Illumination

For Solo Accordion
(2017)

Kenrick Ho

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The five movements are meant to represent five different coloured lights: red, yellow, blue, black, and white. Each of these colours have its own character. These distinct characters are showcases the versatility of the Accordion, in terms of range, dynamics, and techniques.

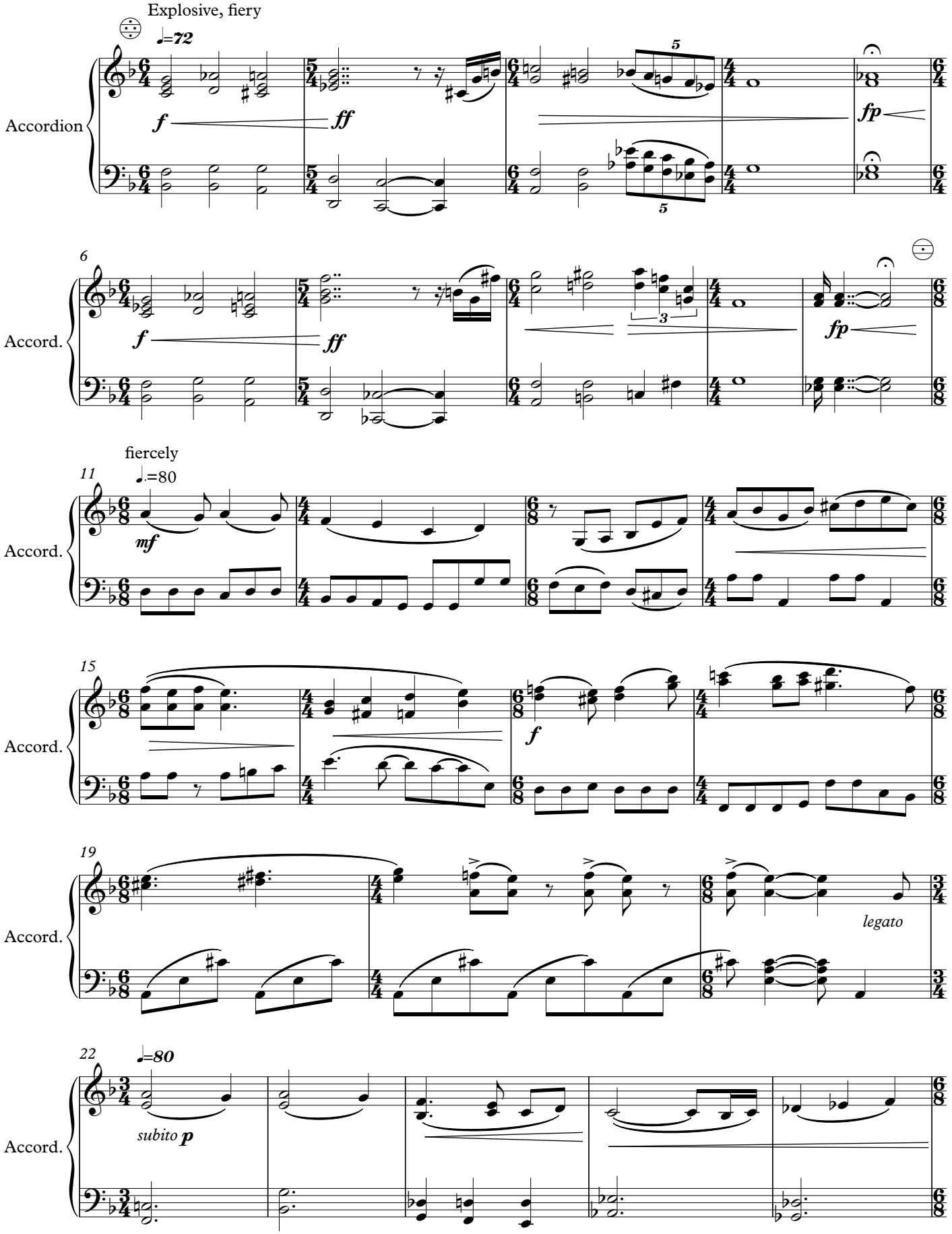
The opening ‘Red’ is a fiery movement with an explosive opening. Followed by the playful movement ‘Yellow’, which visits a familiar folky tone on the Accordion. The third movement ‘Blue’ is a lament. It uses a high register stop, and the addition of vibrato aids in expressing a sense of sorrow and sadness. The next movement ‘Black’ is a thrilling movement with an exaggerated range in dynamics and pitch. The chromatic running motifs in the right hand, in complement with bellow shakes and cluster chords boldly expresses negative and dark emotions. The finale ‘White’ is a contrast to ‘Black’. It begins with a surprising brightened variation on the running motif from ‘Black’. When lights of all colours combines together, the light becomes white. Therefore, there are multiple rhythmic, harmonic, and melodic motifs of the earlier movements that reappear in the finale.

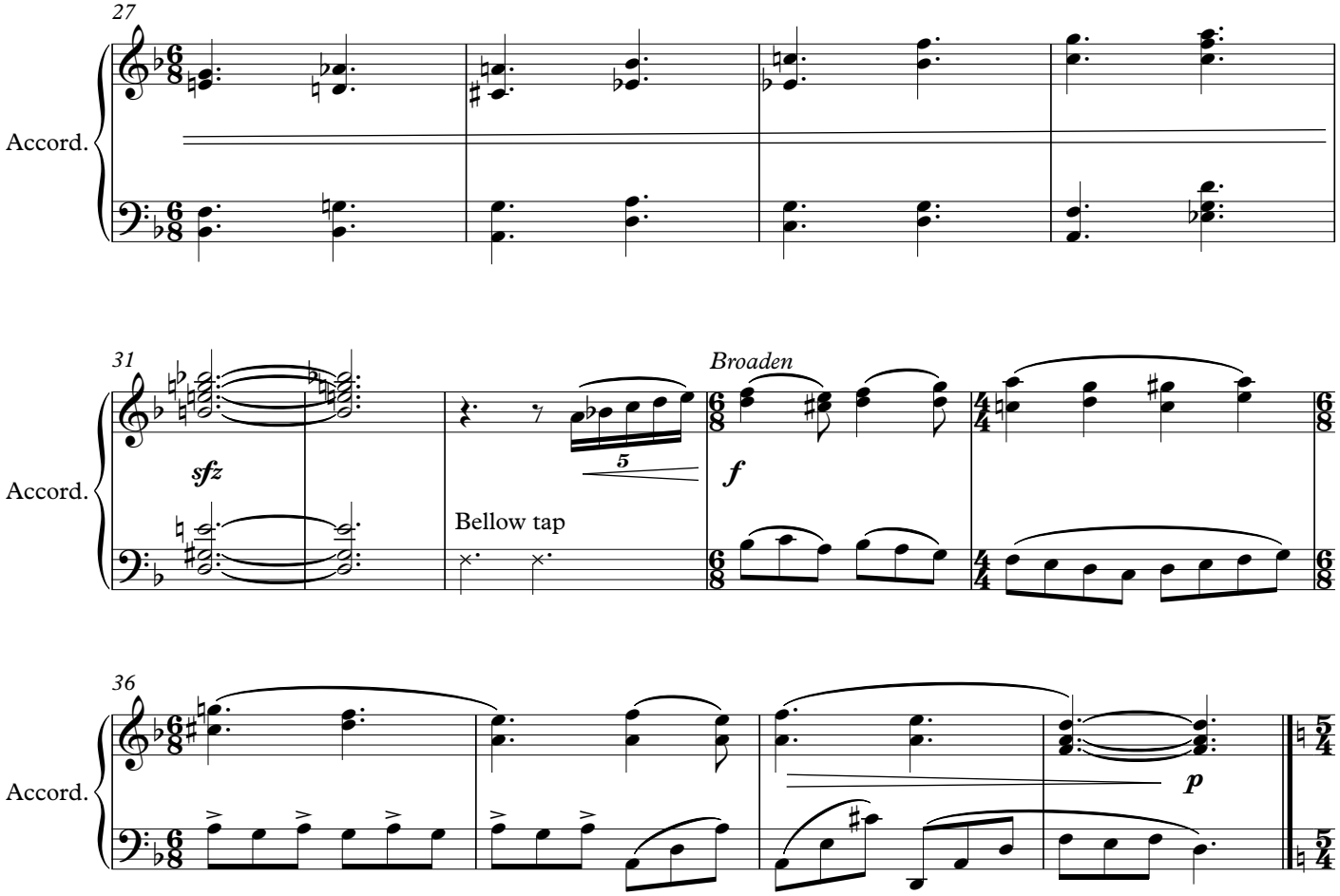
Illumination

5 Movements for solo Accordion

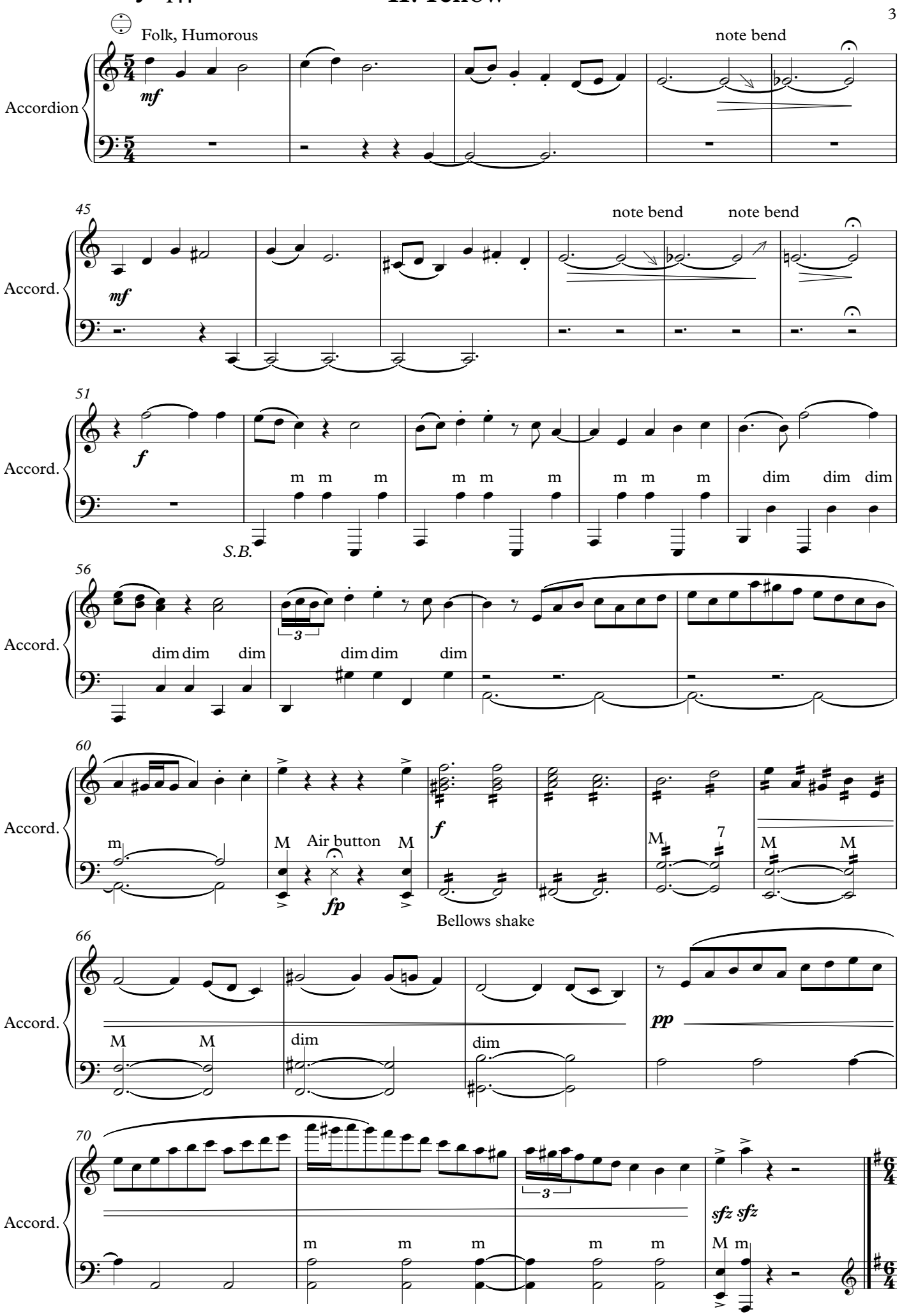
I. Red

Kenrick Ho

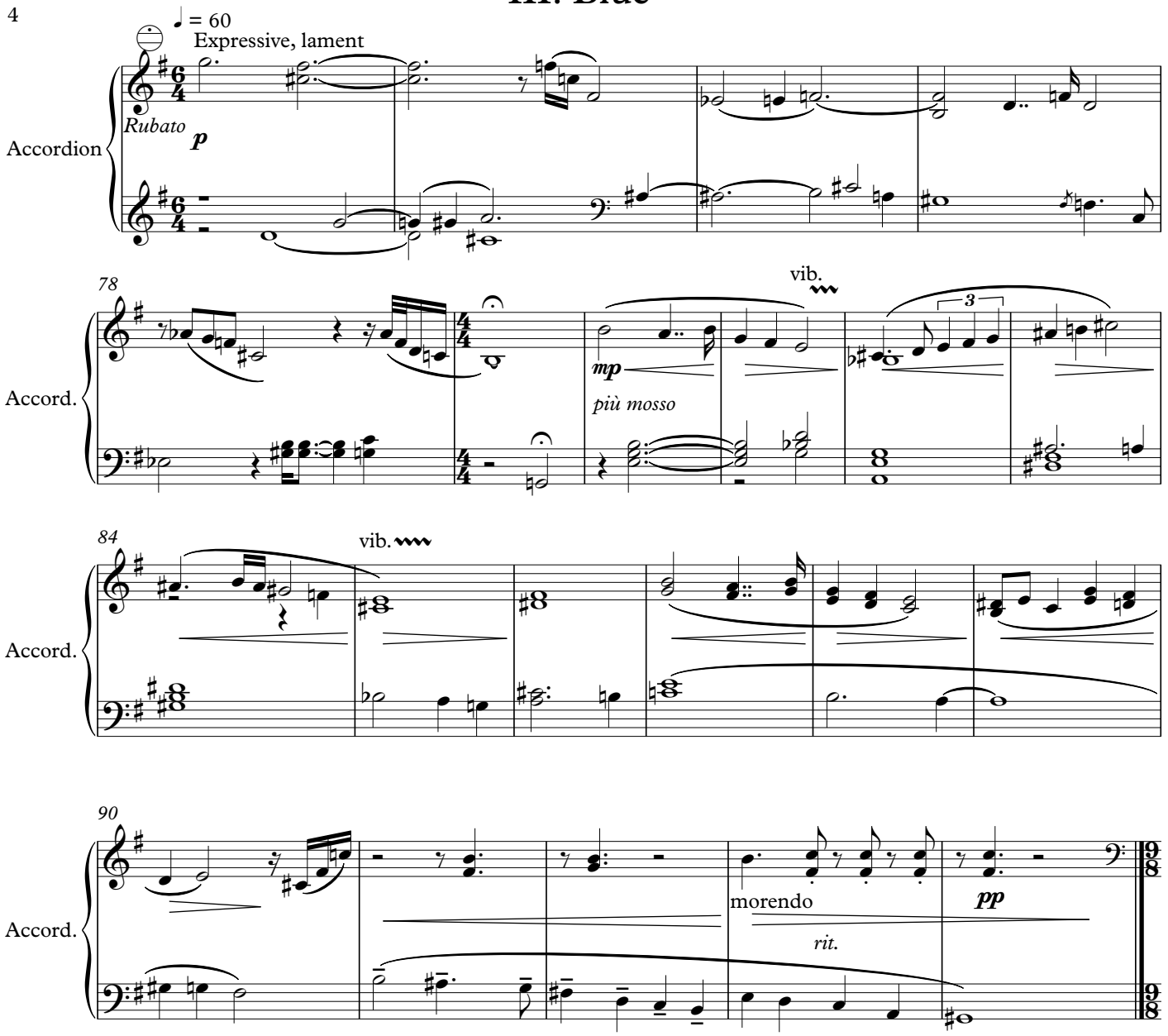



27
Accord.
31
Accord.
sfz
5
Bellow tap
Broaden
f
36
Accord.
p

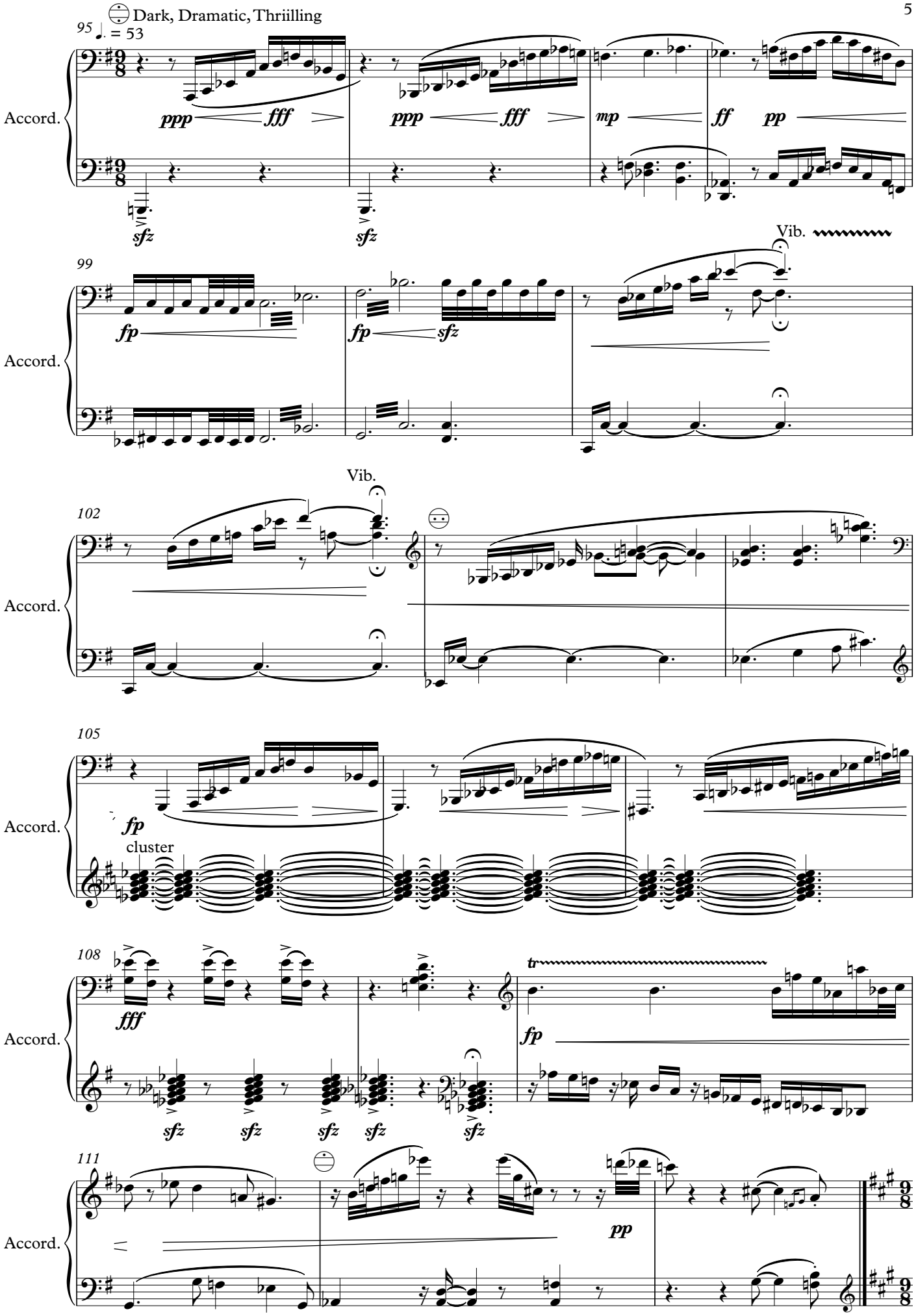
II. Yellow


♩ = 144
Folk, Humorous
Accordion
mf
note bend
45
Accord.
mf
note bend
note bend
51
Accord.
f
m m m
m m m
m m m
dim dim dim
S.B.
56
Accord.
dim dim dim
dim dim dim
3
60
Accord.
m
M
Air button
M
fp
f
M
7
M
M
Bellows shake
66
Accord.
M
M
dim
dim
pp
70
Accord.
3
sfz sfz
m
m
m
m
m
M m

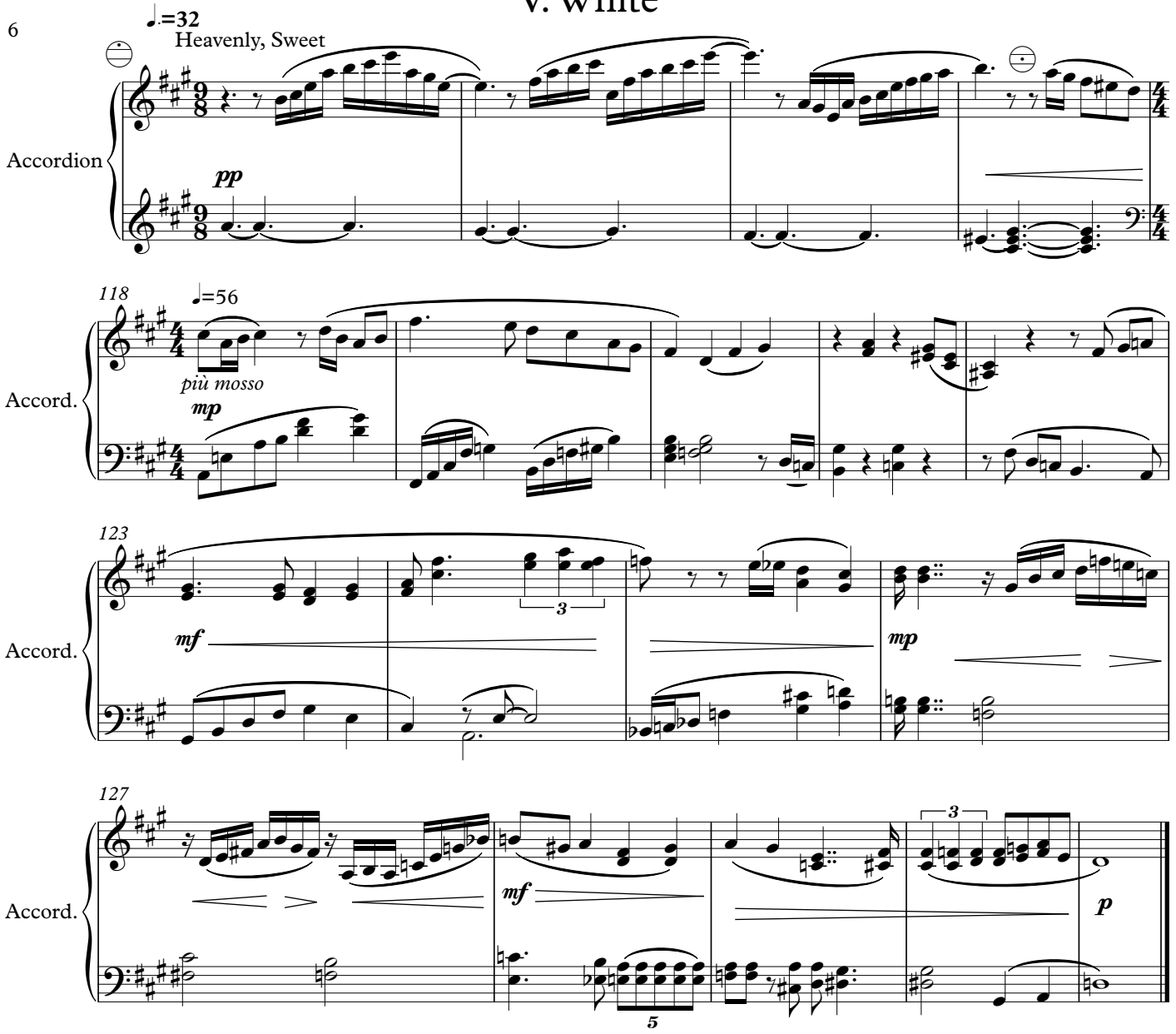
III. Blue


♩ = 60
Expressive, lament
Accordion
Rubato
p
Accord.
78
mp
più mosso
vib.
3
84
vib.
90
morendo
rit.
pp

IV. Black


Dark, Dramatic, Thriilling
95
♩. = 53
Accord.
ppp
fff
ppp
fff
mp
ff
pp
sfz
sfz
99
Vib.
fp
fp
sfz
102
Vib.
105
fp
cluster
108
fff
tr
fp
sfz
sfz
sfz
sfz
sfz
111
pp

V. White


♩.=32
Heavenly, Sweet
Accordion
pp
118
♩=56
più mosso
mp
Accord.
123
mf
mp
Accord.
127
mf
p
Accord.