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FJH STRING ORCHESTRA

Grade 3.5

THEMES FROM SYMPHONY NO. 3
"EROICA"

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

Arranged by

Robert D. McCashin

Instrumentation

1 - Conductor's Full Score
8 - Violin 1
8 - Violin 2
5 - Violin 3 (Viola T.C.)
5 - Viola
5 - Violoncello
5 - Double Bass

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THE F·J·H MUSIC COMPANY INC.
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The Arranger

Dr. Robert McCashin is the director of orchestras at James Madison University. He serves as Music Director/Conductor for the orchestras and teaches graduate orchestral conducting. Dr. McCashin earned B.M. and M.M. degrees in violin performance from LSU, and a D.M.A. in conducting from the University of Arizona.

Dr. McCashin was previously on the faculties of UT Arlington and Texas Wesleyan University. He was a member of the Fort Worth Symphony and Opera orchestras, and performed extensively as an orchestral and chamber musician throughout the north Texas region. He was founding conductor of the Arlington Youth Symphony, and also served as associate conductor of the Youth Orchestras of Greater Fort Worth.

As a guest conductor and active clinician, Dr. McCashin has spent nearly 35 years working with young string players, elementary through high school. He maintains a busy schedule of conducting at the regional, state, and national levels. His conducting appearances include professional regional orchestras as well as regional and all-state honor orchestras. Dr. McCashin served two terms as founding president of the College Orchestra Directors Association and has been a board member for the Virginia ASTA organization.

About the Music

The subtitle *Eroica* is the Italian word for "heroic." One can certainly hear the strong and assertive character of this work with the two bold chords right from the start. The chords, in fact, are the foundation from which the themes for the entire movement awaken. The key of E♭ major also gives depth and strength to its melodic and harmonic content.

Eroica is nearly twice the length of the standard Classical symphony, as those written by Mozart and Haydn, for instance. As such, many have pointed to this work as the beginning of a new path for Beethoven, and thus, a bold extension upon Viennese classicism and a move toward the Romantic period. It was written mostly in 1803, with final completion the following year.

This arrangement is based on the first theme of the symphony, which is born in the low string voices, but soon gives way to full-throttle strings. Toscanini, a famous conductor, once said of this first movement, "To some, it is Napoleon, to some, it is a philosophical struggle, but to me, it is Allegro con brio!"

Beethoven's *Eroica* provides teachers and directors the perfect doorway into the exploration of the symphony's historical connections to Napoleon Bonaparte, as well as into the field of musical composition, where the use of contrary motion and counterpoint are used as popular compositional devices.

String Editing: Dr. Robert D. McCashin

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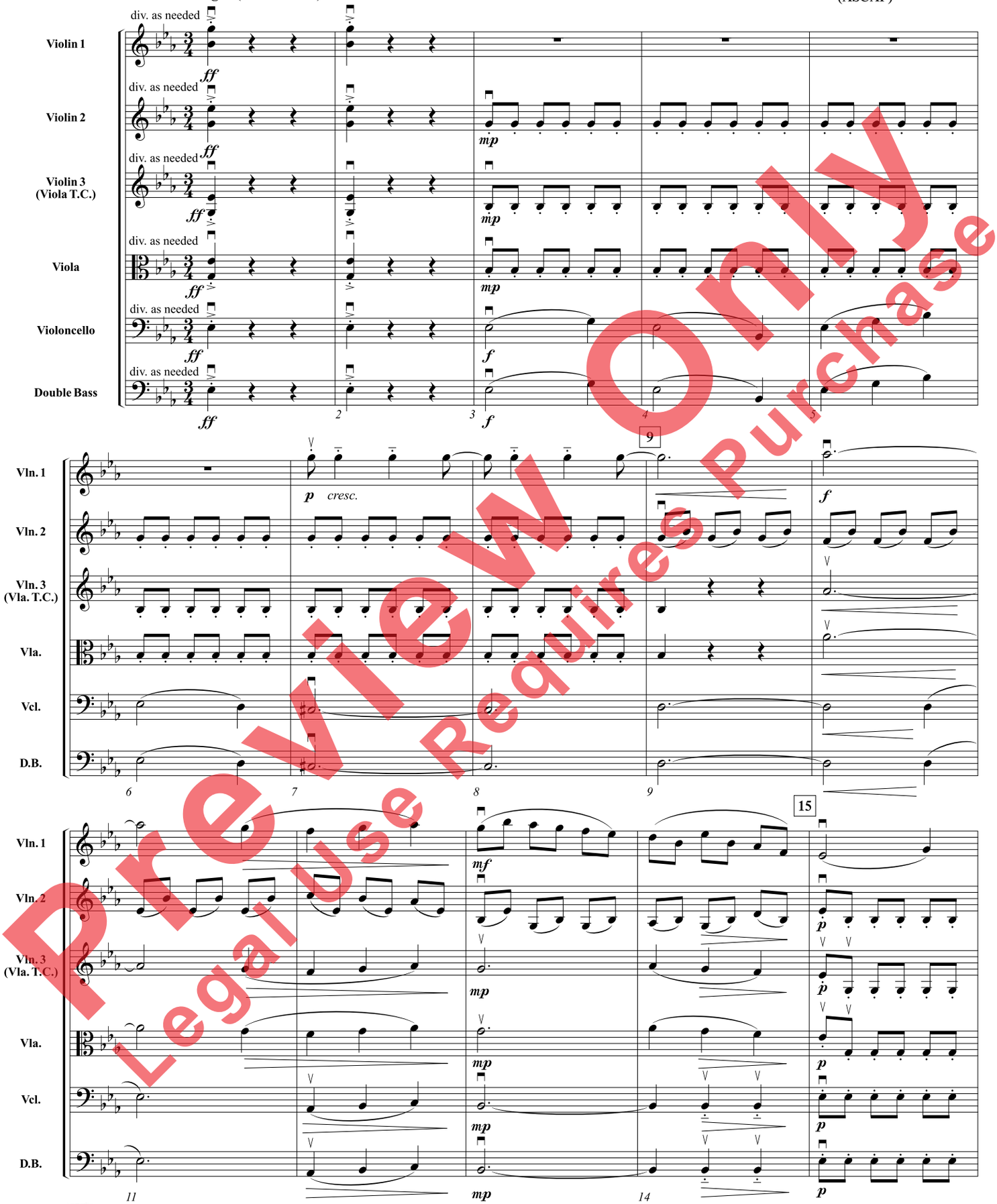
Duration: 3:00

THEMES FROM SYMPHONY NO. 3

"Eroica"

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN
Arranged by
ROBERT D. McCASHIN
(ASCAP)

Allegro (♩ = 116 – 120)



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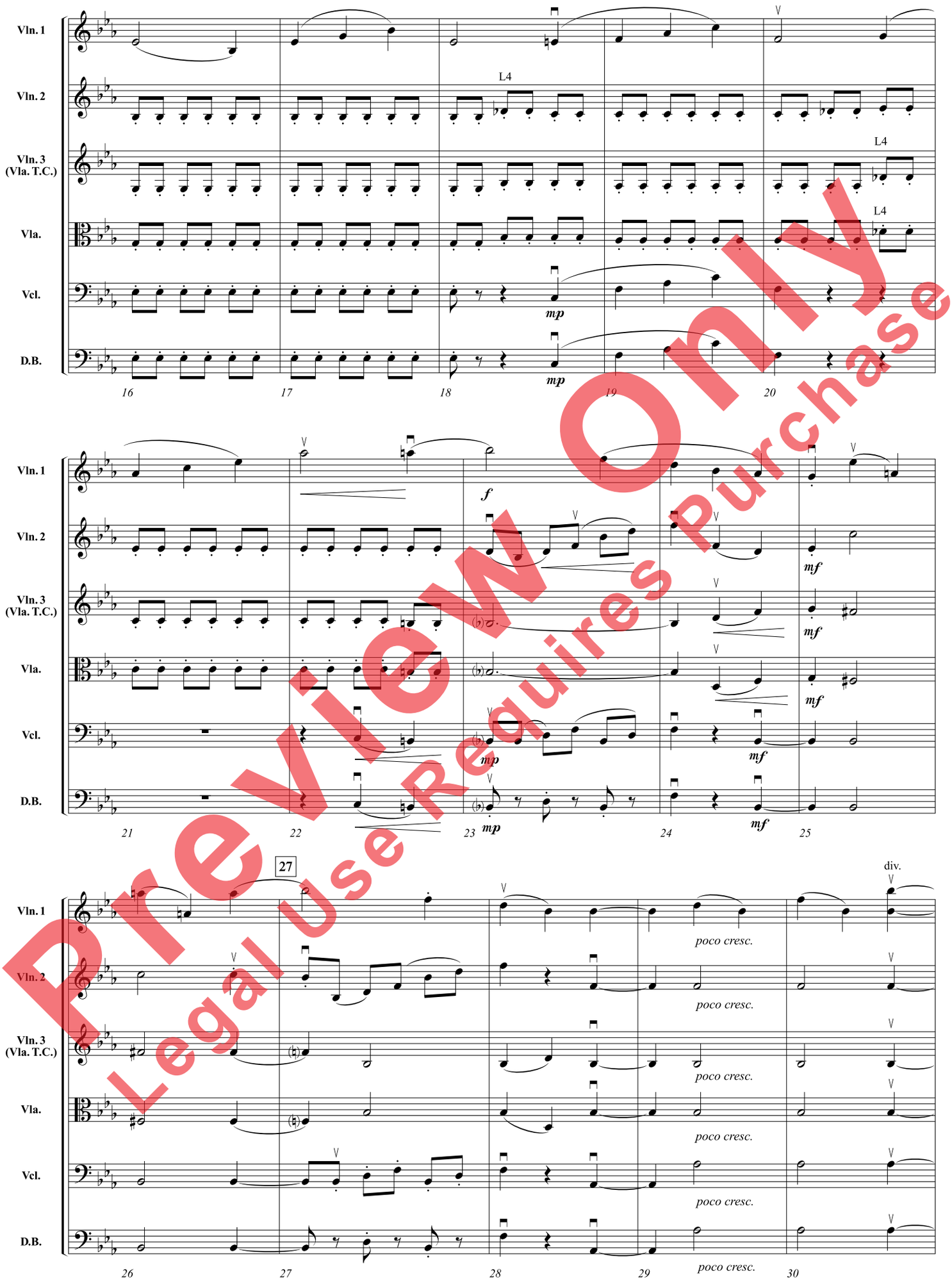

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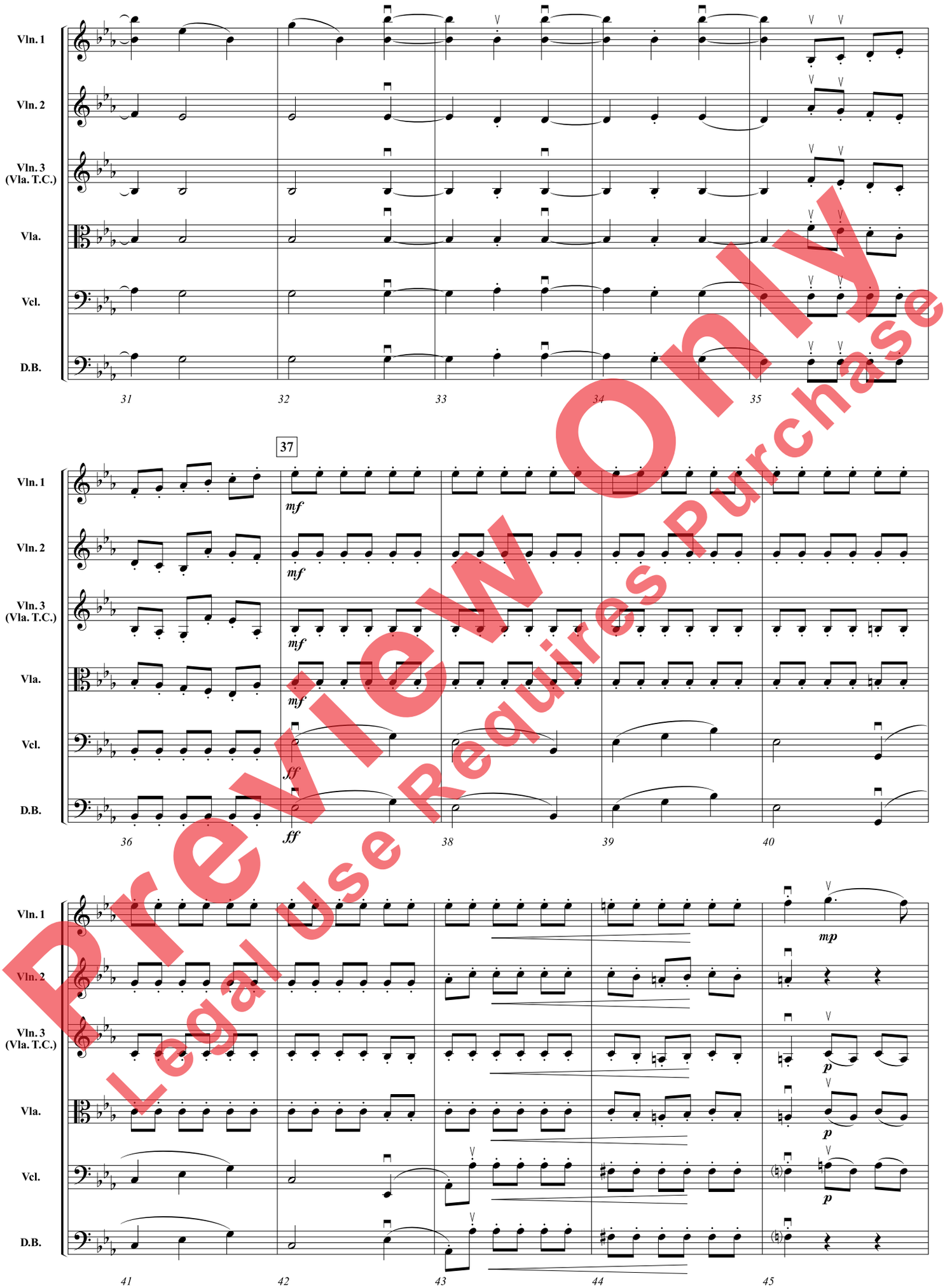

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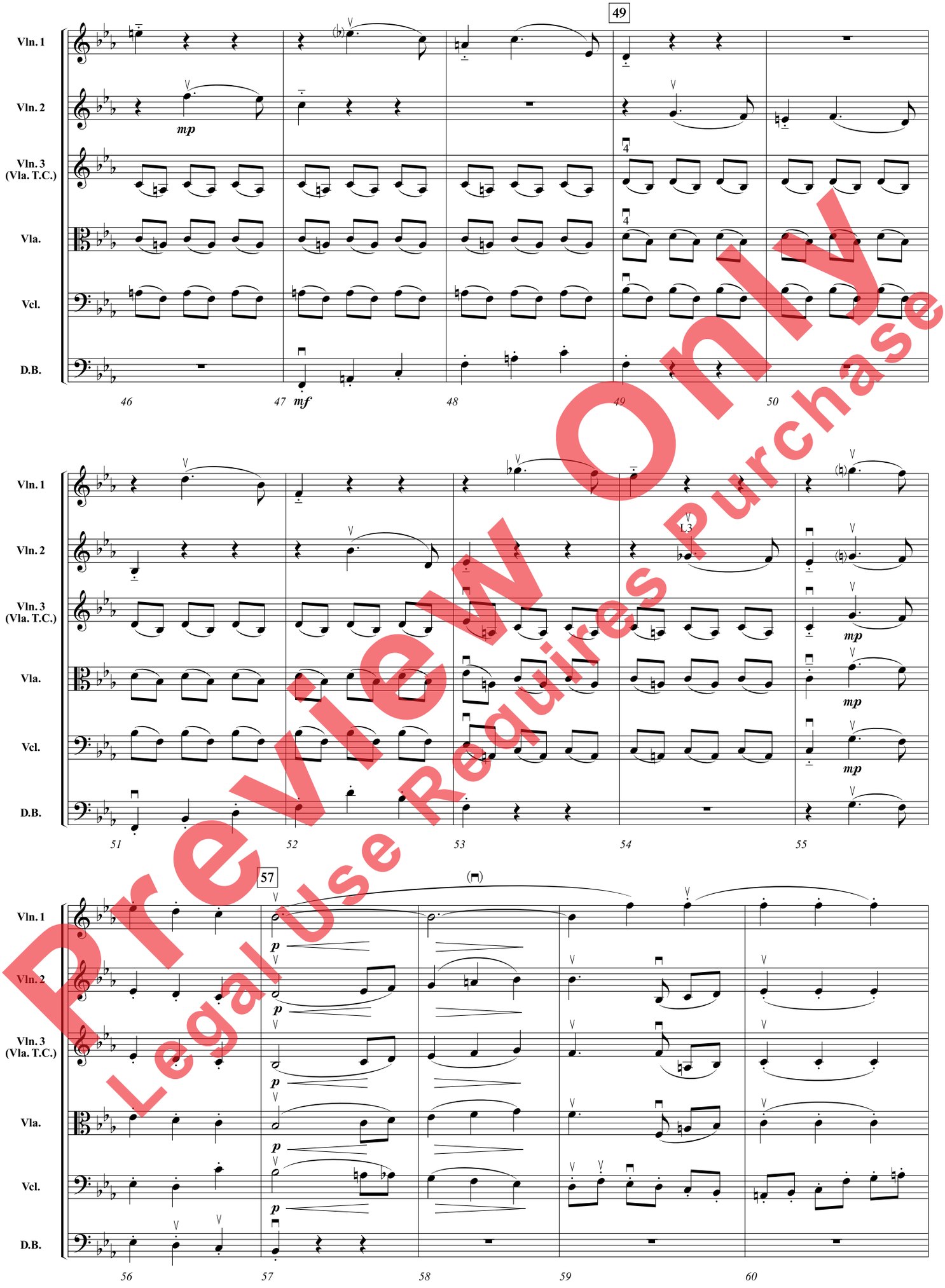

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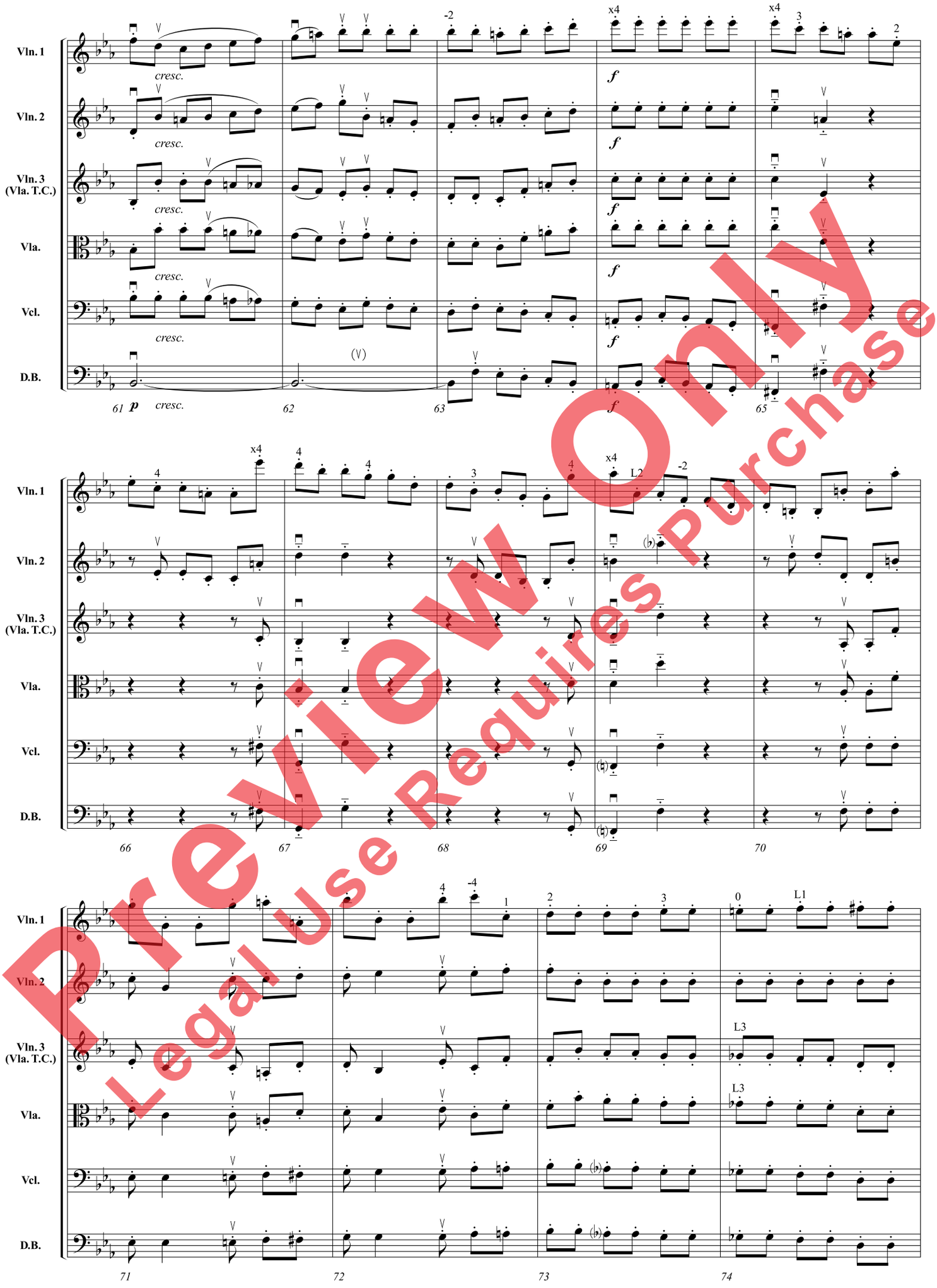

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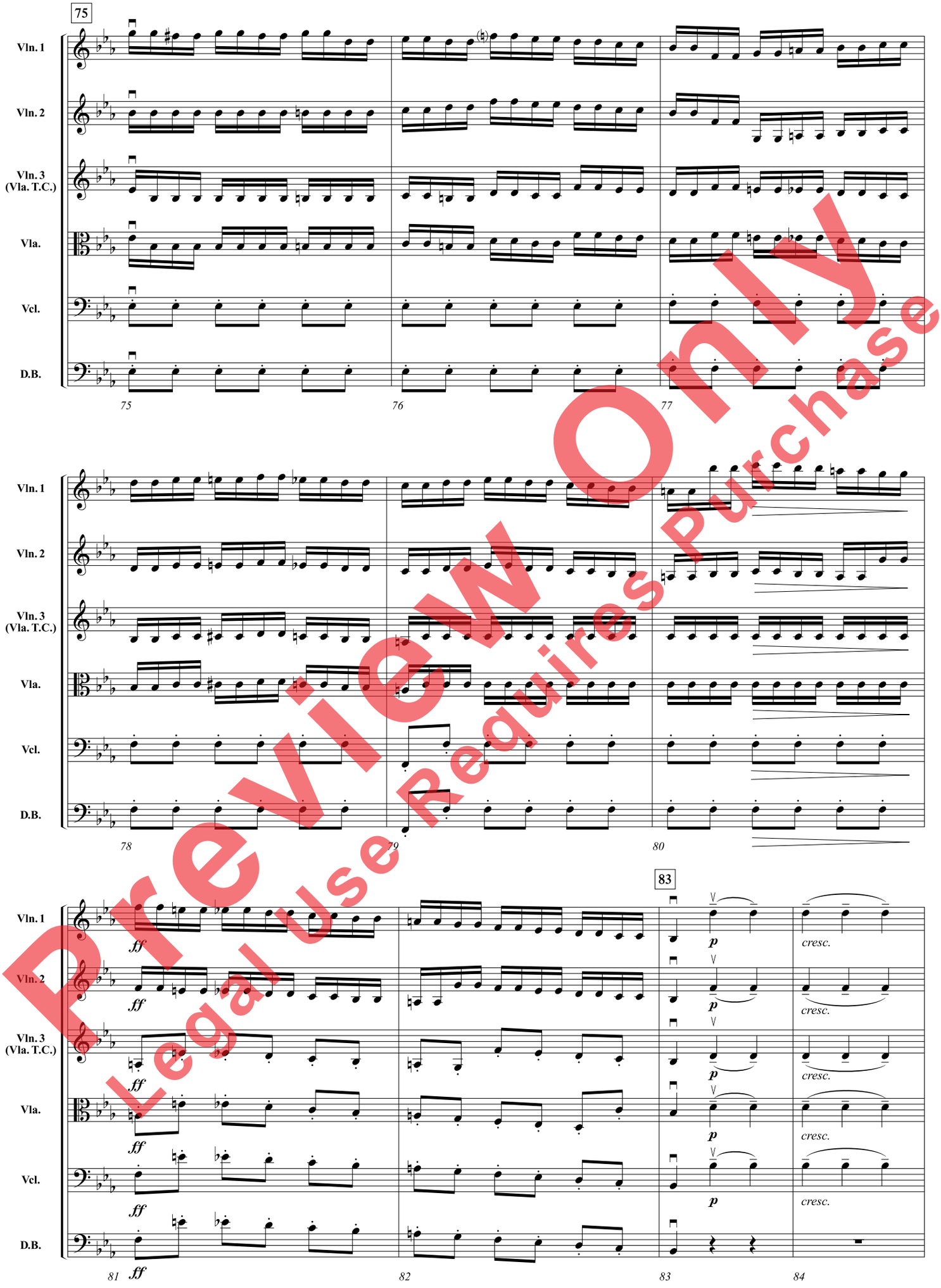

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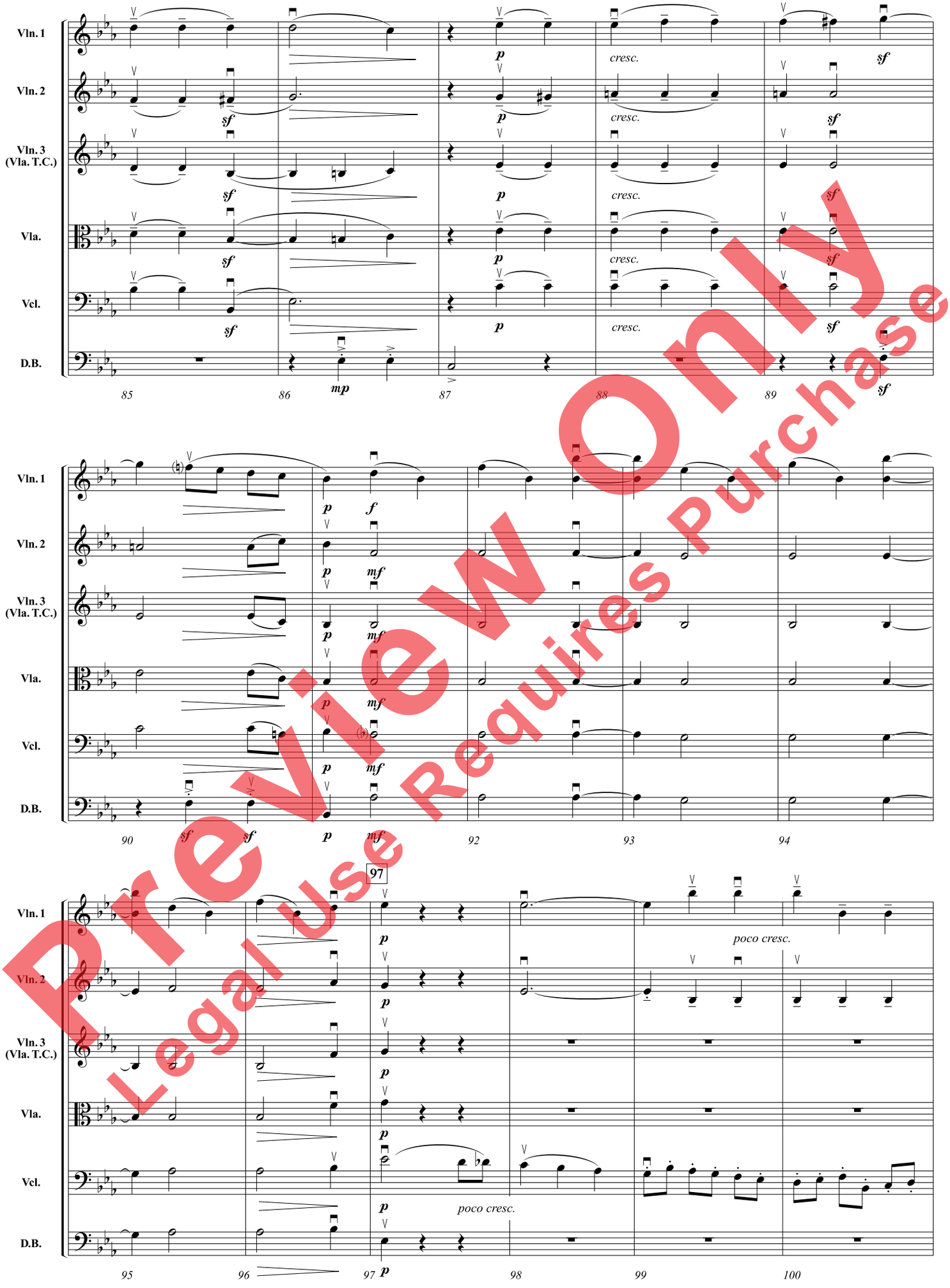

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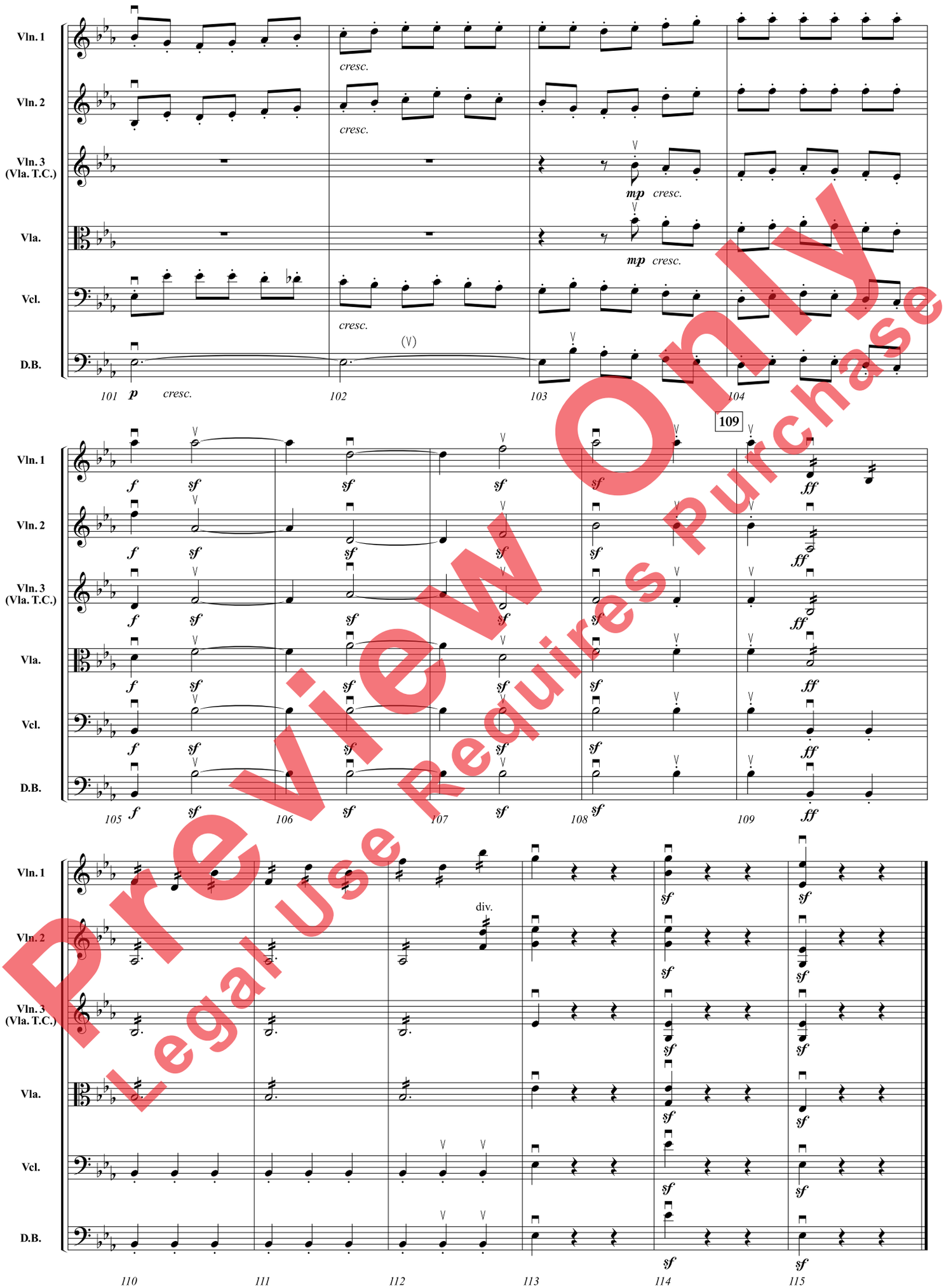

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