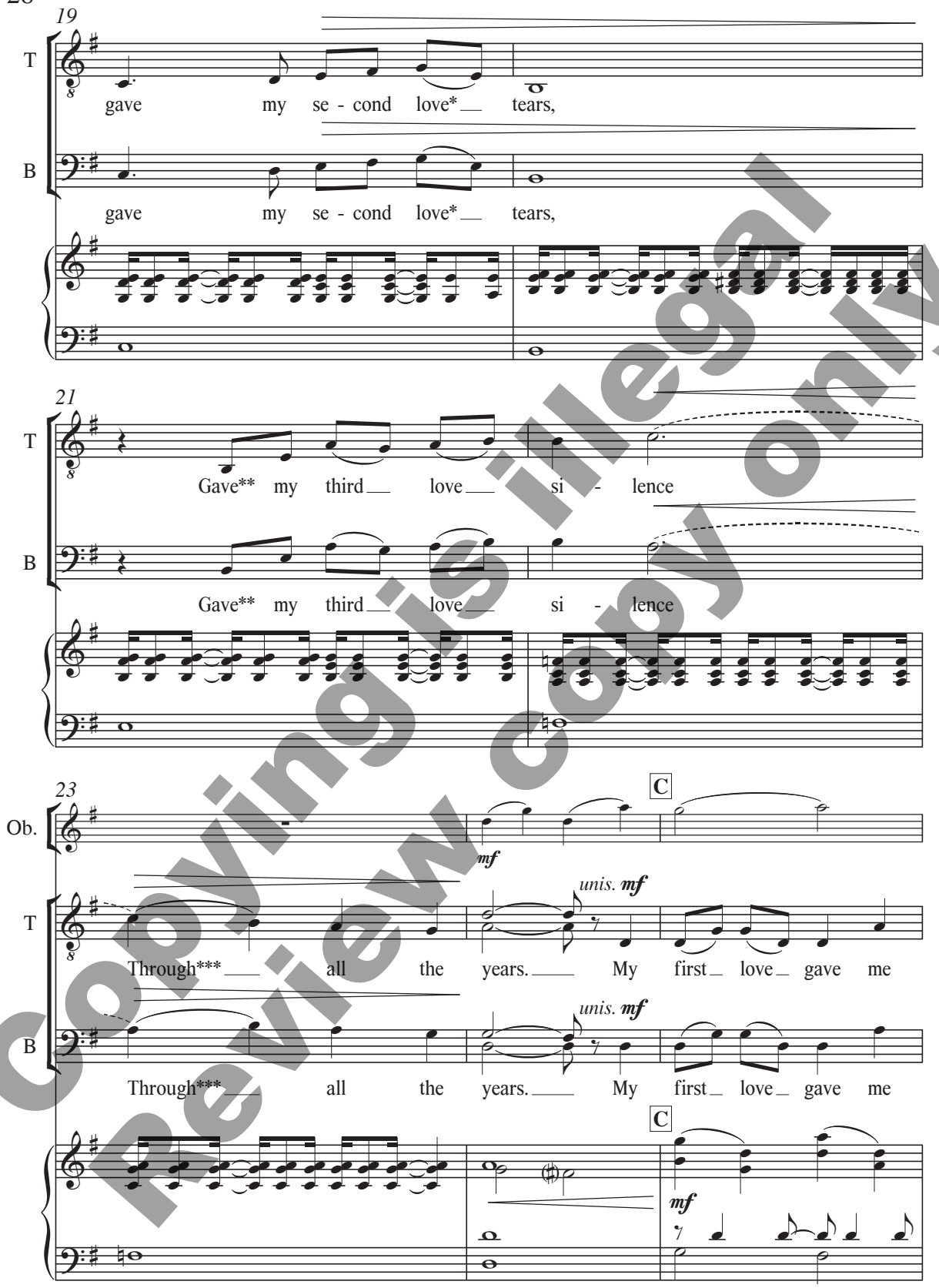
© Copyright 2018 by Galaxy Music Corporation, Inc.,
a division of ECS Publishing Group. www.ecspublishing.com
All rights reserved.

Copying is illegal
Review copy only



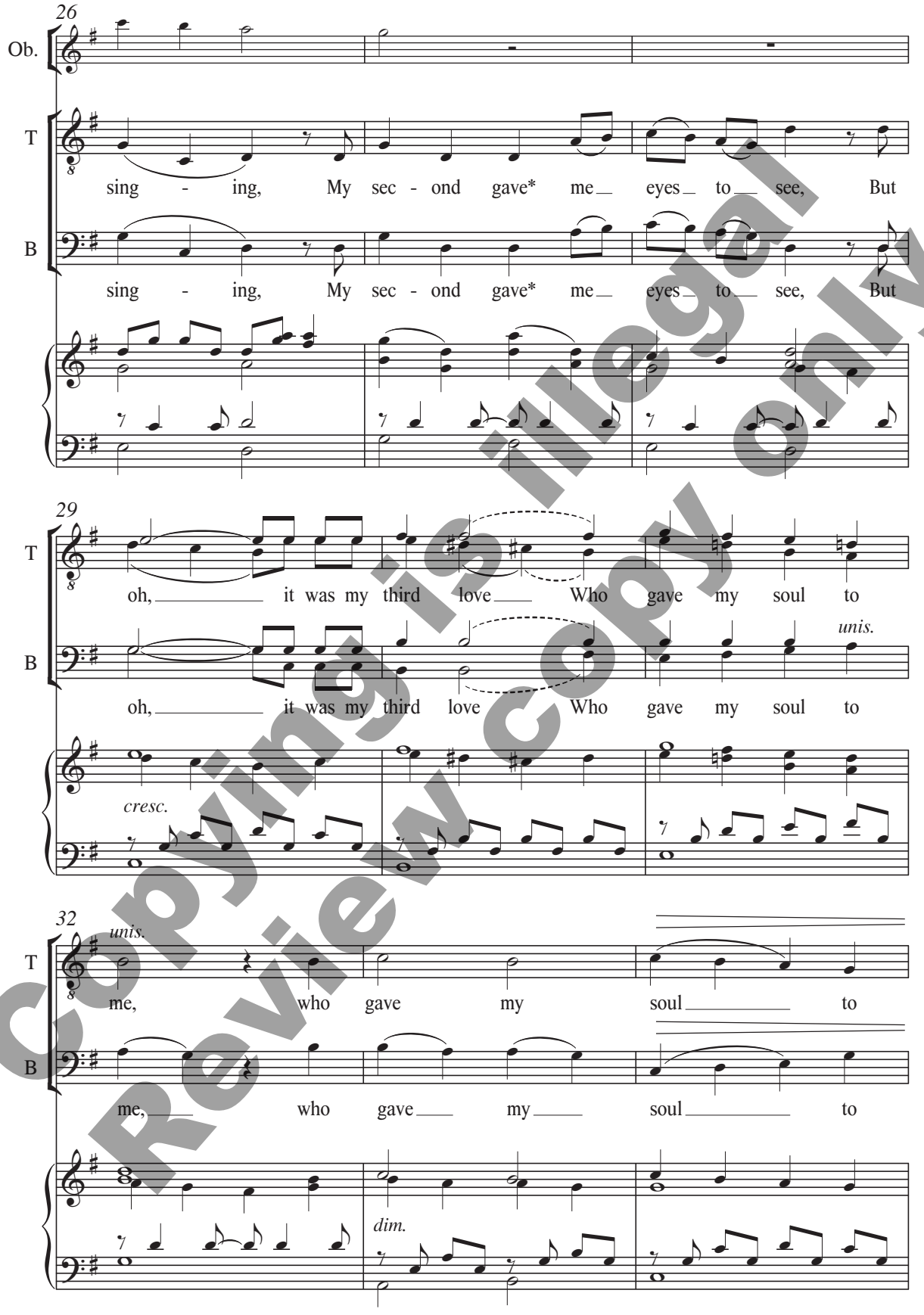
Copying is illegal
Review copy only

* The composer inserted the words “I gave” here.



Copying is illegal
Review copy only

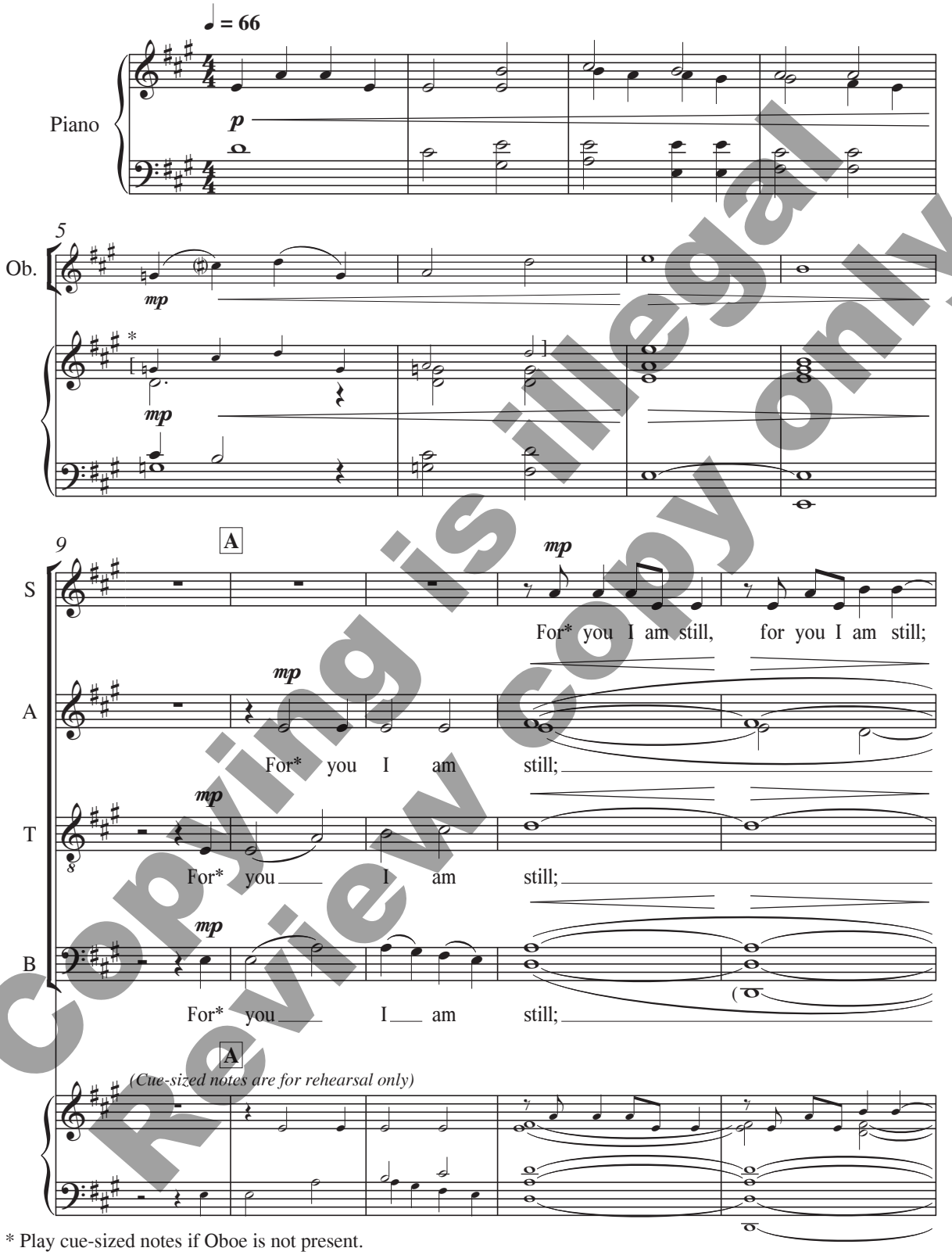
* The composer inserted the word "love" here.
** The composer omitted the word "I" here.
*** The word "Thru" were changed to "Through" by the composer in the music to reflect a more current spelling.



Copying is illegal
Review copy only

* The composer inserted the words "gave me" here.

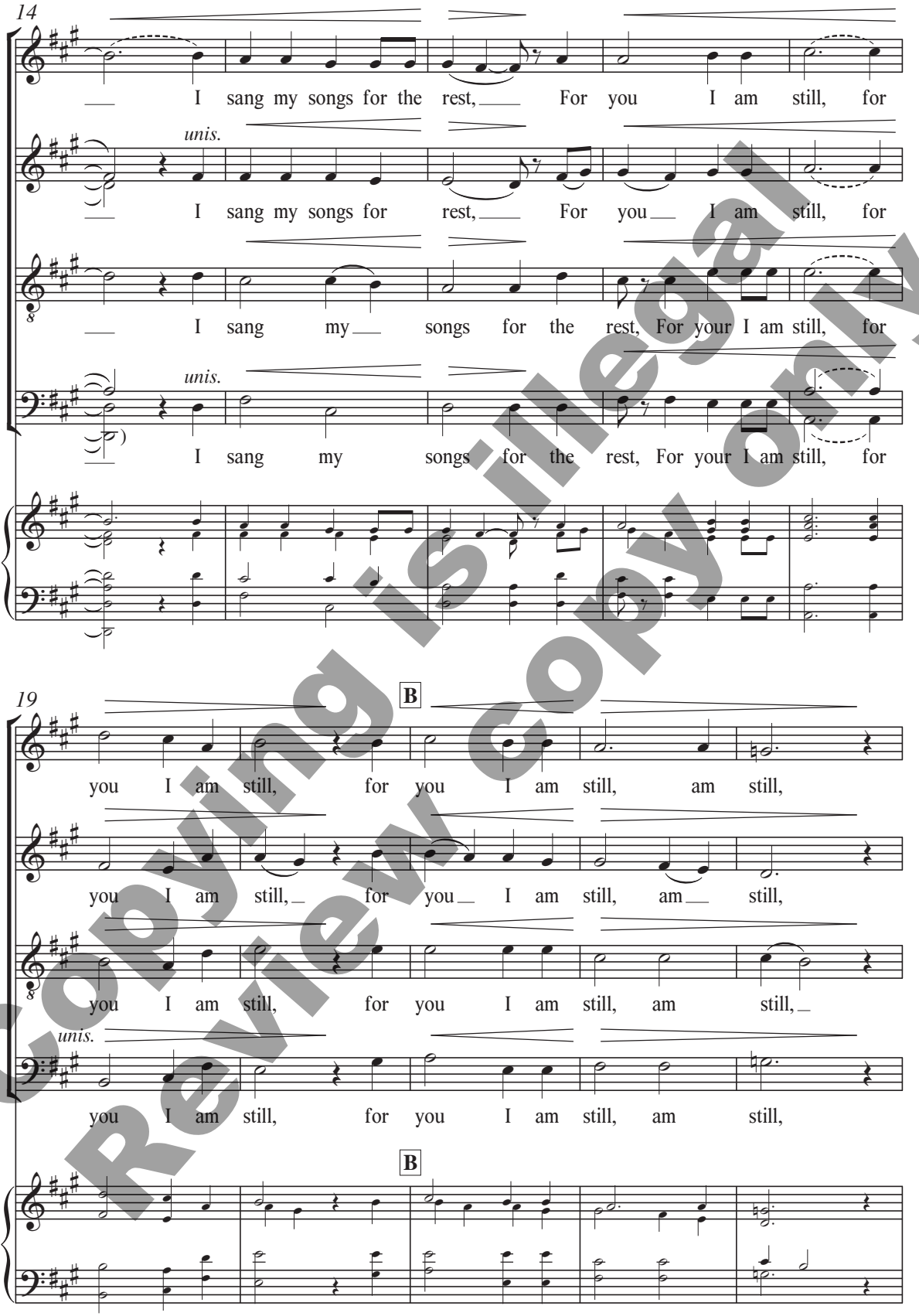
4. For You I Am Still



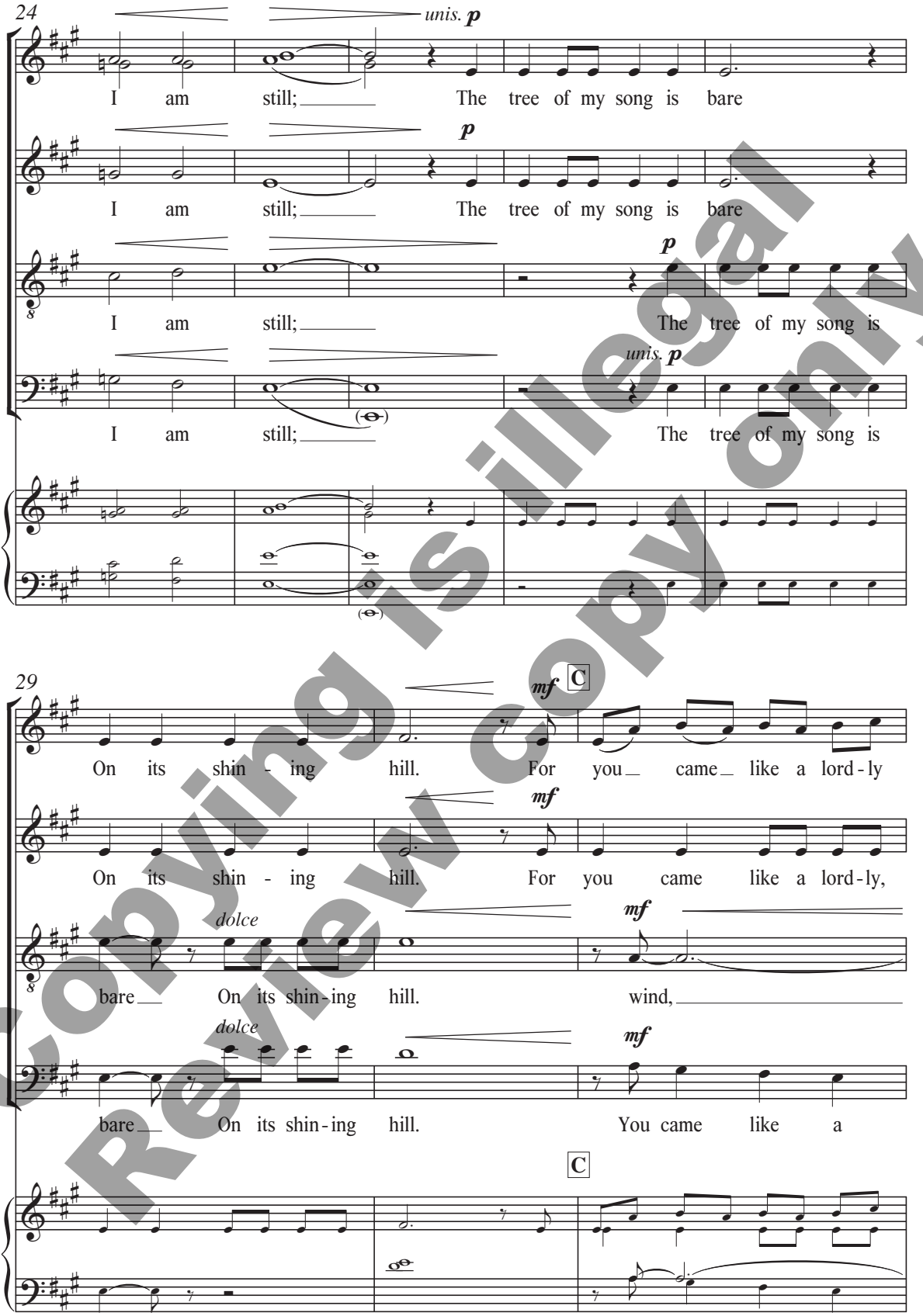
Copying is illegal
Review copy only

* Play cue-sized notes if Oboe is not present.
** The composer inserted this line here.

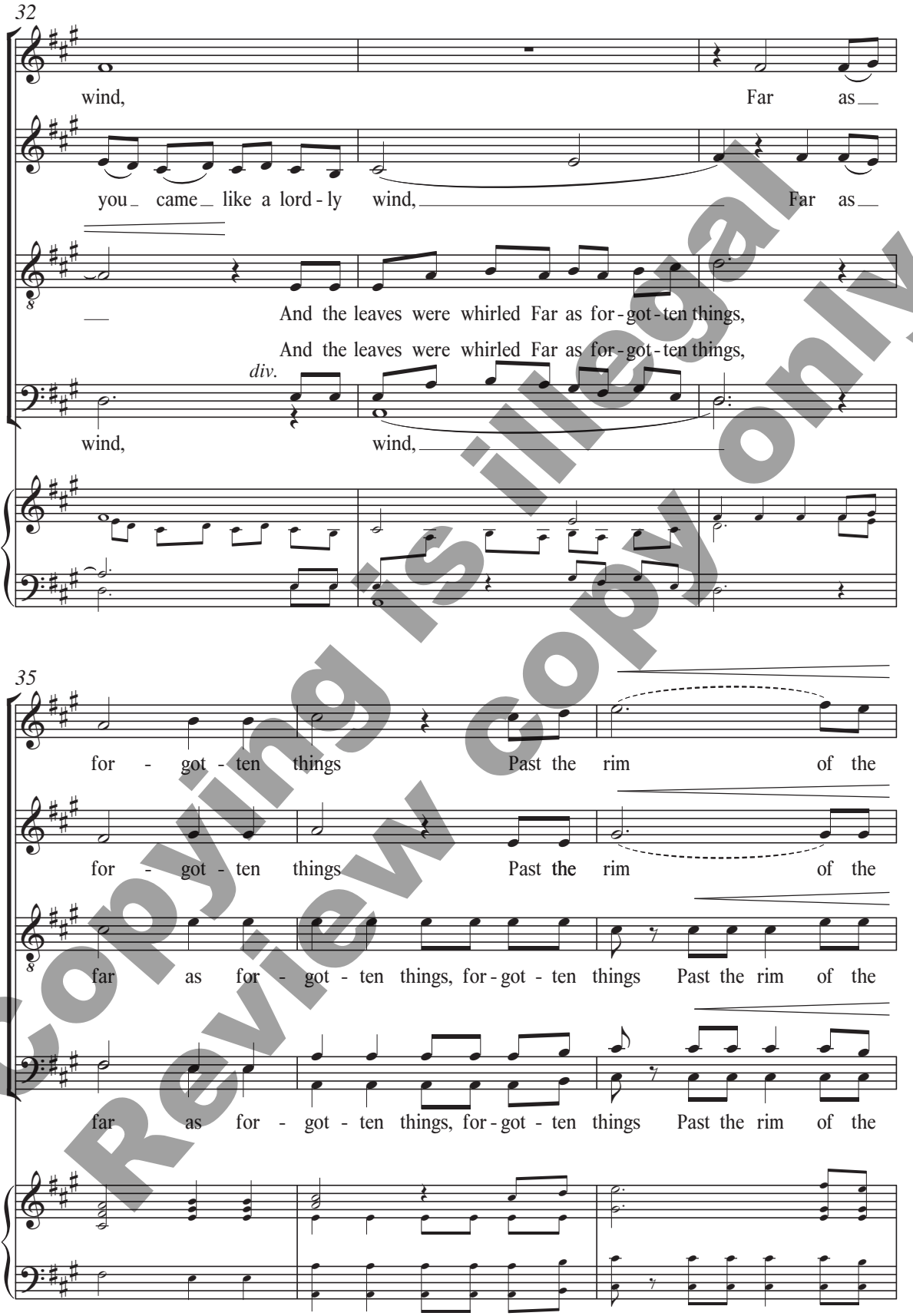
© Copyright 2018 by Galaxy Music Corporation, Inc.,
a division of ECS Publishing Group. www.ecspublishing.com
All rights reserved.



Copying is illegal
Review copy only



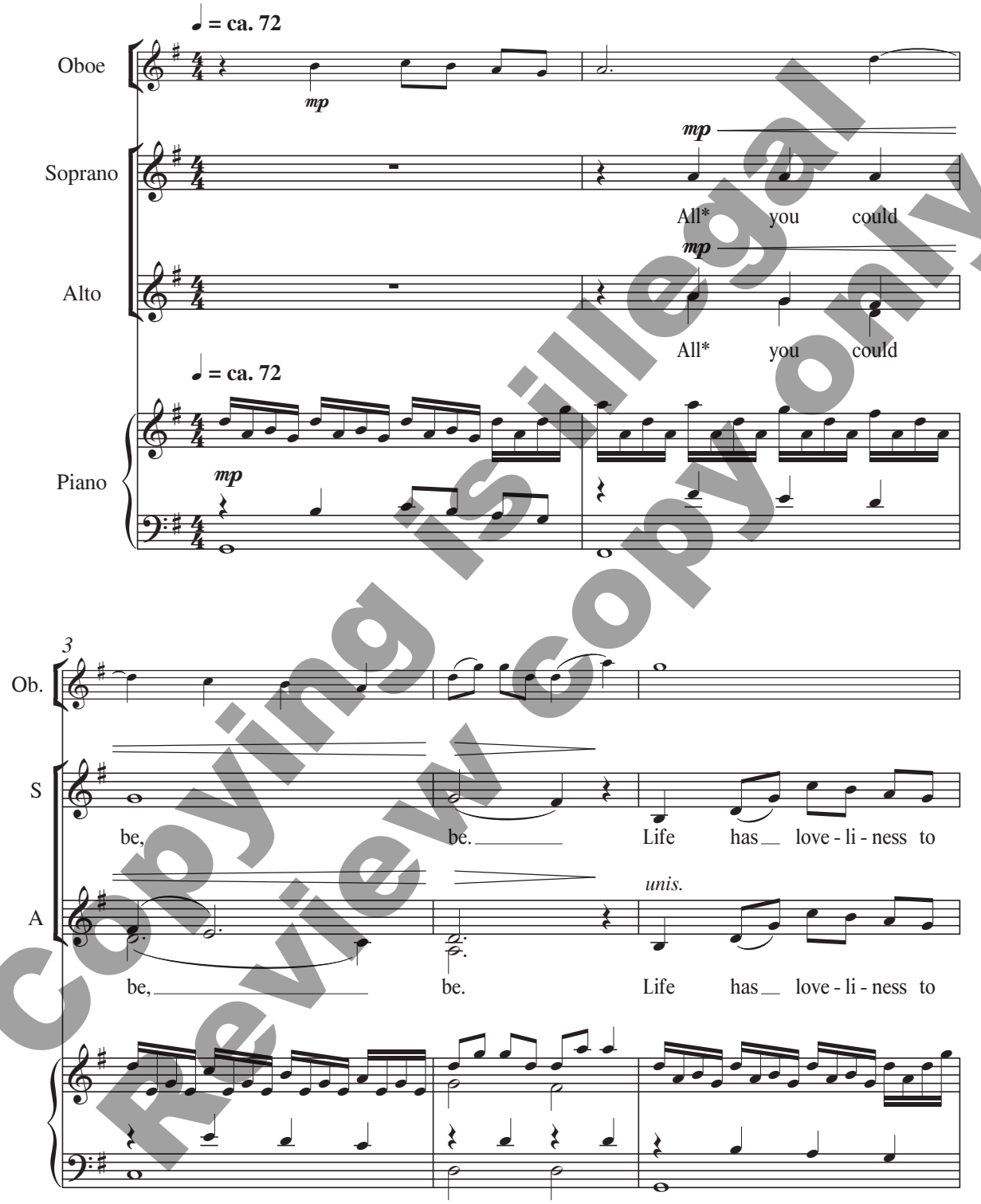
Copying is illegal
Review copy only



Copying is illegal
Review copy only

Commissioned by the Wando High School Bella Voce Choir, Mary Elizabeth Morton, Director

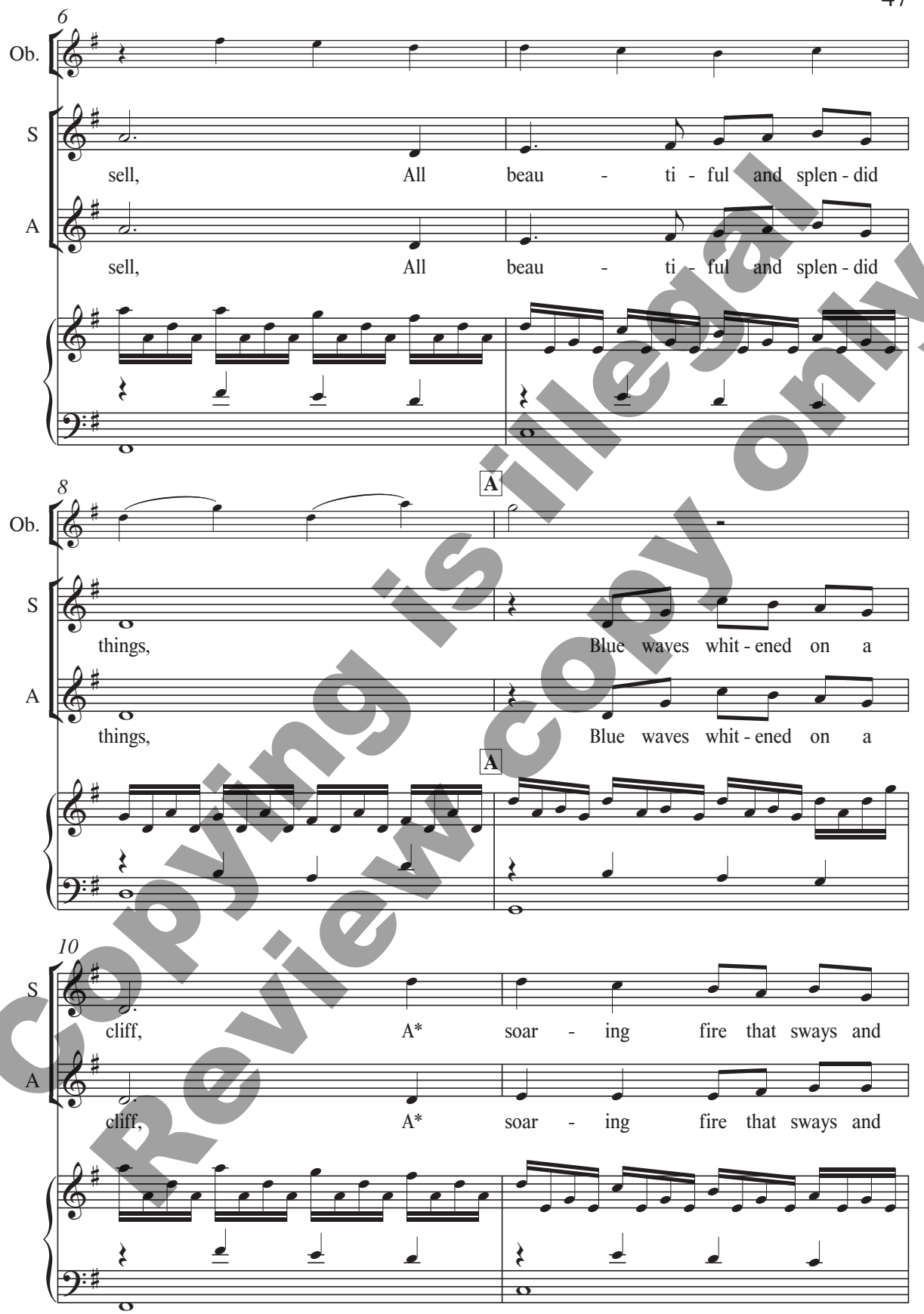
5. Spend All You Have On Loveliness



Copying is illegal
Review copy only

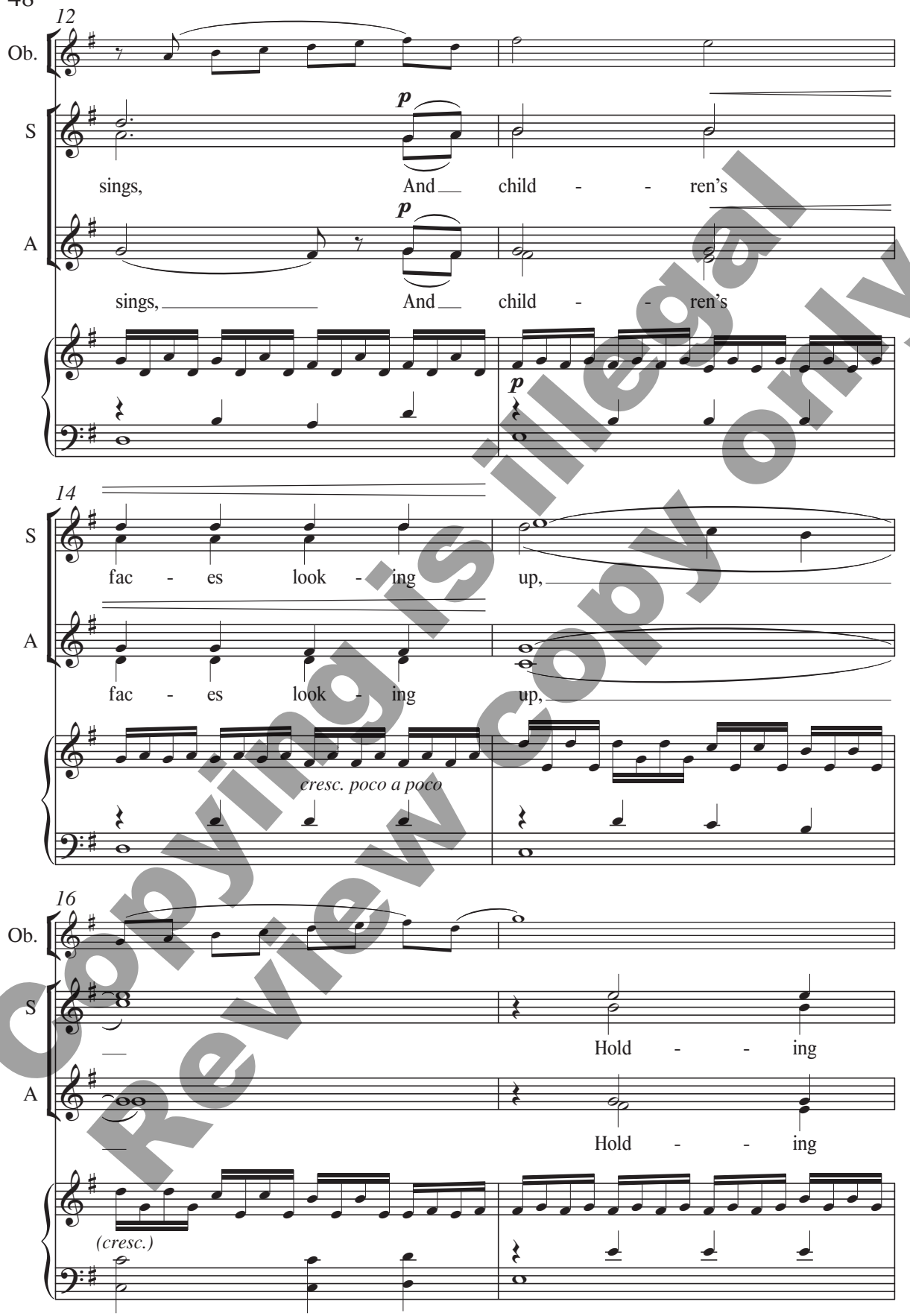
N.B.: The composer reordered the second and third paragraphs of the text in his setting.
* The composer inserted this line here.

© Copyright 2016 by Galaxy Music Corporation, Inc.,
a division of ECS Publishing Group. www.ecspublishing.com
All rights reserved.

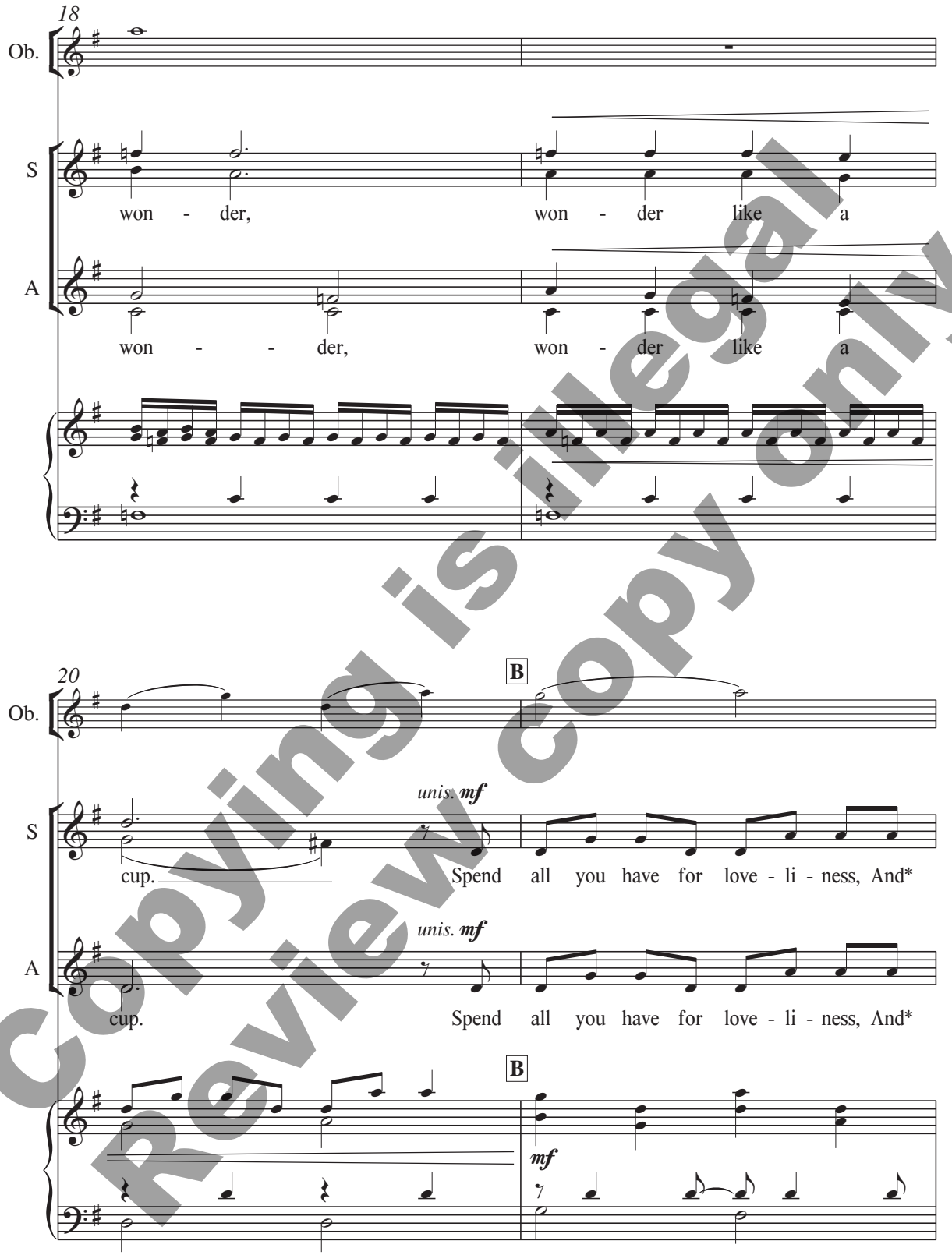


Copying is illegal
Review copy only

* The composer inserted the word “A” here.



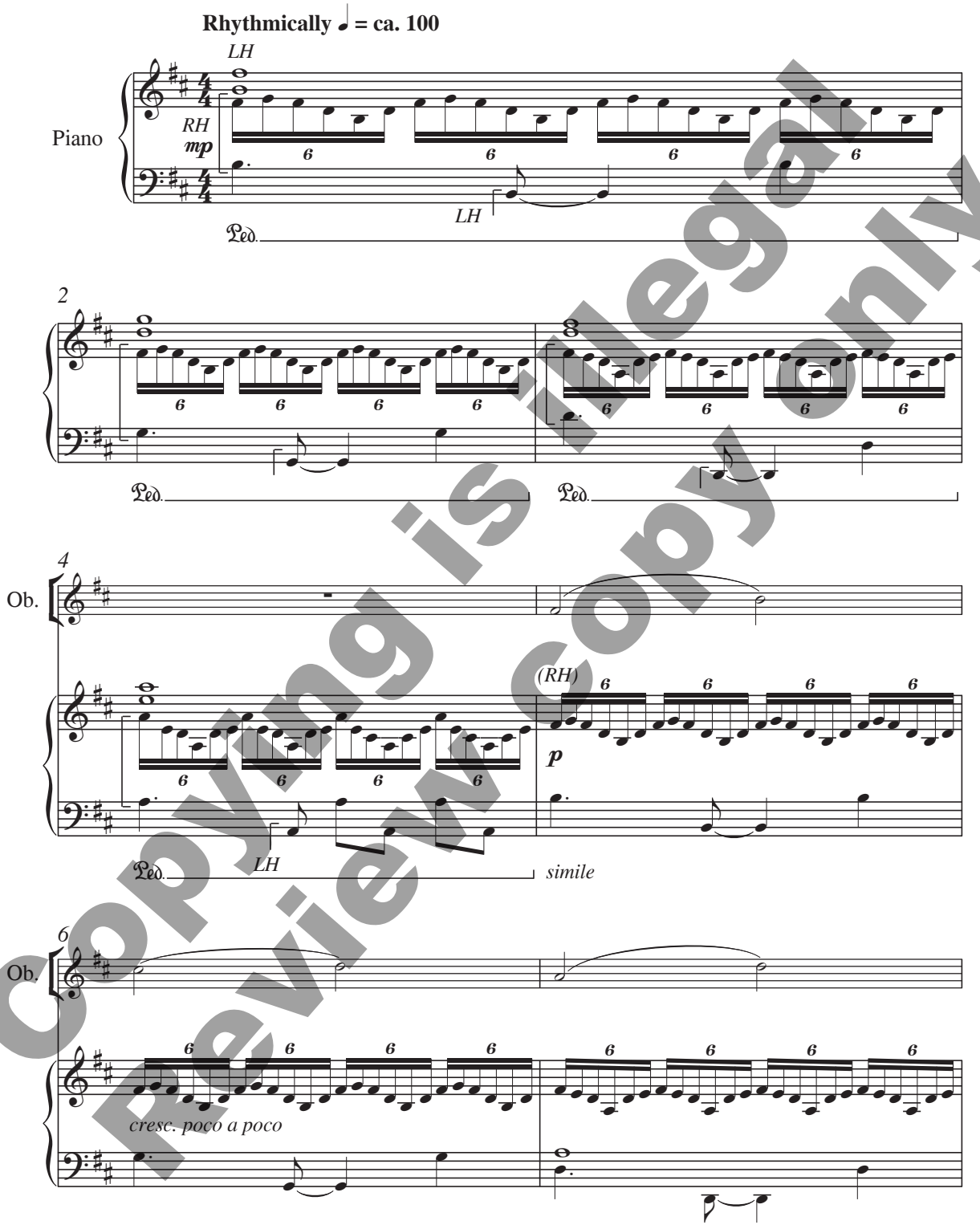
Copying is illegal
Review copy only



Copying is illegal
Review copy only

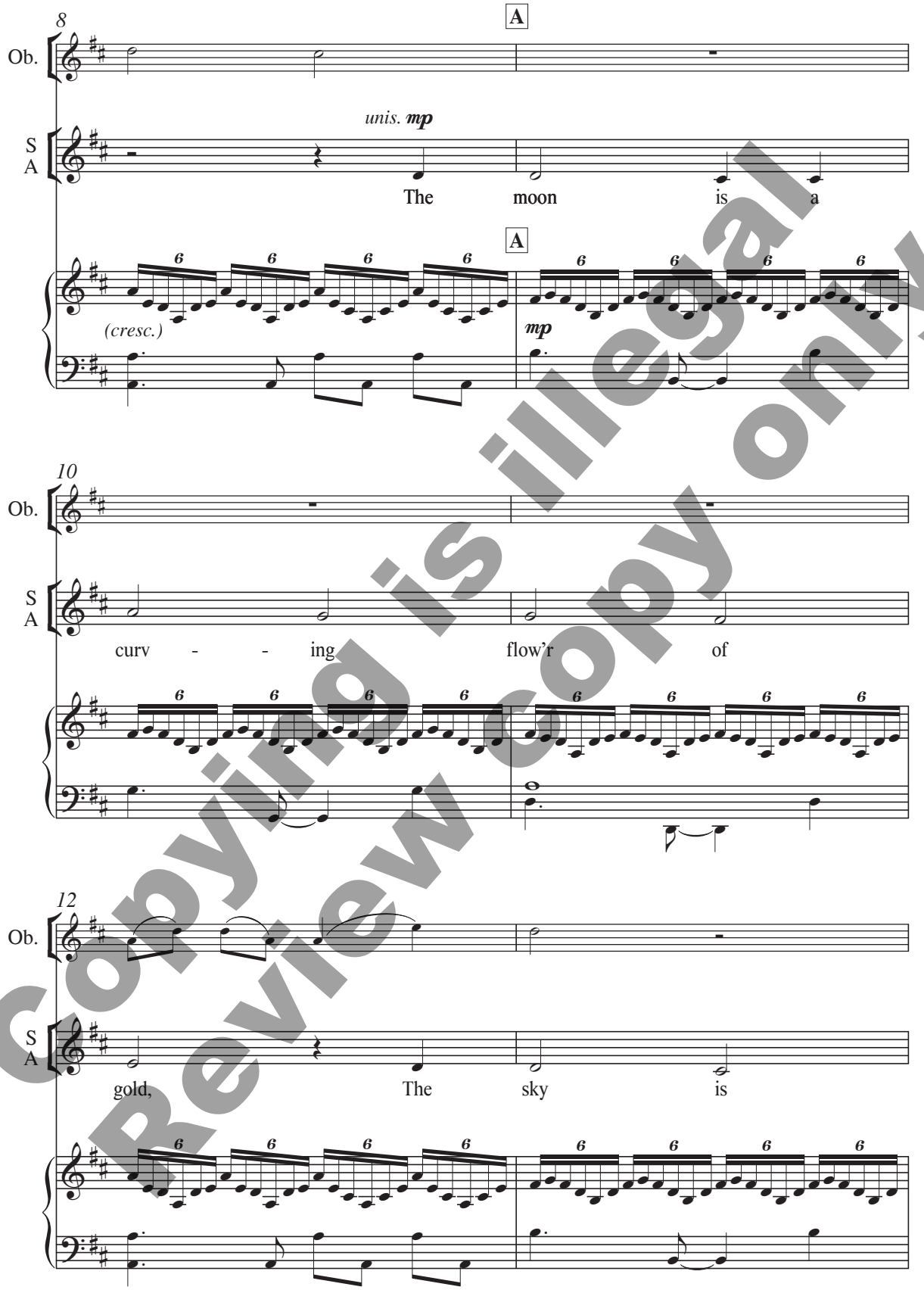
* The composer omitted the words “Buy it” here.

6. And I For You

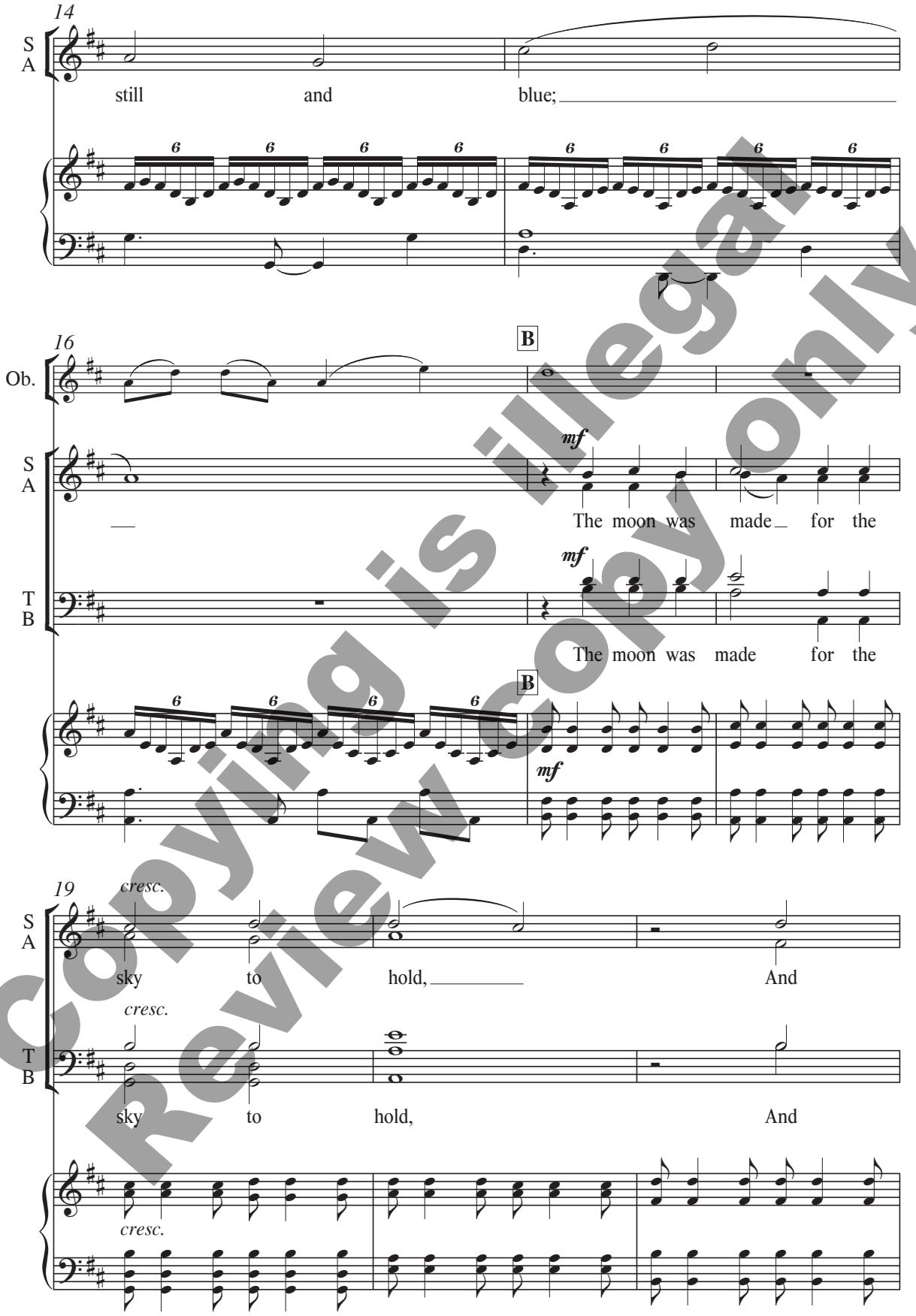


Copying is illegal
Review copy only

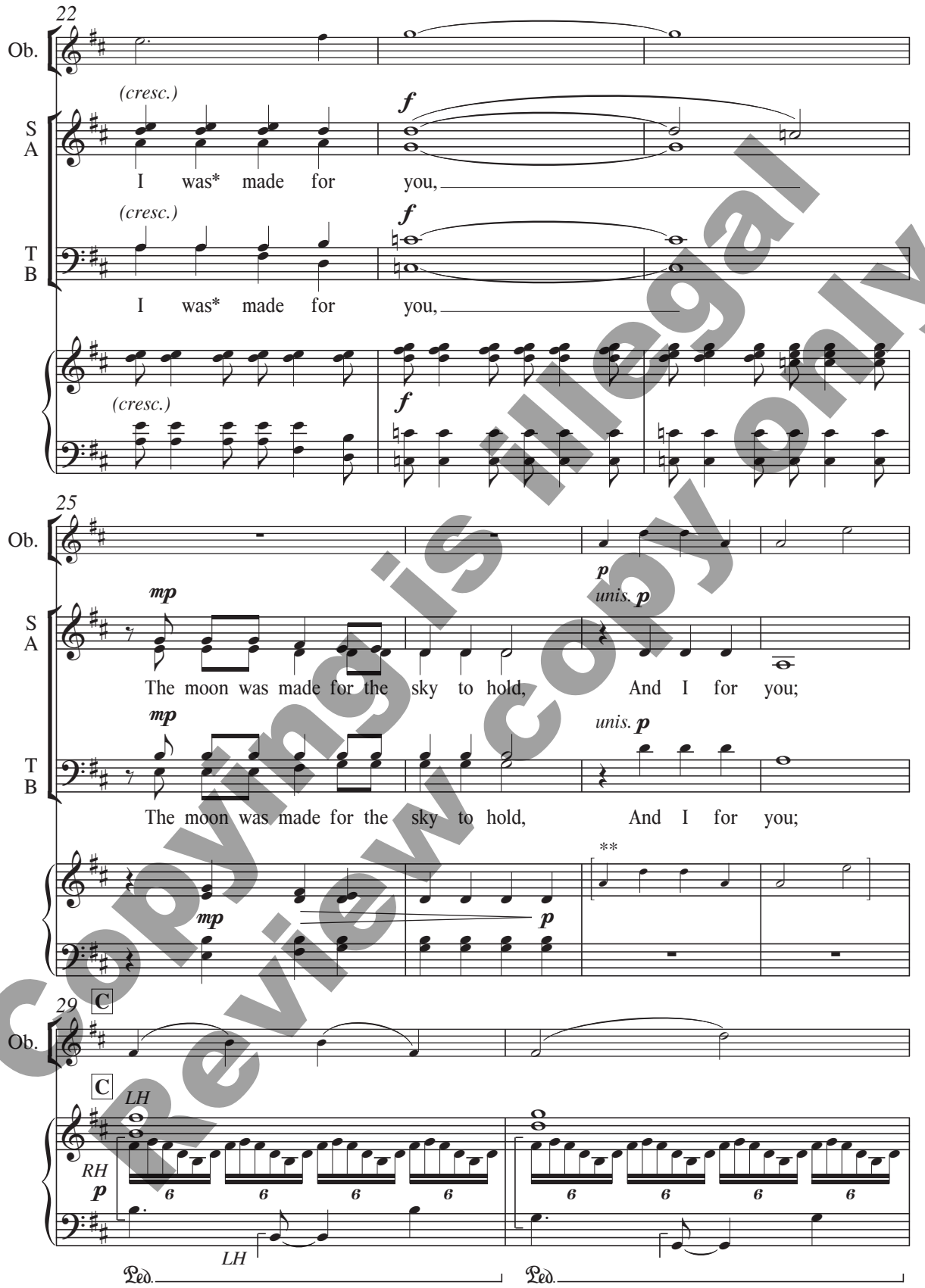
© Copyright 2018 by Galaxy Music Corporation, Inc.,
a division of ECS Publishing Group. www.ecspublishing.com
All rights reserved.



Copying is illegal
Review copy only



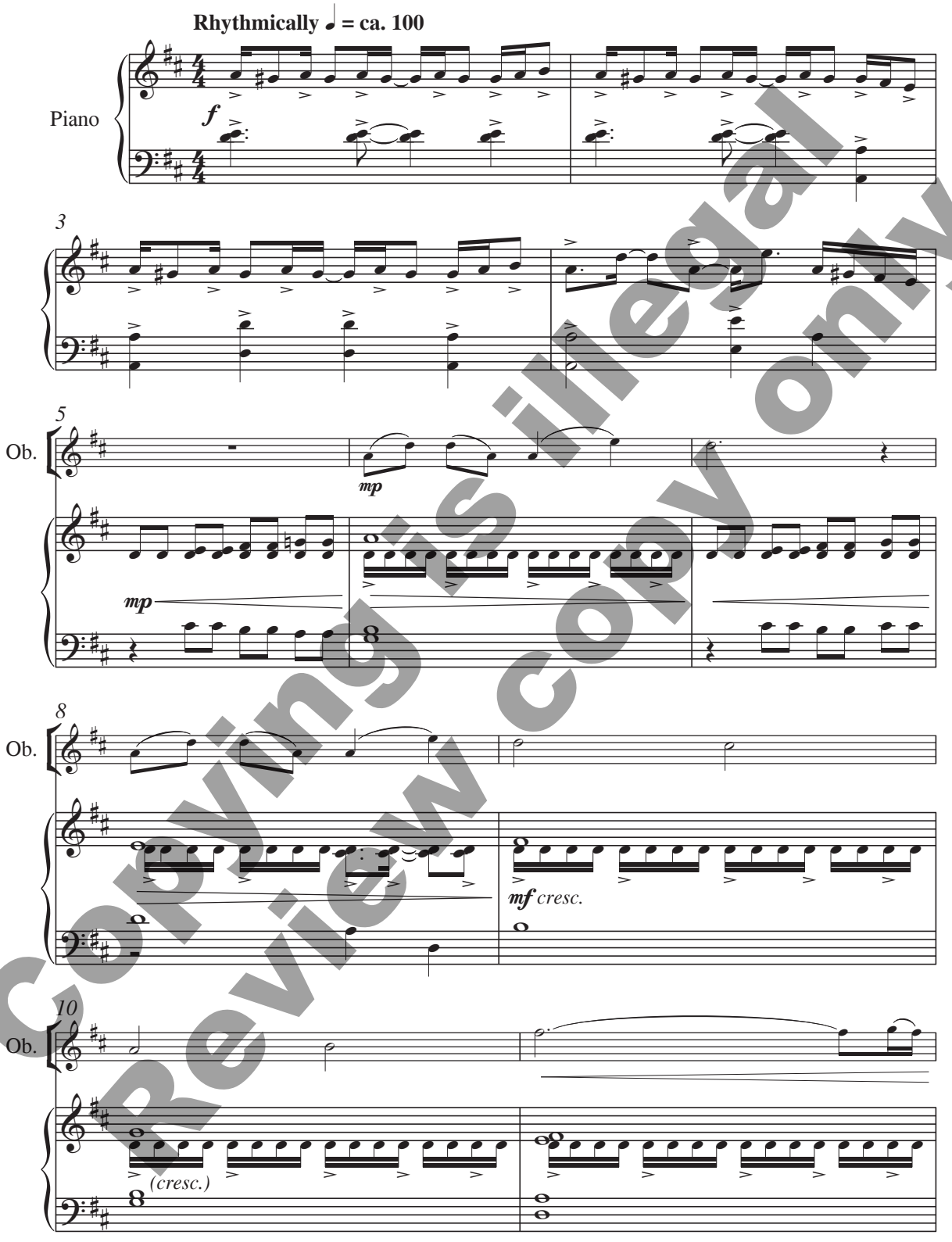
Copying is illegal
Review copy only



Copying is illegal
Review copy only

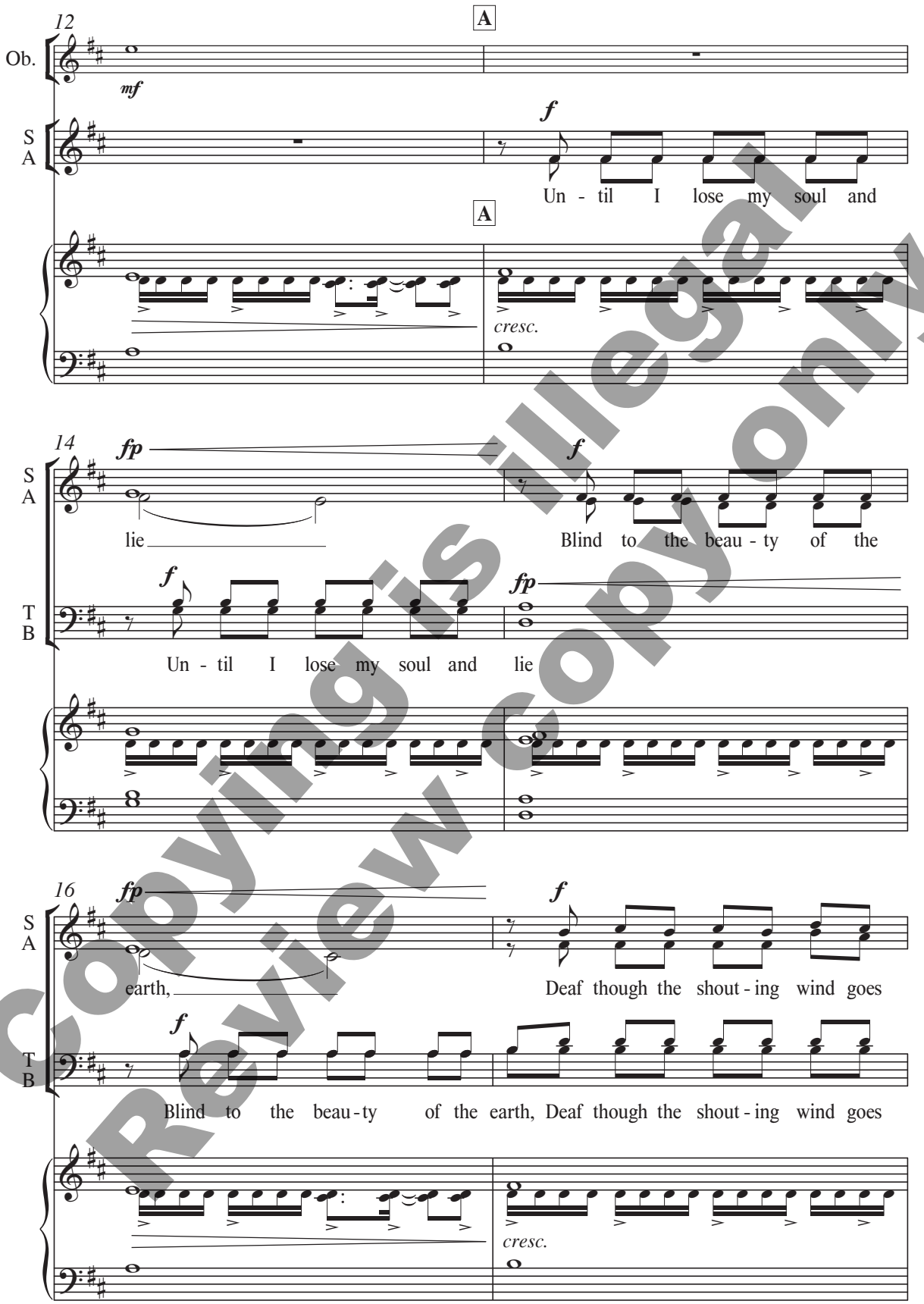
* The composer inserted the words “was made” here.
** Play cue-sized notes if Oboe is not present.

7. Let Me Love

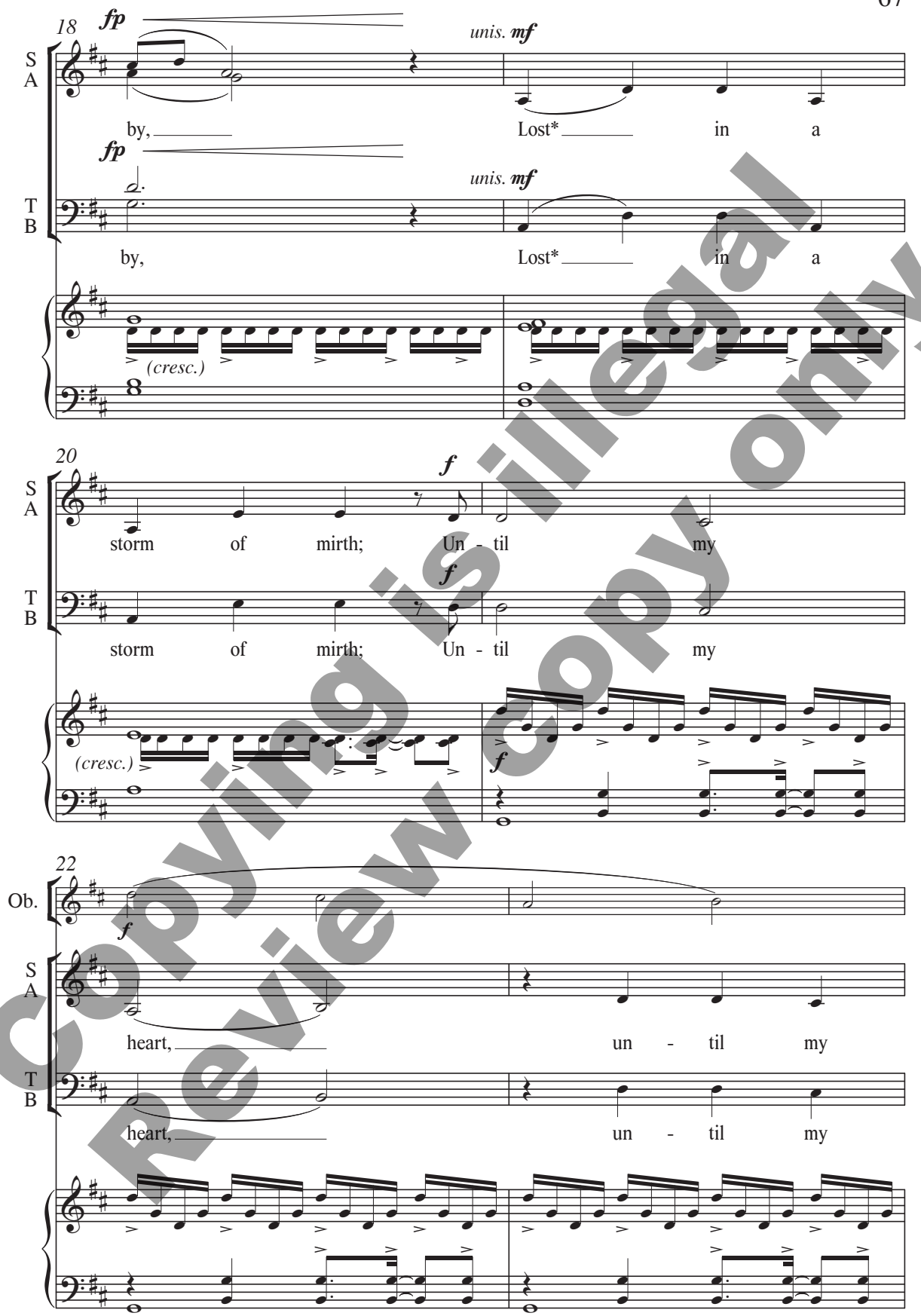


Copying is illegal
Review copy only

© Copyright 2018 by Galaxy Music Corporation, Inc.,
a division of ECS Publishing Group. www.ecspublishing.com
All rights reserved.

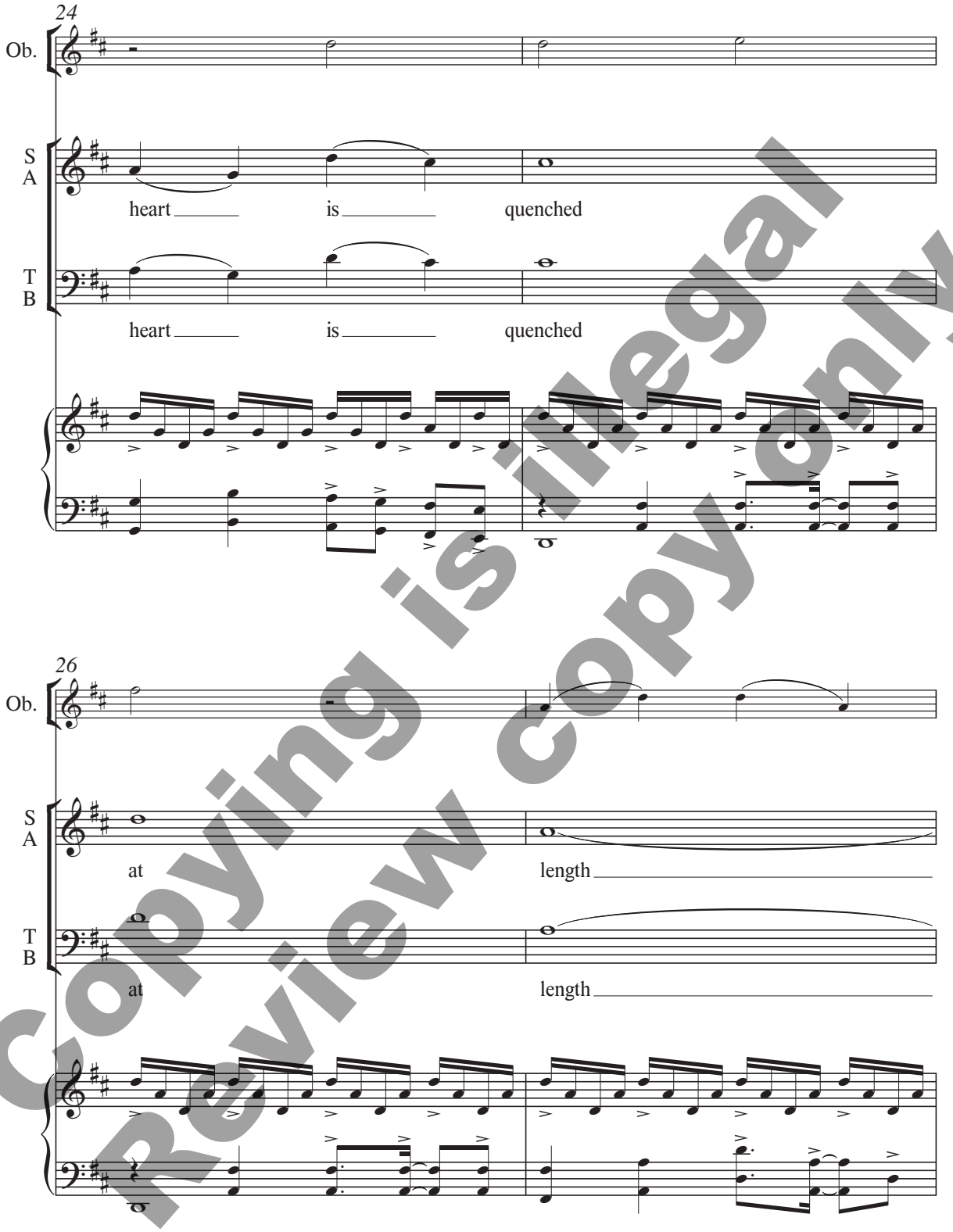


Copying is illegal
Review copy only



Copying is illegal
Review copy only

* The composer changed the word from “Dumb” to “Lost” here.



Copying is illegal
Review copy only