Full Score

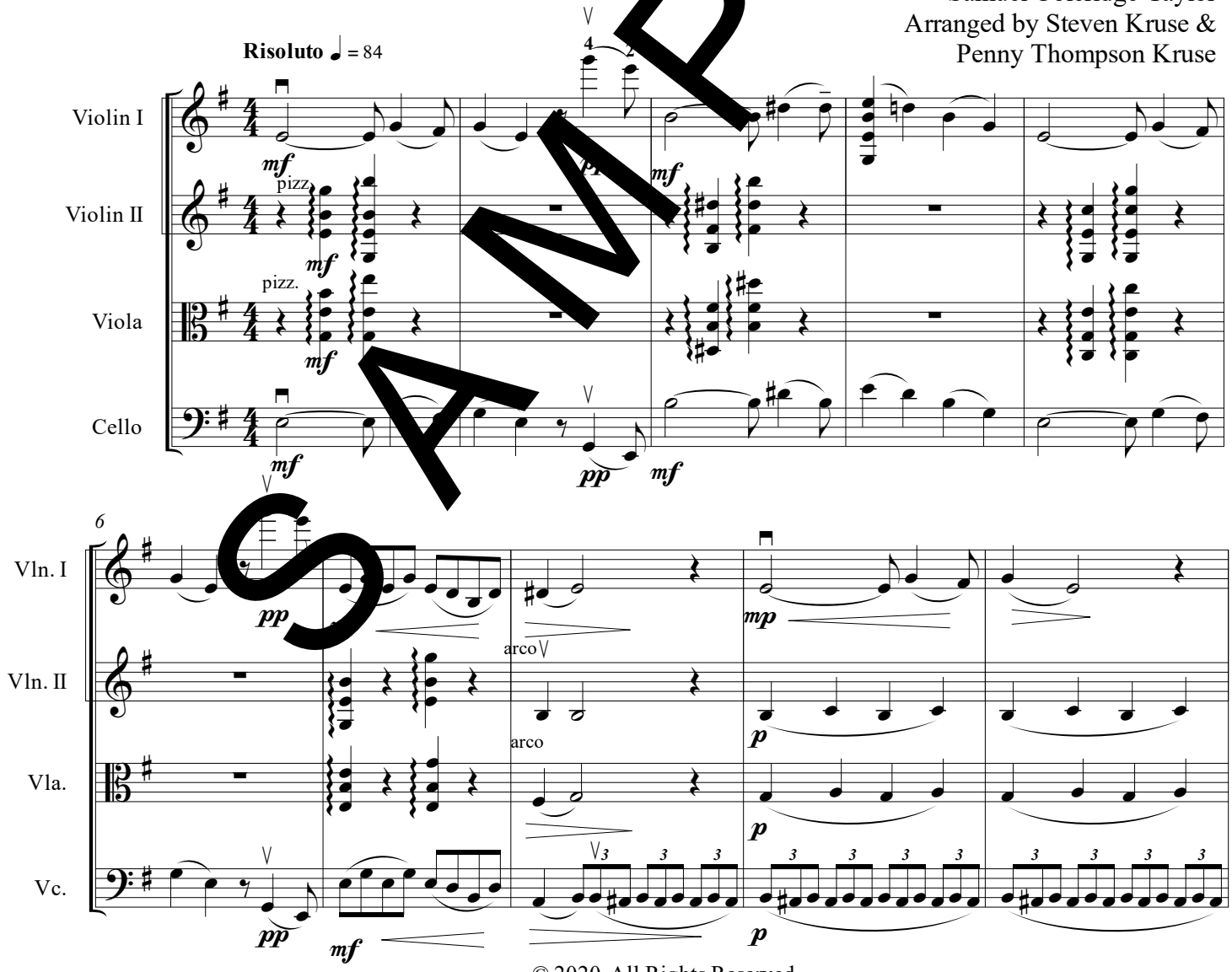
24 Negro Melodies
Wade in the Water

"Wade in the Water" was published in 1901 by Fisk Jubilee Singers. Dating back to the time of slavery, its original author is unknown.

Throughout the years, many variations of the song have existed and therefore have been interpreted in more ways than one. Harriet Tubman was known to sing this song to fellow slaves. "Wade in the Water" was used as a freedom song as the lyrics gave geographical hints for a safer travel. To escaping slaves, the song told them to abandon the path and move into the water. By traveling along the water's edge or across a body of water, the slaves would throw chasing dogs and their keepers off the scent.

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor
Arranged by Steven Kruse &
Penny Thompson Kruse

SAMPLE



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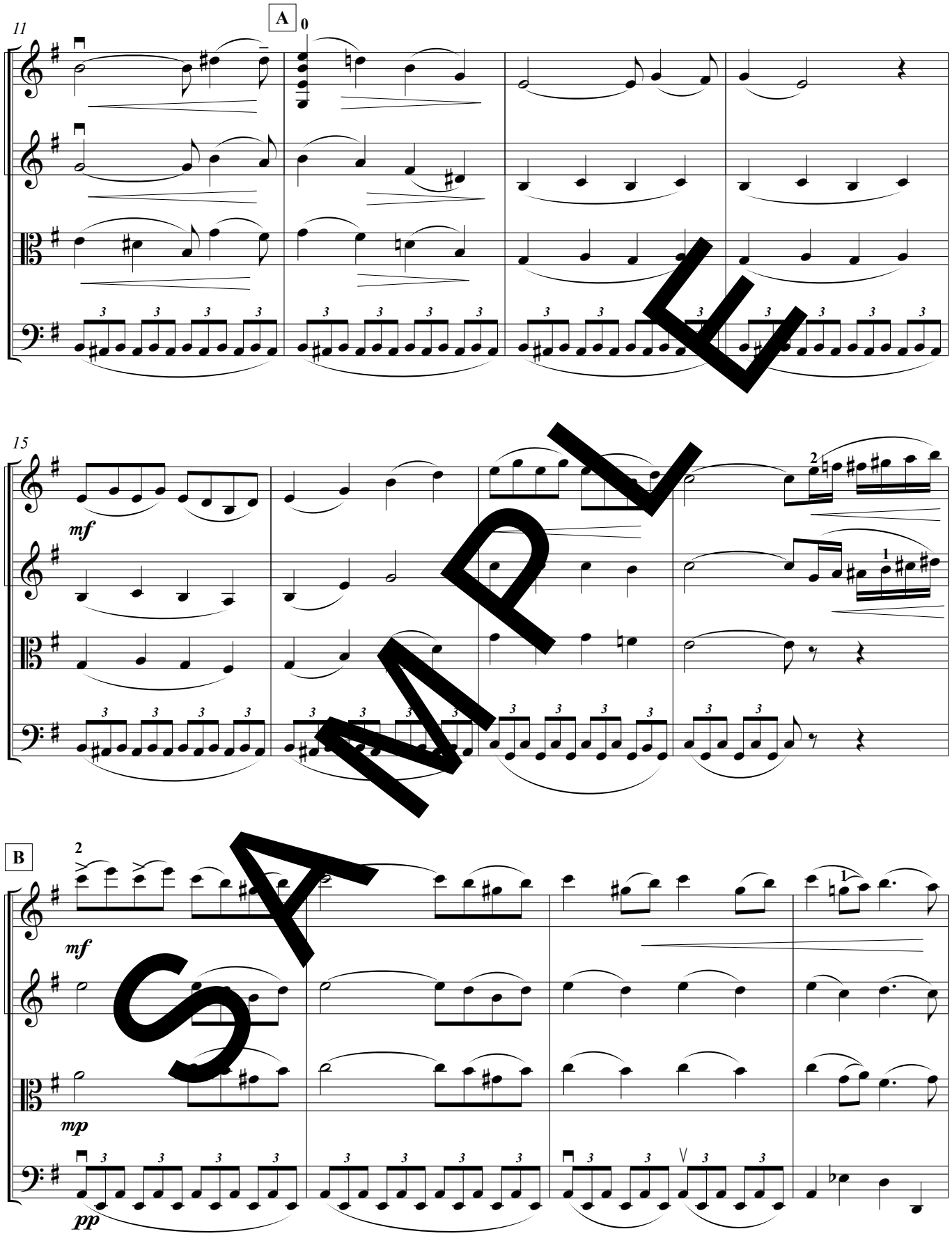
Wade in the Water



SAMPLE

My Lord Delivered Daniel

Peter Paul Rubens, "In the Lions' Den," c. 161

My Lord deliber'd Daniel, My Lord deliber'd Daniel,
My Loes deliber'd Daniel: Why can't H deliber Me?
I met a pilgrim on the way, an' I ask him w r he's a g n'.
I'm bound for Canaan's happy lan' an' dis is d houring band.

--"Jubilee and Plantation Songs," Jubilee Singers, Fi University, 1887

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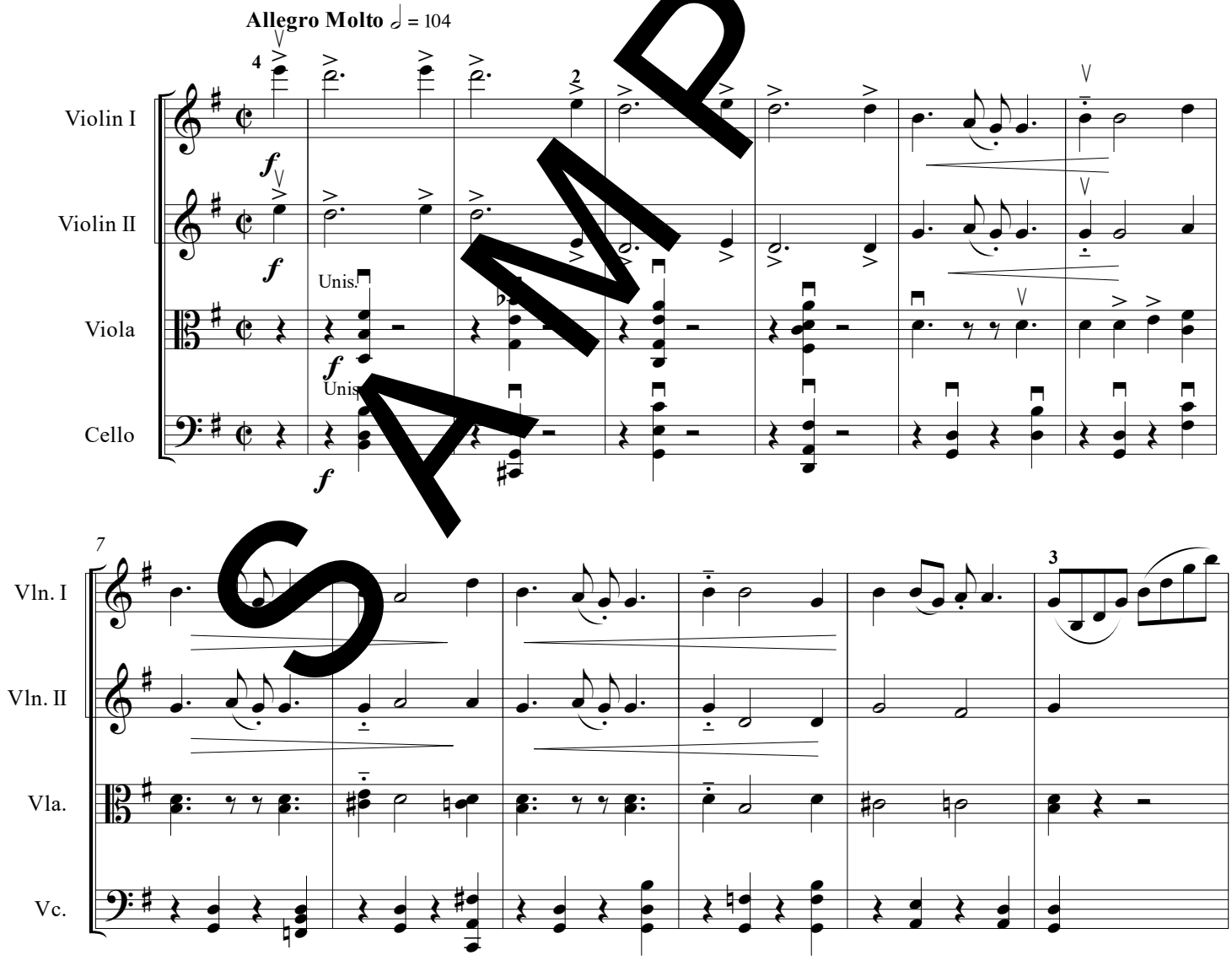
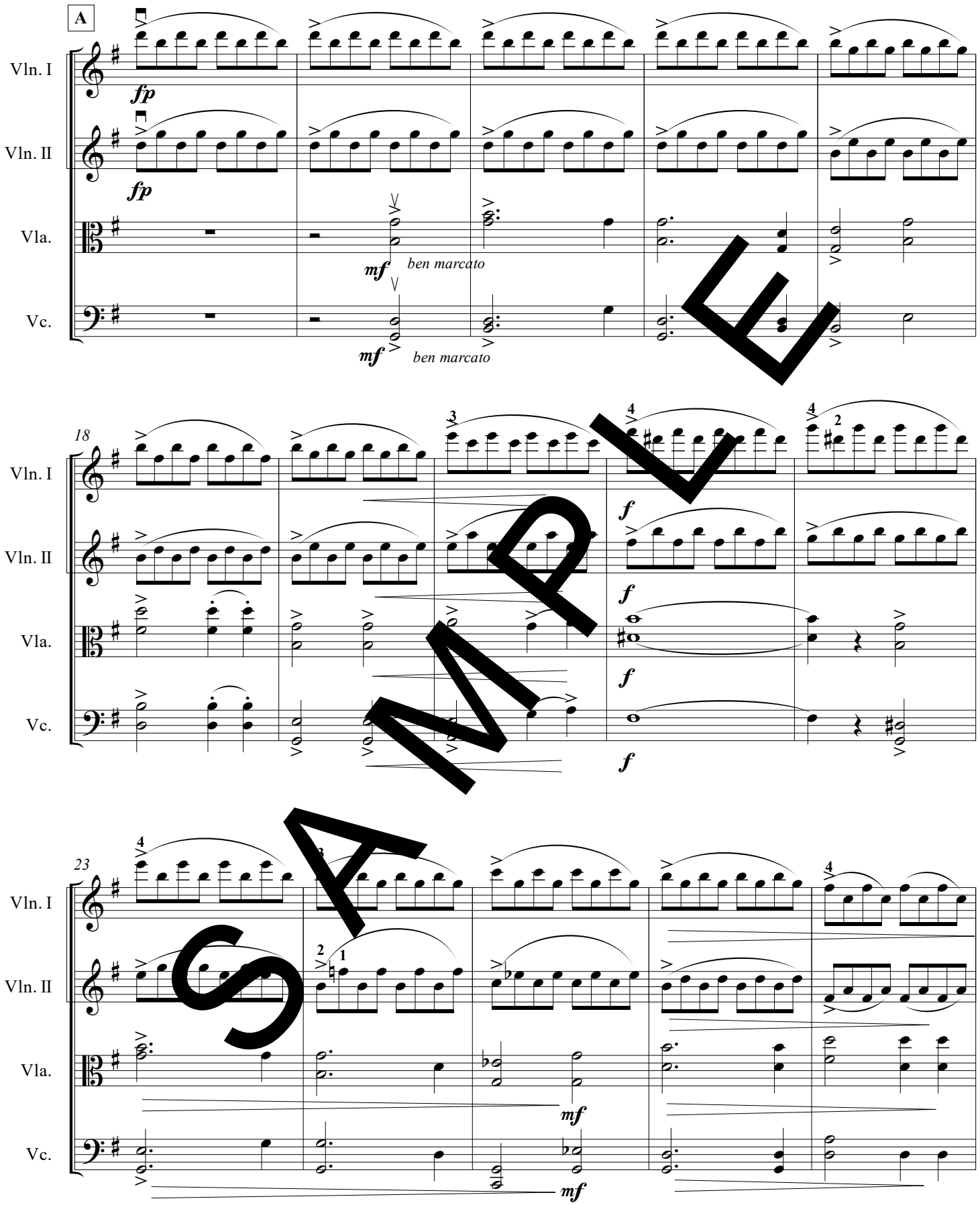
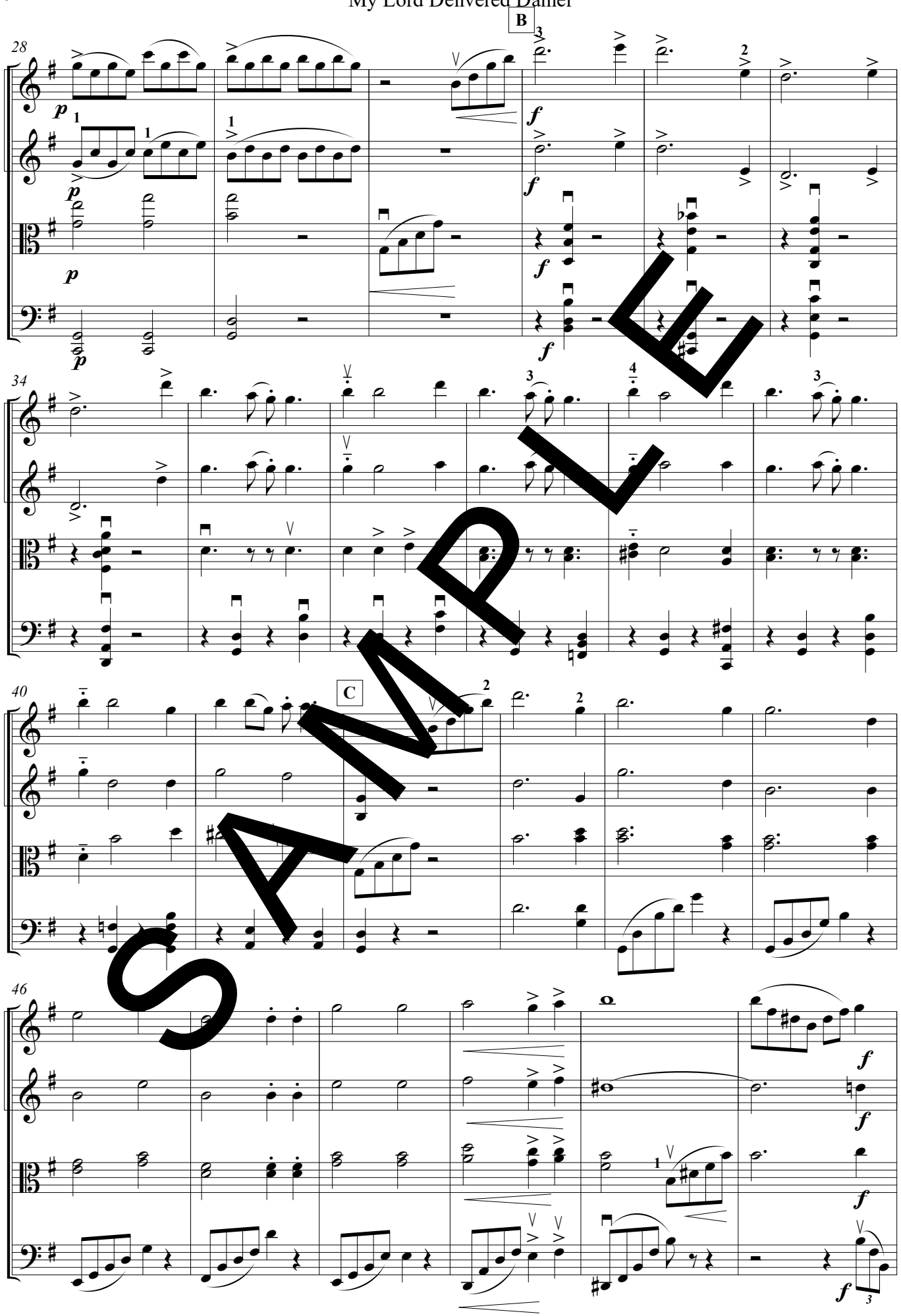



A
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
fp
fp
mf ben marcato
mf ben marcato
18
f
f
f
f
23
mf
mf

SAMPLE

My Lord Delivered Daniel



SAMPLE

Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child

Charles White, 1958

This famous Black Spiritual dates back to the days of slavery. It was probably b[illegible] out of the pain suffered by mothers when their children were sold away to other plantations, the location remaining unknown to mothers. Even in our own time, we have seen the devastation family separation can cause.

As Harriet Jacobs, an escaped slave, wrote: "On one of those [illegible] days, I saw a mother lead seven children to the auction block. She knew that some of them would be [illegible]ken fro[illegible]her; but they took all. The children were sold to a slave-trader, and their mother was bought by [illegible]n in her own town. Before night her children were all far away. She begged the trad[illegible] tell her where he intended to take them; this he refused to do" (from *The Classic Slave Narratives*, [illegible]dited [illegible] Henry Louis Gates, Jr.).

The spiritual first gained public exposure through [illegible]e perfo[illegible]mances of the Jubilee Singers. Since then, many notable singers and instrumentalists have created [illegible]i[illegible]own unique interpretation, including Marian Anderson, Paul Robeson, Odetta, and Wynton Marsalis.

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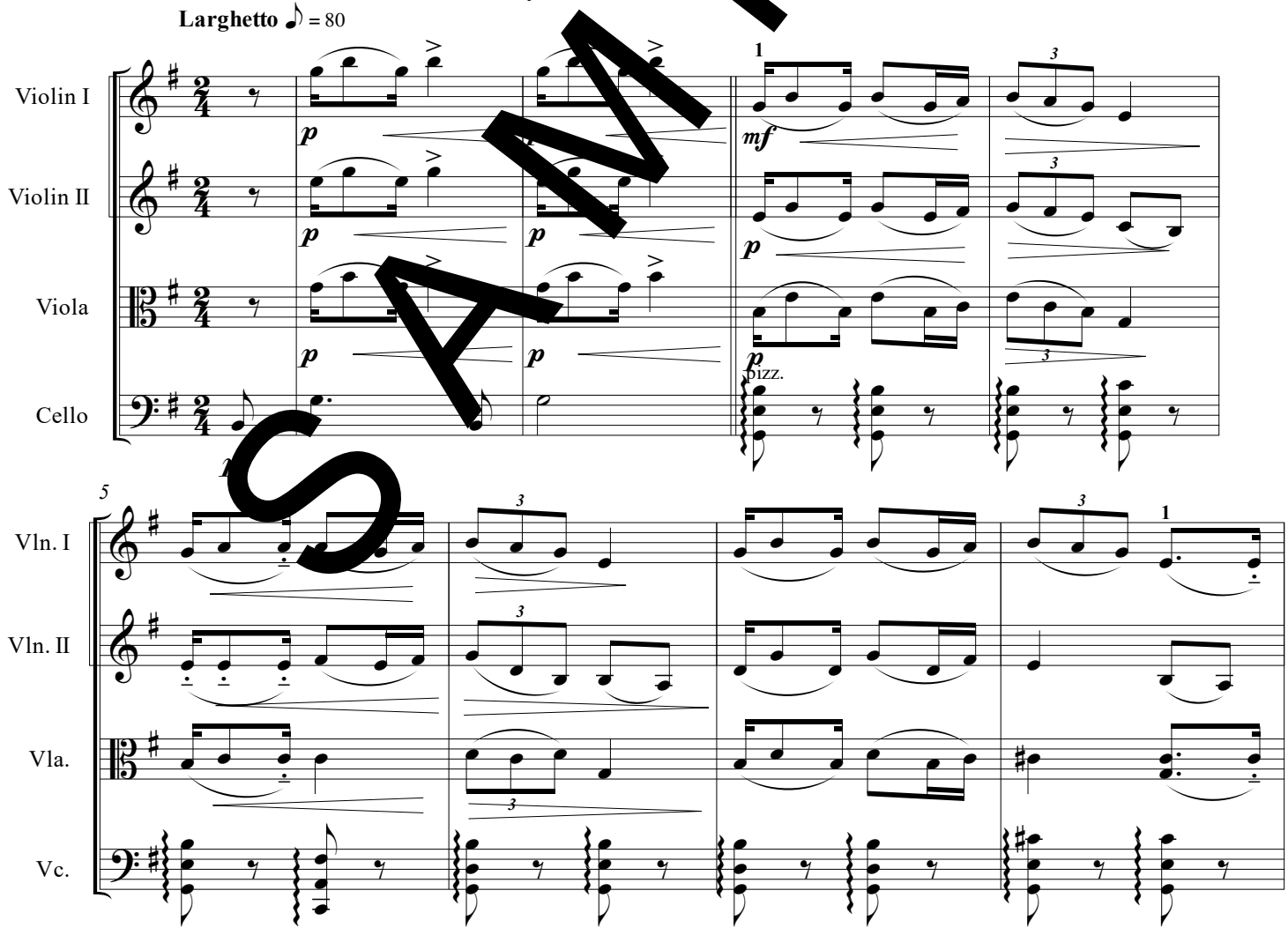
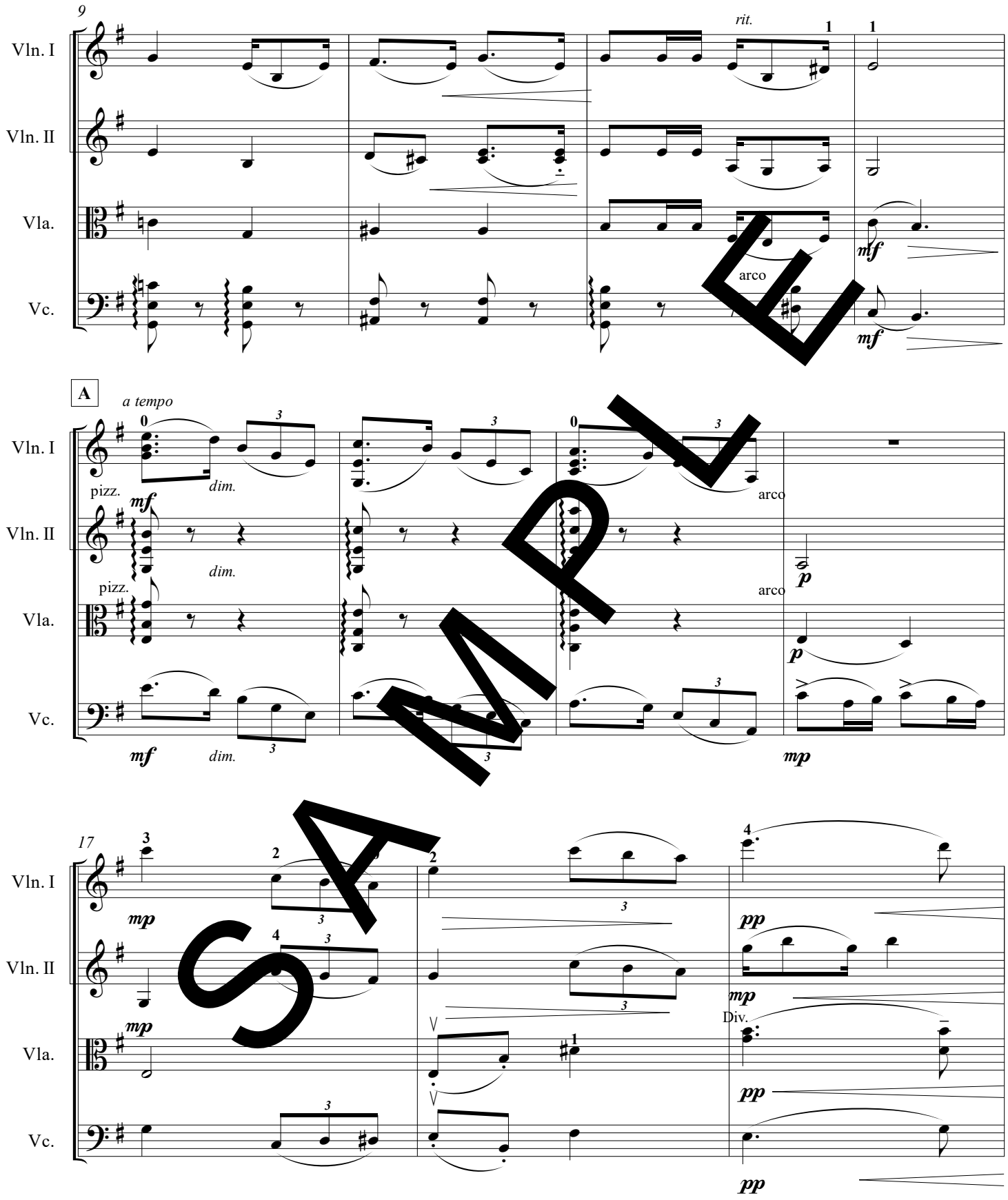
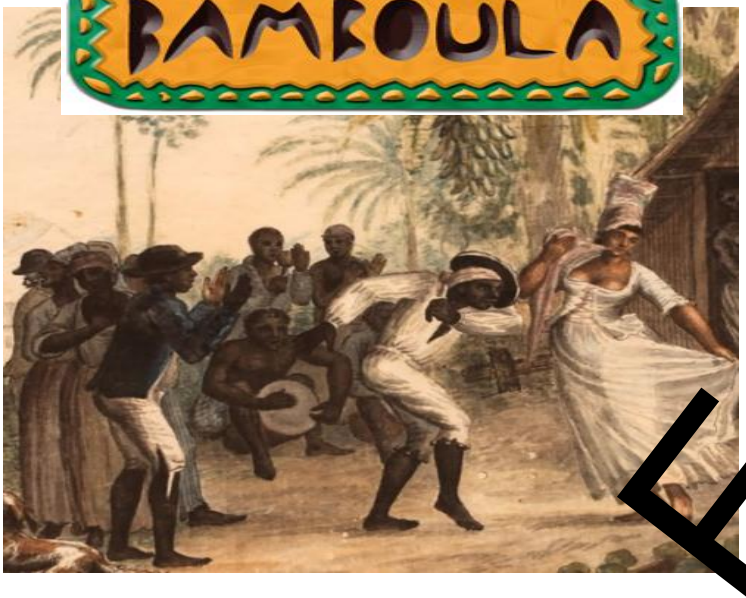




SAMPLE

BAMBOULA



A bamboula is a type of drum made from a rum barrel with skin stretched over one end. It is also a dance accompanied by these drums. Originating in Africa, the bamboula first appears in a Haitian song in 1757. It is a syncopated dance. The dance was exported to New Orleans through the Virgin Islands by Africans slaves owned by the French. The slaves congregated on the Congo Square of the French Quarter of New Orleans to dance.

SAMPLE

Molto Allegro, quasi Presto ♩ = 126

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

A

rit.

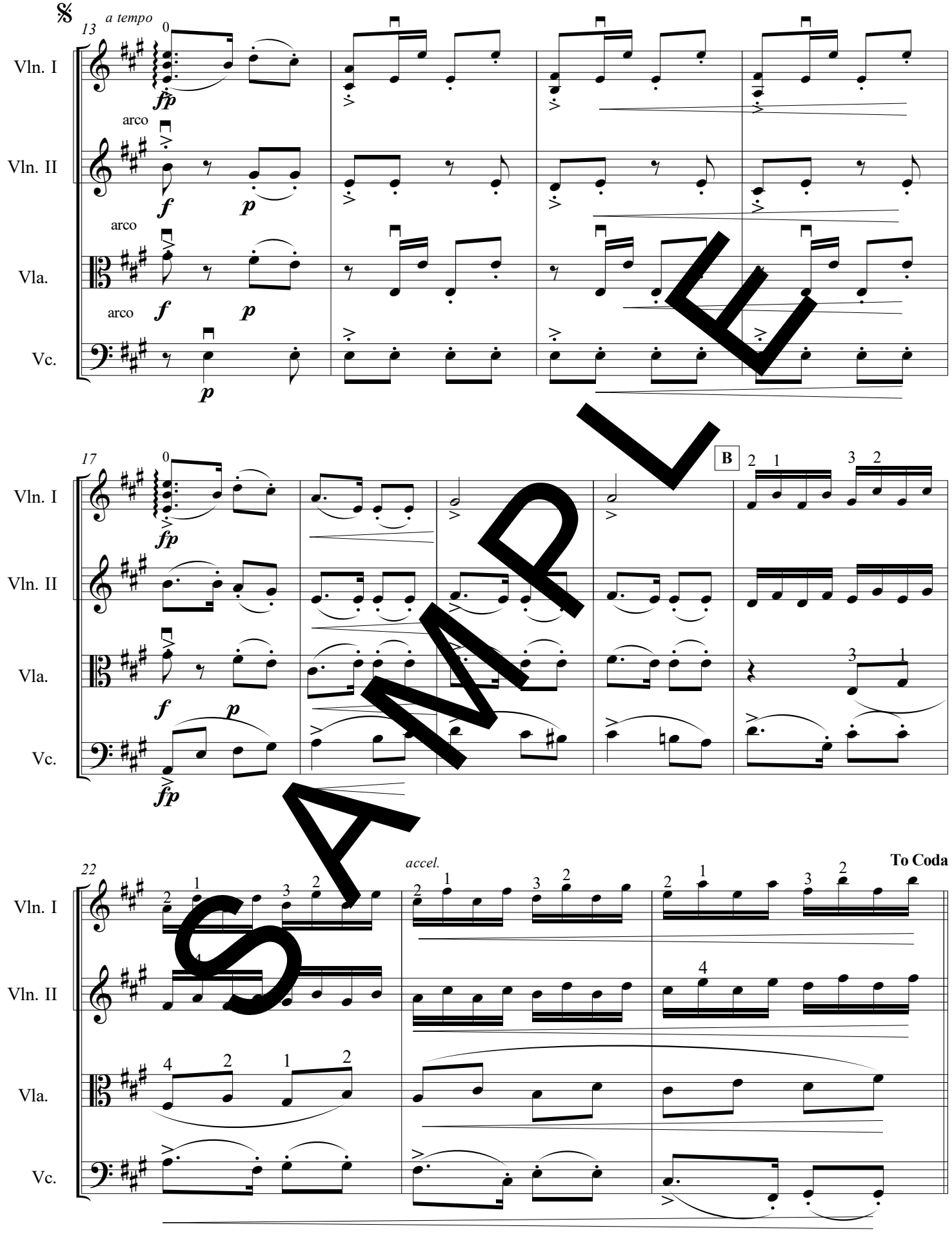
Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.



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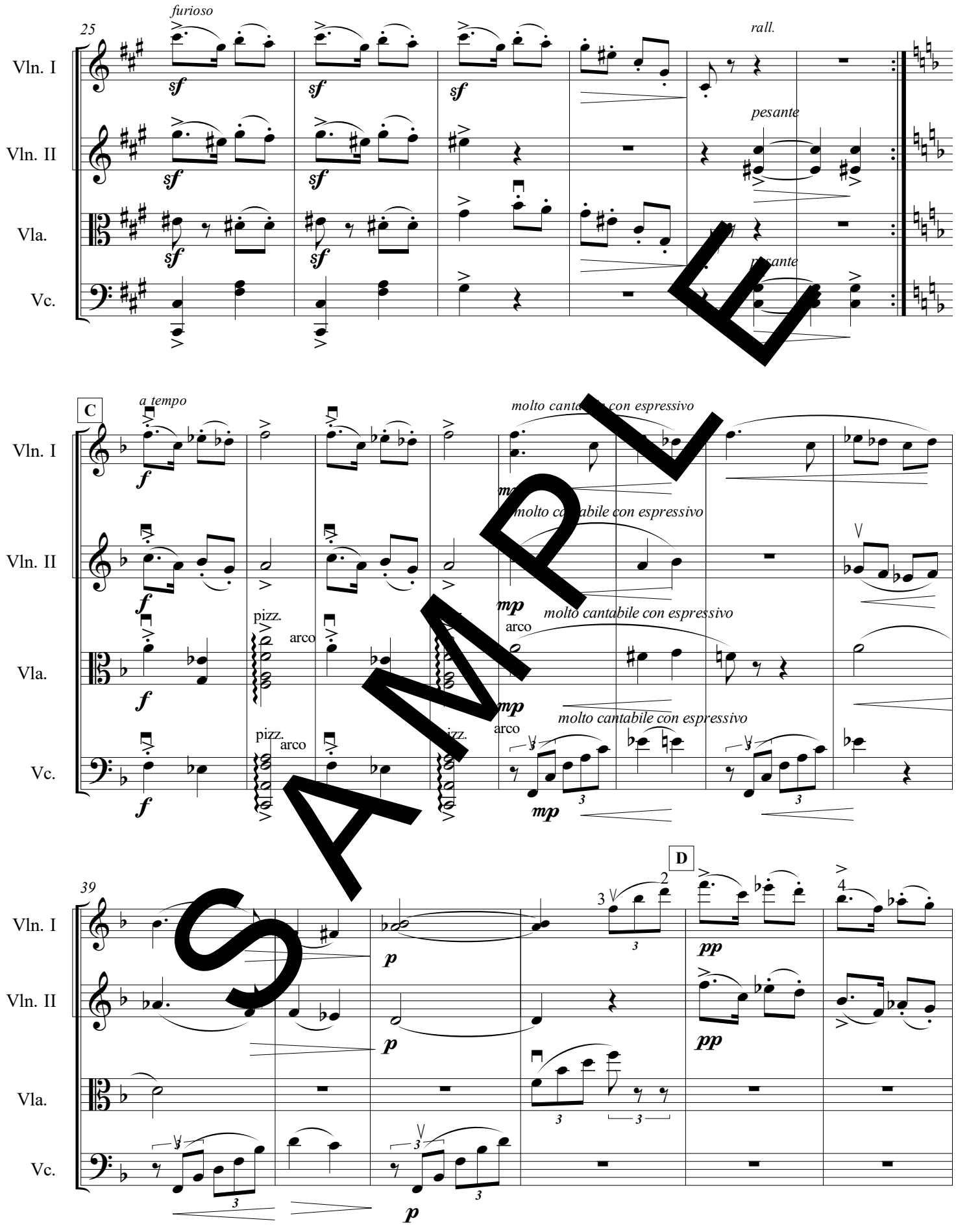

furioso
25
rall.
pesante
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
C
a tempo
molto cantabile con espressivo
pizz.
arco
D
39

SAMPLE

Deep River

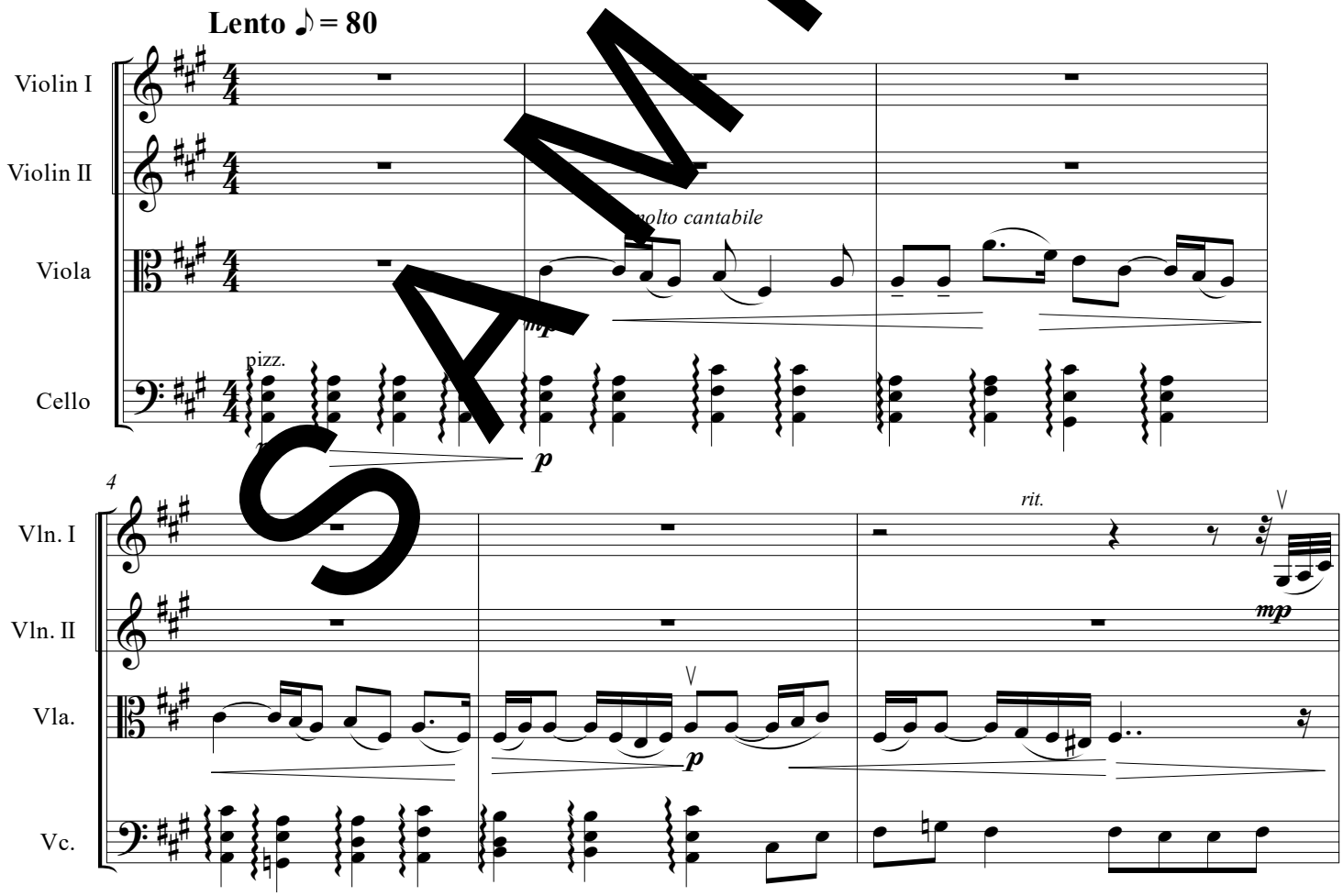
Deep river,
My home is over Jordan.
Deep river, Lord,
I want to cross over into campground.

Oh, don't you want to go,
To the Gospel feast;
That Promised Land,
Where all is peace?

Oh, deep river, Lord,
I want to cross over into campground.

The song was first mentioned in print in 1876, when it was published in the first edition of The Story of the Jubilee Singers: With Their Songs, by J. B. T. Marsh. By 1917, when Harry Burleigh completed the last of his several influential arrangements, the song had become very popular in recitals. It has been called "perhaps the best known and best-loved spiritual."

The Spiritual contains several biblical references. "Deep River" may refer to a small town on the Ottawa River in Canada. "Campground" was an African American military encampment in Alabama during the Civil War.



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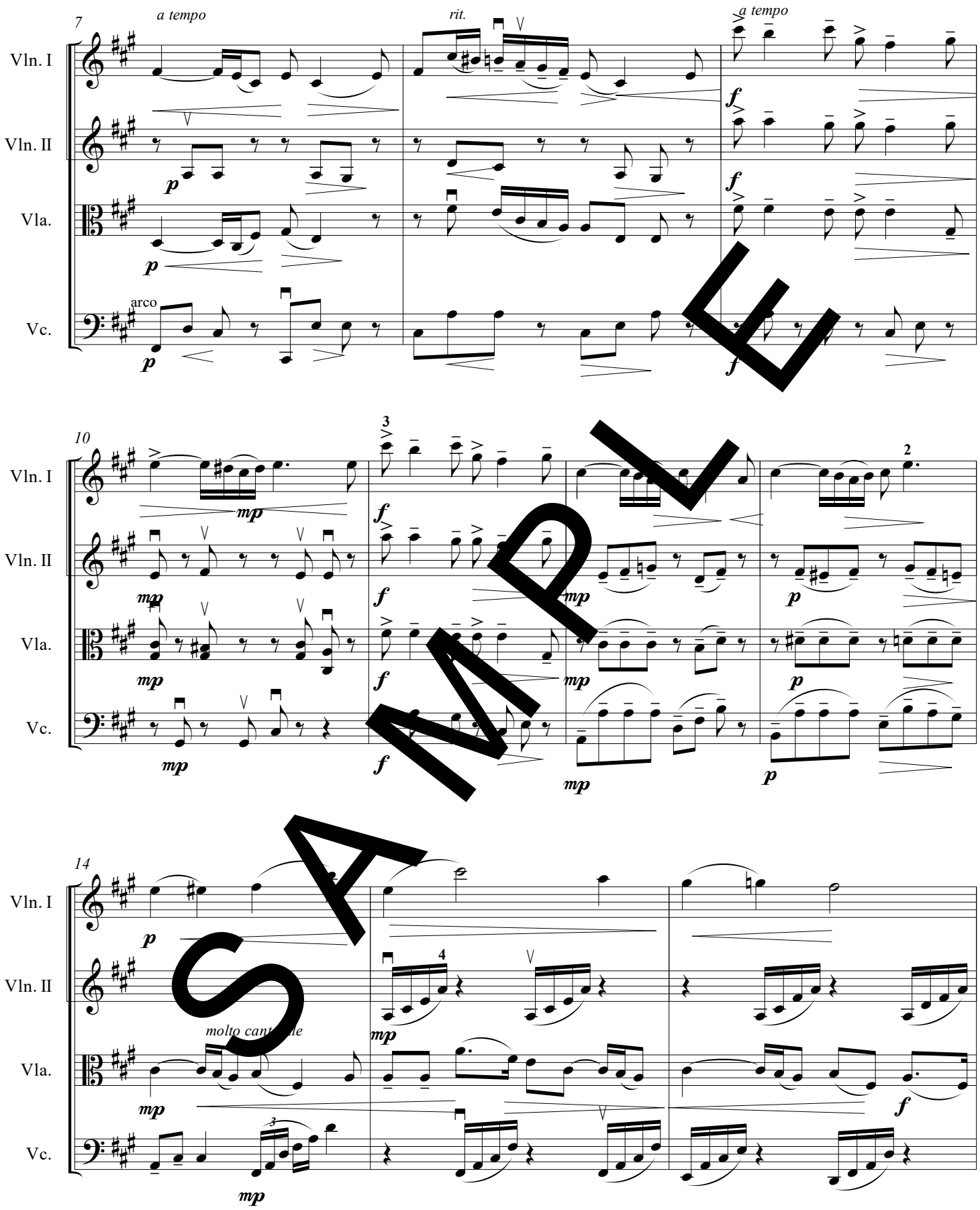
7
a tempo
rit.
3
a tempo
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
arco
10
3
2
14
molto cantabile
4

SAMPLE