The Burden Of Life (Part 1)

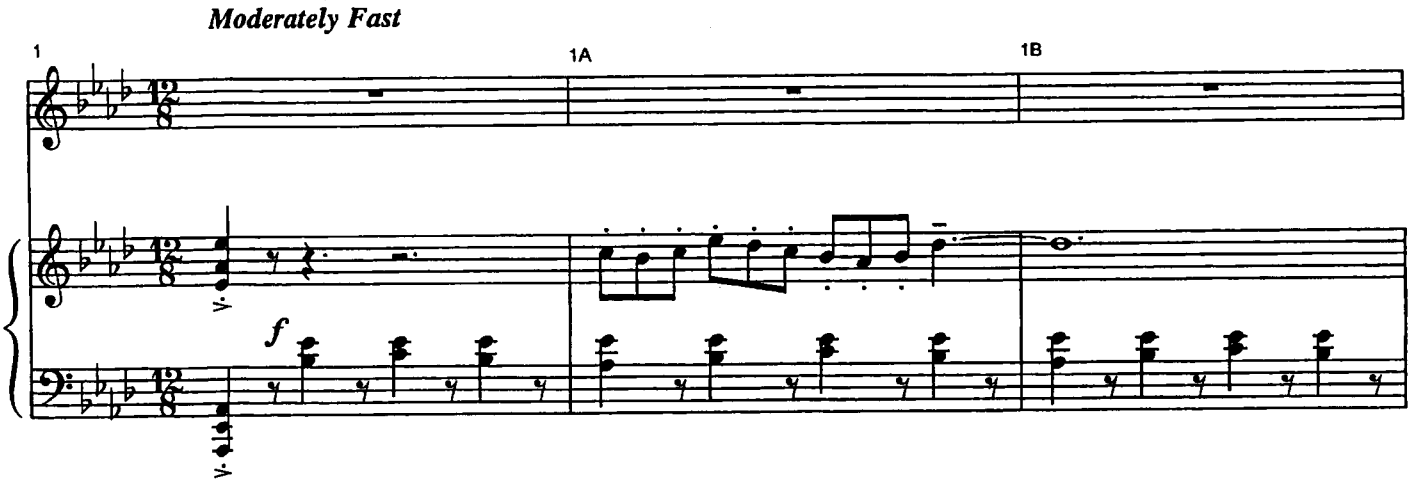
(Lily Byrne)

(REV.10/9/02)

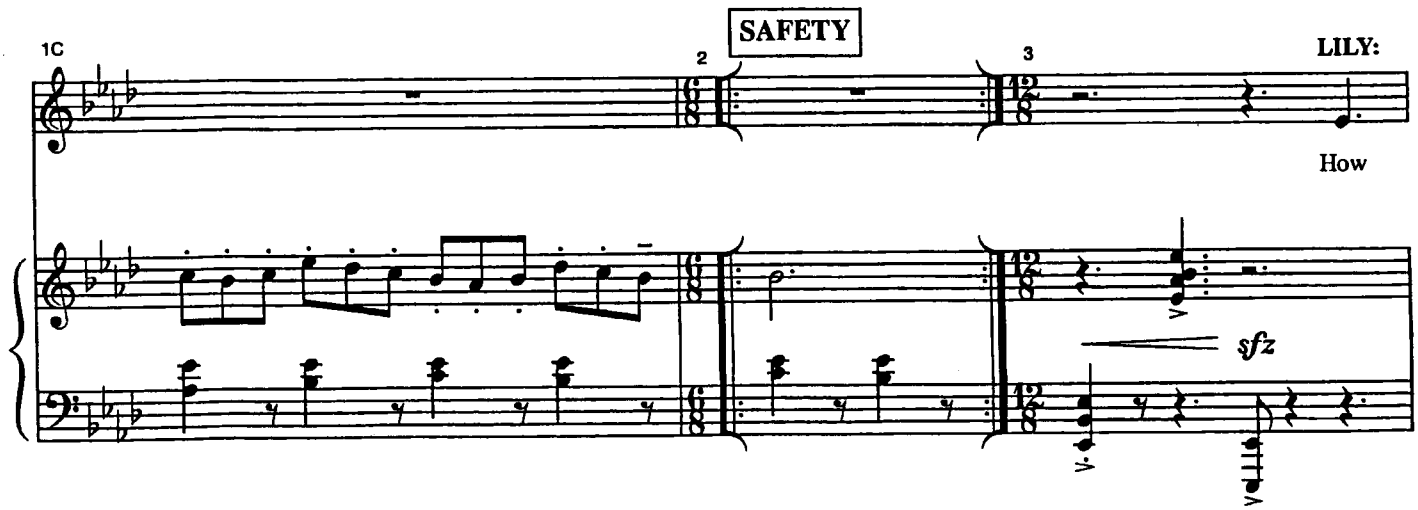
Words and Music by
Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty

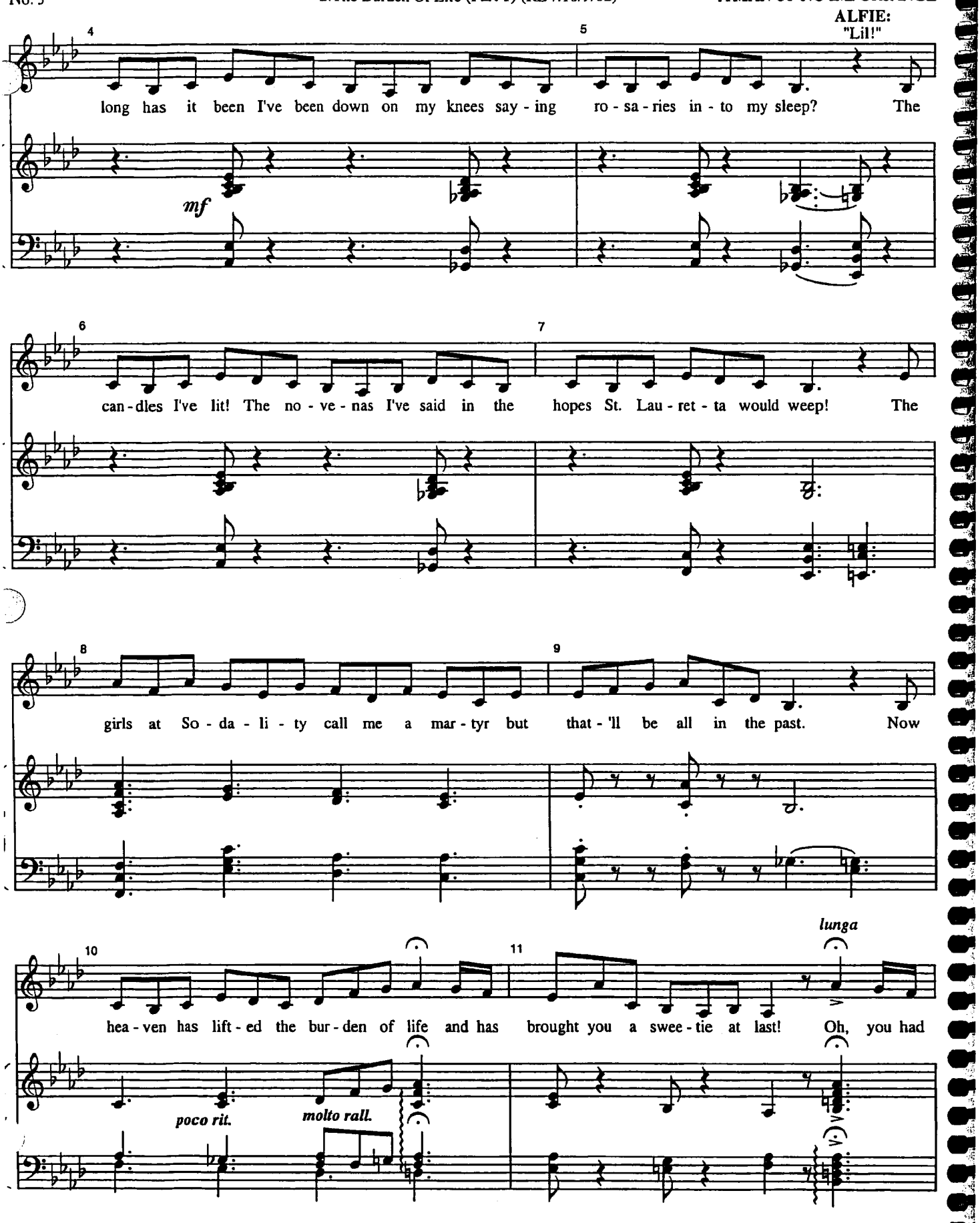
(Cue:)
ALFIE: "Well, I was right. Someone I was waiting for, praying for even, got onto me bus out of the blue. A girl."
LILY: "A girl! Oh Alfie! Well, That is the power of the nine weeks of Saint Jude for you."

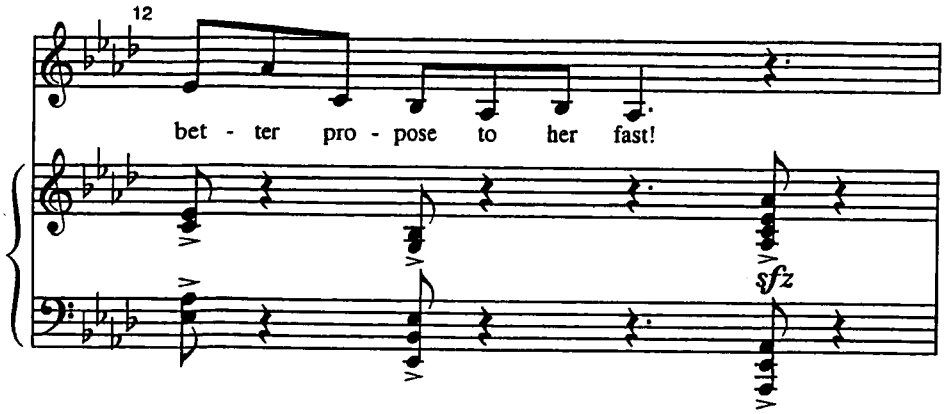
"...Excuse me while I faint. *(MUSIC IN.)* No, while I holler it out the window: Mum, Dad..."



"...wherever you are up there: tell Gabriel to blow his mighty horn. My own dear sweet brother's in love!"

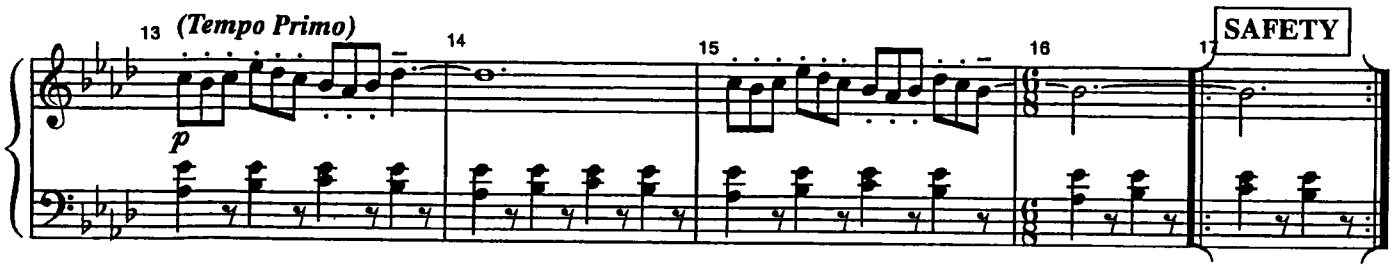



ALFIE:
"Lil!"
4
5
long has it been I've been down on my knees say - ing ro - sa - ries in - to my sleep? The
mf
6
7
can - dles I've lit! The no - ve - nas I've said in the hopes St. Lau - ret - ta would weep! The
8
9
girls at So - da - li - ty call me a mar - tyr but that - 'll be all in the past. Now
lunga
10
11
hea - ven has lift - ed the bur - den of life and has brought you a swee - tie at last! Oh, you had
poco rit.
molto rall.



ALFIE: "Are you through, Lily? **LILY:** "I'm all ears, Alf. Speak, lamb. Say sweet words to me, my only angel." **ALFIE:** "She's not for me. She's for me play."

MUSIC OUT.)



(Scene continues dry.)

LILY
Oh God, you're not starting that up again, are you? Wasn't last time enough for you?

ALFIE
If you're talking about "The Importance of Being Earnest"!

LILY
I'm talking about you making an utter fool of yourself.

(MUSIC IN!)

V.S.

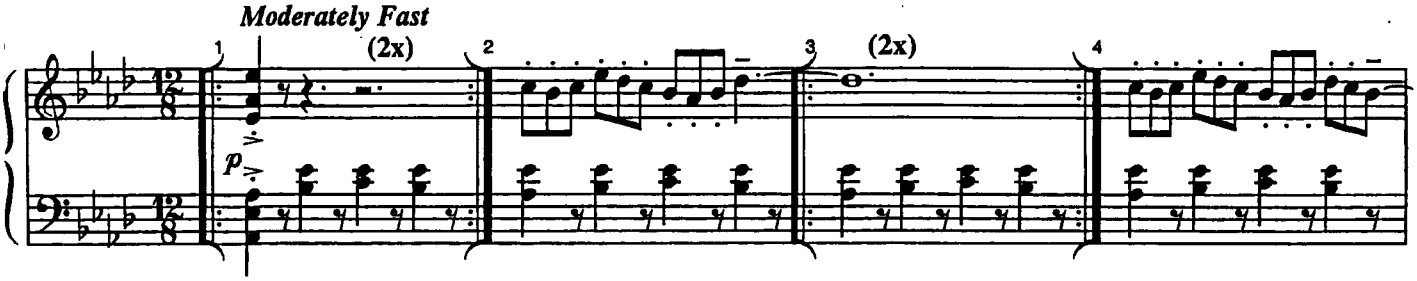
The Burden Of Life (Part 2)

(Lily Byrne)

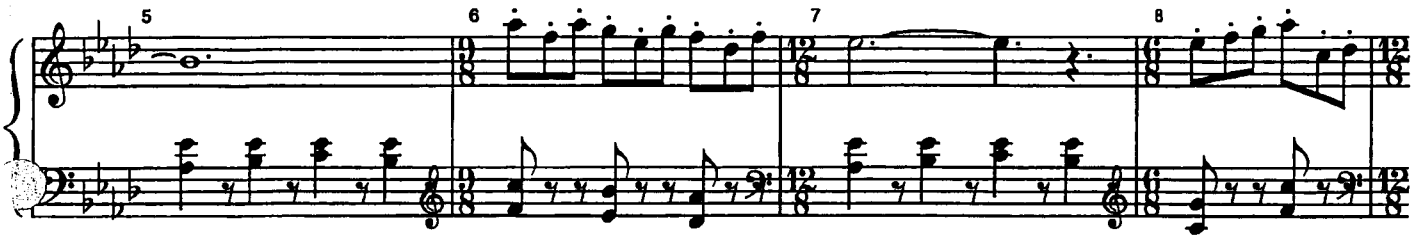
(REV.10/9/02)

Words and Music by
Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty

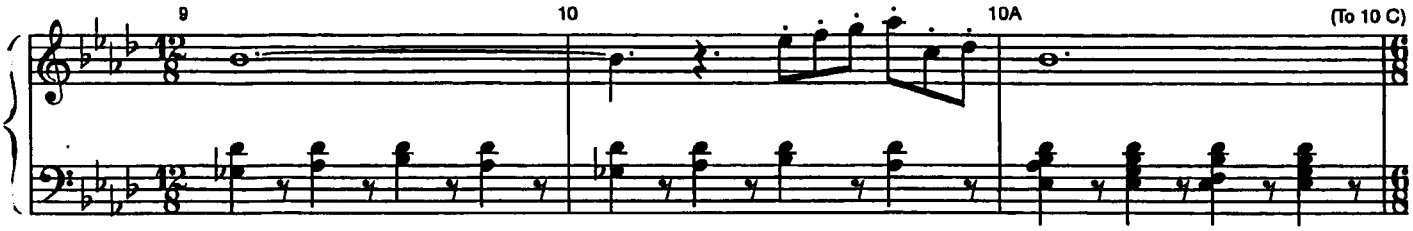
ALFIE: "A play like "Importance" needs more than a single performance to get it right. This time..."



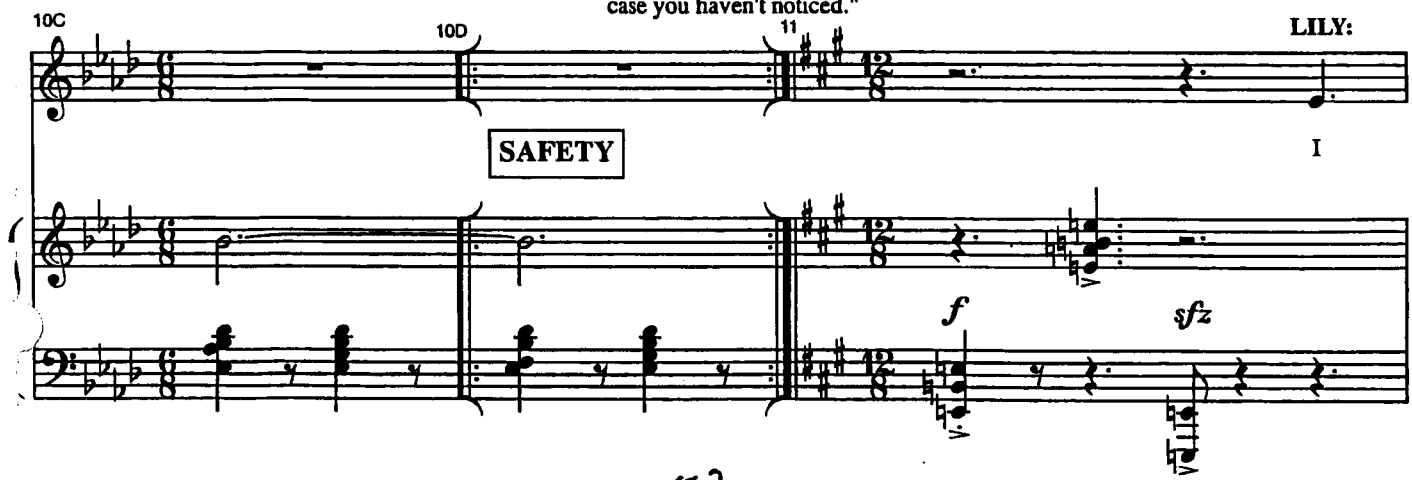
... I intend to stage –for four performances—Oscar Wilde's masterpiece, SALOME." LILY: "SALOME? Is that out of the Bible?"

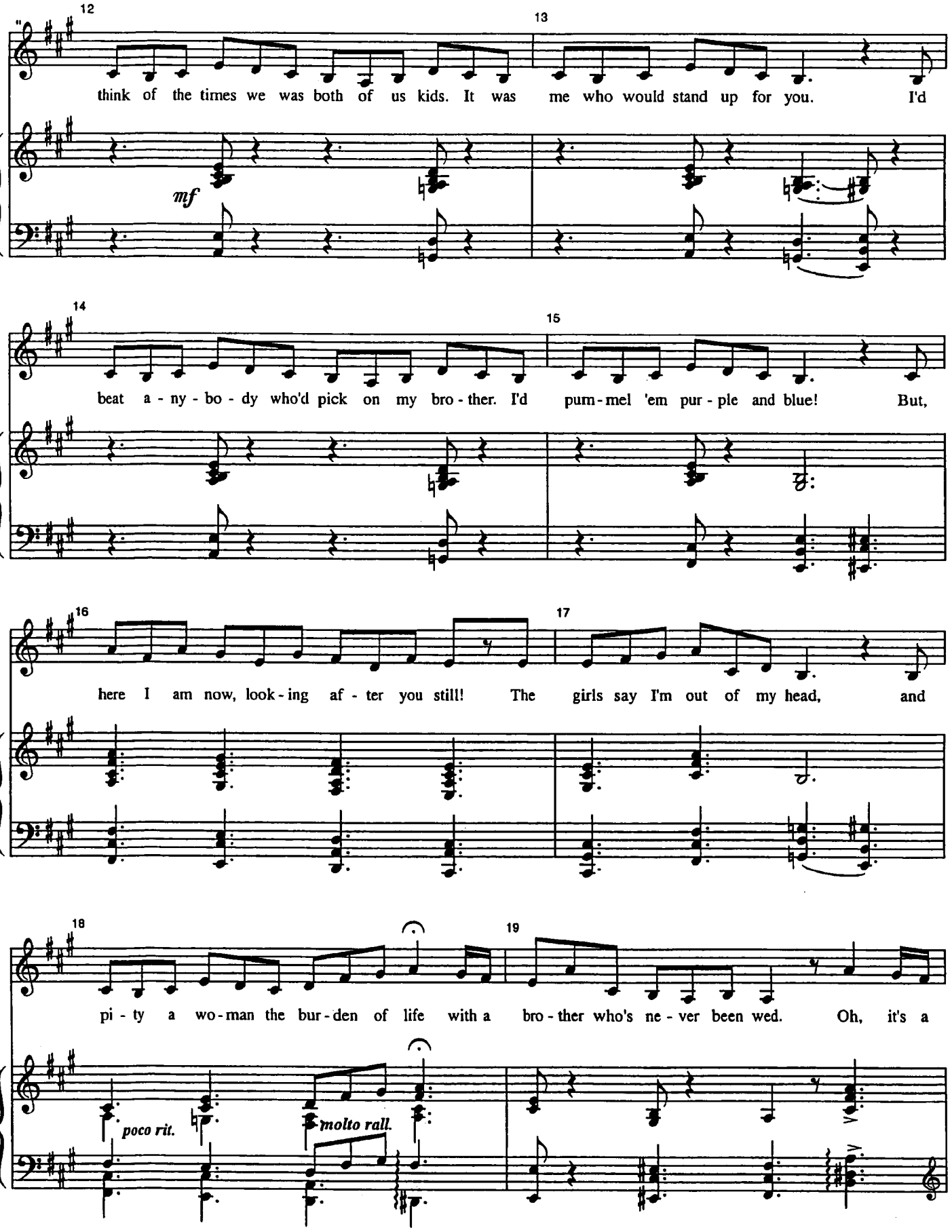


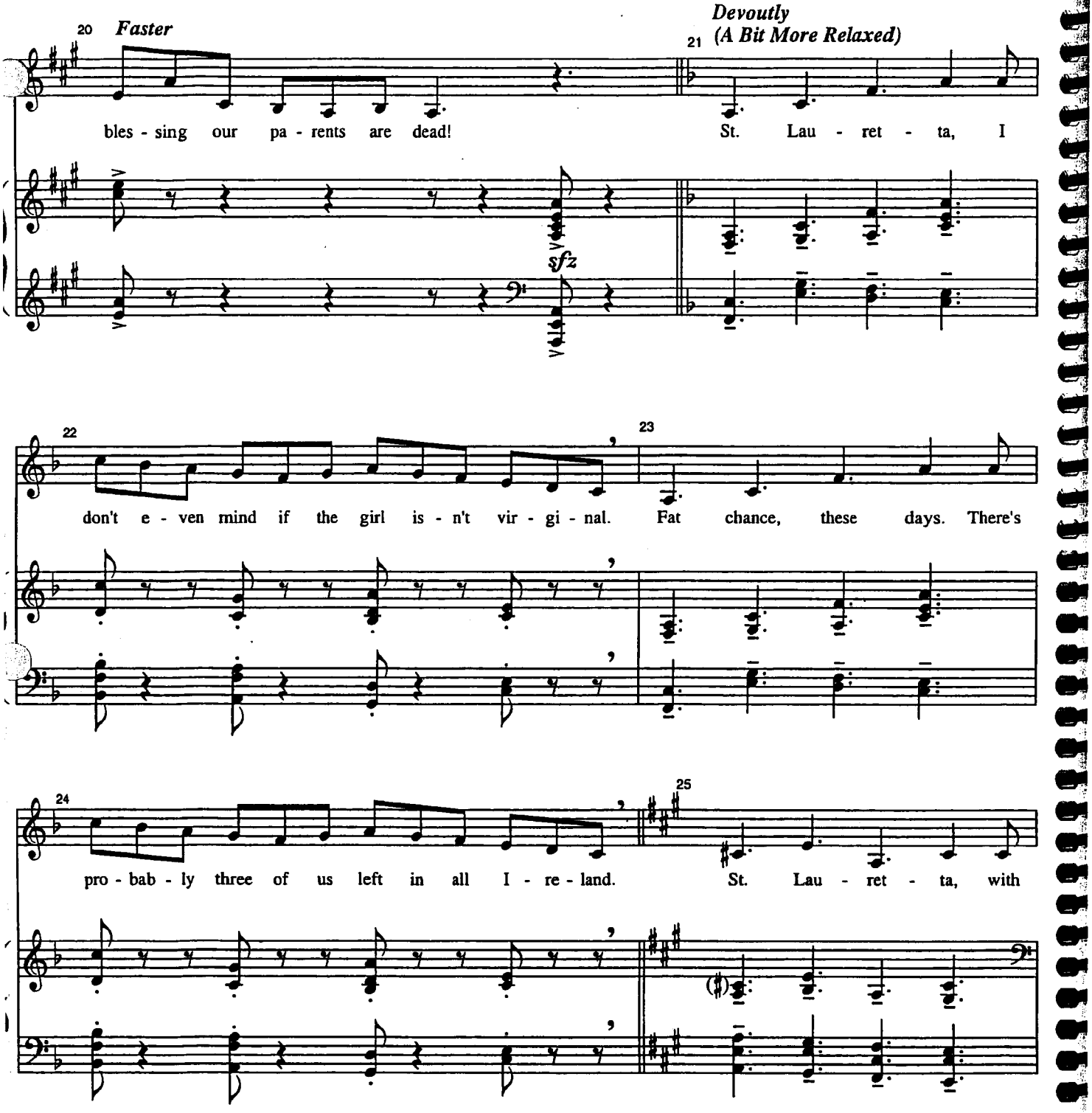
ALFIE: "It's nothing to do with the Bible or nine weeks on your knees to St. Jude. It's to do with art." LILY: "Art! Who puts..."

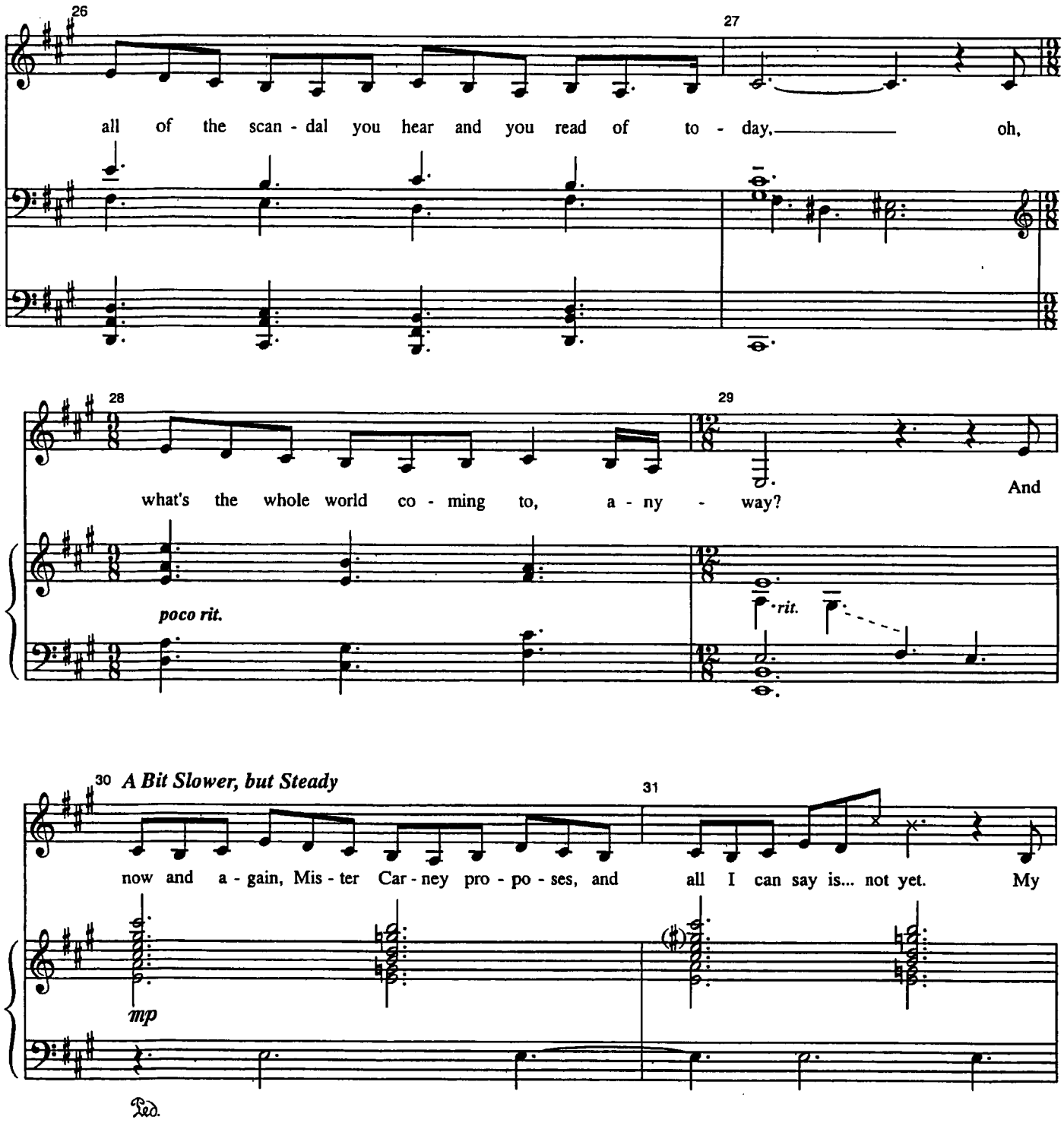


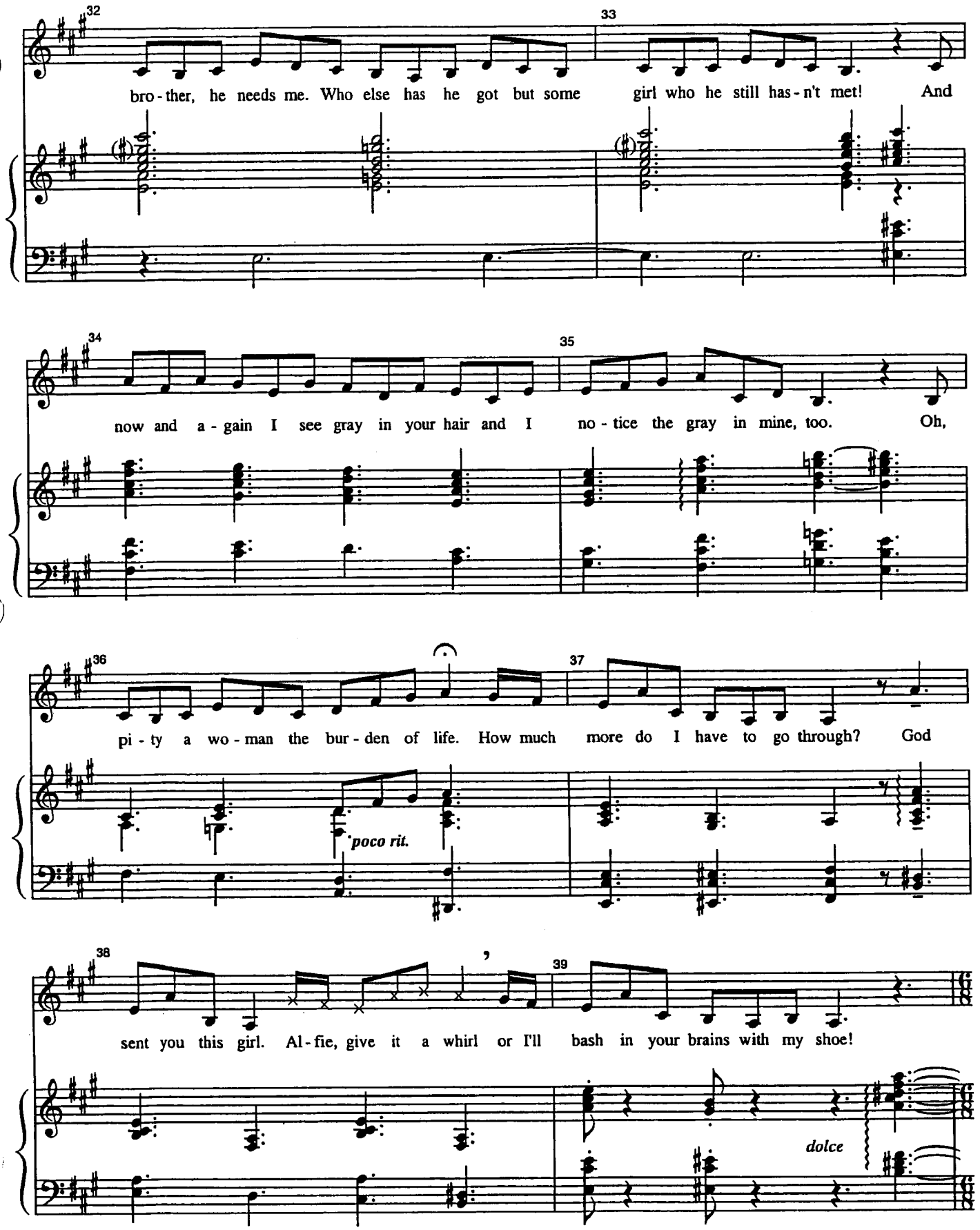
... these notions in your head? You're an unmarried bus conductor, Alfie, in case you haven't noticed."

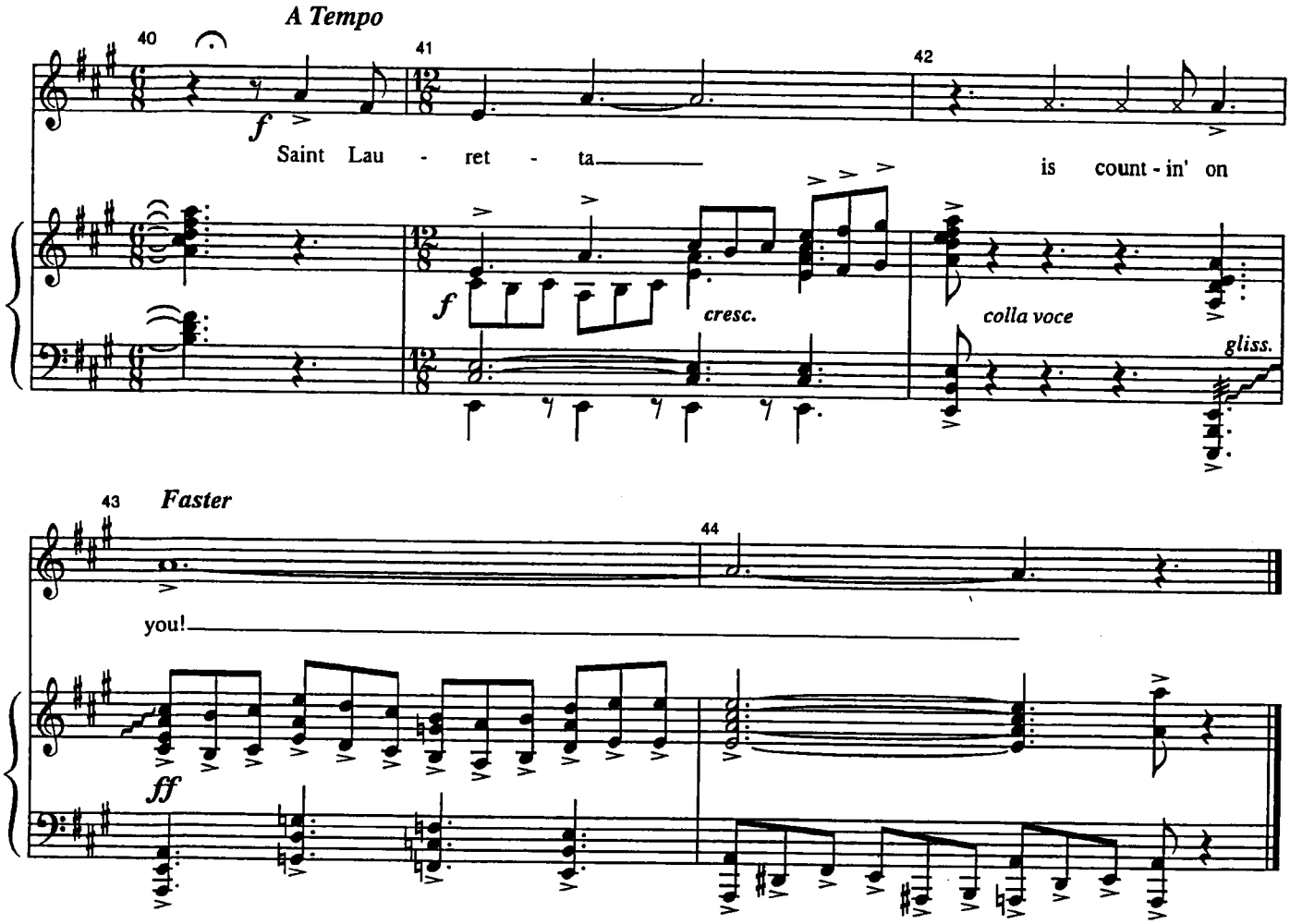



12
13
think of the times we was both of us kids. It was me who would stand up for you. I'd
mf
14
15
beat a - ny - bo - dy who'd pick on my bro - ther. I'd pum - mel 'em pur - ple and blue! But,
16
17
here I am now, look - ing af - ter you still! The girls say I'm out of my head, and
18
19
pi - ty a wo - man the bur - den of life with a bro - ther who's ne - ver been wed. Oh, it's a
poco rit.
molto rall.


20
Faster
21
Devoutly
(A Bit More Relaxed)
bles - sing our pa - rents are dead!
St. Lau - ret - ta, I
sfz
22
23
don't e - ven mind if the girl is - n't vir - gi - nal.
Fat chance, these days. There's
24
25
pro - bab - ly three of us left in all I - re - land.
St. Lau - ret - ta, with


26
27
all of the scan - dal you hear and you read of to - day, oh,
28
29
what's the whole world co - ming to, a - ny - way?
And
poco rit.
rit.
30 A Bit Slower, but Steady
31
now and a - gain, Mis - ter Car - ney pro - po - ses, and all I can say is... not yet. My
mp
Ped.


32
33
bro - ther, he needs me. Who else has he got but some girl who he still has - n't met! And
34
35
now and a - gain I see gray in your hair and I no - tice the gray in mine, too. Oh,
36
37
pi - ty a wo - man the bur - den of life. How much more do I have to go through? God
poco rit.
38
39
sent you this girl. Al - fie, give it a whirl or I'll bash in your brains with my shoe!
dolce


A Tempo
40
41
42
f
Saint Lau - ret - ta
is count - in' on
f
cresc.
colla voce
gliss.
43
Faster
44
you!
ff