Catalog # 20205 | 3-5 octaves handbells
2-3 octaves handchimes | Level 3

A Morning Walk

New Every Morning

setting by

David R. Kent (ASCAP)

From the Top Music
Albuquerque, NM
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A Morning Walk

Performance Notes

This piece should conjure pleasant images in your mind as you ring it. As you begin, picture a bright, cheery "morning person" whistling (or humming) a happy tune as he/she takes off, full of energy, on his/her morning constitutional. The bass line, with its almost constant quarter notes, helps one experience the brisk gait of our walker. The mood is bright and the pace is aerobic. In fact, you will periodically hear heartbeats in the music (measure 9-11, 25- 27, 32-33, 61-63, 77-79, 84-85). Make sure to observe the accents in these measures so that the effect is communicated.

At measure 17, you will see "Meets a friend" printed in the score. Interplay between melody and countermelodies in this section suggests our walker has met a friend and is engaging in pleasant conversation. A little later, in measure 35, we see our walker slow down and find a nice place to rest on a park bench beside a peaceful pond. In this section the echos (or rhythmic vibrato on chimes) (see below) can suggest either the heavy breathing of our exerted walker or ripples in the pond. After catching his/her breath our walker gets up and heads for home at the same energetic pace as before. The themes are familiar but the treatments are varied somewhat from the first A section. This might suggest our walker is still whistling those happy tunes but perhaps has taken a different route home from the park.

If ringing this piece in a religious service, it is suggested that the alternate title "New Every Morning" be used to remind folks that the Lord's mercies are indeed new every morning (Lamentations 3:22-23). I would suggest that the first ***A*** section could represent a grateful believer awaking with a joyful tune in his/her mind, thankful the Lord has blessed him/her with another day. After rushing around joyfully attending to his/her morning chores the believer settles down to spend a little quiet time in God's Word and in prayer (the ***B*** section). After a time of renewal and communing with God the believer then steps out into the day with joyful optimism seeking to live a life that glorifies God.

If handchimes are used, special care will need to be given to handchime assignments. In order to maintain the integrity of the musical lines and to keep from frustrating a ringer, the Ab5 and Bb5 handchimes should not be rung by the same person who is ringing the Ab5 and Bb5 handbells. One possible solution is to have the ringer who is ringing the D5 - Eb5 chimes also ring the Ab5 and Bb5 chimes. Another option would be to have the C4 - D4 ringer ring the Ab5 and Bb5 chimes -- or you could have the D5 - Eb5 ringer ring the Ab5 chime and the C4, D4 ringer ring the Bb5 chime.

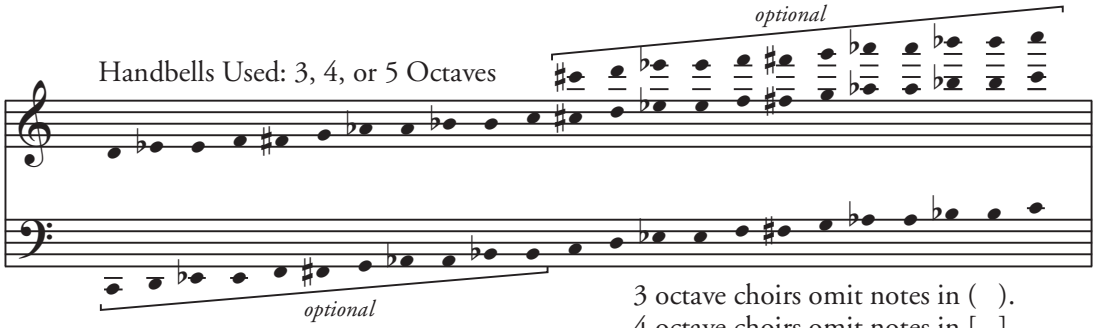
The echos in the ***B*** section are for the whole notes and half notes only. If chimes are used, please use a rhythmic vibrato to emulate the echo technique. This can be accomplished by using an index finger to lightly tap (and lift) at the base of the slit in the chime. This should be done in the same rhythm indicated for the echos.

Happy Ringing!

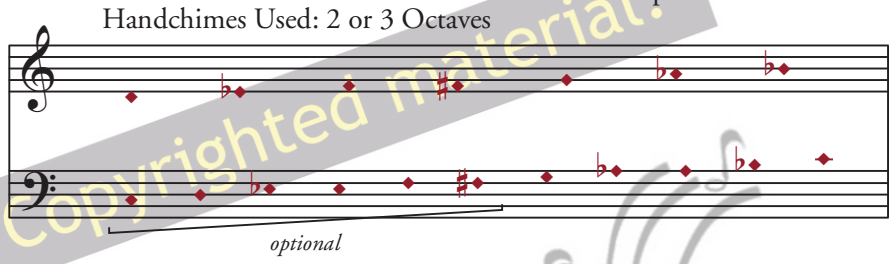
A Morning Walk

(New Every Morning)

Cat. 20205
AGEHR Level III



3 octave choirs omit notes in ( ).
4 octave choirs omit notes in [ ].
5 octave choirs omit notes in < >.
Please see perfomance notes.



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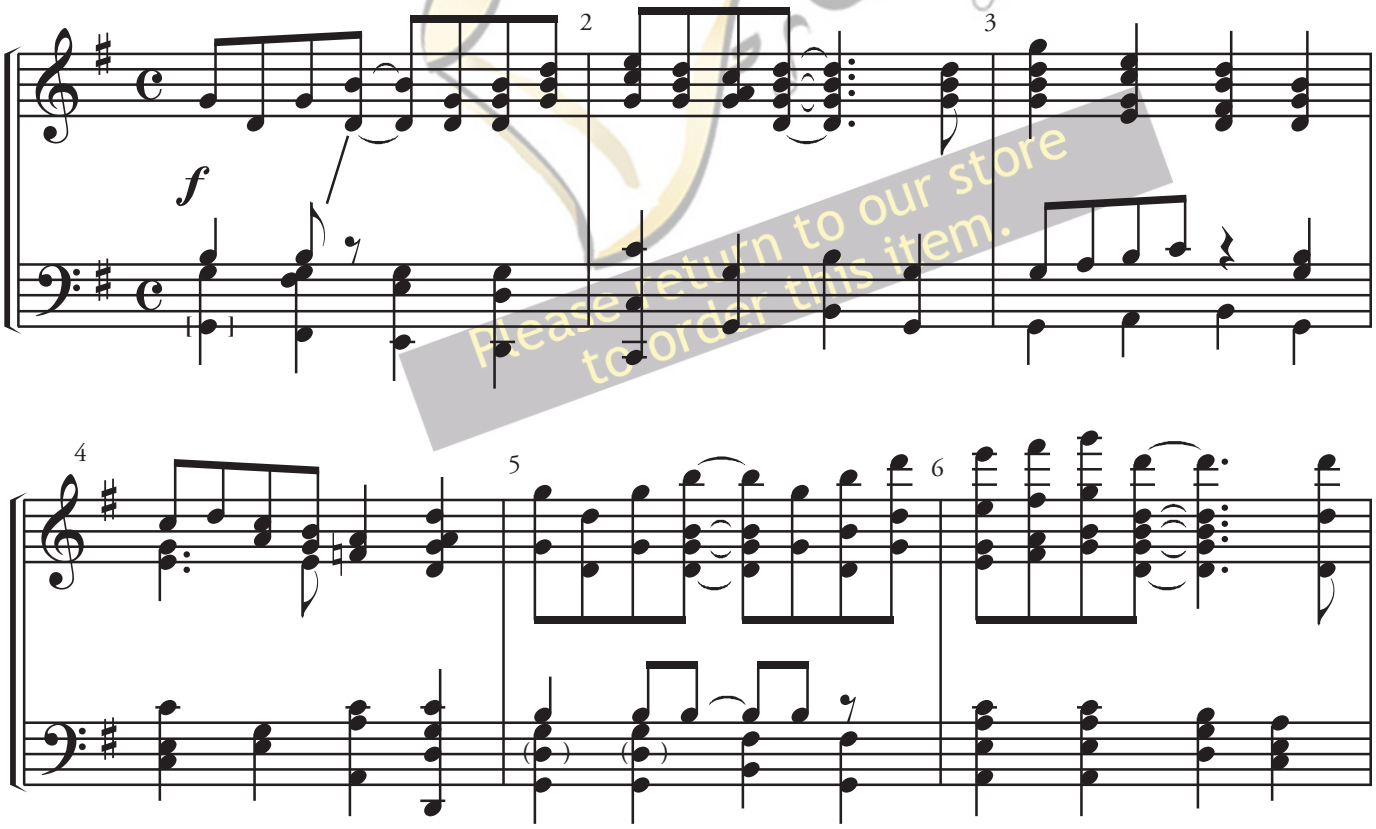
Briskly ♩= *130* *(Off in the brisk morning air)*



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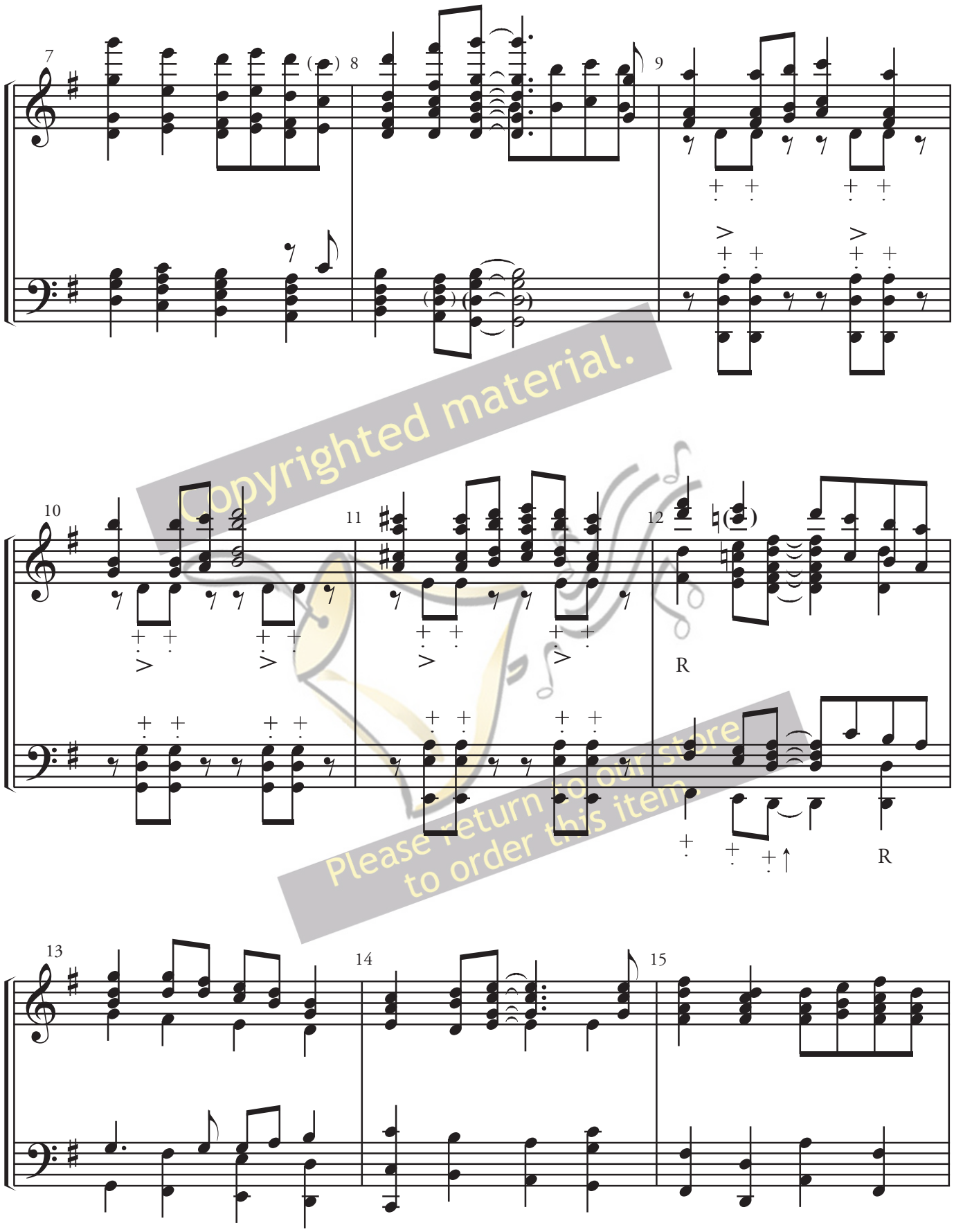

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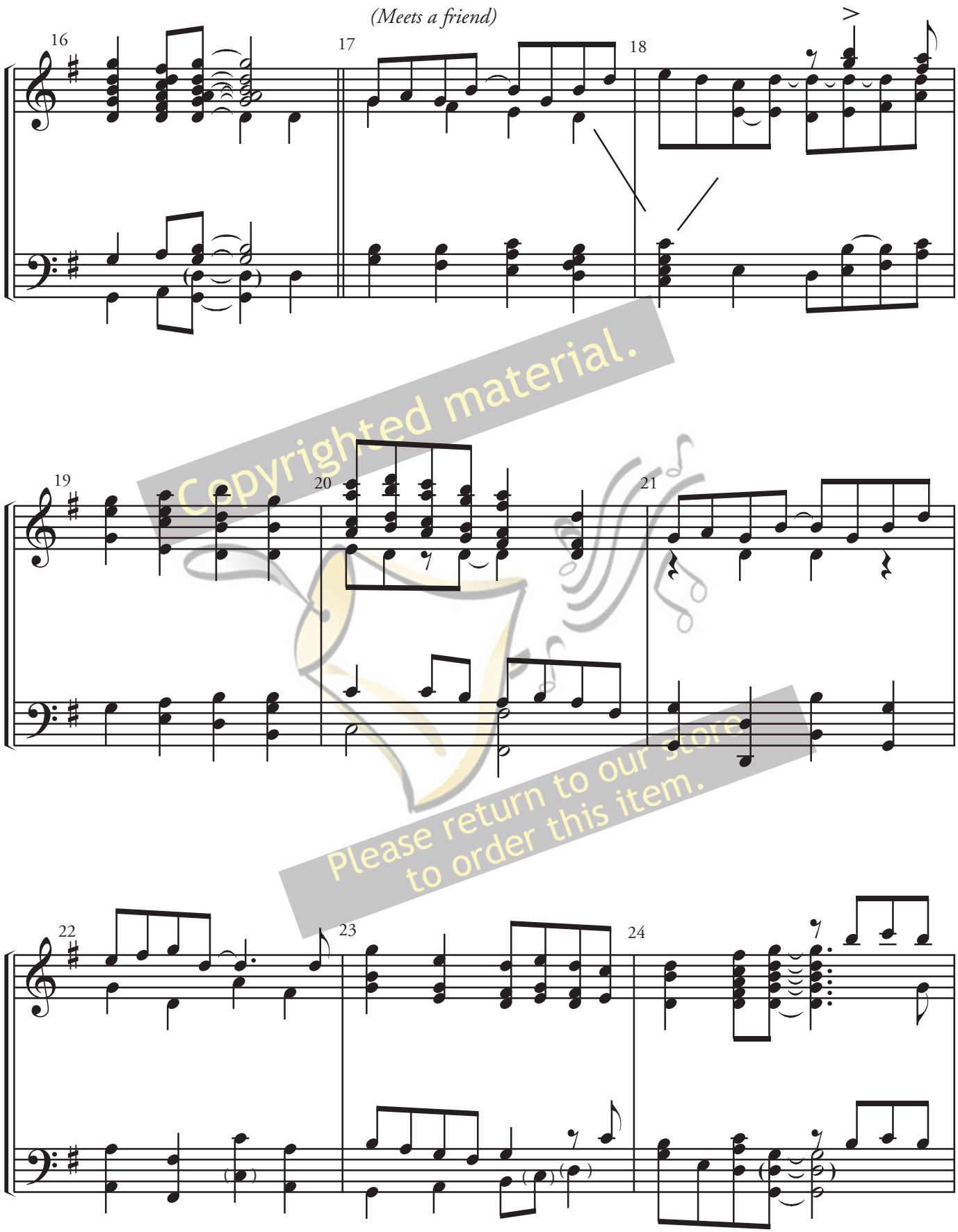

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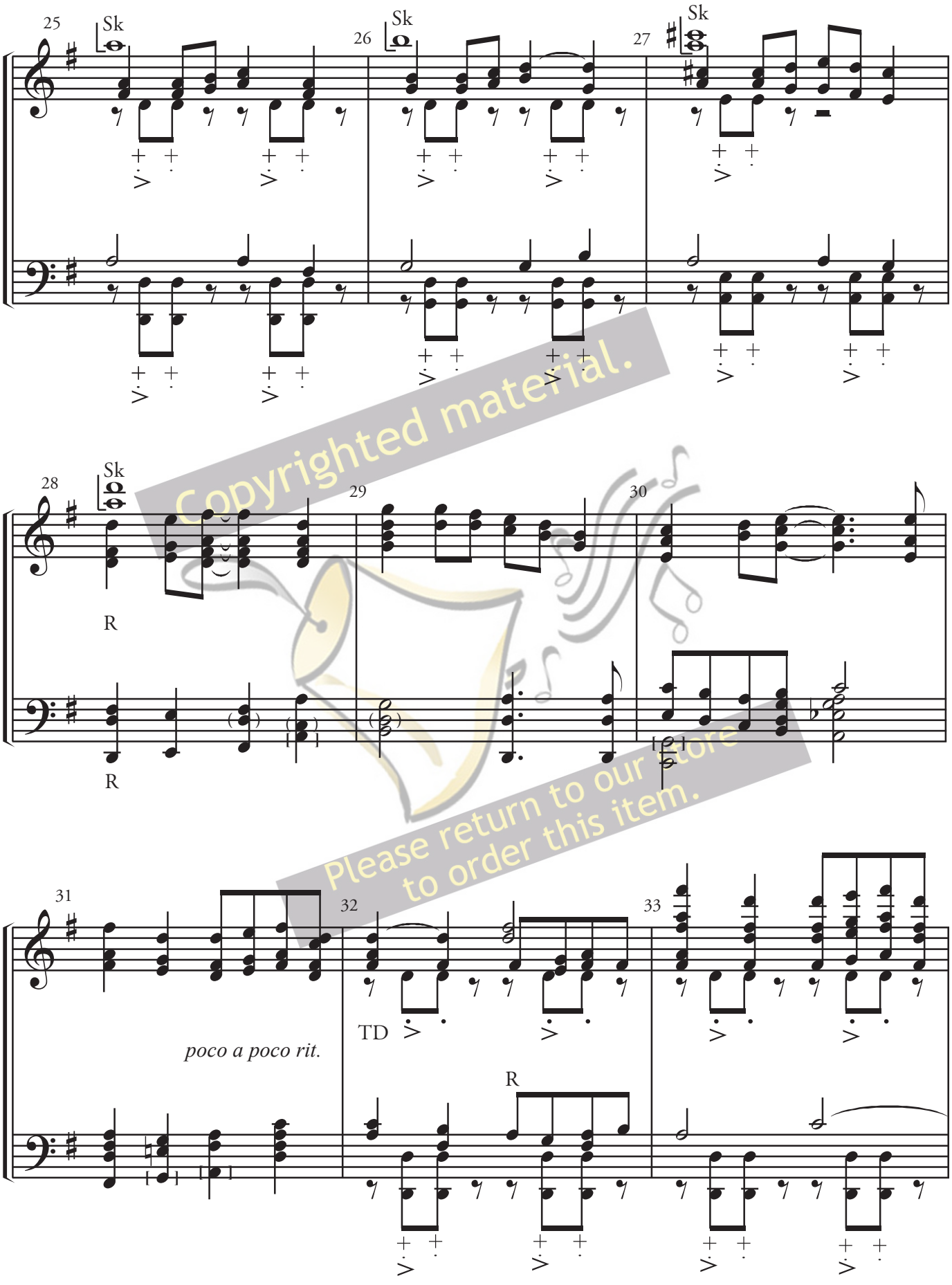

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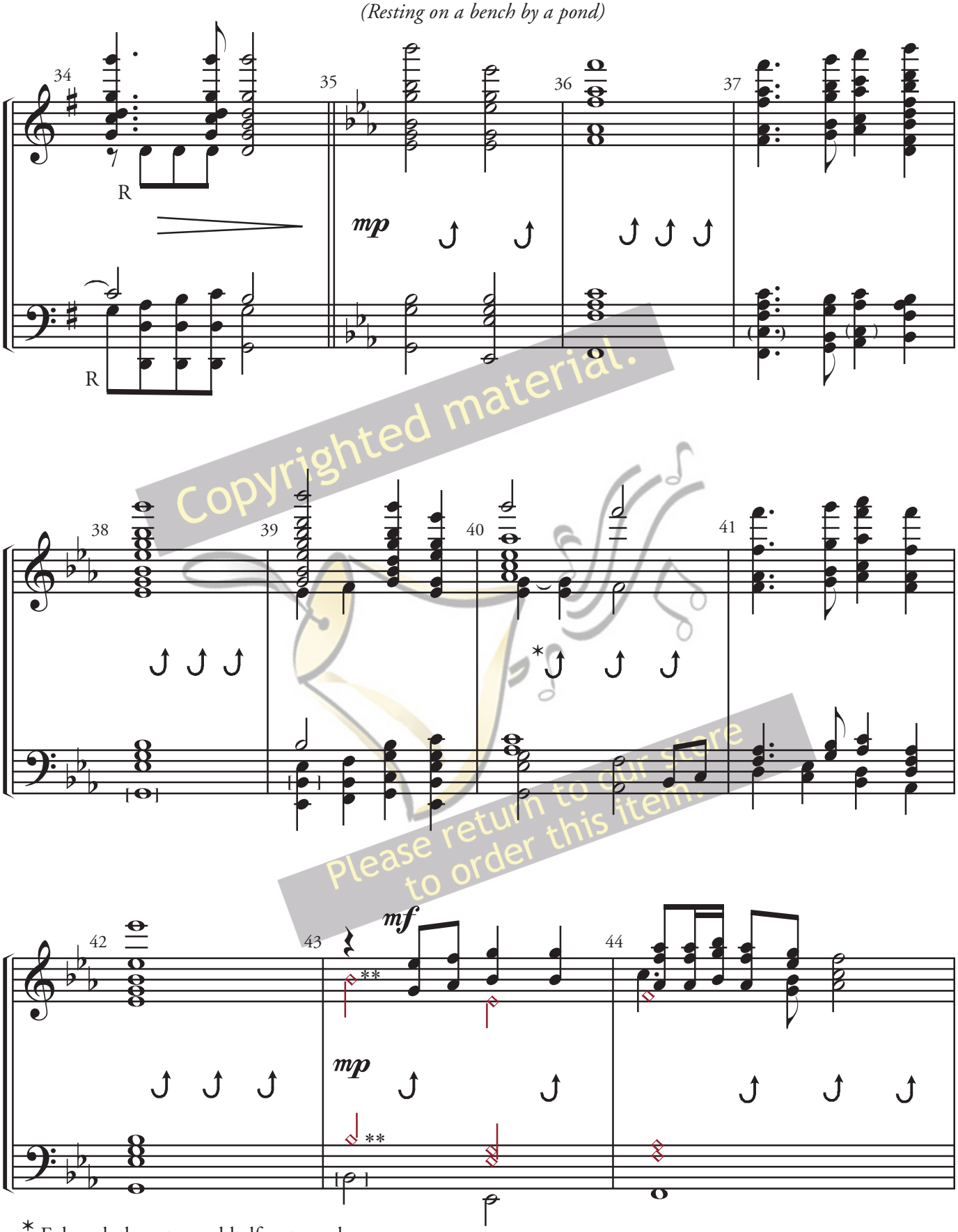
Slower, more reflective ♩= *90*

(Resting on a bench by a pond)



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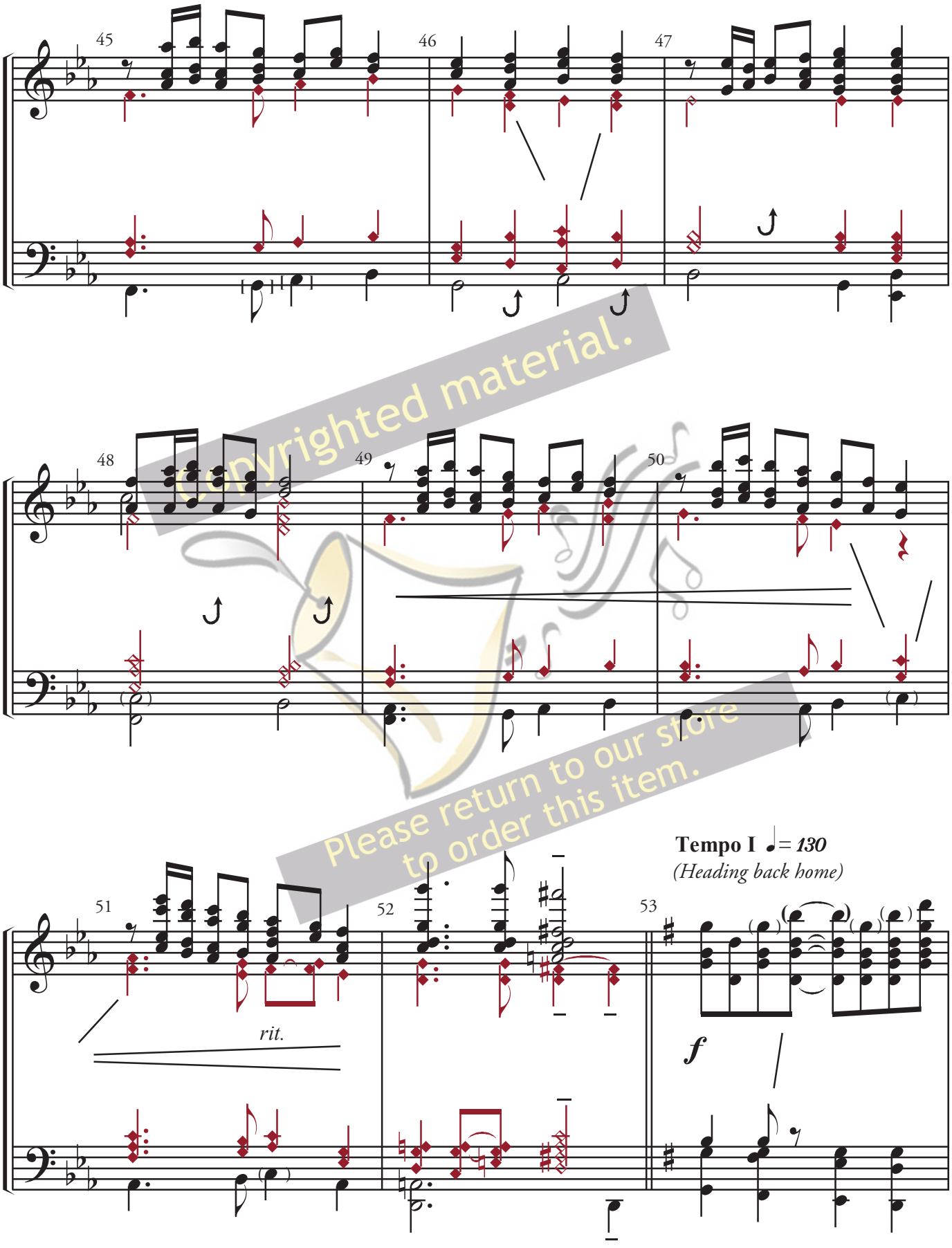
* Echo whole notes and half notes only

** Please see performance notes regarding handchime assignments and rhythmic vibrato



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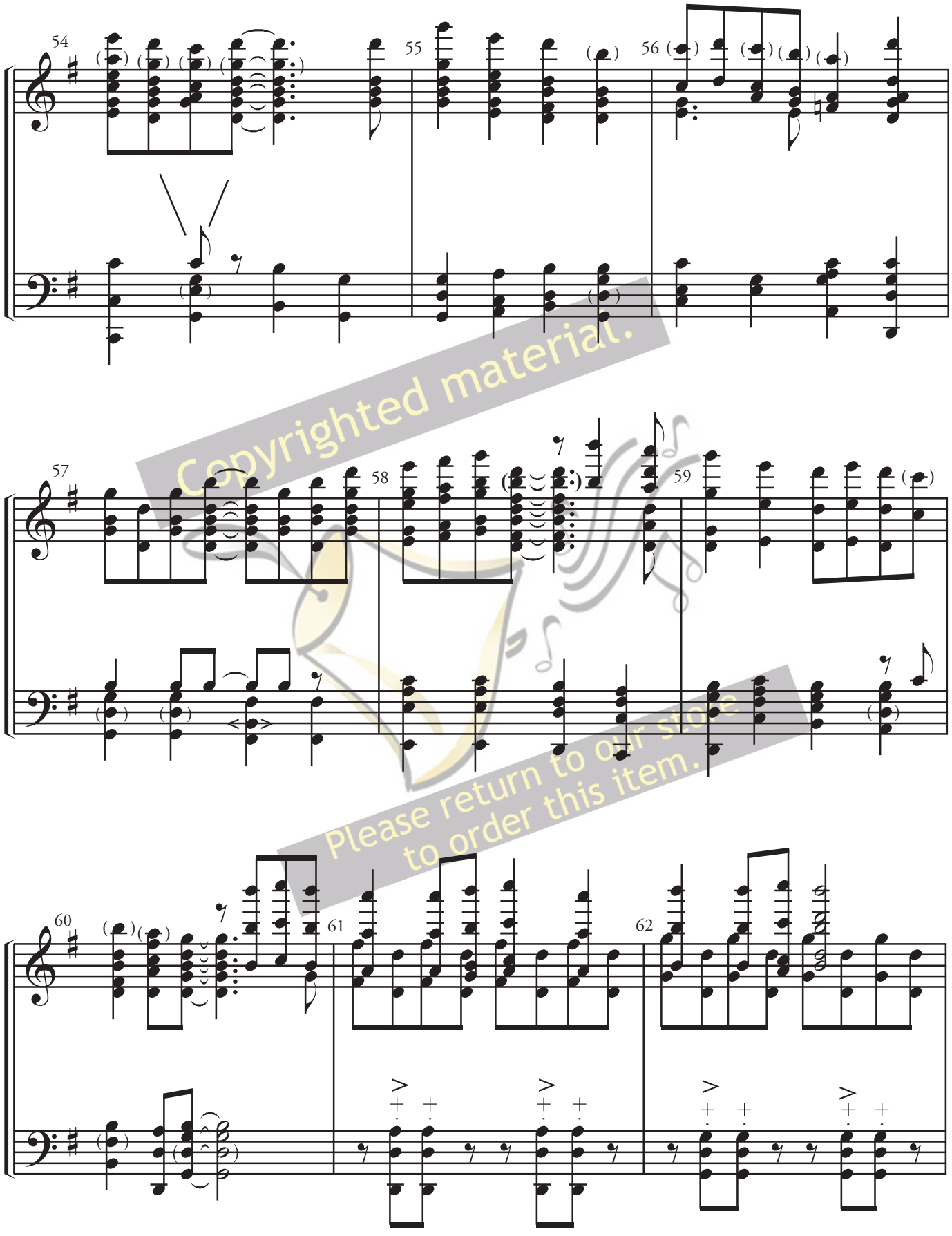

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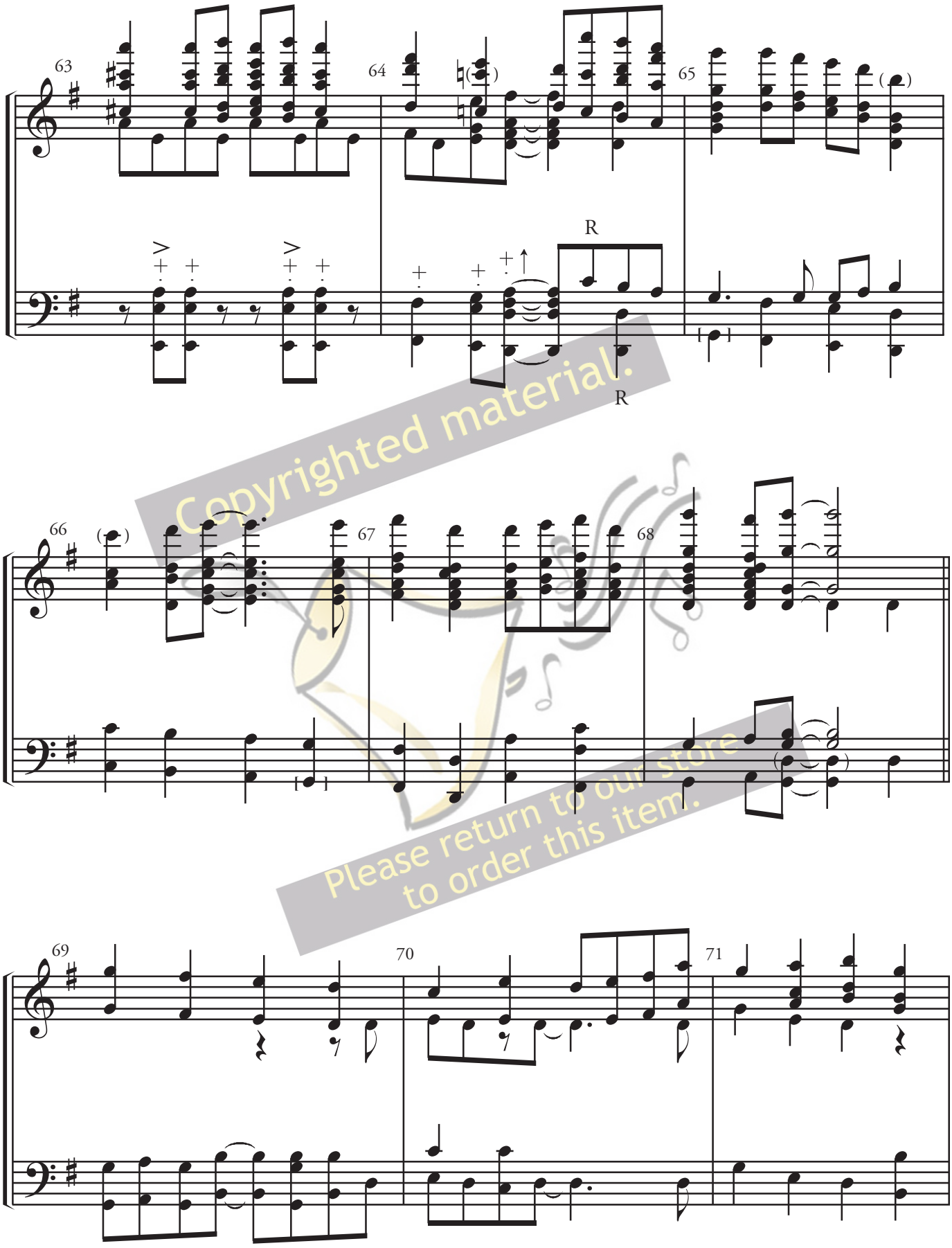

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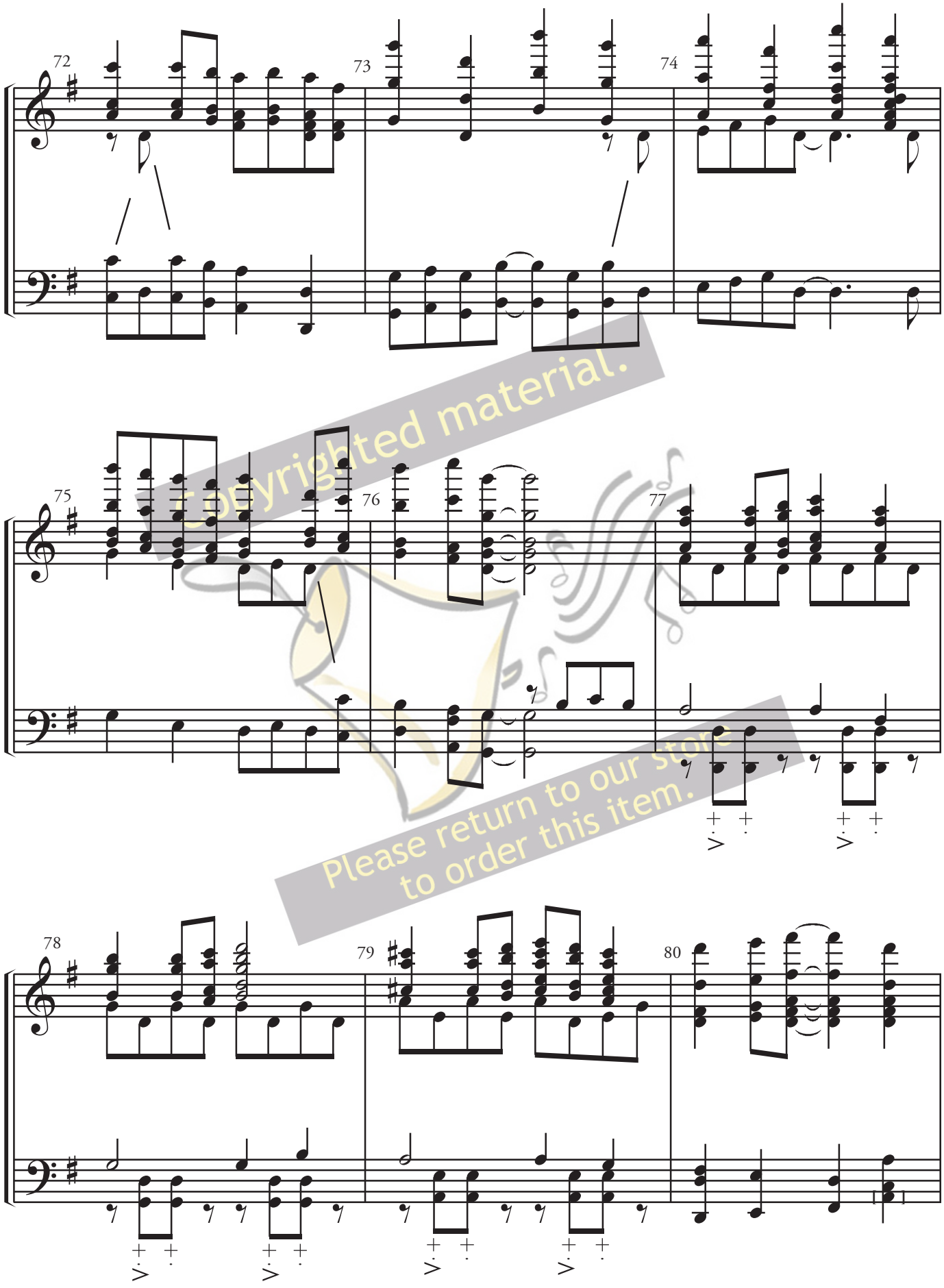

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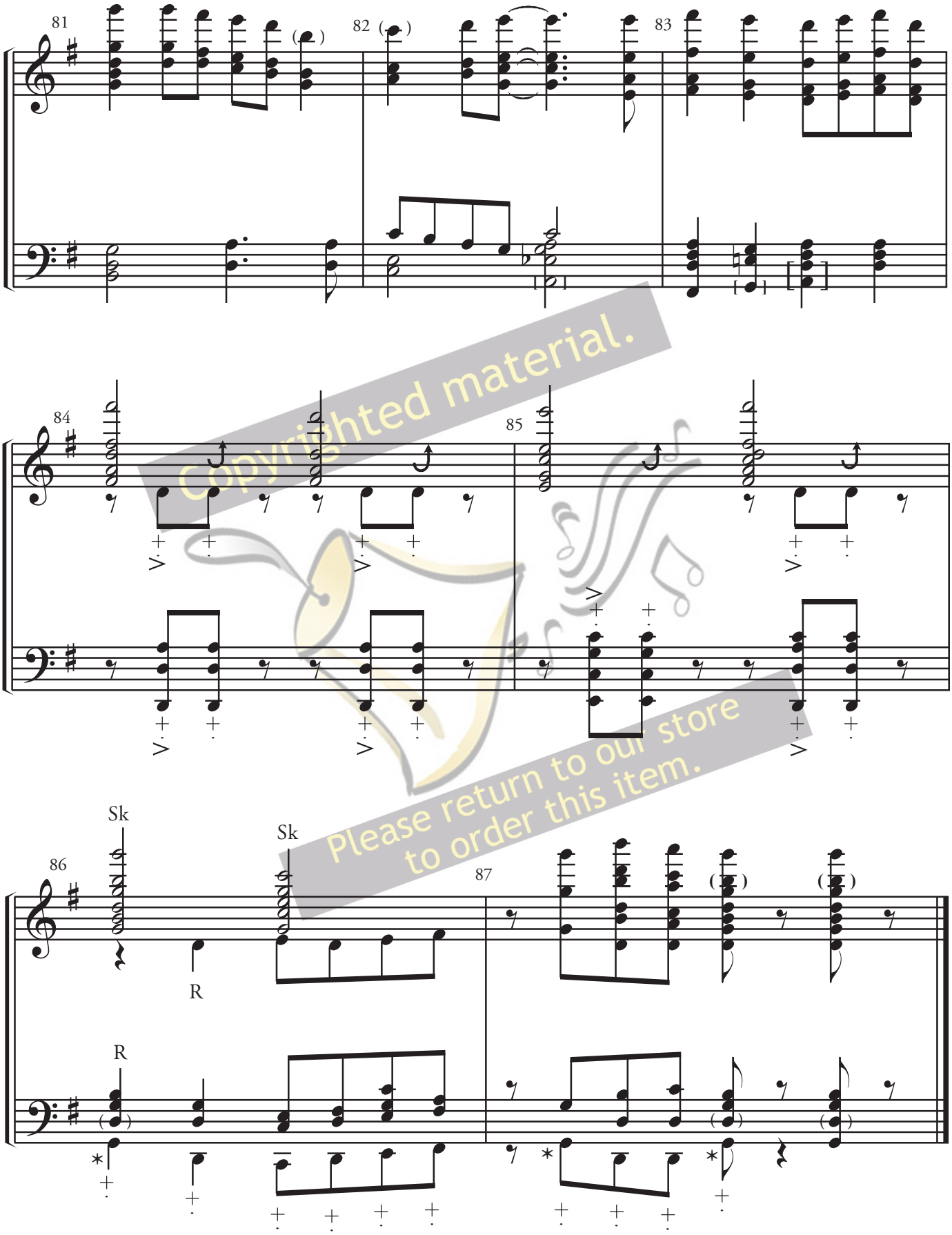

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* 4 octave choirs ring G3