Piano Remixes:

Kid Songs

Vol. 2
Intermediate

A collection of simple melodies transformed into creative solos
for the early intermediate piano student

Anne Britt

Piano Remixes: Kid Songs

Vol. 2 (Intermediate)

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Front cover art by Beverly Barnett

"It's really fun for my intermediate students to play grown-up-sounding arrangements of songs they remember from when they were younger. These are just the right blend of challenging and fun."

~ Dixie Henrie, piano teacher in St. George, Utah

"Anne's ability to compose in so many genres, so creatively and proficiently, is impressive. The arrangements in these books are bombastic! I love her ability to transform a familiar nursery song into something magical and exciting, but also recognizable, something that even finicky preteens and teenagers will find enticing and whimsical. These books will be a fantastically fun addition to the library of both students and teachers."

~ Amaree Matthews, piano teacher in Port Orchard, Washington

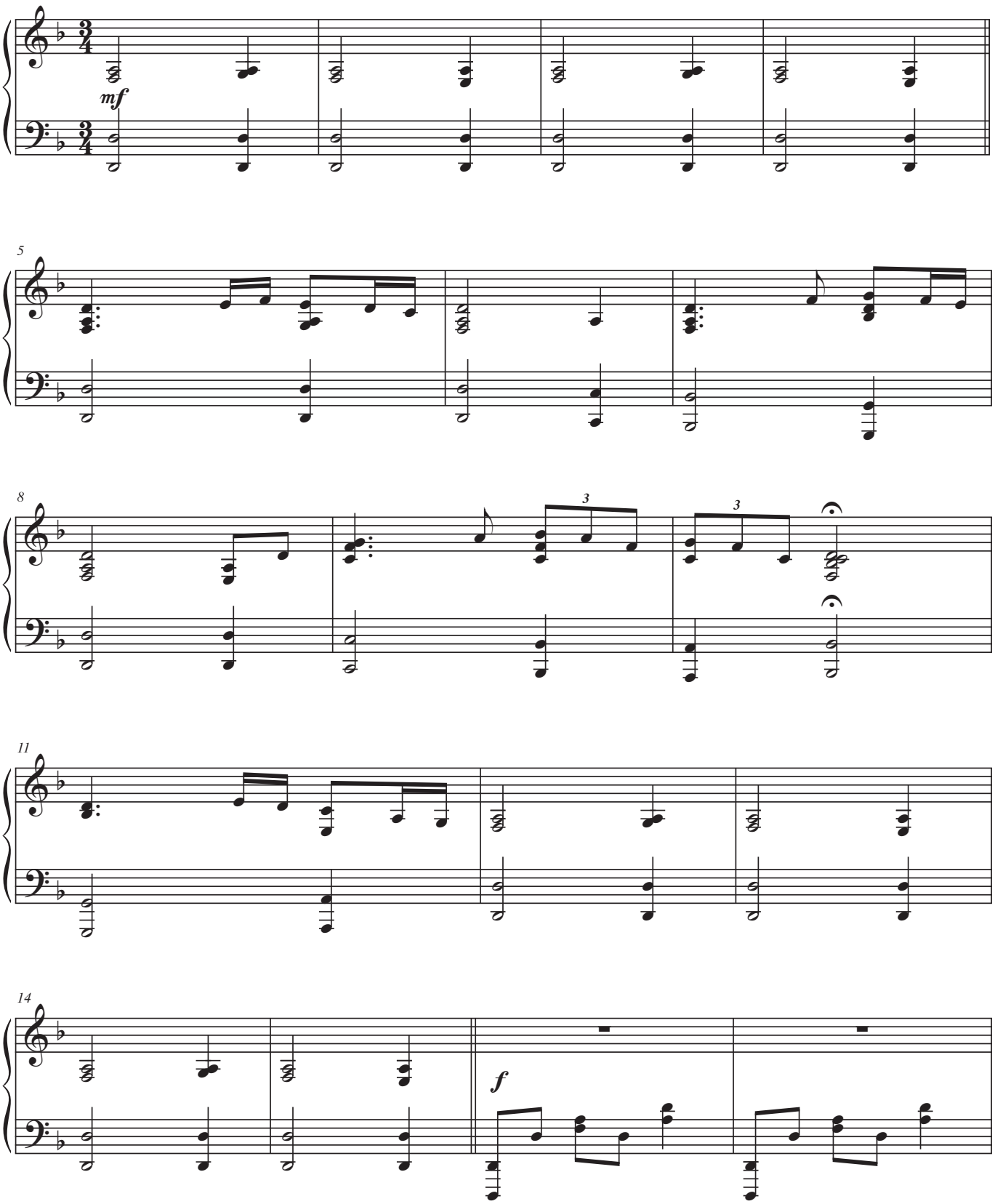
Hobbity Dobbity

(Hobbit remix of "Hickory Dickory Dock")

Take a journey to Middle-earth and explore the transformation of a simple children's tune, inspired by "The Hobbit" theme. The minor key disguises the original melody so well that it's not easily recognizable.

Solemnly

arr. Anne Britt



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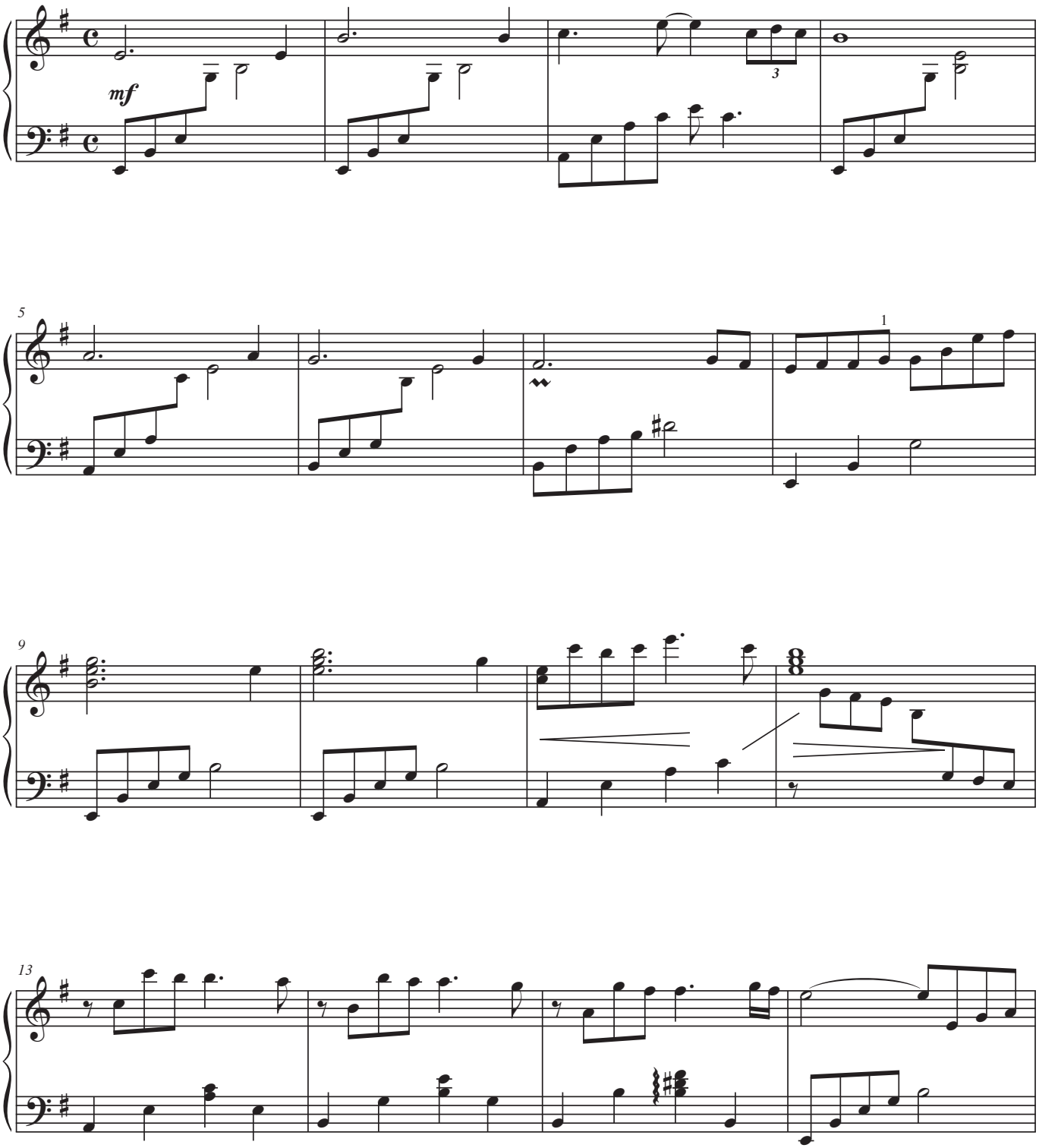
Twinkle, Twinkle, Estrellita

(Latin remix of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star")

Changing a song from a major key to a minor key gives it a whole different sound. For this piece, imagine "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" being done on a Spanish guitar, and notice the different feel between the rhythmic section in the middle and the rubato sections at the beginning and end.

Rubato

arr. Anne Britt



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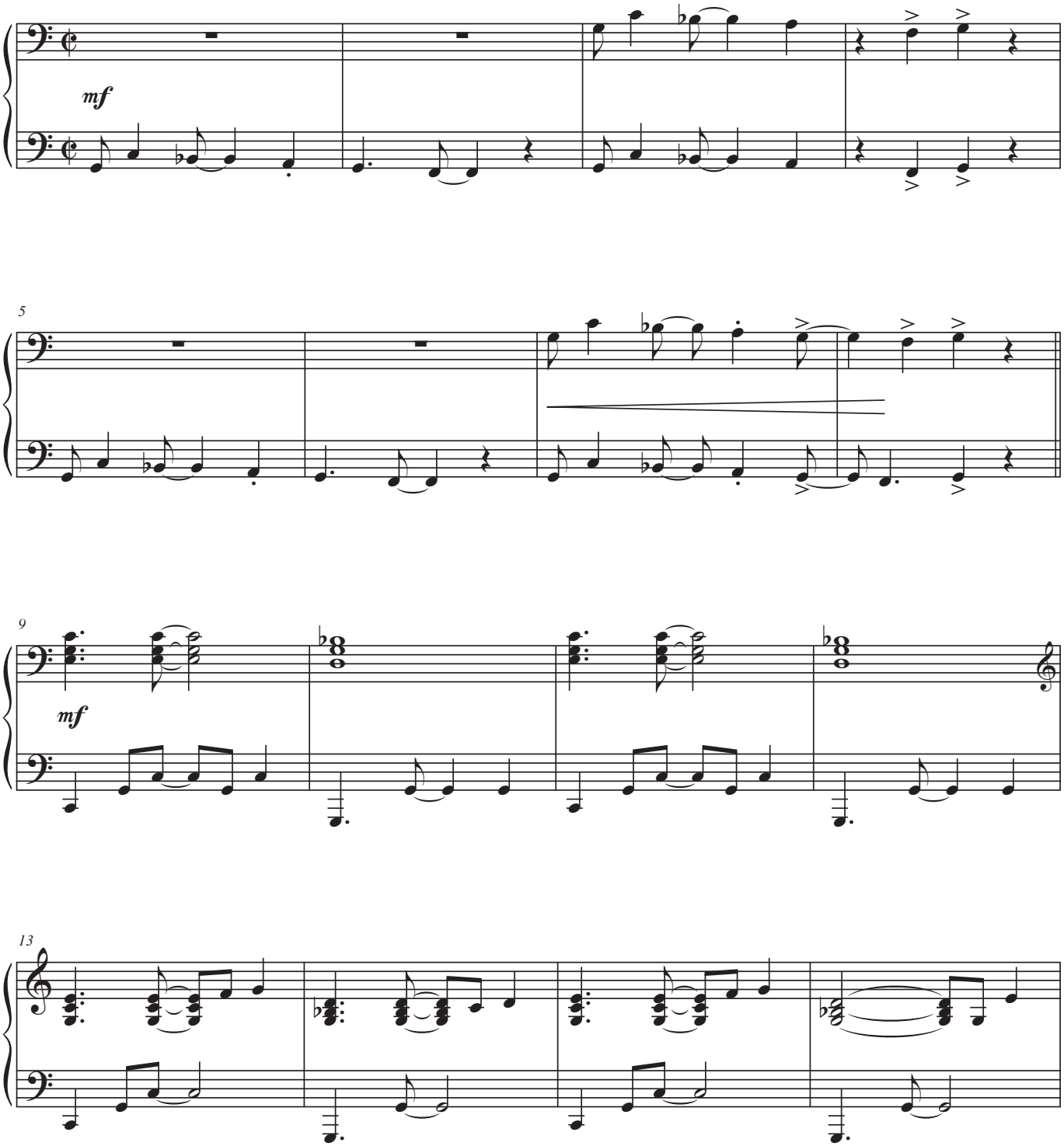
Las Cucharas

(Latin remix of "Hey, Diddle Diddle")

"Las cucharas" is Spanish for "the spoons." If you're familiar with the nursery rhyme, "Hey, Diddle Diddle," you know that the spoon plays an important role in that story. Spoons can also be played as a makeshift percussion instrument similar to castanets. One way to play them is by holding a pair of spoons together with the concave sides facing out and your index finger between the handles, than striking them alternately on your knee and the palm of your free hand. You might invite a friend to try it out and add some rhythmic flair to this exuberant fiesta music.

Rhythmically

arr. Anne Britt



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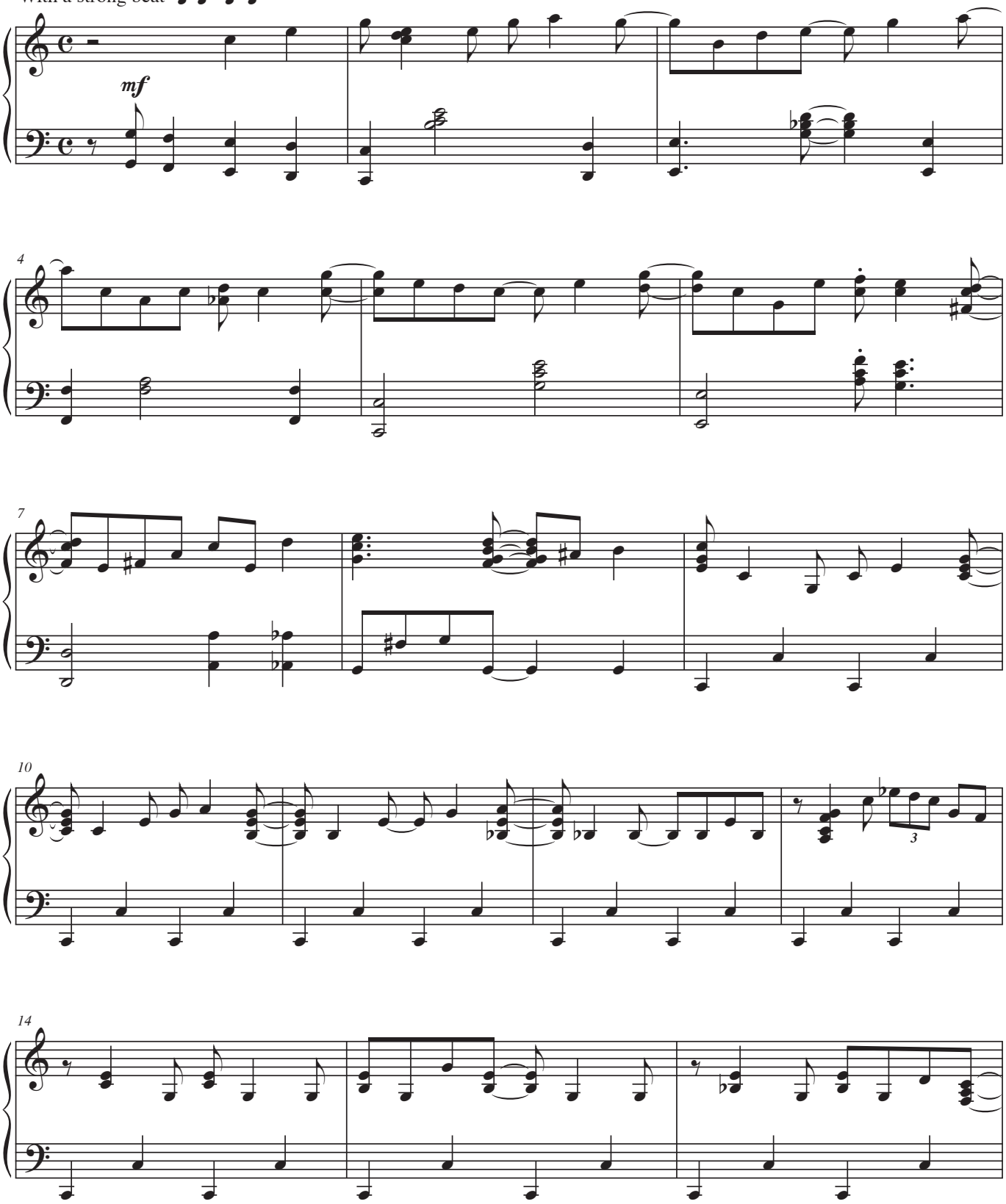
Michael, Row the Boat Ashore
(swing remix)

This spiritual dates back to the American Civil War and was sung by former slaves on St. Helena Island along the coast of South Carolina. It's believed that "Michael" refers to the Archangel Michael, who is viewed by Roman Catholics as a conductor of the souls of the dead. The River Jordan mentioned in it is where Jesus was baptized, and is a symbol for deliverance and salvation.

With a strong beat

arr. Anne Britt



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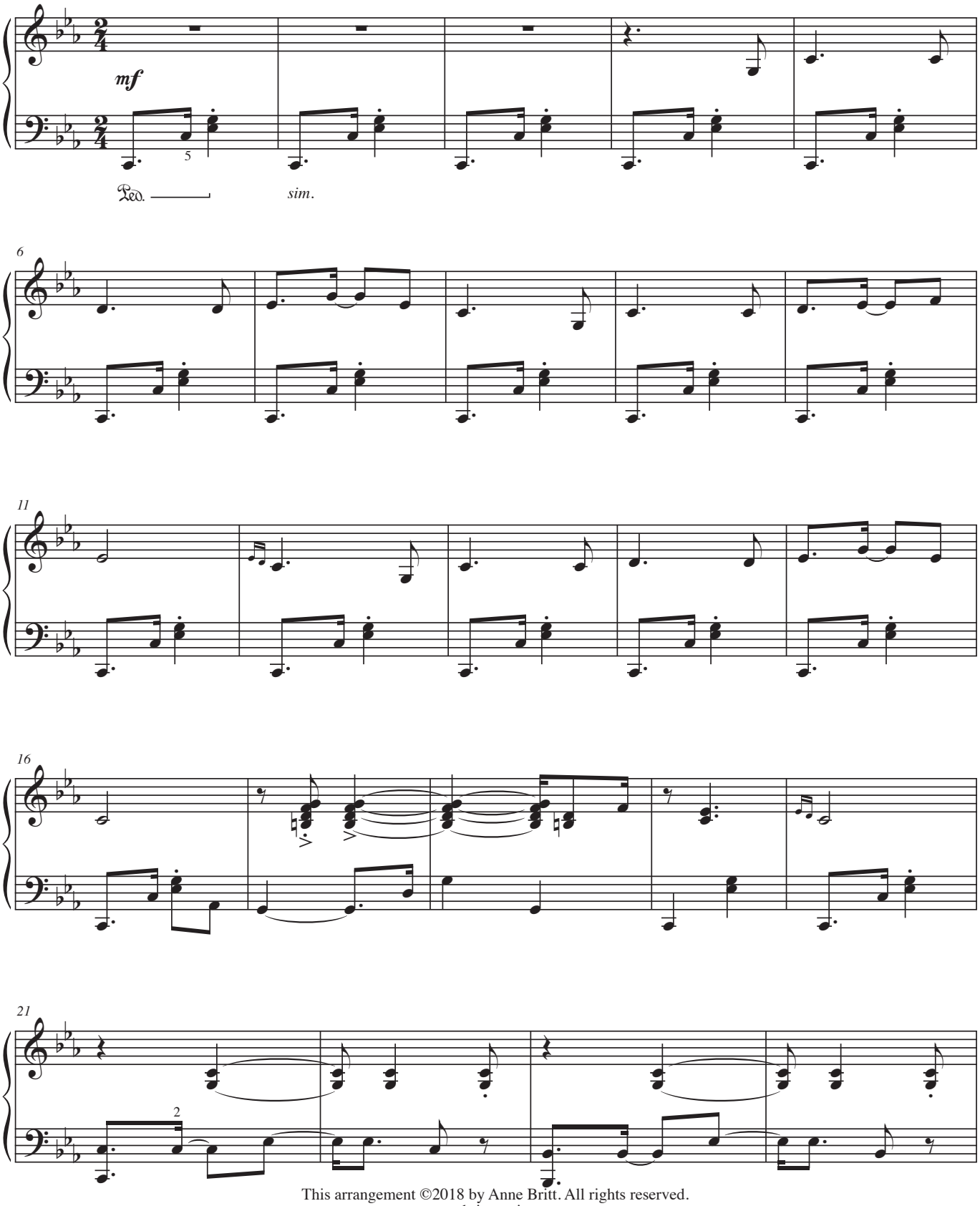
Get Down! Goes the Weasel

(funk remix of "Pop! Goes the Weasel")

"Get down" and "boogie" were popular slang terms in the '70s that mean "dance," and the funk music of that era has a heavy emphasis on the downbeat. As you get your groove on with this piece, be sure to bring out that emphasis on the first beat of each measure, with a secondary emphasis on beat two.

Moderate funk

arr. Anne Britt



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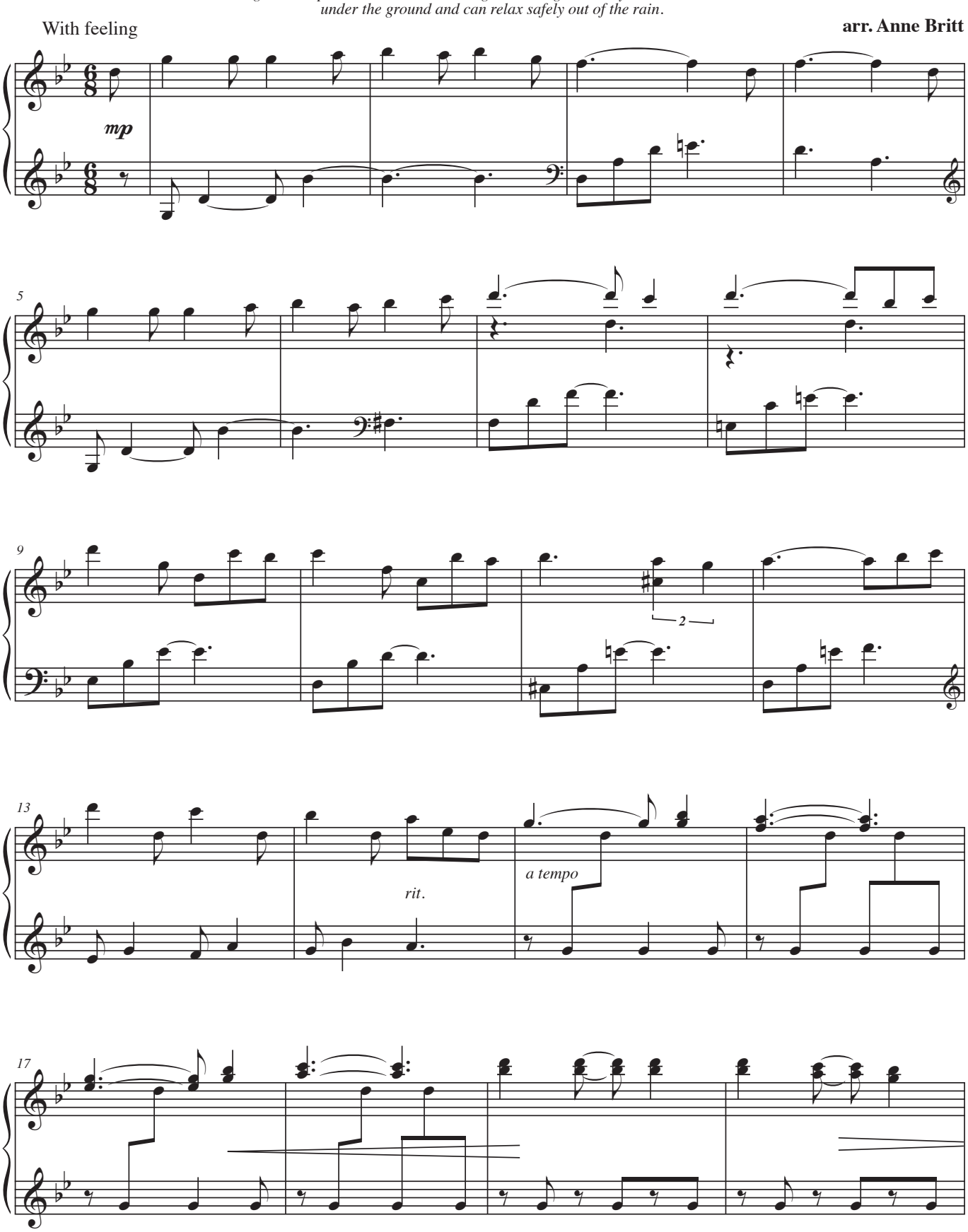
Underground

(New Age remix of "The Ants Go Marching")

This arrangement explores what those ants might be doing once they've made it to their hideout under the ground and can relax safely out of the rain.

arr. Anne Britt



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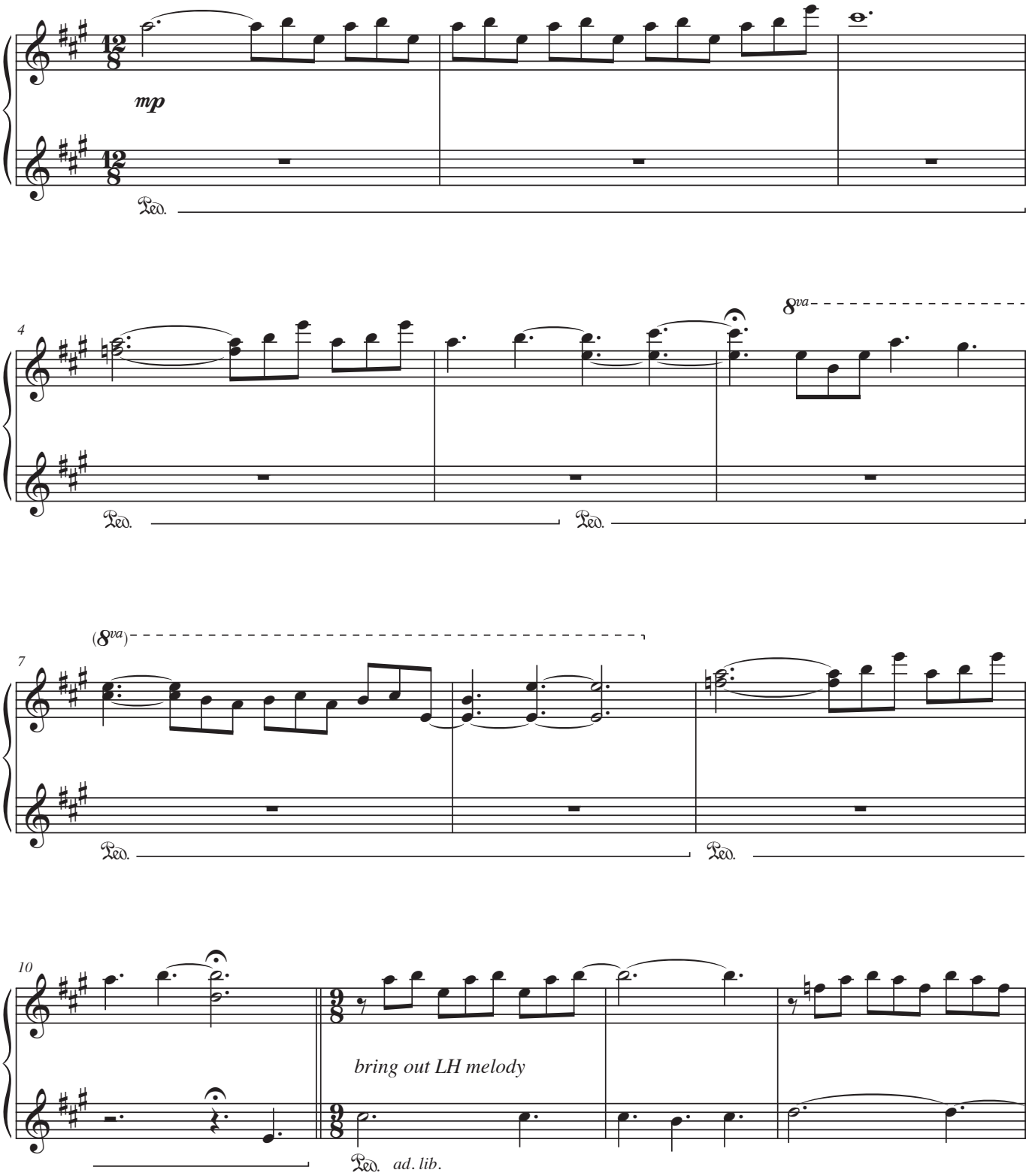
Over the Mountain

(New Age remix of "The Bear Went Over the Mountain")

If you've ever climbed a mountain, you know that the experience gives you both beautiful and painful moments along the way, with physical and mental challenges to overcome. As you imagine climbing a mountain or conquering some other difficult challenge in life, think about how the different sections of the piece can tell that story. The key to being expressive in this music is to really bring out the rubato and the contrasting dynamics and tempo changes.

Rubato throughout

arr. Anne Britt



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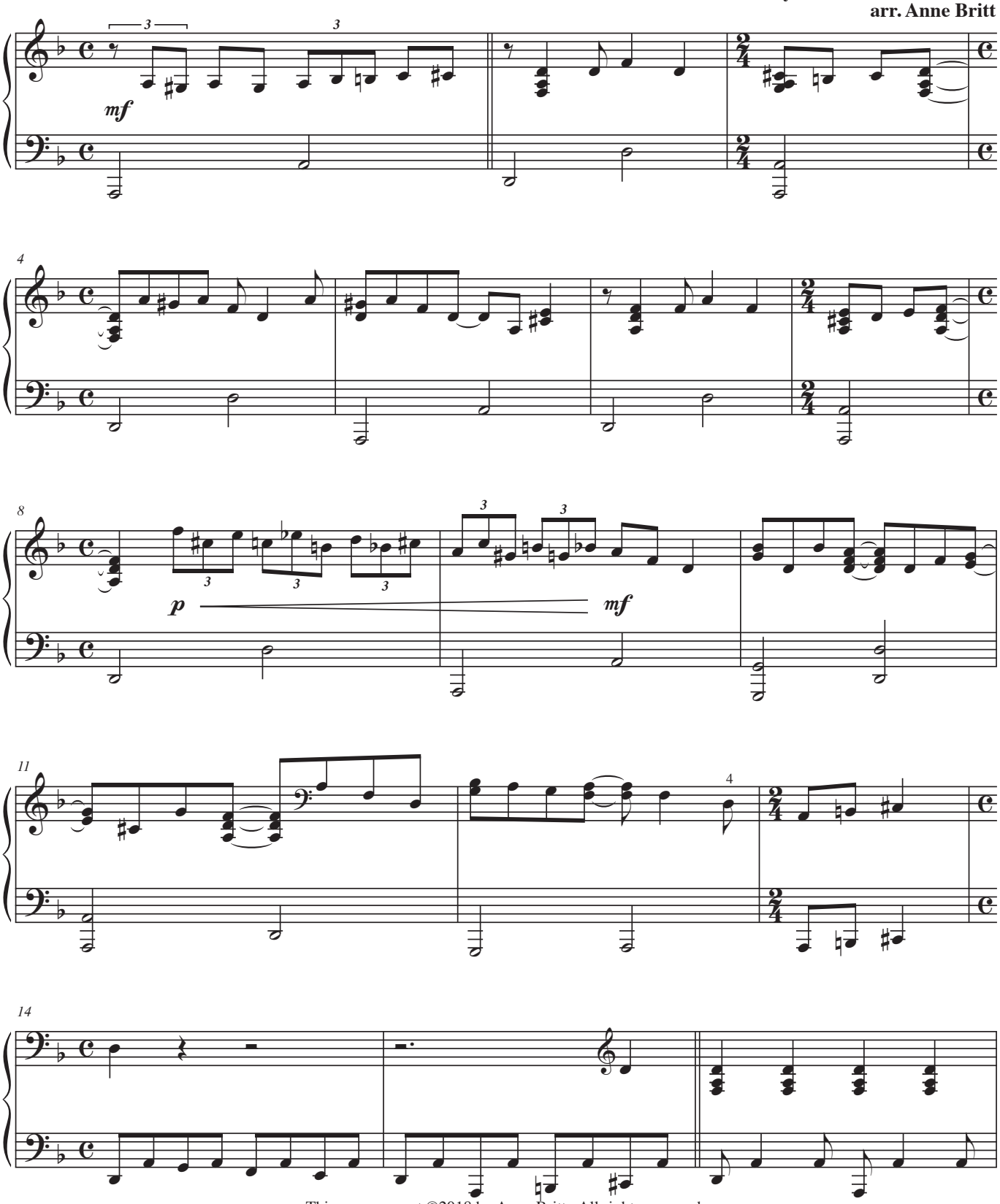
Boneyard Boogie

(boogie-woogie remix of "Humpty Dumpty" and "Dem Bones")

After setting the stage with a mournful rendition of Humpty Dumpty's unfortunate accident, the rest of this song is about putting the pieces back together, one by one - a song of hope and celebration.

Slow swing

"Dem Bones" by James Weldon Johnson
arr. Anne Britt



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