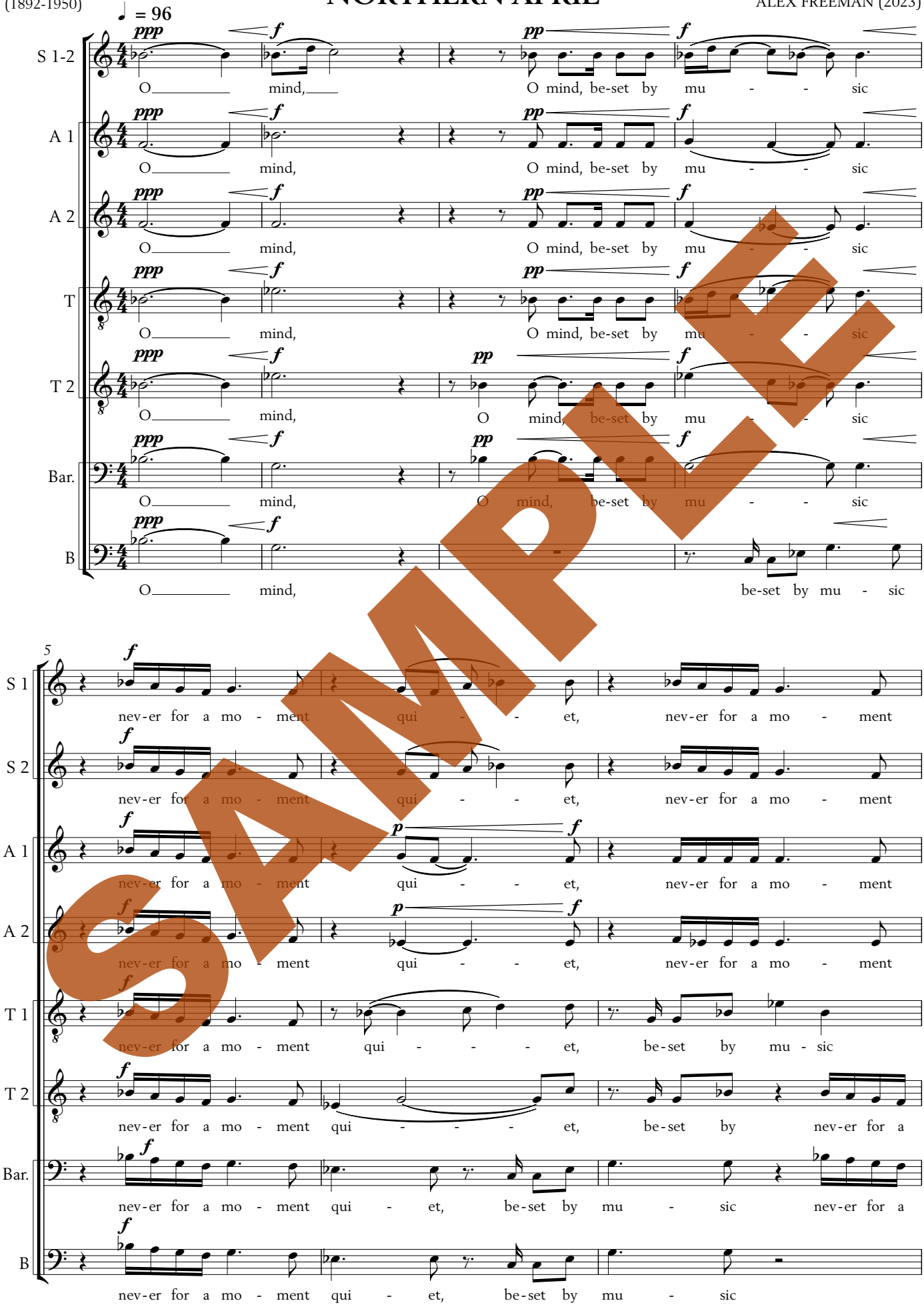
Commissioned by Tampere Vocal Music Festival, 2023

Edna St. Vincent Millay
(1892-1950)

NORTHERN APRIL

ALEX FREEMAN (2023)



SAMPLE

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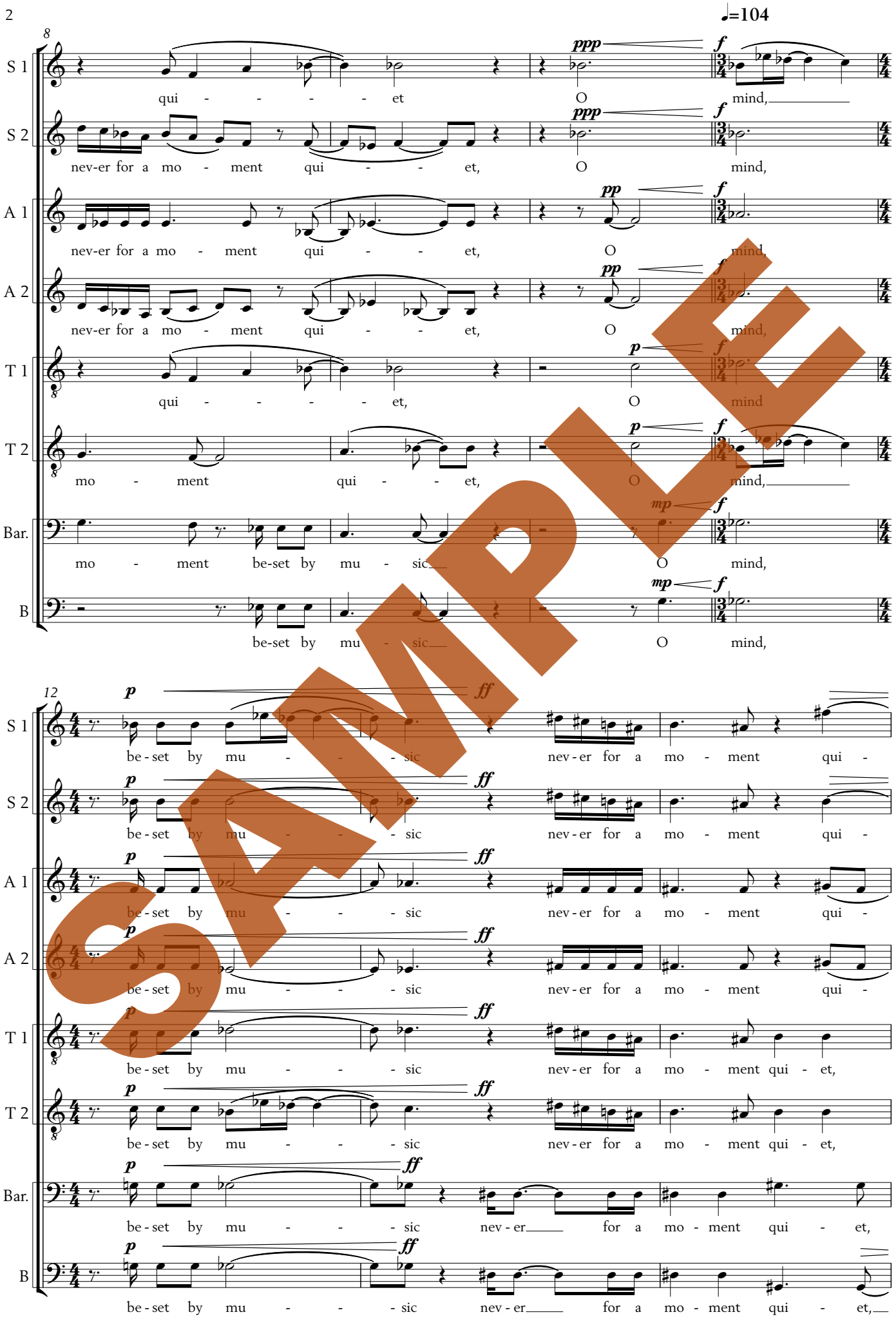
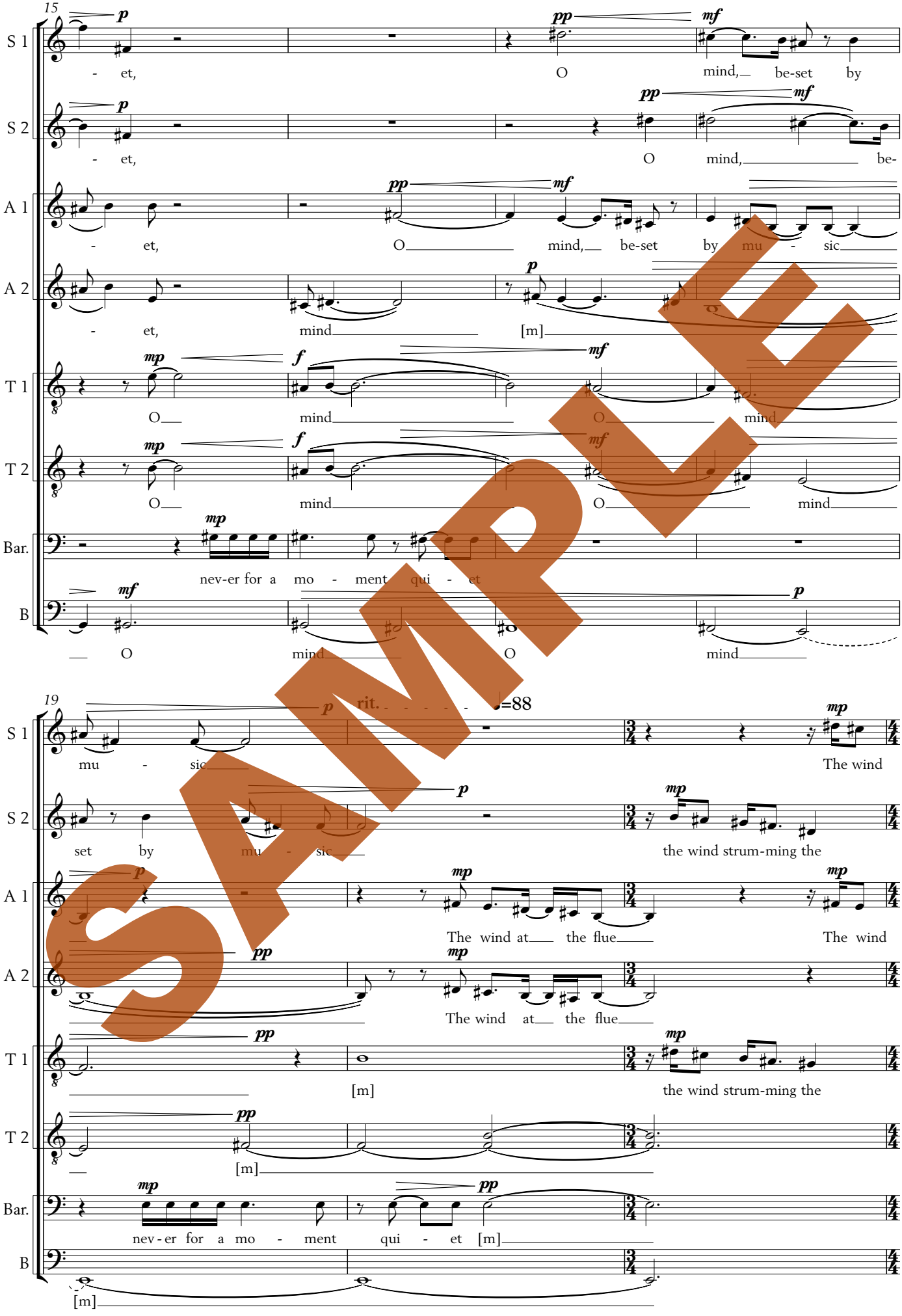
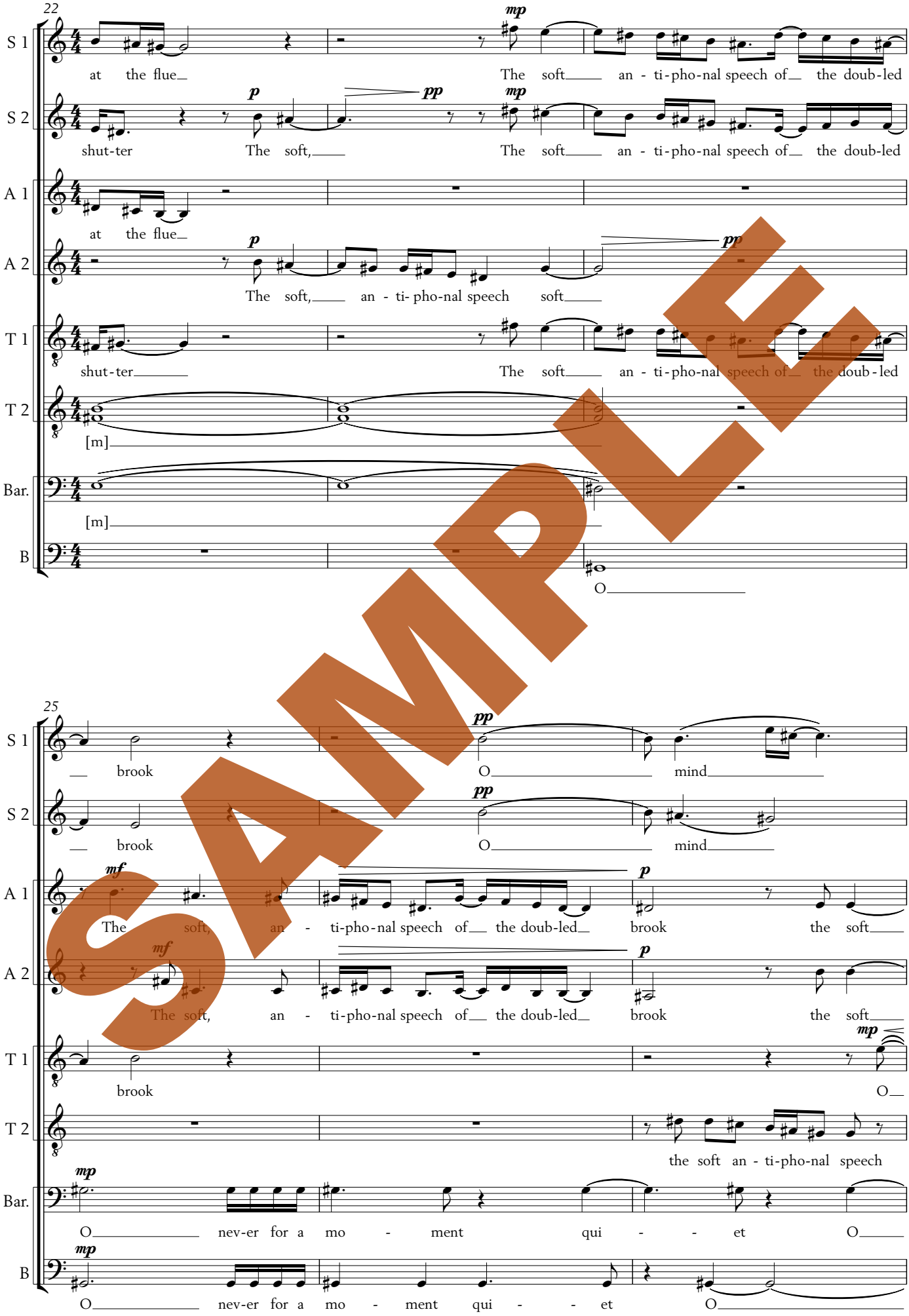

♩=104
8
S 1
S 2
A 1
A 2
T 1
T 2
Bar.
B
qui - - - - - et O mind,
nev-er for a mo - ment qui - - - et, O mind,
mo - ment qui - - - et, O mind,
mo - ment be-set by mu - sic O mind,
be-set by mu - sic O mind,
12
be - set by mu - - - sic nev - er for a mo - ment qui -
be - set by mu - - - sic nev - er for a mo - ment qui - et,
be - set by mu - - - sic nev - er for a mo - ment qui - et,
be - set by mu - - - sic nev - er for a mo - ment qui - et,

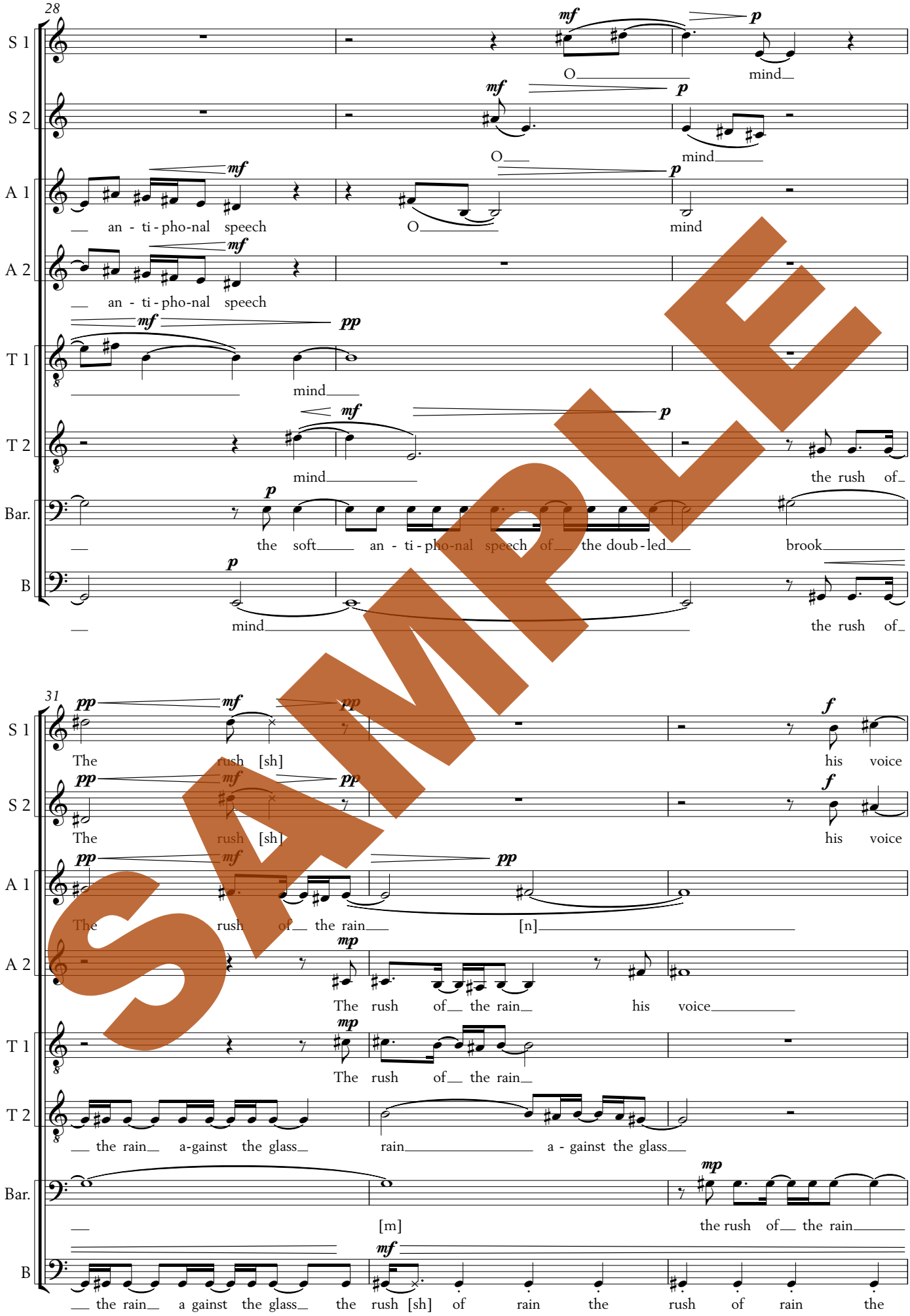
SAMPLE


15
S 1
S 2
A 1
A 2
T 1
T 2
Bar.
B
- et,
O mind, be-set by
- et,
O mind, be-
- et, O mind, be-set by mu - sic
- et, mind [m]
O mind O mind
O mind O mind
nev-er for a mo - ment qui - et
O mind O mind
19
rit.
♩=88
mu - sic
The wind
set by mu - sic
the wind strum-ming the
The wind at the flue
The wind
The wind at the flue
[m]
the wind strum-ming the
[m]
nev-er for a mo - ment qui - et [m]
[m]

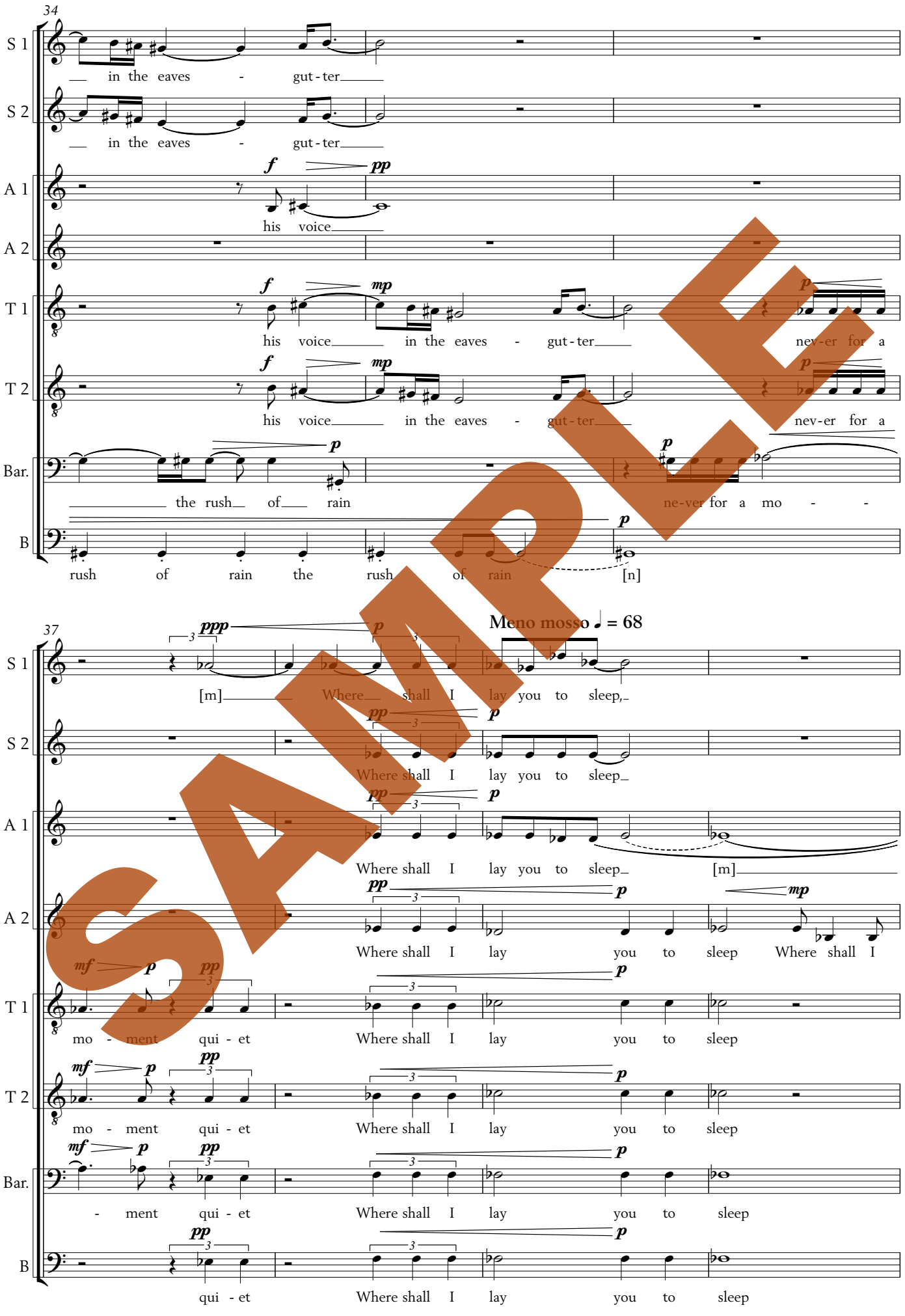
SAMPLE


22
S 1
at the flue
mp
The soft an - ti-pho-nal speech of the doub-led
S 2
shut-ter
p
The soft,
pp
mp
The soft an - ti-pho-nal speech of the doub-led
A 1
at the flue
A 2
p
The soft, an - ti- pho-nal speech soft
pp
T 1
shut-ter
The soft an - ti-pho-nal speech of the doub-led
T 2
[m]
Bar.
[m]
B
O
25
S 1
brook
pp
O mind
S 2
brook
pp
O mind
A 1
mf
The soft, an - ti-pho-nal speech of the doub-led
p
brook the soft
A 2
mf
The soft, an - ti-pho-nal speech of the doub-led
p
brook the soft
T 1
brook
mp
O
T 2
the soft an - ti-pho-nal speech
Bar.
mp
O nev-er for a mo - ment qui - et O
B
mp
O nev-er for a mo - ment qui - et O

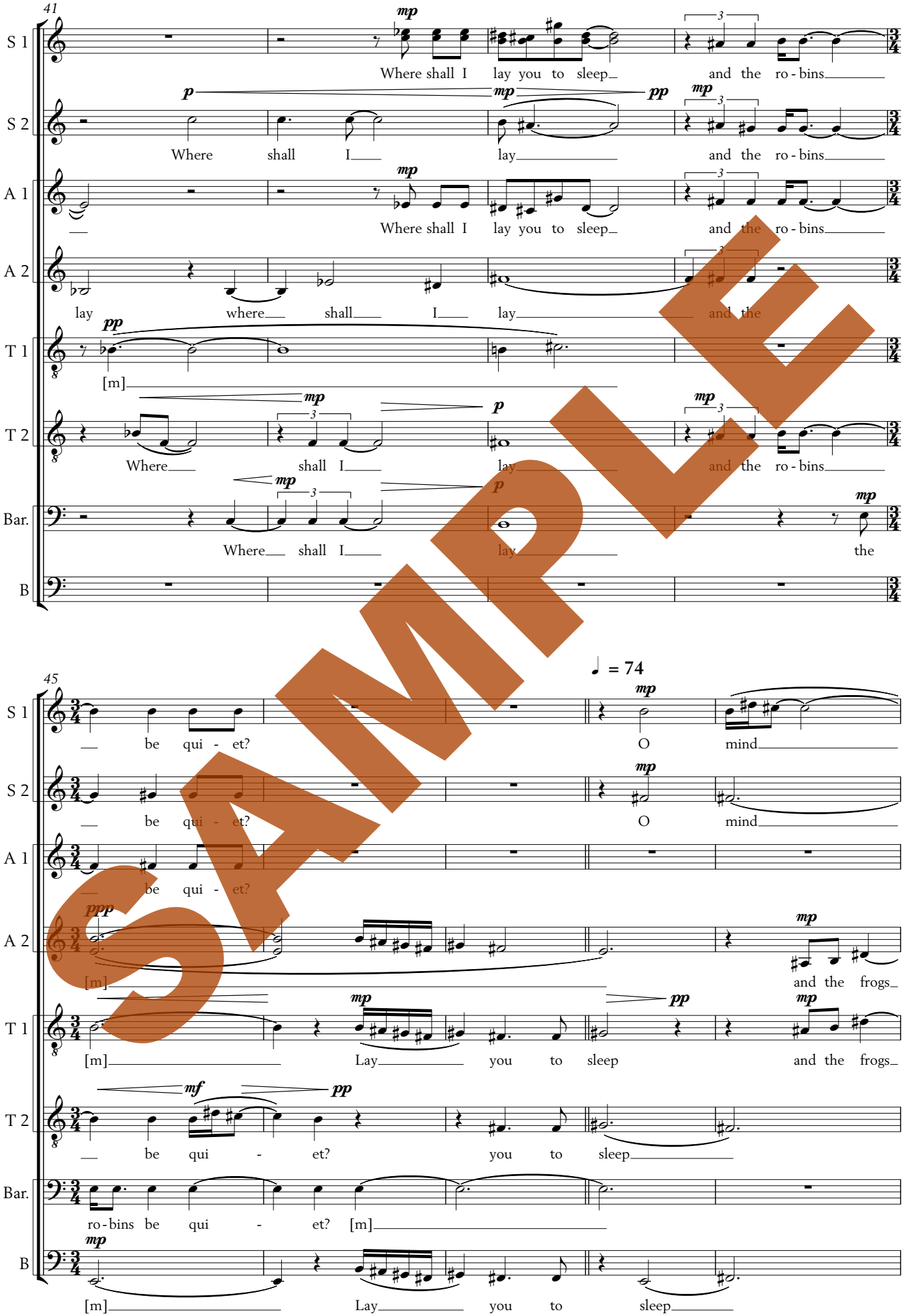
SAMPLE


28
S 1
S 2
A 1
A 2
T 1
T 2
Bar.
B
mf
p
O mind
an - ti - pho-nal speech
pp
the soft an - ti - pho-nal speech of the doub - led brook
the rush of
31
The rush [sh]
his voice
The rush of the rain
[n]
mp
[m]
the rush of the rain
the rain a-gainst the glass
rain a - gainst the glass
the rain a gainst the glass the rush [sh] of rain the rush of rain the
f

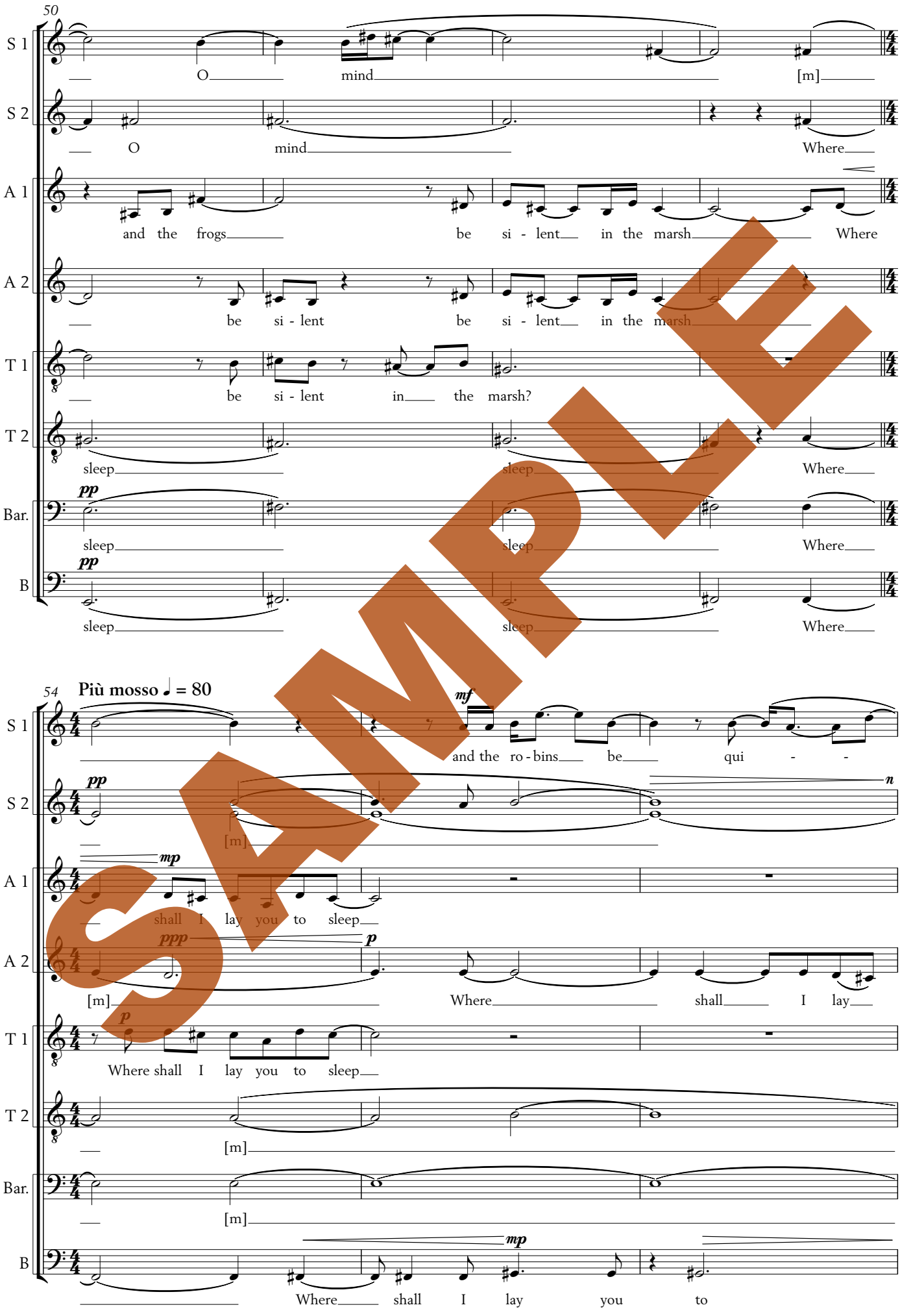
SAMPLE


34
S 1
in the eaves - gut-ter
S 2
in the eaves - gut-ter
A 1
his voice
A 2
T 1
his voice in the eaves - gut-ter nev-er for a
T 2
his voice in the eaves - gut-ter nev-er for a
Bar.
the rush of rain ne-ver for a mo - -
B
rush of rain the rush of rain [n]
37
Meno mosso ♩ = 68
S 1
[m] Where shall I lay you to sleep,
S 2
Where shall I lay you to sleep
A 1
Where shall I lay you to sleep [m]
A 2
Where shall I lay you to sleep Where shall I
T 1
mo - ment qui - et Where shall I lay you to sleep
T 2
mo - ment qui - et Where shall I lay you to sleep
Bar.
- ment qui - et Where shall I lay you to sleep
B
qui - et Where shall I lay you to sleep

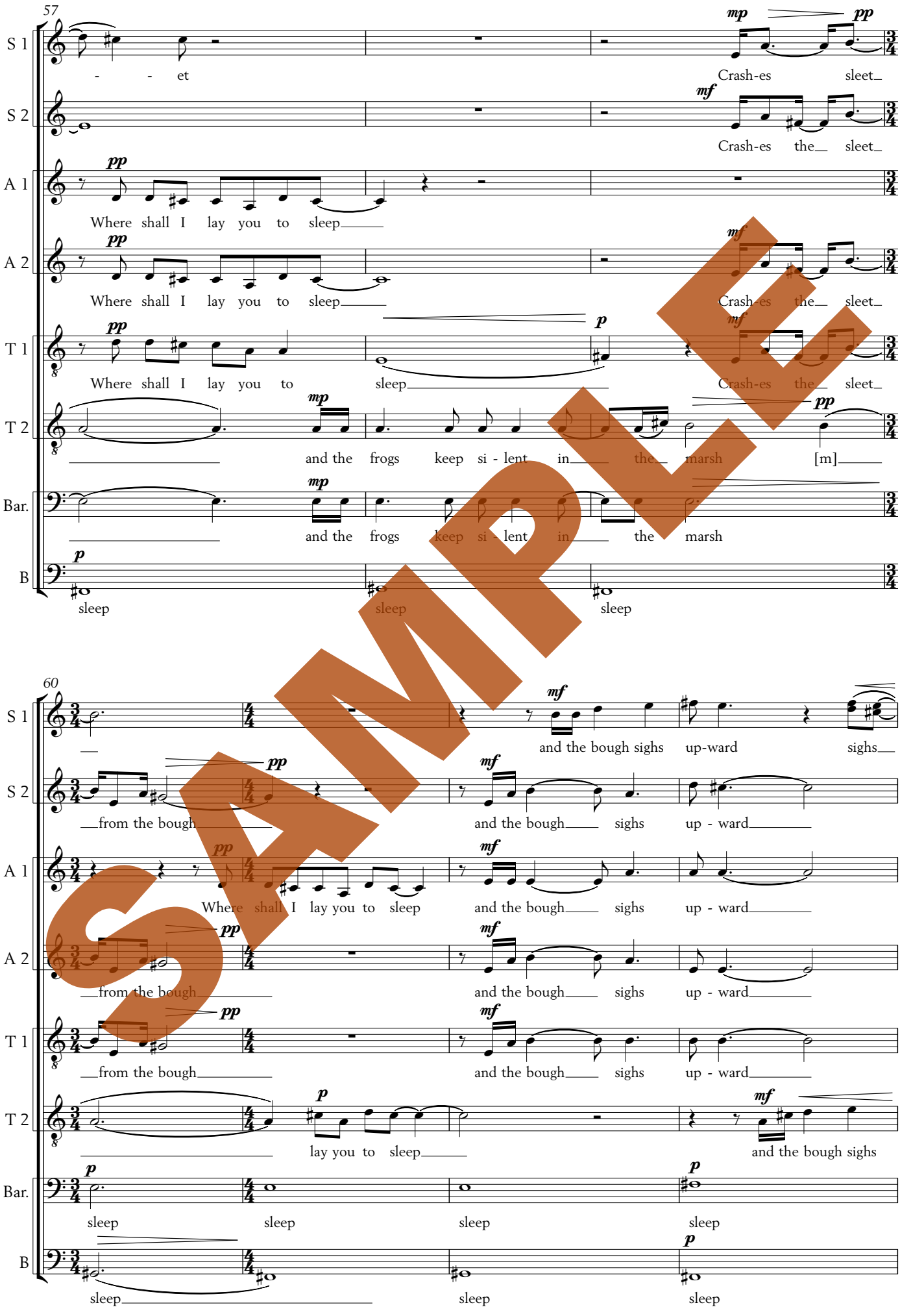
SAMPLE


41
S 1
S 2
A 1
A 2
T 1
T 2
Bar.
B
Where shall I lay you to sleep and the ro - bins
Where shall I lay and the ro - bins
Where shall I lay you to sleep and the ro - bins
lay where shall I lay and the
[m]
Where shall I lay and the ro - bins
Where shall I lay the
45
♩ = 74
be qui - et? O mind
be qui - et? O mind
be qui - et?
and the frogs
[m] Lay you to sleep and the frogs
be qui - et? you to sleep
ro - bins be qui - et? [m]
[m] Lay you to sleep

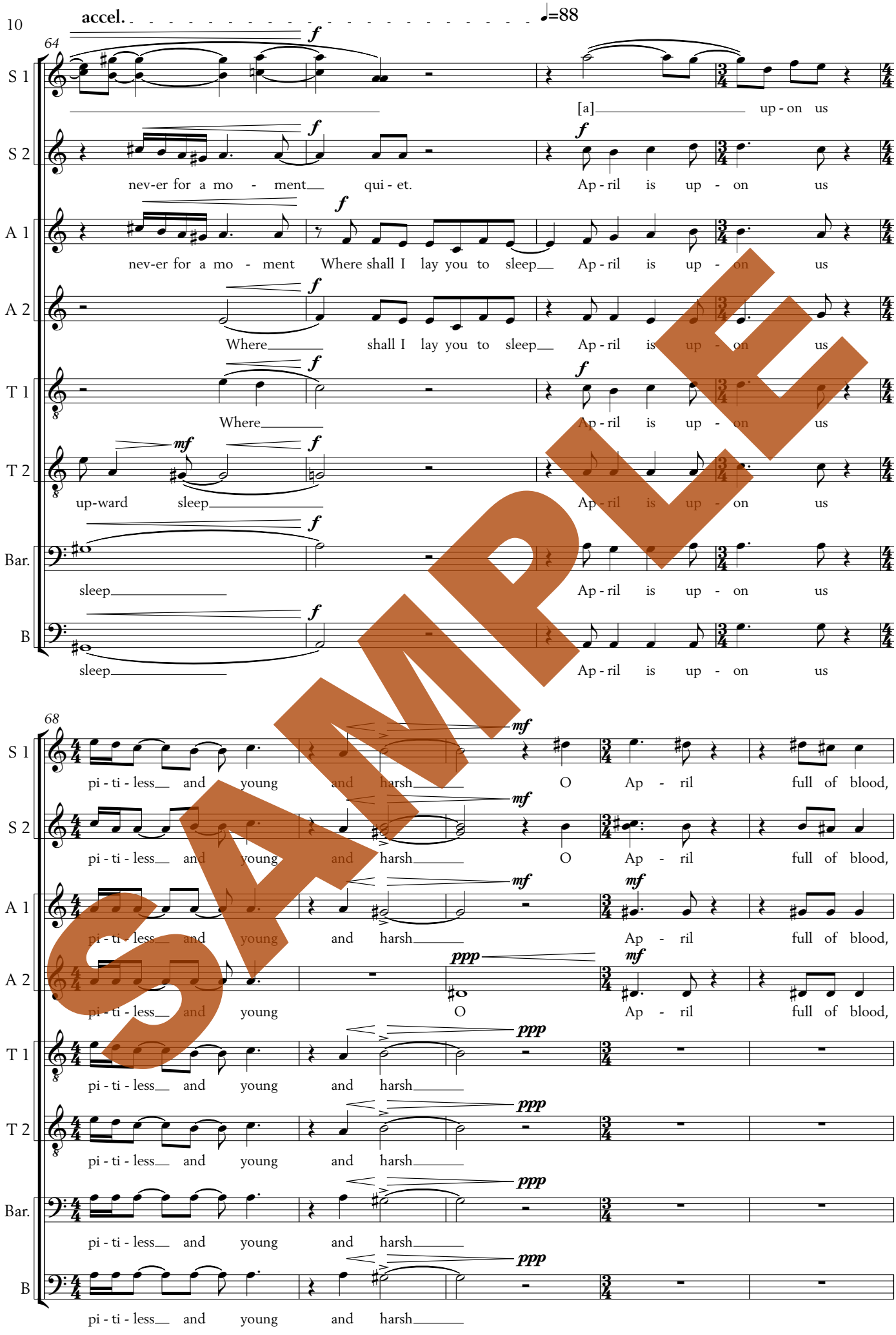
SAMPLE

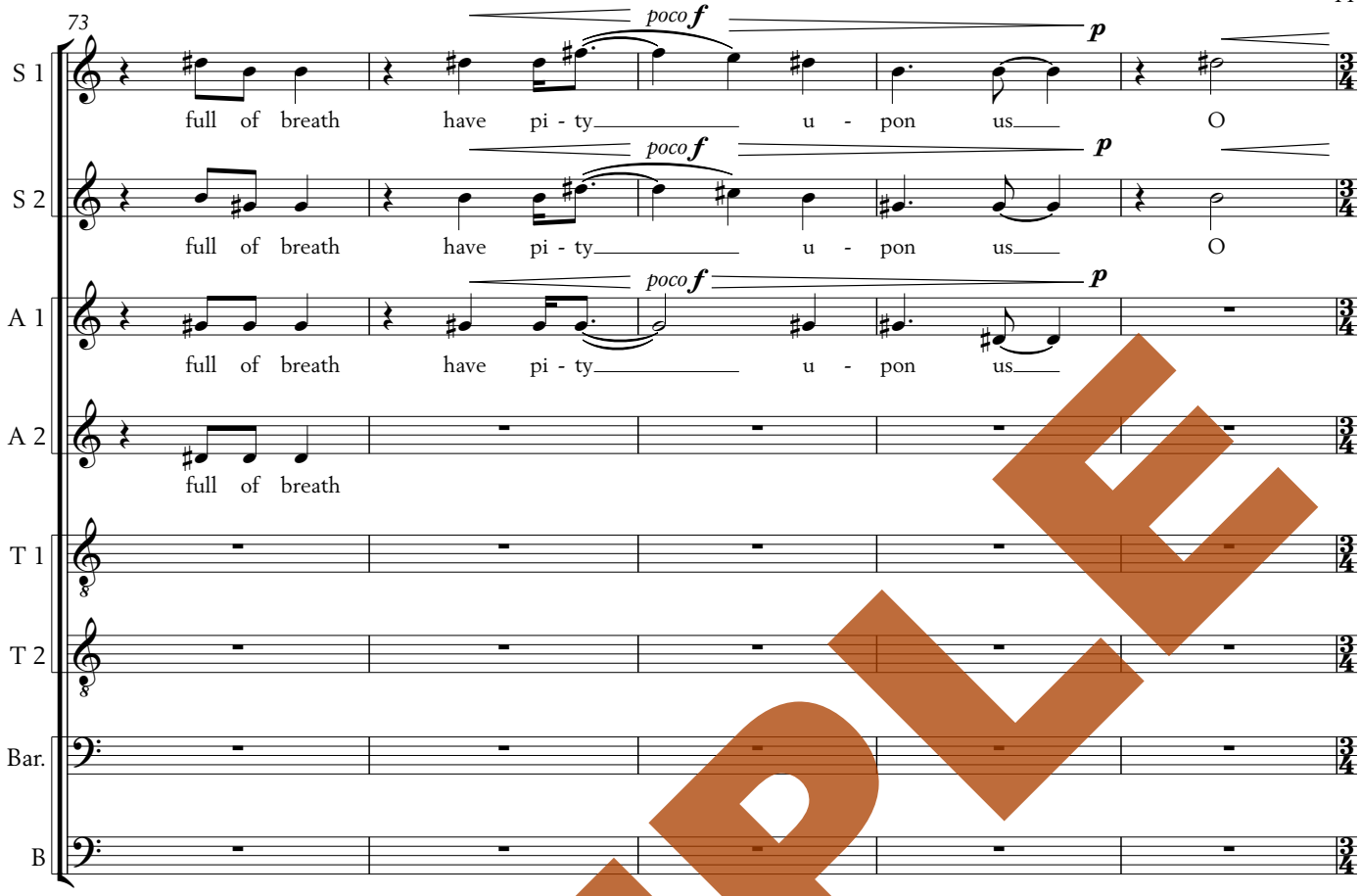

50
S 1
O mind [m]
S 2
O mind Where
A 1
and the frogs be si - lent in the marsh Where
A 2
be si - lent be si - lent in the marsh
T 1
be si - lent in the marsh?
T 2
sleep sleep Where
Bar.
pp
sleep sleep Where
B
pp
sleep sleep Where
54
Più mosso ♩ = 80
S 1
mf
and the ro - bins be qui - -
S 2
pp
[m]
n
A 1
mp
shall I lay you to sleep
A 2
ppp
p
[m] Where shall I lay
T 1
p
Where shall I lay you to sleep
T 2
[m]
Bar.
[m]
B
mp
Where shall I lay you to

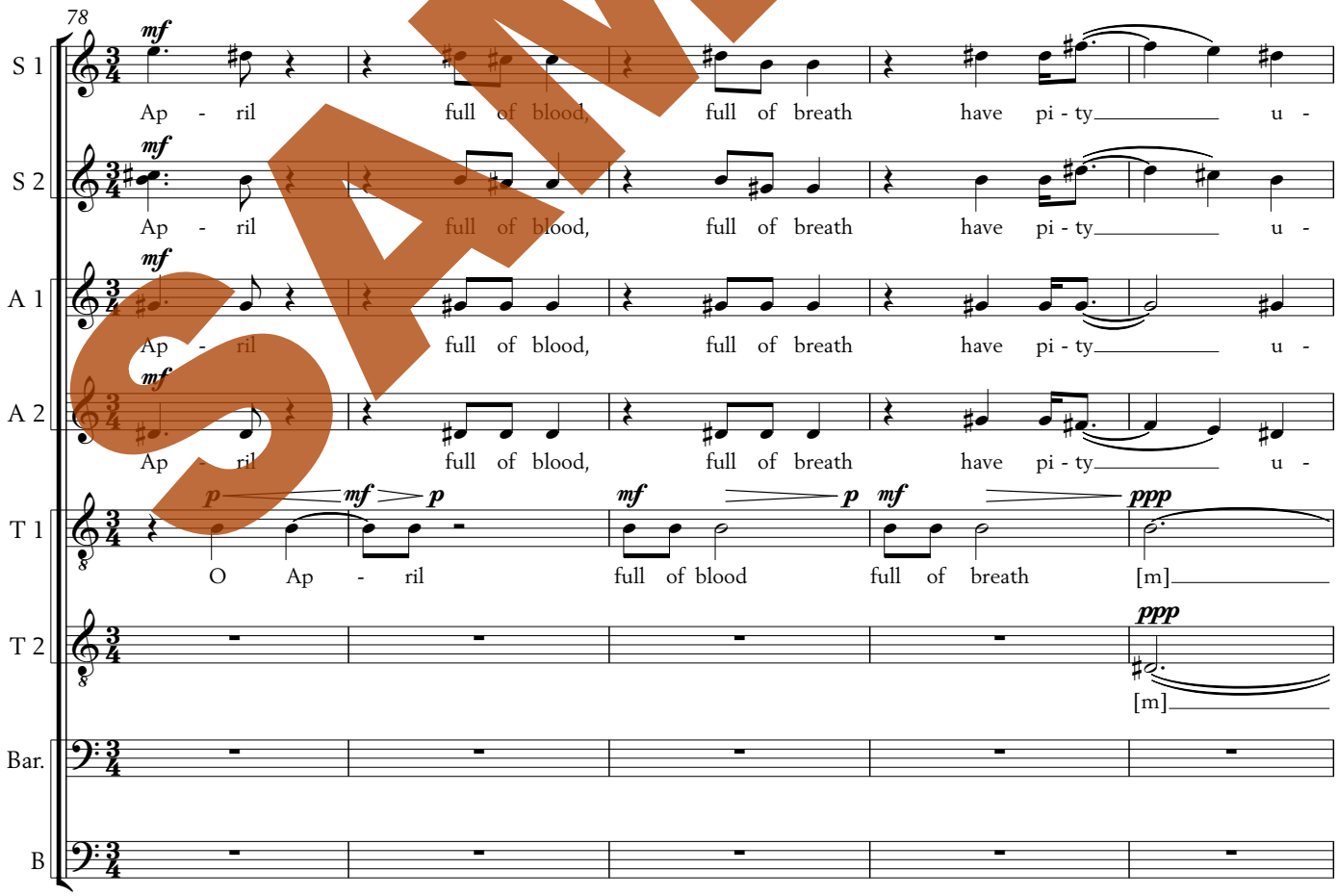
SAMPLE


57
S 1
S 2
A 1
A 2
T 1
T 2
Bar.
B
- - et
Crash-es sleet
Crash-es the sleet
Where shall I lay you to sleep
Where shall I lay you to sleep
Crash-es the sleet
Where shall I lay you to sleep
Crash-es the sleet
and the frogs keep si - lent in the marsh [m]
and the frogs keep si - lent in the marsh
sleep
sleep
sleep
60
and the bough sighs up-ward sighs
from the bough
and the bough sighs up - ward
Where shall I lay you to sleep
and the bough sighs up - ward
from the bough
and the bough sighs up - ward
from the bough
and the bough sighs up - ward
lay you to sleep
and the bough sighs
sleep
sleep
sleep
sleep
sleep
sleep
sleep

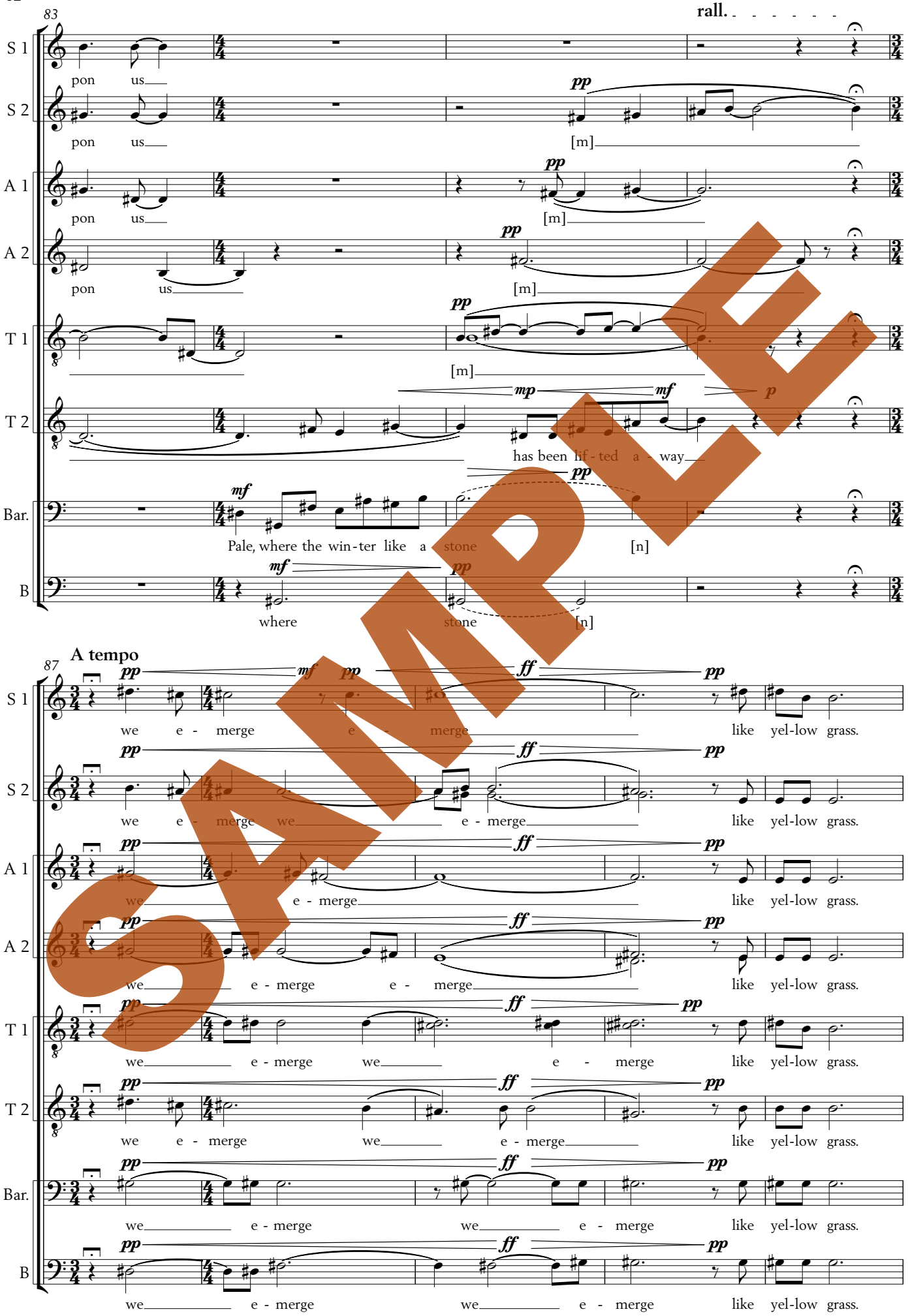
SAMPLE


10
accel.
♩=88
64
S 1
S 2
A 1
A 2
T 1
T 2
Bar.
B
f
mf
[a] up - on us
nev-er for a mo - ment qui - et. Ap - ril is up - on us
nev-er for a mo - ment Where shall I lay you to sleep Ap - ril is up - on us
Where shall I lay you to sleep Ap - ril is up - on us
Where Ap - ril is up - on us
up-ward sleep Ap - ril is up - on us
sleep Ap - ril is up - on us
sleep Ap - ril is up - on us
68
ppp
pi - ti - less and young and harsh O Ap - ril full of blood,
pi - ti - less and young and harsh
pi - ti - less and young
SAMPLE

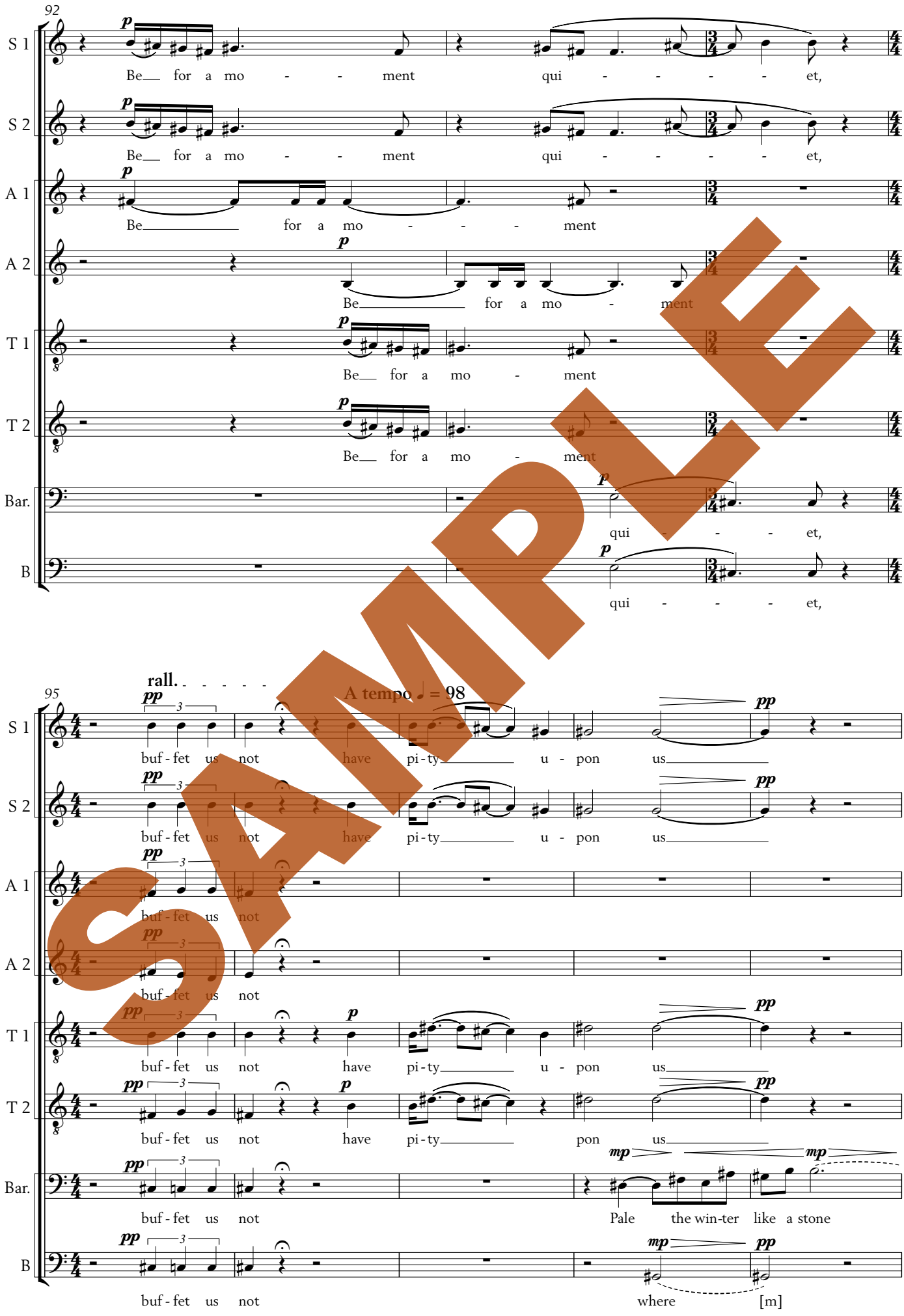

73
S 1
S 2
A 1
A 2
T 1
T 2
Bar.
B
poco f
p
full of breath have pi - ty u - pon us O
full of breath have pi - ty u - pon us
full of breath


78
S 1
S 2
A 1
A 2
T 1
T 2
Bar.
B
mf
Ap - ril full of blood, full of breath have pi - ty u -
p mf p mf p mf ppp
O Ap - ril full of blood full of breath [m]
ppp
[m]

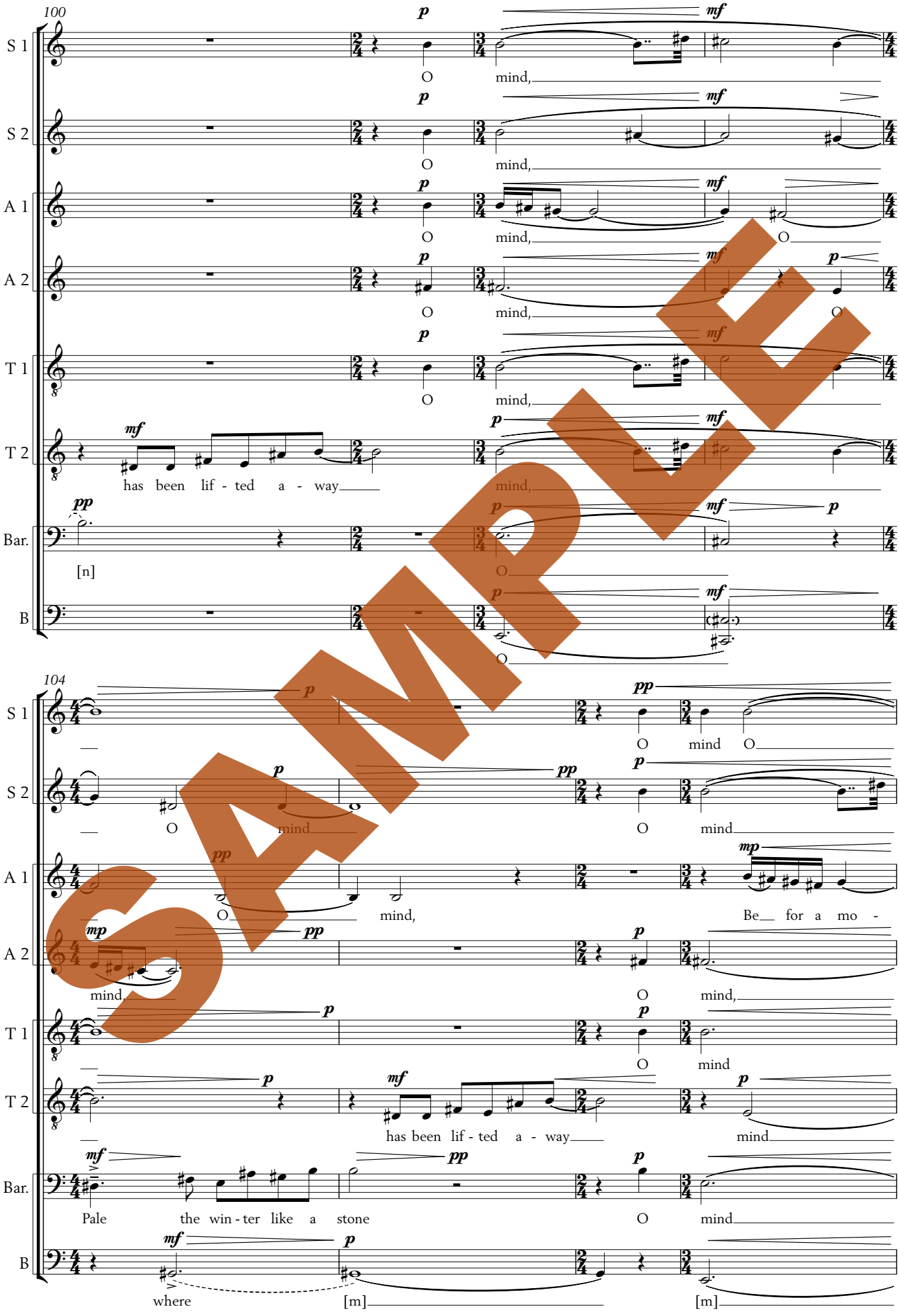
SAMPLE


83
rall.
S 1
S 2
A 1
A 2
T 1
T 2
Bar.
B
pon us
[m]
has been lif - ted a - way
Pale, where the win - ter like a stone
[n]
where
stone
87
A tempo
we e - merge
like yel-low grass.

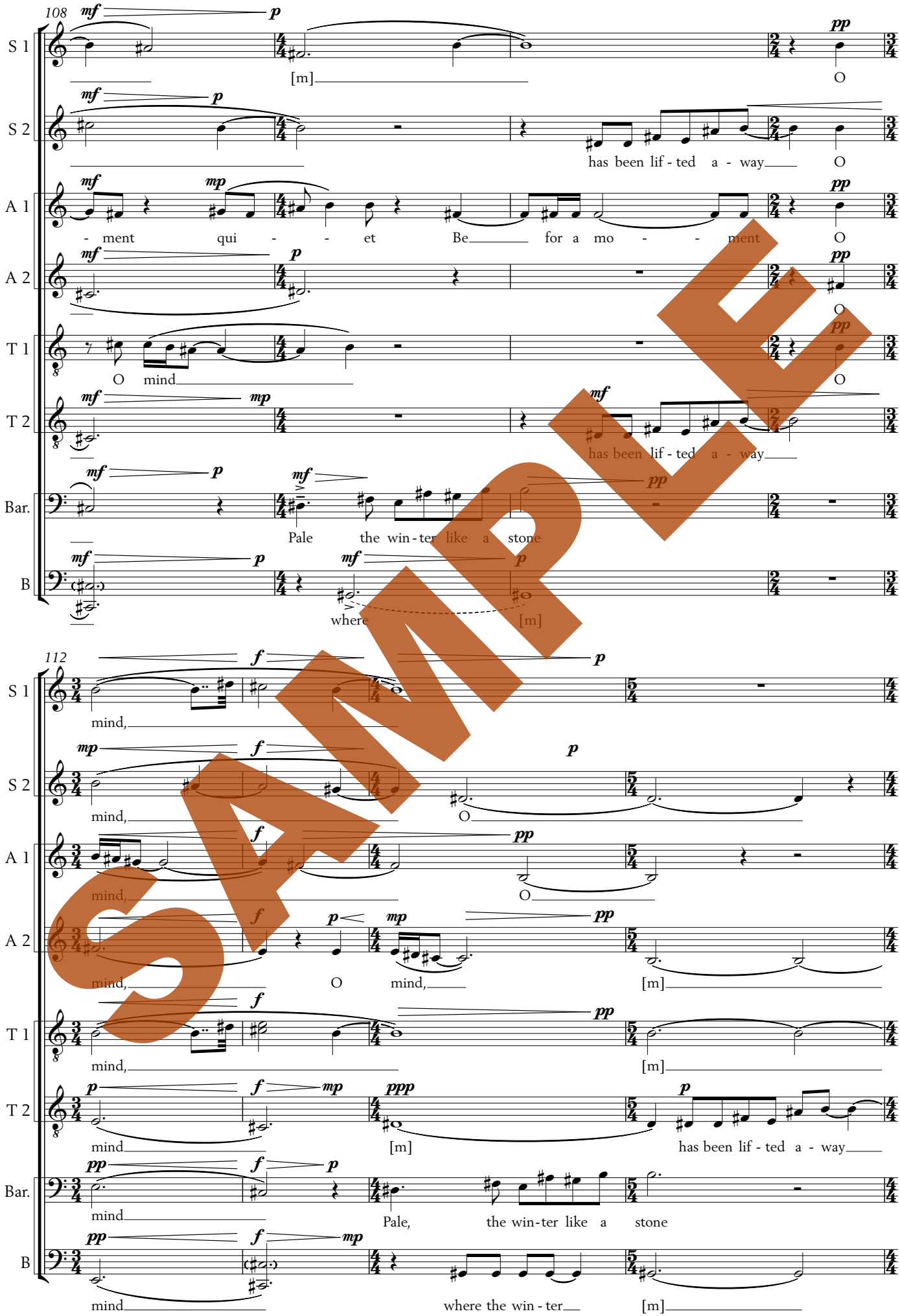
SAMPLE


92
S 1
S 2
A 1
A 2
T 1
T 2
Bar.
B
p
Be for a mo - ment qui - - - - et,
Be for a mo - ment
Be for a mo - ment qui - et,
95
rall.
A tempo ♩ = 98
pp
buf - fet us not have pi - ty u - pon us
buf - fet us not
mp
Pale the win-ter like a stone
where [m]

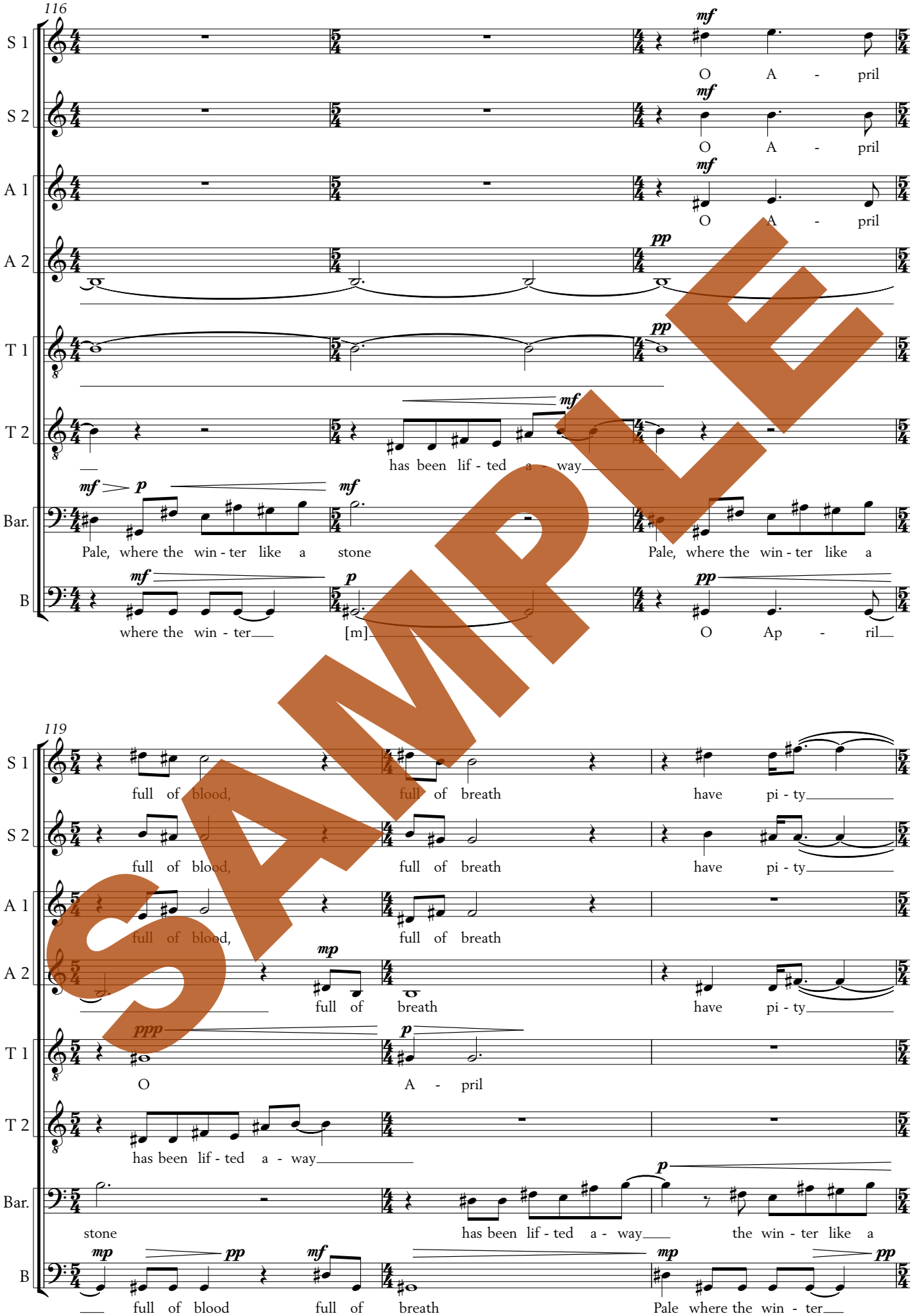
SAMPLE


100
S 1
S 2
A 1
A 2
T 1
T 2
Bar.
B
O
mind,
has been lif - ted a - way
[n]
104
Pale the win - ter like a stone
where
[m]
Be for a mo -

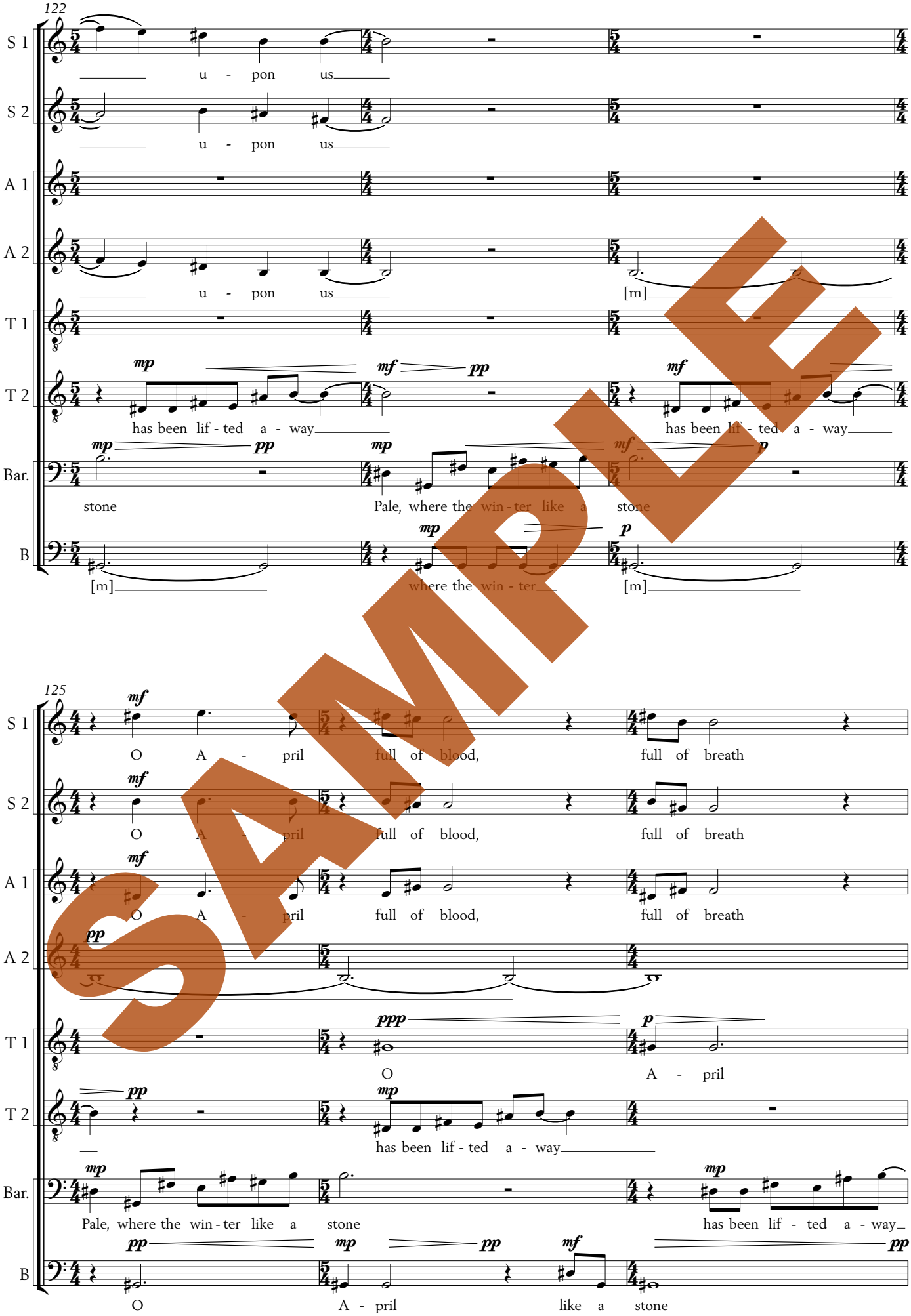
SAMPLE


108
S 1
S 2
A 1
A 2
T 1
T 2
Bar.
B
[m]
O
has been lif - ted a - way
- ment qui - - et Be for a mo - - ment
O mind
Pale the win - ter like a stone
where
[m]
112
mind,
O
mind,
[m]
has been lif - ted a - way
Pale, the win - ter like a stone
where the win - ter
[m]

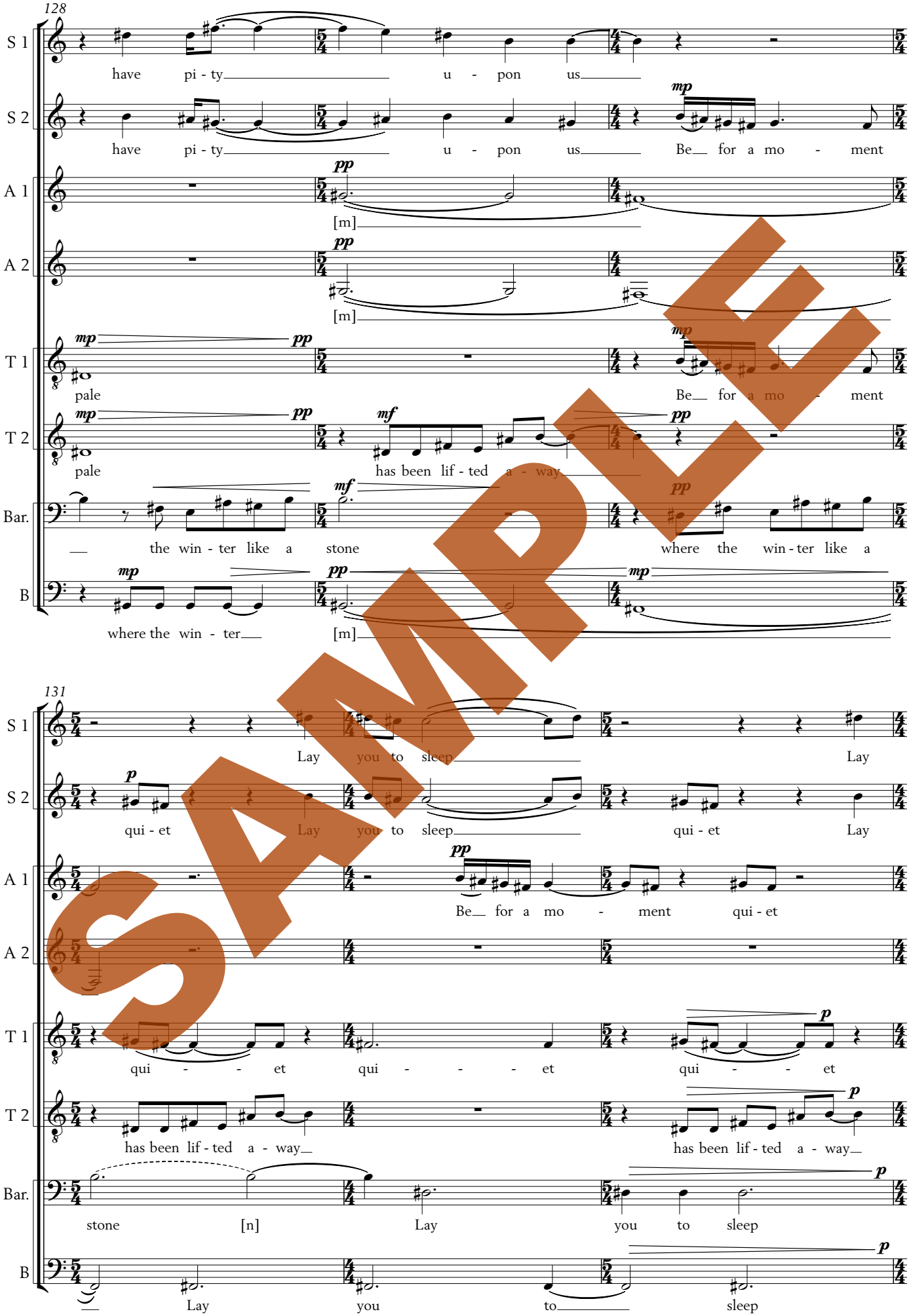
SAMPLE


116
S 1
S 2
A 1
A 2
T 1
T 2
Bar.
B
mf
O A - pril
pp
has been lif - ted a way
Pale, where the win - ter like a stone
where the win - ter
[m]
O Ap - ril
119
full of blood, full of breath have pi - ty
ppp
O A - pril
mp
stone has been lif - ted a - way the win - ter like a
full of blood full of breath Pale where the win - ter

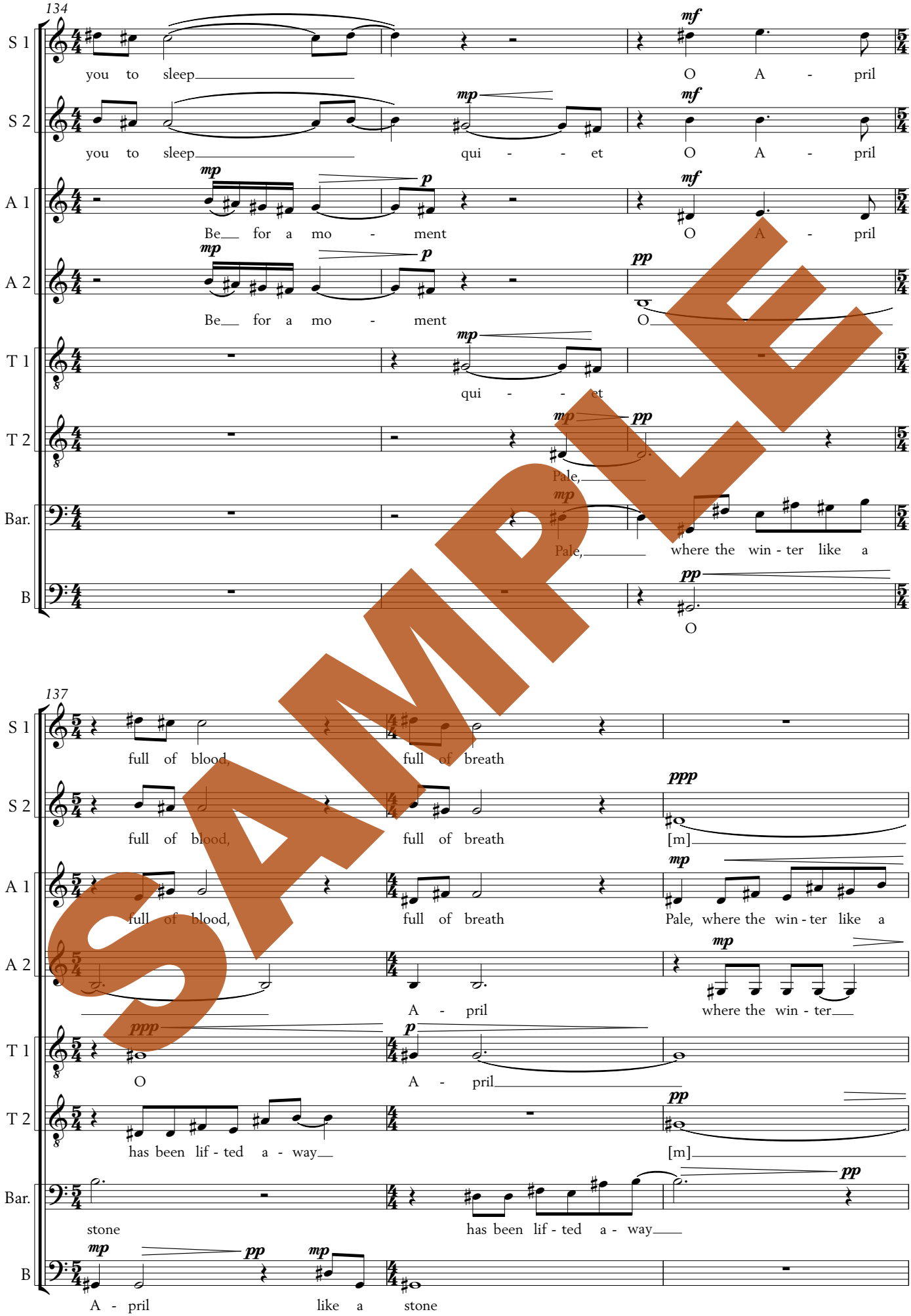
SAMPLE


122
S 1
u - pon us
S 2
u - pon us
A 1
A 2
u - pon us
[m]
T 1
T 2
has been lif - ted a - way
has been lif - ted a - way
Bar.
stone
Pale, where the win - ter like a stone
B
[m]
where the win - ter
[m]
125
S 1
O A - pril full of blood, full of breath
S 2
O A - pril full of blood, full of breath
A 1
O A - pril full of blood, full of breath
A 2
T 1
O A - pril
T 2
has been lif - ted a - way
Bar.
Pale, where the win - ter like a stone
has been lif - ted a - way
B
O A - pril like a stone

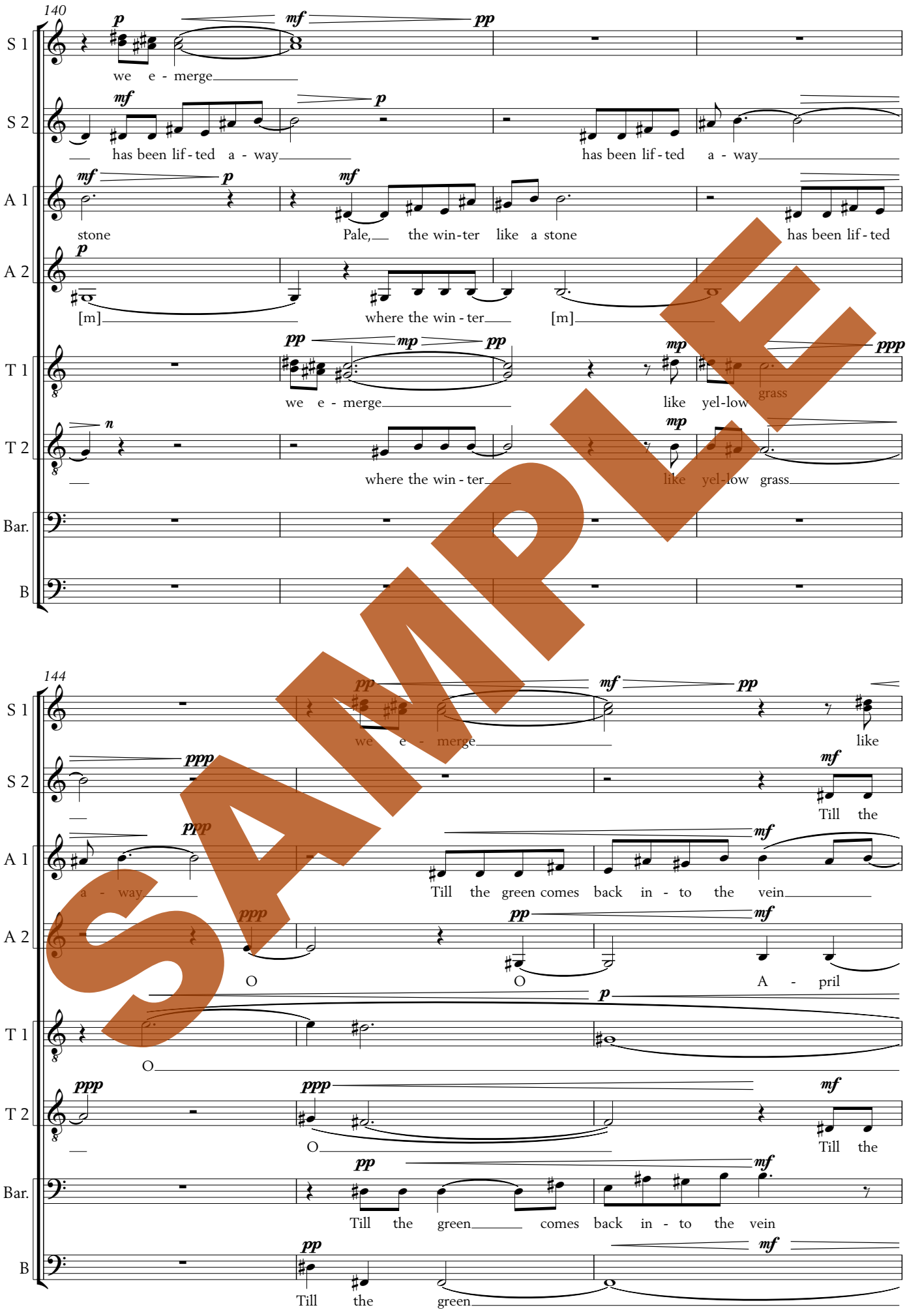
SAMPLE


128
S 1
have pi - ty u - pon us
S 2
have pi - ty u - pon us Be for a mo - ment
A 1
[m]
A 2
[m]
T 1
pale Be for a mo - ment
T 2
pale has been lif - ted a - way
Bar.
the win - ter like a stone where the win - ter like a
B
where the win - ter [m]
131
S 1
Lay you to sleep Lay
S 2
qui - et Lay you to sleep qui - et Lay
A 1
Be for a mo - ment qui - et
A 2
T 1
qui - et qui - et qui - et
T 2
has been lif - ted a - way has been lif - ted a - way
Bar.
stone [n] Lay you to sleep
B
Lay you to sleep

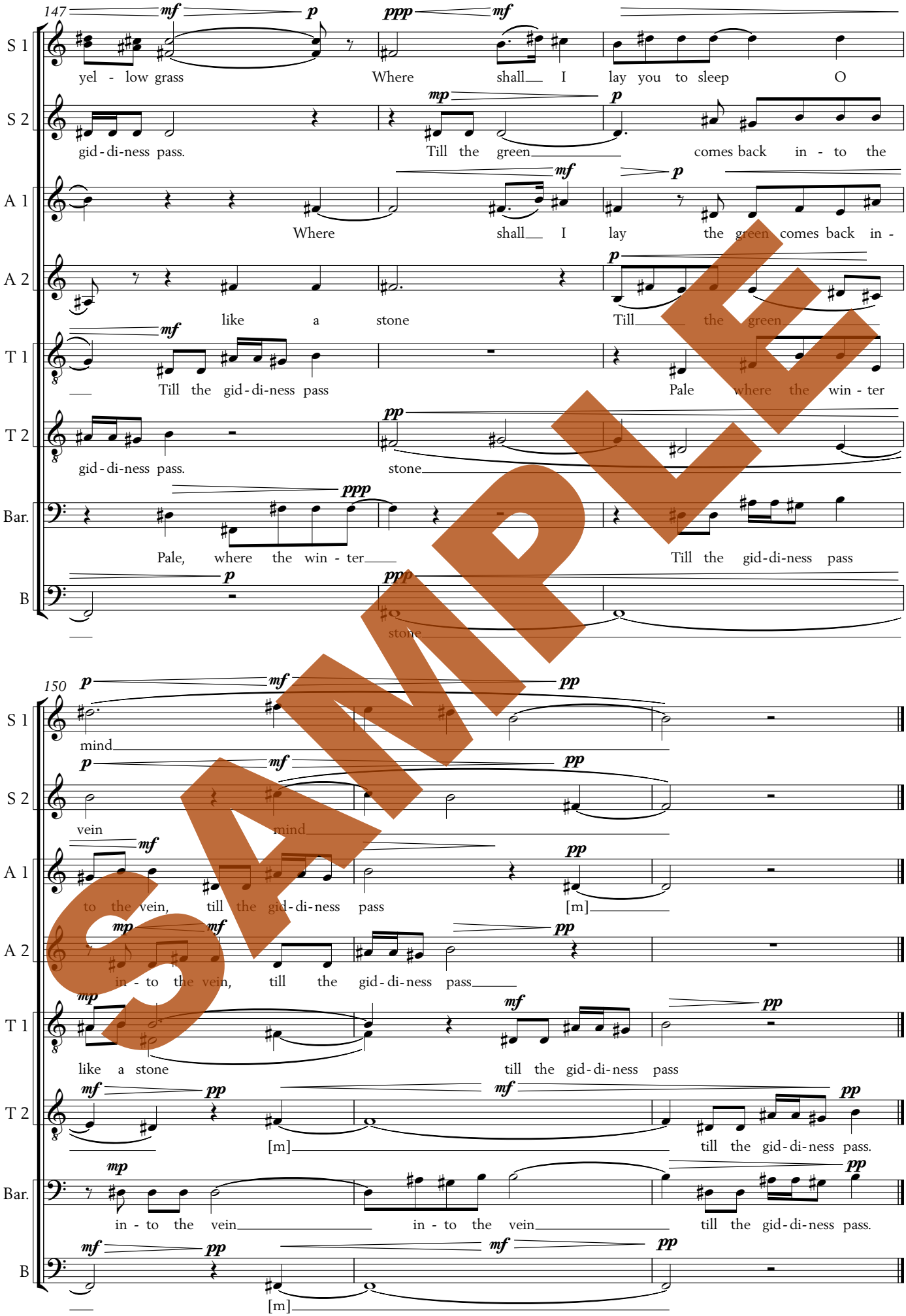
SAMPLE


134
S 1
you to sleep
mf
O A - pril
S 2
you to sleep
mp
qui - - et
mf
O A - pril
A 1
mp
Be for a mo - ment
p
mf
O A - pril
A 2
mp
Be for a mo - ment
p
pp
O
T 1
mp
qui - - et
T 2
mp
pp
Pale,
Bar.
mp
Pale, where the win - ter like a
B
pp
O
137
S 1
full of blood, full of breath
S 2
full of blood, full of breath
ppp
[m]
A 1
full of blood, full of breath
mp
Pale, where the win - ter like a
A 2
A - pril
mp
where the win - ter
T 1
ppp
O
p
A - pril
T 2
has been lif - ted a - way
pp
[m]
Bar.
stone
has been lif - ted a - way
pp
B
mp
pp
mp
A - pril like a stone

SAMPLE


140
S 1
we e - merge
S 2
has been lif - ted a - way
has been lif - ted a - way
A 1
stone
Pale, the win - ter like a stone
has been lif - ted
A 2
[m]
where the win - ter
[m]
T 1
we e - merge
like yel - low grass
T 2
where the win - ter
like yel - low grass
Bar.
B
144
S 1
we e - merge
like
S 2
Till the
A 1
a - way
Till the green comes back in - to the vein
A 2
O
O
A - pril
T 1
O
T 2
O
Till the
Bar.
Till the green comes back in - to the vein
B
Till the green

SAMPLE


147
S 1
yel - low grass
Where shall I lay you to sleep O
S 2
gid - di-ness pass.
Till the green comes back in - to the
A 1
Where shall I lay the green comes back in -
A 2
like a stone
Till the green
T 1
Till the gid - di-ness pass
Pale where the win - ter
T 2
gid - di-ness pass.
stone
Bar.
Pale, where the win - ter
Till the gid-di-ness pass
B
stone
150
S 1
mind
S 2
vein
mind
A 1
to the vein, till the gid - di-ness pass
[m]
A 2
in - to the vein, till the gid - di-ness pass
T 1
like a stone
till the gid - di-ness pass
T 2
[m]
till the gid - di-ness pass.
Bar.
in - to the vein
in - to the vein
till the gid - di-ness pass.
B
[m]

SAMPLE