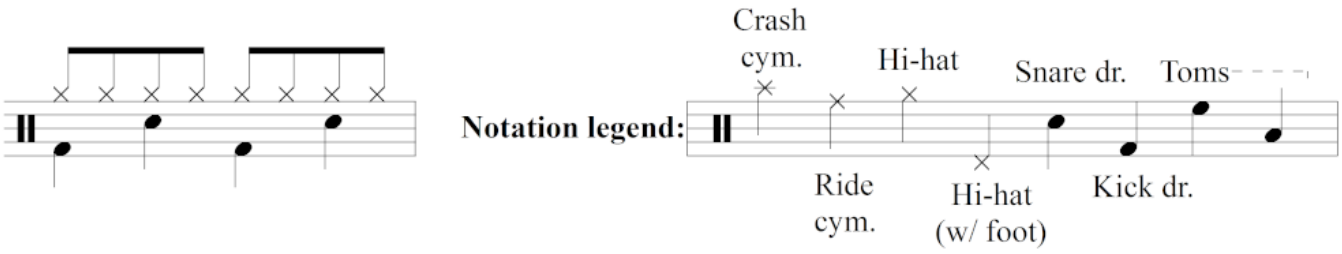
A JOURNAL OF THE SOCIETY FOR MUSIC THEORY

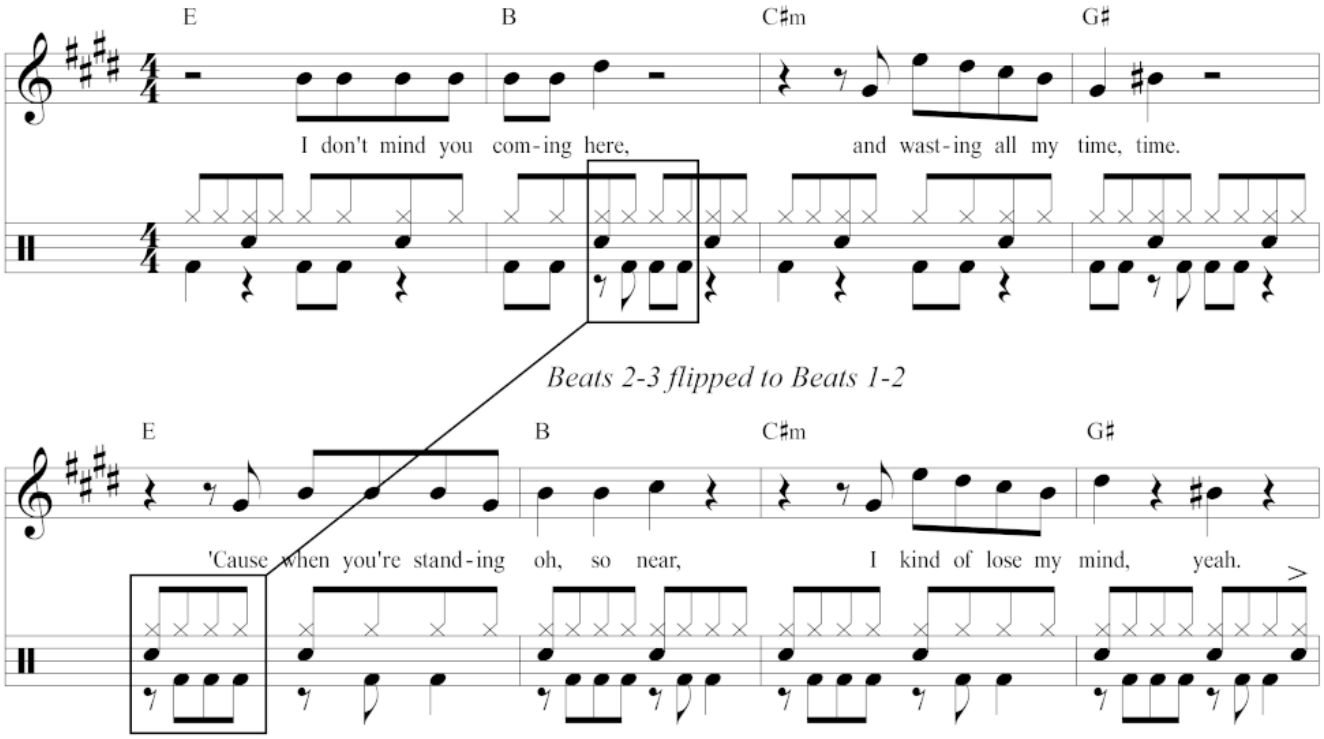
MTO 28.1 Examples: Cairns, Switching the Backbeat

(Note: audio, video, and other interactive examples are only available online)
https://mtosmt.org/issues/mto.22.28.1/mto.22.28.1.cairns.html

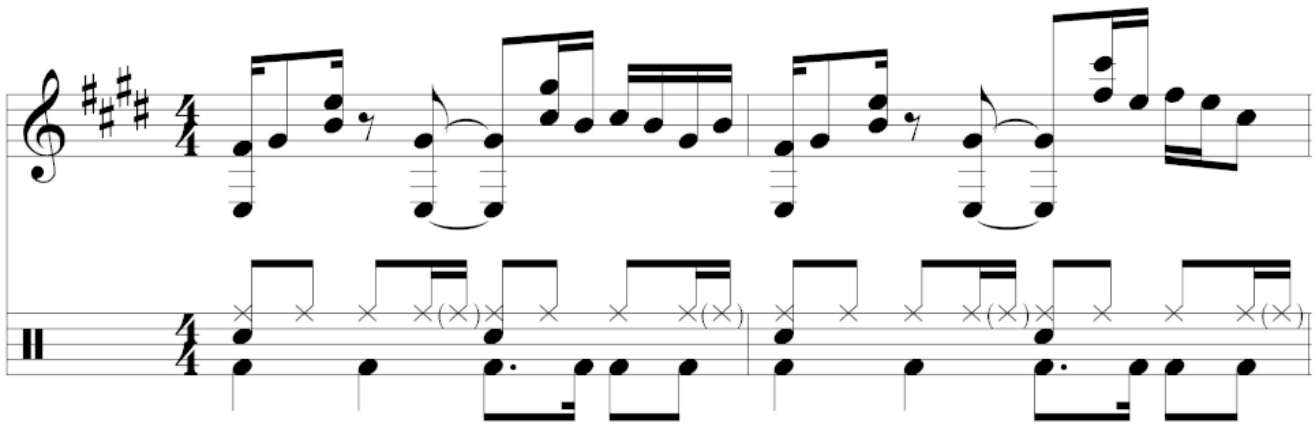
Example 1. Basic rock beat



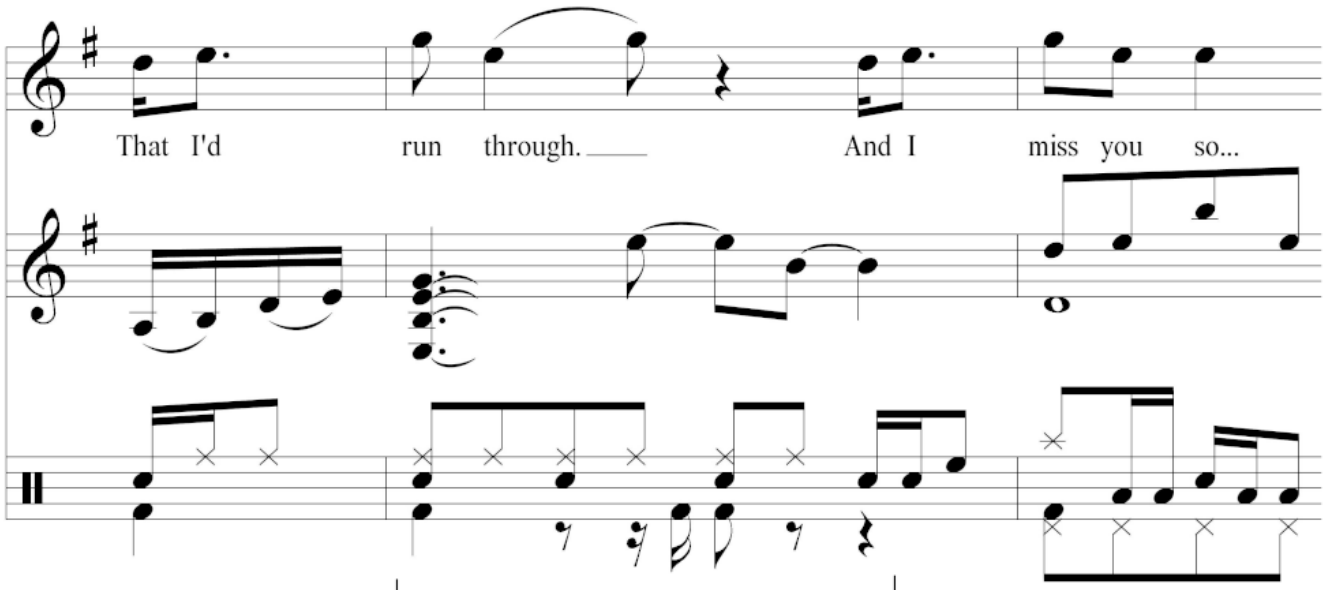
Example 2. The Cars, "Just What I Needed" (1978, 2:04), verse 3, first and second phrases



Example 3a. Paul Weller, "Sunflower" (1993, 2:12), bridge

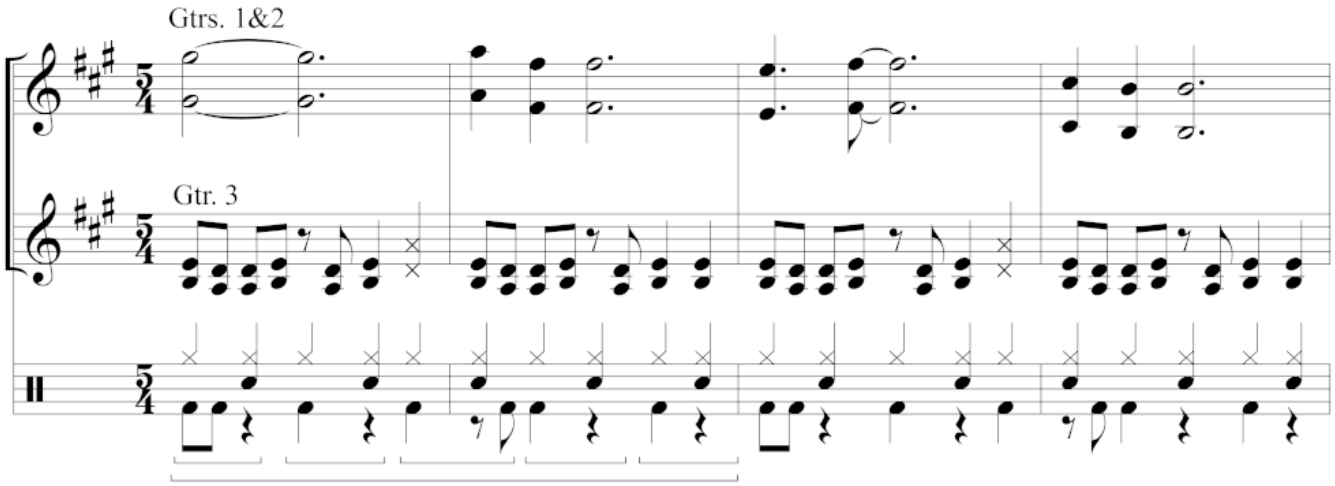


Example 3b. Paul Weller, "Sunflower" (1993, 1:03), added bar between verse and chorus

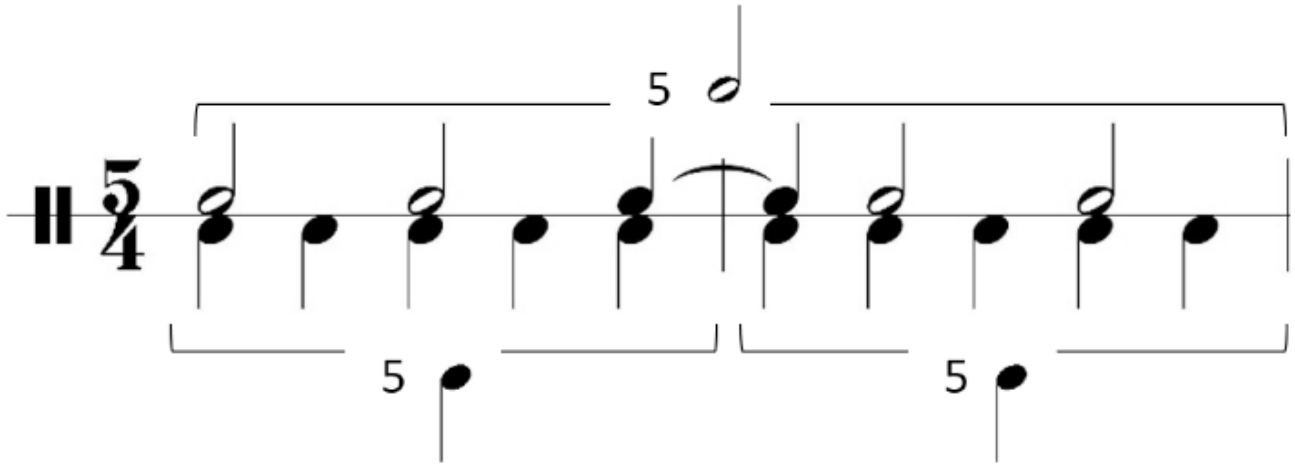


Snare on all four beats foreshadows the appearance of the snare on beats other than 2 and 4.

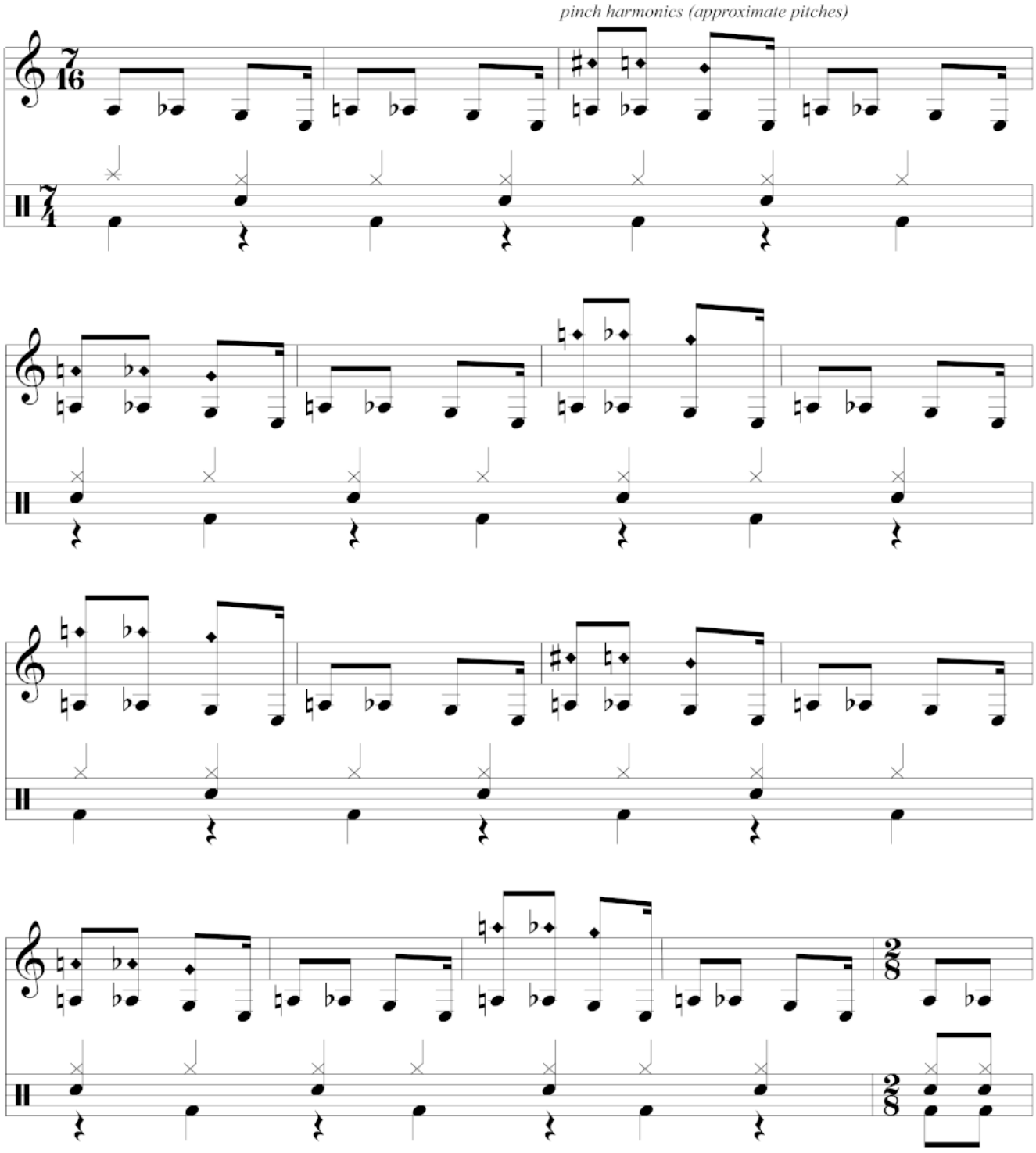
Example 4. Steve Vai, “Greasy Kid’s Stuff” (1990, 0:23), “verse” 1



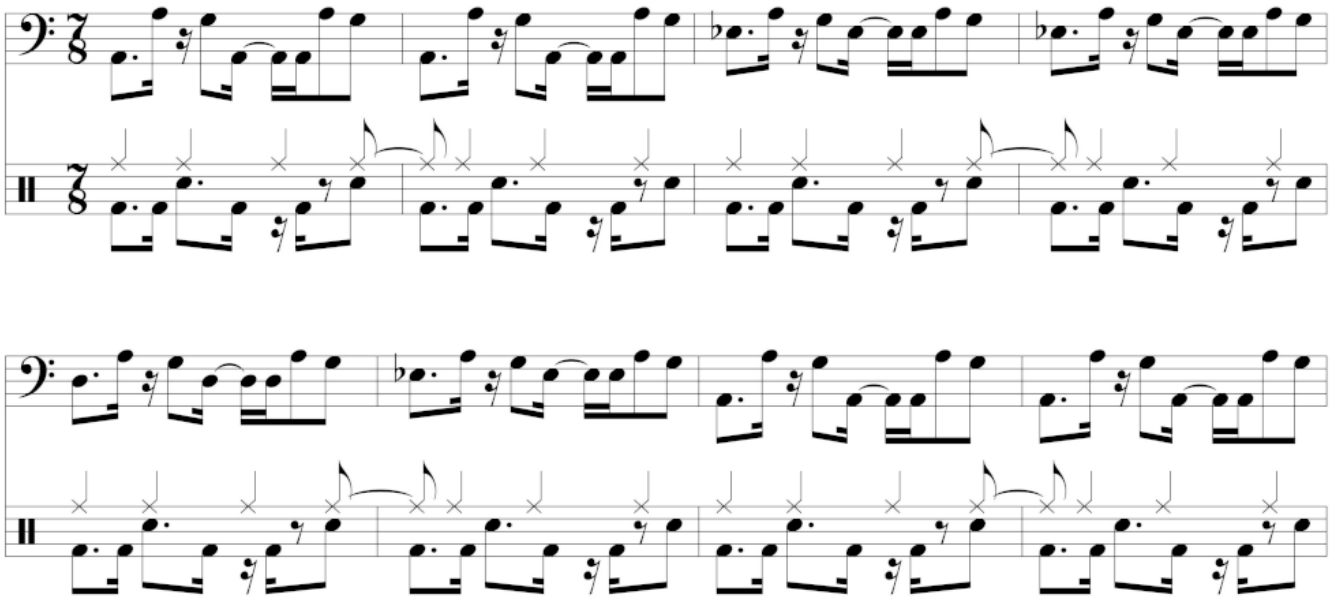
Example 5. Quintuple pogo



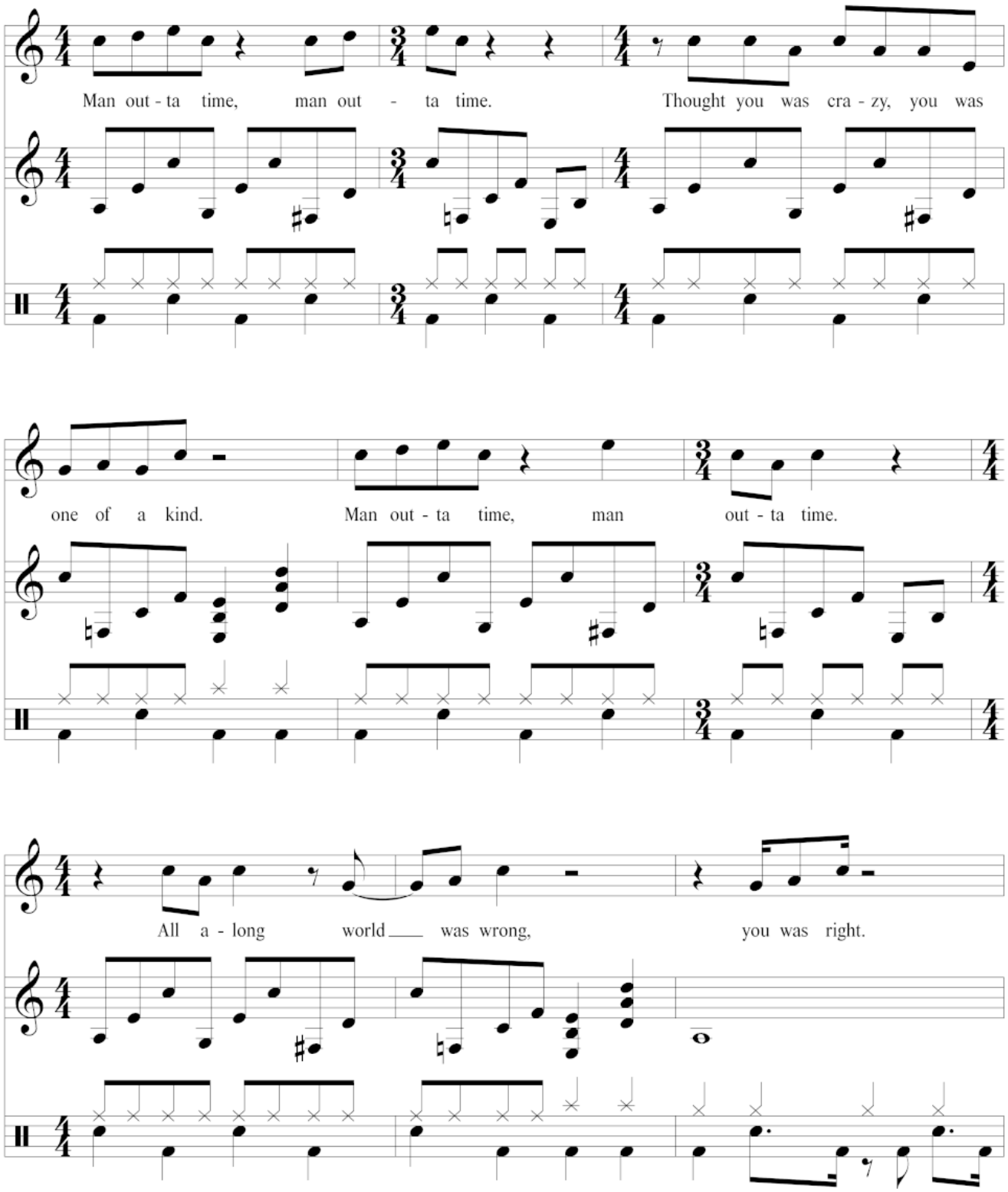
Example 6. Steve Vai, "The Attitude Song" (1984, 0:01), intro/main riff



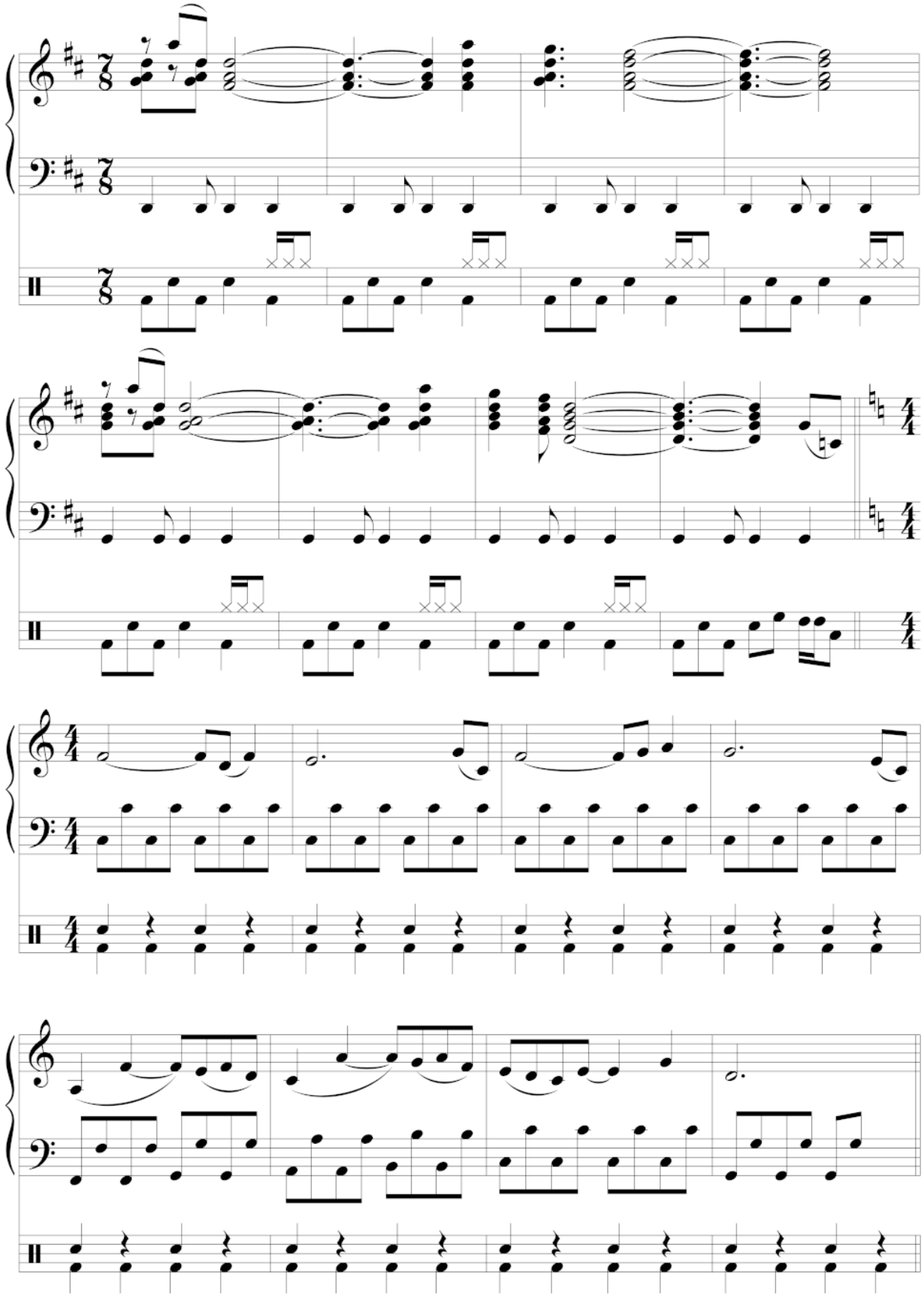
Example 7. Sting, "St. Augustine in Hell" (1993, 0:07), introduction (bass and drums only)



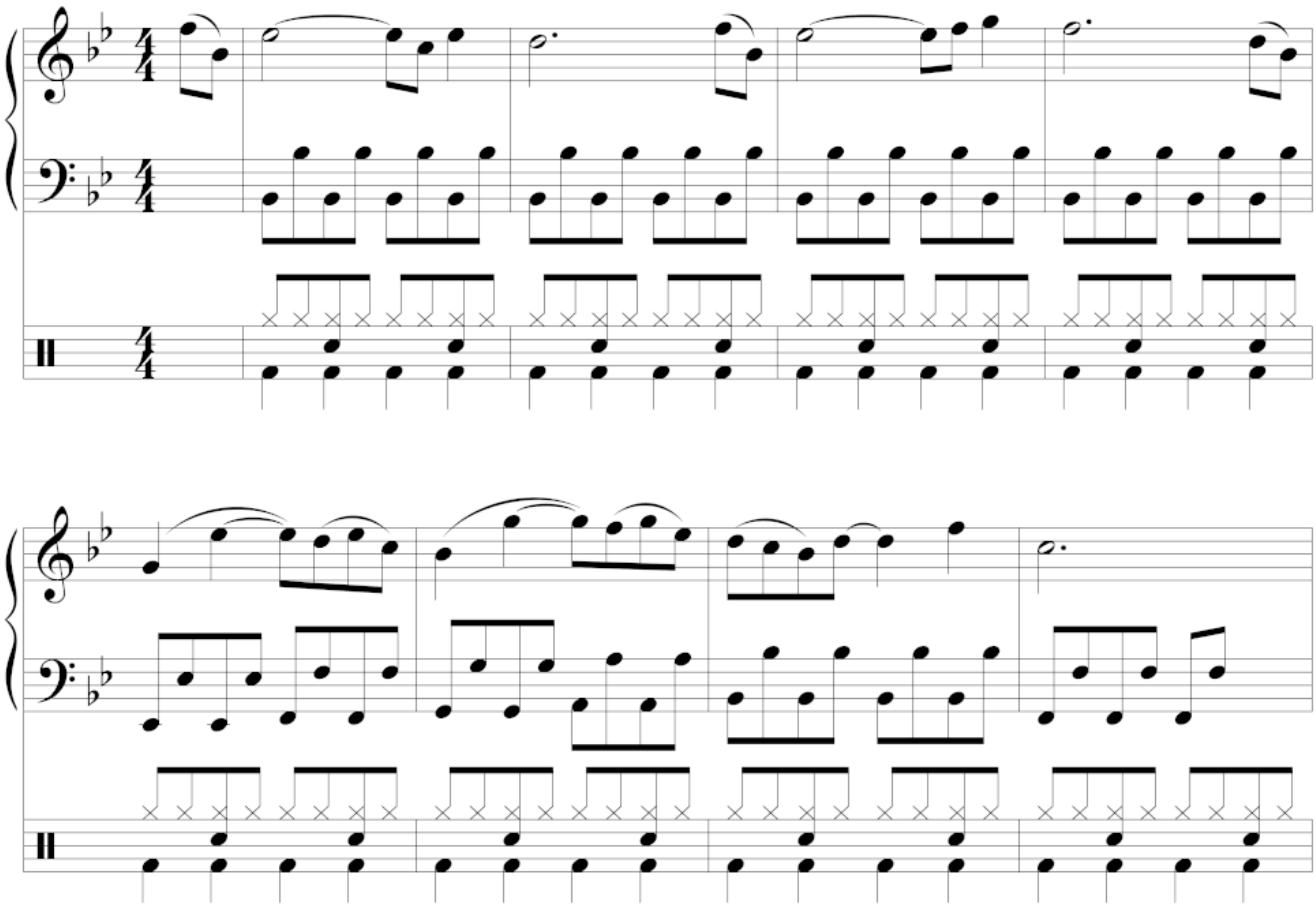
Example 8. Tesla, "Edison's Medicine" (1991, 1:12), chorus



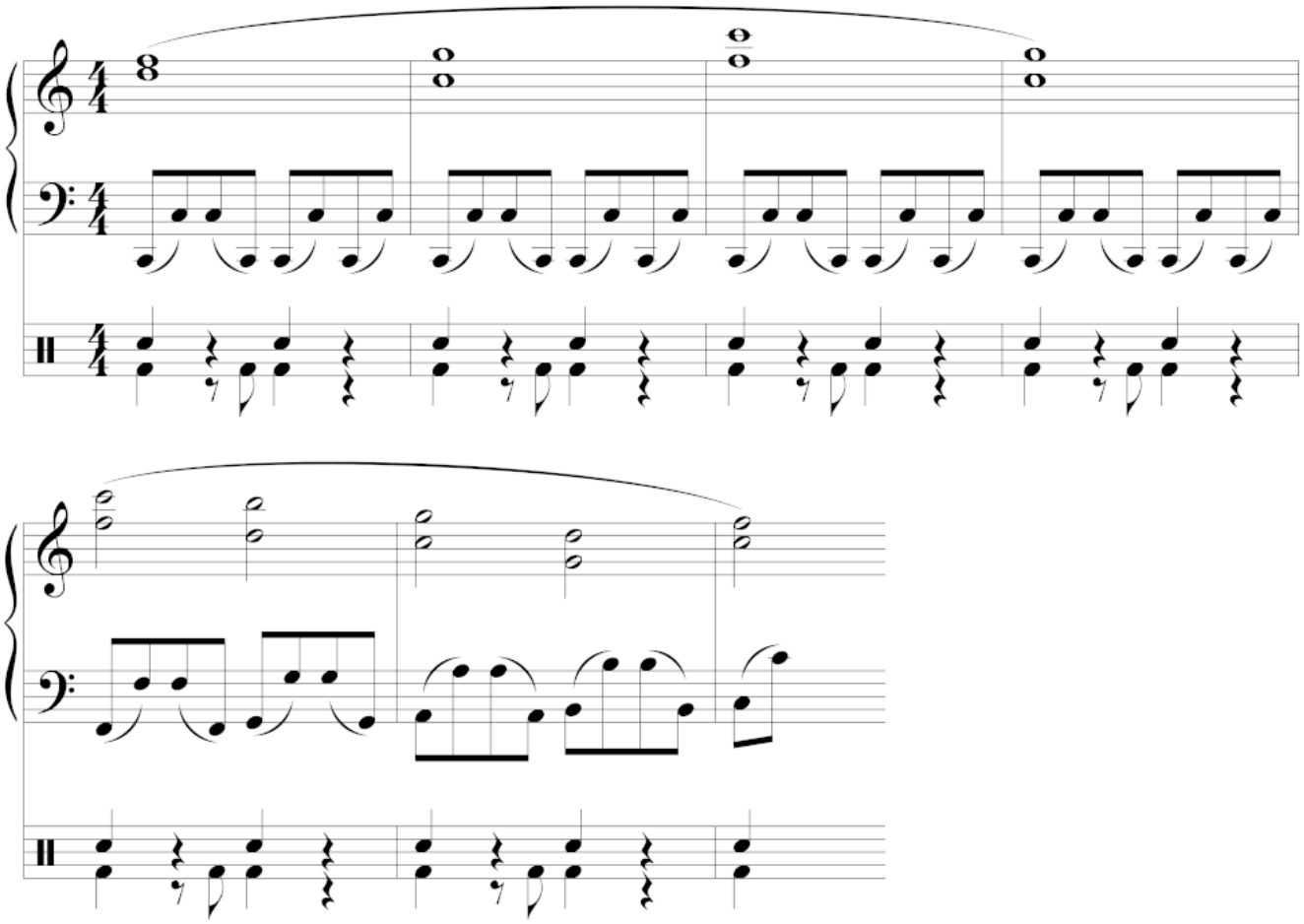
Example 9. Jerry Goldsmith, cue "7m1: The Coach Stays" (1986, 1:01:06), mm. 1–16



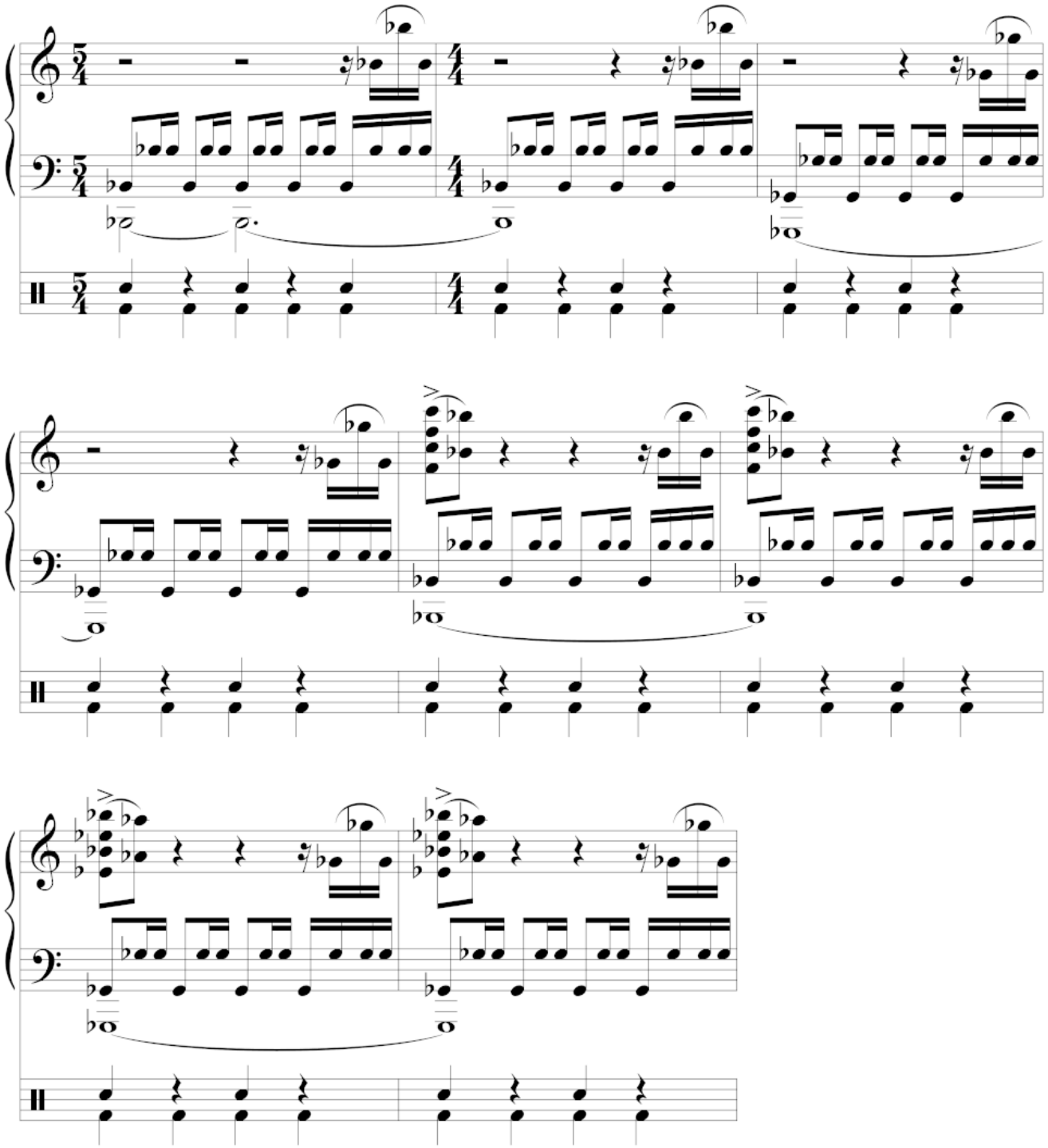
Example 10. Jerry Goldsmith, cue "7m1: The Coach Stays" (1986, 1:03:10), mm. 74–81



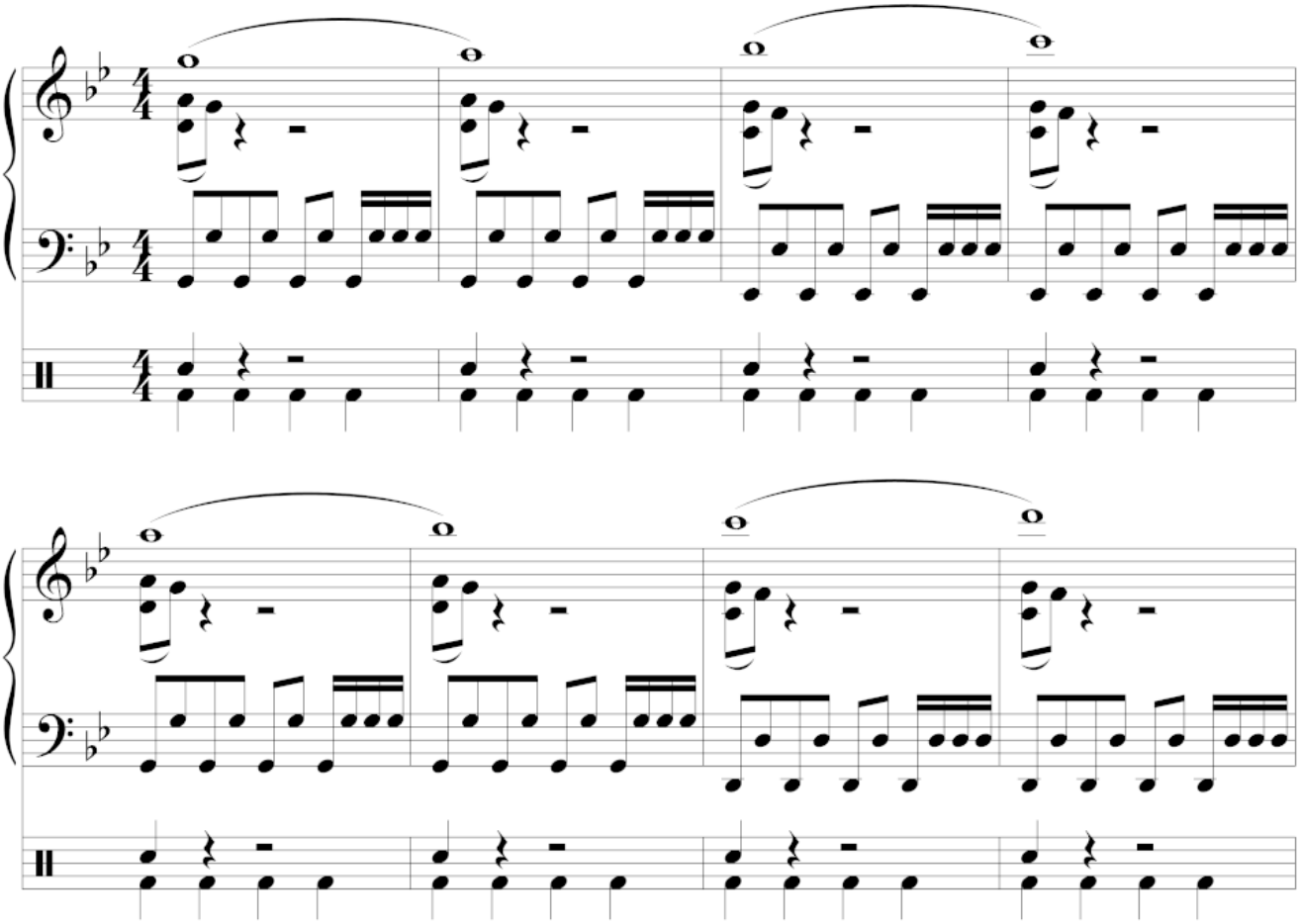
Example 11. Jerry Goldsmith, cue "2m1: First Workout" (1986, 0:15:42), mm. 11–17, switched backbeat



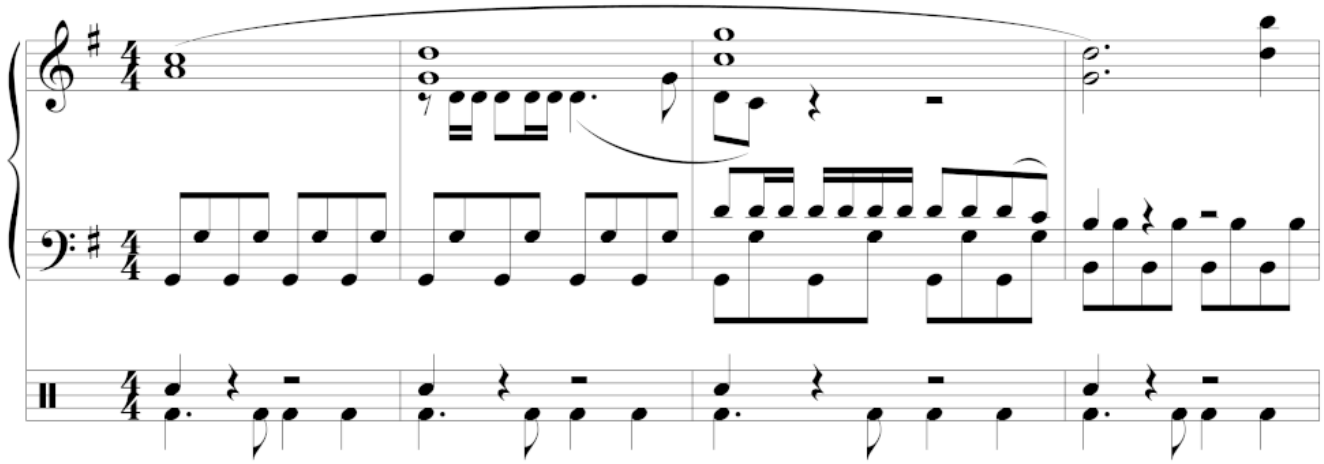
Example 12. Jerry Goldsmith, cue “4m1: Get It Up” (1986, 0:32:59), mm. 1–7, switched backbeat



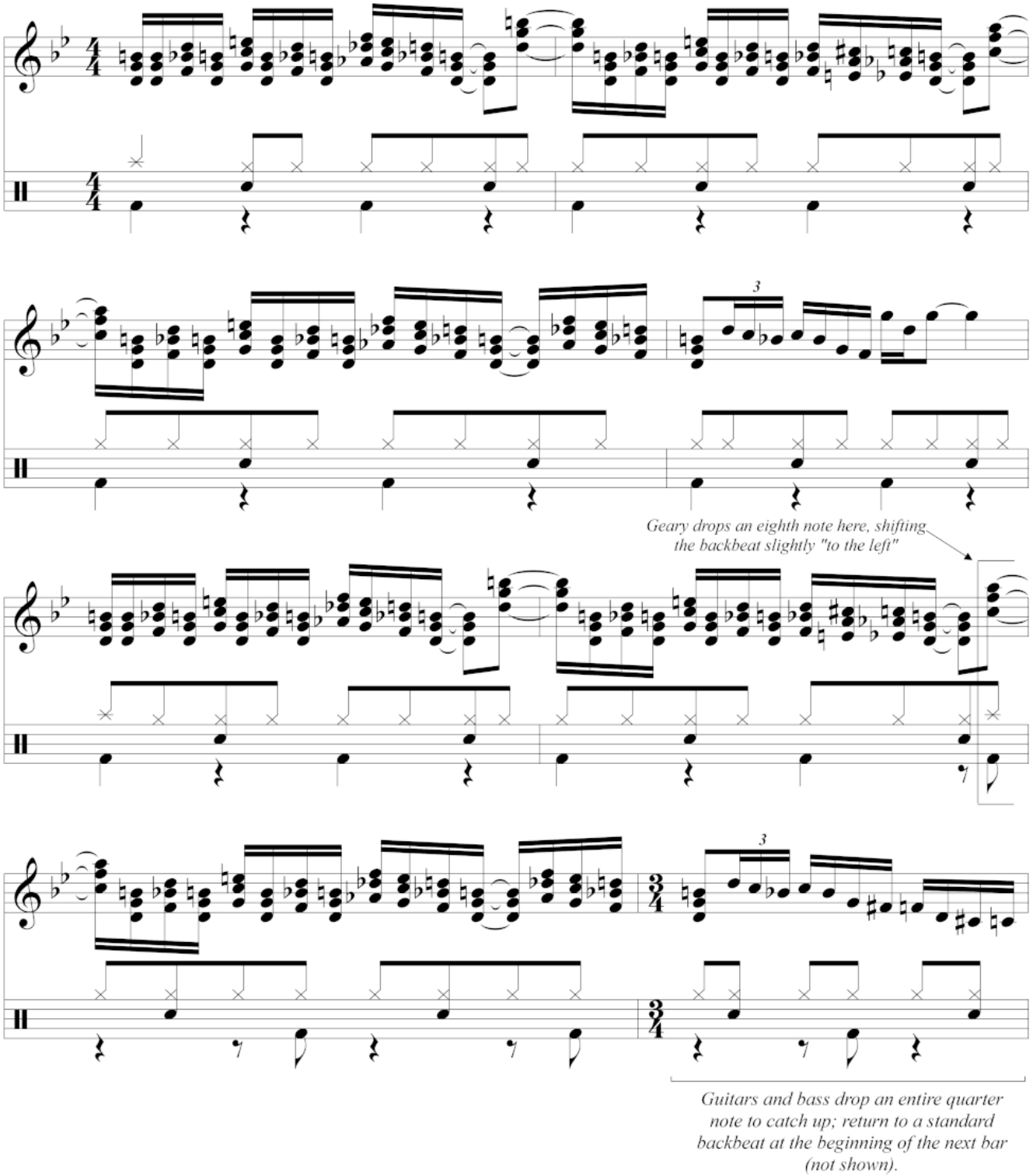
Example 13. Jerry Goldsmith, cue "4m1: Get It Up" (1986, 0:33:32), mm. 17–24, switched backbeat, half-time feel



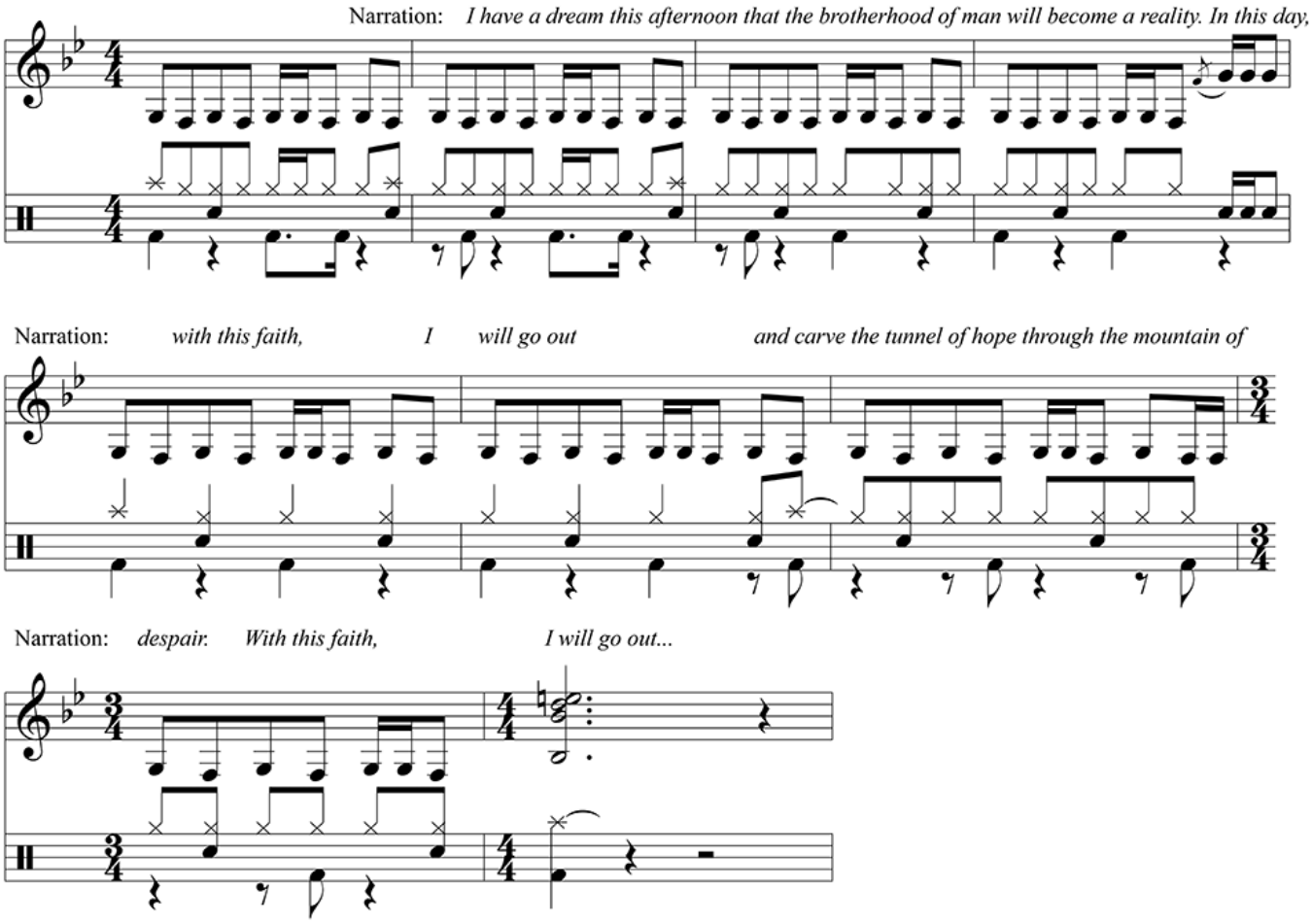
Example 14. Jerry Goldsmith, cue "7m2: You Did Good" (1986, 1:05:46), mm. 19–22, switched backbeat, half-time feel



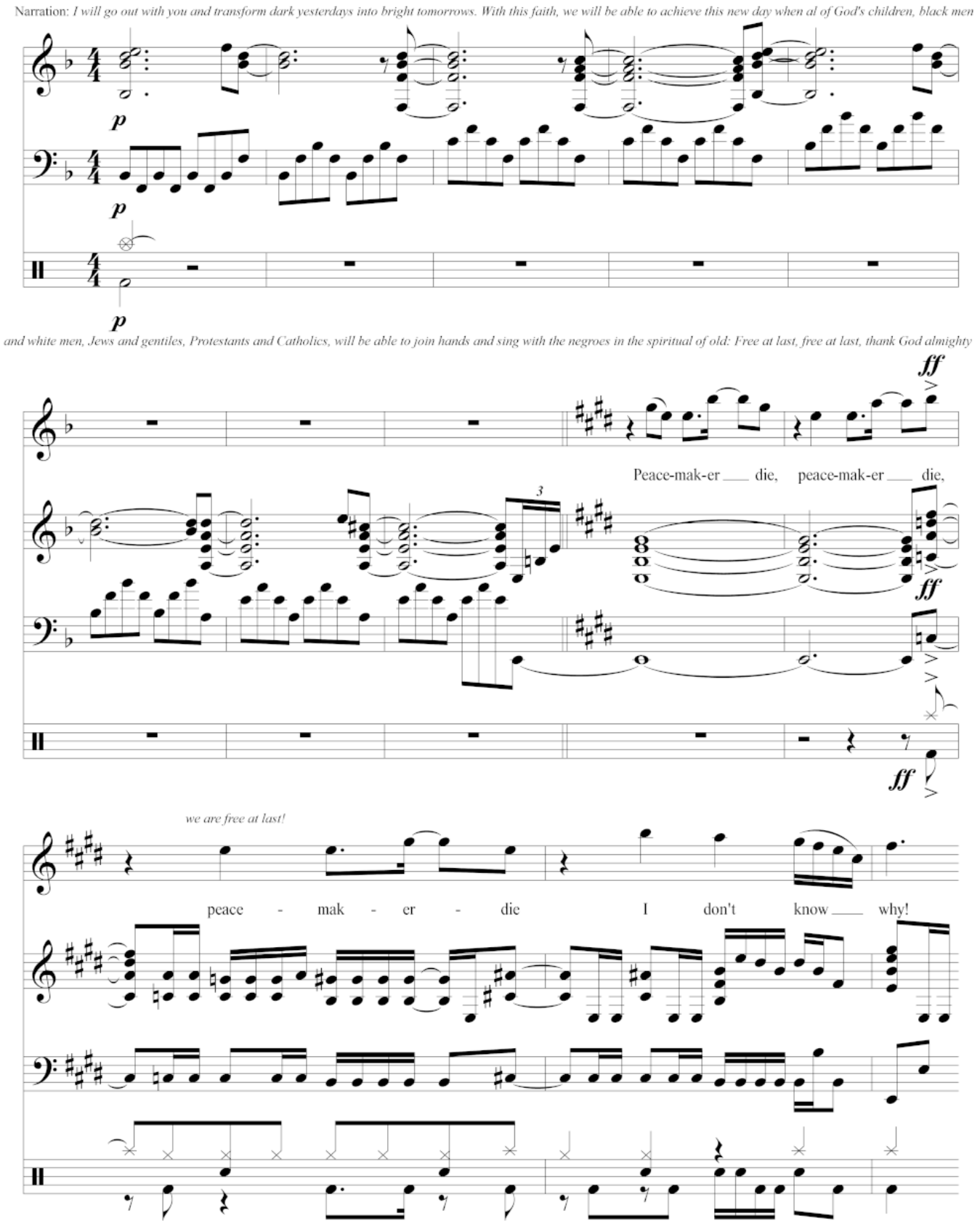
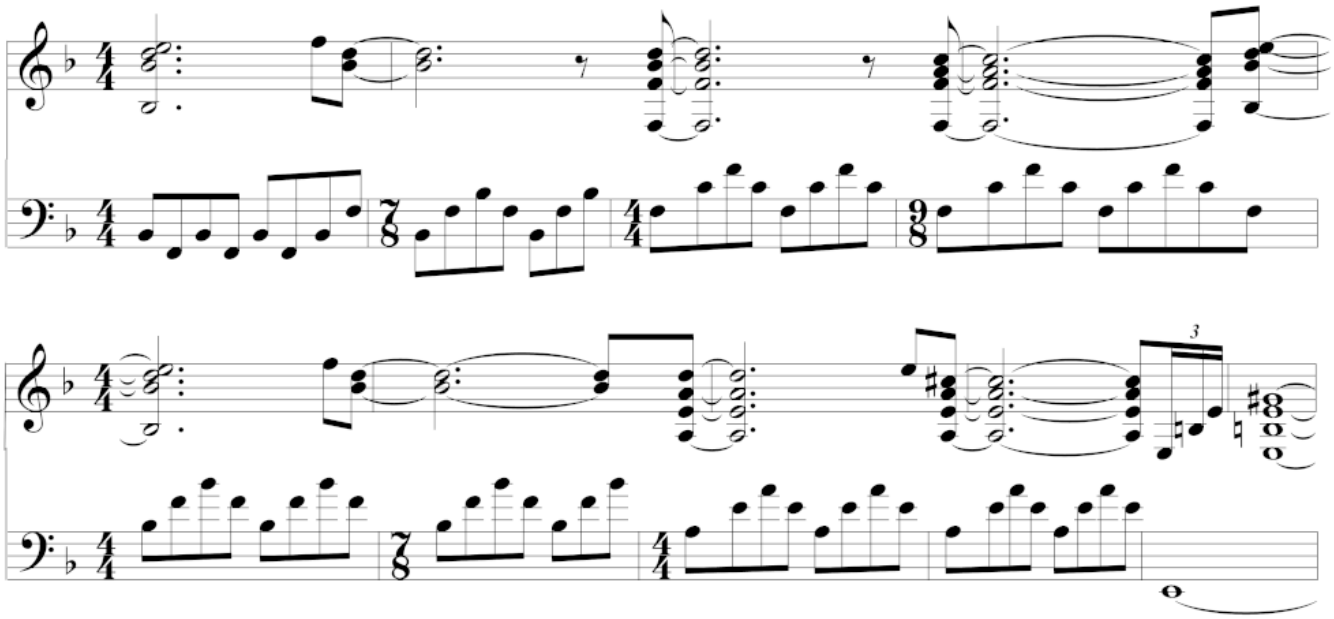
Example 15. Extreme, "Peacemaker Die" (1992, 3:07), beginning of bridge



Example 16. Extreme, "Peacemaker Die" (1992, 4:27), bridge



Example 17. Extreme, "Peacemaker Die" (1992, 4:46), ending of bridge, leading into return of chorus



Example 18. Extreme, “Peacemaker Die,” end of bridge, polymetric interpretation