P.SWERTS

War

for mixed choir [2014]

Lyrics by
Hedd Wyn

translated from the Welsh by
Alan Llwyd

War was commissioned by the
Gregynog Festival
[Artistic Director, *Rhian Davies*]

with the support of
CyMAL | Welsh Government

and first performed by the
Flemish Radio Choir
[Conductor, *Bart Van Reyn*]

in the *Music Room* at
Gregynog on
29 June 2014

Zodiac Editions

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Varsenare, 3th of July, 2014.

WAR

Why must I live in this grim age,
When, to a far horizon, God
Has ebbed away, and man, with rage,
Now wields the sceptre and the rod?

Man raised his sword, once God had gone,
To slay his brother, and the roar
Of battlefields now casts upon
Our homes the shadow of the war.

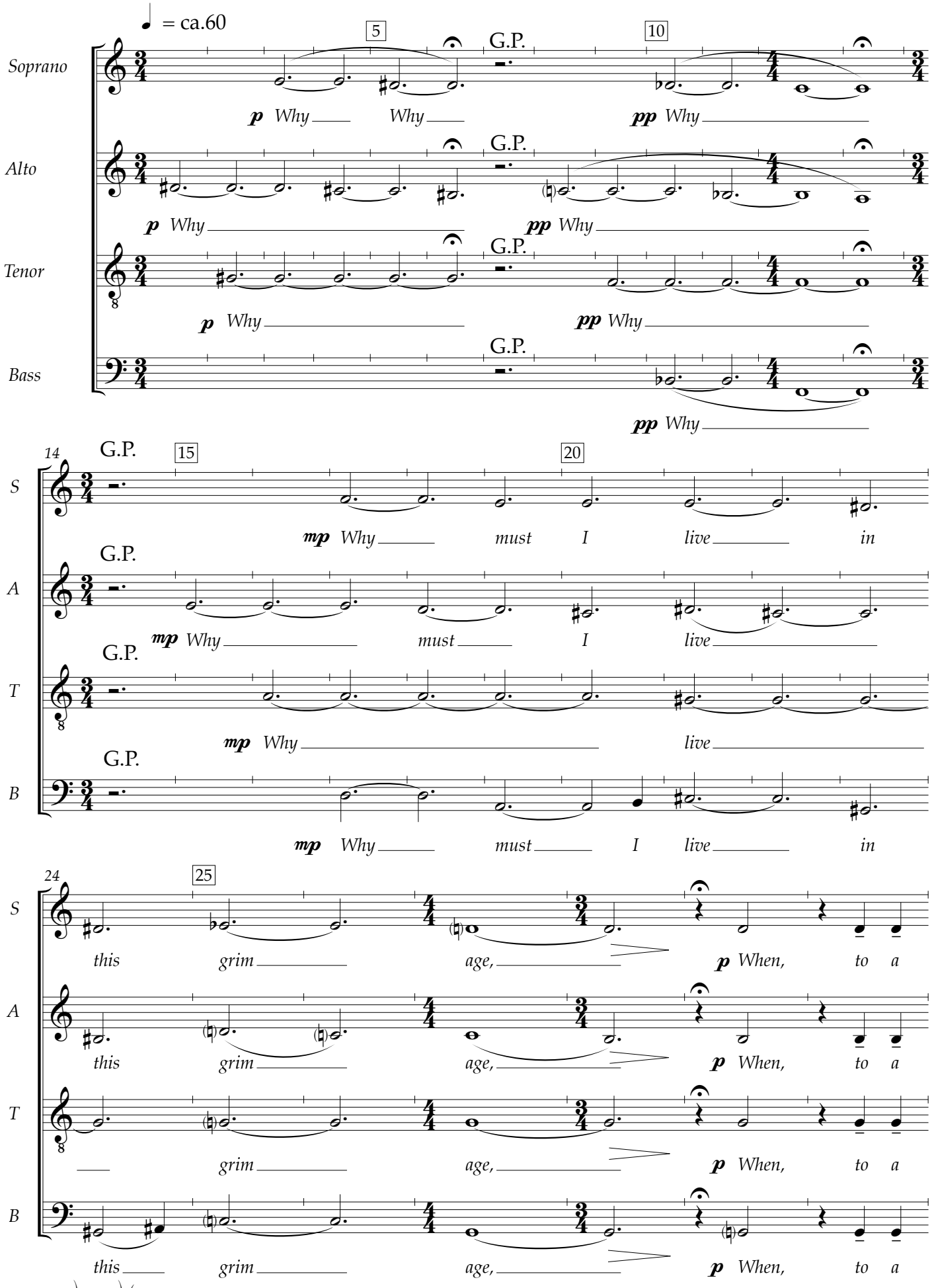
The harps to which we sang are hung
On willow boughs, and their refrain
Drowned by the anguish of the young
Whose blood is mingled with the rain.

Hedd Wyn
(translated from the Welsh by Alan Llwyd)

Lyrics by: Hedd Wyn
translated from the Welsh by:
Alan Llwyd

War

Music by: Piet SWERTS



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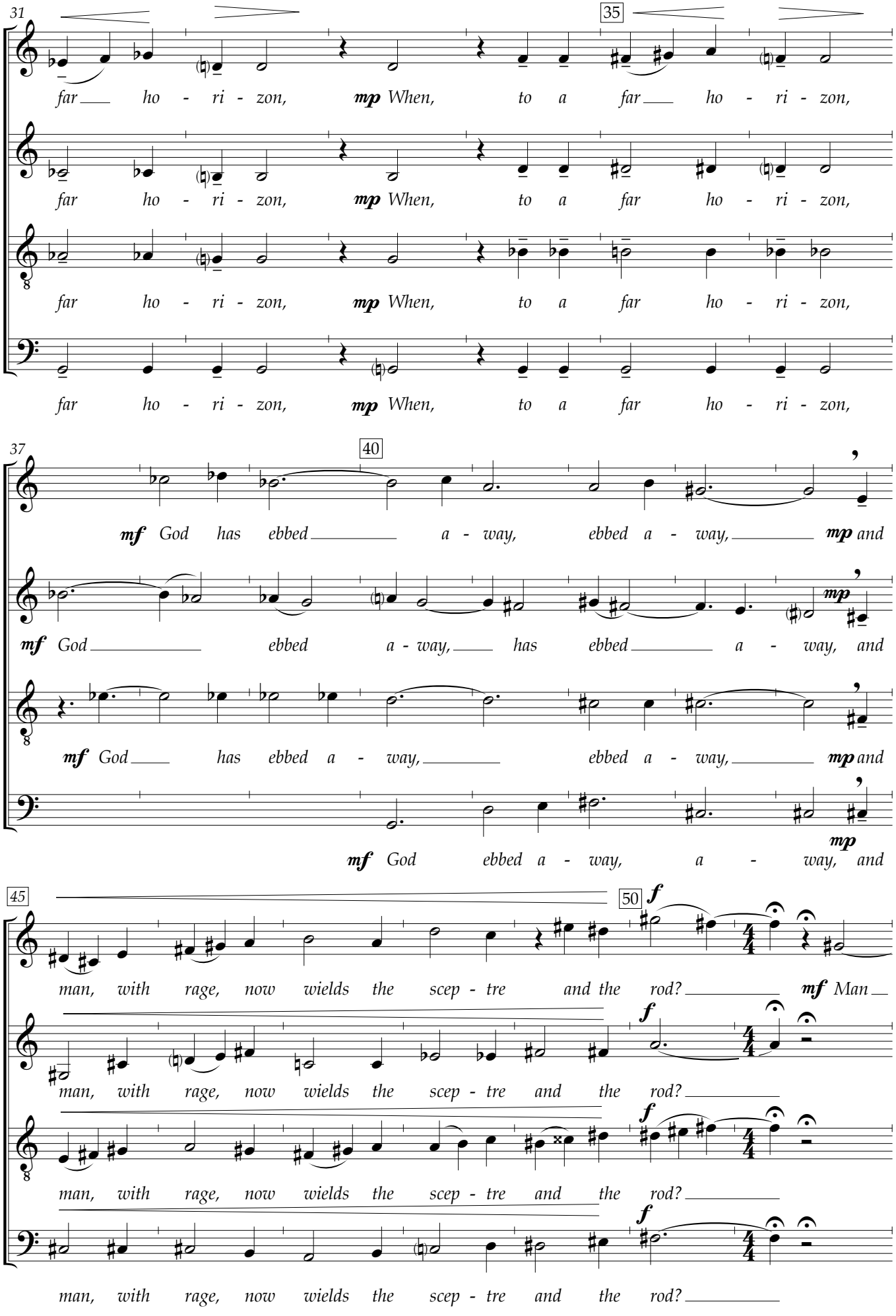
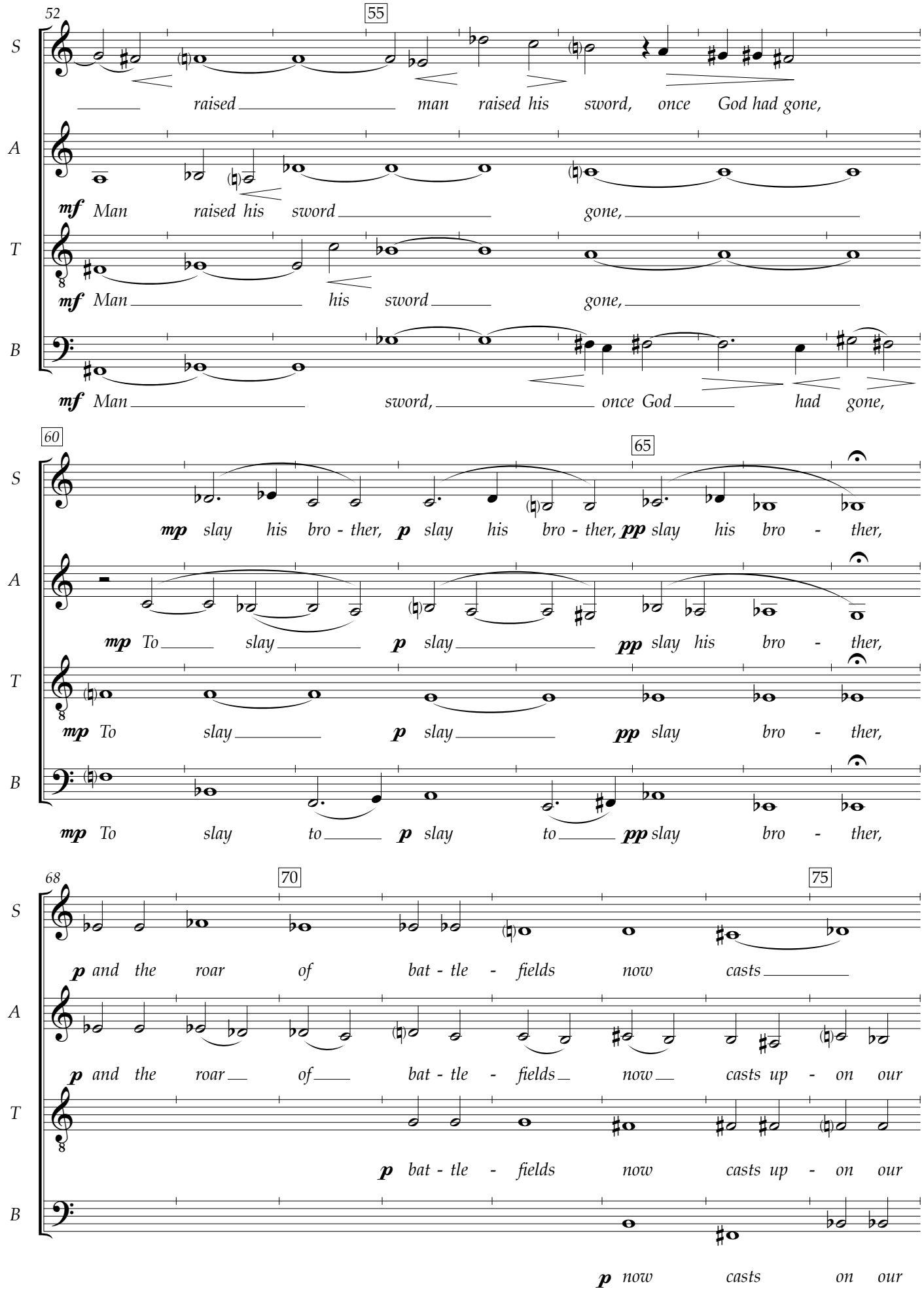
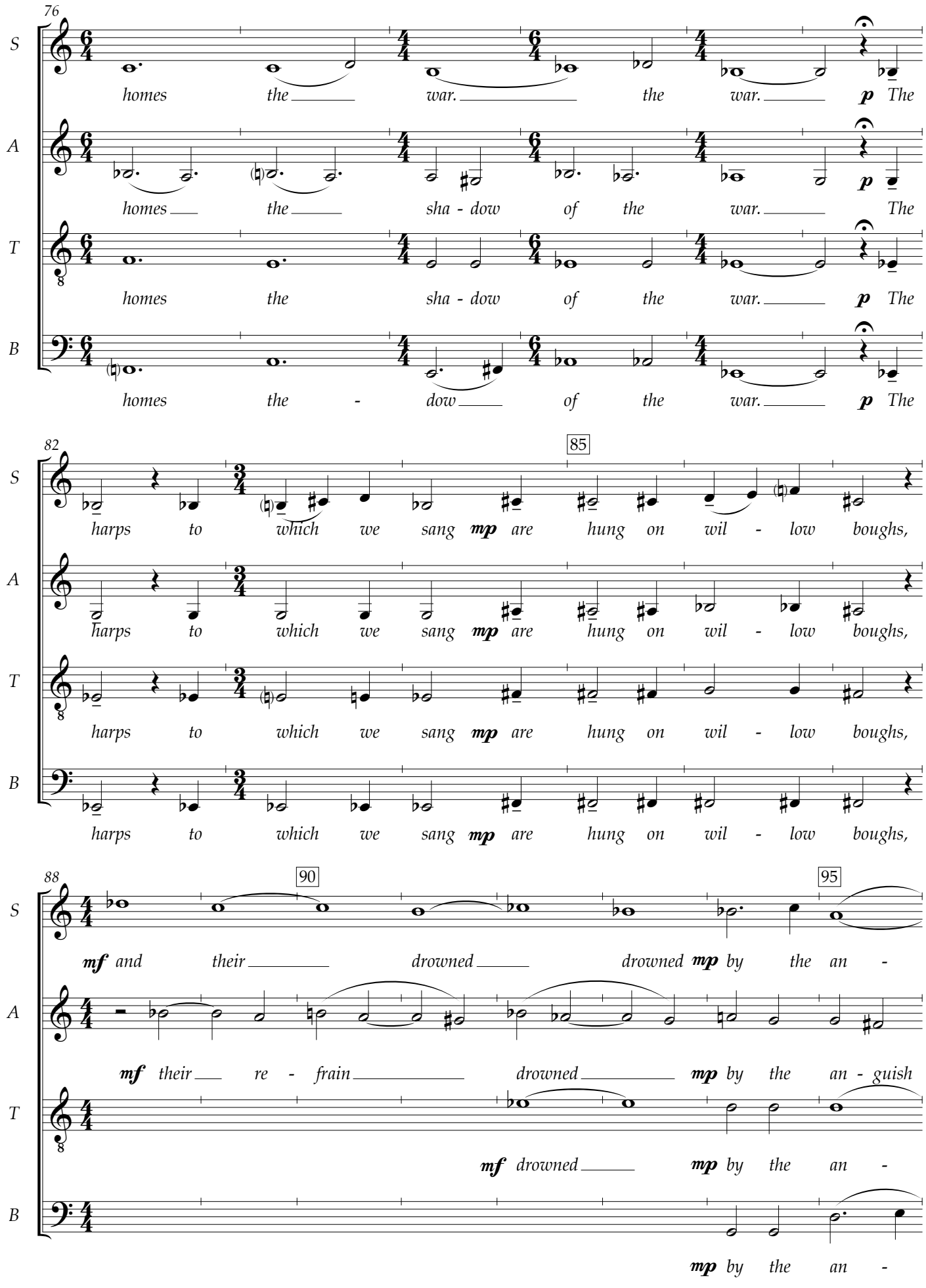
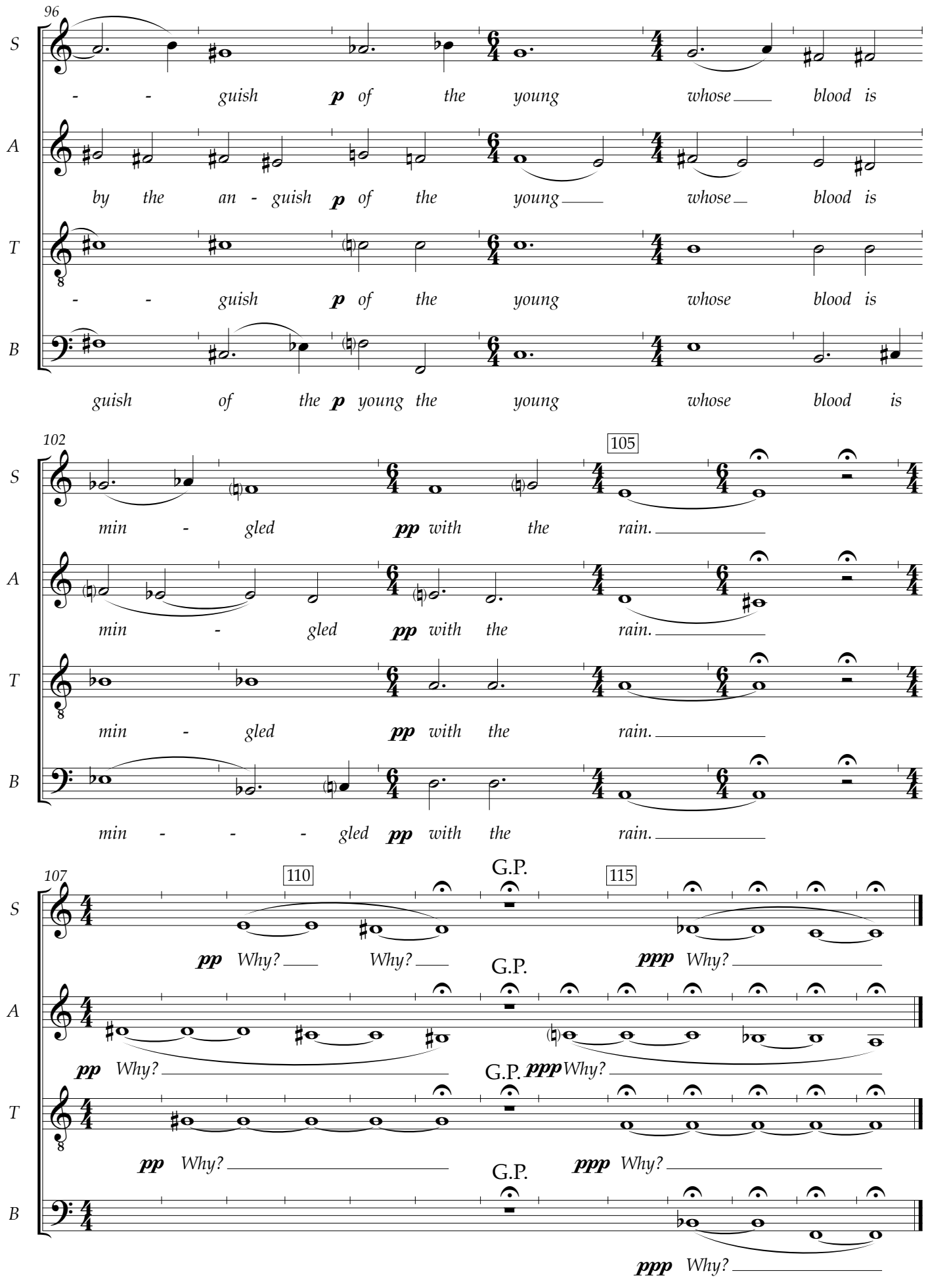

31
35
S
far ho - ri - zon, mp When, to a far ho - ri - zon,
A
far ho - ri - zon, mp When, to a far ho - ri - zon,
T
far ho - ri - zon, mp When, to a far ho - ri - zon,
B
far ho - ri - zon, mp When, to a far ho - ri - zon,
37
40
S
mf God has ebbed a - way, ebbed a - way, mp and
A
mf God ebbed a - way, has ebbed a - way, and
T
mf God has ebbed a - way, ebbed a - way, mp and
B
mf God ebbed a - way, a - way, and
45
50
S
man, with rage, now wields the scep - tre and the rod? mf Man
A
man, with rage, now wields the scep - tre and the rod?
T
man, with rage, now wields the scep - tre and the rod?
B
man, with rage, now wields the scep - tre and the rod?


52
55
S
raised man raised his sword, once God had gone,
A
mf Man raised his sword gone,
T
mf Man his sword gone,
B
mf Man sword, once God had gone,
60
65
S
mp slay his bro - ther, p slay his bro - ther, pp slay his bro - ther,
A
mp To slay p slay pp slay his bro - ther,
T
mp To slay p slay pp slay bro - ther,
B
mp To slay to p slay to pp slay bro - ther,
68
70
75
S
p and the roar of bat - tle - fields now casts
A
p and the roar of bat - tle - fields now casts up - on our
T
p bat - tle - fields now casts up - on our
B
p now casts on our


76
S
homes the war. the war. p The
A
homes the sha - dow of the war. The
T
homes the sha - dow of the war. p The
B
homes the - dow of the war. p The
82
85
S
harps to which we sang mp are hung on wil - low boughs,
A
harps to which we sang mp are hung on wil - low boughs,
T
harps to which we sang mp are hung on wil - low boughs,
B
harps to which we sang mp are hung on wil - low boughs,
88
90
95
S
mf and their drowned drowned mp by the an -
A
mf their re - frain drowned mp by the an - guish
T
mf drowned mp by the an -
B
mp by the an -


96
S
A
T
B
- - guish p of the young whose blood is
by the an - guish p of the young whose blood is
- - guish p of the young whose blood is
guish of the p young the young whose blood is
102
105
min - gled pp with the rain.
min - gled pp with the rain.
min - gled pp with the rain.
min - - - gled pp with the rain.
107
110
115
G.P.
pp Why? Why?
ppp Why?
pp Why?
G.P. ppp Why?
pp Why?
ppp Why?
ppp Why?