loss puzzles #3

prayers and LISTS

for piano trio



John Andrew Wilhite-Hannisdal in collaboration with manuel arturo abreu

july-march 2020-21

now on that smile there are teardrops / ocean their cries / i leak out through a hole in the discourse / from this frugal itchy room the wind sounds like long vowels / change is a foot / dale la limona a papá legbá / when you cross your fingers be gentle /

el monte / born on the vantage point of evidence / uña de gato / air shadow / uña de perico / airhorn orchestra / la culebra tiene ojos de vidrio / mystic dialtone / invented god in 1980 /

en los guandules te espero / la tambora guarda un secreto enorme / impossible colors or forbidden colors / dewclaw / punta firma / a painted howl scrapes the cloud /

with center everywhere and circumference nowhere / we find proof of your broken promise /

what does it mean for a prophecy to come true in reverse / the weeping archive empties out the holy / we are stronger than paradise /

like perfect lovers the clocks always unsync / within us the endless dead are waking a likeness /

Jonathan Franzen age 7, getting a lollipop from his doctor. Jonathan Franzen age 7, eating Swedish meatballs or something. Jonathan Franzen age 10, rereading the Narnia books every month. Jonathan Franzen as a tween afraid of his first erection. Jonathan Franzen as a tween getting his first pair of glasses. Jonathan Franzen age 15, popping pimples in a mirror for 2 hours. Jonathan Franzen age 15, wondering if anyone will ever want to touch him. Jonathan Franzen age 15, getting the mail for his mom. Jonathan Franzen age 17, wondering if he could pull off a peacoat. Jonathan Franzen age 18, encouraging people to call him 'the Franz.' Jonathan Franzen age 19, losing his virginity and crying. Jonathan Franzen age 20, meeting Michael Martone. Jonathan Franzen in his 20's, getting lost in Munich. Jonathan Franzen in his 20's, aware of his chronic low-grade depression. Jonathan Franzen age 23, getting married in rueful sunset. Jonathan Franzen age 25, pretending to have read Moby-Dick in conversation. Jonathan Franzen age 32, re reading The Great Gatsby for the 6th time. Jonathan Franzen age 35, buying Irish Spring soap at CVS. Jonathan Franzen age 40, subsisting almost entirely on sadness. Jonathan Franzen age 40 on 81st and Madison debating smoking a cigarette. Jonathan Franzen age 51, saying "you have to love before you can be relentless." Jonathan Franzen age 51, getting his

glasses stolen and ransomed for \$100,000.

If The City did not mean New York did not mean Manhattan was not a Native Algonquin name.

If un-sending email was the same as sending it backwards.

If an object is separate from the perception of its attributes.

If the circumference of my world would never, ever be bigger than that of my own wrist.

If Wittgenstein explained himself.

If talking is always exactly the same as being on television.

If language was a revolutionary act of nonsense.

-manuel arturo abreu (ed. J.A.W-H)

Notes for performers:

Text:

Each movement of this piece is accompanied by a voice. In movements one and three, the text recited by this voice is found over the instrument staves, and in the middle movement the voice's text is positioned between instrumental phrases. If the author is not available to perform with the trio, then a recording of his voice will be played at the correct times. The composer or designated technician can play the voice, or a midi-trigger can be set up for one of the performers.

Usually, the positioning of the text is approximate according to the notes being played. The notes should only be played exactly with the text if there is a vertical line connecting them



Pauses:

In movements one and three there are commas between notes with approximate durations given. This marks the amount of time between notes. In passages where multiple musicians are playing simultaneously, one musician should lead, and it is normal that in these passages, the rhythms become more "regular". Given that the space between the notes is determined by these commas, note values, such as whole, quarter, eighth have only "relative" meaning—long, short, shorter.



The second movement:

In the second movement, the rhythms are "in time" according to the tempo notated before each measure.

The music is frequently interrupted by the voice, and resumes just before the voice is finished reading the text shown. Music and text should constantly interrupt eachother.

Technical notes for violin and cello:

In the first movement of the piece there are a number of triple stops.

These should be played with all three notes sounding simultaneously. This is possible if one plays ultra-sul-tasto. There is a point where — the middle string being held down — there is an even plane across all three strings. This point is where the bow should be positioned.

Throughout the movement, both instruments should play ultra-tasto for all sustained pitches, except when there is an indication that the triple stop should be arpeggiated. When chords are arpeggiated, the top two notes should both still be sustained. Arpeggiated notes are not to be played sul-tasto.

If a smooth sound cannot be achieved with a triple stop, a performer can substitute a double stop. String players should inform eachother when they will do this, so that the players can agree which pitches to play (such that no pitches are left out). The fragile ultra-tasto sound should be maintained when playing the double-stop substitutions.

The strings each note should be played on were not indicated because generally there is only one possible fingering for each chord. String numbers can be supplied if the notation is confusing.

Vln.

Ve.

| State | S

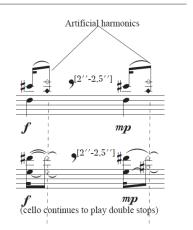
For the notation of the chords, instead of diamond note-heads, I opted to mark harmonics by placing a circle above note that should be a harmonic, even if the sounding pitch is not necessarily the pitch written.

Release to flageolet (let ring, lifting bow from string)

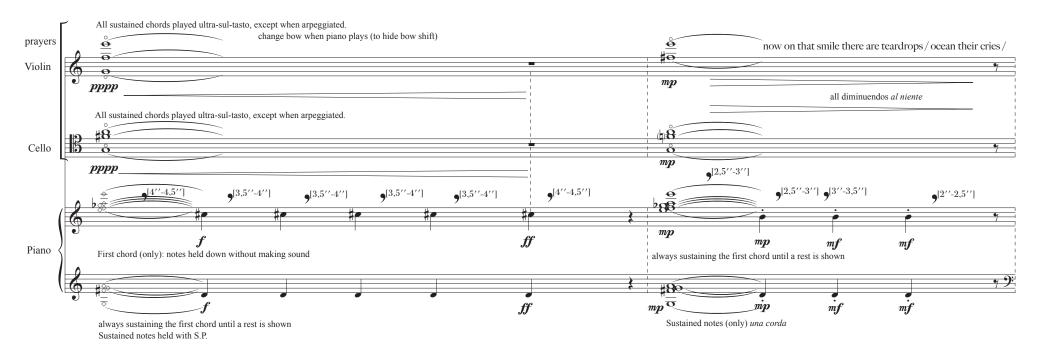
Diamond note heads are used to mark "release to harmonics". This means that the performer should released the stopped notes from the fingerboard, but leave their fingers on the strings for a moment such that the harmonics sound. Fingers can then be removed such that the string resonates freely at the pitch of the harmonic. These are double stops unless notated with a black notehead on the lower pitch.

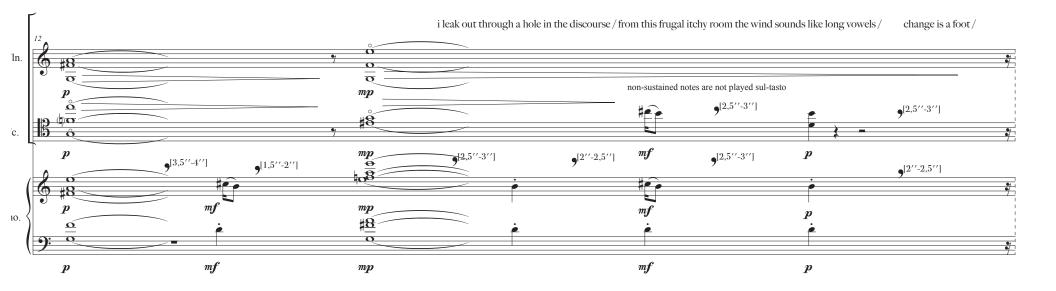
There are only 2 artificial harmonics written in this piece (both in the violin at the end of the first system on page 6.)

Best wishes, John Andrew

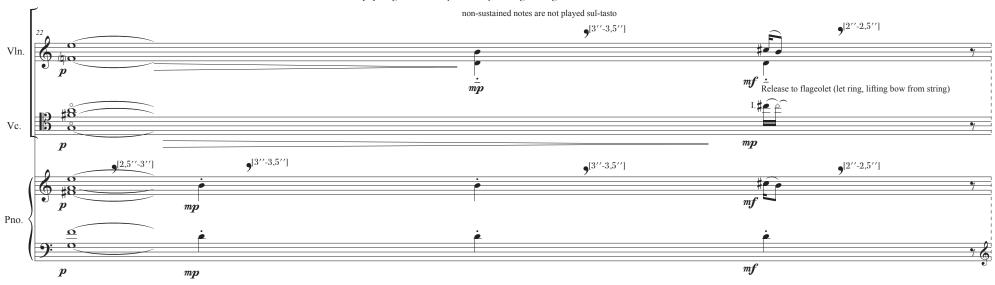


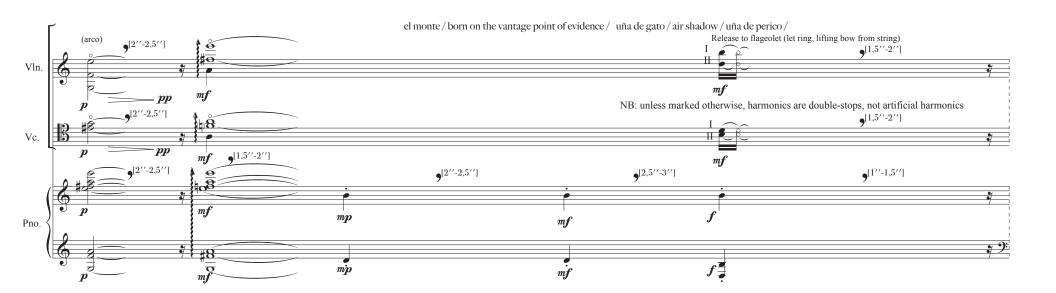
i. prayers

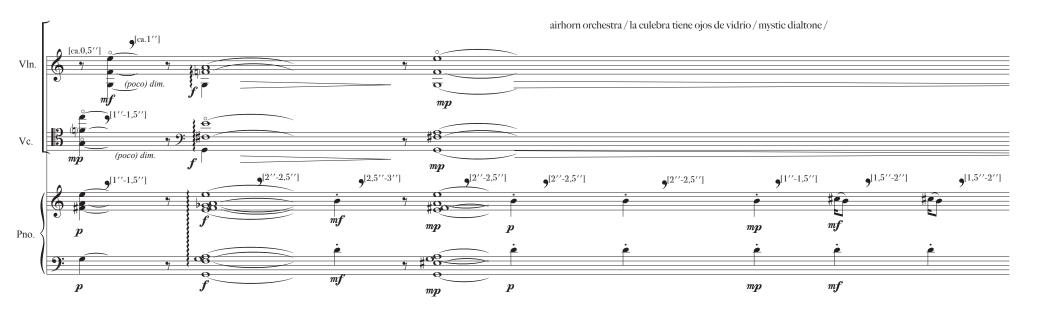


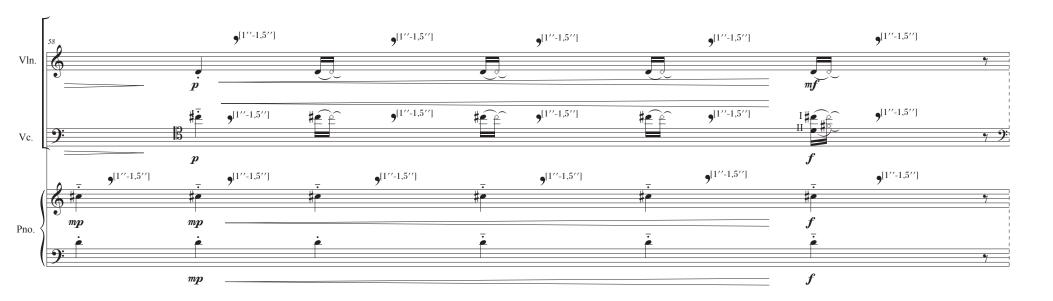


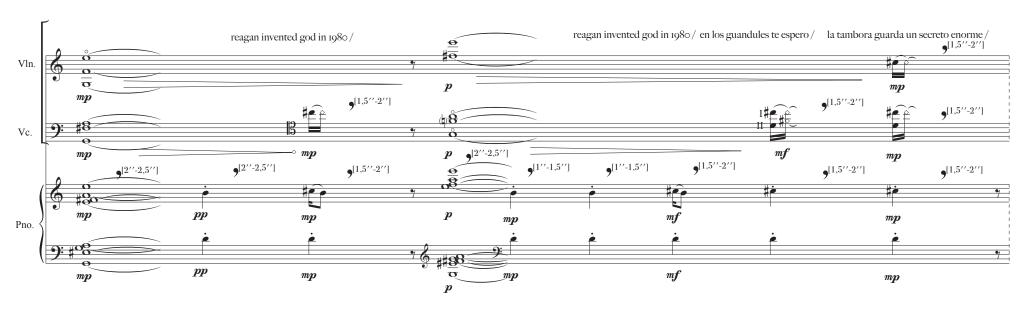
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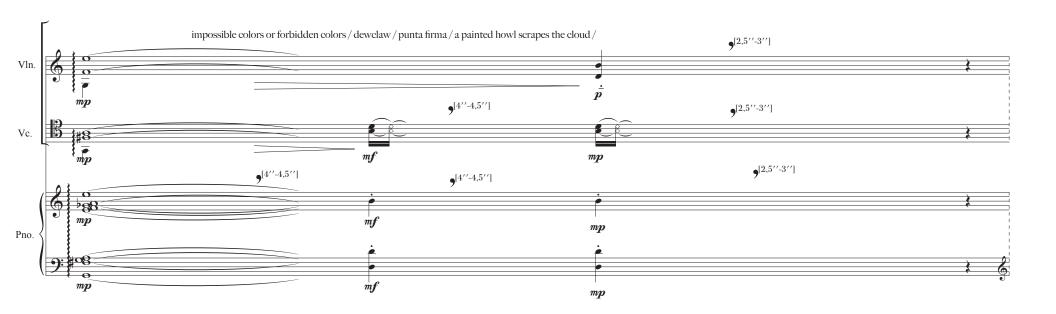


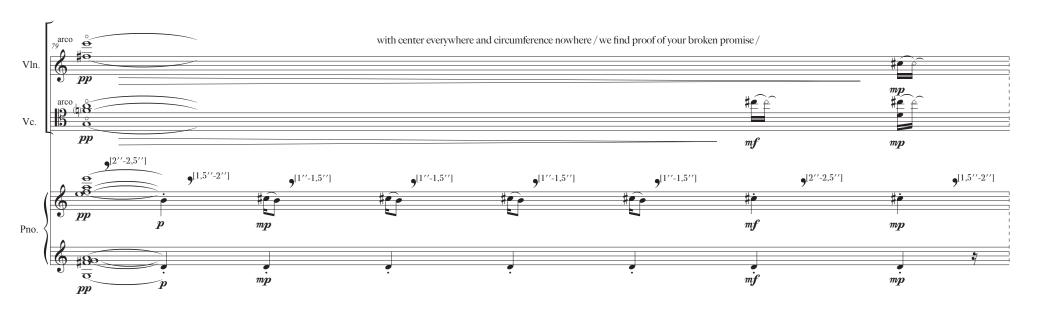




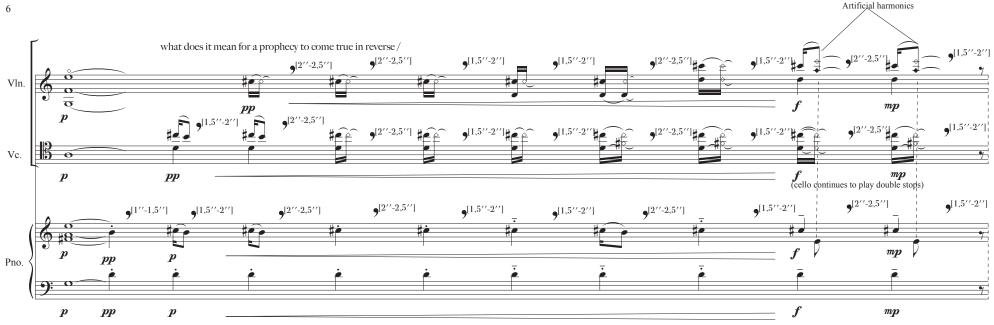


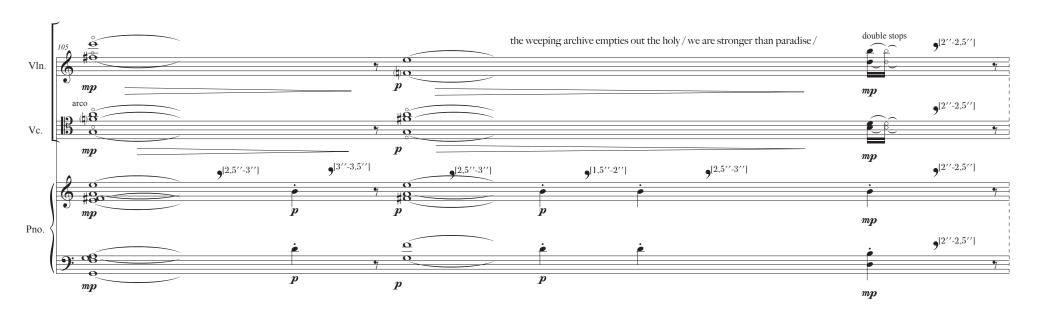


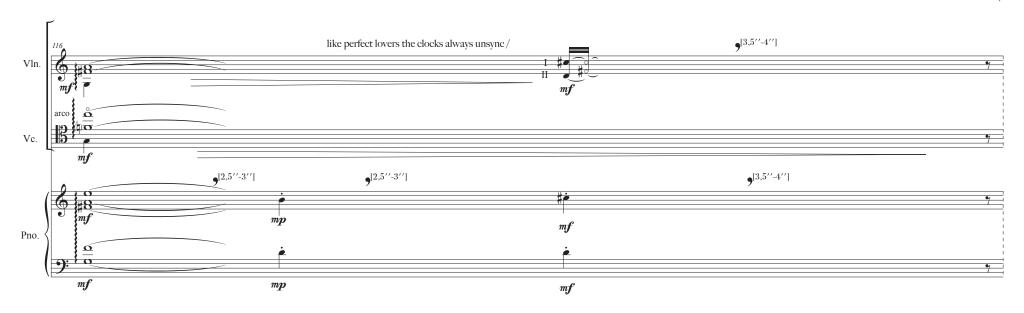


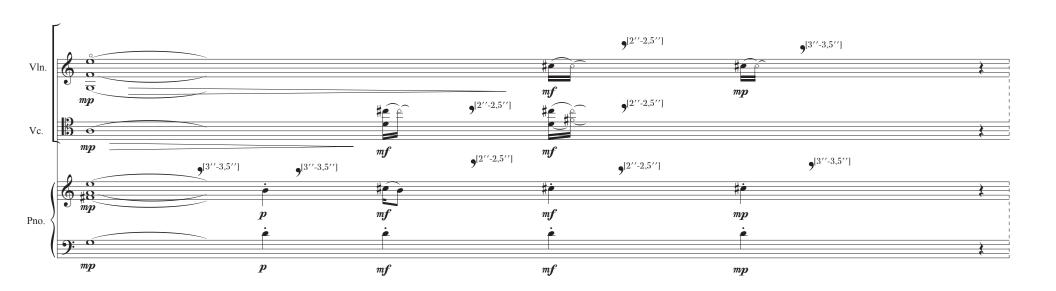


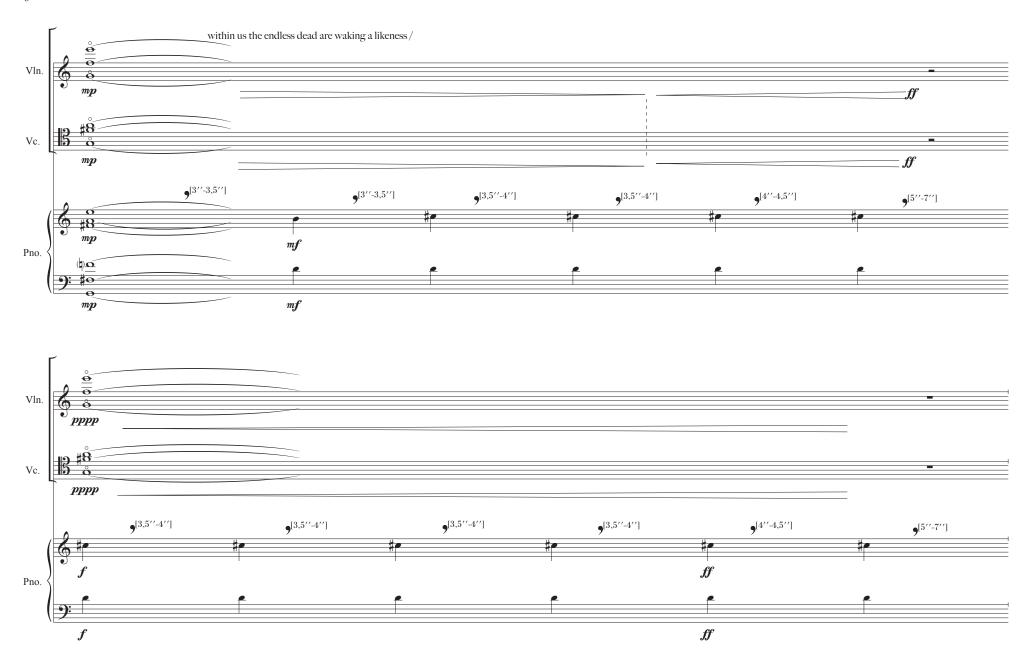




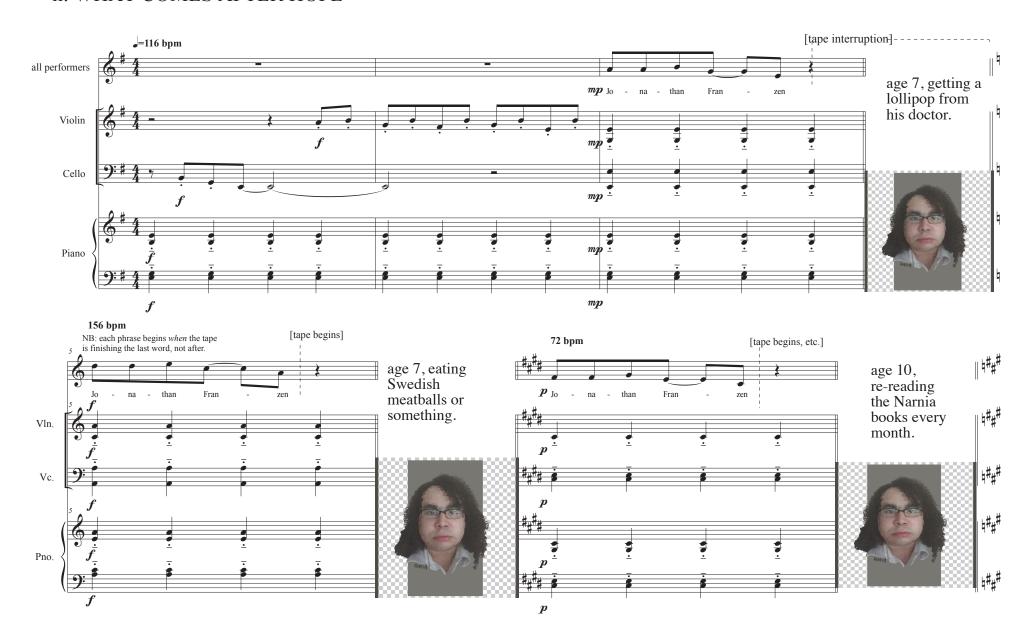


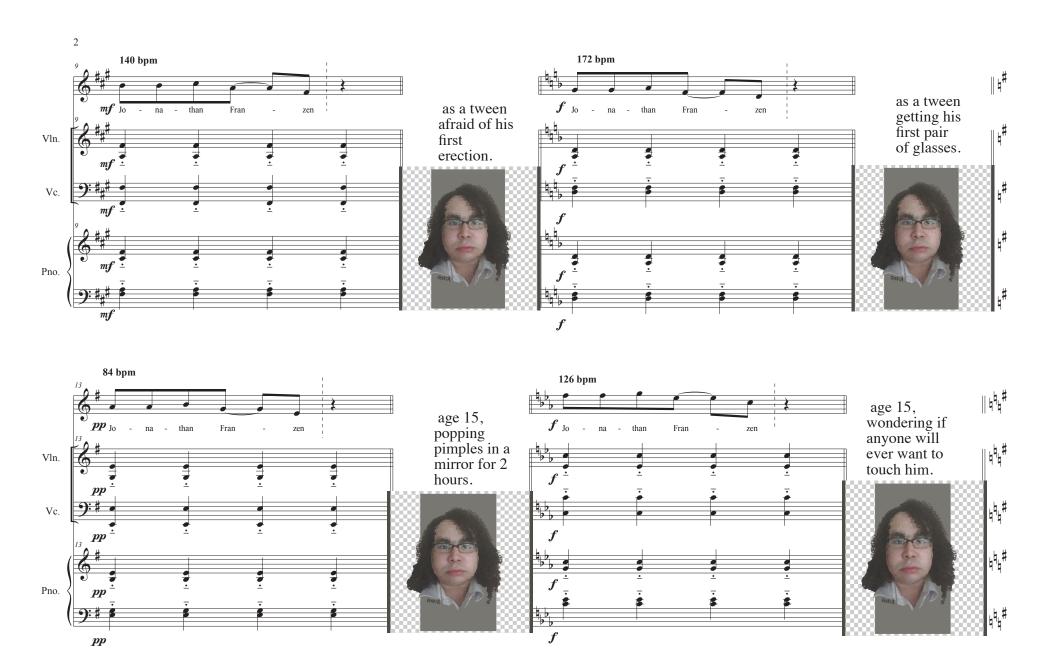


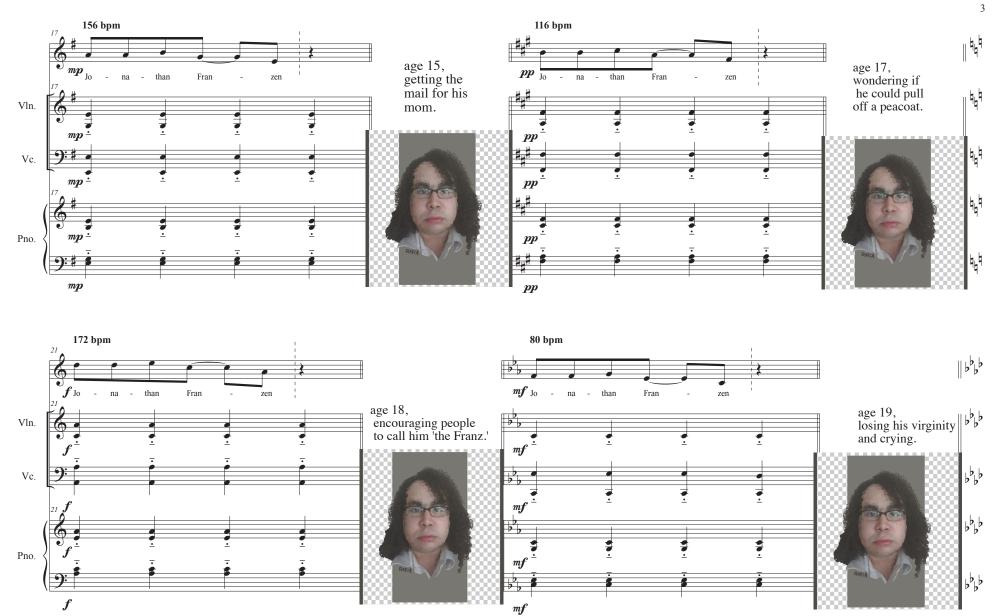


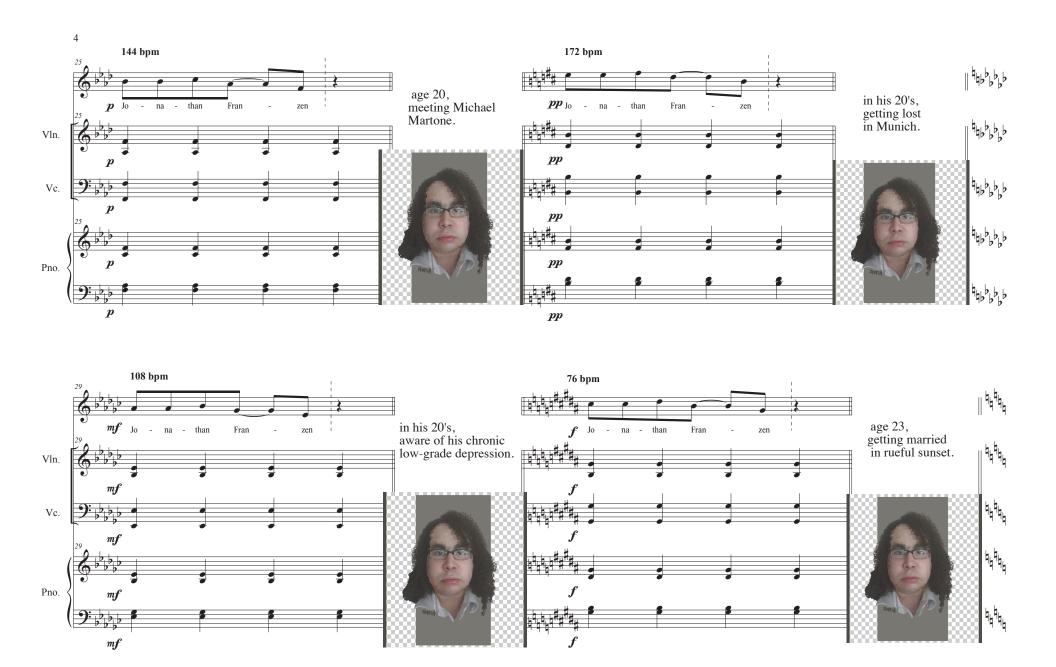


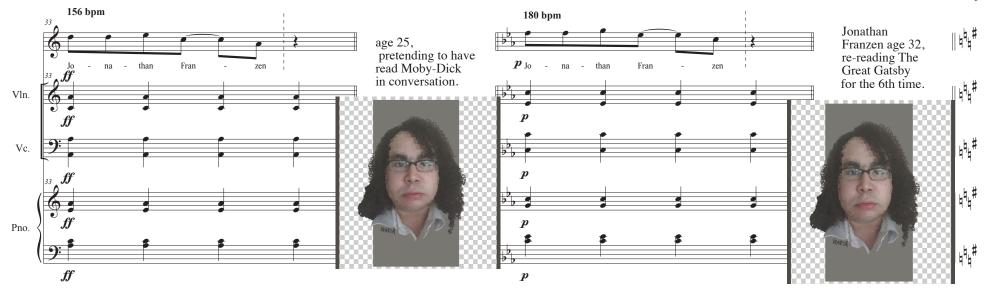
ii. WHAT COMES AFTER HOPE

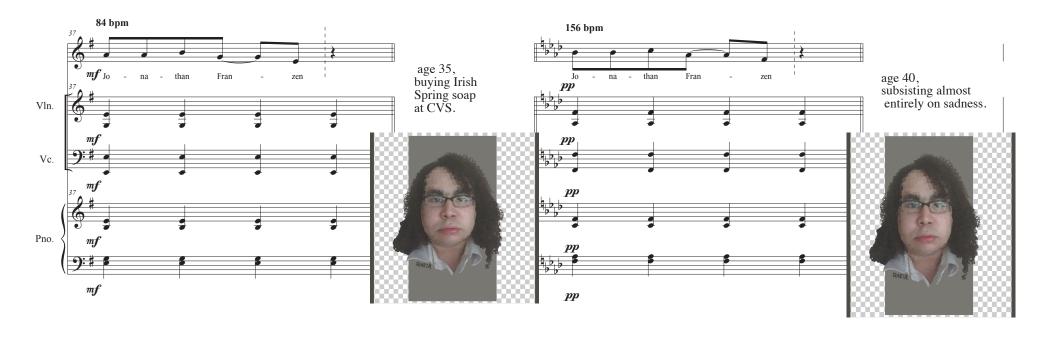


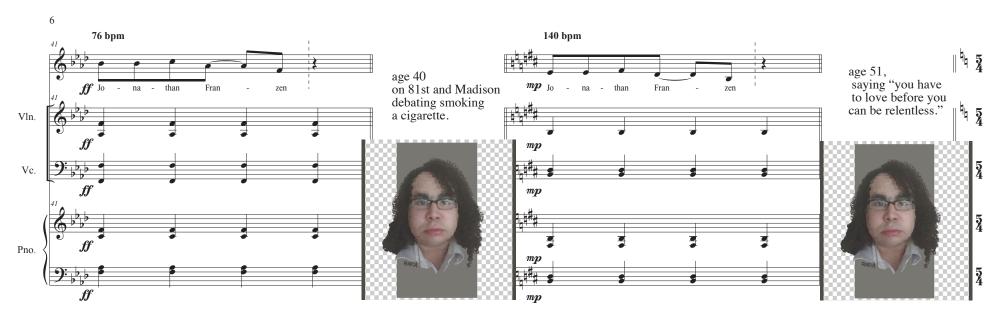














iii. how to start believing

mp



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mp

200

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