FULL SCORE

Beginning String Orchestra

CARL FISCHER PERFORMANCE SERIES

Grade 1

Aunt Rhodie's Appetite

Traditional

Arranged by

Joseph Compello

BAS38

INSTRUMENTATION

Full Score 1
Actor's Scripts 4
Violin I 8
Violin II 8
Violin III (Viola T.C.) 2
Viola 5
Cello 5
Bass 5
Piano 1

CARL FISCHER®

About the Arrangement

Aunt Rhodie's Appetite is a novel setting in which beginners can perform several standard folk songs. Because they are so easy, these songs by themselves would not make much of a concert, even for beginners. But when used as interludes to this play, the songs become sufficiently interesting to the audience, without taxing the abilities of students who have only been playing for about ten to twelve weeks.

The story tells of Aunt Rhodie's plan to cook the Old Gray Goose for her holiday dinner. Since the play uses only four actors, it can be performed on stage in front of the ensemble. More elaborate settings are possible, of course. Teaching the play can be handled by the director or by a classroom teacher. The actors can be students or faculty members. Costumes can be as simple or fancy as wanted.

Thank you for choosing this composition. I hope you and your students find it educational and enjoyable.

Joseph Compello,
Glen Arm, Maryland, 2008

About the Arranger

Joseph Compello, a native of Carbondale, Pennsylvania, holds degrees in music education from the Peabody Conservatory and Towson University. During his thirty-one-year career as an instrumental music teacher in Maryland, he wrote numerous compositions for his students. In 1994, Carl Fischer began publishing many of these classroom-tested pieces including his debut publication *Cadets on Parade,* and the 1996 best-seller *Rock to the Max, Mr. Sax.* In 2003, Compello's rise from local band director to internationally published composer was chronicled in the prestigious Baltimore Sun. Now retired from teaching, Compello, continues to draw on his extensive background in music education to compose new music exclusively for Carl Fischer's Performance Series, which now contains over eighty of his works.

Aunt Rhodie's Appetite

Traditional
Arranged by Joseph Compello

Actors:
Narrator, Aunt Rhodie, Pierre, Gray Goose

Minimum Props:
Cane, apron, plucked rubber chicken, chef's hat, bird's beak mask

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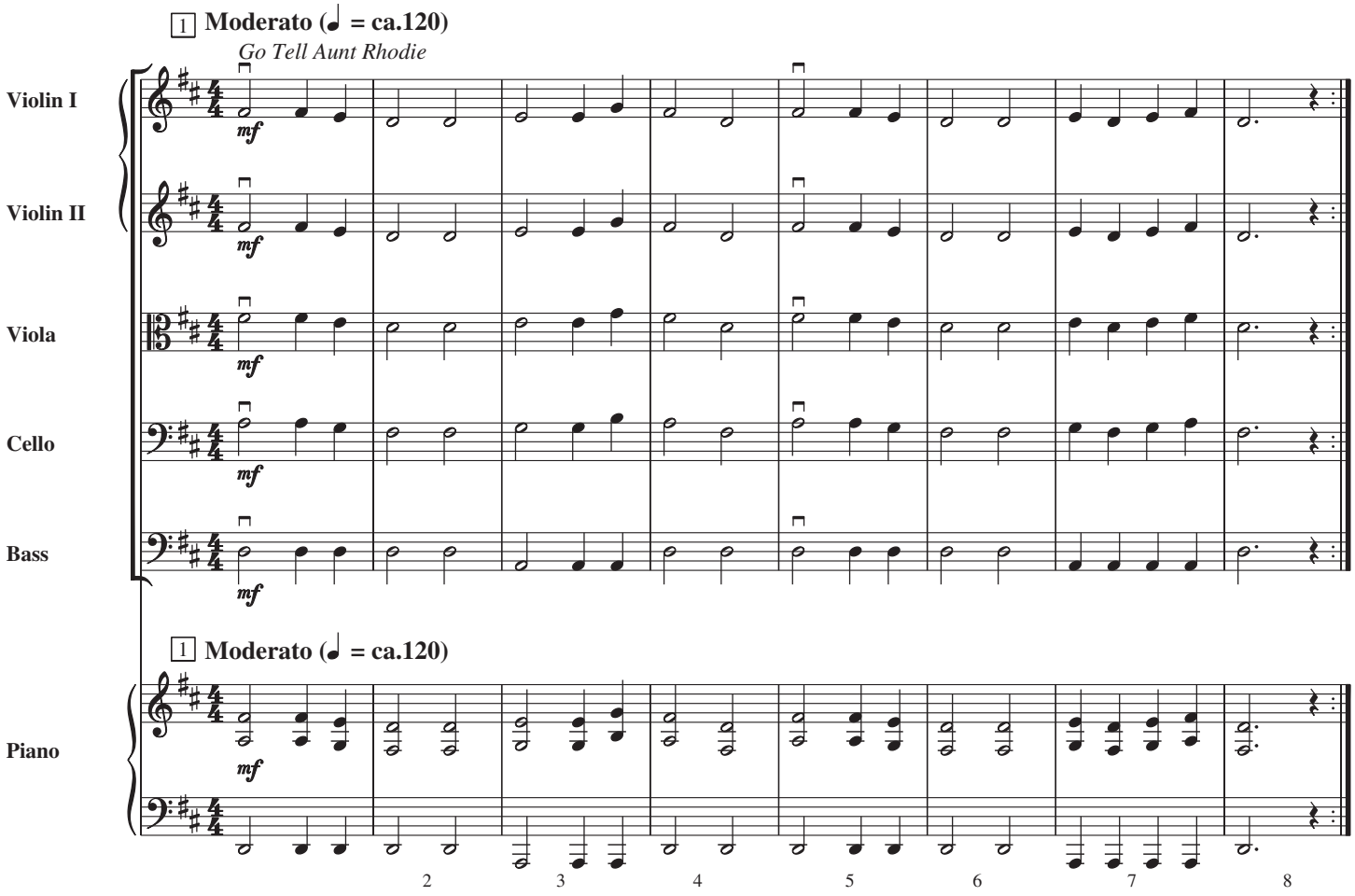
Play Begins

Narrator: "Once upon a time there was an old gray goose who lived on a farm." (Enter Gray Goose.)

"The farm belonged to a lady whom everyone called Aunt Rhodie."

(Orchestra plays no. 1, *Go Tell Aunt Rhodie*. Enter Aunt Rhodie. She wears an apron, walks bent over, and uses a cane. Aunt Rhodie walks around the goose inspecting him.)



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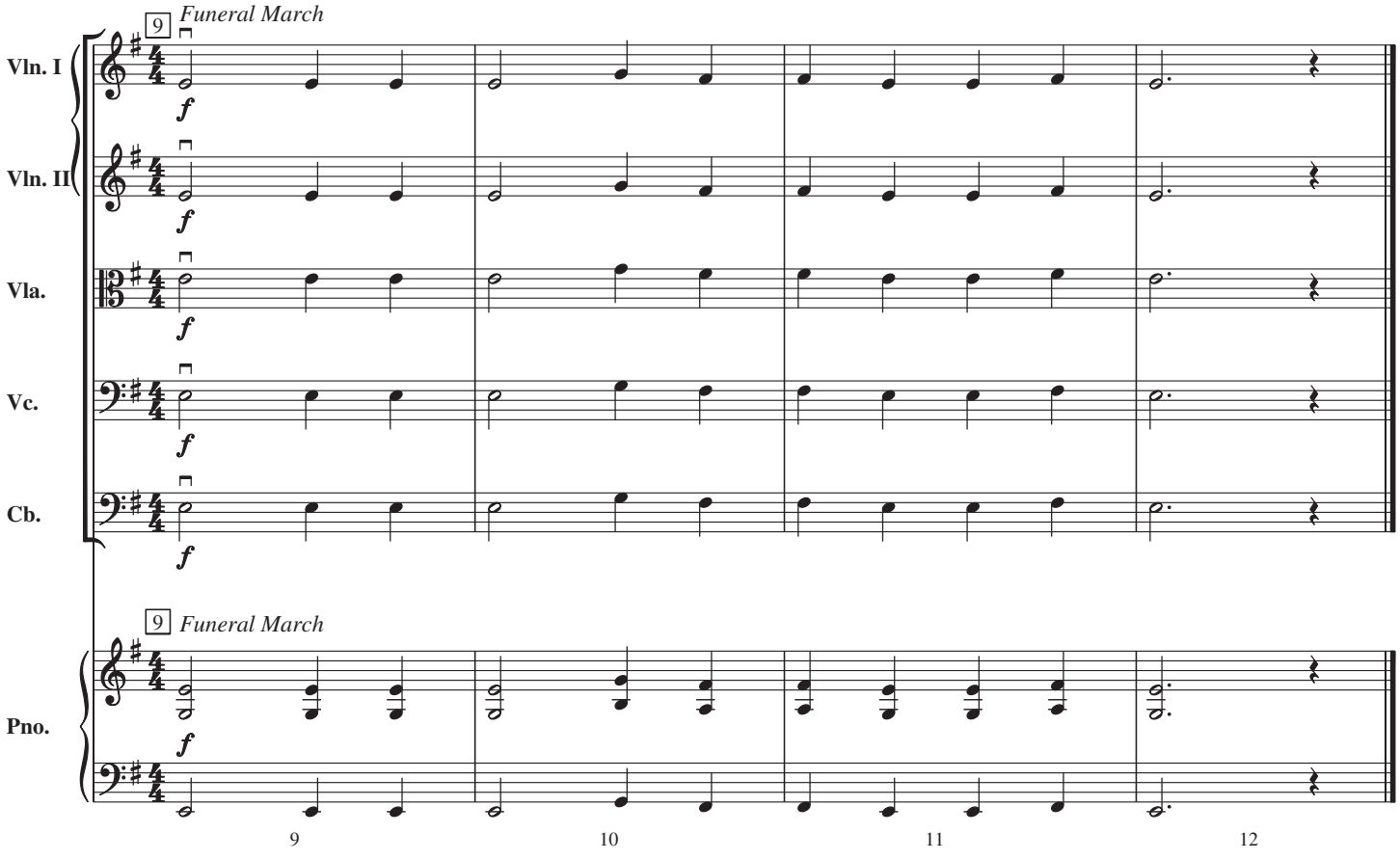
(Orchestra stops.)

Aunt Rhodie (aside to the audience): "That gray goose is getting awfully old. I'd bettter cook him for my holiday dinner this year before he gets too tough to eat."

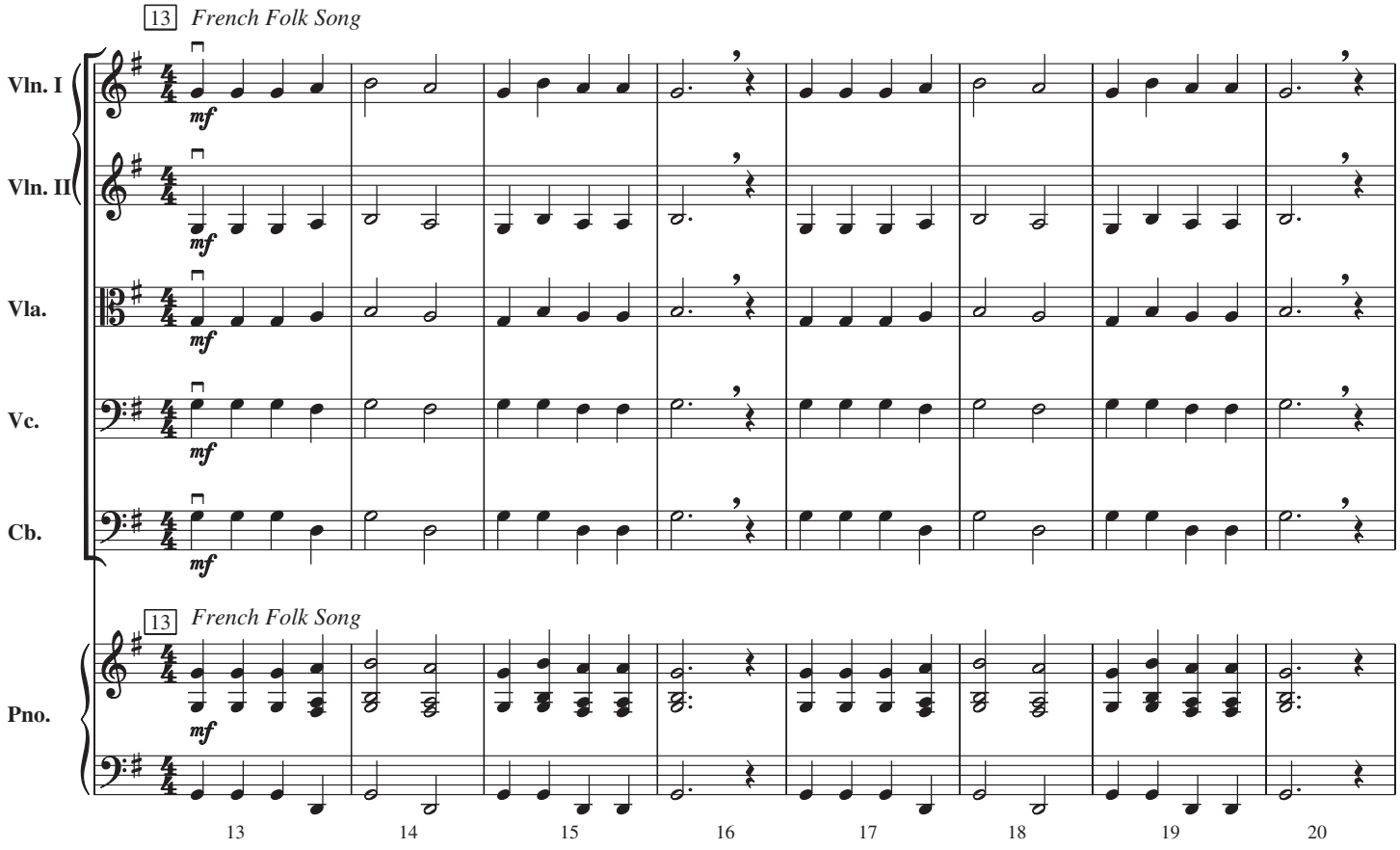
(Orchestra plays no. 9, *Funeral March.* An orchestra member stands up holding a plucked rubber chicken high over his head. He sits when the music stops.)

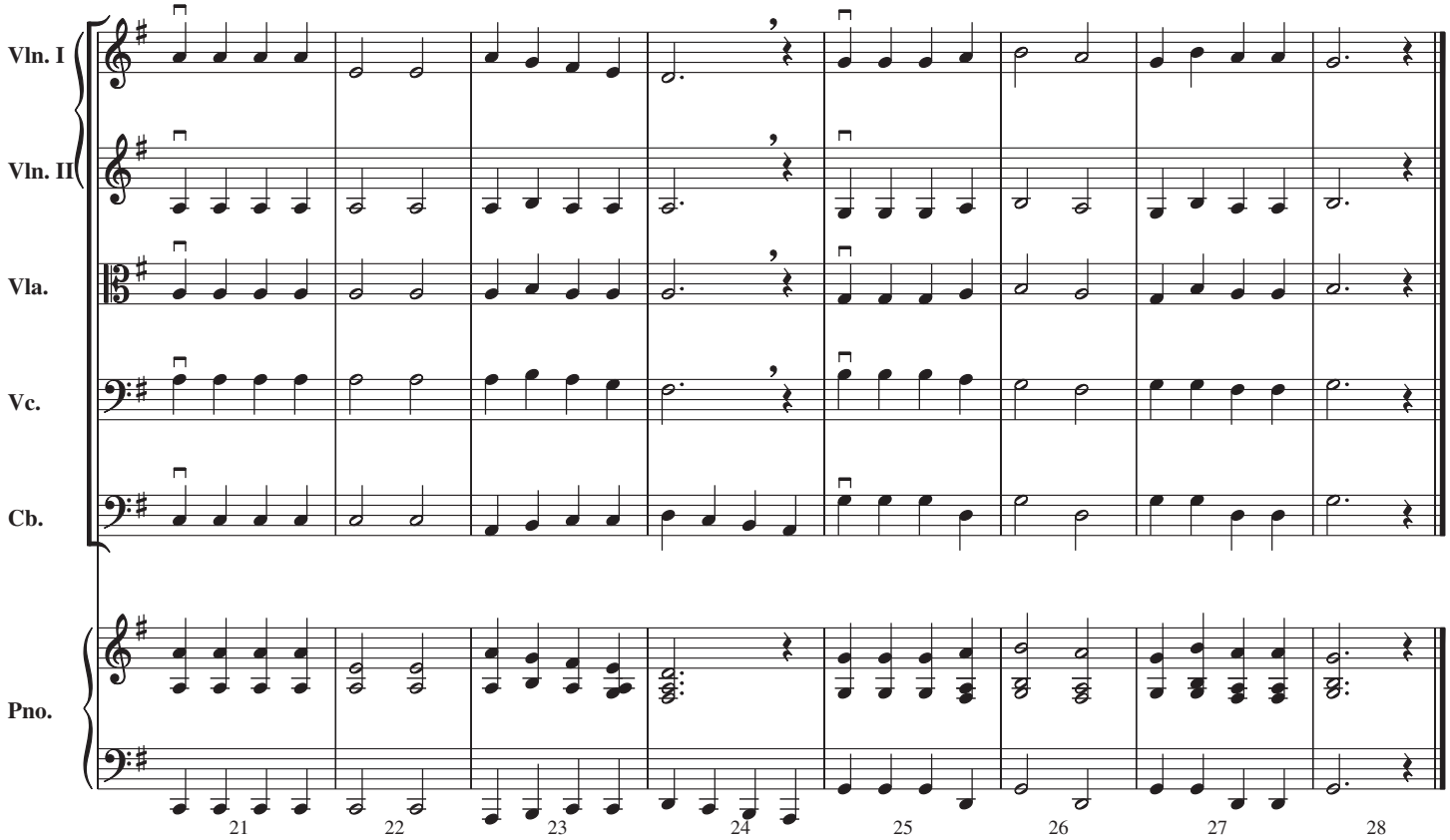


(Orchestra stops. Exit Aunt Rhodie and the Gray Goose.)

Narrator: "Aunt Rhodie's neighbor on the next farm was Pierre, the French chef."

(Orchestra plays no. 13, *French Folk Song.* Enter Pierre wearing a chef's hat. Pantomines cooking.)


13 French Folk Song
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
mf
13 French Folk Song
Pno.
mf
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

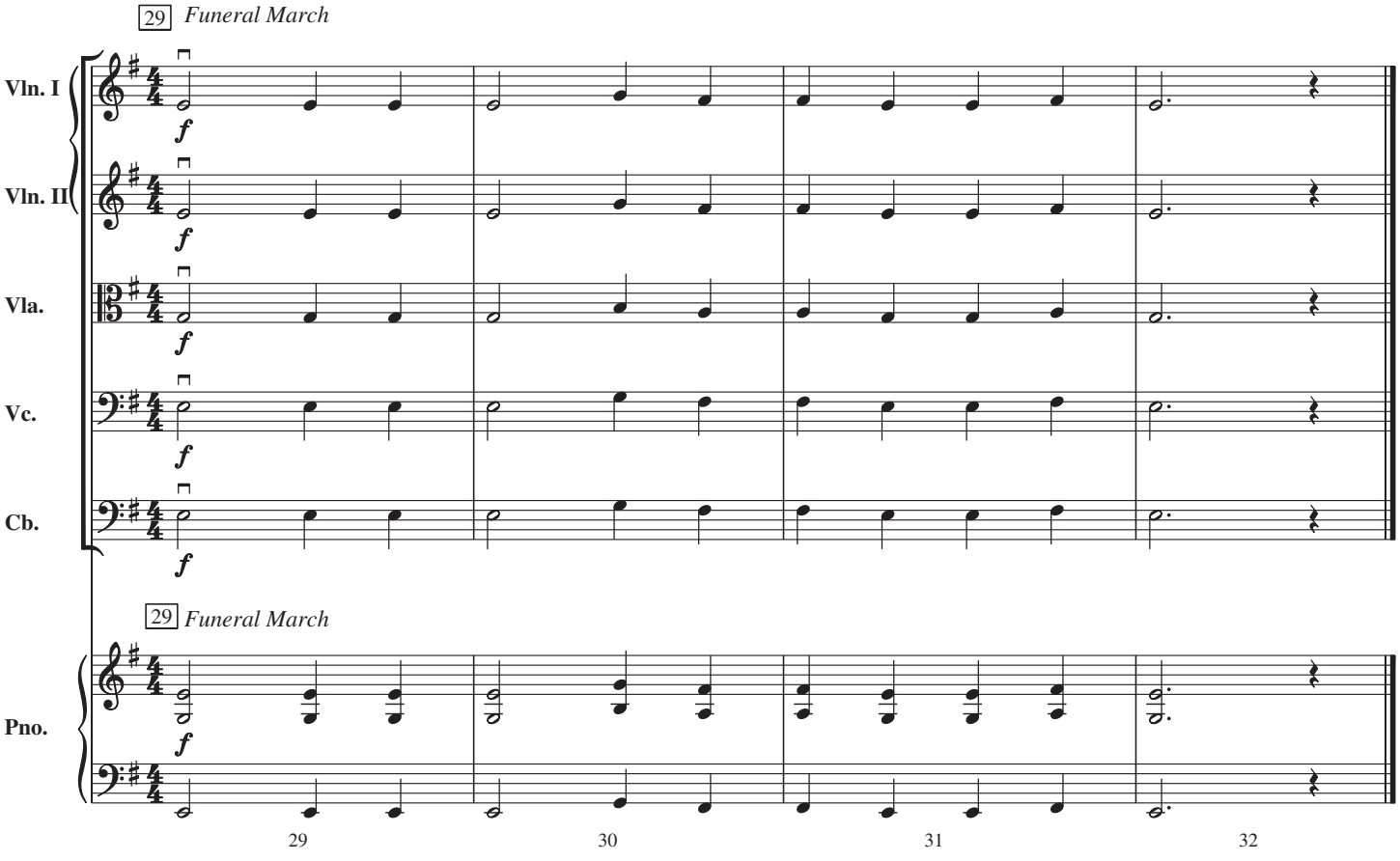

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
Pno.
21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

(Orchestra stops. Enter Aunt Rhodie.)

Pierre: "Hello, Aunt Rhodie. What can I do for you on zeece beautiful day?"

Aunt Rhodie: "Well, I'd like to borrow your big roasting pan. I'm going to cook that old gray goose for my holiday dinner."

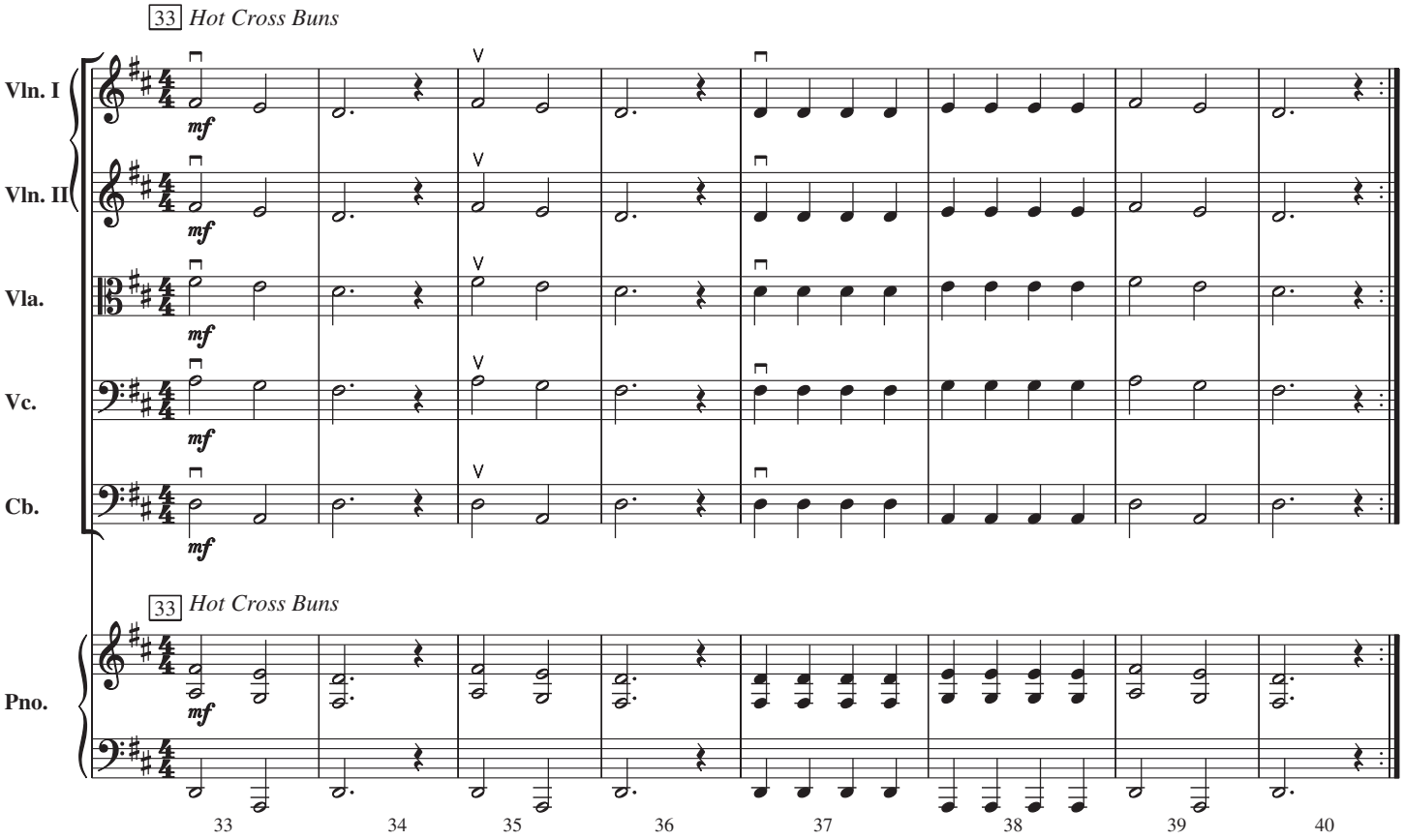
(Orchestra plays no. 29, *Funeral March.* An orchestra member stands up holding a plucked rubber chicken high over his head. He sits when the music stops.)



(Orchestra stops.)

Pierre (Horrified): "Oh, mon Dieu! Don’t cook zee old gray goose. Perhaps you will change your mind after you have eaten some of my hot cross buns."

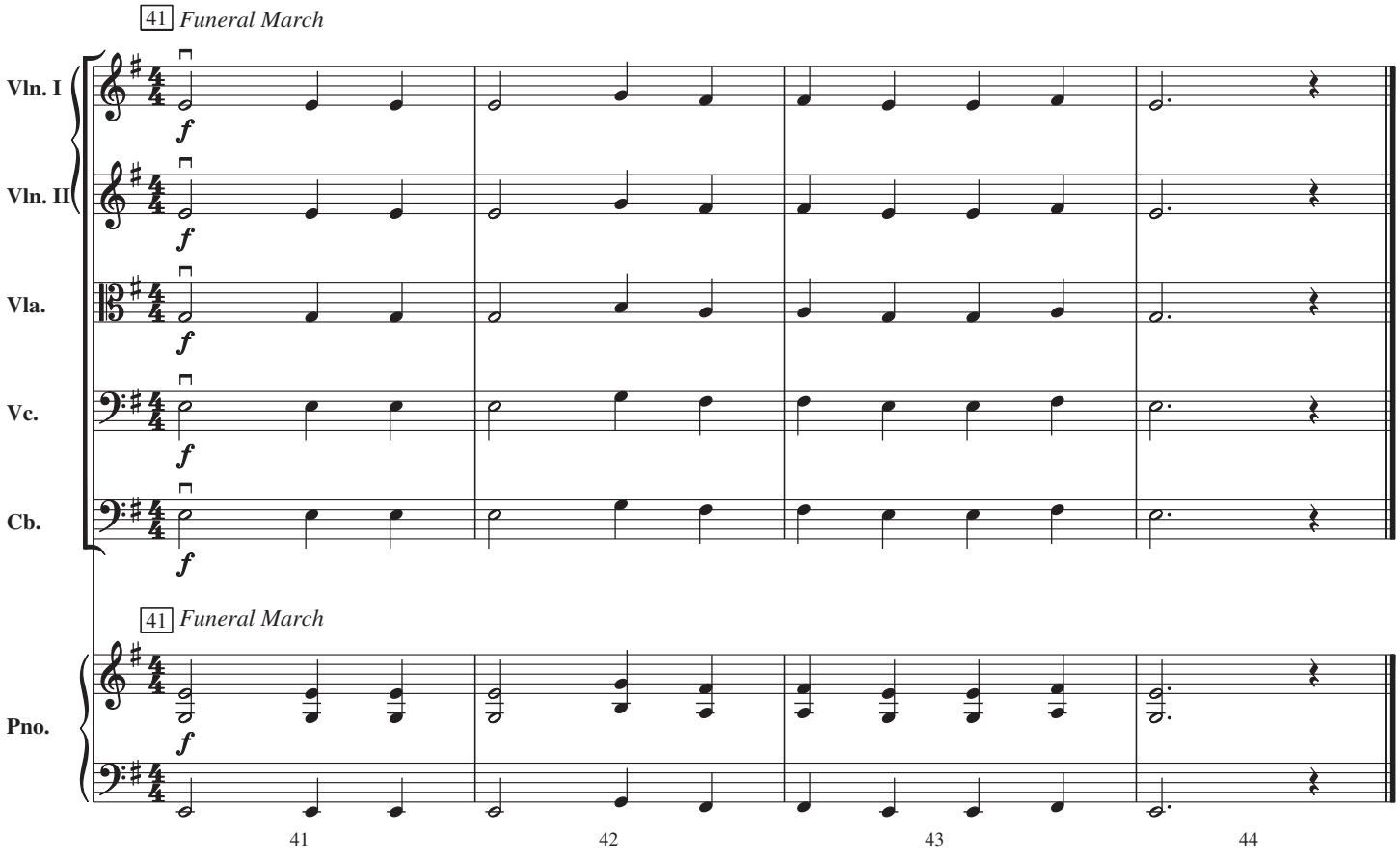
(Orchestra plays no. 33, *Hot Cross Buns.* Pierre pantomines baking and serving. Aunt Rhodie eats them eagerly.)



(Orchestra stops.)

Aunt Rhodie: "Those hot cross buns were very tasty, Pierre, but tomorrow I'm still going to cook that old gray goose."

(Orchestra plays no. 41, *Funeral March.* An orchestra member stands up holding a plucked rubber chicken high over his head. He sits when the music stops.)



(Orchestra stops.)

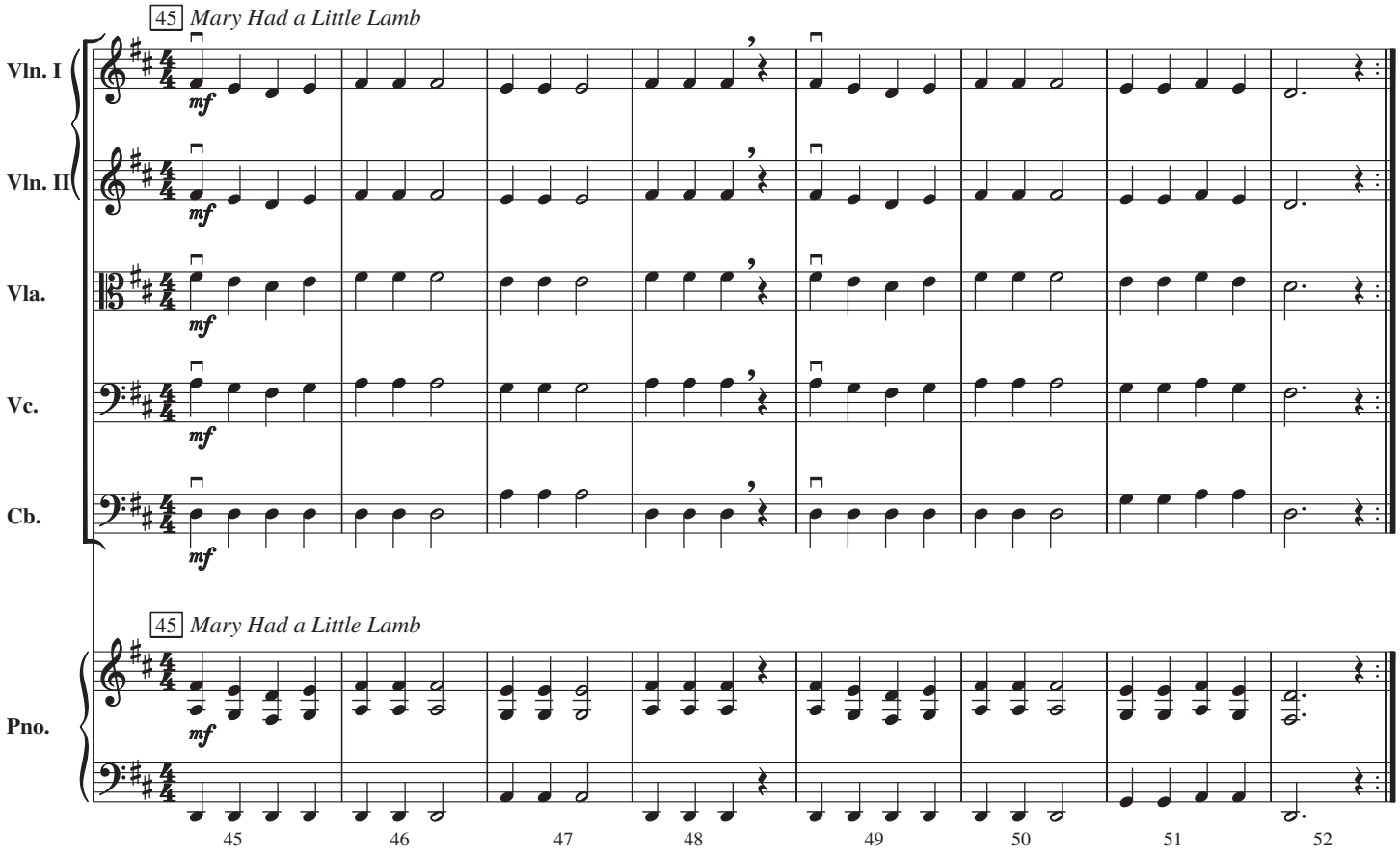
Pierre: "How can you be so cruel?"

Aunt Rhodie (Looking insulted): "Well, I'm no more cruel than that girl Mary. Haven't you heard gossip about her?"

Pierre: "What gosseep?"

Aunt Rhodie (Hand cupped to mouth, close to Pierre's ear): "Well, I heard that for dinner the other night..." (Pause, then loudly to the audience), "Mary had a little lamb."

(Exit Aunt Rhodie and Pierre as orchestra plays no. 45, *Mary Had a Little Lamb.*)



(Orchestra stops.)

(Enter the Old Gray Goose and Pierre.)

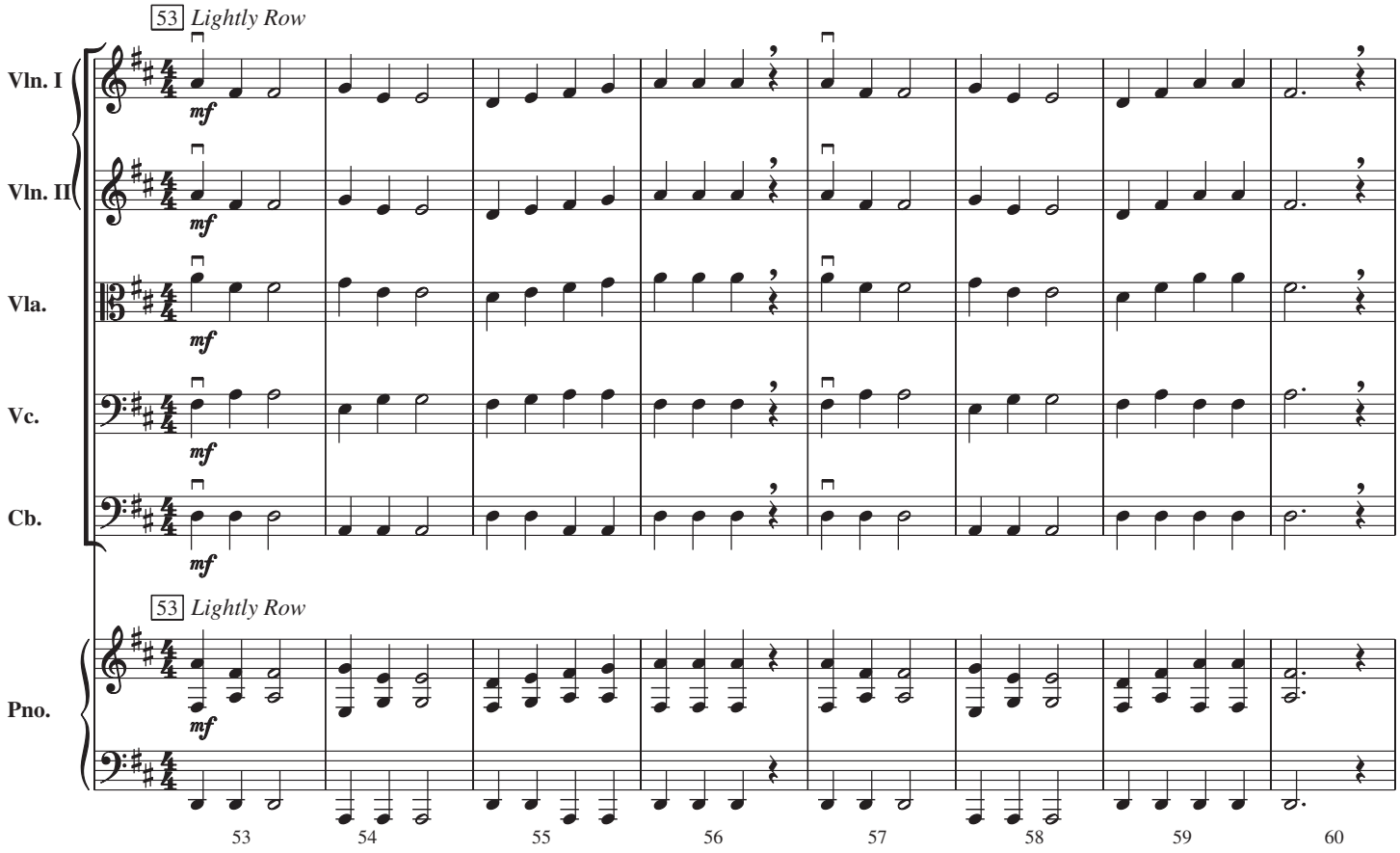
Narrator: "Pierre was very upset, so that night he went to see the old gray goose."

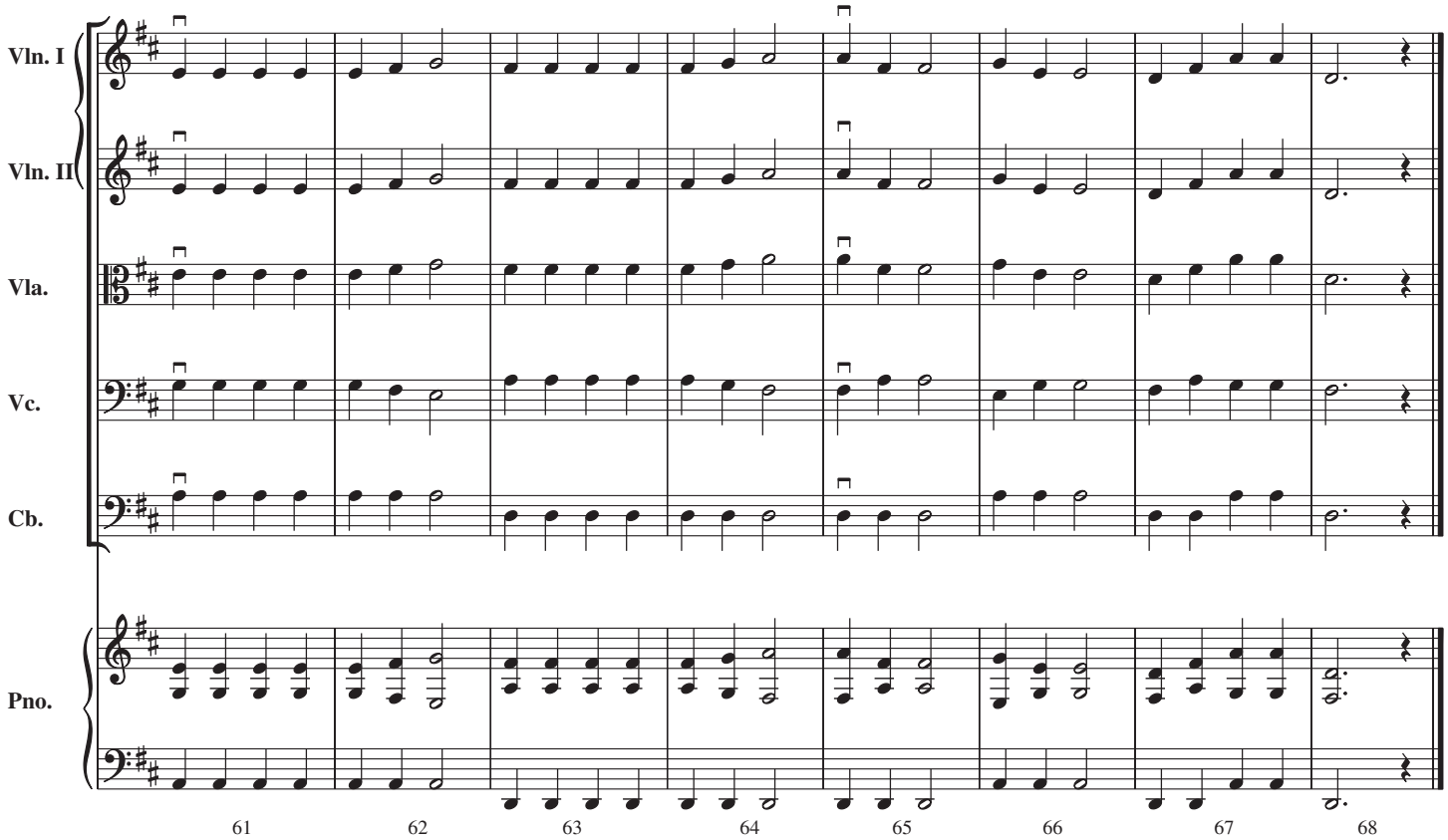
Pierre: "Did you know, mon amie, that Aunt Rhodie was planning on having you for her holiday dinner?"

Gray Goose: "Delightful! And what is she serving?"

Pierre (Loudly and pointing to the Gray Goose): "You! Quick, run down to zee river and take my rowboat. Row away as fast and you can."

(Orchestra plays no. 53, *Lightly Row*. Exit Pierre. Goose pantomines rowing around the stage and exits when the orchestra stops.)


53 Lightly Row
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
mf
53 Lightly Row
Pno.
mf
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

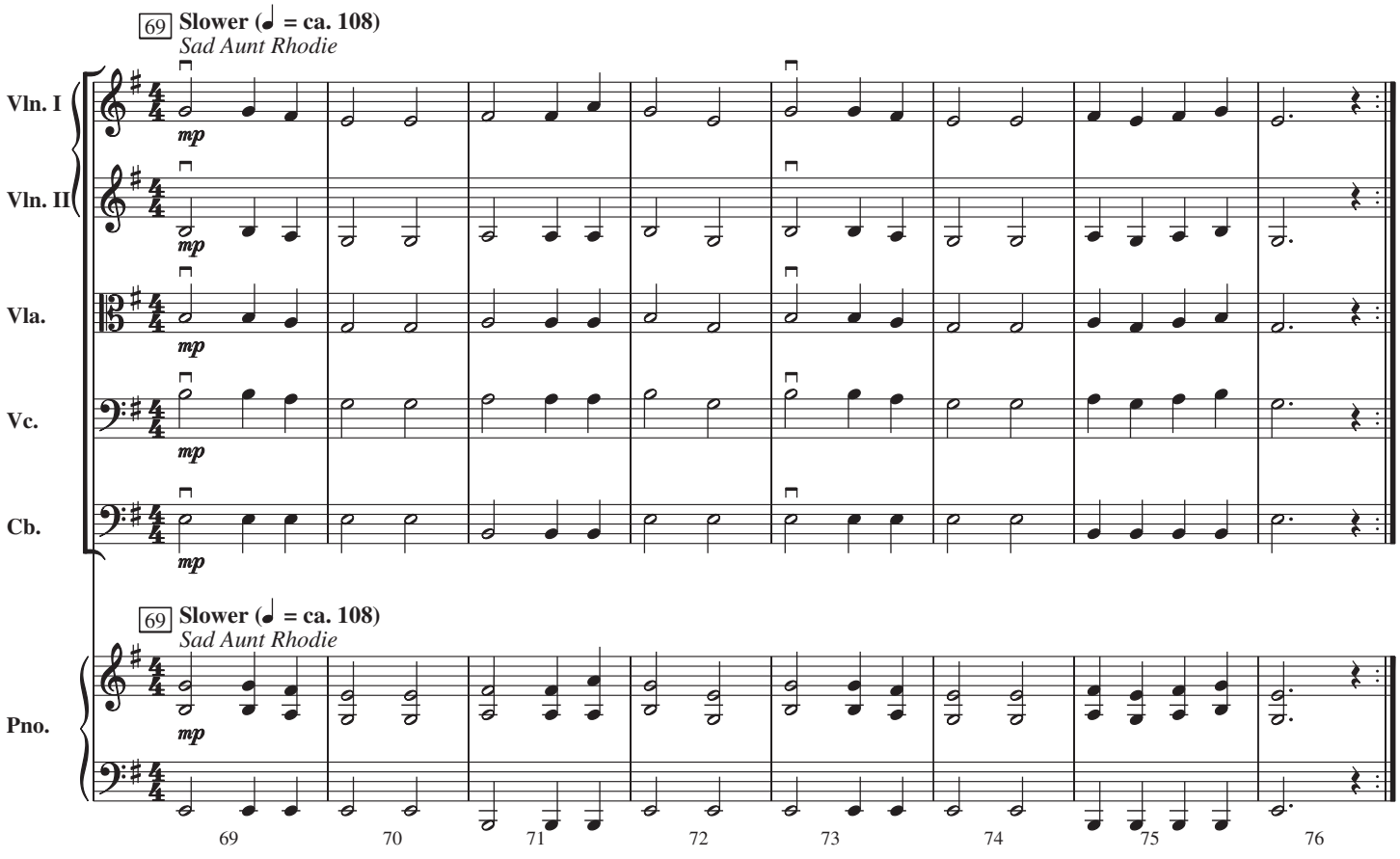

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
Pno.
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68

(Orchestra stops. Enter Aunt Rhodie and Pierre.)

Narrator: "The next morning Pierre went to see Aunt Rhodie and told her how he warned the old gray goose and gave him the rowboat."

Aunt Rhodie: "Oh, that's alright, Pierre. I was really very fond of that goose. I never could have cooked him. As a matter of fact," (sobbing) "I miss him already."

(Orchestra plays no. 69, *Sad Aunt Rhodie.* Aunt Rhodie rubs her eyes and cries loudly and comically.)



(Orchestra stops. The Old Gray Goose enters.)

Narrator: "Just then the old gray goose came waddling over the hill."

Old Gray Goose: "Don't cry, Aunt Rhodie. I knew you would never be mean enough to cook me."

Aunt Rhodie: "Oh dear, I'm so sorry you had to run away and row down the river in the cold night air."

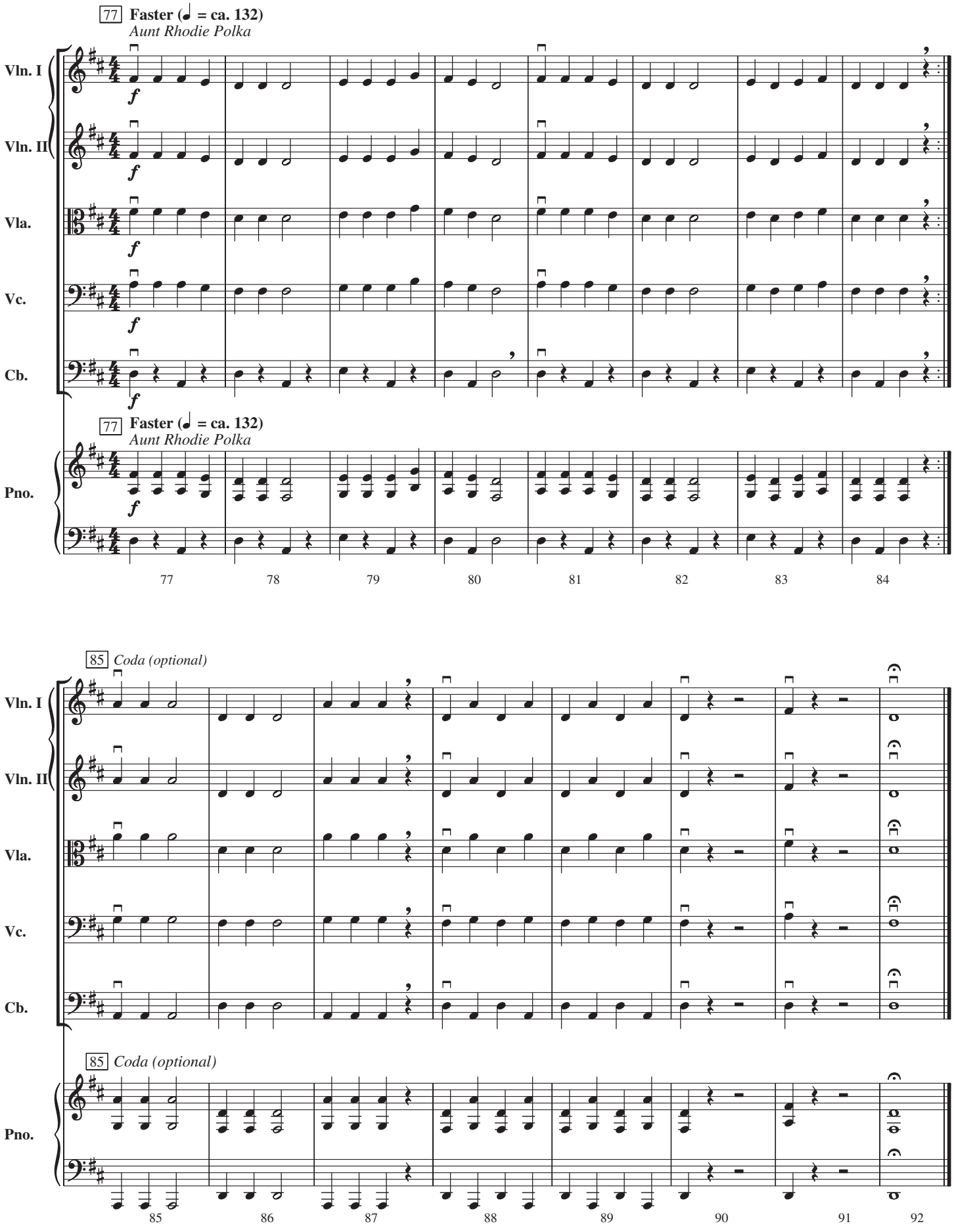
Old Gray Goose: "Well, at least something good happened on the way down the river. I met a new friend. His name is Turkey-Lurkey. Would you care to meet him some time, Aunt Rhodie?"

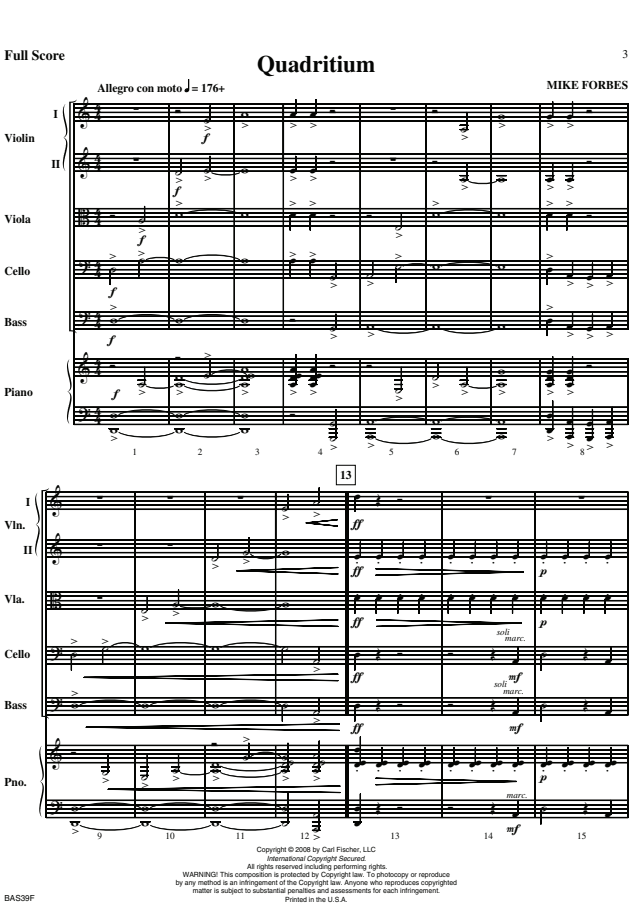
Aunt Rhodie: "Oh, I certainly would." (Licks her lips and rubs her hands on her stomach.) "Ummmm, I certainly would."

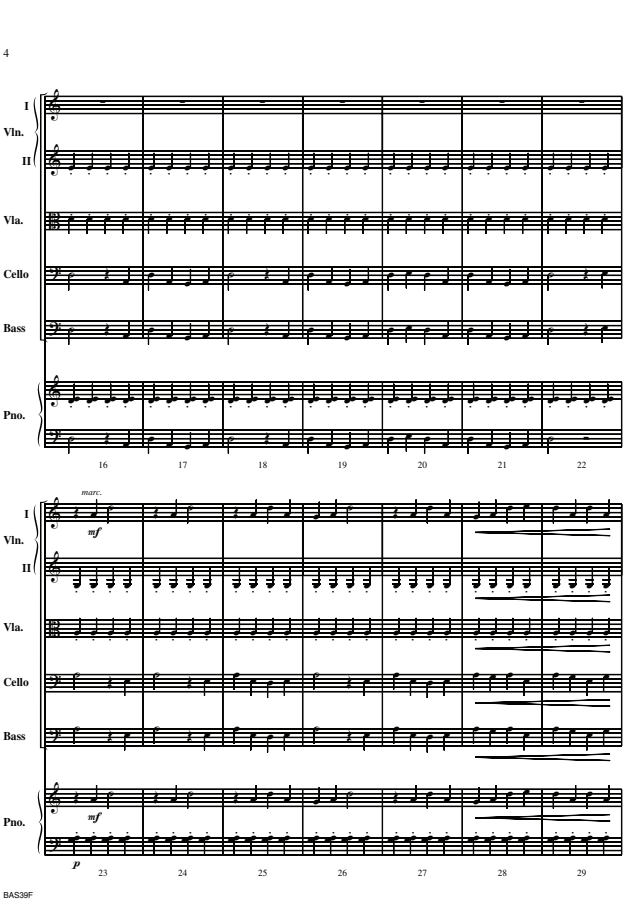
Narrator: "The old gray goose, Aunt Rhodie and Pierre all laughed and then joined hands and danced a lively polka."

(Orchestra plays no. 77, *Aunt Rhodie Polka,* while all three dance. The narrator may also join the dance.)

THE END


77 Faster (♩ = ca. 132)
Aunt Rhodie Polka
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
f
77 Faster (♩ = ca. 132)
Aunt Rhodie Polka
Pno.
f
77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84
85 Coda (optional)
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
85 Coda (optional)
Pno.
85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92





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