Summer Nights

for small jazz ensemble
with fondness for Chick Corea

by
Vanessa McClintock

Copyright © 2023 by Vanessa McClintock

Summer Nights

for small jazz ensemble
With fondness for Chick Corea

Summer Nights is another work originating from my budding development years, this one from 1982.

This was a time before I returned to college for my Bachelor of Music and Master of Arts in music. I had just finished composing the score for what became an international award-winning documentary on plant cloning, which actually had nothing to do with the concept of this work.

Chick Corea, however, did.

For some reason I had "discovered" the music of Chick Corea and somewhat little about him. That became the initial source of information to compose a work for a small jazz ensemble, but something more suitable for the chamber music concert hall than a jazz nightclub.

Originally, I provided opportunities for solo ad lib. sections, but as I reacquainted myself with this piece, I gradually began writing out the solo parts—as I would for any chamber piece. At first, the written parts were to provide a guide with specific and general instructions. Eventually, though, the composer in me turned this "jazz" piece into a "jazz inspired" work for a small jazz combo.

Typically, a small jazz combo consists of a rhythm section comprised of drums, guitar (electric or acoustic), bass (electric or acoustic), and piano. Solo instruments could be anything, including the solo guitar, some kind of saxophone, trumpet, trombone, clarinet, etc., or a combination of any of these; the idea is to maintain the intimacy a small ensemble can provide.

In the end, I have found prudence in writing out the drum part as a guide, and then trust the drummer to play the right thing. So, although there is still a jazz element to this work, the drum part is rather thoroughly thought out and documented as are all the other instruments.

Chick Corea passed away in 2021. I dedicate this work to him with the hopes that he would have appreciated my efforts and accepted my offer.

October 2023
Vanessa McClintock, Composer

Performance time: approximately 4’20"

Summer Nights

Performance Notes

Trumpet and Alto Sax

Bars 117-120: if trumpet is unable to play the upper register (as written), then both instruments are to play one octave lower. No change in the tenor trombone.

Piano

Bars 18-21: if the stretch in the treble clef is too wide for the right hand, the pianist may play the treble clef part with both hands and try to incorporate the bass clef notes with reach.

String Bass

To be played as written (sounds one octave lower), meaning no (or very little) improvisation.

Electric bass is optional.

Drums

The music is written out and, as with any other musical part, is to be played as written. However, the drummer does have *some* latitude and artistic license to play ad lib., closely using the written part as a guide.

October 2023

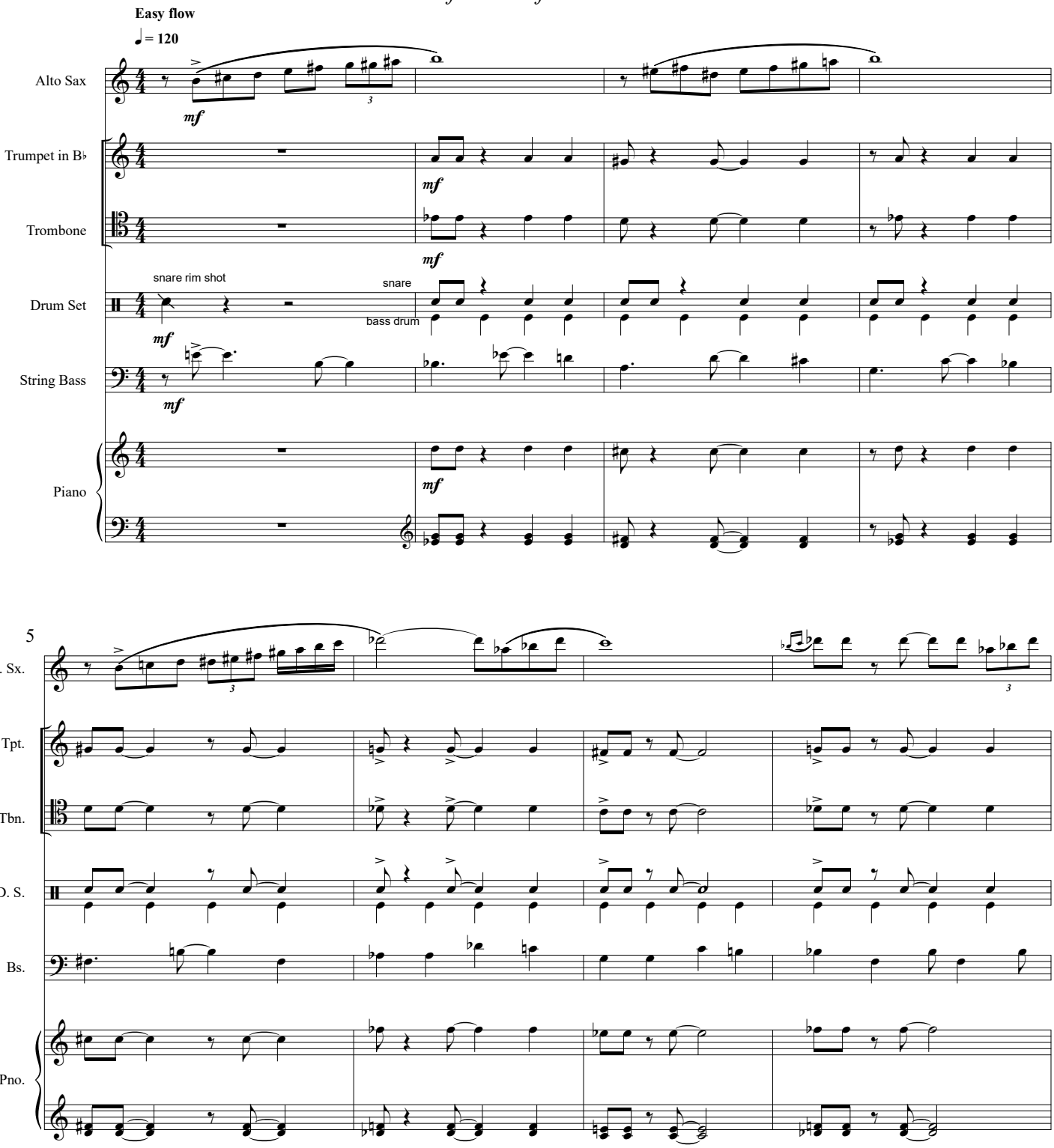
Vanessa McClintock

Summer Nights

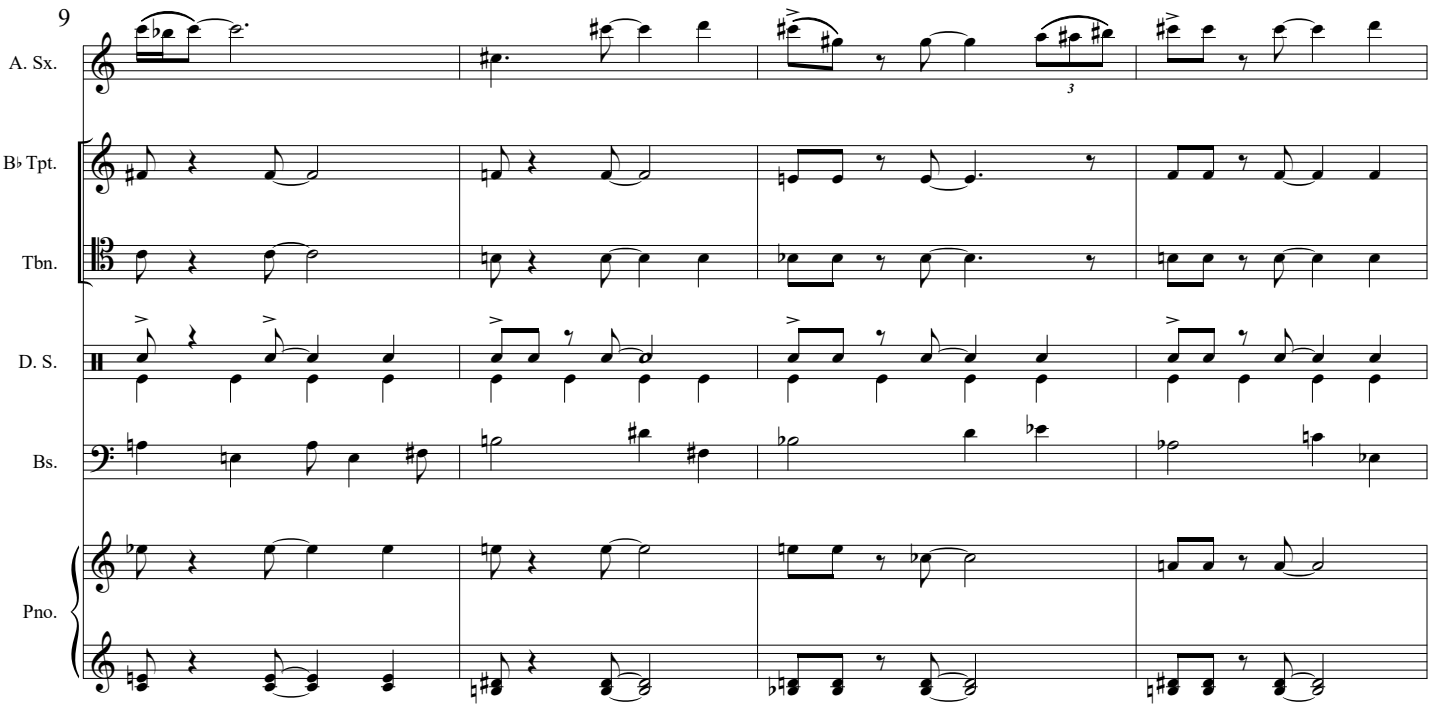
(for small jazz ensemble)

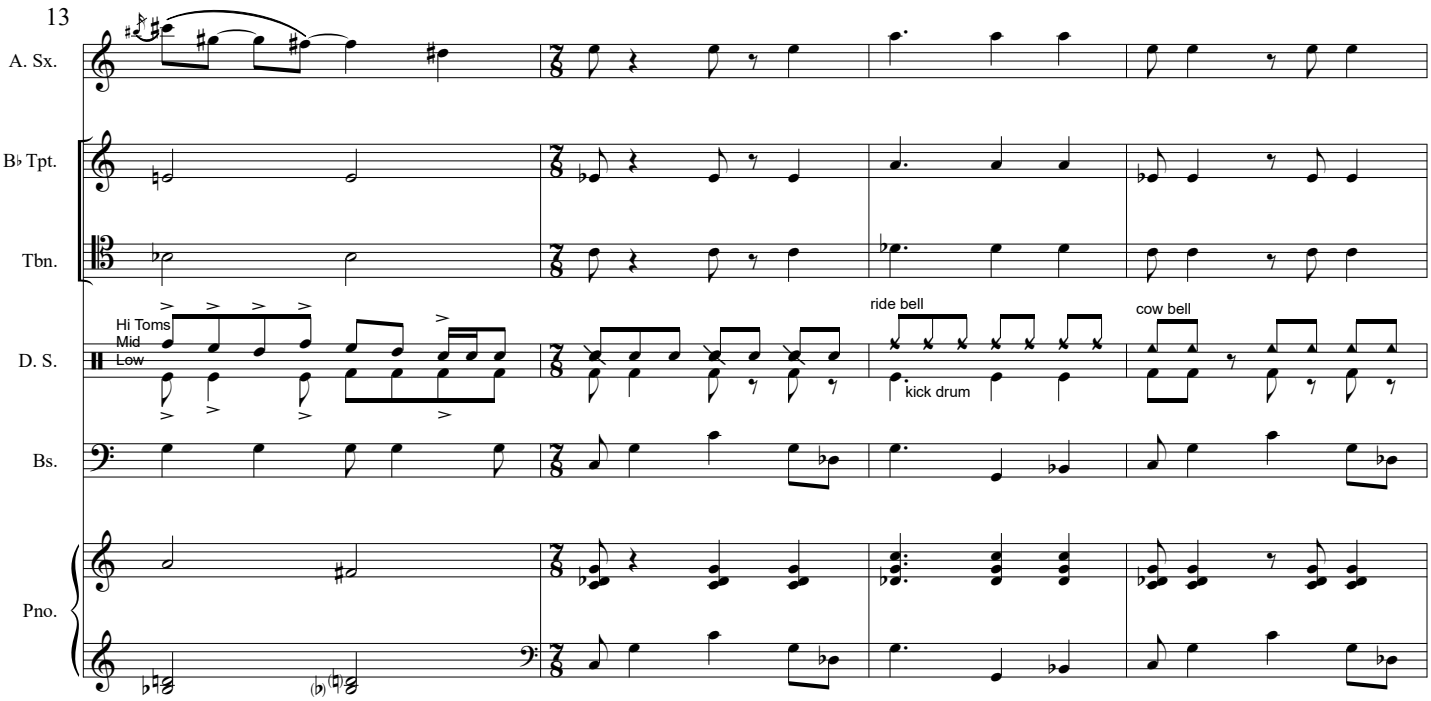
with fondness for Chick Corea

Vanessa McClintock

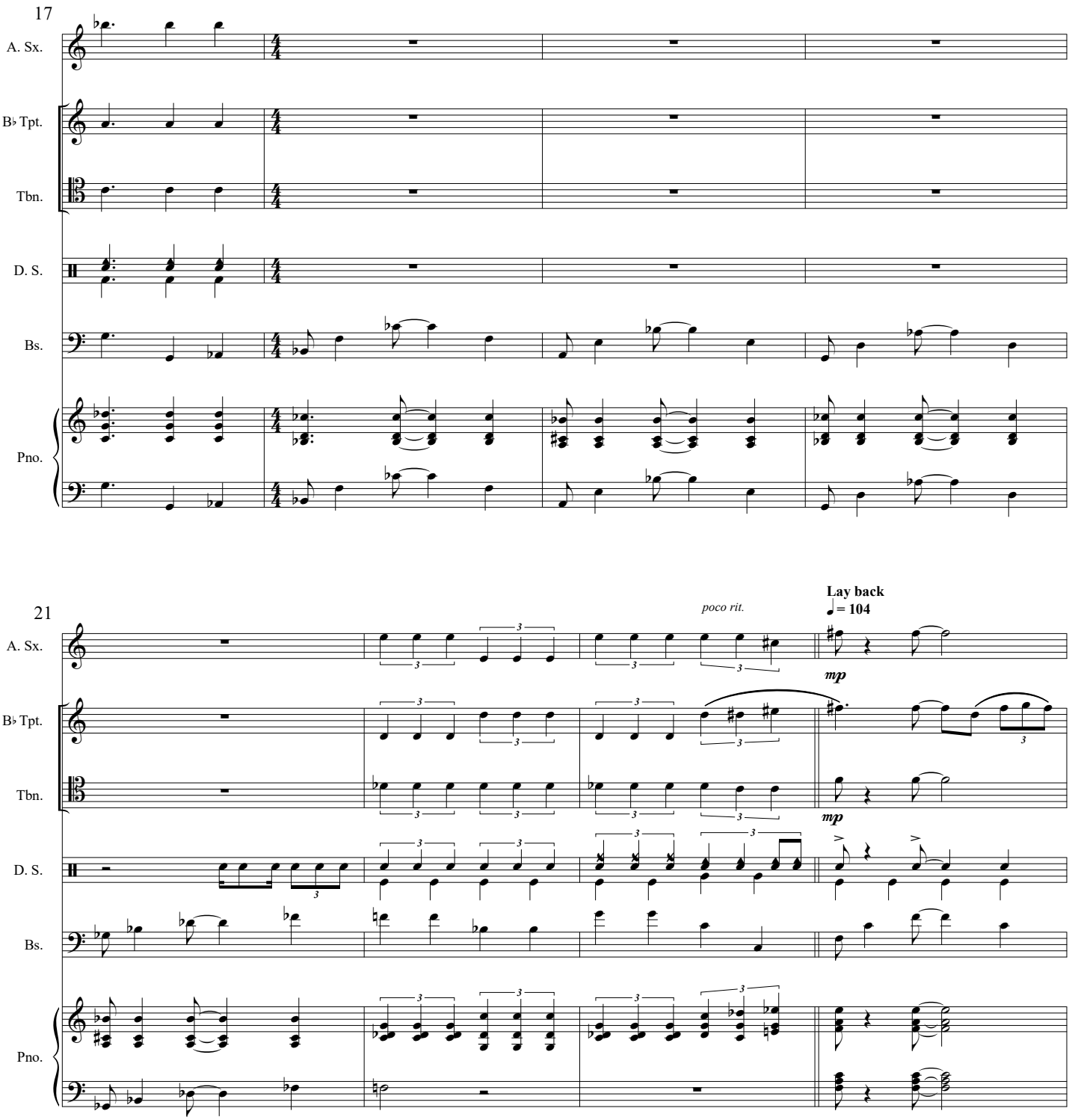


Copyright © 2023 by Vanessa McClintock

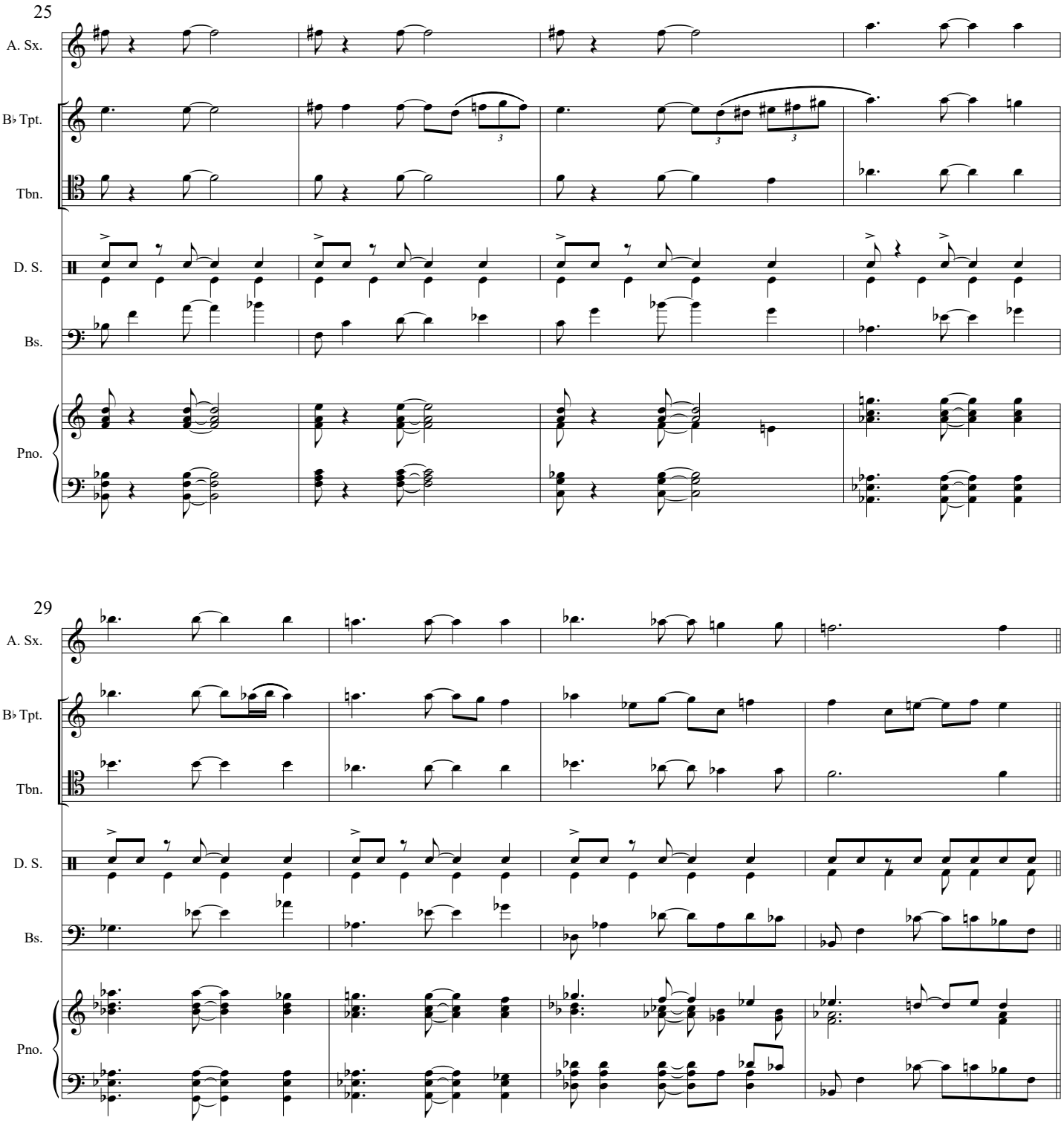




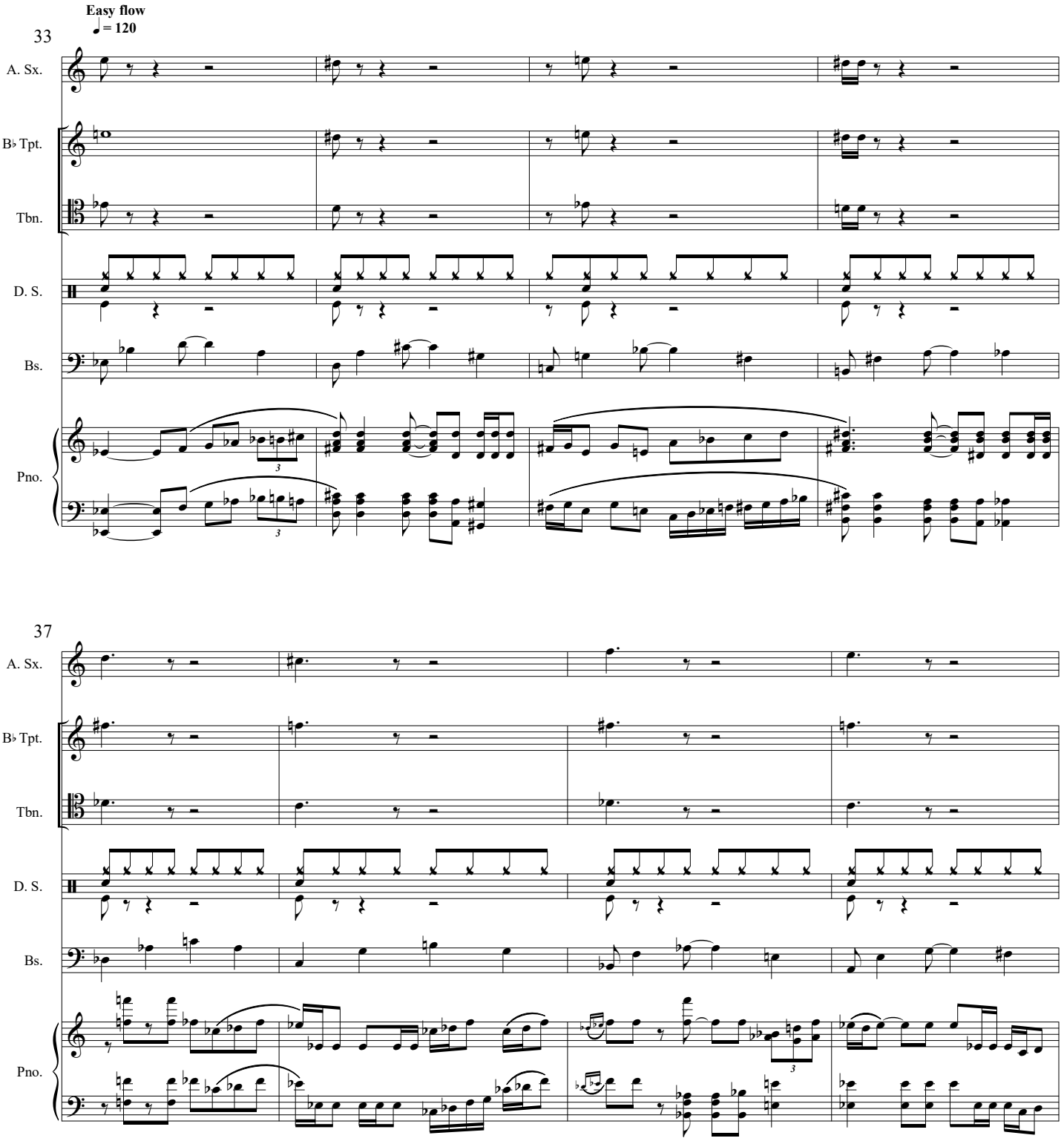
Copyright © 2023 by Vanessa McClintock



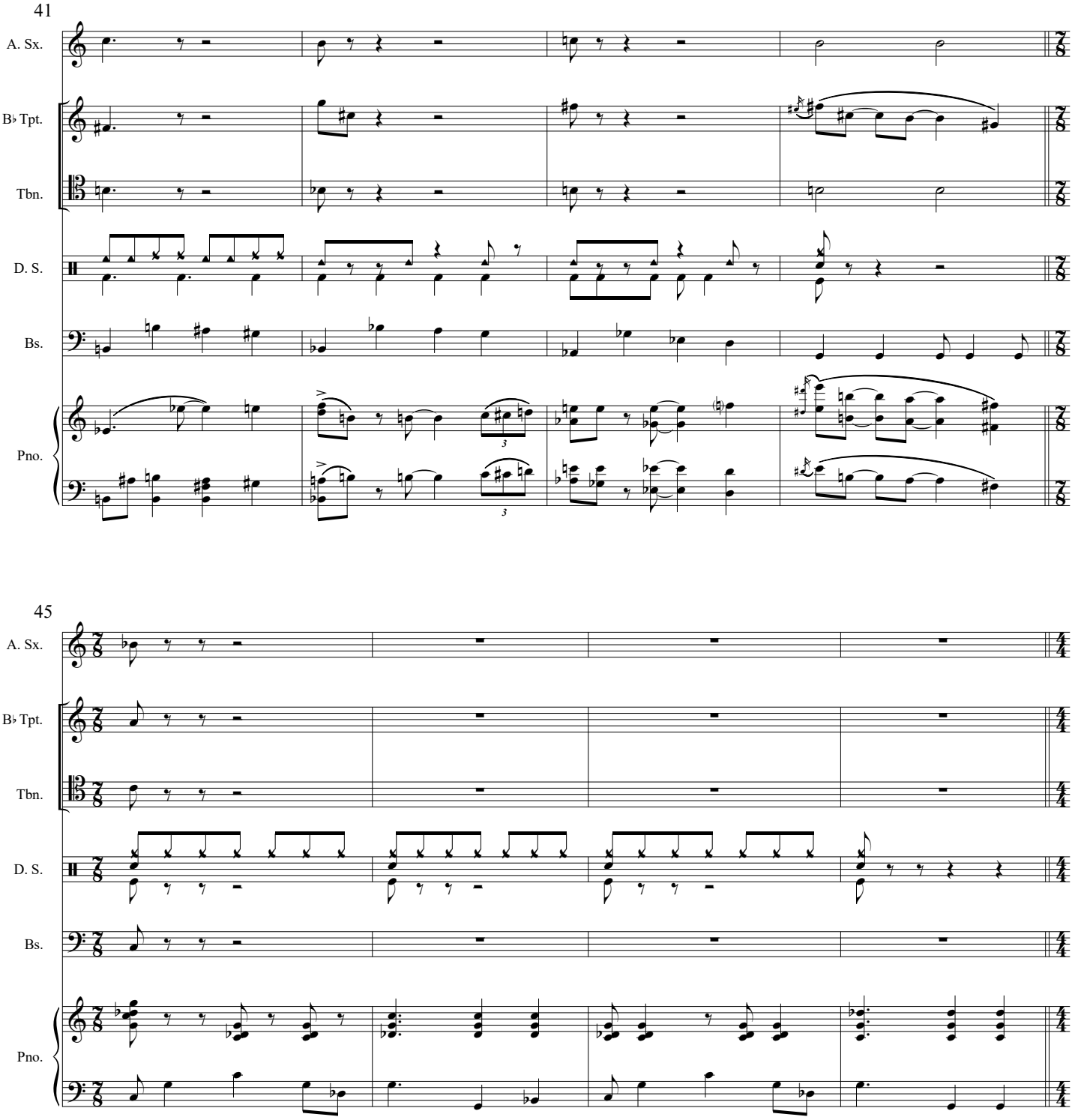
Copyright © 2023 by Vanessa McClintock



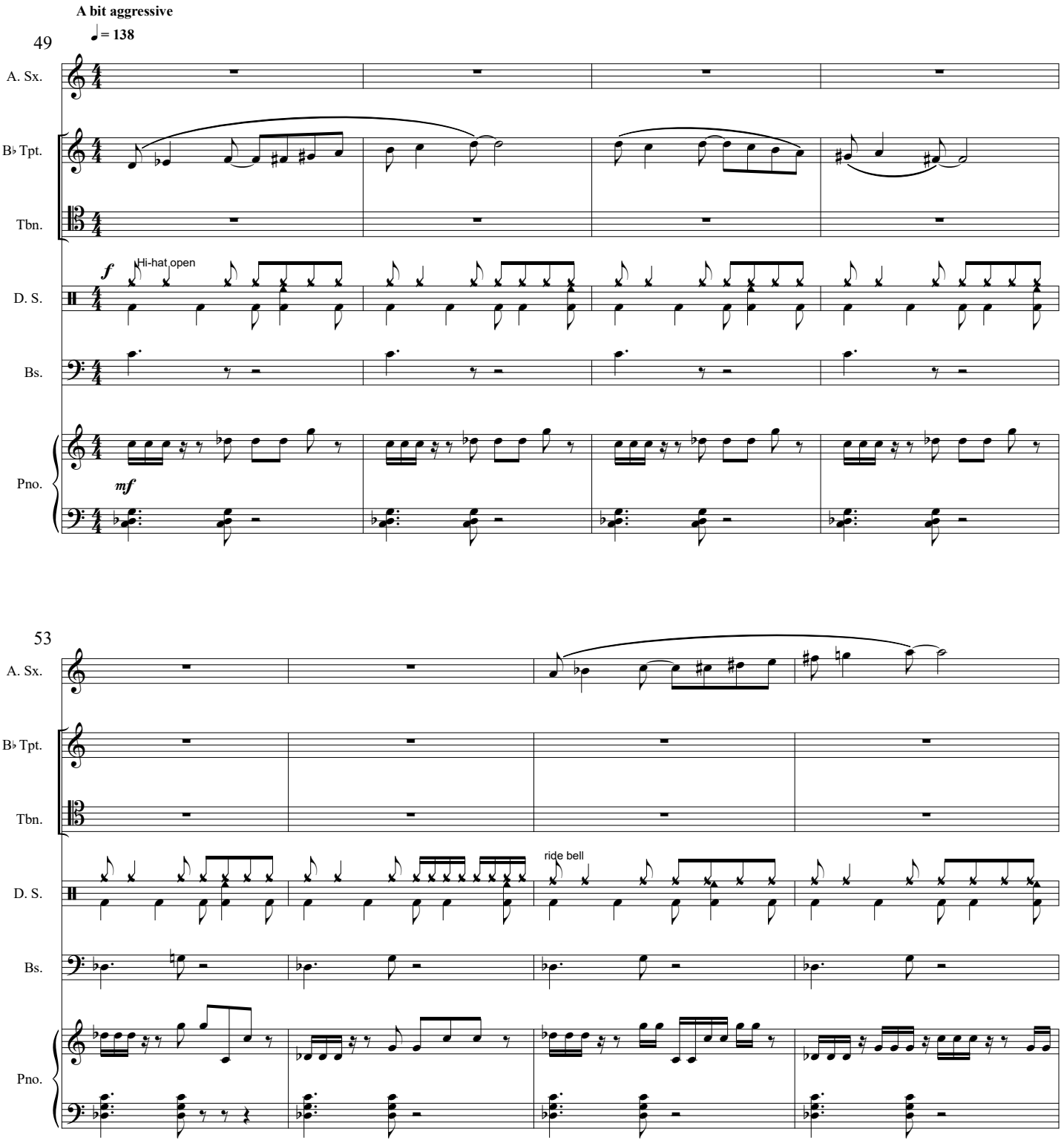
Copyright © 2023 by Vanessa McClintock



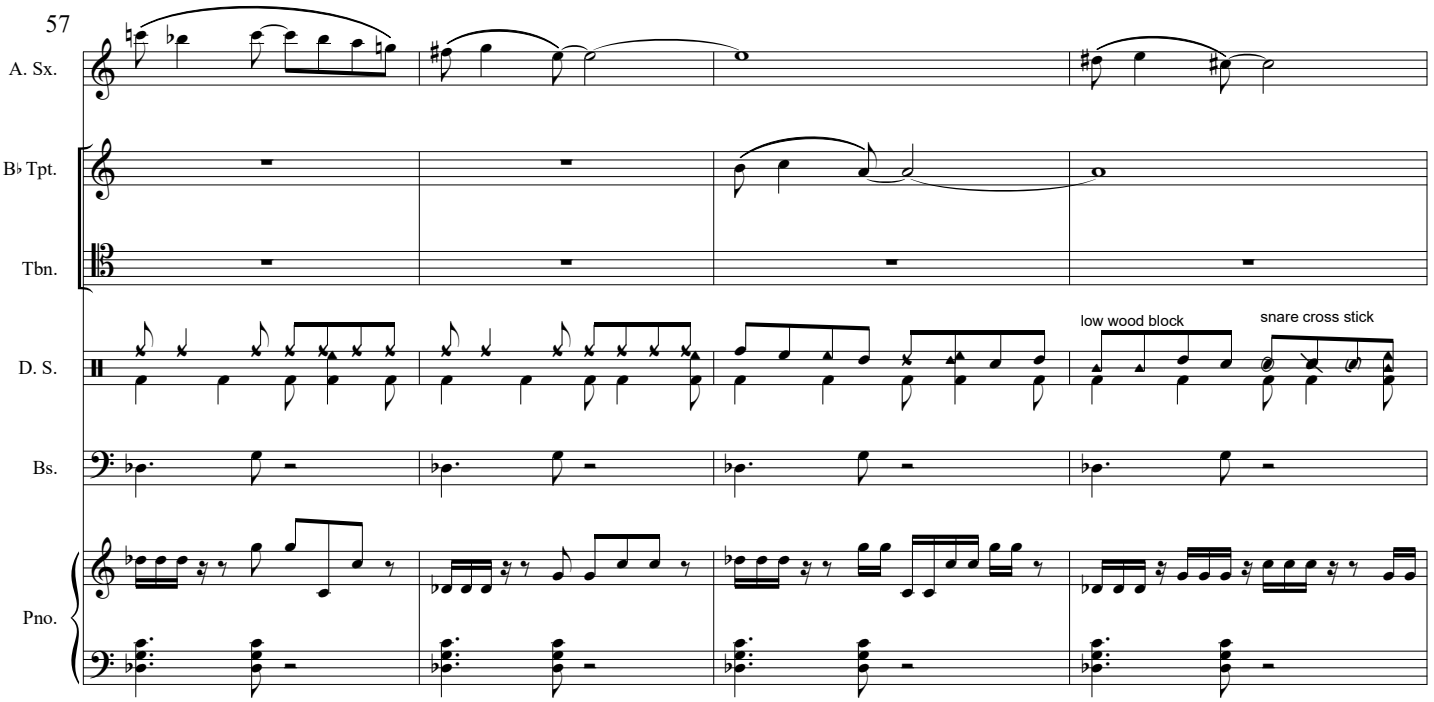
Copyright © 2023 by Vanessa McClintock

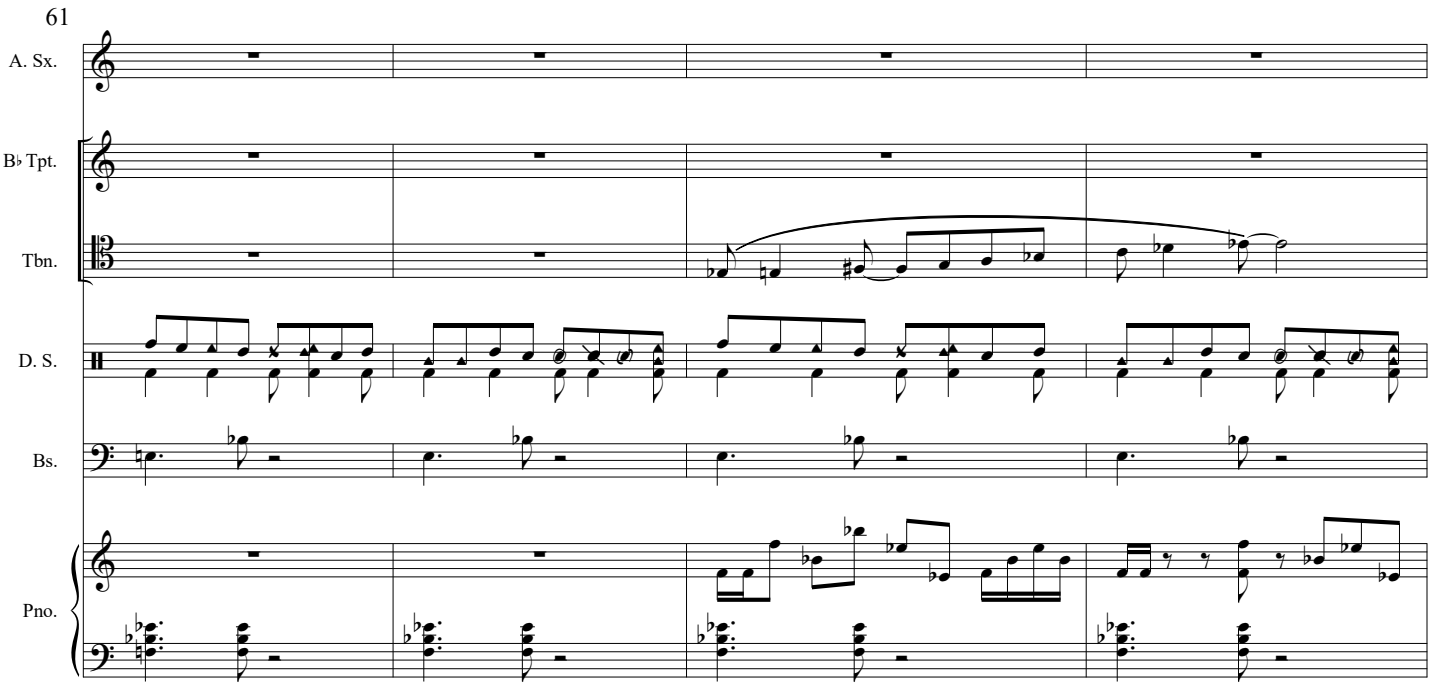


Copyright © 2023 by Vanessa McClintock

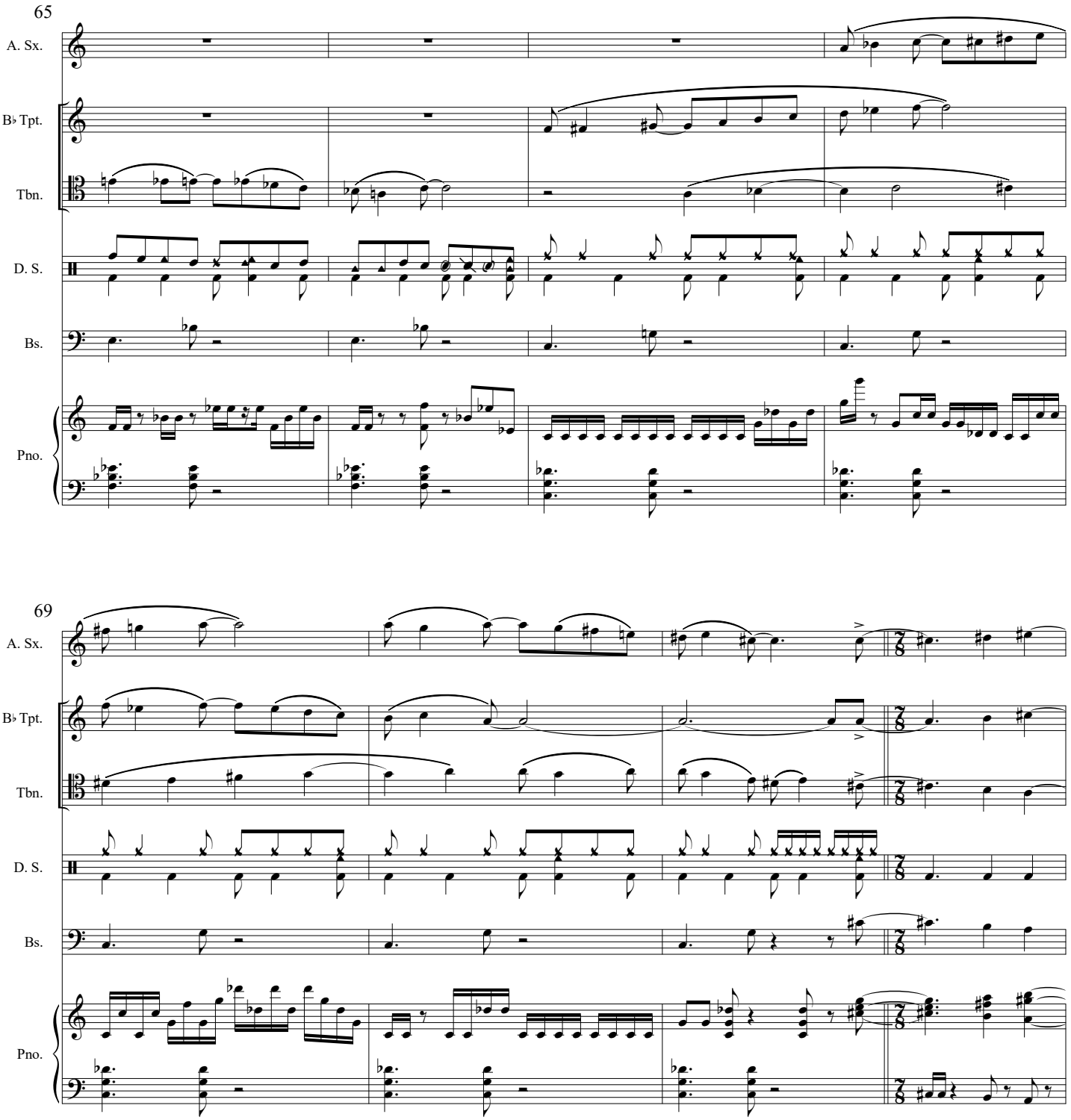


Copyright © 2023 by Vanessa McClintock

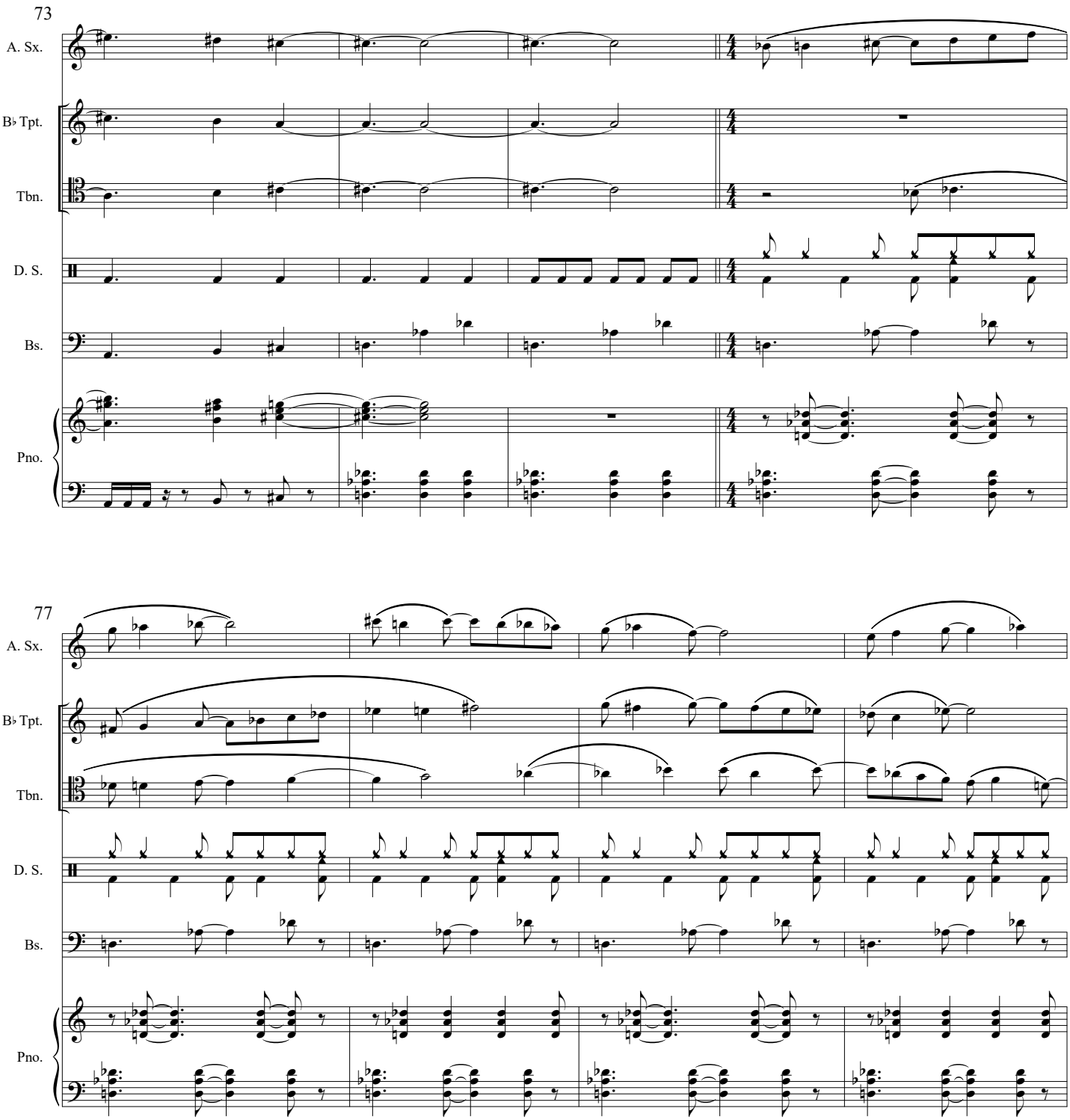




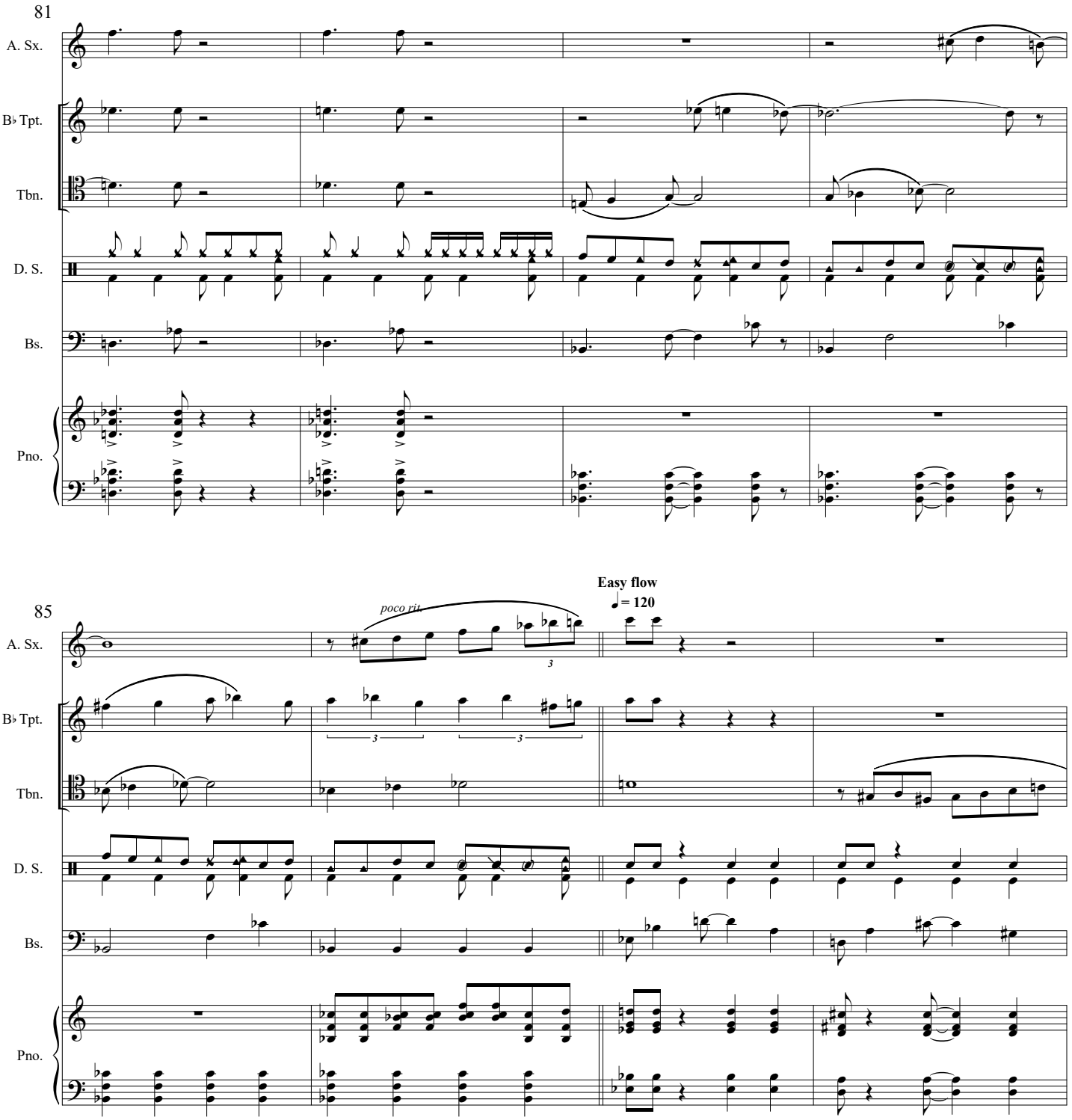
Copyright © 2023 by Vanessa McClintock



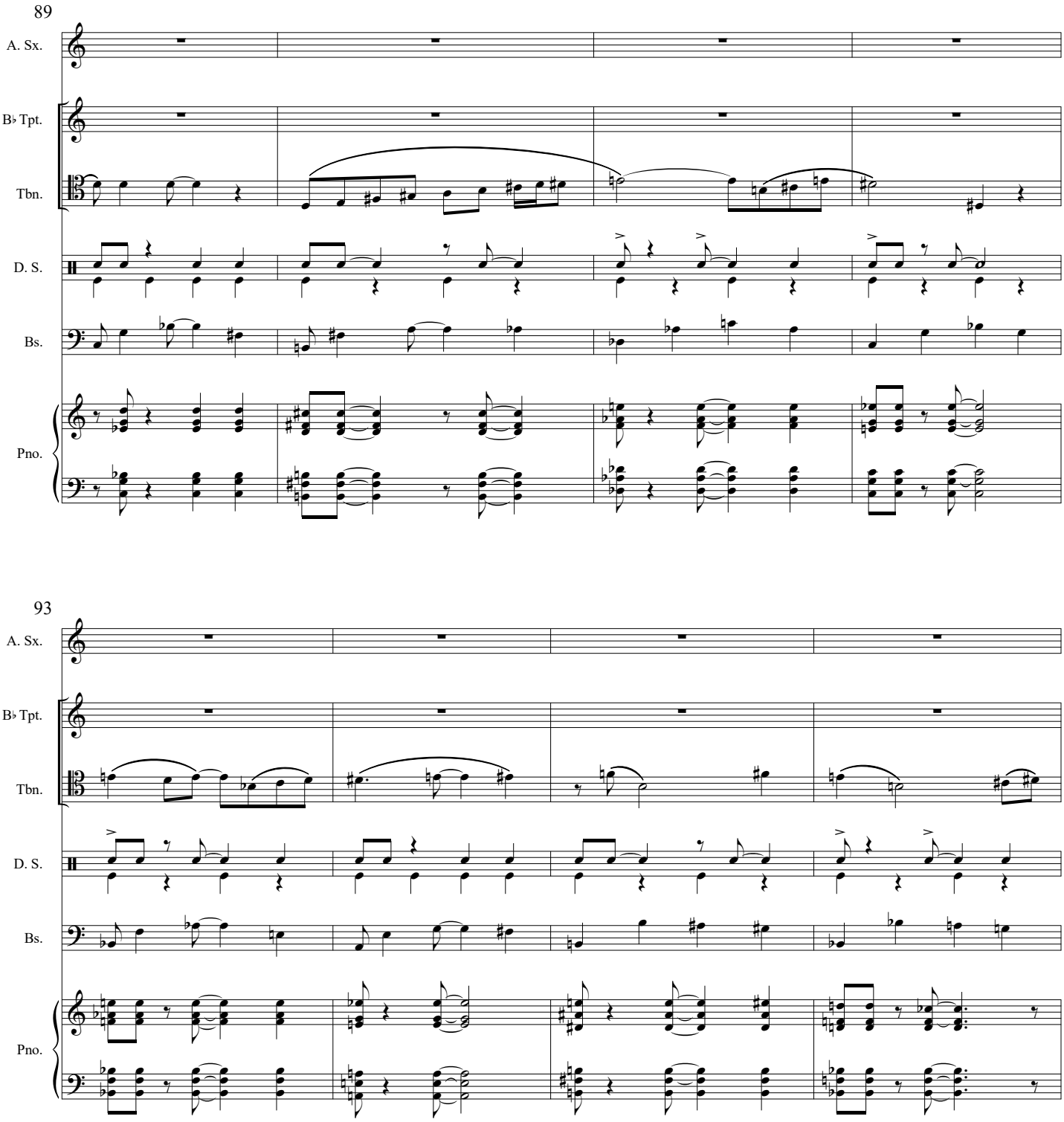
Copyright © 2023 by Vanessa McClintock



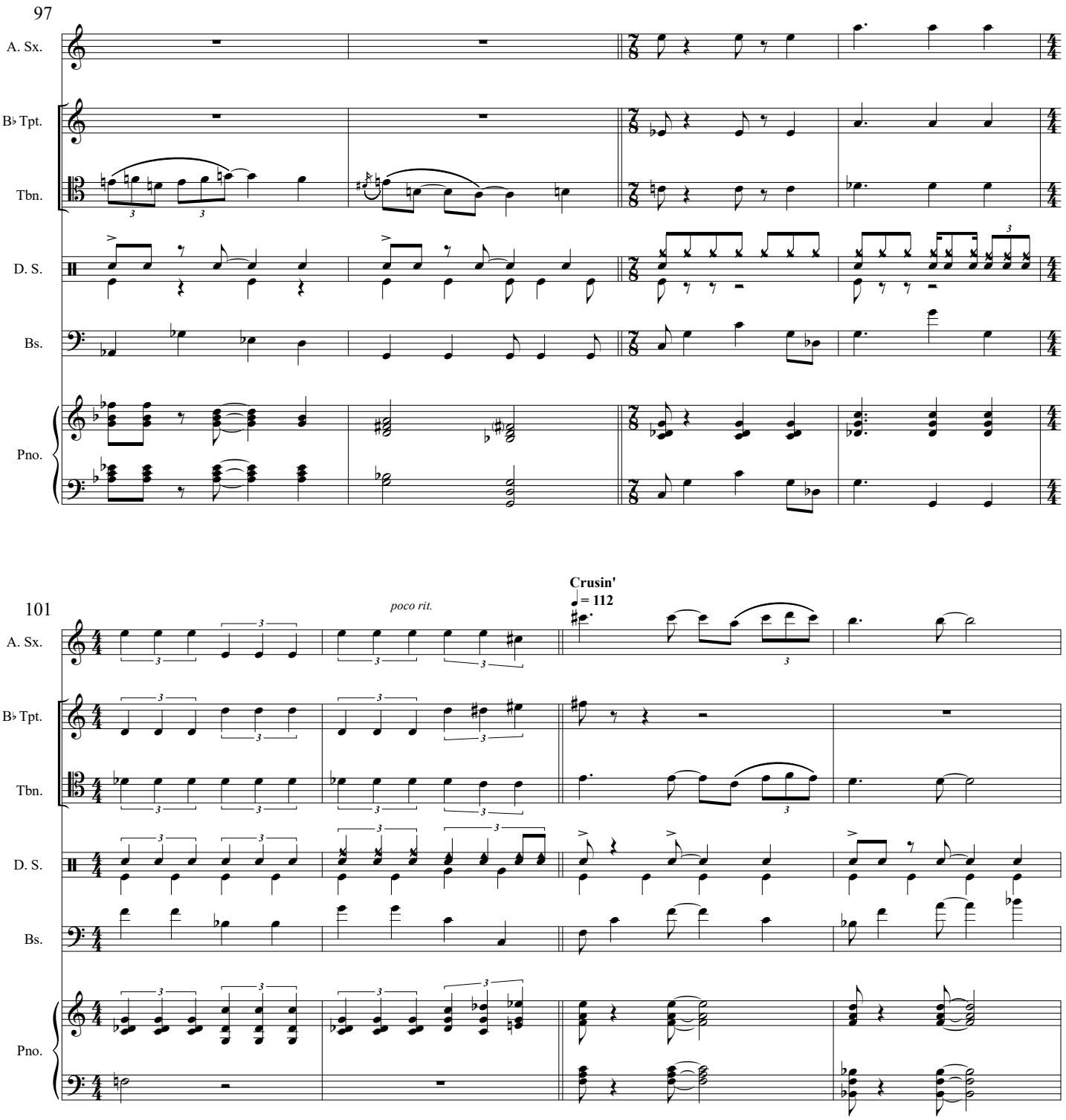
Copyright © 2023 by Vanessa McClintock



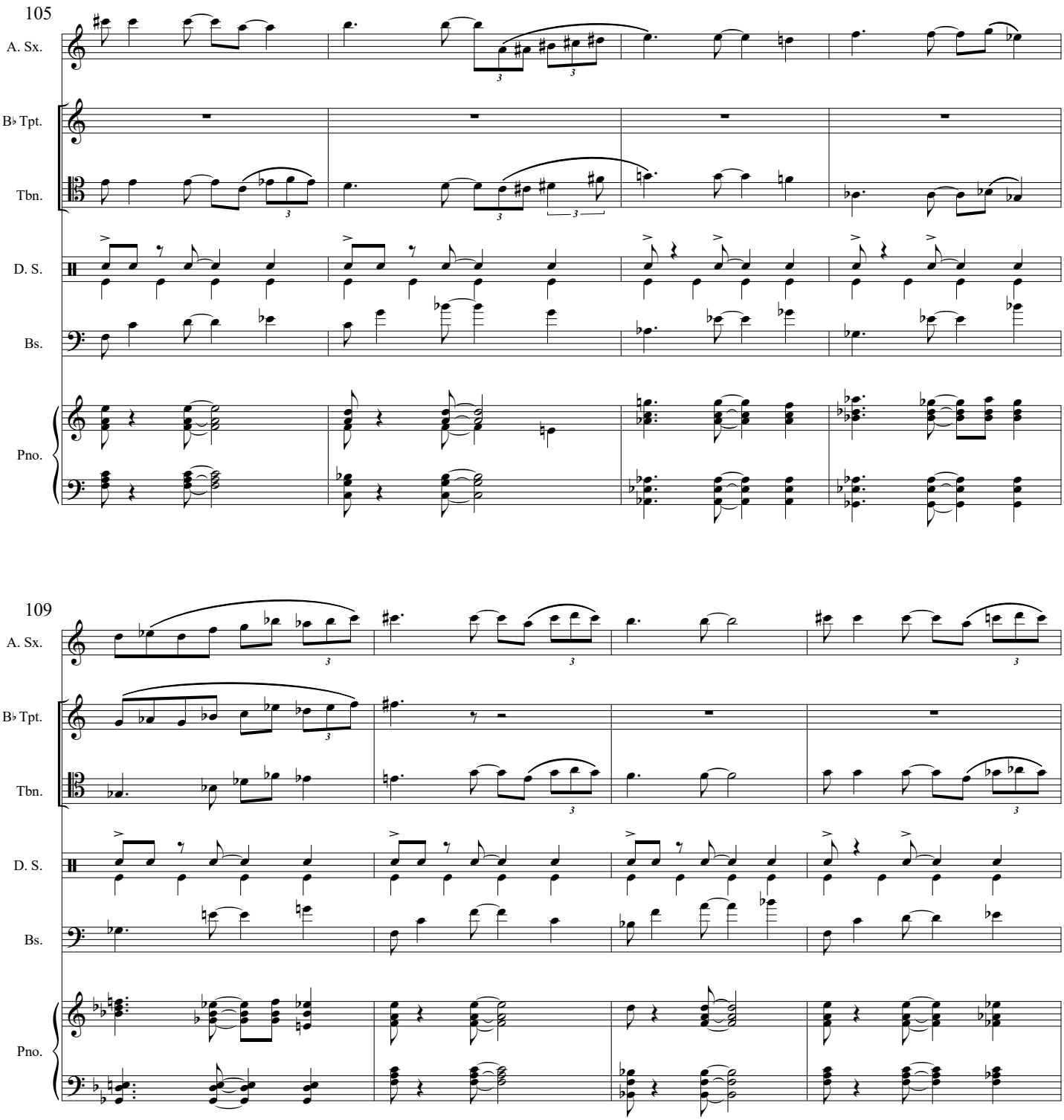
Copyright © 2023 by Vanessa McClintock



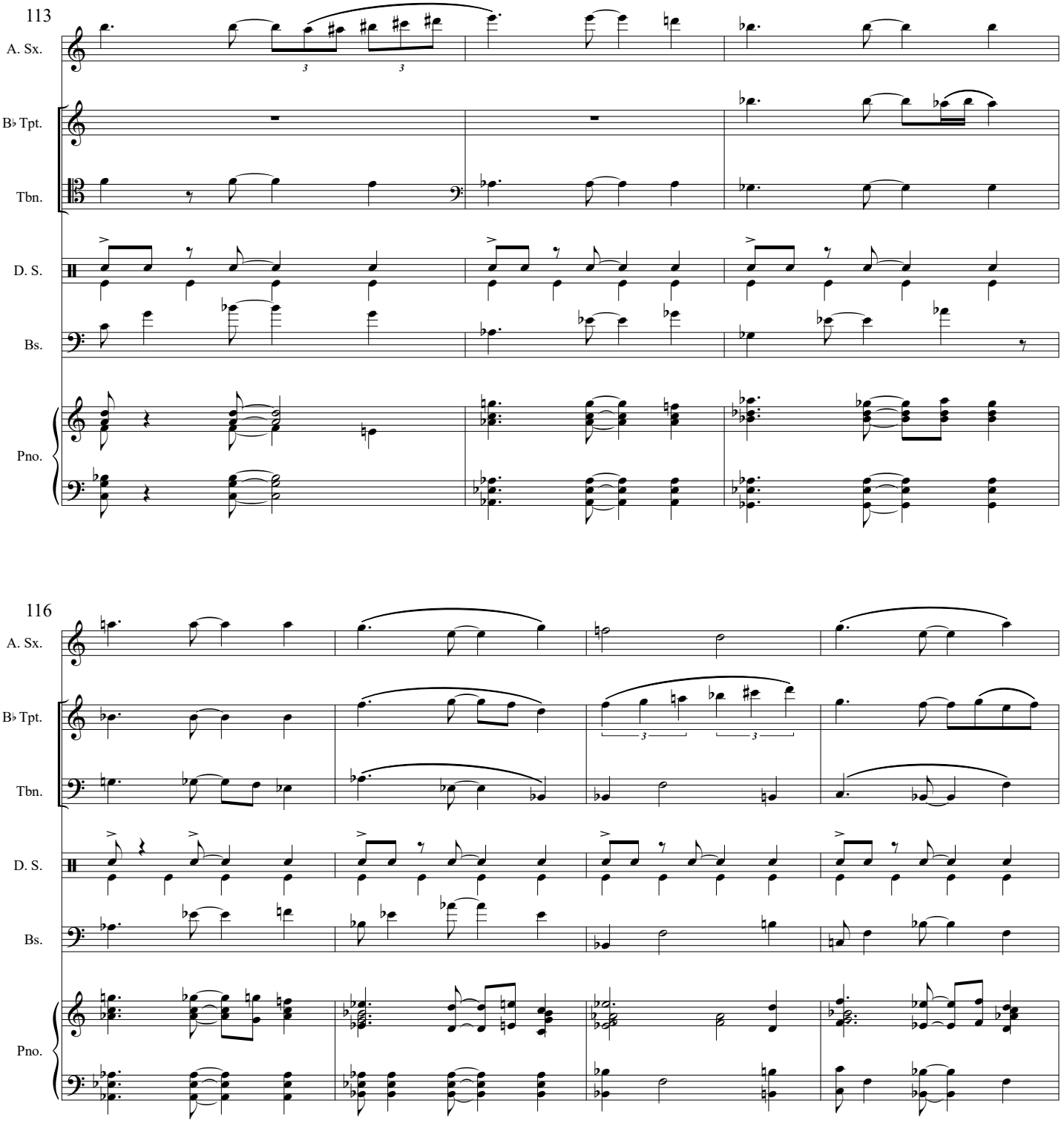
Copyright © 2023 by Vanessa McClintock



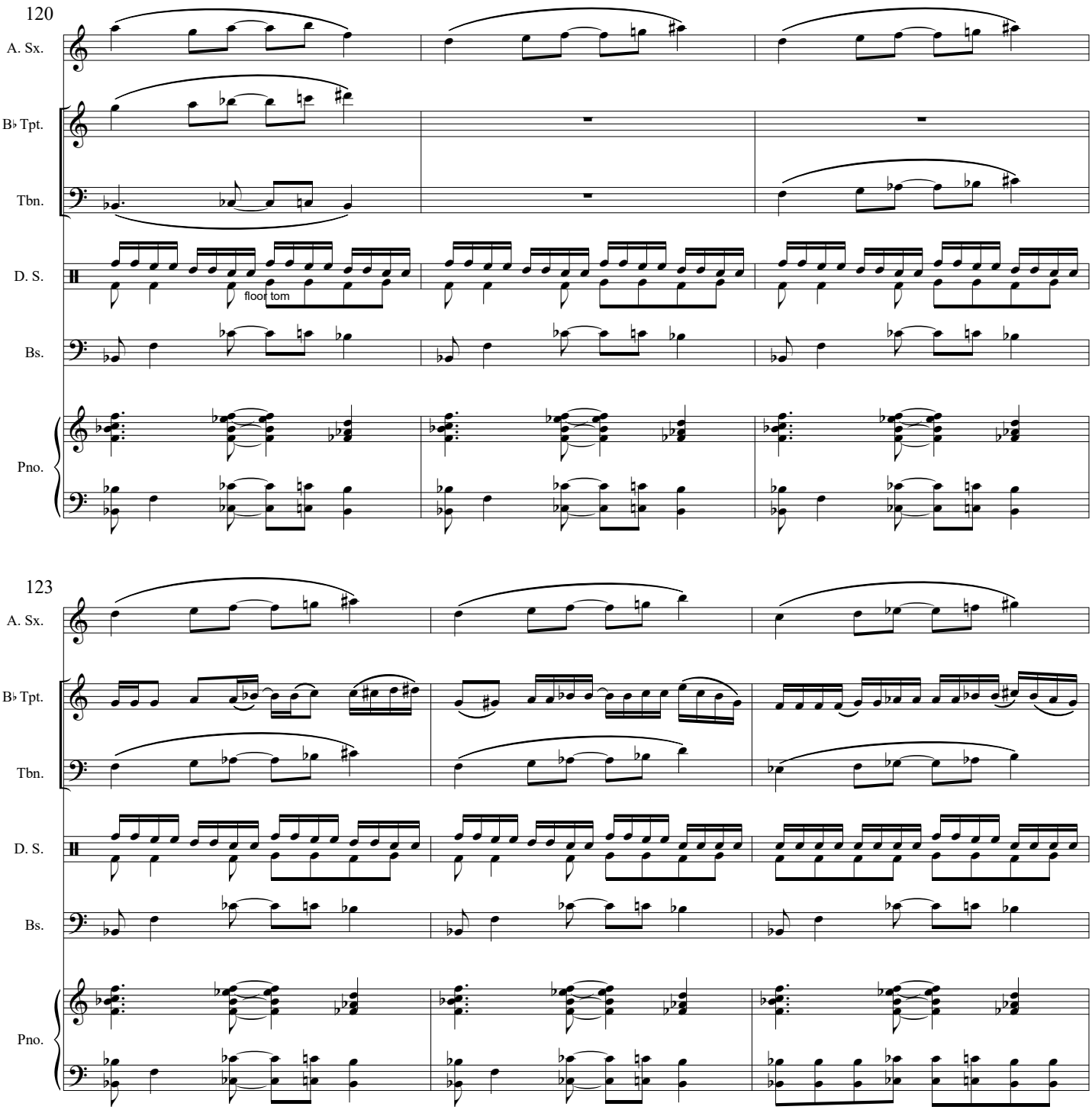
Copyright © 2023 by Vanessa McClintock



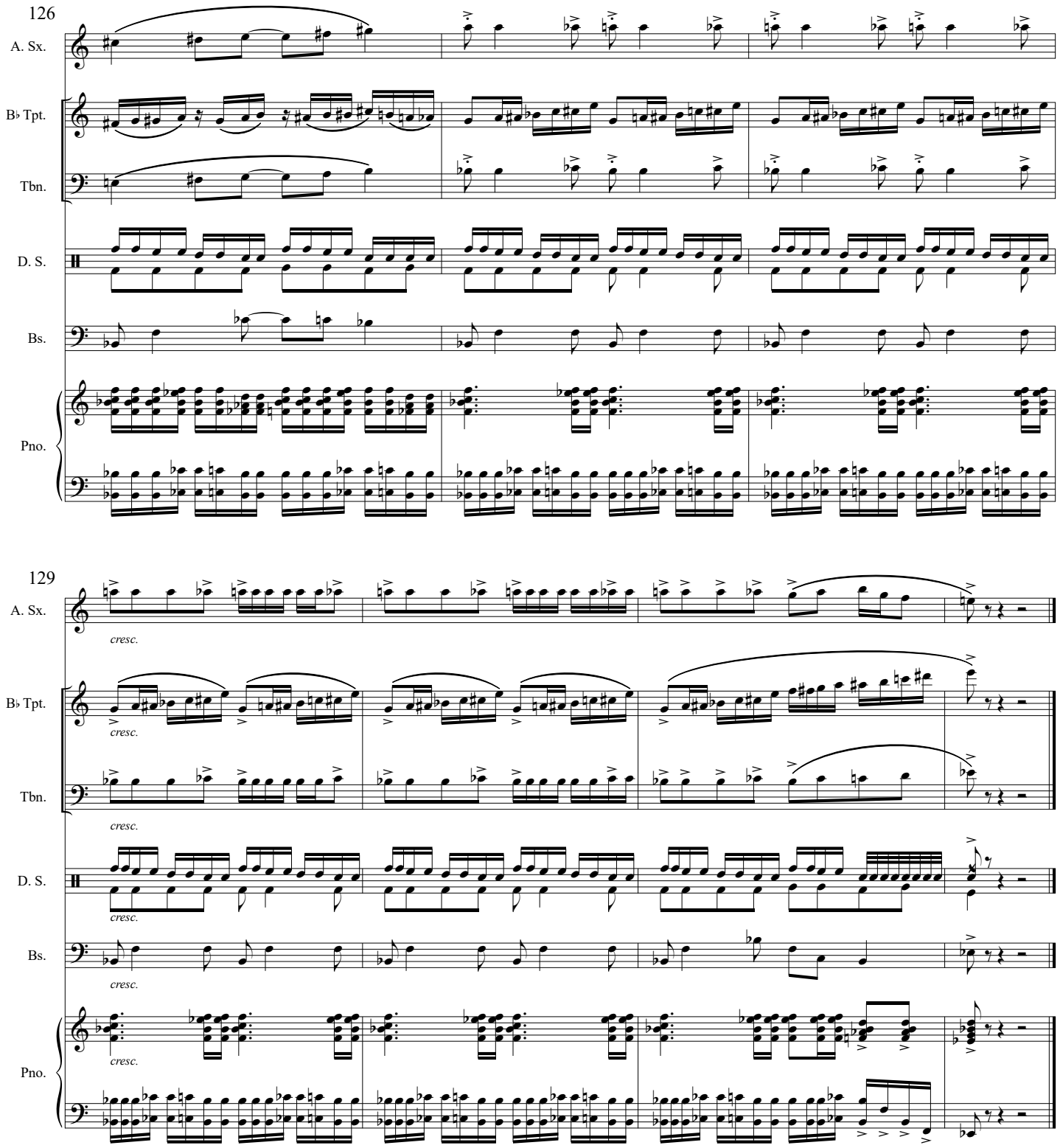
Copyright © 2023 by Vanessa McClintock



Copyright © 2023 by Vanessa McClintock



Copyright © 2023 by Vanessa McClintock



Copyright © 2023 by Vanessa McClintock