Scarbo

Il regarda sous le lit, dans la cheminée, dans le bahut; – personne. Il ne put comprendre par où il s'était introduit, par où il s'était évadé.

Hoffmann – *Contes nocturnes*

Oh! que de fois je l'ai entendu et vu, Scarbo, lorsqu'à minuit la lune brille dans le ciel comme un écu d'argent sur une bannière d'azur semée d'abeilles d'or!

Que de fois j'ai entendu bourdonner son rire dans l'ombre de mon alcôve, et grincer son ongle sur la soie des courtines de mon lit!

Que de fois je l'ai vu descendre du plancher, pirouetter sur un pied et rouler par la chambre comme le fuseau tombé de la quenouille d'une sorcière!

Le croyais-je alors évanoui? le nain grandissait entre la lune et moi comme le clocher d'une cathédrale gothique, un grelot d'or en branle à son bonnet pointu!

Mais bientôt son corps bleuissait, diaphane comme la cire d'une bougie, son visage blémissait comme la cire d'un lumignon, – et soudain il s'éteignait.

Aloysius Bertrand

He looked under the bed, in the fireplace, in the cupboard – no one. He could not understand where it had got in, or where it had got out.

Hoffmann – *Contes nocturnes*

Oh! how many times have I heard and seen Scarbo, when at midnight the moon shines in the sky like a silver coin on an azure banner dotted with golden bees!

How many times have I heard his laughter buzz in the shadows of my alcove, and his fingernails scratching on the silk curtains round my bed!

How many times have I seen him leap down to the floor, pirouette on one foot and hurtle round the room like the spindle that has fallen from a witch's distaff!

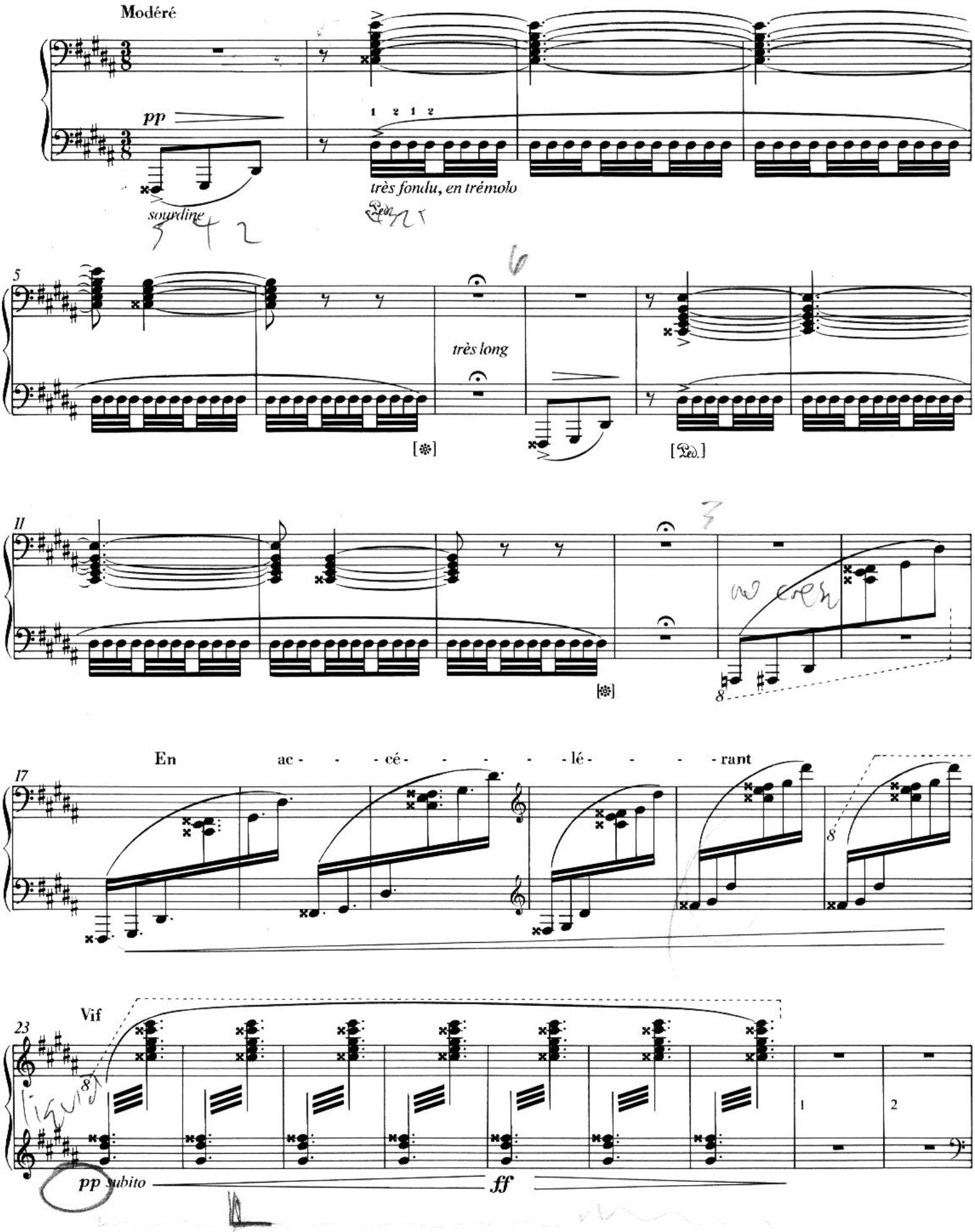
Did I think he had vanished? The dwarf would begin to grow between the moon and me like the steeple of a Gothic cathedral, with a gold bell bobbing on his pointed bonnet!

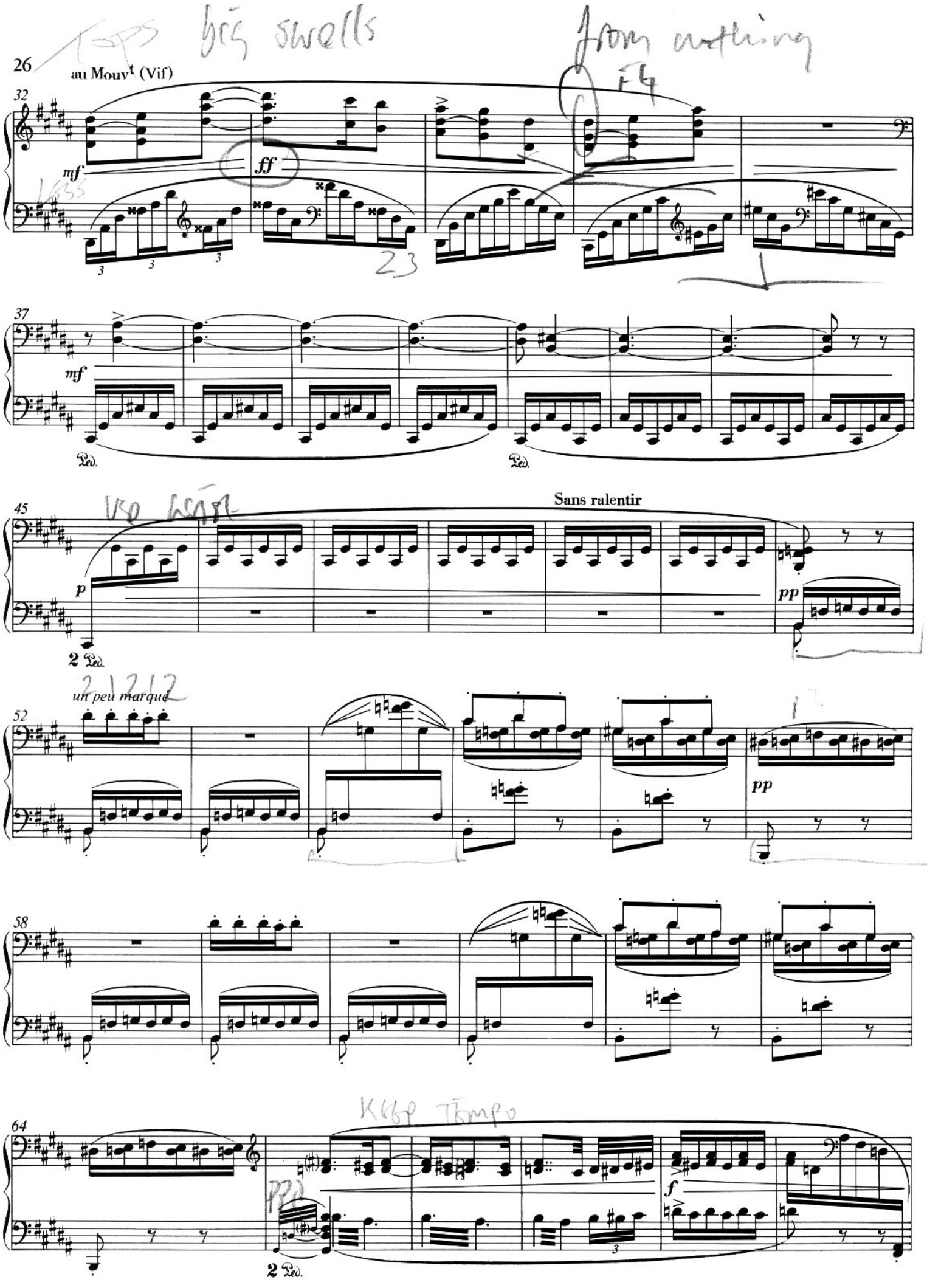
But soon his body would start to turn blue, as transparent as candle wax, his face would grow pale as the light from a candle-end – and suddenly he would begin to disappear.

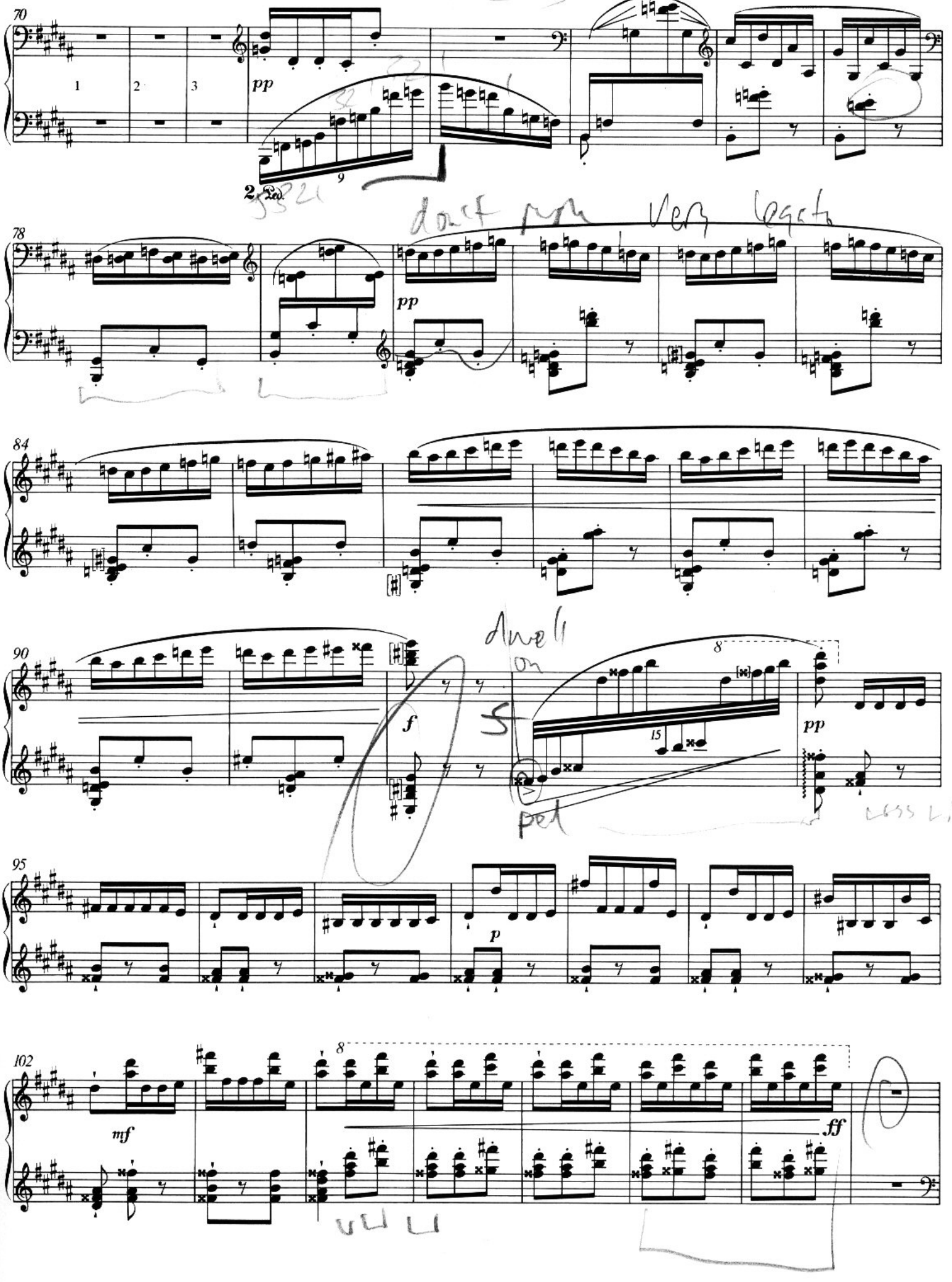
Trans. R. Nichols

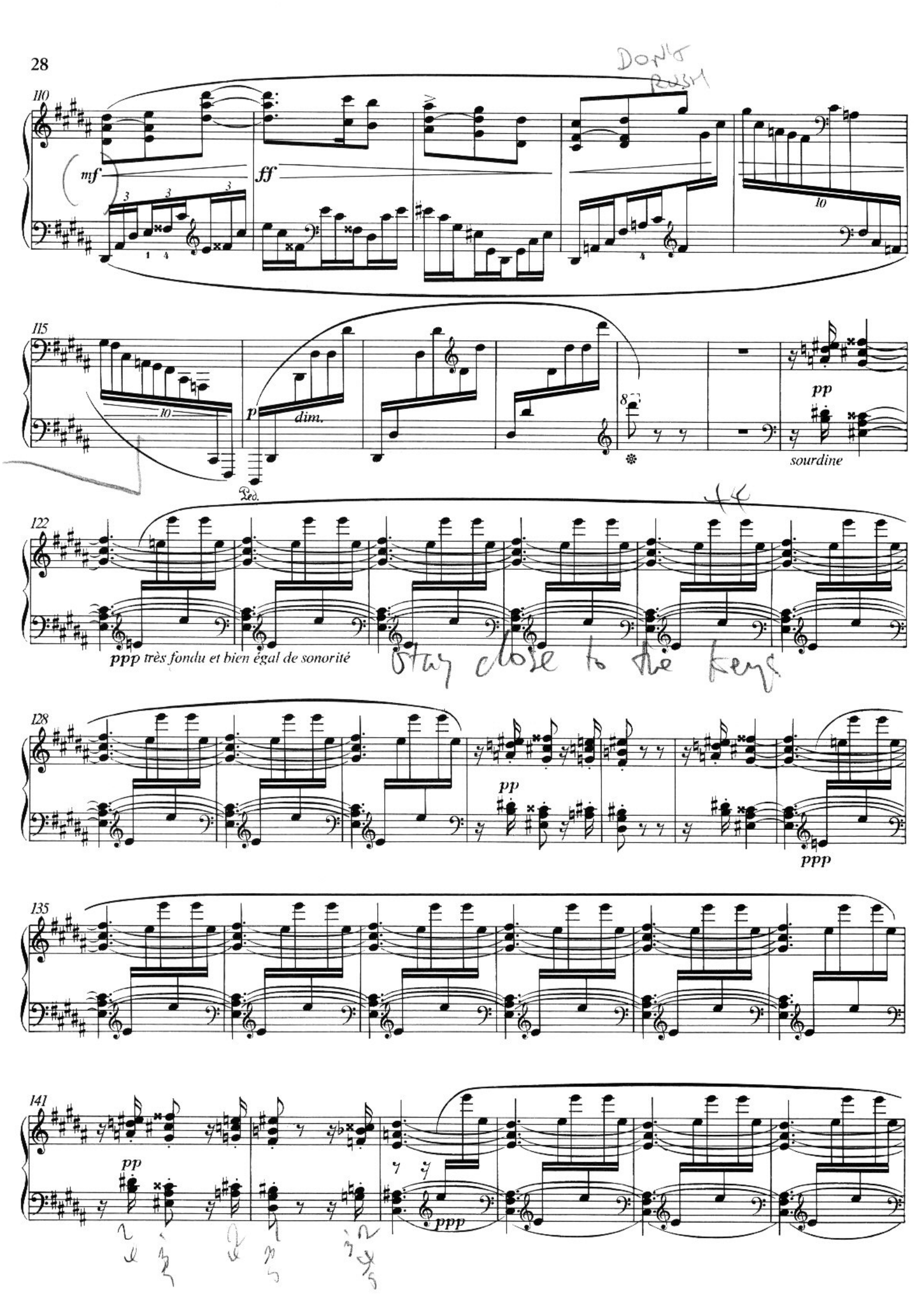
III: Scarbo

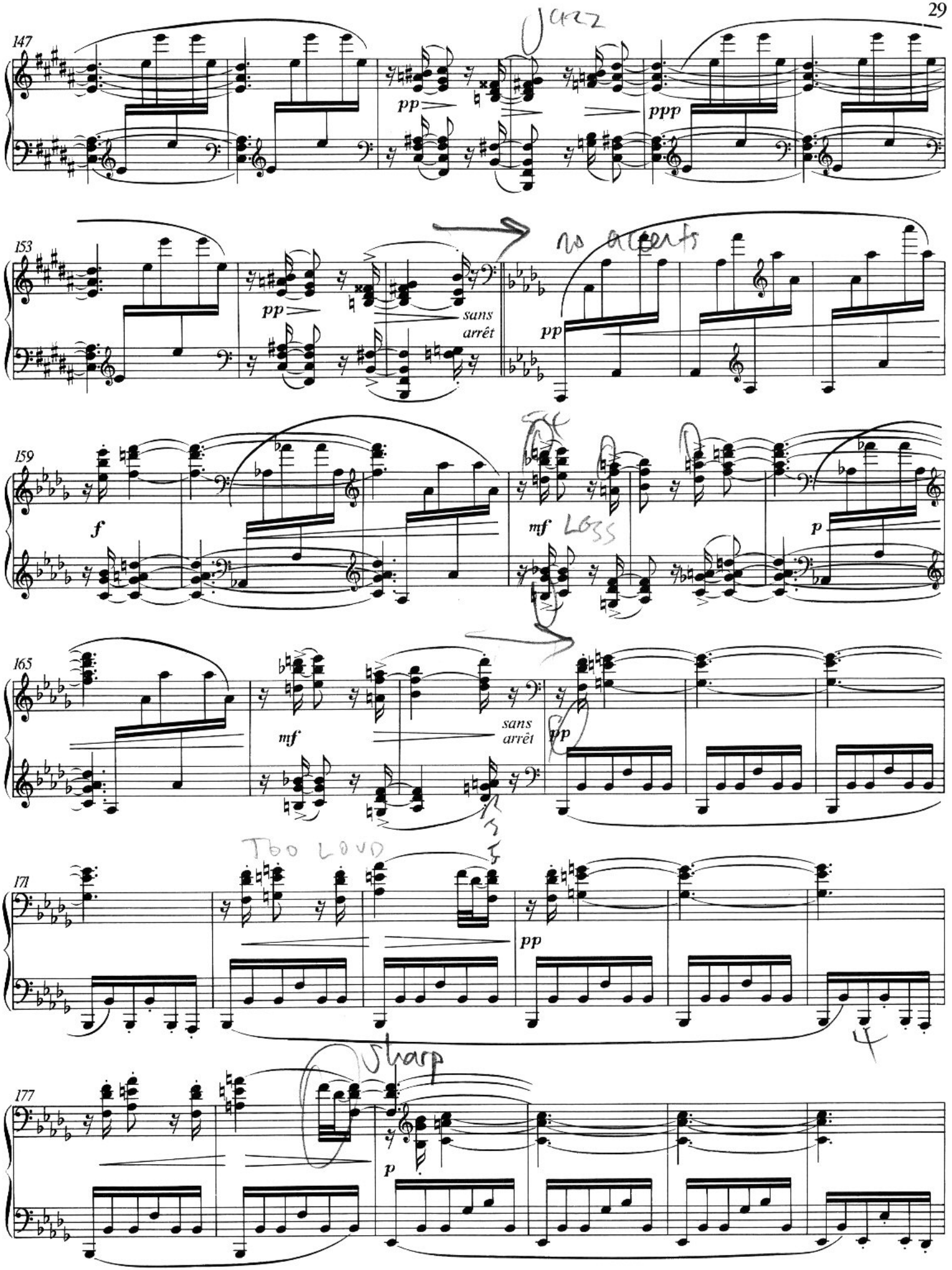
à Rudolph Ganz

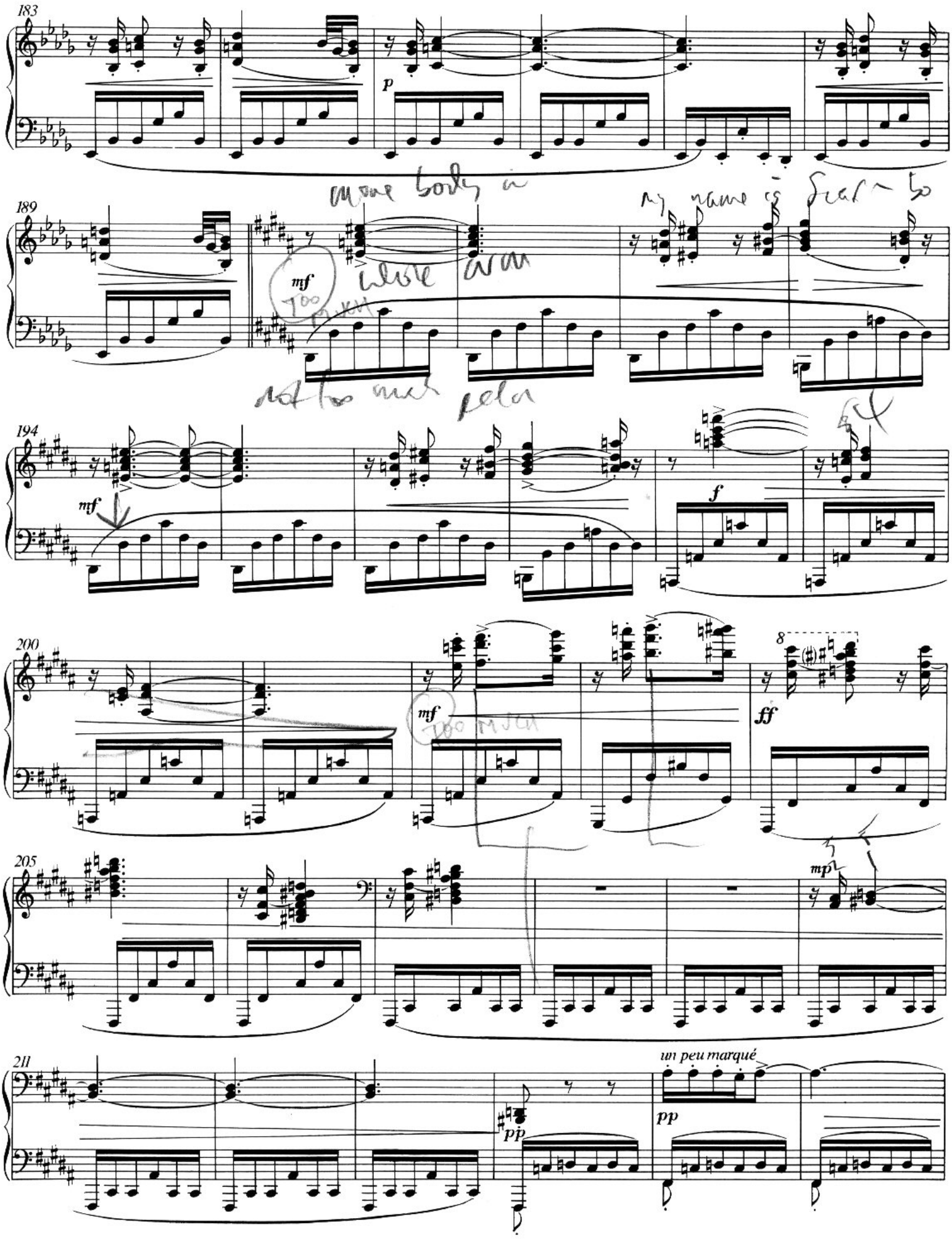


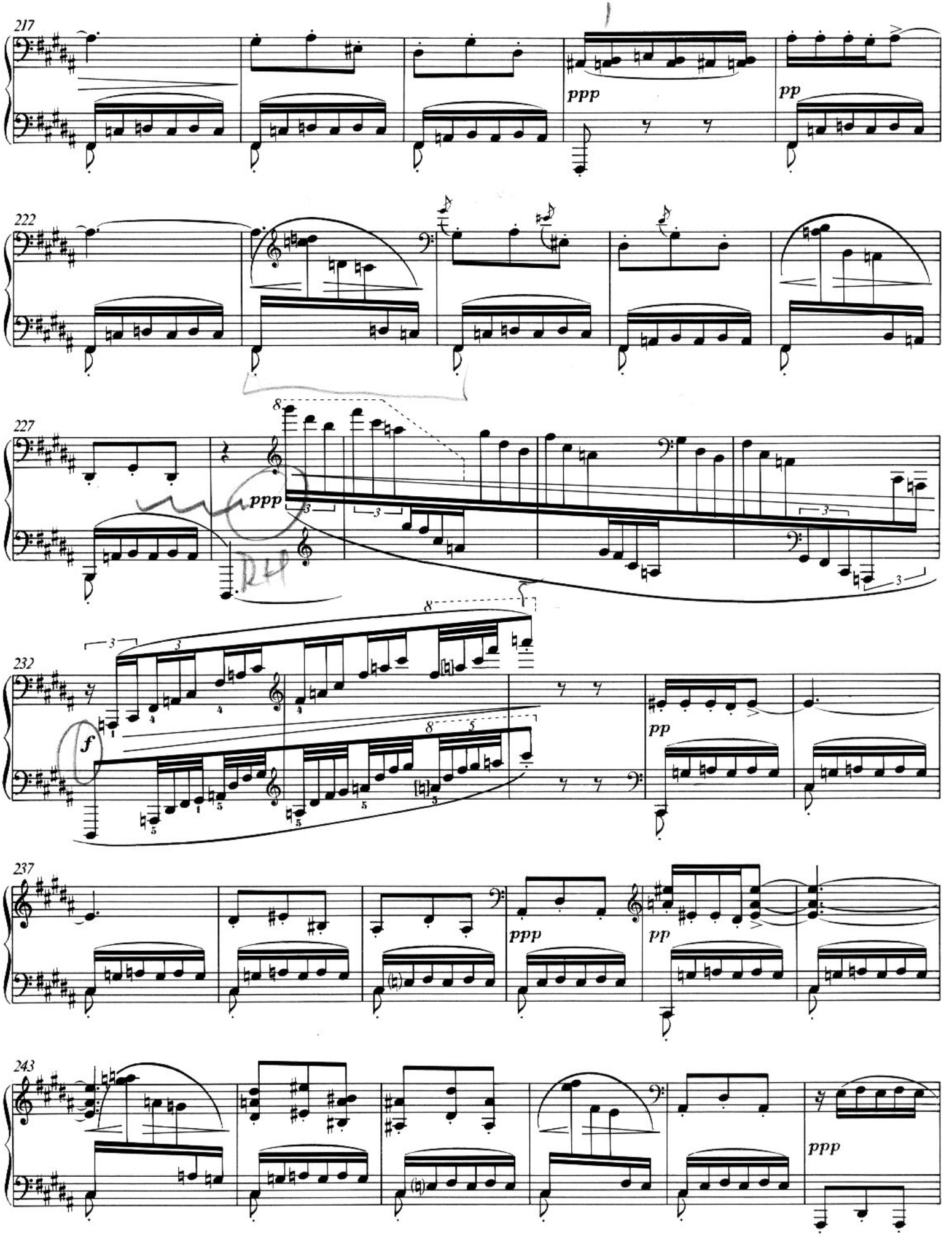

26
au Mouvt (Vif)
32
mf
ff
37
mf
Ped.
Ped.
45
Sans ralentir
p
pp
2 Ped.
un peu marqué
52
pp
58
64
f
2 Ped.

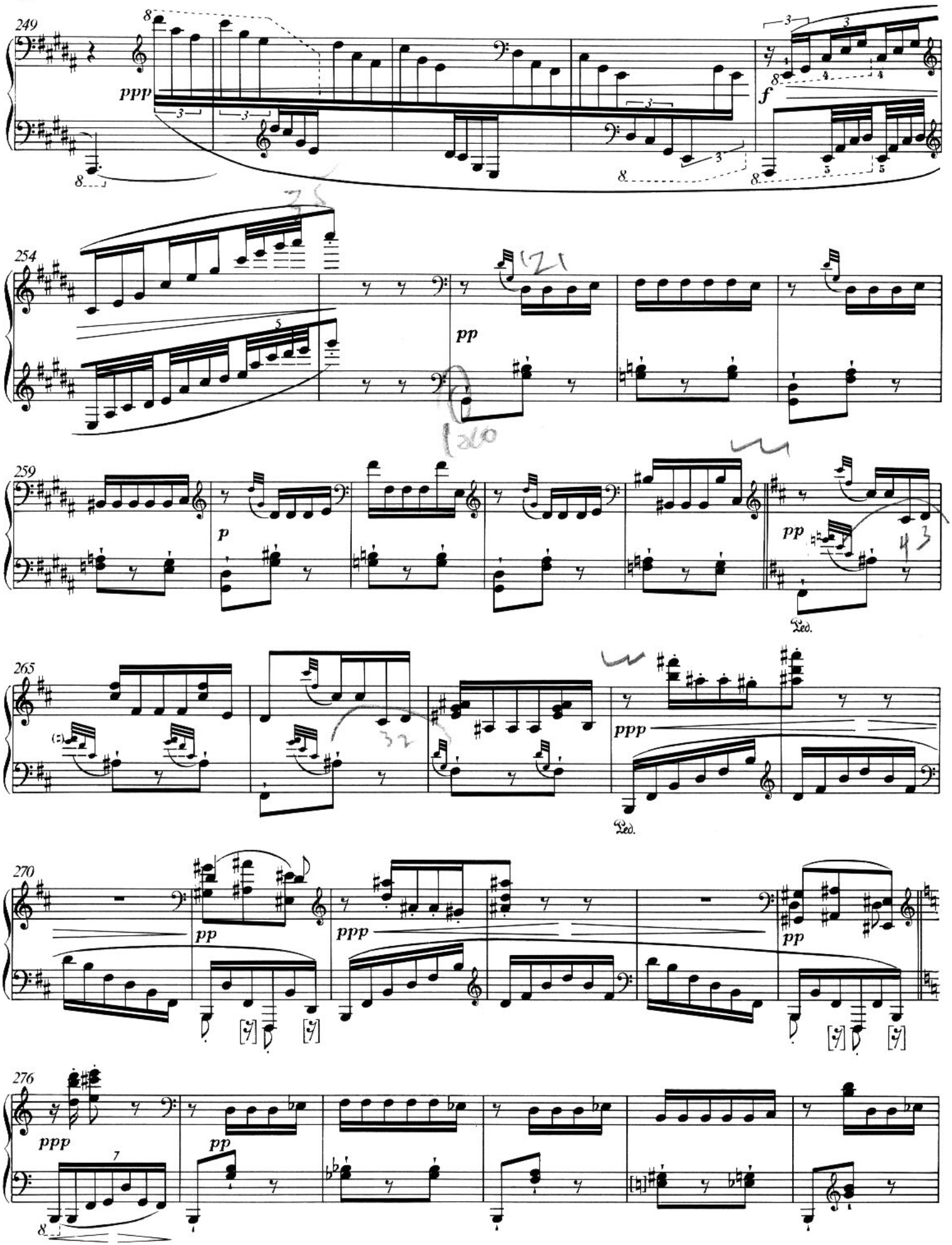

70
1
2
3
pp
9
2 Ped.
78
pp
84
90
f
8
15
pp
95
p
102
mf
8
ff

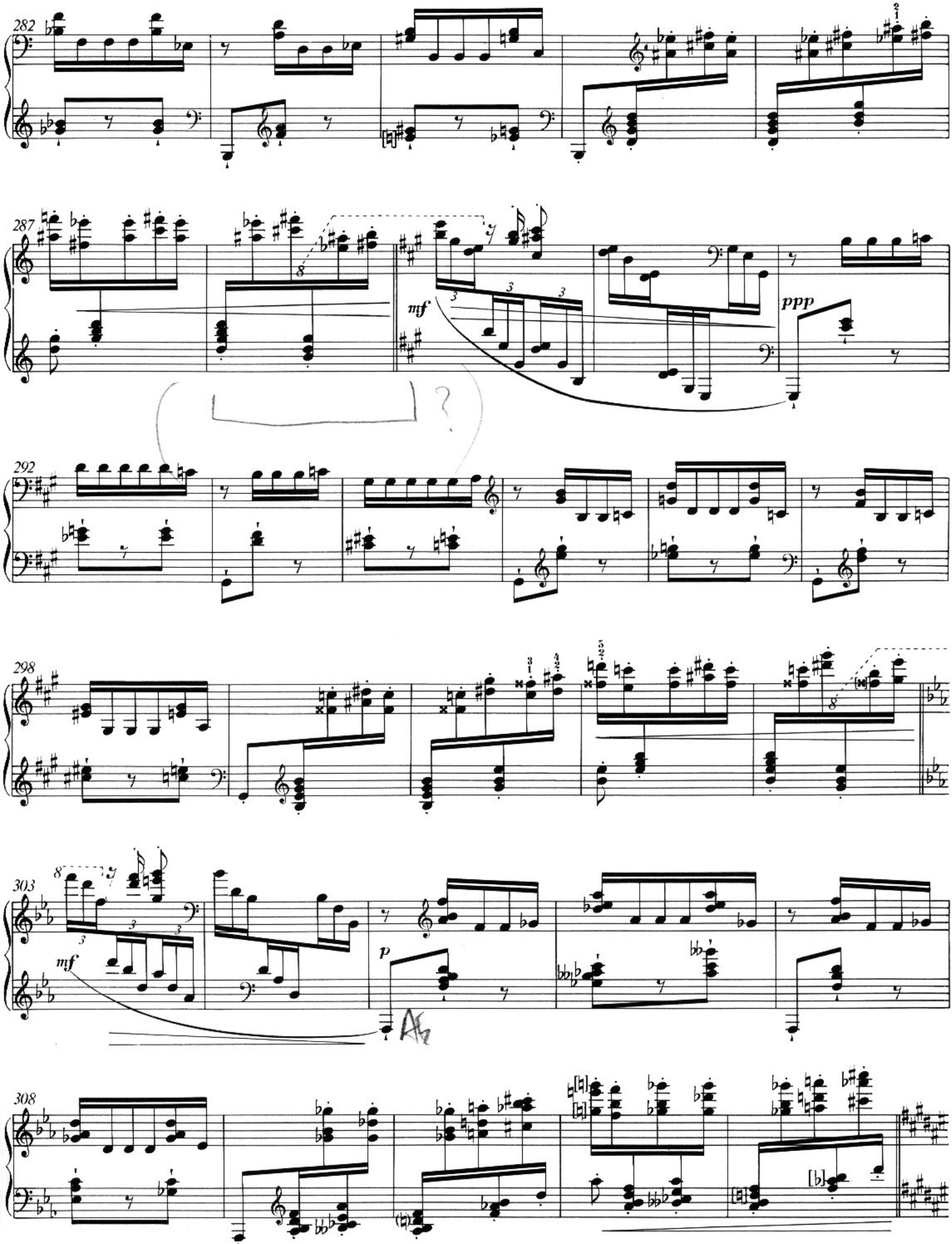

DON'T RUSH
110
mf
ff
10
115
10
p
dim.
8
pp
sourdine
Ped.
122
ppp très fondu et bien égal de sonorité
Stay close to the keys
128
pp
ppp
135
141
pp
ppp

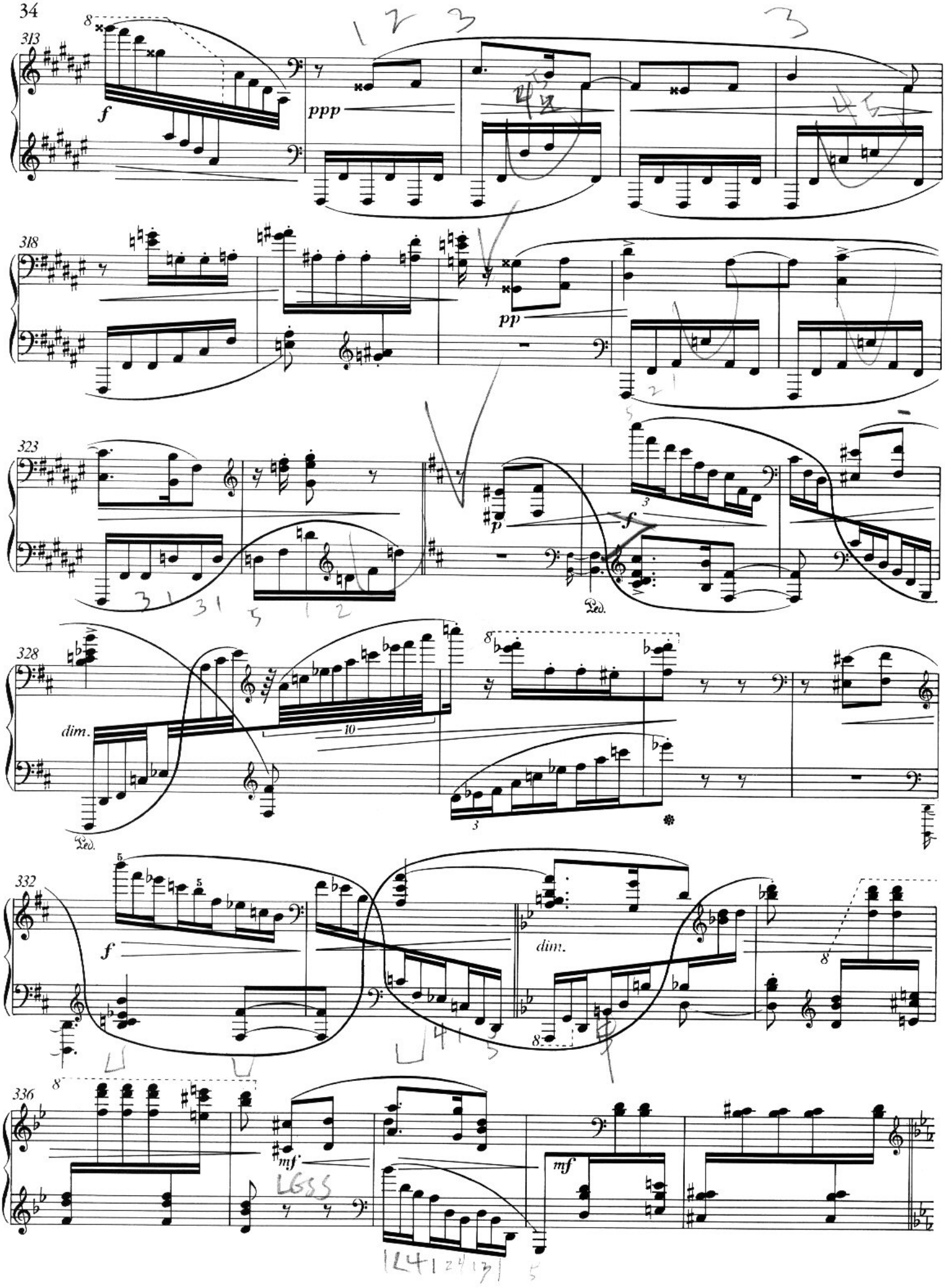

147
pp
ppp
153
pp
sans arrêt
pp
159
f
mf
p
165
mf
sans arrêt
pp
171
pp
177
p

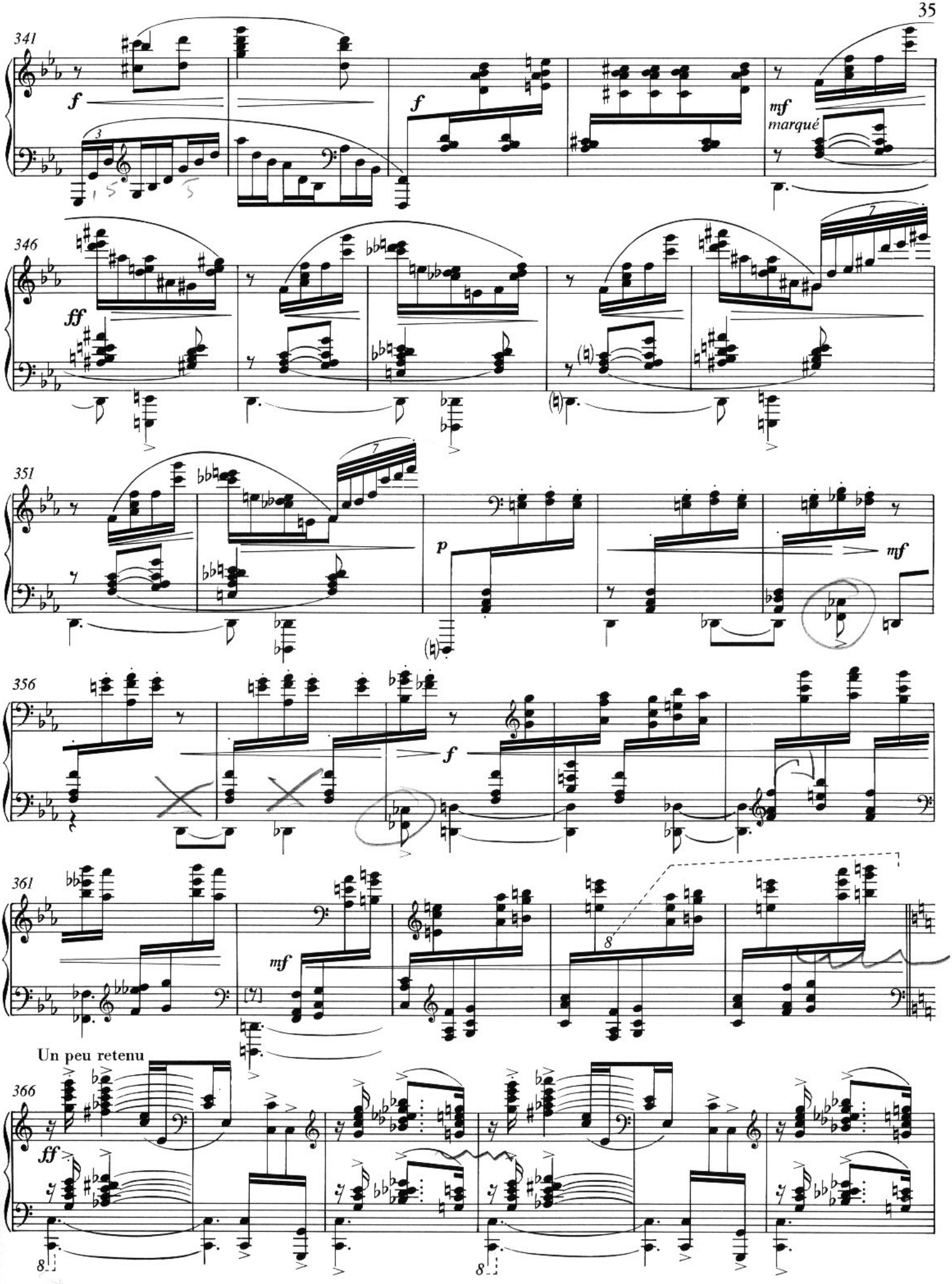

183
p
189
mf
194
mf
f
200
mf
8
ff
205
mp
211
pp
un peu marqué
pp


217
ppp
pp
222
227
ppp
232
f
pp
237
ppp
pp
243
ppp


249
ppp
f
254
pp
259
p
pp
Ped.
265
ppp
Ped.
270
pp
ppp
pp
276
ppp
pp


282
287
mf
ppp
292
298
303
mf
p
308


313
f
ppp
318
pp
323
p
f
Ped.
328
dim.
10
Ped.
332
f
dim.
336
mf
mf


341
f
f
mf
marqué
346
ff
351
p
mf
356
f
361
mf
Un peu retenu
366
ff