Reel On, Québec!

For String Orchestra, Grade 2.5
Arranged by Renata Bratt (ASCAP)

Instrumentation

1 - Full Score
8 - Violin 1
8 - Violin 2
3 - Violin 3 (Viola T.C.)
5 - Viola
5 - Cello
5 - Bass*

Note from the Editor:

This grade 2.5 piece is a melody of the two French Canadian reels. It features a variety of rhythmic patterns that get passed around each section of the orchestra.

* A Cello 2 part (alternate to bass) is available as a free download at randallstandridge.com
- Katie O'Hara LaBrie

Full Set - $60.00 **Extra Conductor Score - $12.00** **Extra Part - $4.00**

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Reel On, Québec

Arranged by Renata Bratt, Grade 2.5

Program Notes:
Reel on, Québec! features two French Canadian Reels; La Belle Catherine (Beautiful Catherine) and La Grand Chaine (The Big Dog). This arrangement by Renata Bratt allows everyone an opportunity play the tune and a chance to master some cool syncopated rhythms! Written for the Wintergrass Festival Youth Orchestra in Washington State, Reel On Quebec is sure to get your toes tapping!

Performance Note:
In viola m. 36 and 40, and violin 2, m. 48, students can play the intended notes (top notes), or, for simplification and to avoid fast string crossings, they can perform the lower notes.

From the Composer:
I learned these two tunes while at the Valley of The Moon Scottish Fiddle Camp in the Redwoods of California. The amazing Canadian fiddler, Andre Brunet, taught the very famous Québécois Reel, La Belle Catherine (Beautiful Catherine) one year and La Grand Chaine (The Big Dog) was already a standard of the camp repertoire. I am part of the educational staff at the Wintergrass Music Festival in Washington State and was delighted to arrange these traditional French Canadian Reels as the closer for the Wintergrass Youth Orchestra Concert in 2024, which had the festival theme, "Whispers from the North."

Learning to read syncopated rhythms can be challenging at first but then can become second nature when you see the same rhythms used many times. Many of these rhythmic syncopations are two-measure riffs or patterns. Once you learn to play the pattern, you can play it no matter what the notes are. I learned to read syncopated patterns when I took jazz band in San Diego from the late great jazz trombone player and director, Jimmy Cheatham. Mr. Cheatham taught everyone in the band how to recognize distinct rhythms and then reproduce that rhythm, whenever they saw it. He always commented – "There are only so many rhythms you can find in a measure. Memorize what they look like, what they sound like, and then you can play them!"

-Renata Bratt

About the Composer
Cellist Renata Bratt teaches cello and string orchestra at the Santa Cruz Waldorf School in California, is a conductor for Boulder Creek's adult chamber strings' Concertino and regularly performs in classical, jazz, rock and Celtic groups. She has taught classical styles, jazz improvisation and fiddling at international string workshops including Alasdair Fraser's camps, Southern Hemisphere International School for Scottish Fiddling in New Zealand, the New Directions Cello Festival, Wintergrass, the Mandolin Symposium, ASTA, MENC and Suzuki institutes. Her string orchestra compositions, arrangements and fiddling cello books are published by Alfred, Keiser Southern, Ludwig Masters, Mel Bay and Randall Standridge Music. Renata received her Ph.D. in Music from UC San Diego.
Additionally, Renata has been a Kuumbwa Jazz Artist in the Schools as well as past president of the Suzuki Music Association of California and the International Association for Jazz Education String Caucus. She has toured internationally with Reel of Seven (a Scottish Country Dance Band) and performed with luminaries such as Liz Carroll and John Doyle, Darol Anger and Alasdair Fraser, and played back-up with Jimmy Page and Robert Plant, David Sanborn, Lyle Lovett and Dionne Warwick. Rolling Stone dubbed her an "ace performer" for her work recording and touring with alternative rocker Cindy Lee Berryhill's Garage Orchestra.

Comissioned by the Wintergrass Youth Orchestra, 2024

Reel On, Québec!

Score
Grade 3.5
Duration 2:45

Two Traditional Canadian Reels
arr. Renata Bratt

Randall Standridge Music
Preview Only

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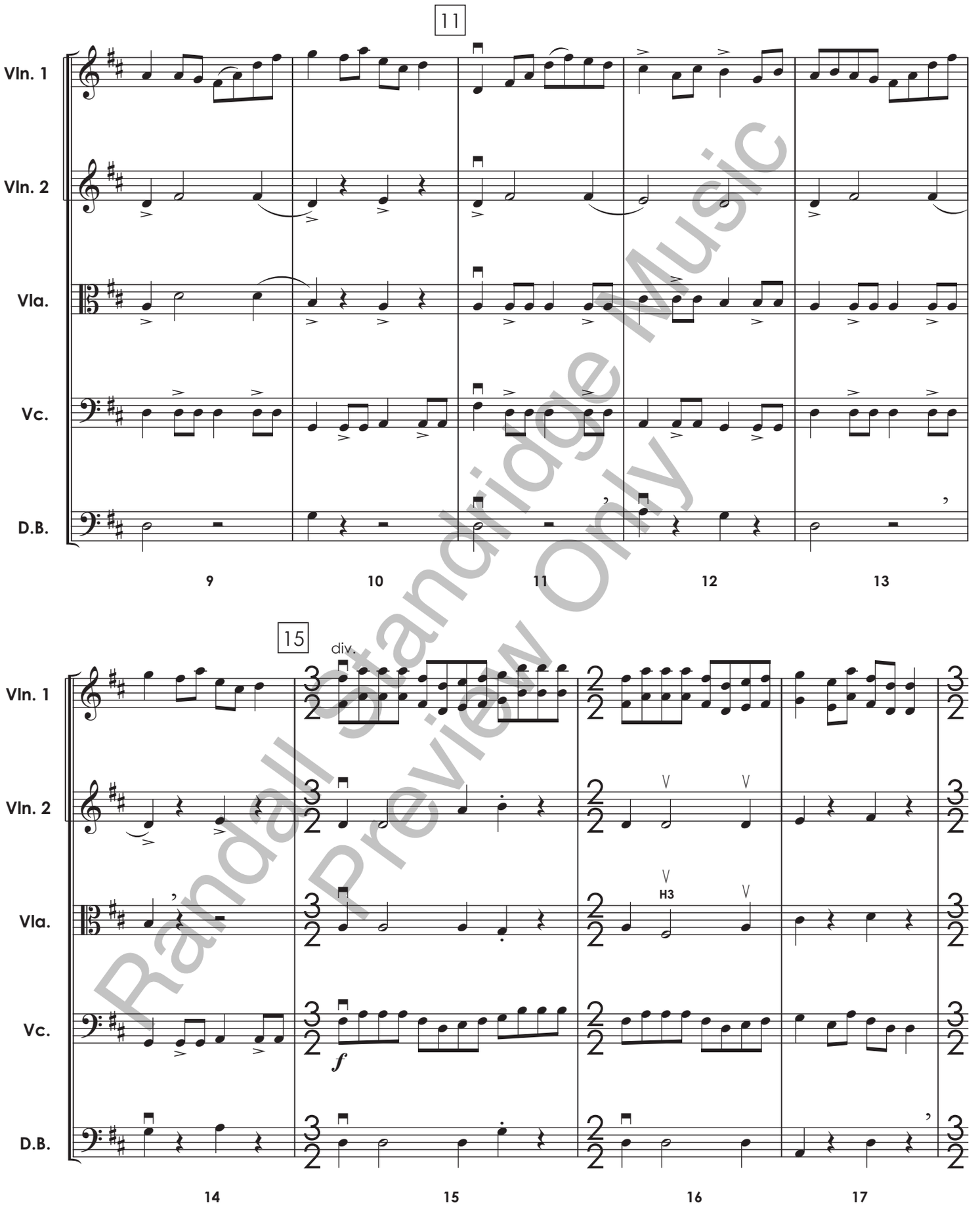

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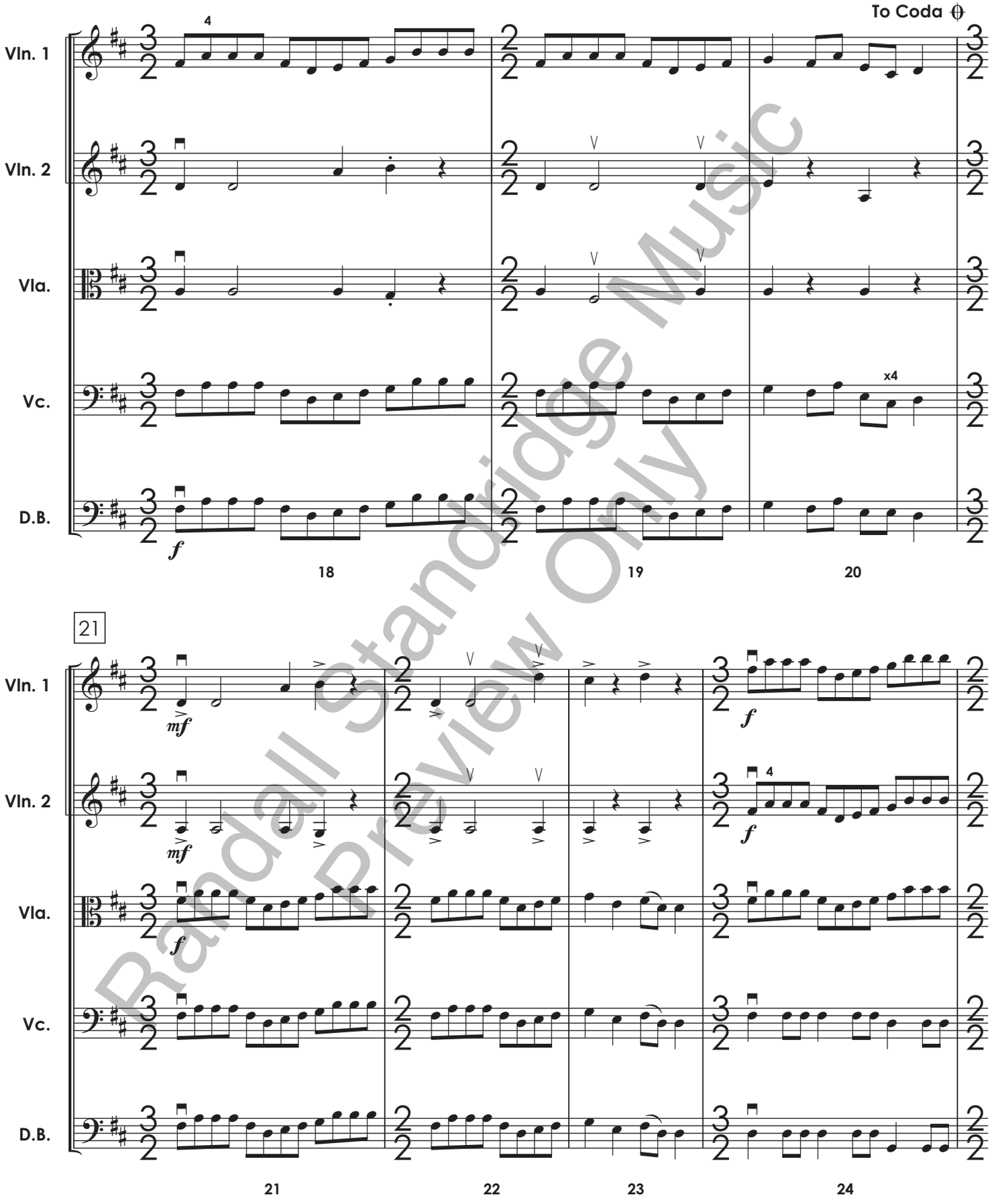

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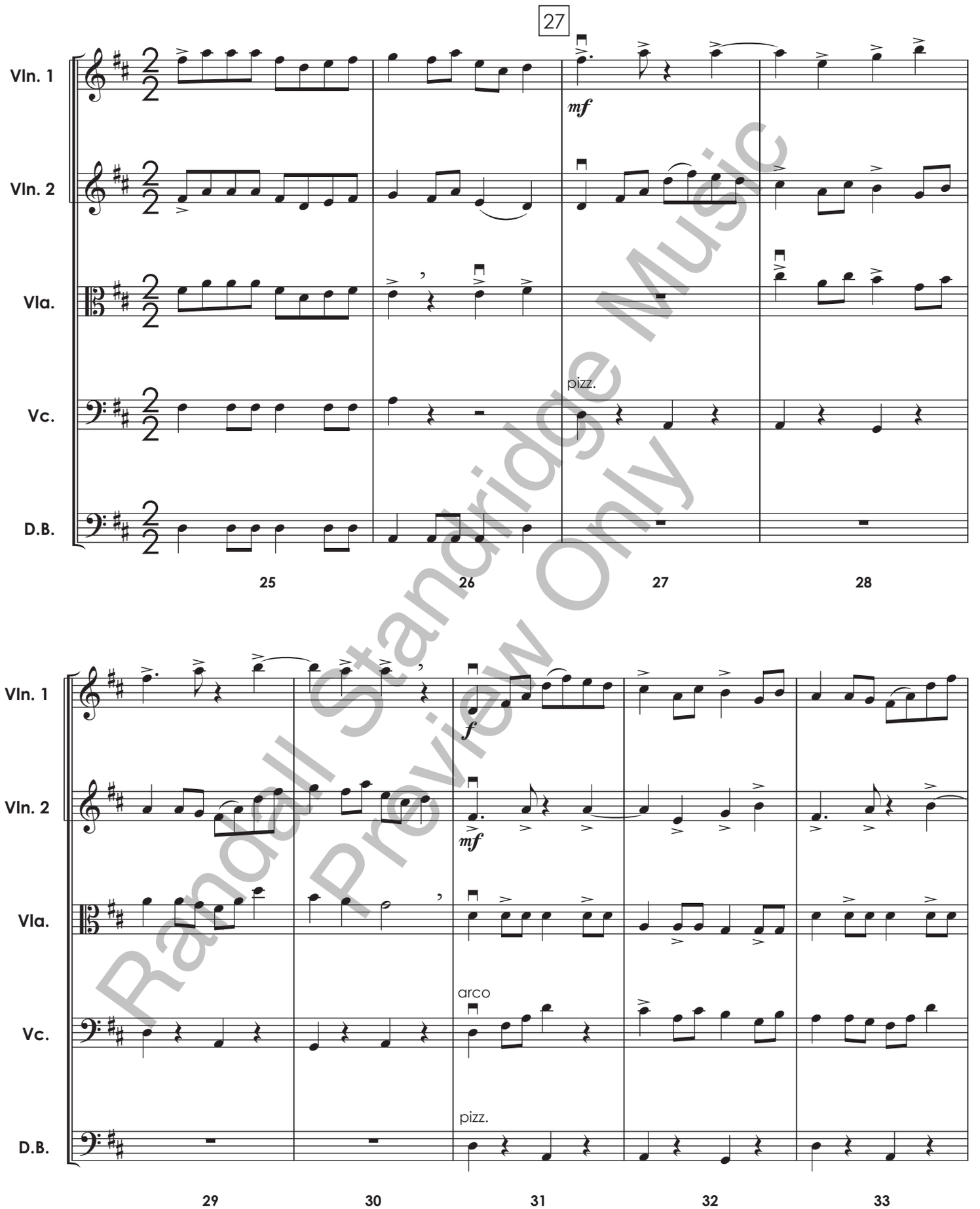

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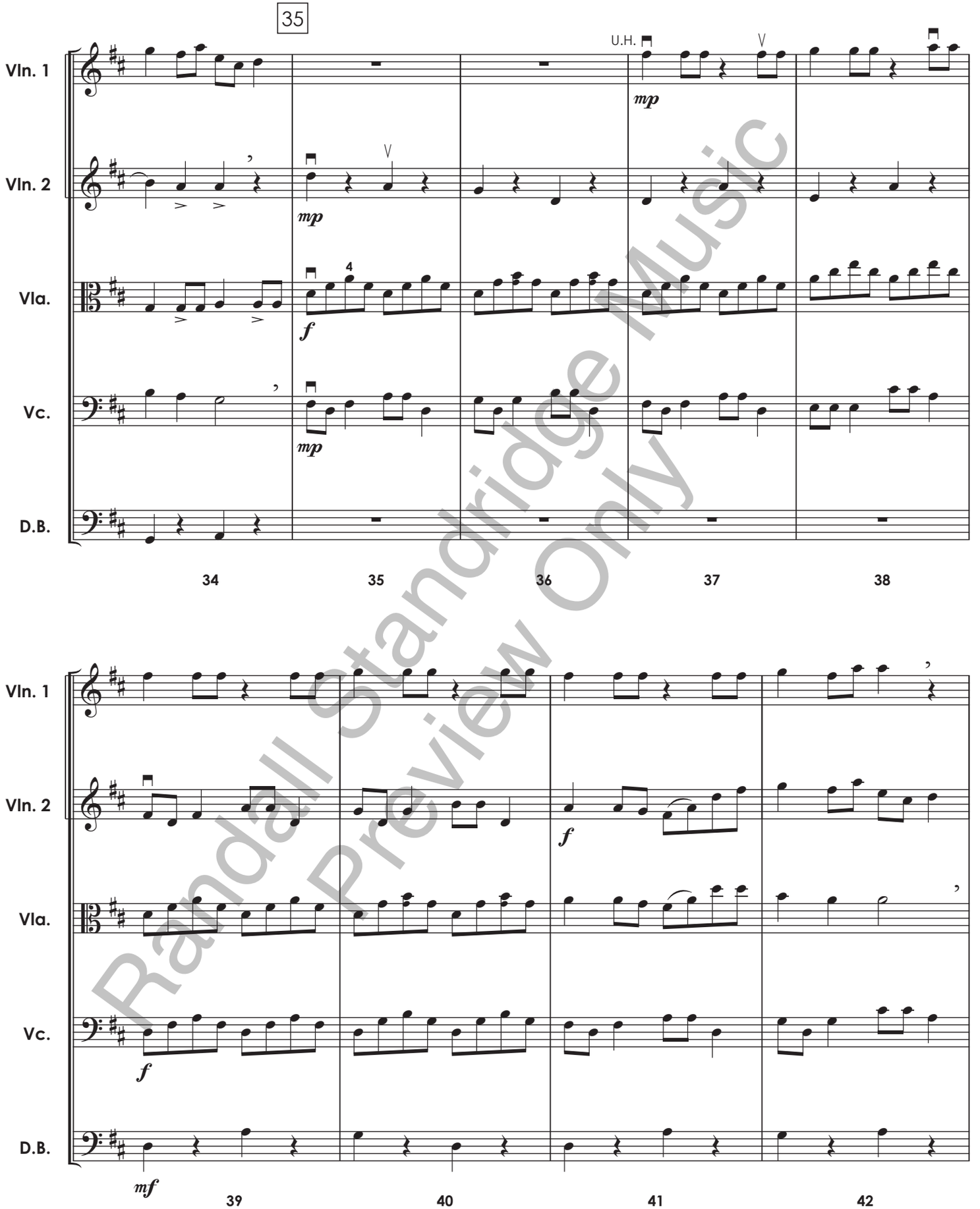

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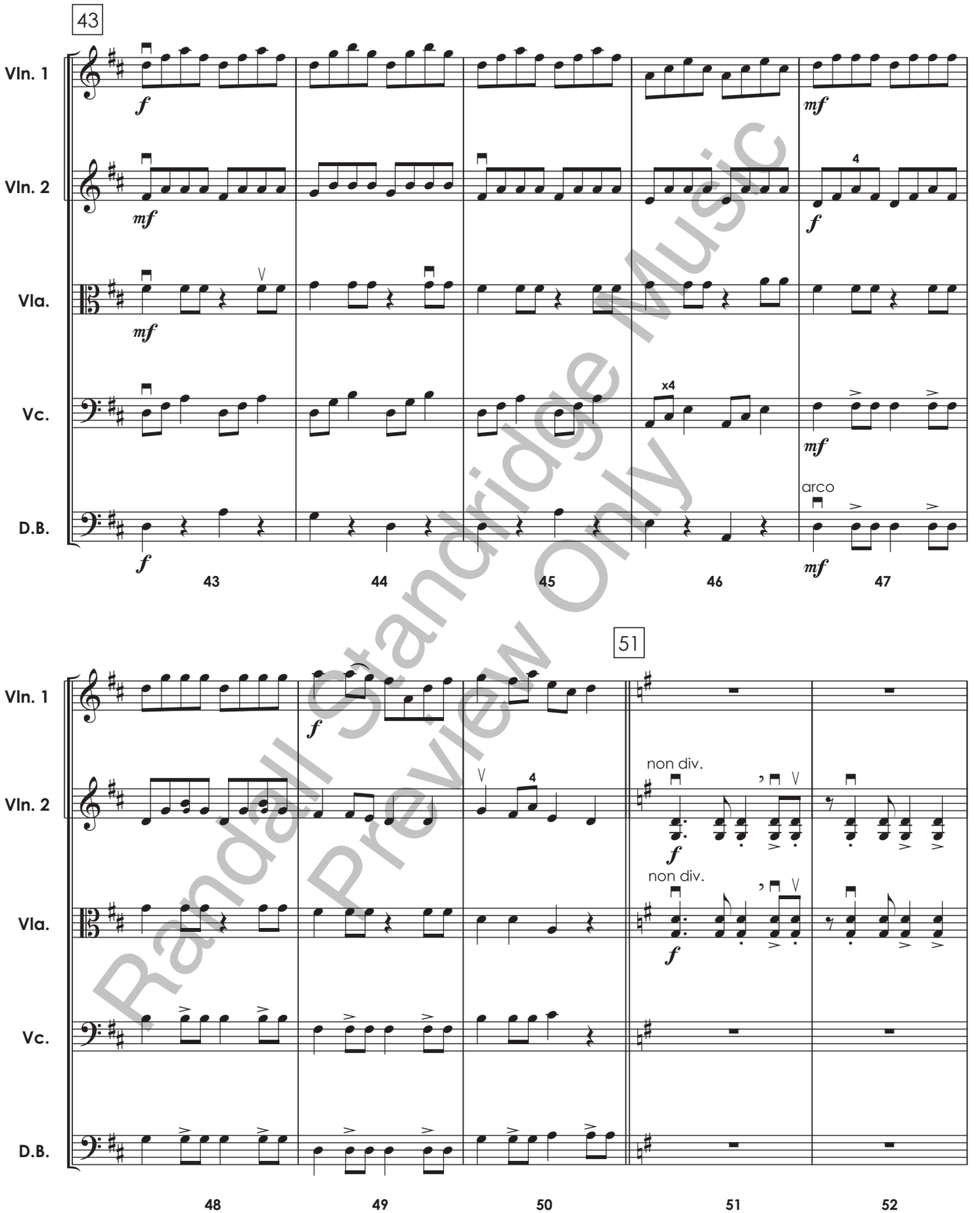

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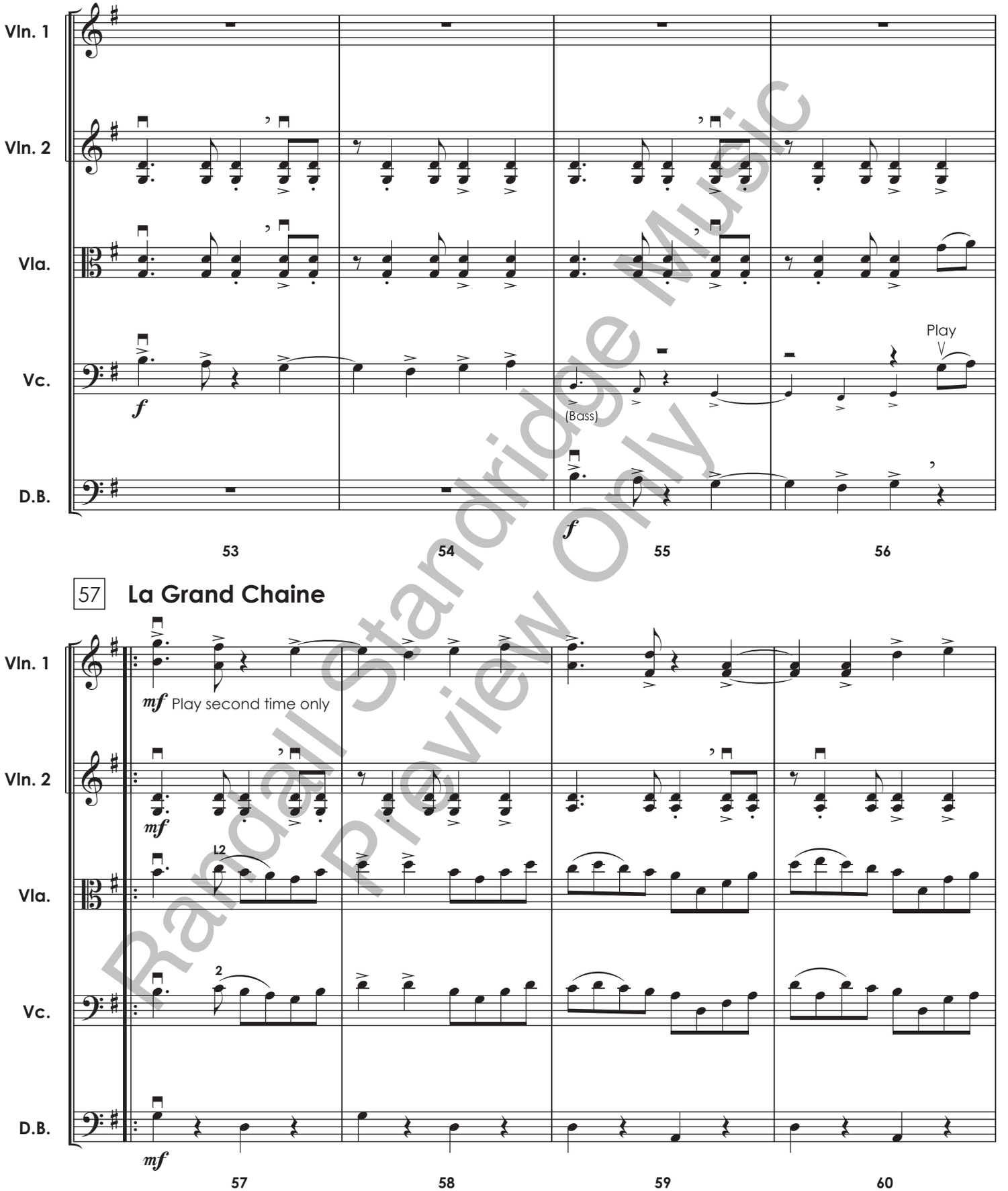

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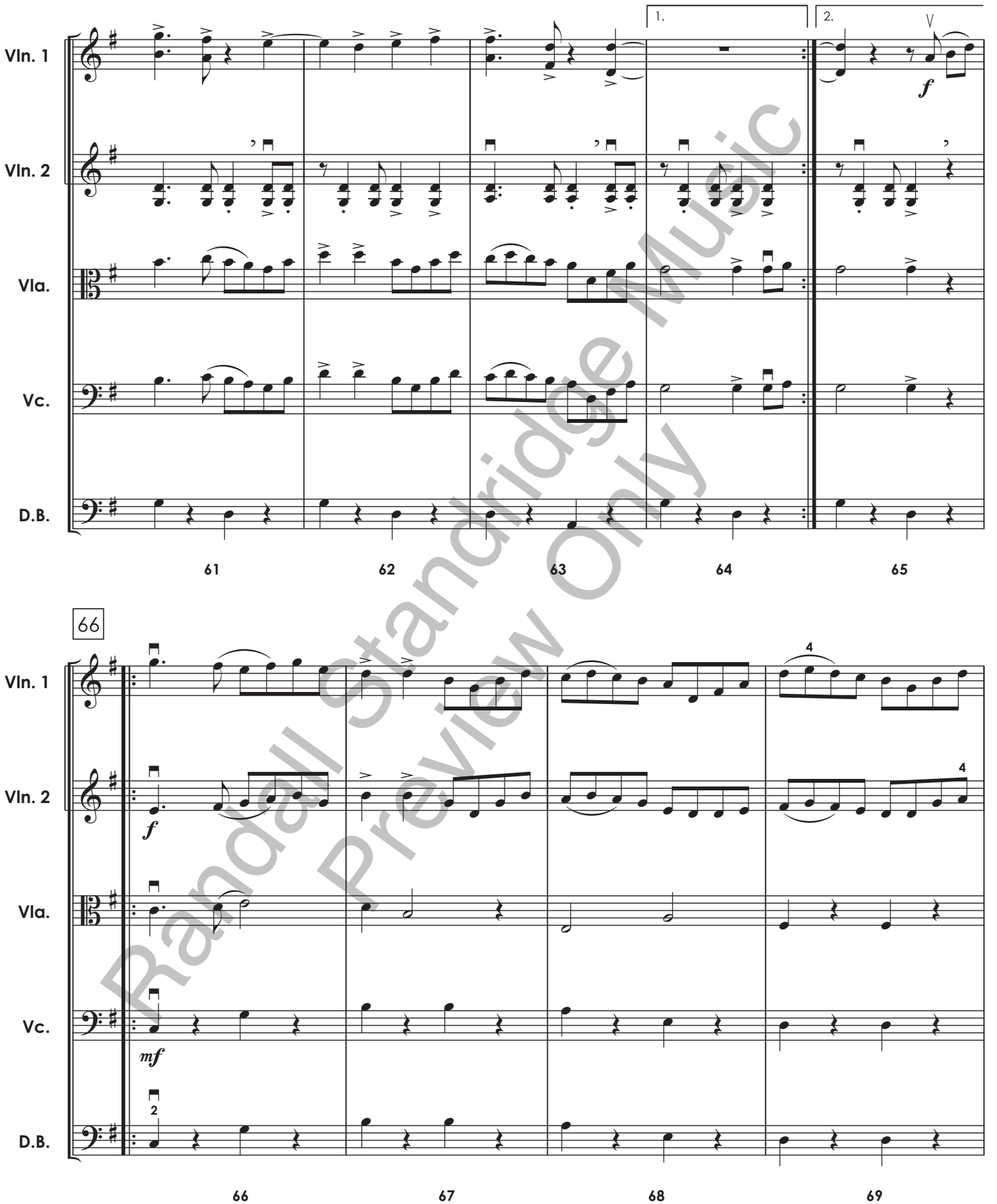

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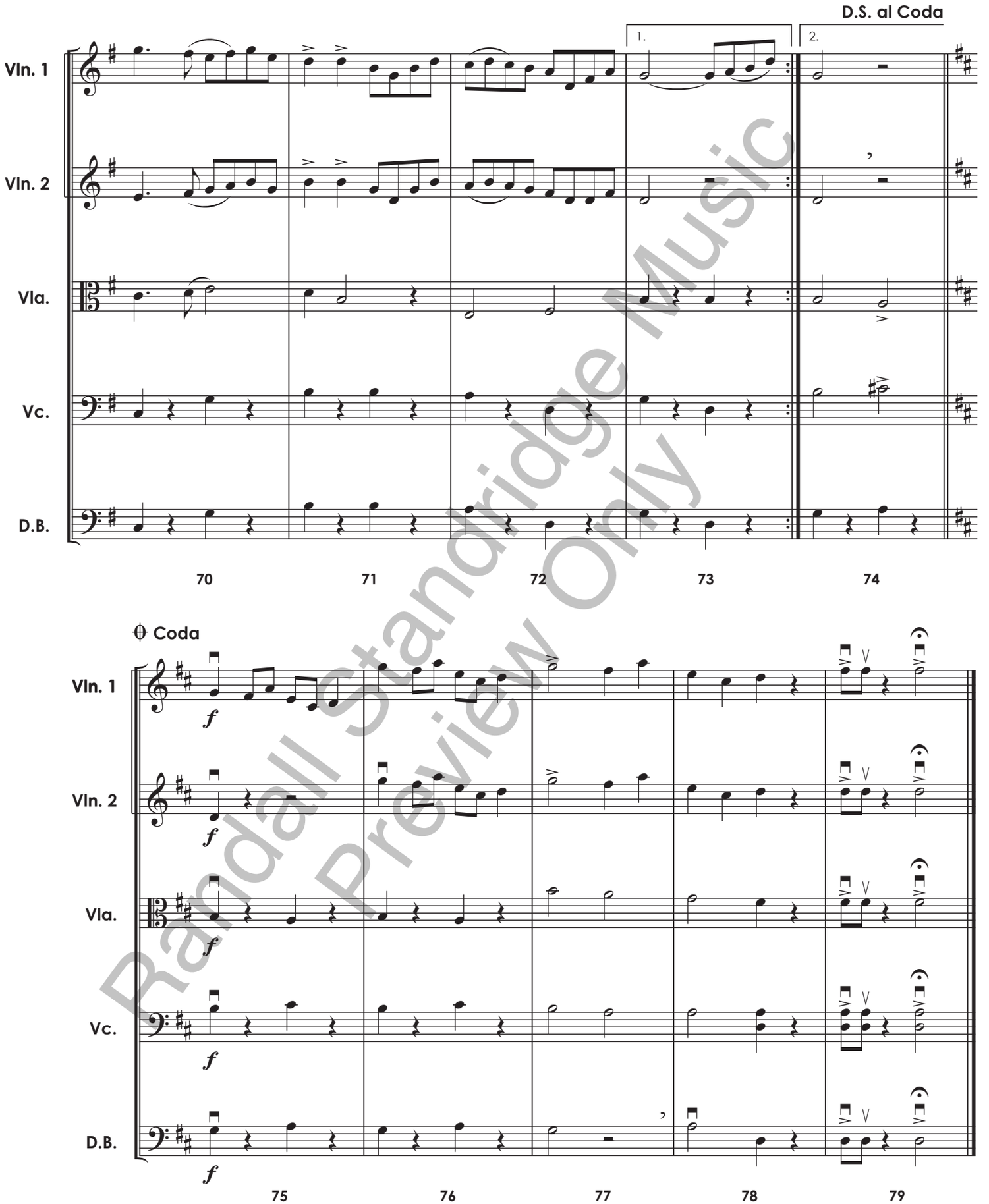

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