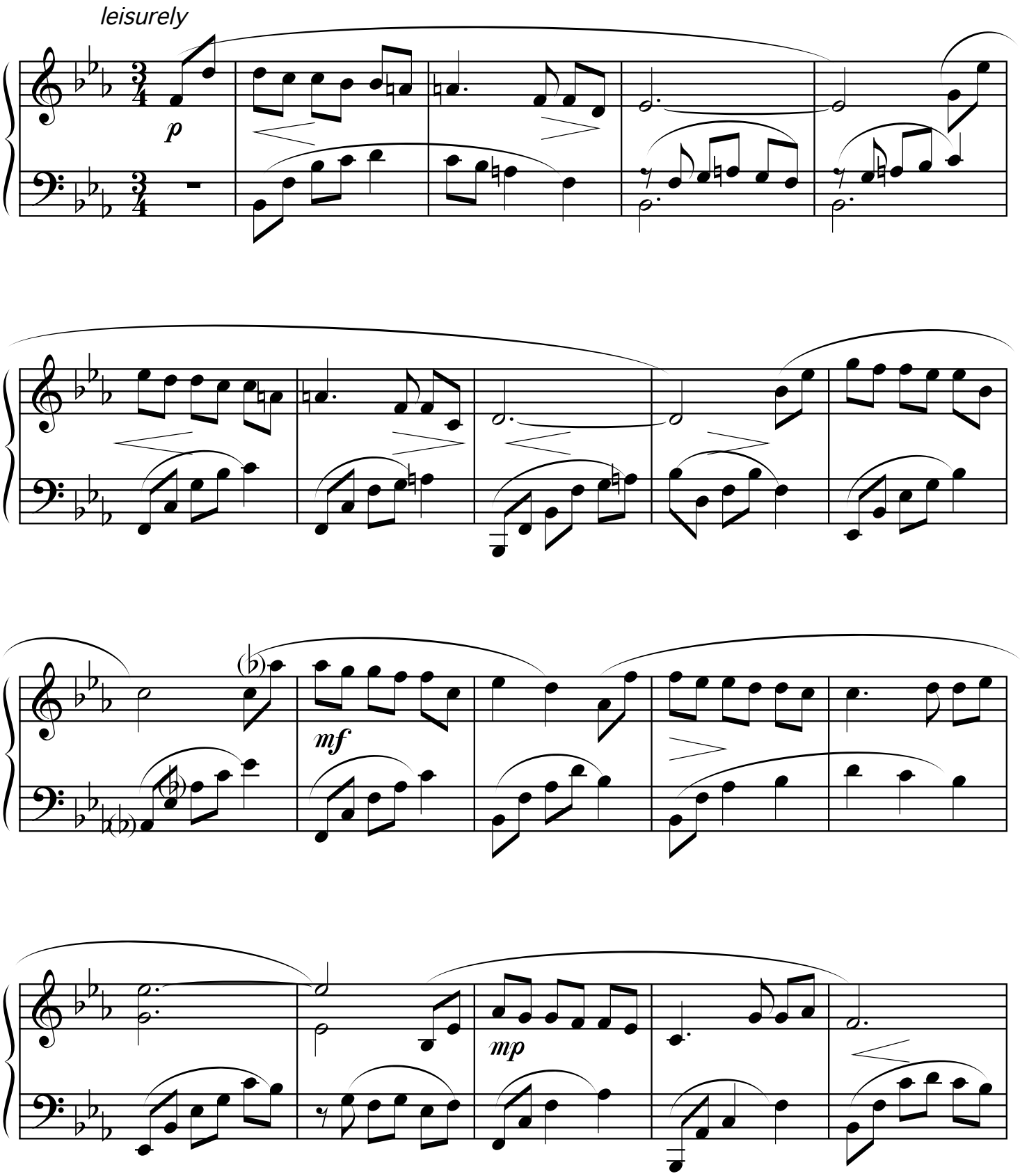
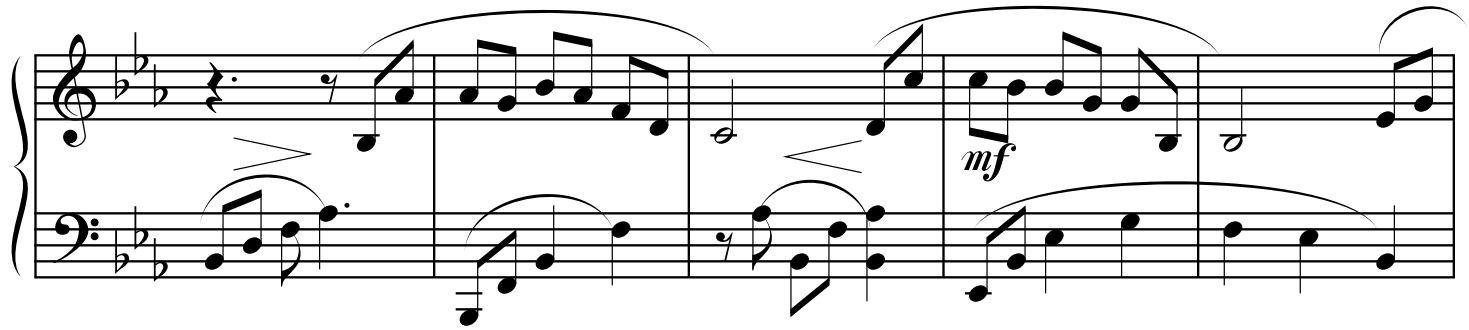
# Drifting Seed

by Leslie B. Wagle
Greensboro, NC 2003

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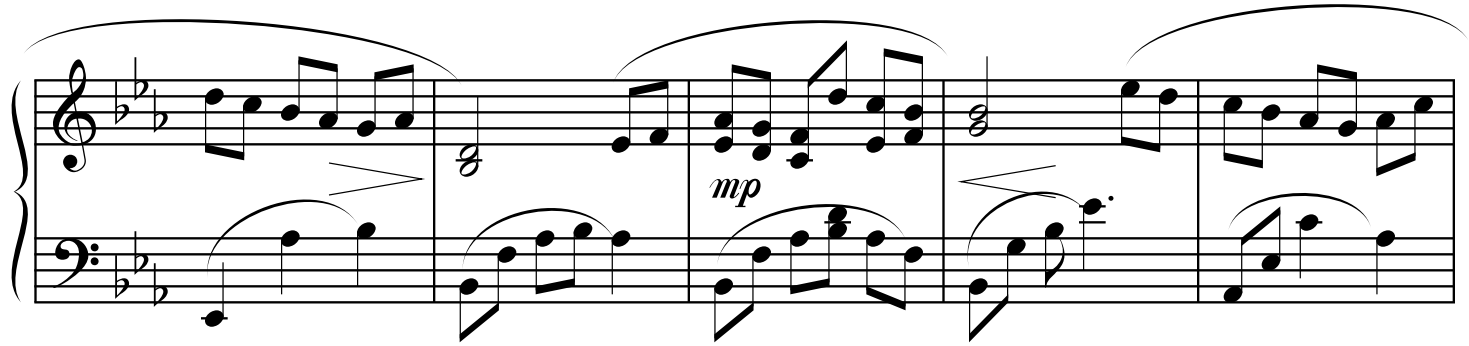
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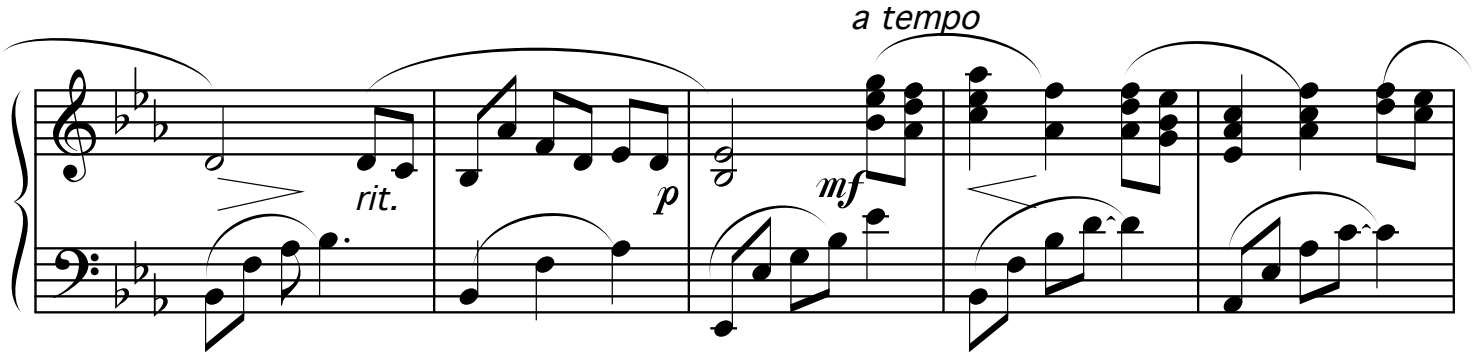
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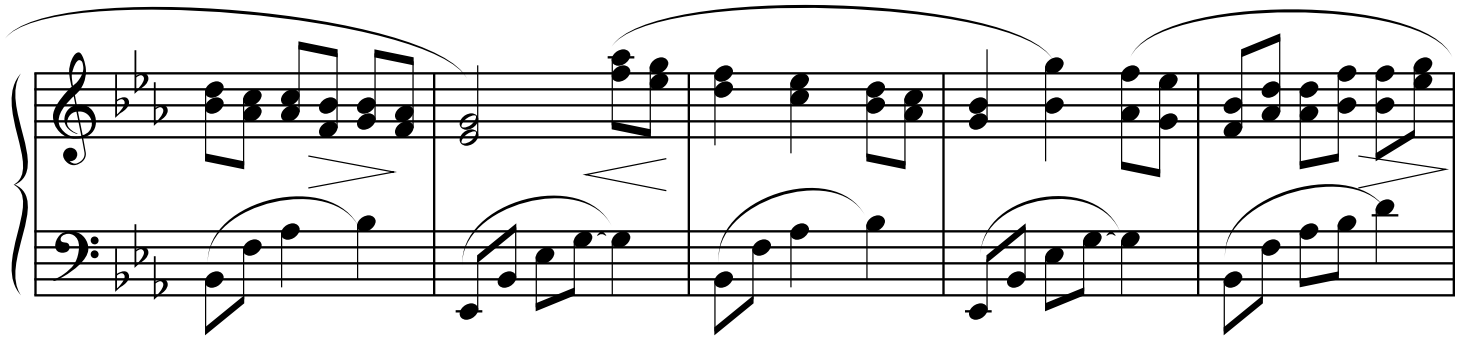

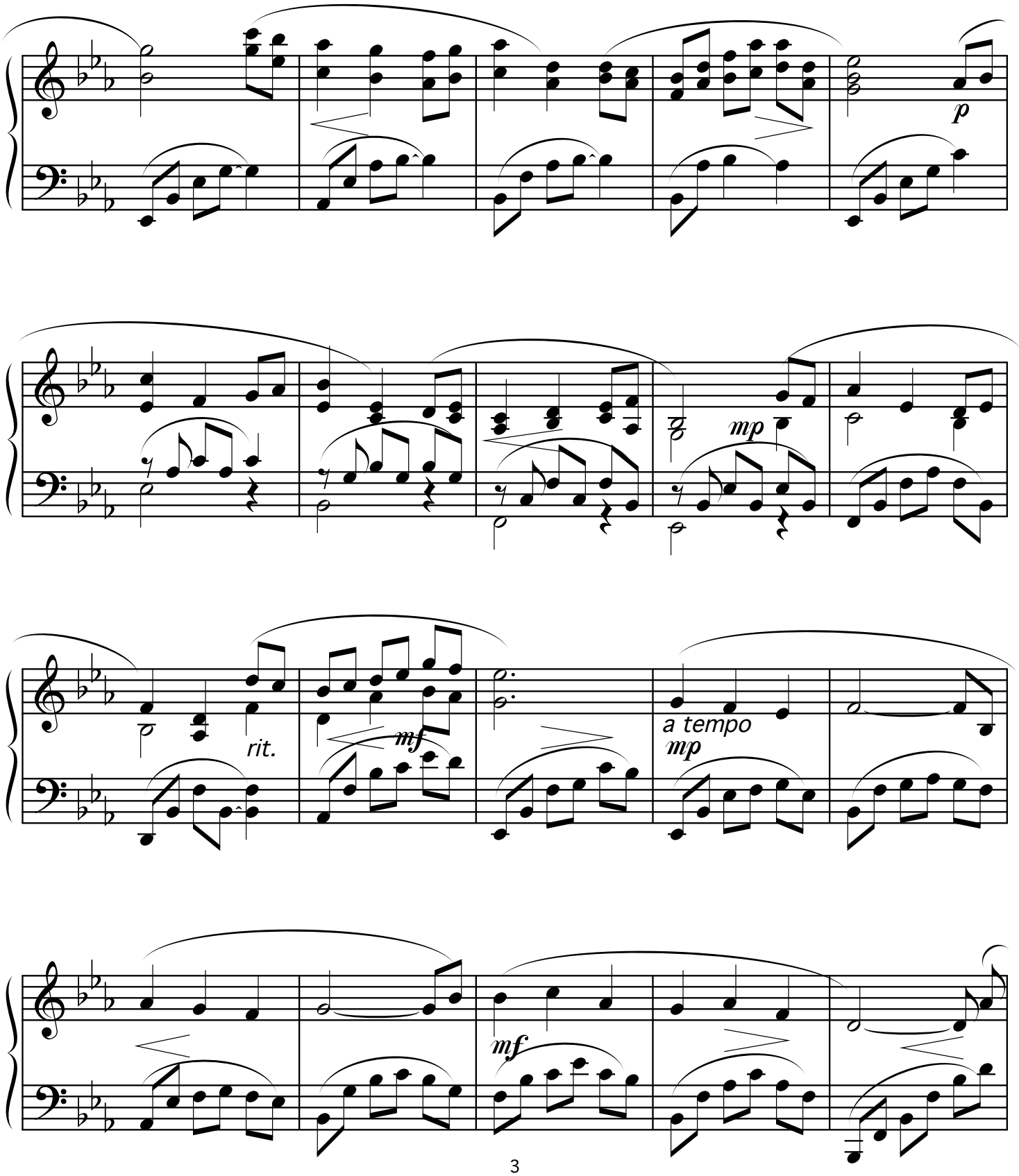
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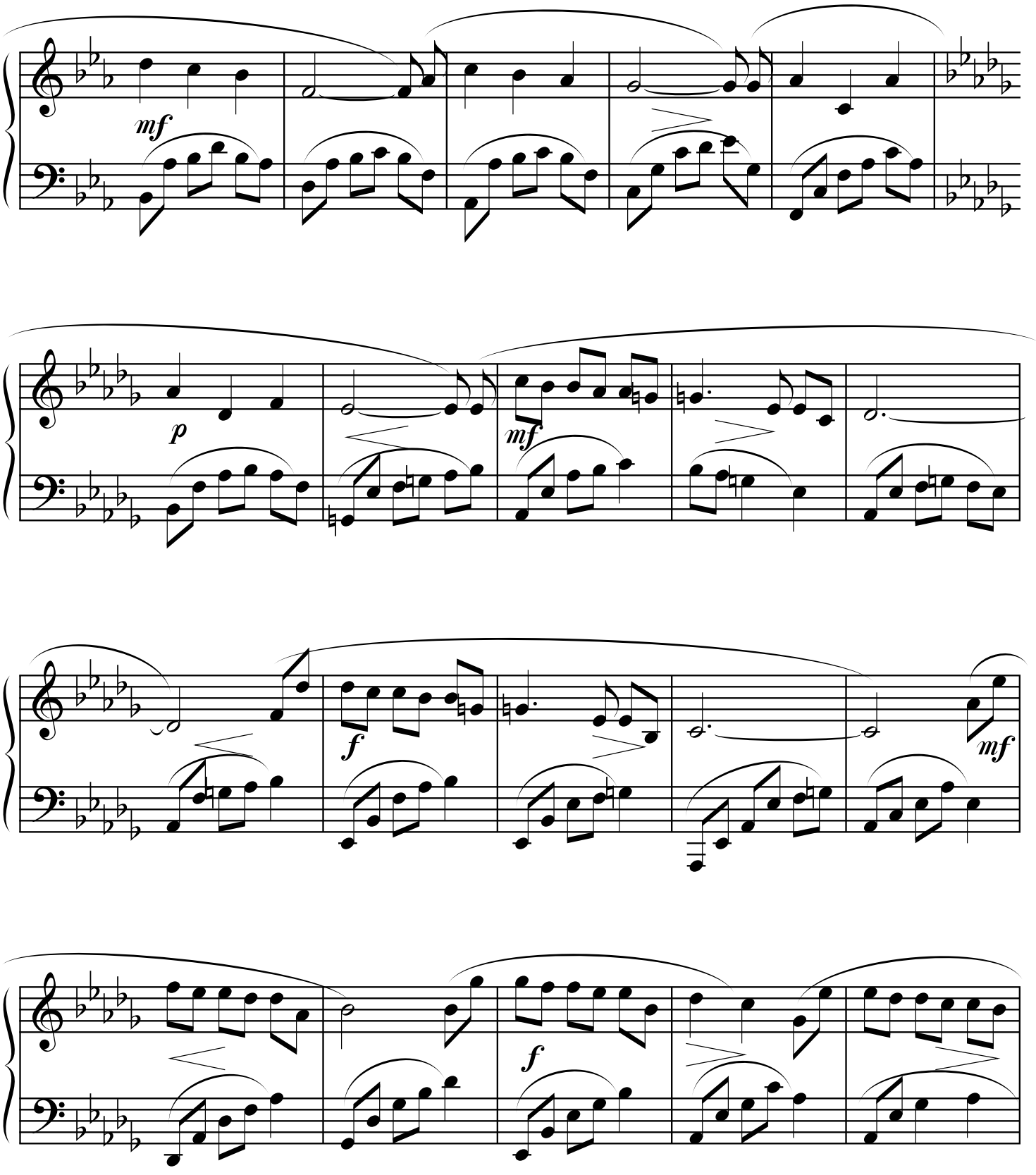
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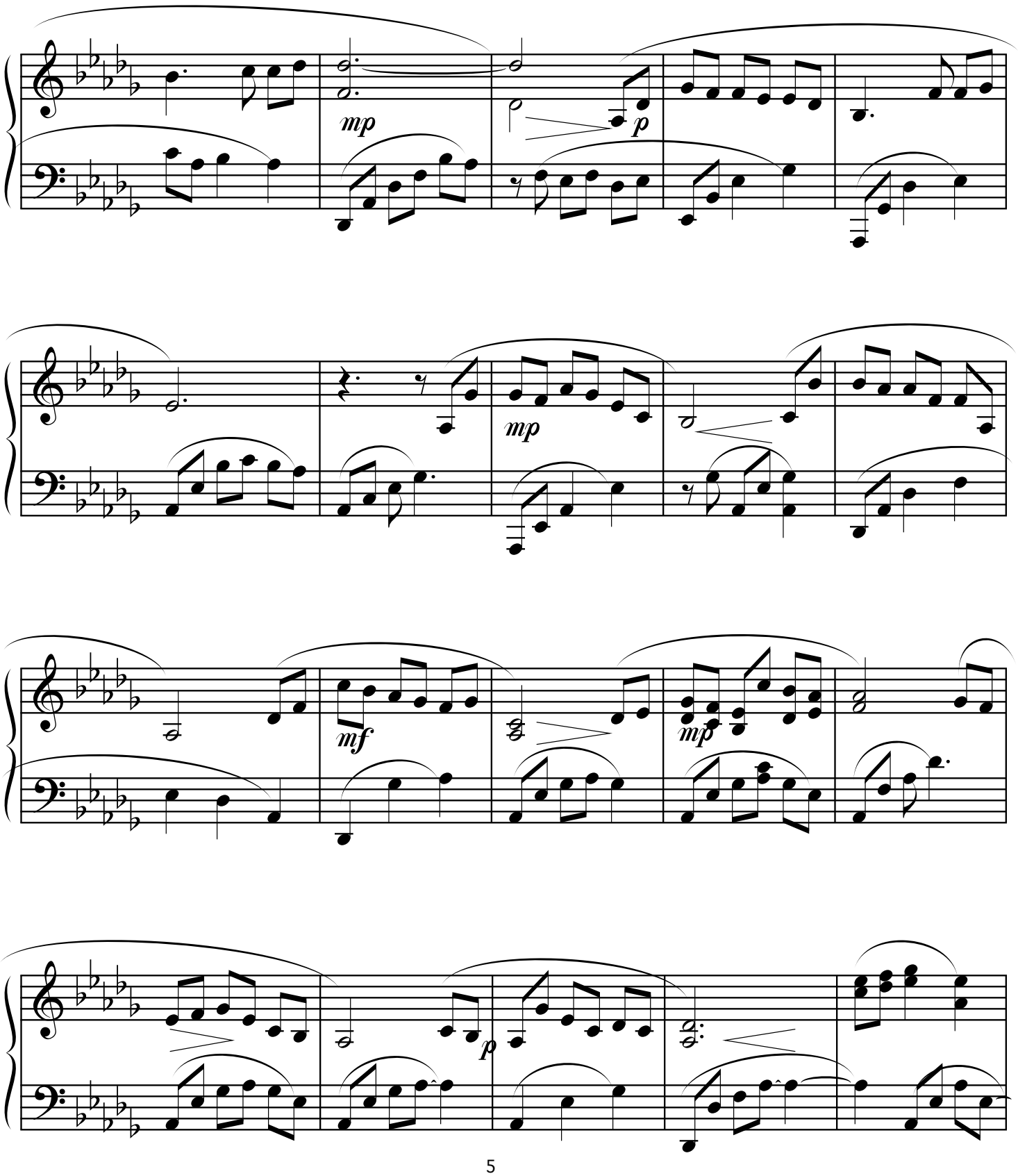
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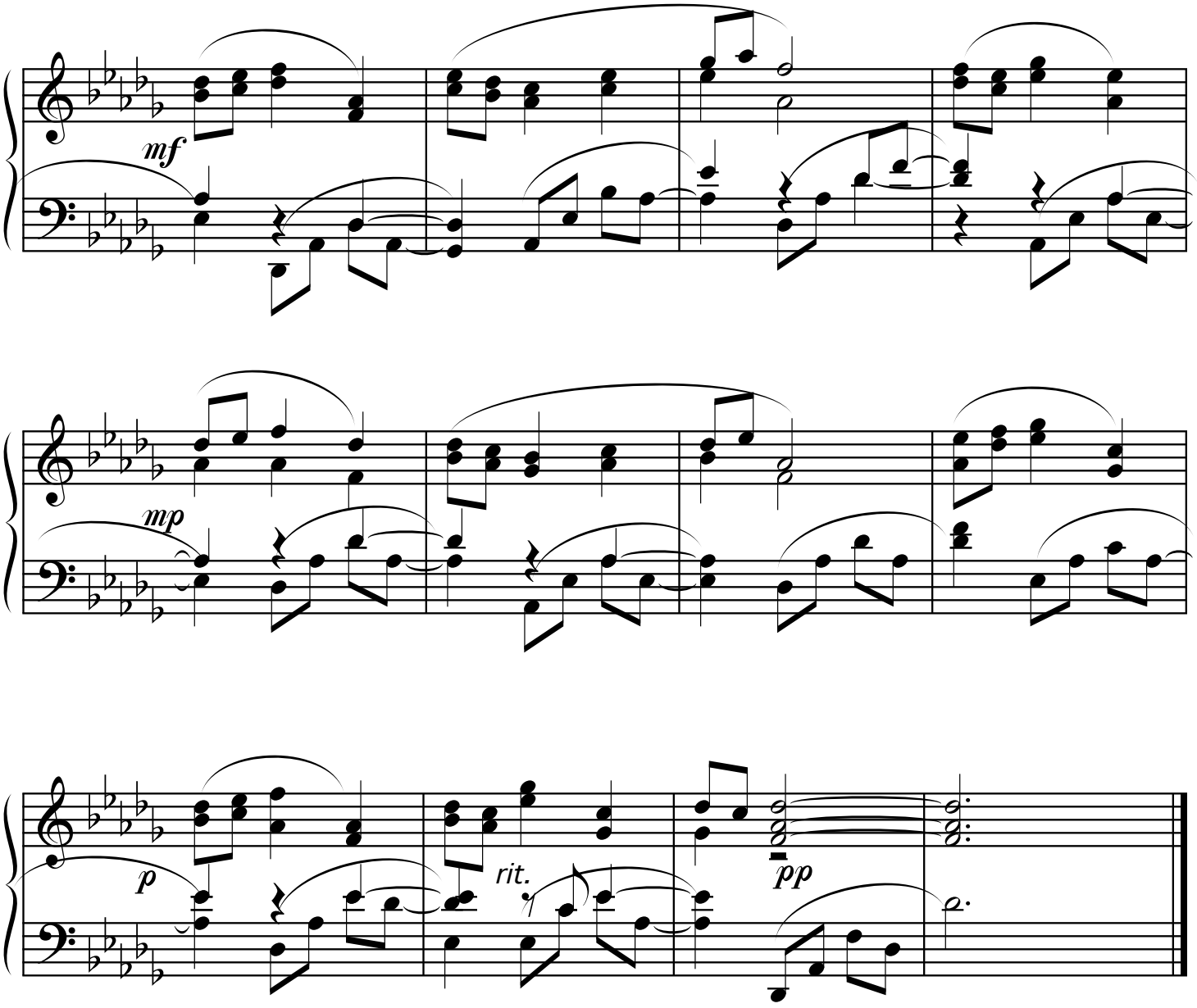




This piece came about after I read about a memorial service in my mother's town of Melbourne, Florida (where my piece called Crane Creek Sunset was also inspired). I did not know her, but Cathie Katz struggled to finish her next book on notecards from a hospital bed. But on Thanksgiving Day, 2001, the "sea bean lady" succumbed to cancer.

A gifted author, artist and naturalist, Cathie was said to see through different eyes looking at the beach. She was editor of a tri-annual newsletter, Drifting Seed, which circulated to 20 countries. Her true passion was for the exotic water-borne "beans" that often start from shores in Africa and South America, and are carried on ocean currents as far away as Scandinavia. She wrote several books that drew clues about the human condition from the natural world. Her next book was to explore the relationship between beaches and spirituality.