Sea-Birds

SATB *a capella*

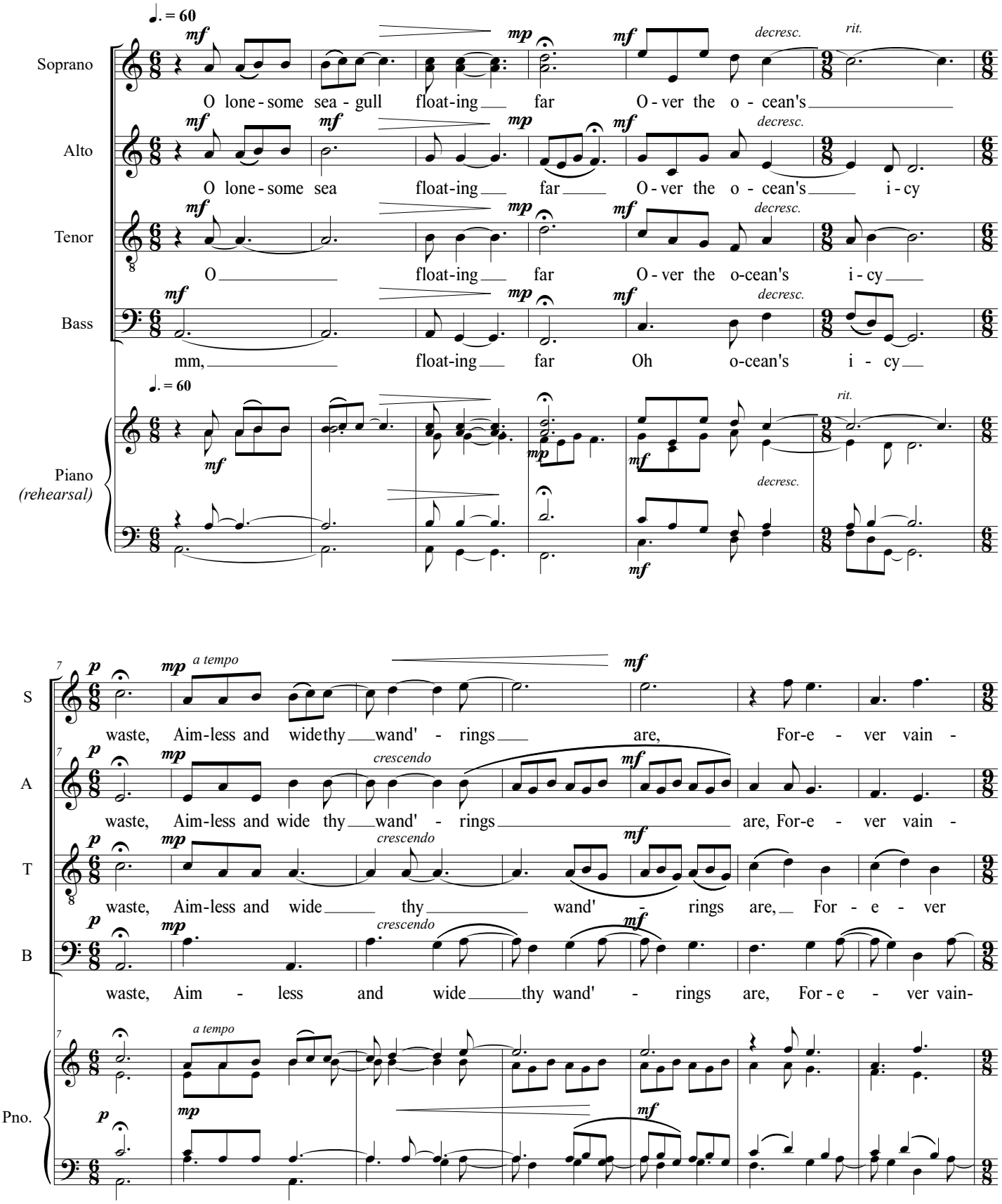
O lonesome sea-gull, floating far
Over the ocean's icy waste,
Aimless and wide thy wanderings are,
Forever vainly seeking rest:—
Where is thy mate, and where thy nest?

'Twixt wintry sea and wintry sky,
Cleaving the keen air with thy breast,
Thou sailest slowly, solemnly;
No fetter on thy wing is pressed:—
Where is thy mate, and where thy nest?

O restless, homeless human soul,
Following for aye thy nameless quest,
The gulls float, and the billows roll;
Thou watchest still, and questionest:—
Where is thy mate, and where thy nest?
-Elizabeth Akers

Sea-Birds

SATB



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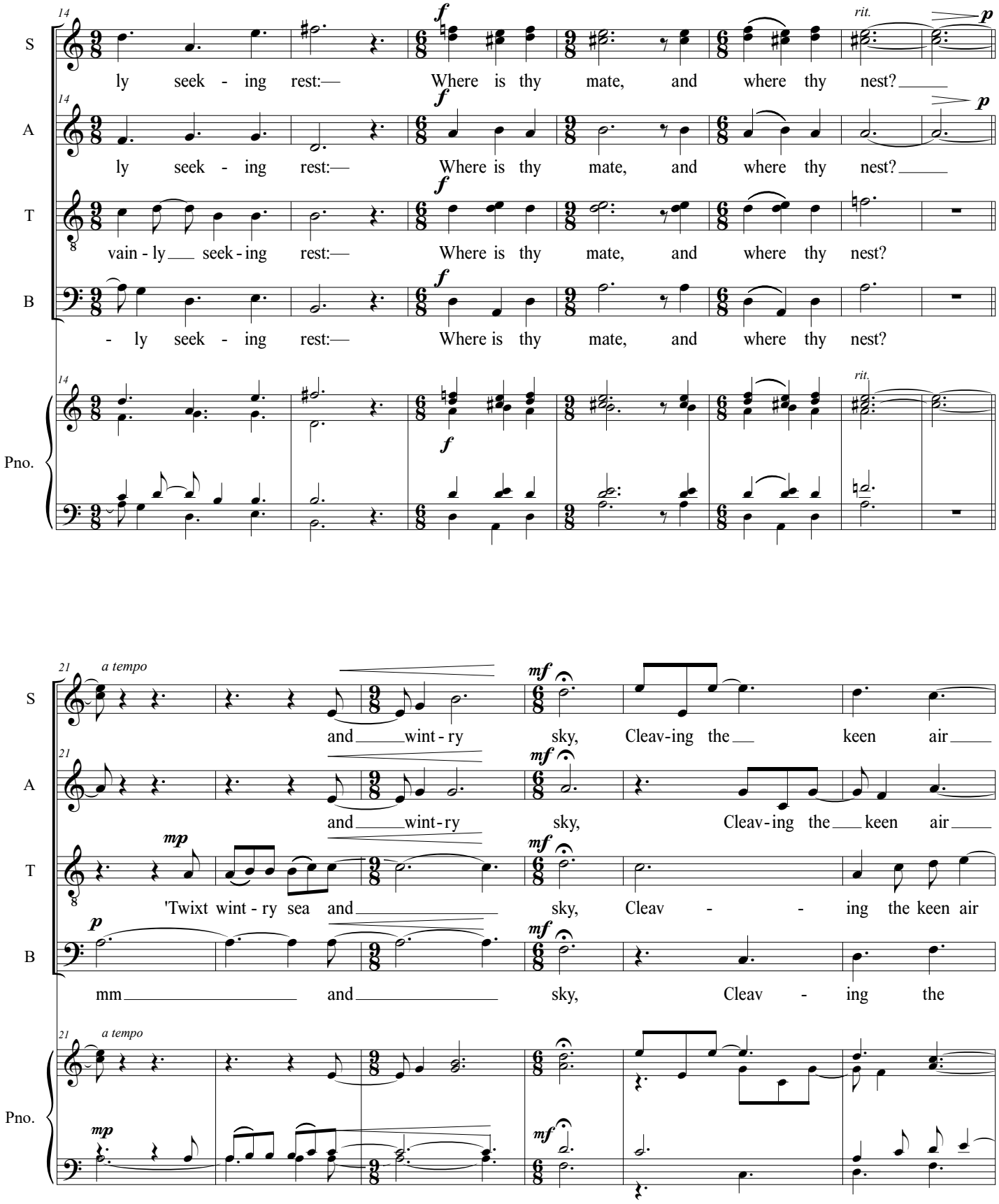
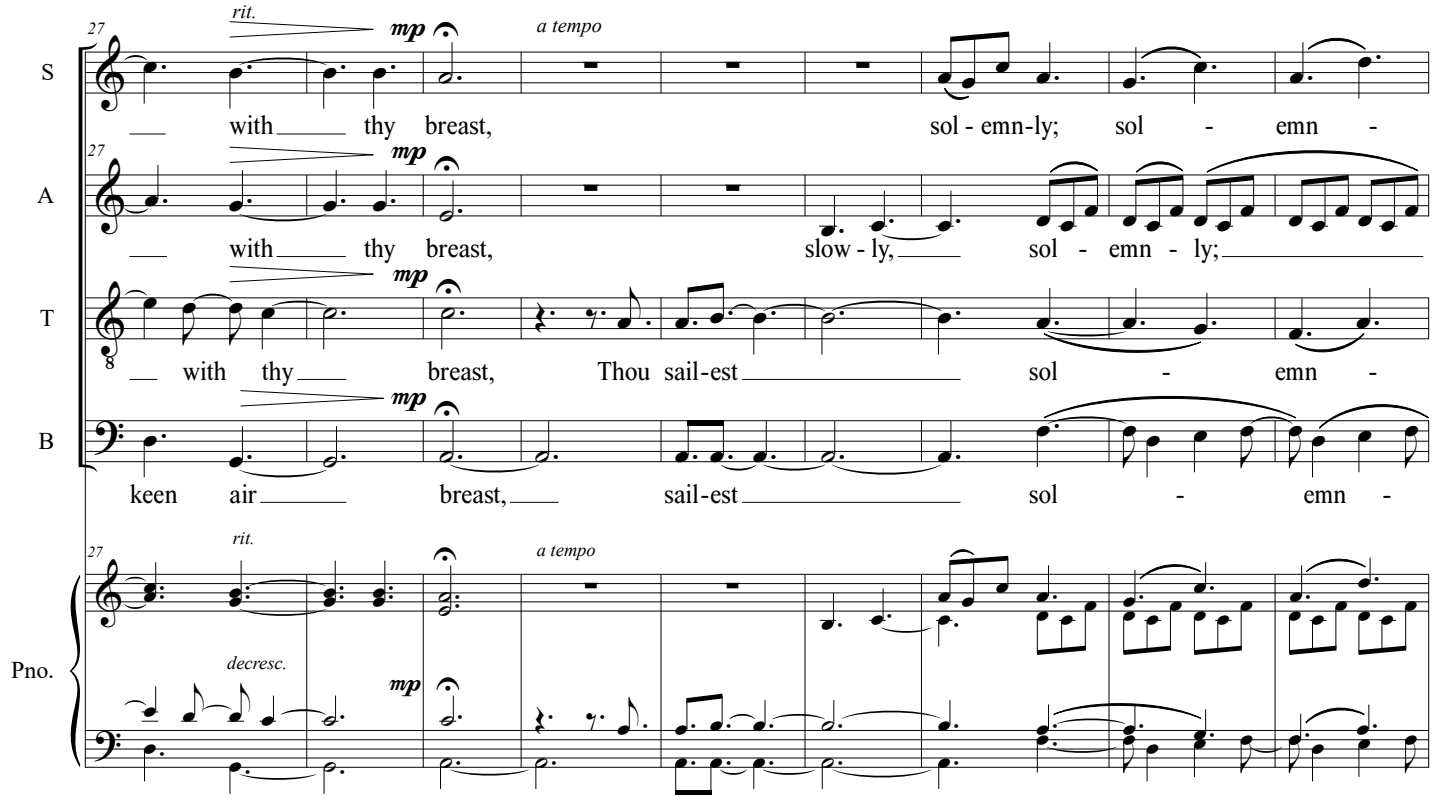
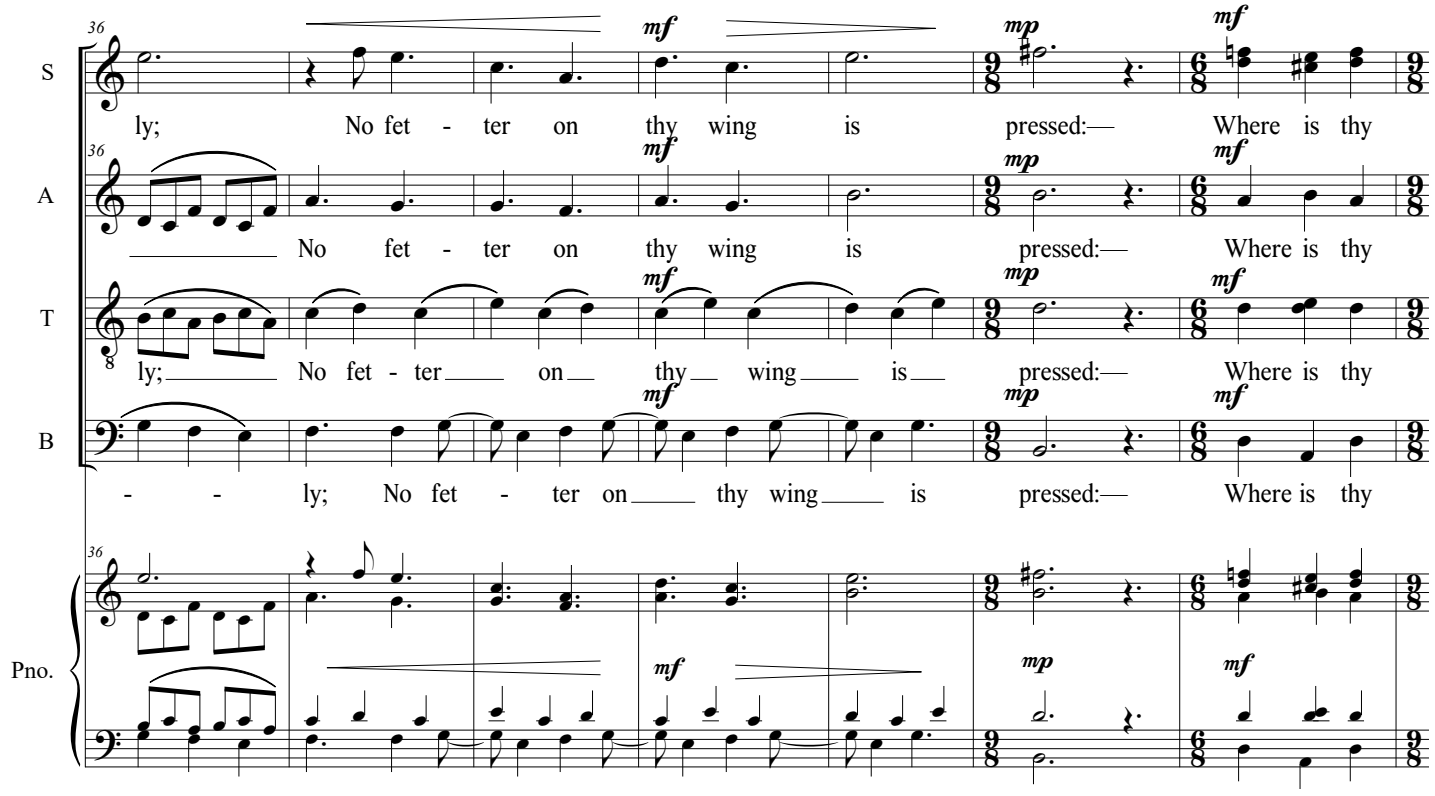
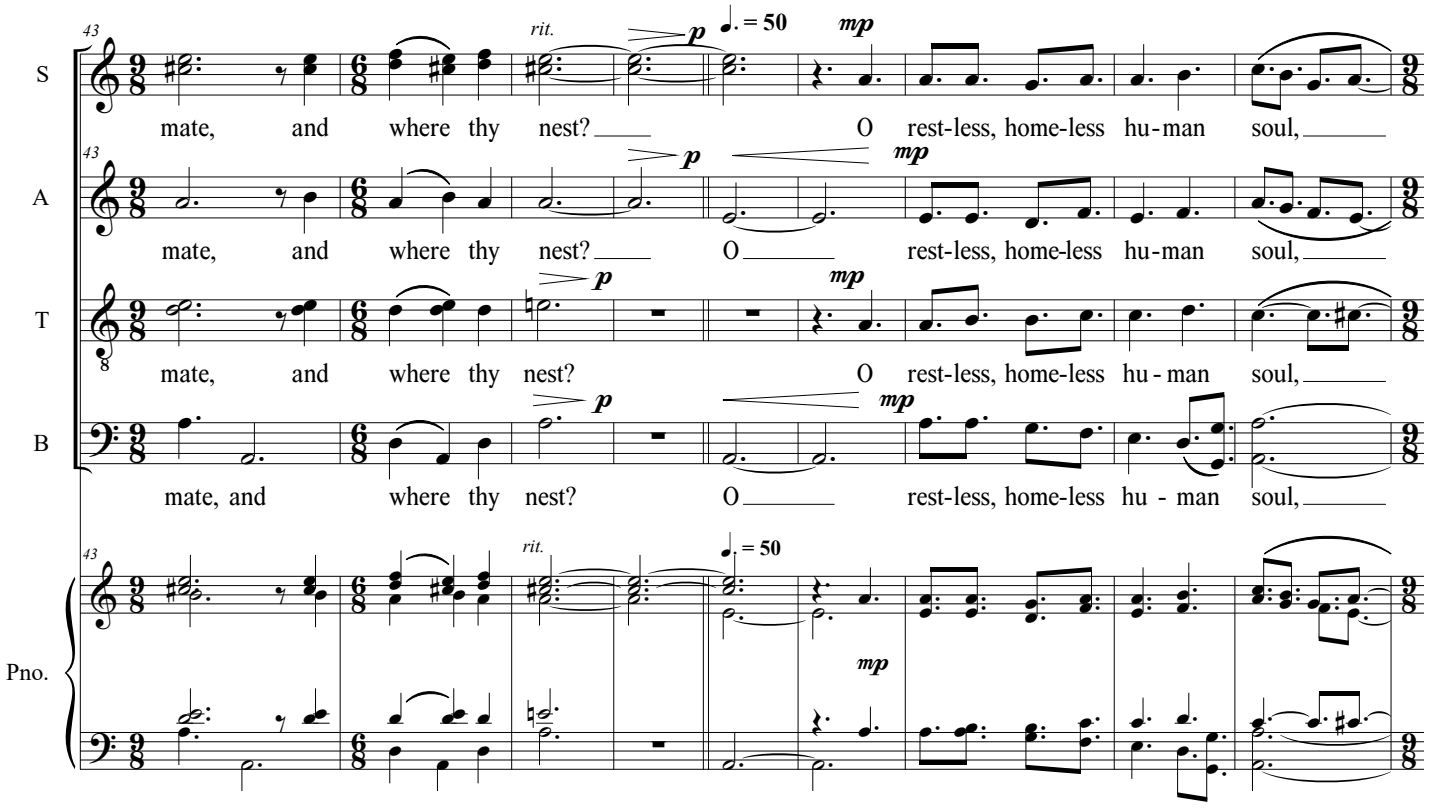
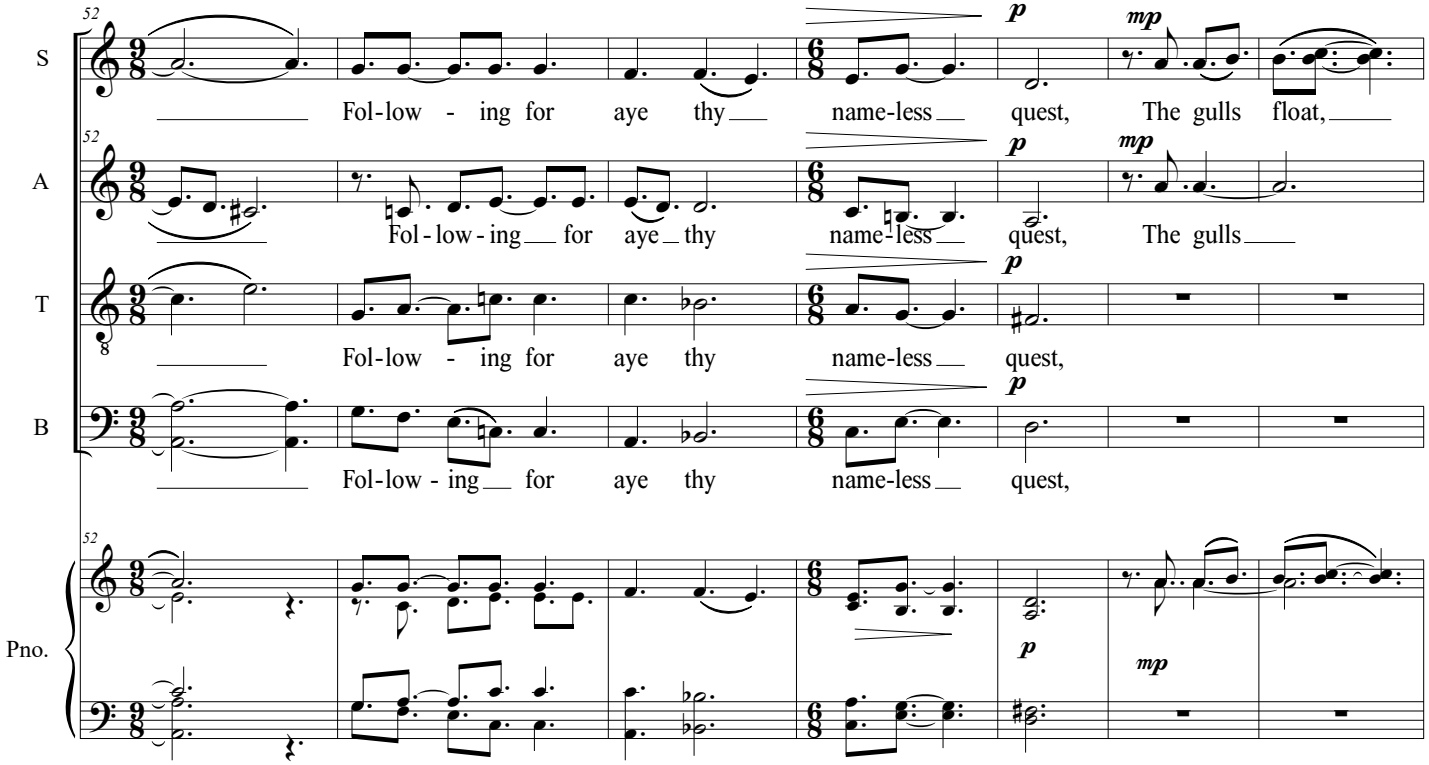
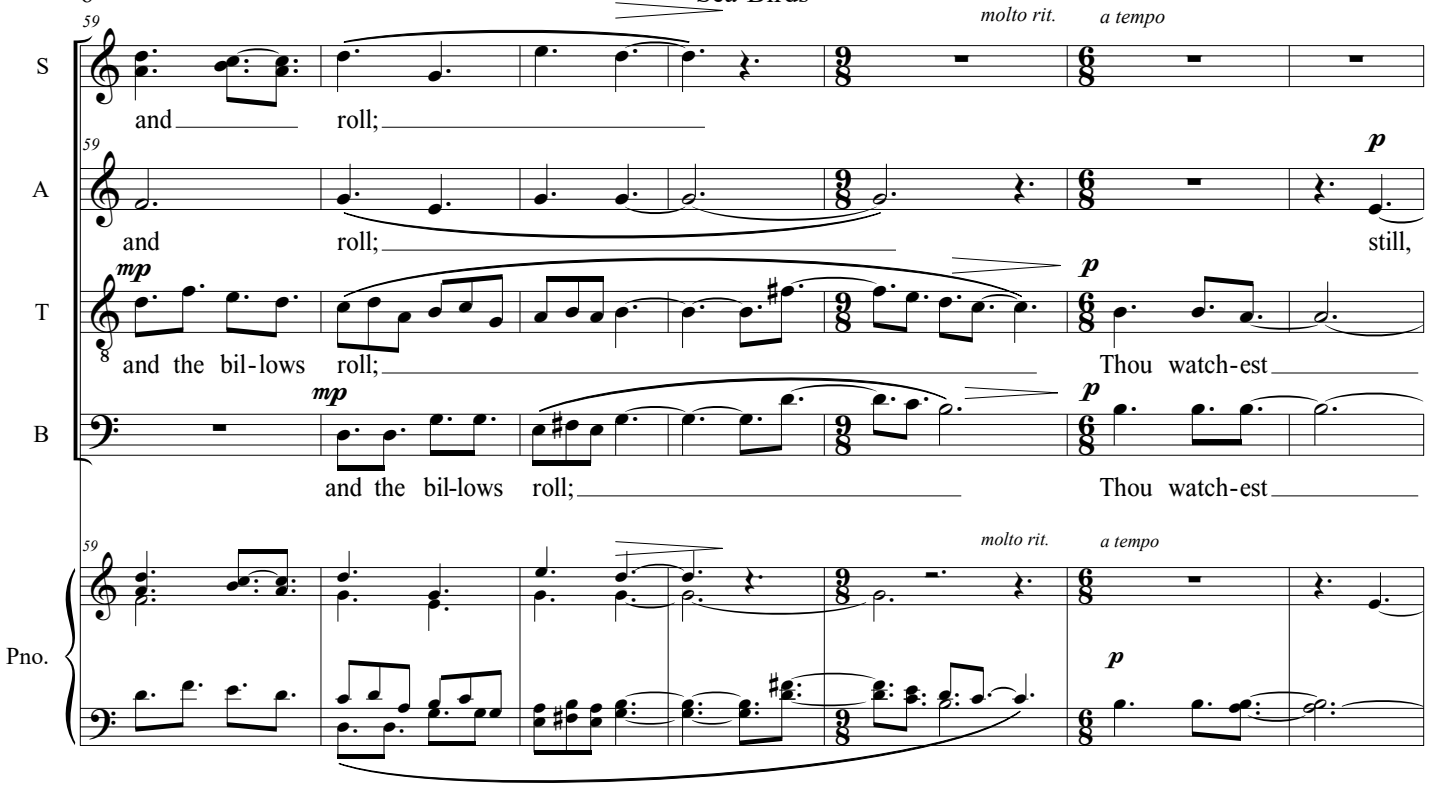

14
S
ly seek - ing rest:— Where is thy mate, and where thy nest?
A
ly seek - ing rest:— Where is thy mate, and where thy nest?
T
vain - ly seek - ing rest:— Where is thy mate, and where thy nest?
B
- ly seek - ing rest:— Where is thy mate, and where thy nest?
Pno.
f
p
rit.
21
a tempo
S
and wint - ry sky, Cleav-ing the keen air
A
and wint - ry sky, Cleav - ing the keen air
T
'Twixt wint - ry sea and sky, Cleav - ing the keen air
B
mm and sky, Cleav - ing the
Pno.
mp
mf

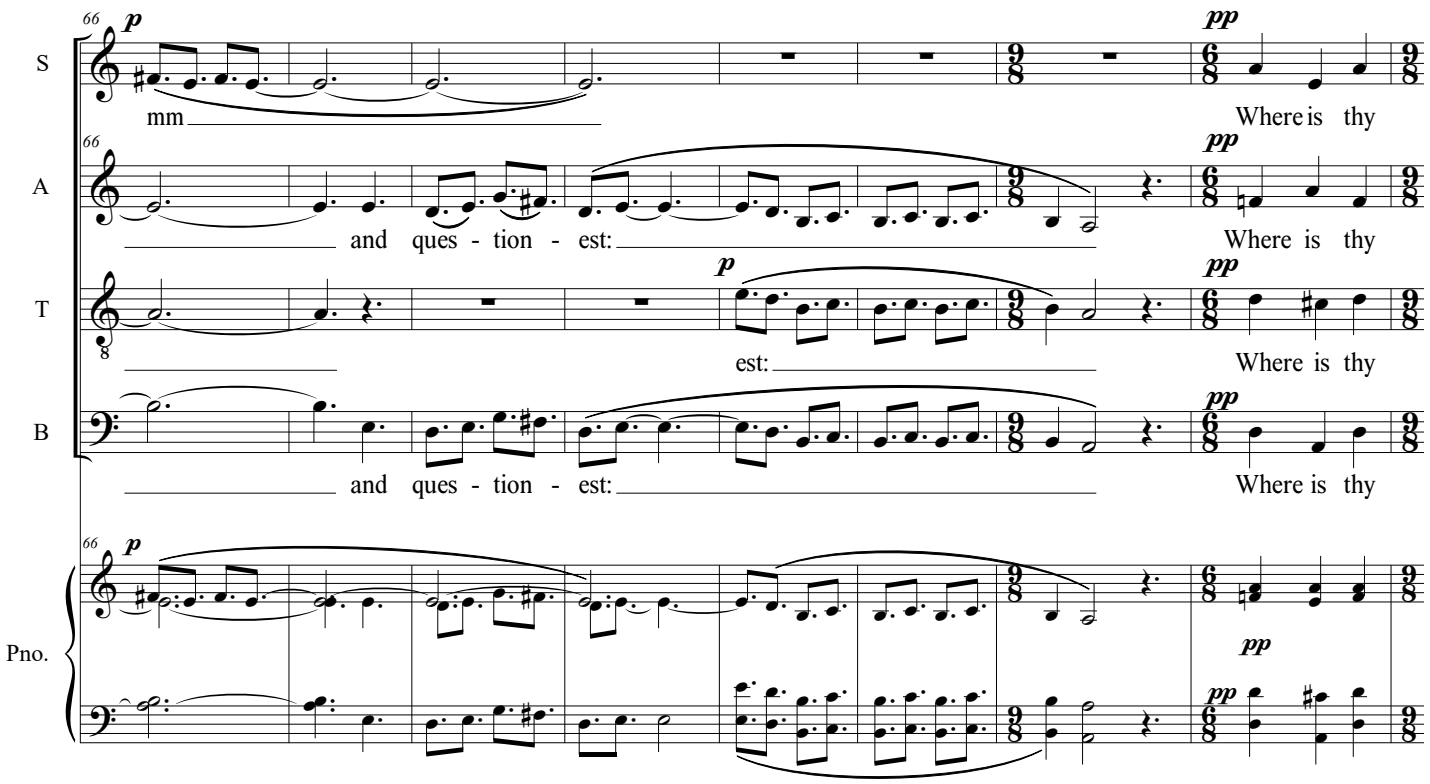

27
rit.
mp
a tempo
S
with thy breast, sol - emn-ly; sol - emn -
A
with thy breast, slow - ly, sol - emn - ly;
T
with thy breast, Thou sail-est sol - emn -
B
keen air breast, sail-est sol - emn -
Pno.
decresc.

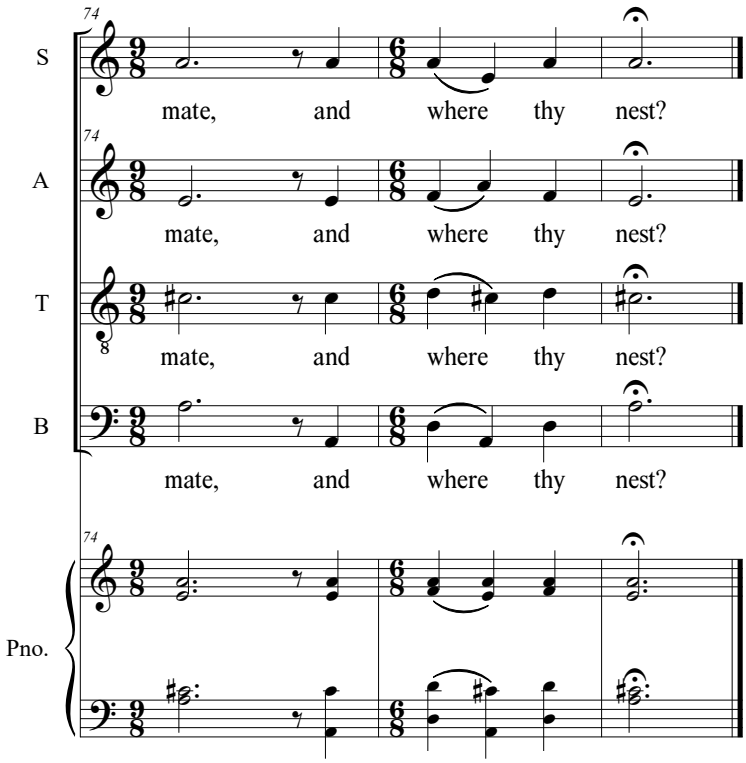

36
mf
mp
S
ly; No fet - ter on thy wing is pressed:— Where is thy
A
No fet - ter on thy wing is pressed:— Where is thy
T
ly; No fet - ter on thy wing is pressed:— Where is thy
B
ly; No fet - ter on thy wing is pressed:— Where is thy
Pno.


43
rit.
p
mp
S
mate, and where thy nest? O rest-less, home-less hu-man soul,
A
mate, and where thy nest? O rest-less, home-less hu-man soul,
T
mate, and where thy nest? O rest-less, home-less hu-man soul,
B
mate, and where thy nest? O rest-less, home-less hu-man soul,
Pno.


52
p
mp
S
Fol-low-ing for aye thy name-less quest, The gulls float,
A
Fol-low-ing for aye thy name-less quest, The gulls
T
Fol-low-ing for aye thy name-less quest,
B
Fol-low-ing for aye thy name-less quest,
Pno.


59
molto rit.
a tempo
S
and roll;
A
and roll;
p
still,
T
mp
and the bil-lows roll;
p
Thou watch-est
B
mp
and the bil-lows roll;
p
Thou watch-est
Pno.
p


66
p
pp
S
mm
Where is thy
A
and ques - tion - est:
pp
Where is thy
T
p
est:
pp
Where is thy
B
and ques - tion - est:
pp
Where is thy
Pno.
p
pp


74
S
mate, and where thy nest?
74
A
mate, and where thy nest?
T
mate, and where thy nest?
B
mate, and where thy nest?
74
Pno.

c. 3'