Grade Level: 3

STRING ALTERNATIVES SERIES

The Smith's Set

Concert Scottish Tunes

Traditional Scottish

Arranged by Renata Bratt (ASCAP)

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INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1
Violin I	8
Violin II	8
Viola	5
Cello	5
String Bass	5

Delight your audience with a set of three uptempo traditional Scottish dance tunes arranged with authentic ornaments and rhythmic accompaniment. The tunes pass among the sections so that everyone gets a chance to play the melody and the rollicking accompaniments. Students will get a fun and technical workout with idiomatic Celtic bowings, accents and rhythms. Arranged as a typical concert medley, the first tune is a strathspey, "The Smith's a Gallant Fireman," and the next two tunes are reels, "Perrie Werrie" and "St. Kilda Wedding."

HIGHLAND/ETLING
A DIVISION OF Alfred

Please note: Our band and orchestra music is now being collated by an automatic high-speed system. The enclosed parts are now sorted by page count, rather than score order.

Notes to the Conductor

This set is dedicated to my Scottish fiddle friends, Alasdair Fraser and the San Francisco Scottish Fiddlers.

Scottish music is always performed with lots of ornaments. I have put in grace notes throughout this arrangement so that the strings can sound as idiomatic as possible. The bowings are also a little different from standard concert repertoire, many times slurring into a downbeat rather than starting on a downbeat. This creates syncopated accents which are clearly notated.

"The Smith's a Gallant Fireman" is a strathspey (strath' spay) that I perform with my Scottish Country Dance Band, Reel of Seven. The strathspey is a dance style that is unique to the Scottish tradition. This tune was first published (with no composer listed) in 1791 in John Anderson's *Second Collection of New Highland Strathspey Reels*. The distinctive 'snaps' of the strathspey are the sixteenth note followed by a dotted eighth note. The backwards version of the snap (usually notated as a dotted eighth note to sixteenth note) are generally performed more smoothly—as a triplet quarter to eighth note, and I have notated them this way in this arrangement. Strathspeys are quite lyrical and legato in the Highland style, while in Cape Breton, they are extremely bouncy and rhythmic. This version combines both styles.

"Perrie Werrie" can be found in the *Athole Collection*—an 1884 collection of fiddle tunes from Perthshire. It is a Scottish Reel, the reel being a dance form that is extremely popular in many traditional Northern European and American music styles. Accents over different rhythms, on and off the beat, really help this music pop.

"St. Kilda Wedding" is also found in the *Athole Collection*. I learned both of these reels from Natalie Haas, a Scottish-style cellist who frequently performs with Scottish fiddler Alasdair Fraser. The two sixteenths notes followed by an eighth note at the beginning of this reel and throughout are another sort of Scottish ornament, variously called a hutterum, a shiver, or a birl. Traditionally, these sixteenths would be played somewhat faster than actual sixteenths, though still beginning on the beat. They are started with the bow well into the string.

St. Kilda is an archipelago consisting of the westernmost islands of the Outer Hebrides of Scotland. It was occupied for two millennia, but the population declined over time so much that, in 1930, the remaining 36 inhabitants were removed to the Scottish mainland at their own request.

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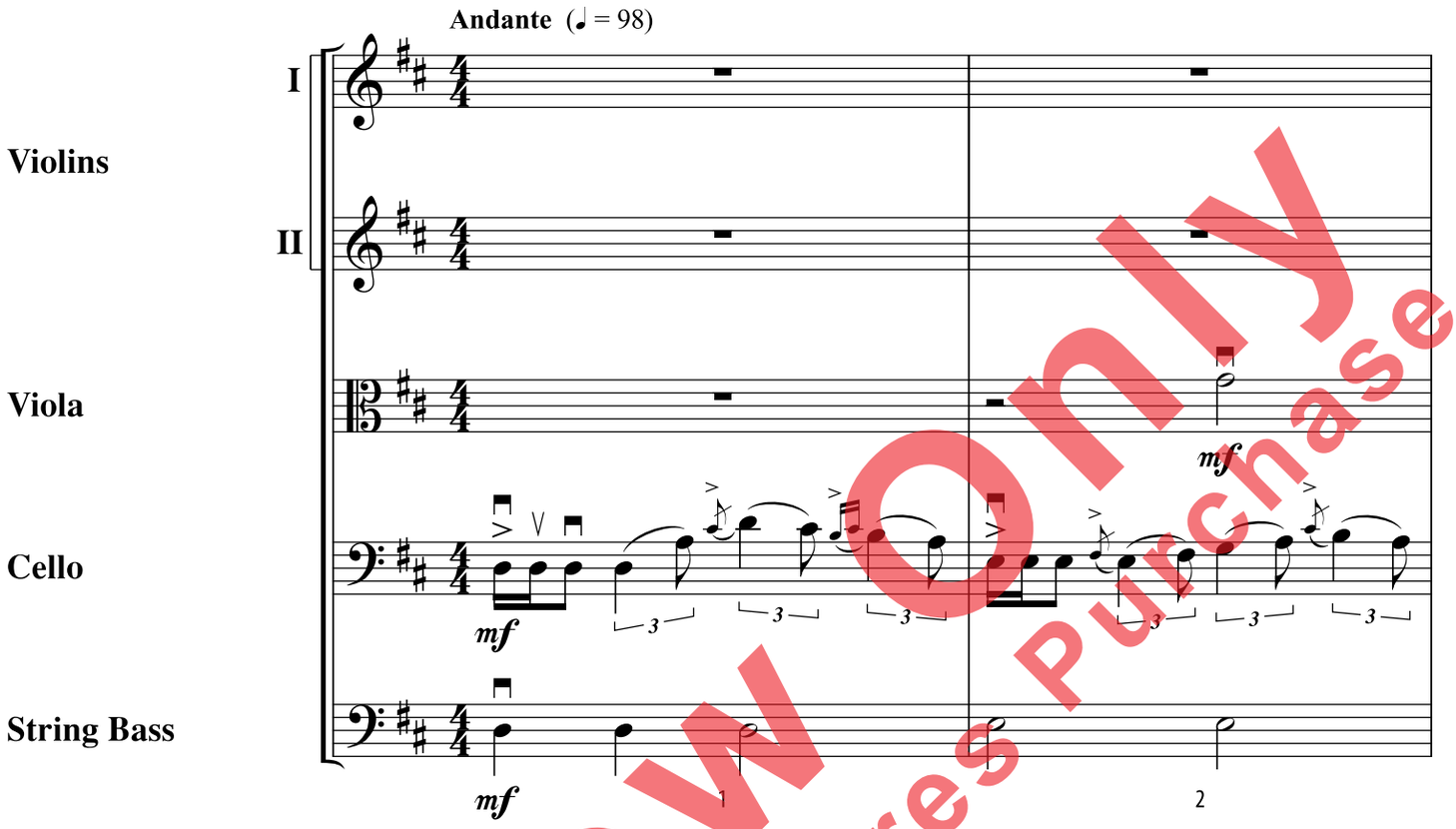
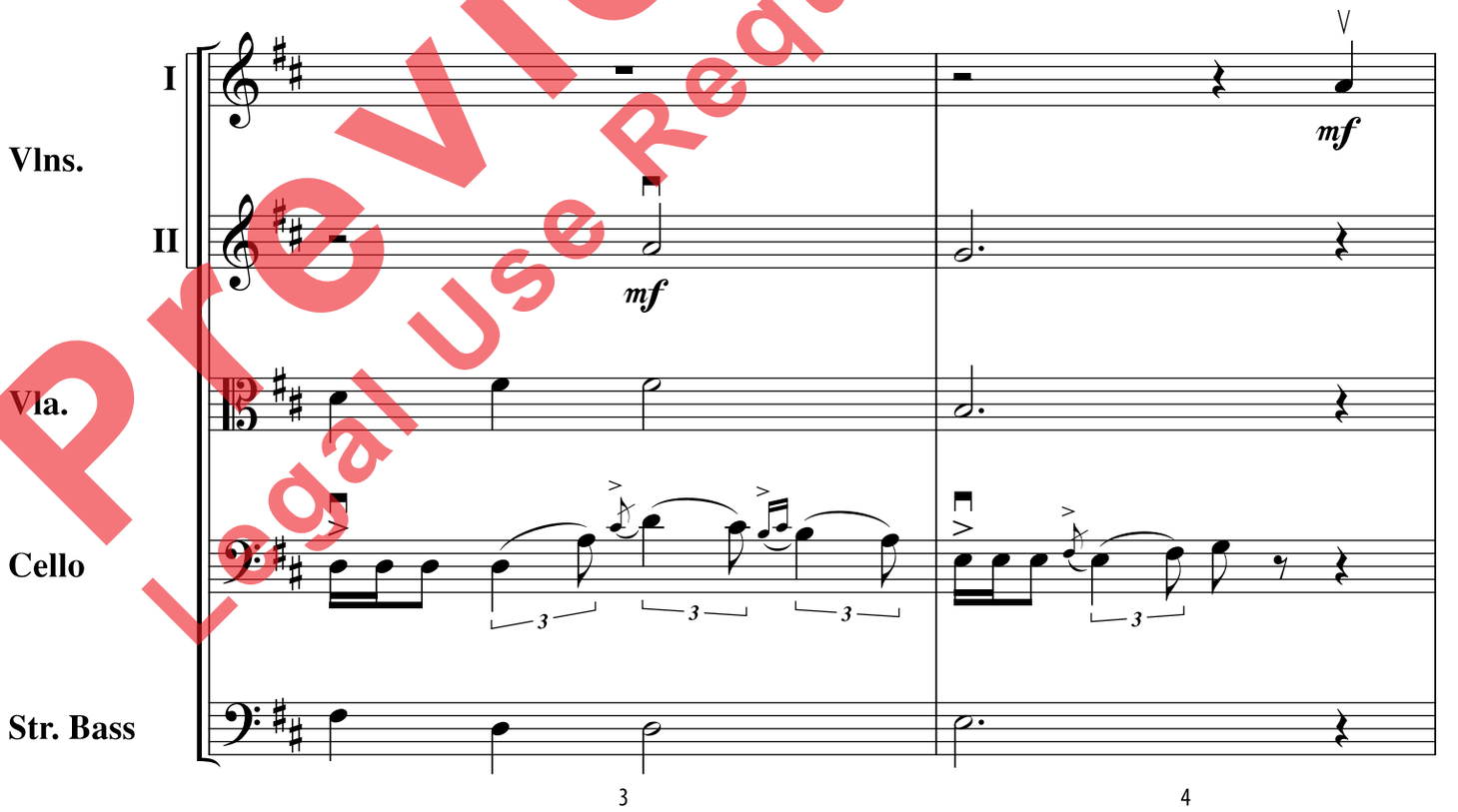
The Smith's Set

Concert Scottish Tunes

CONDUCTOR SCORE
Duration - 4:10

Traditional Scottish
Arranged by Renata Bratt (ASCAP)





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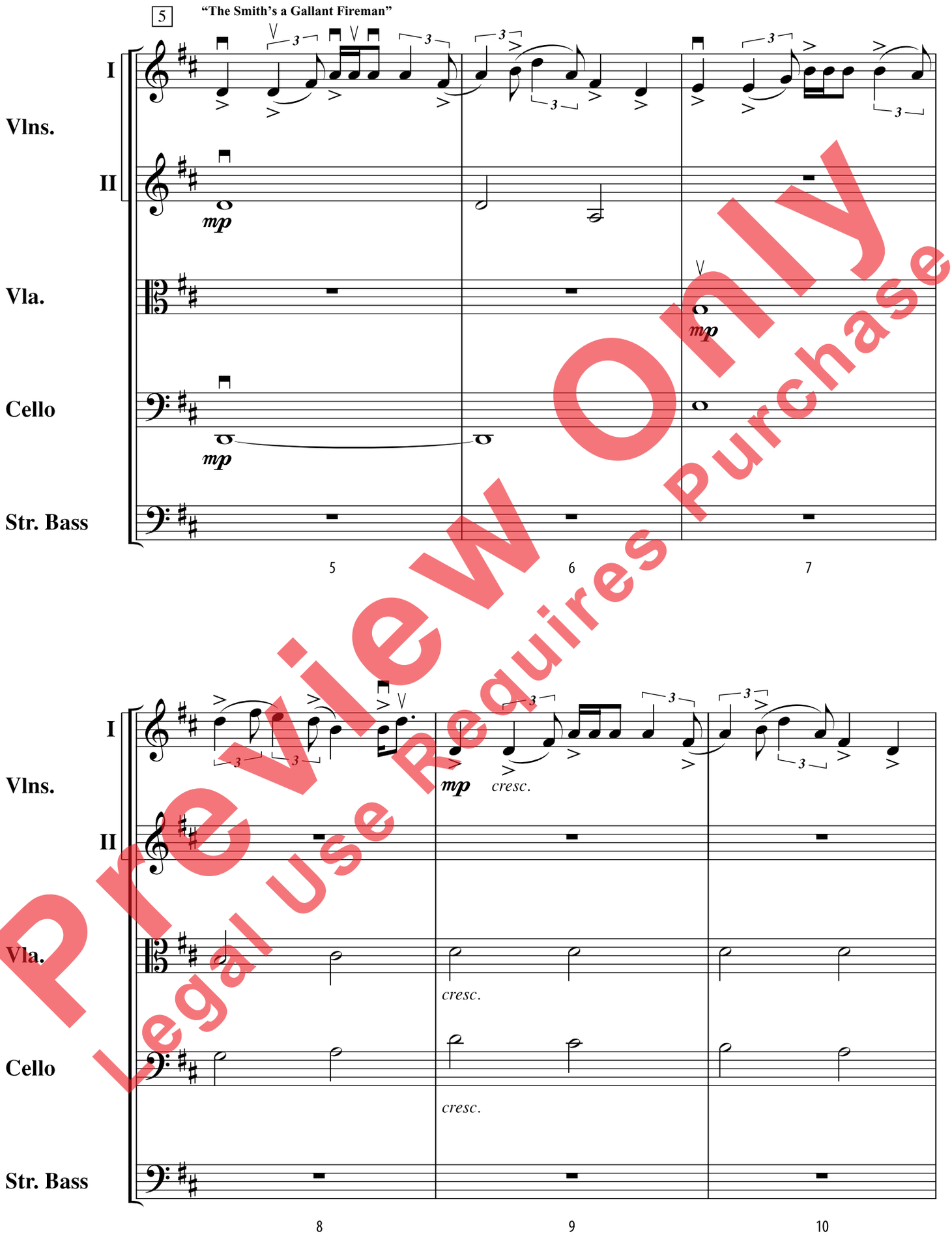

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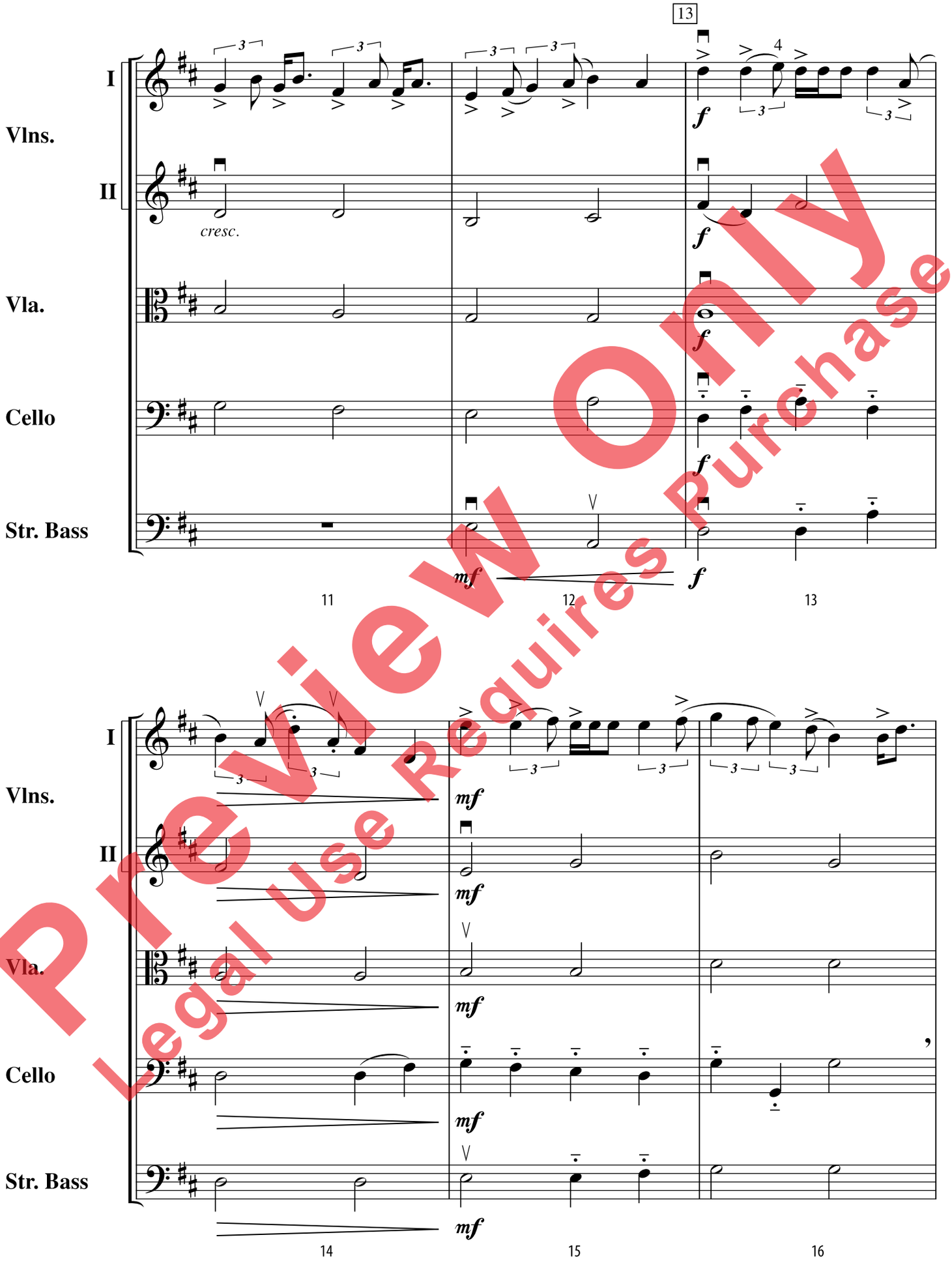

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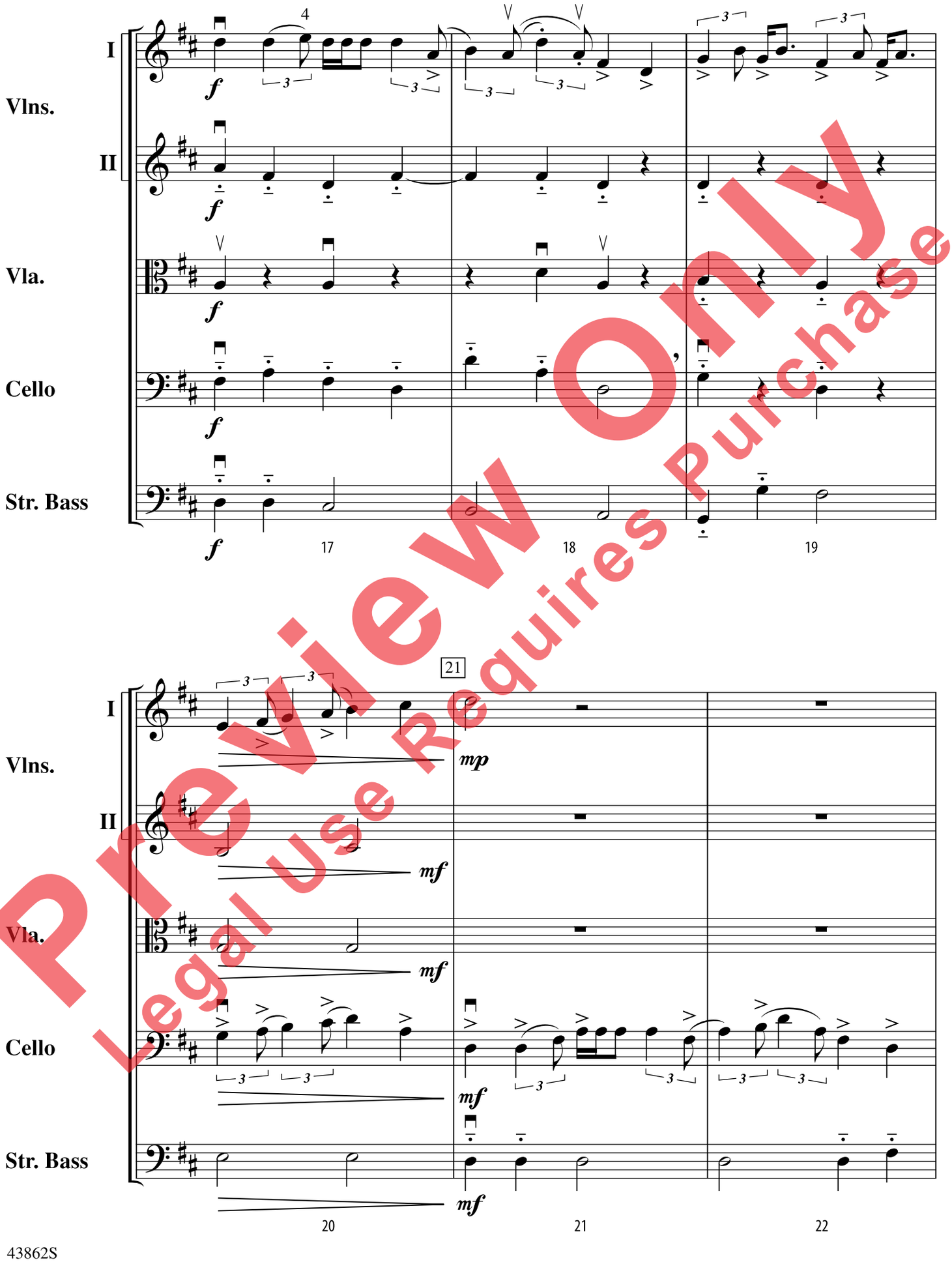

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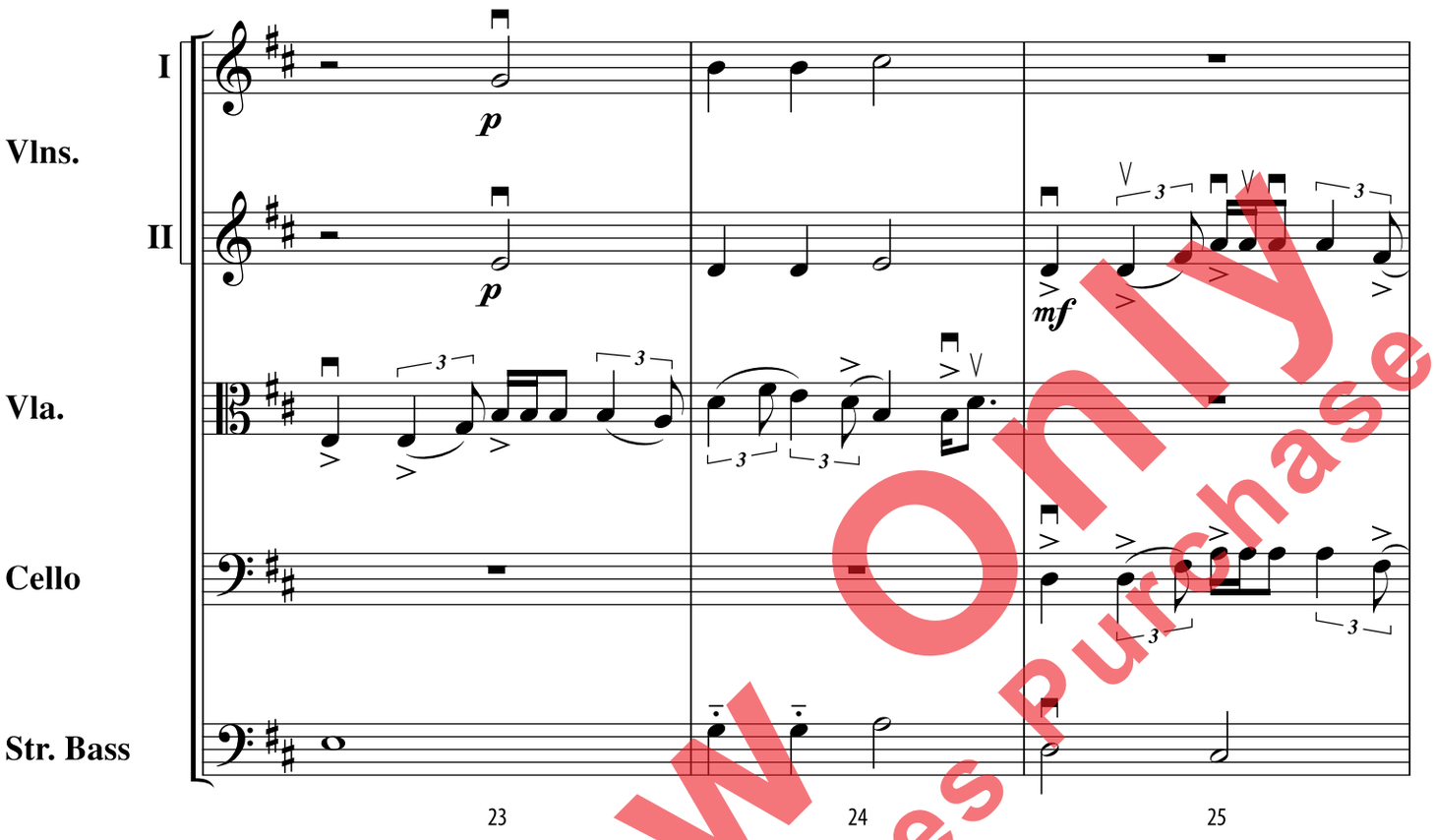

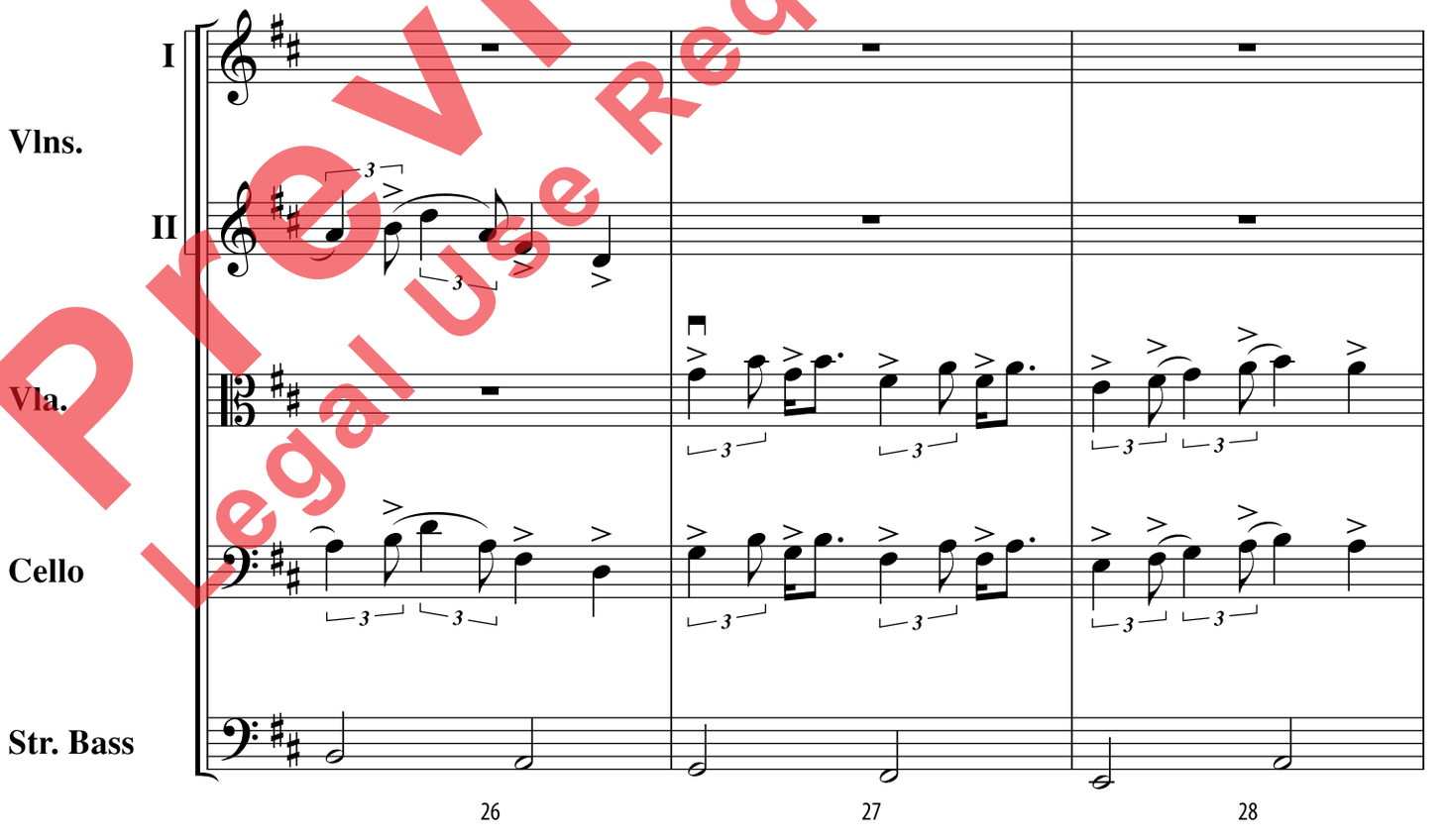

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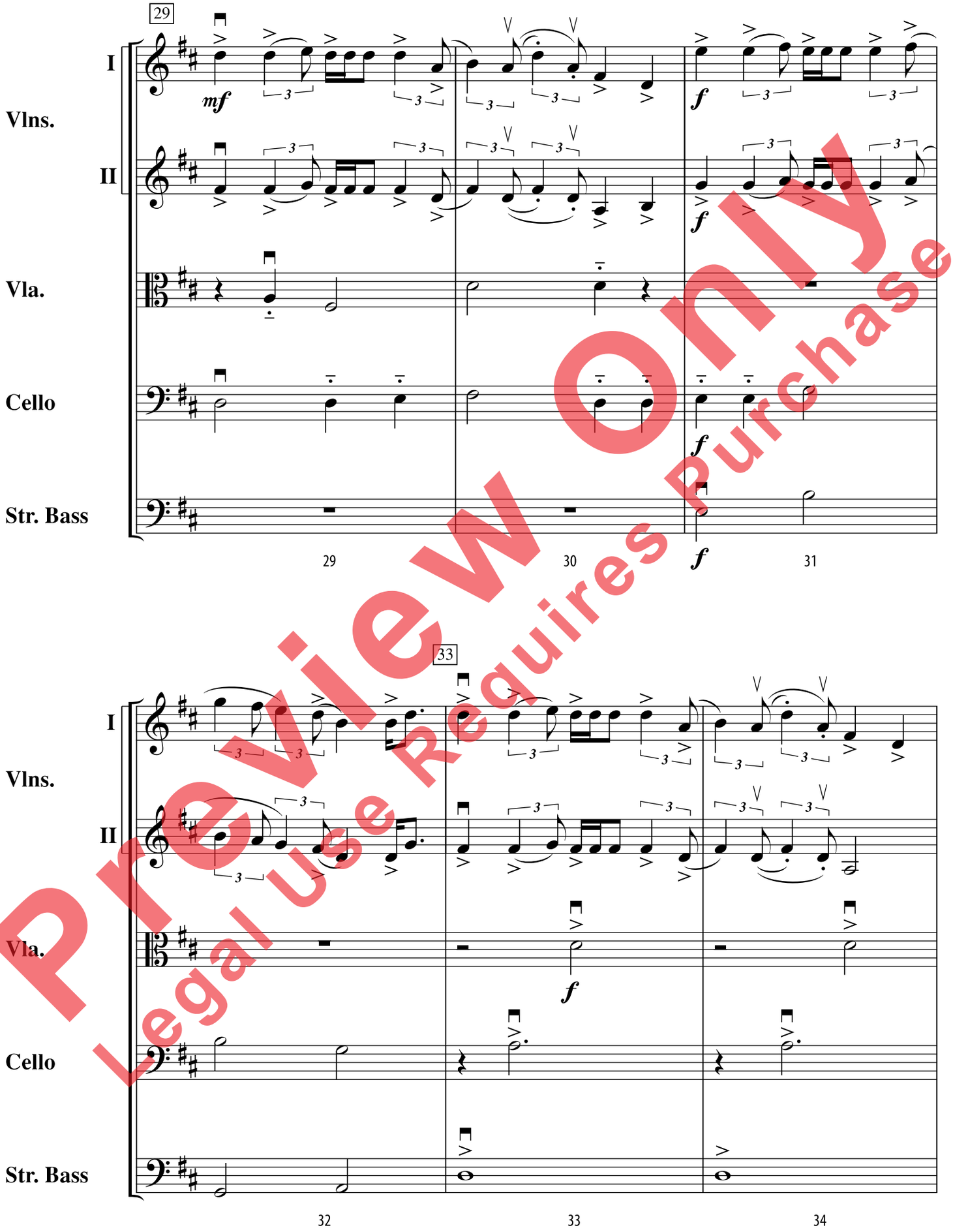

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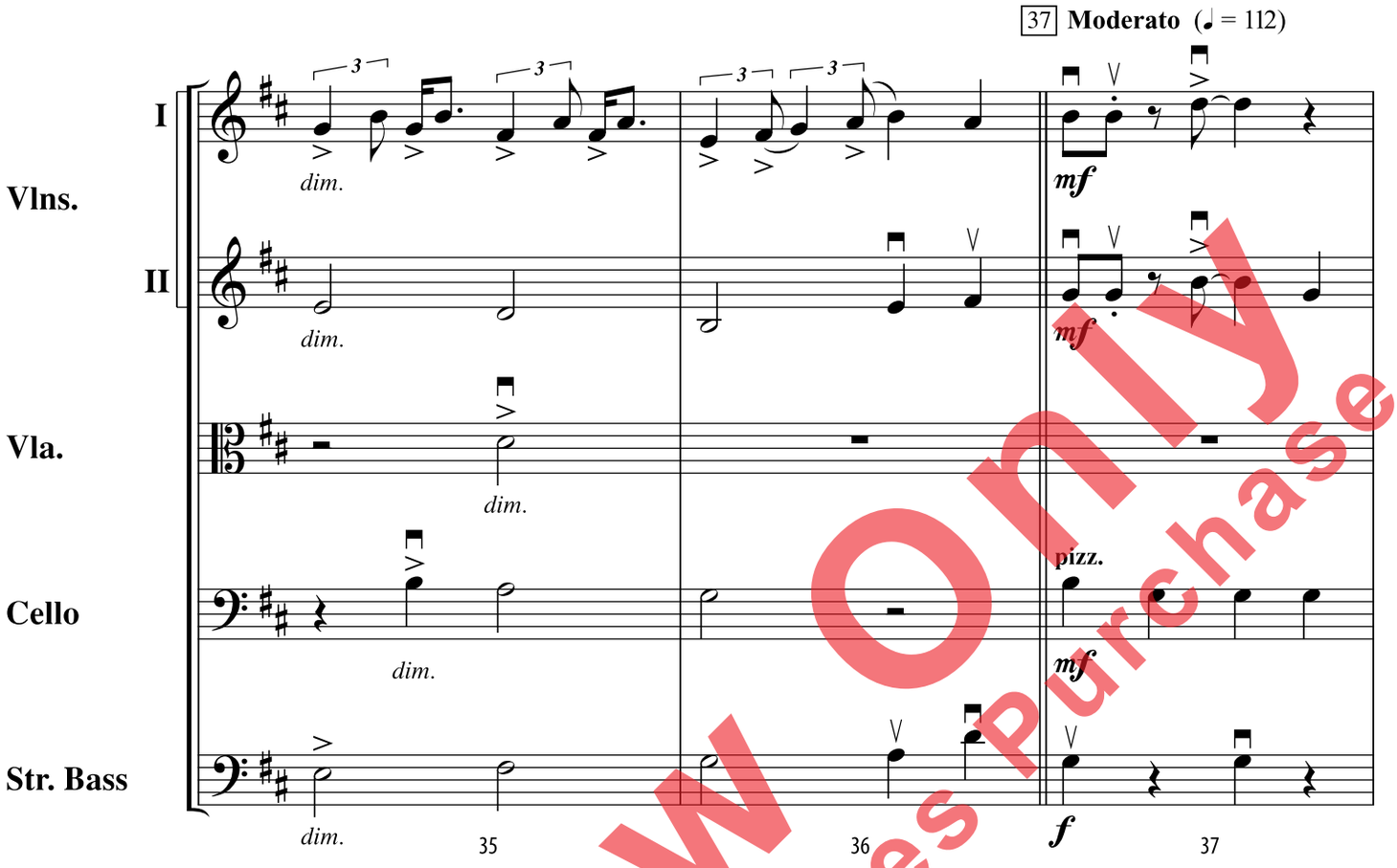

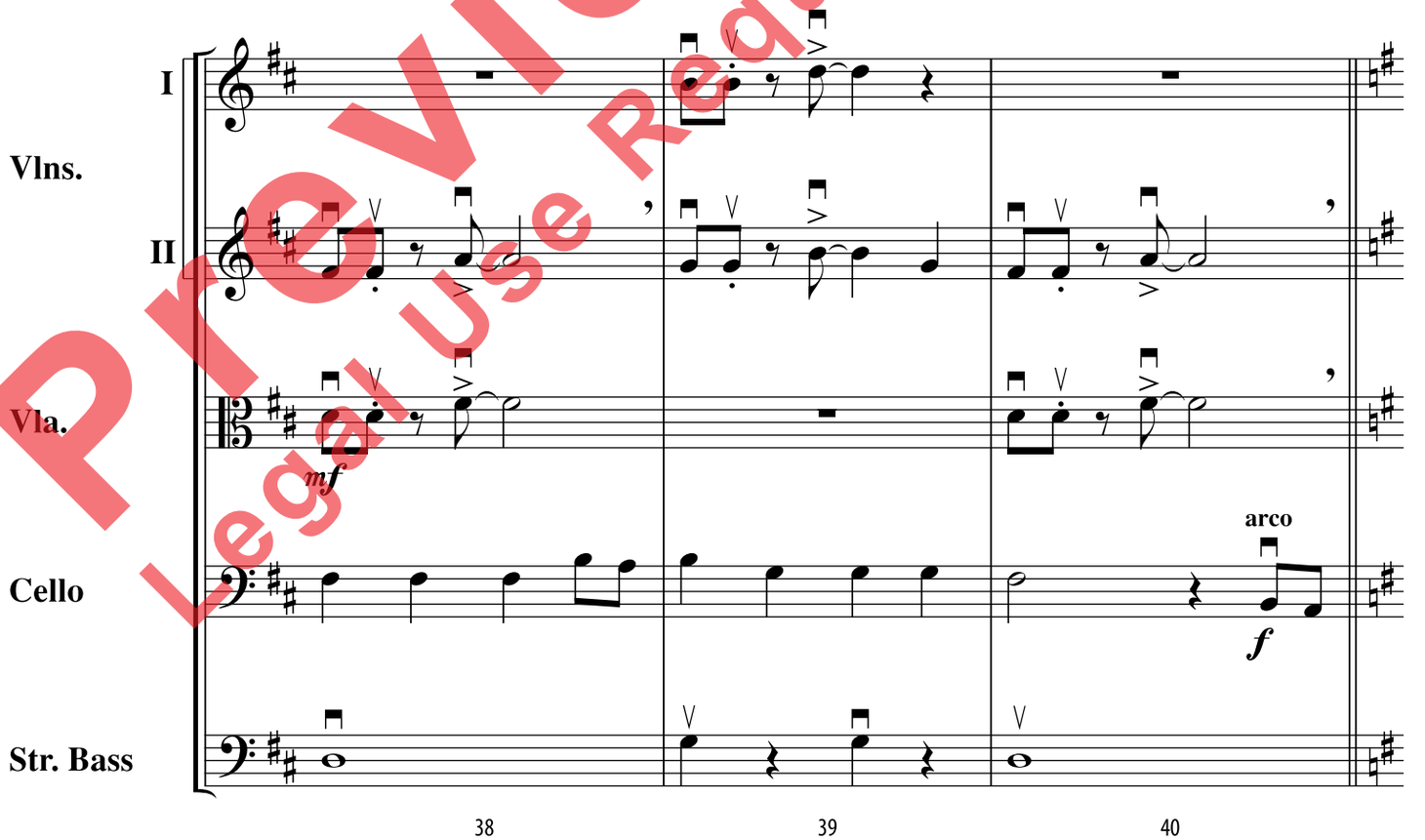

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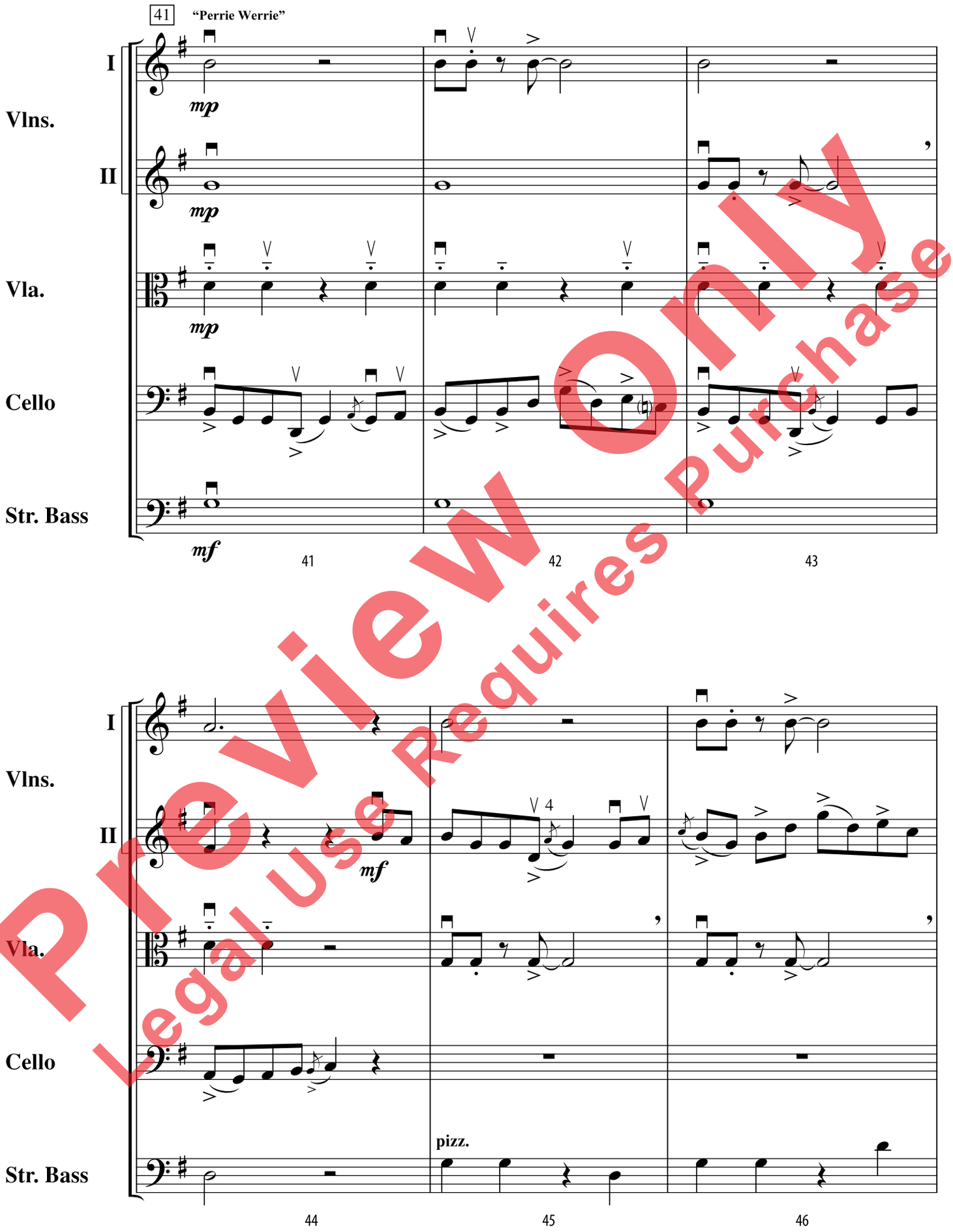

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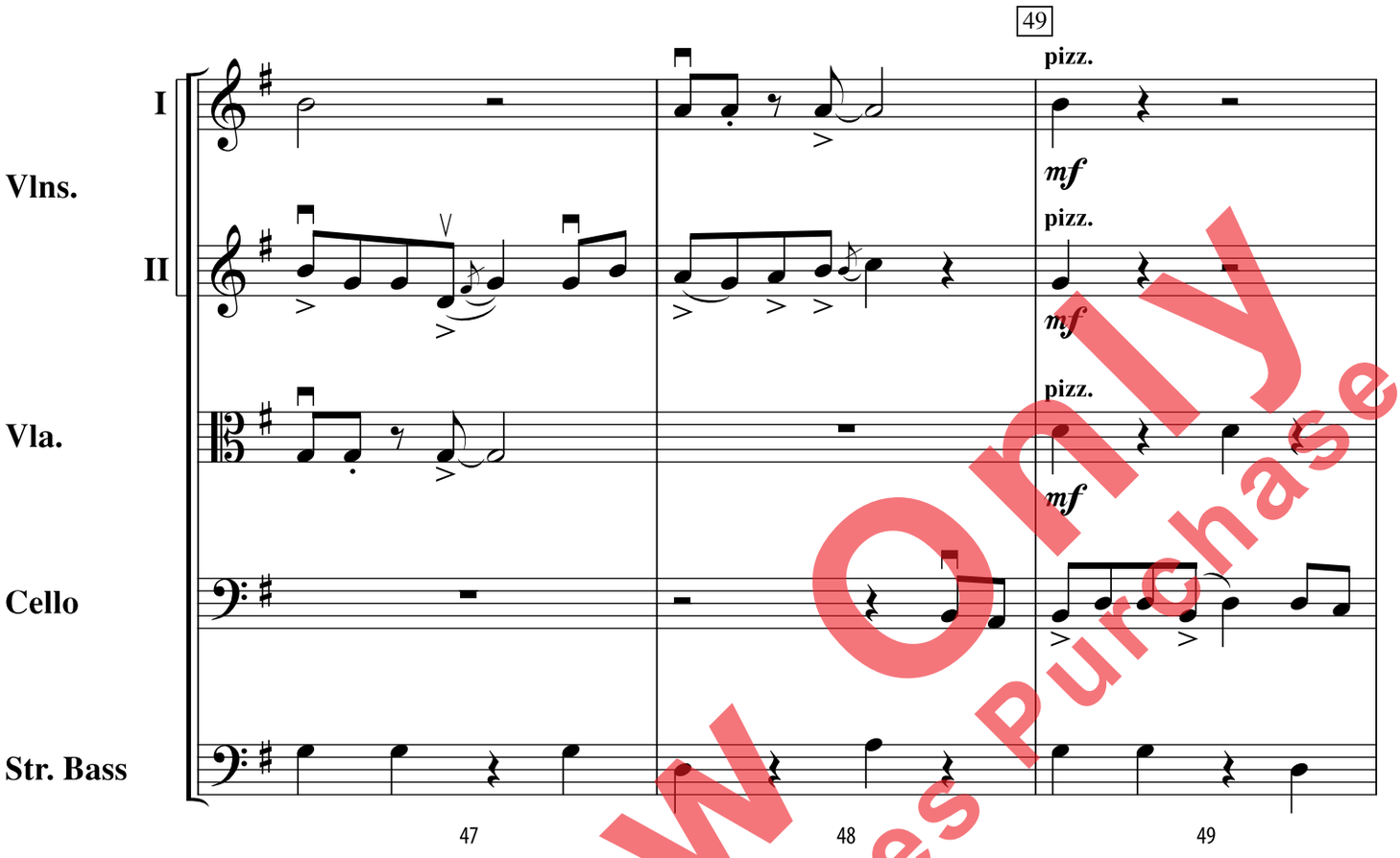

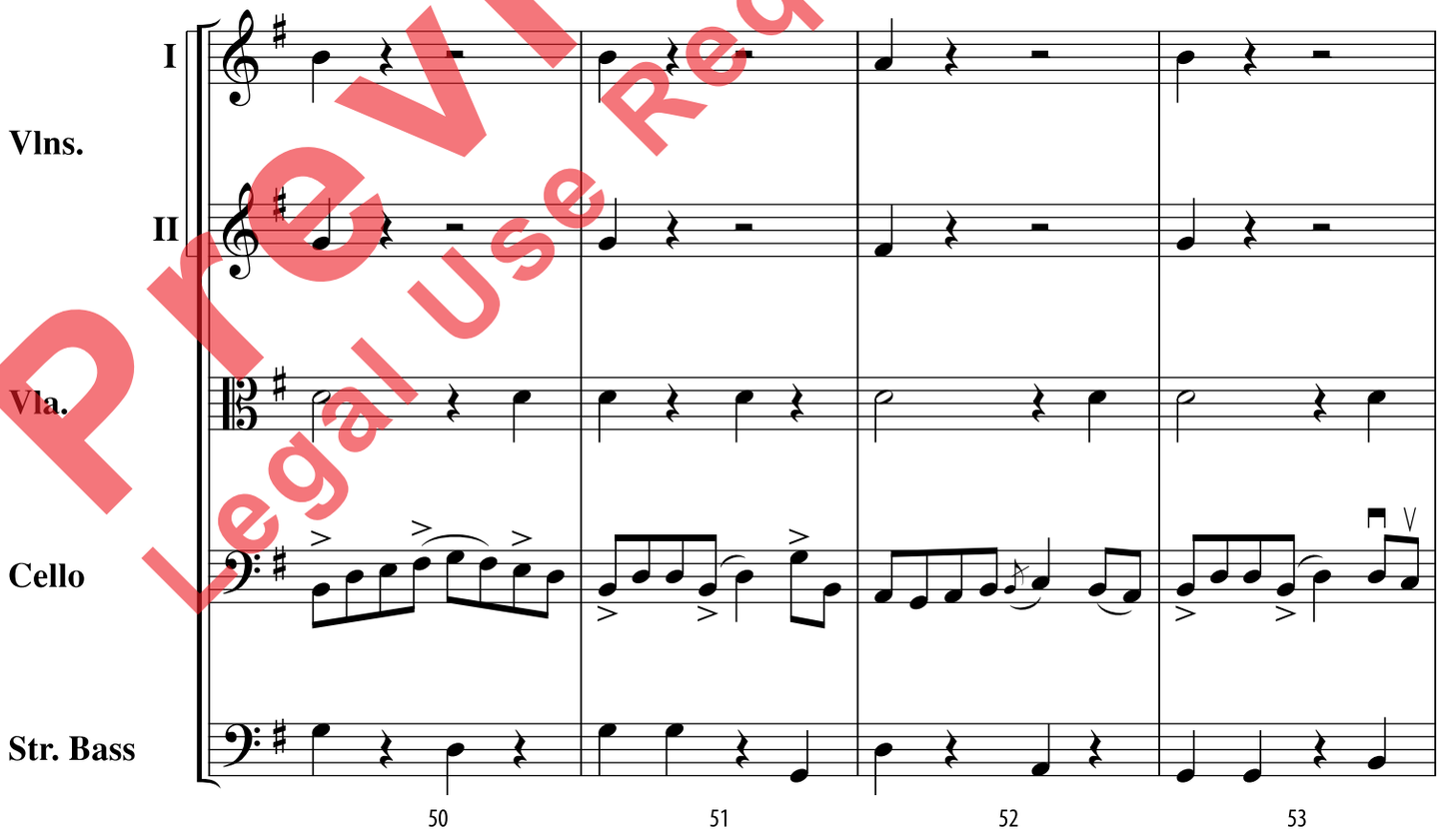

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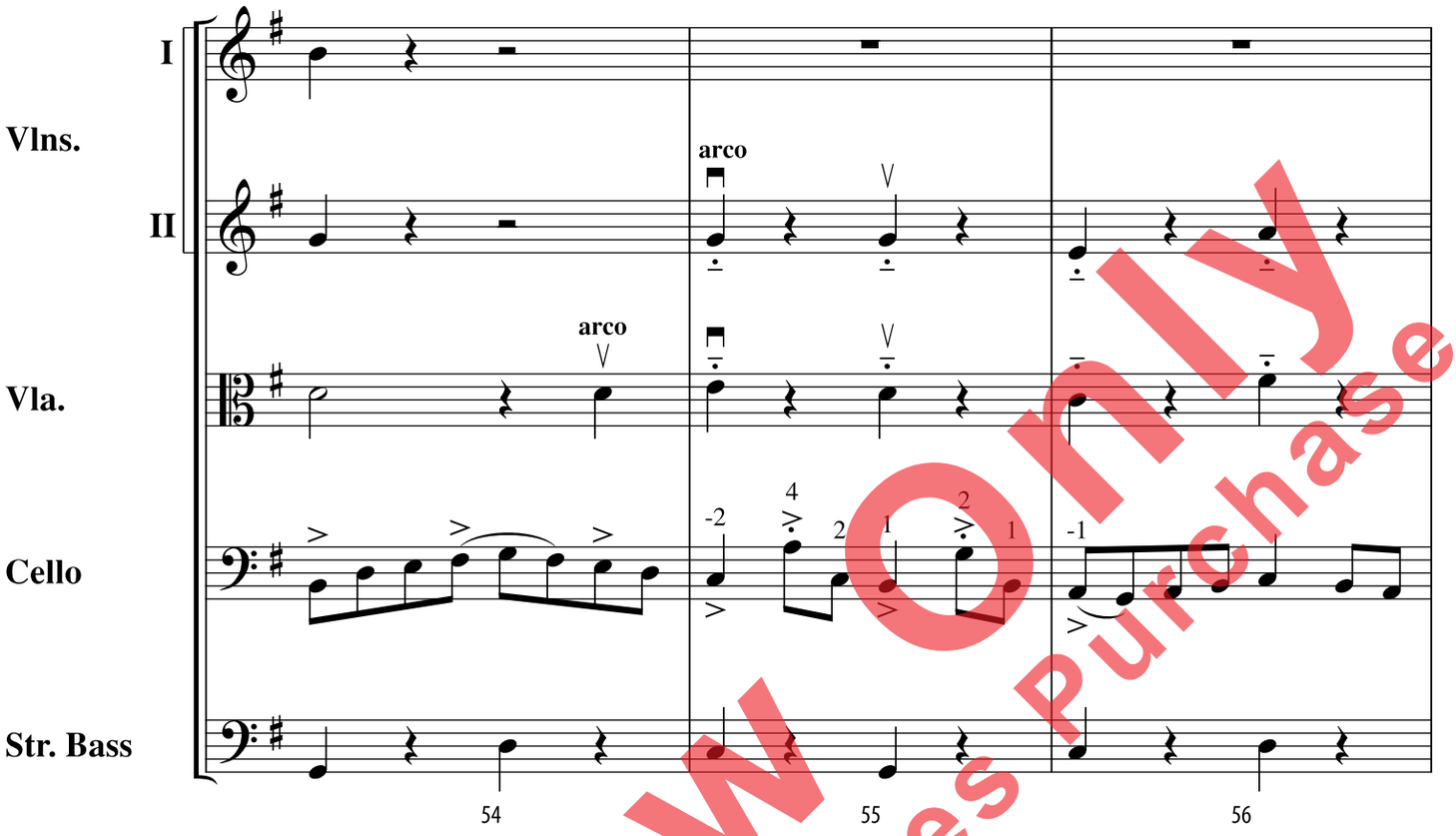

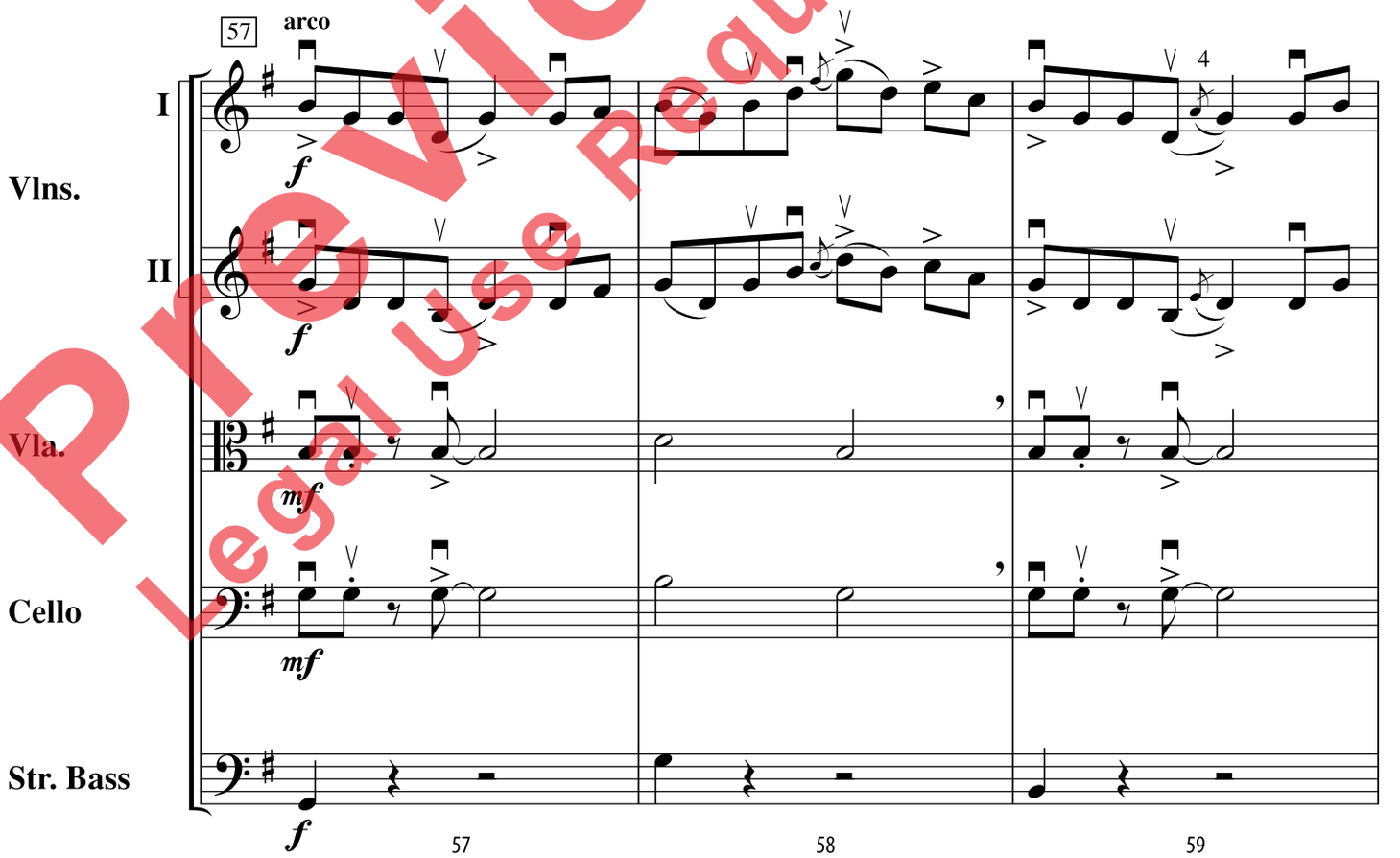

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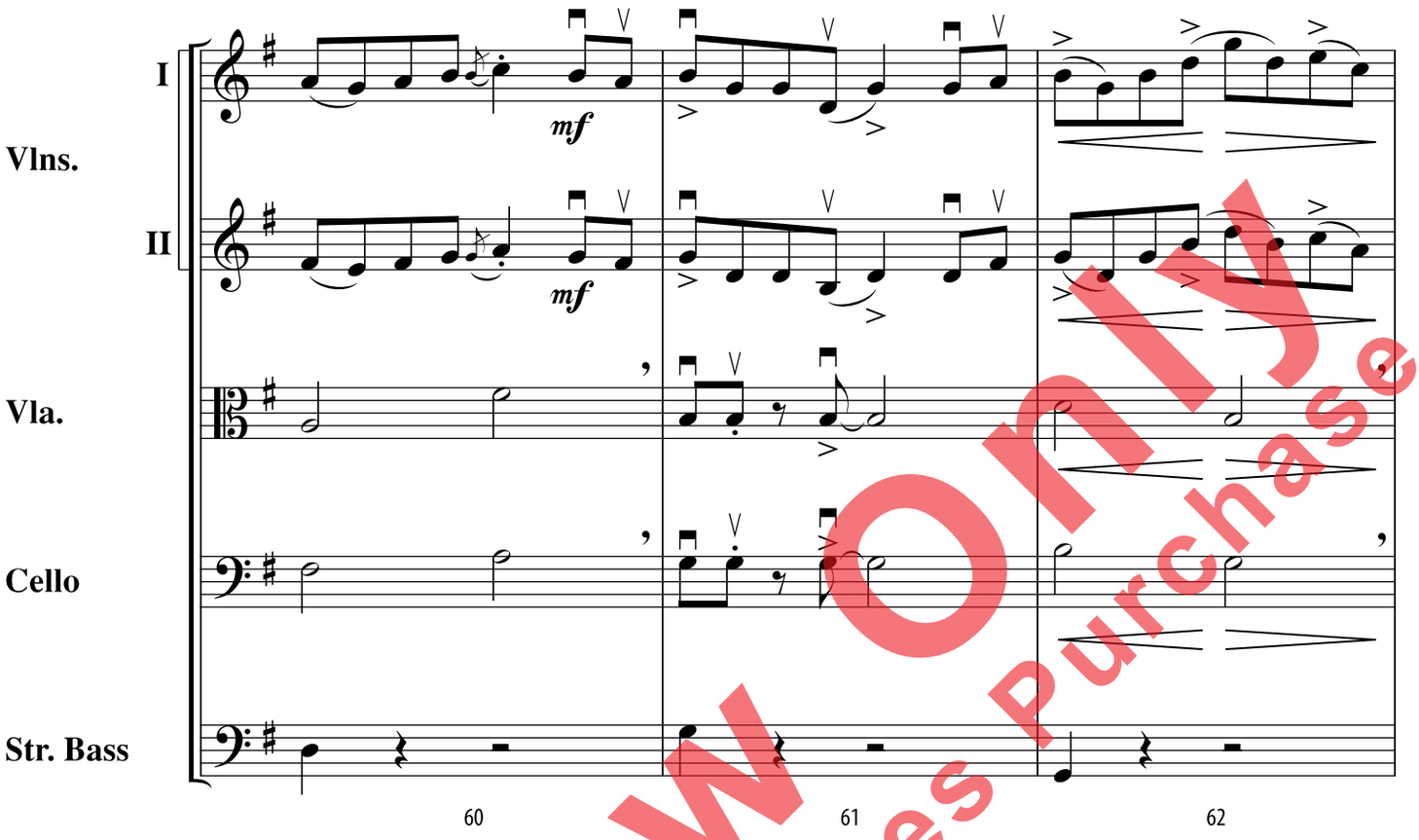

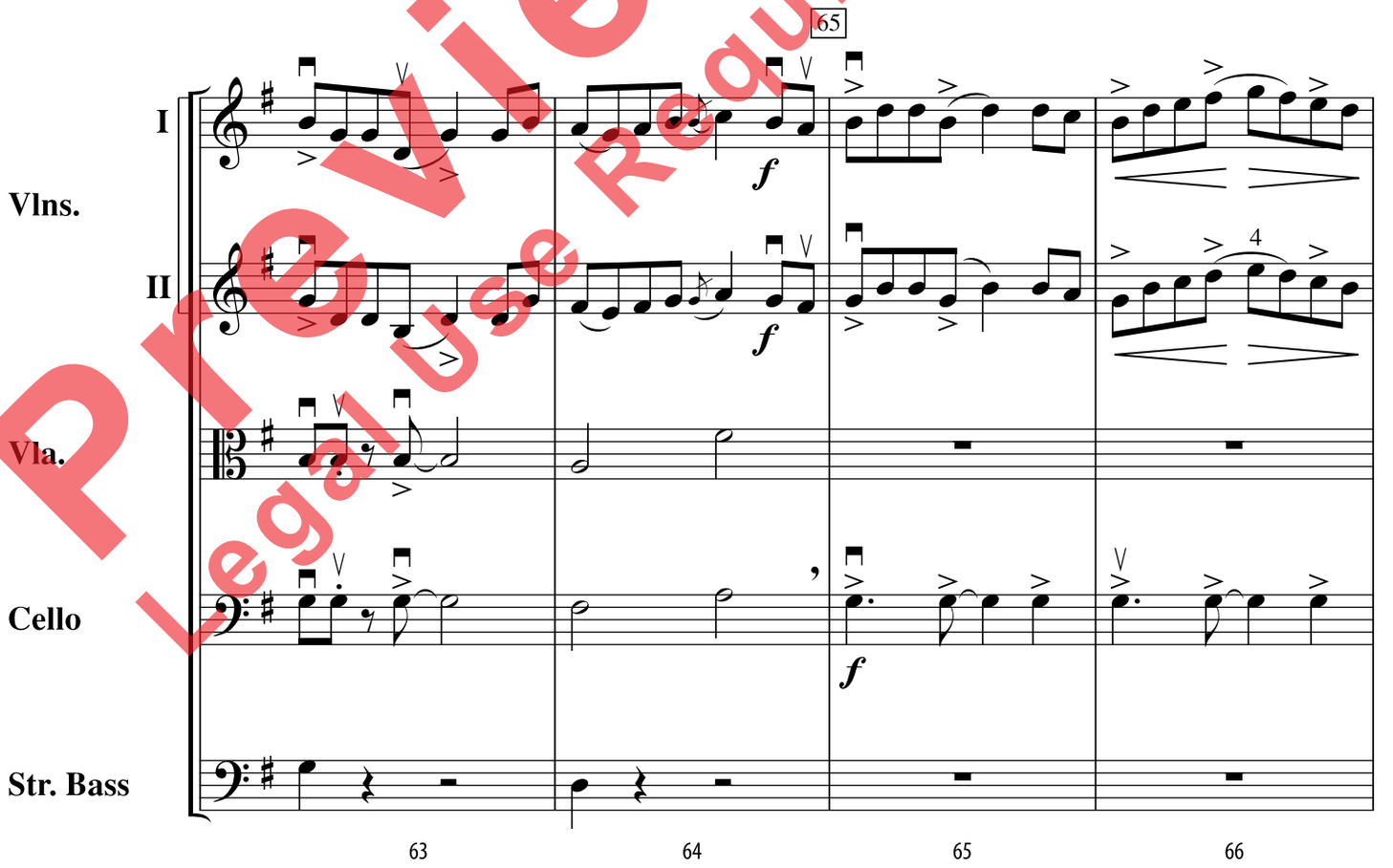

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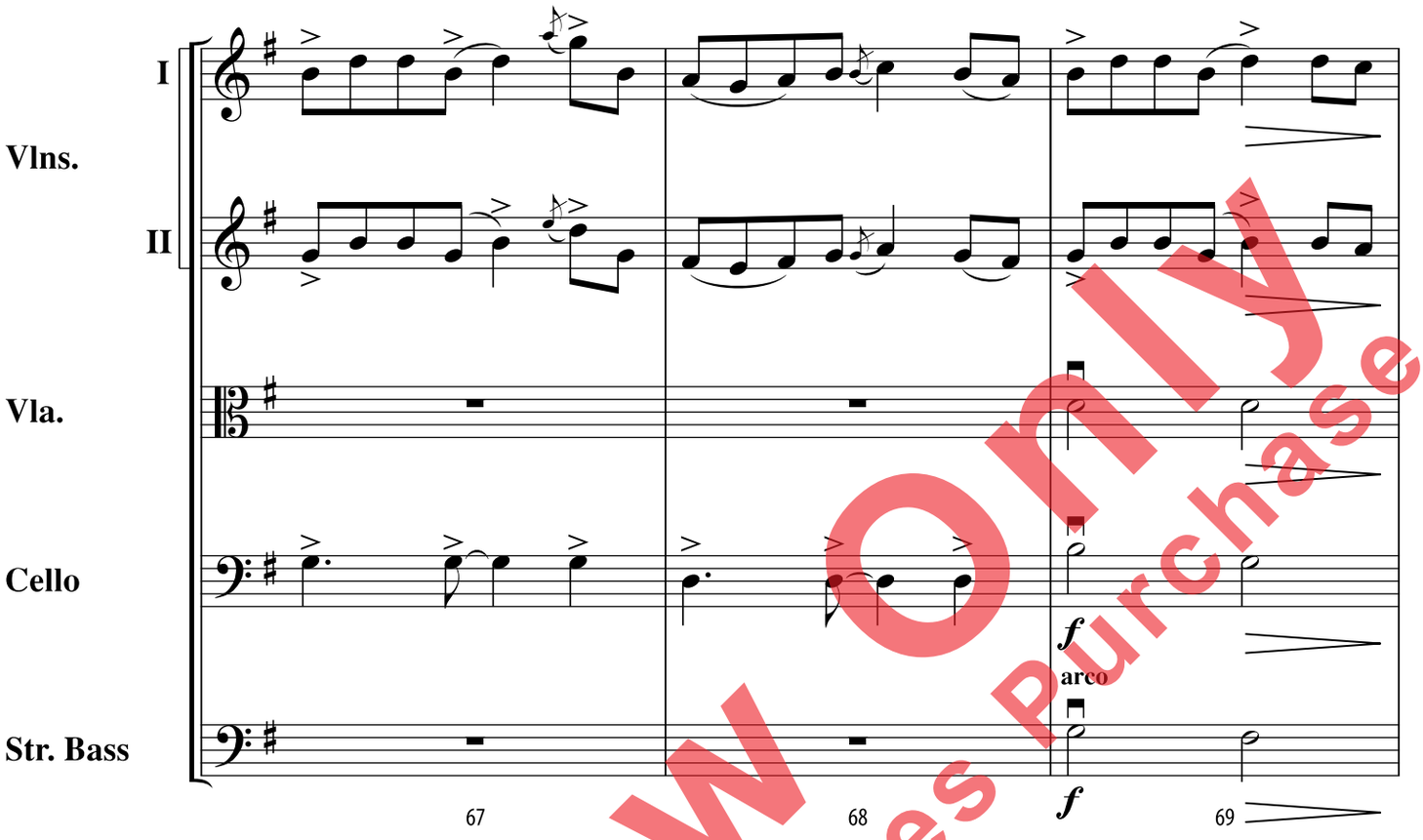

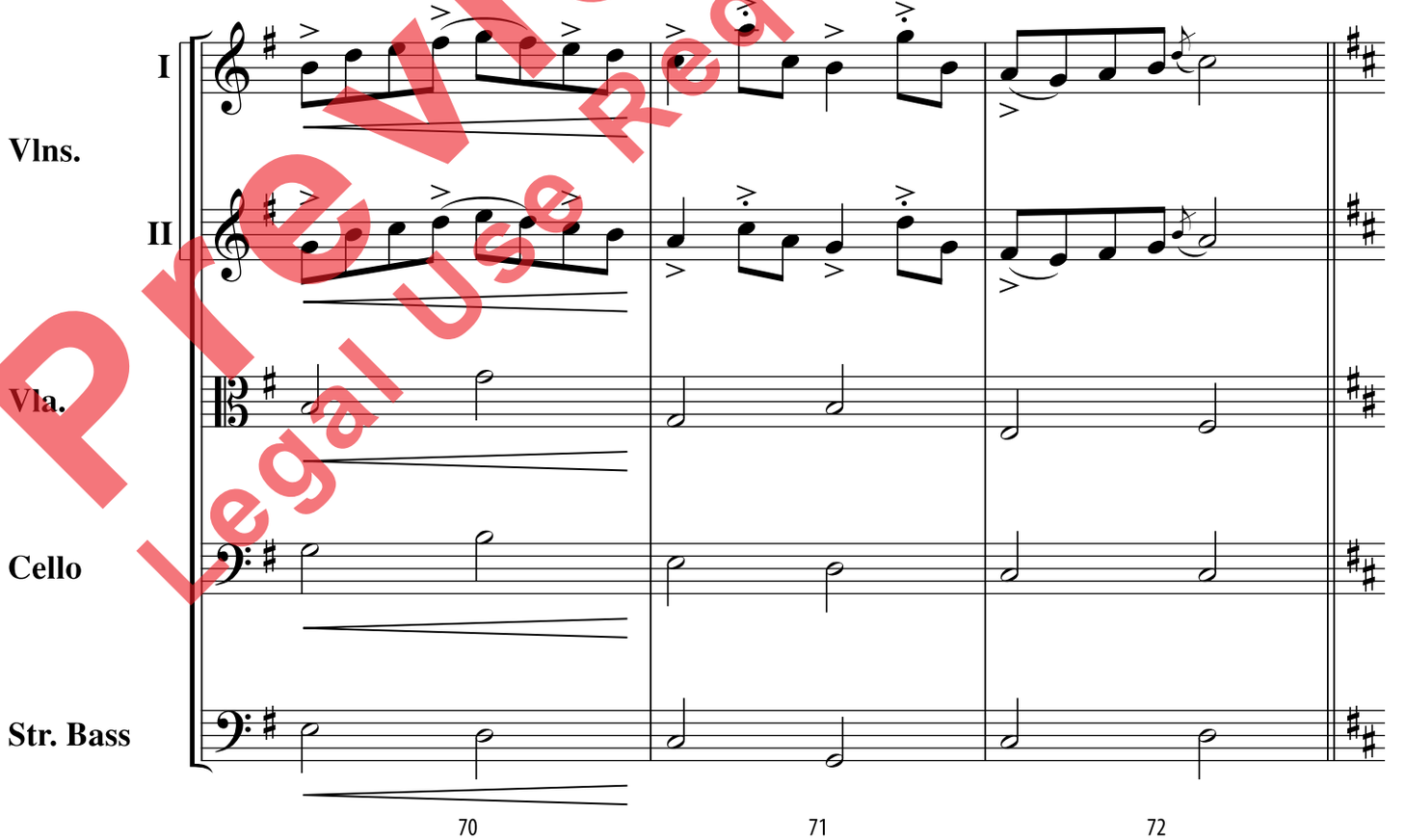

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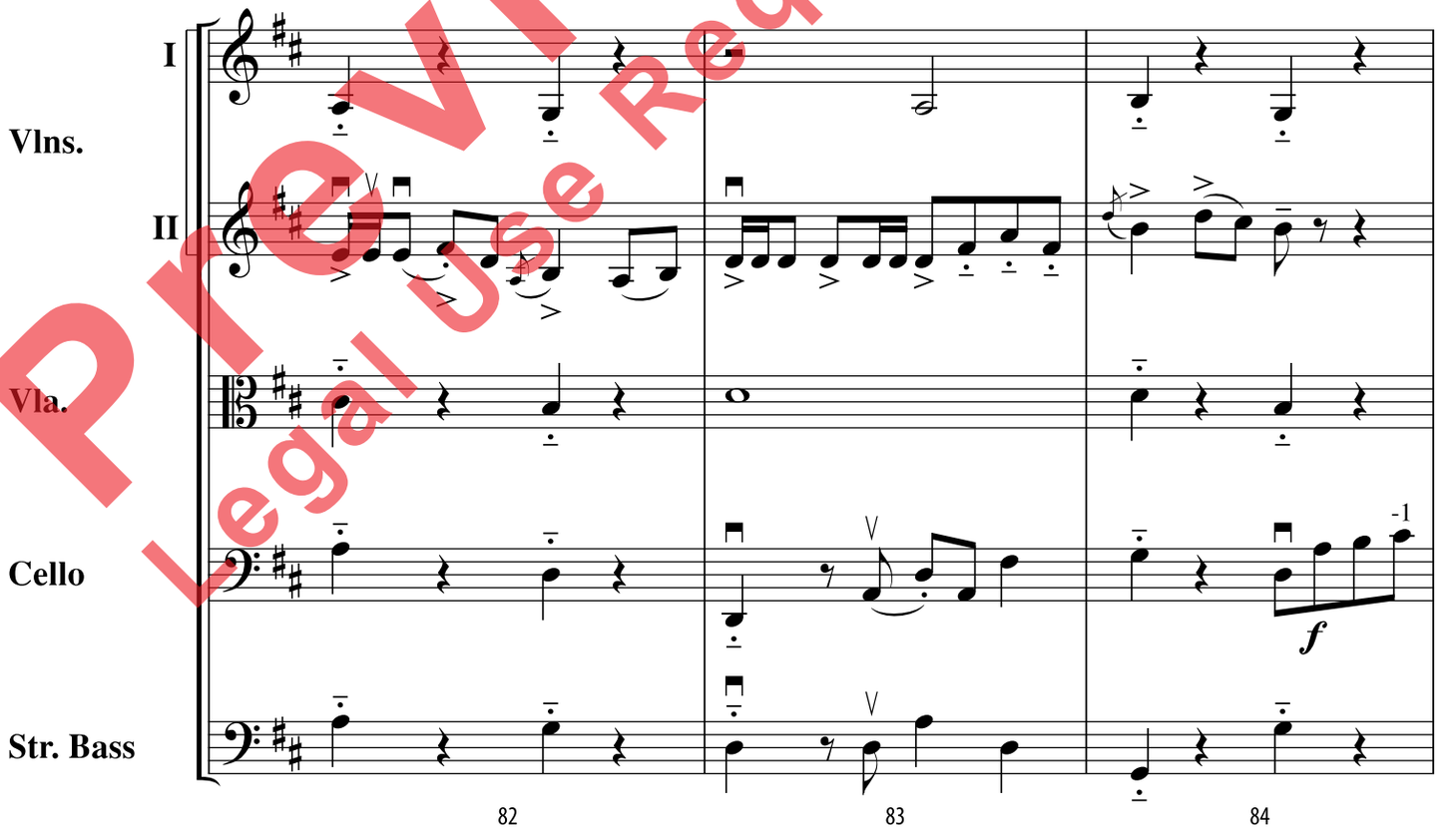

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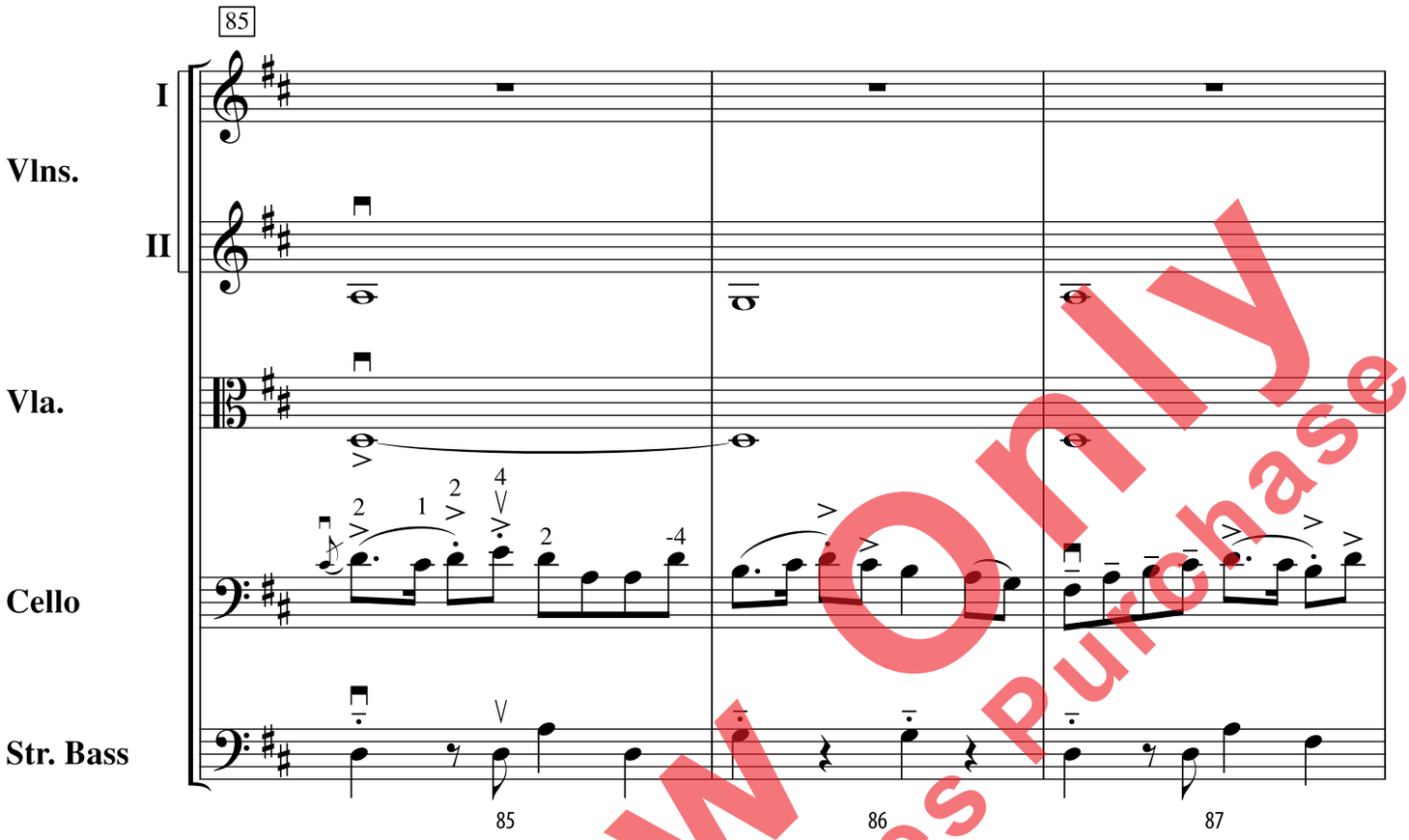

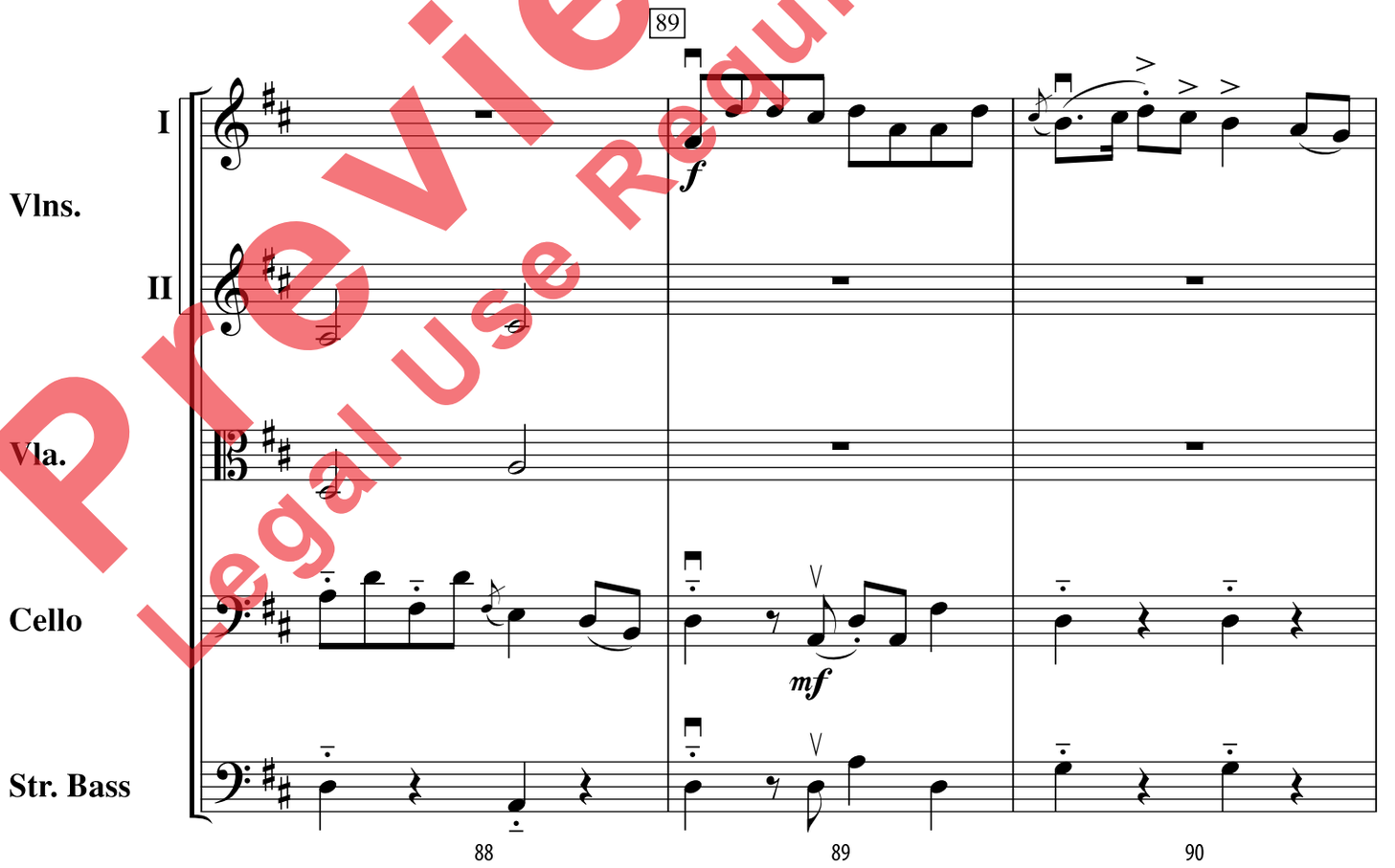

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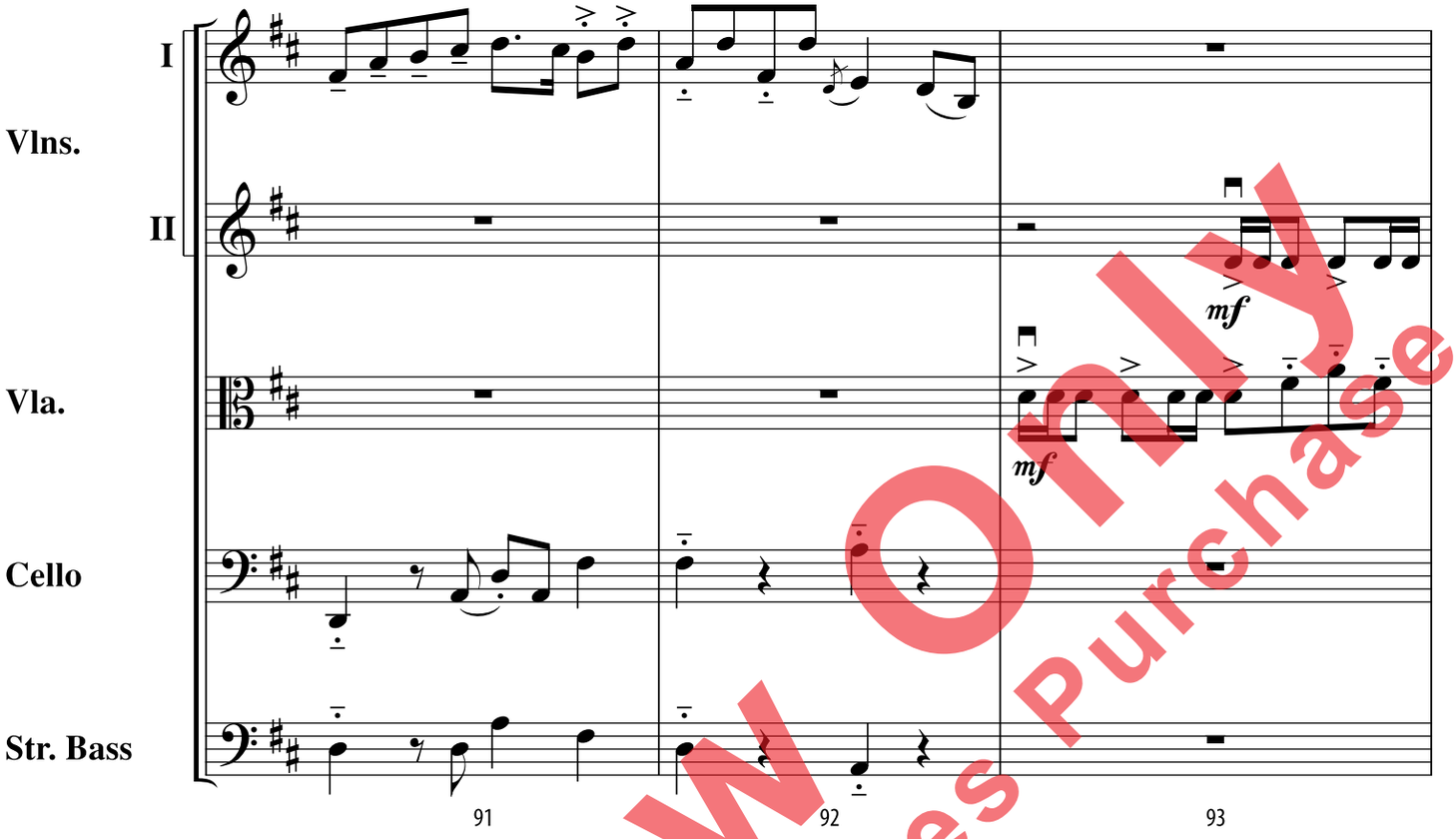

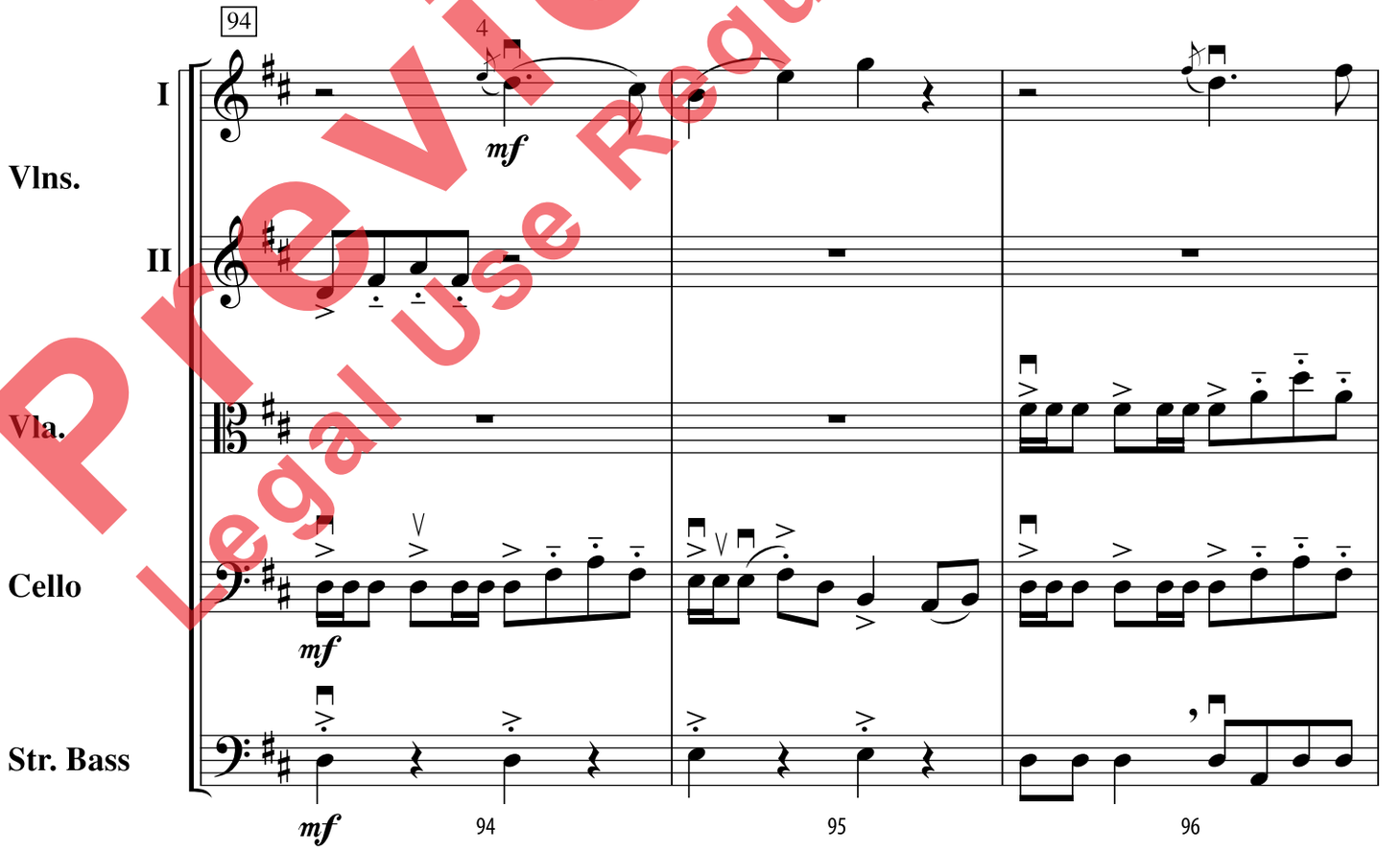

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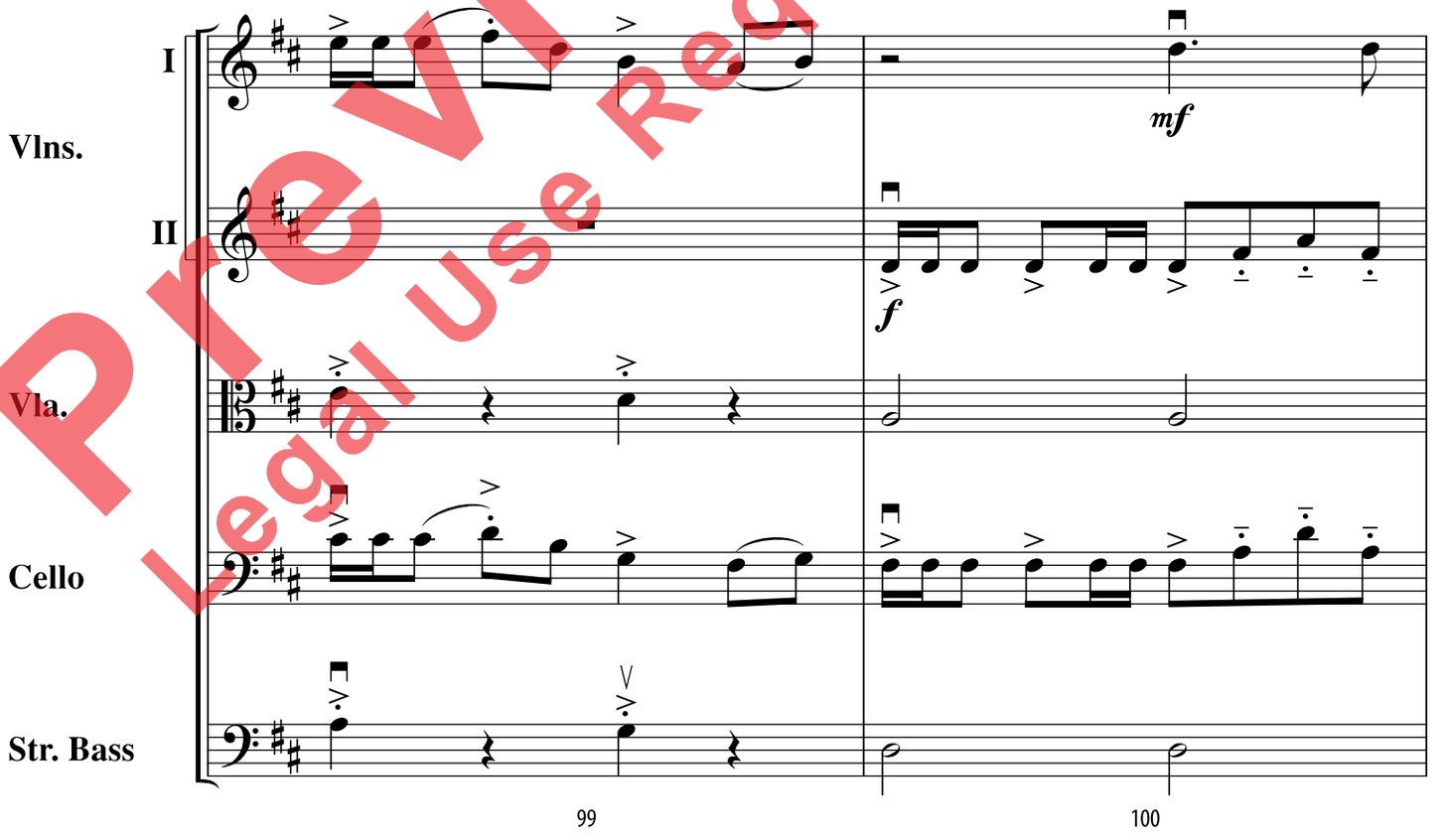

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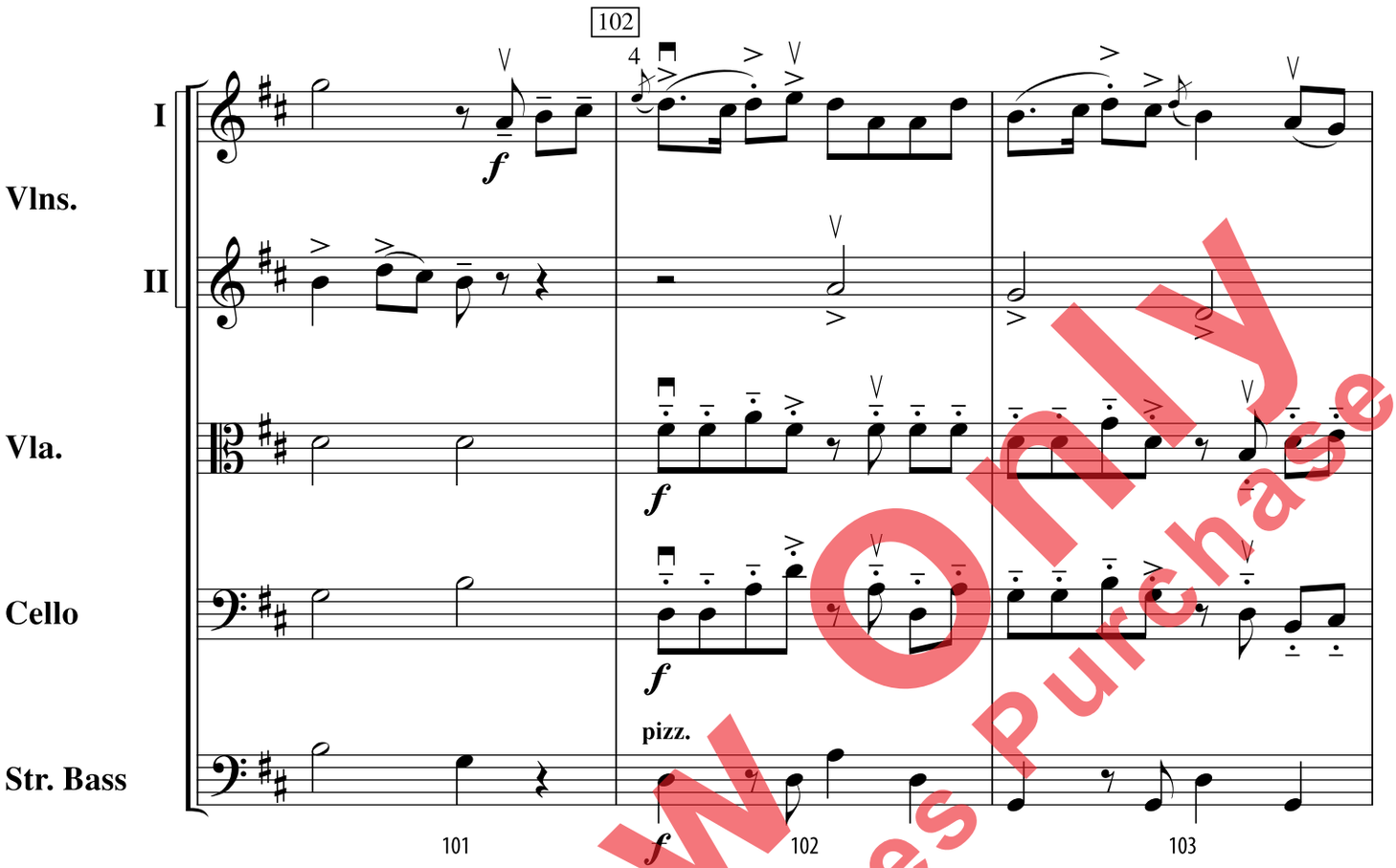

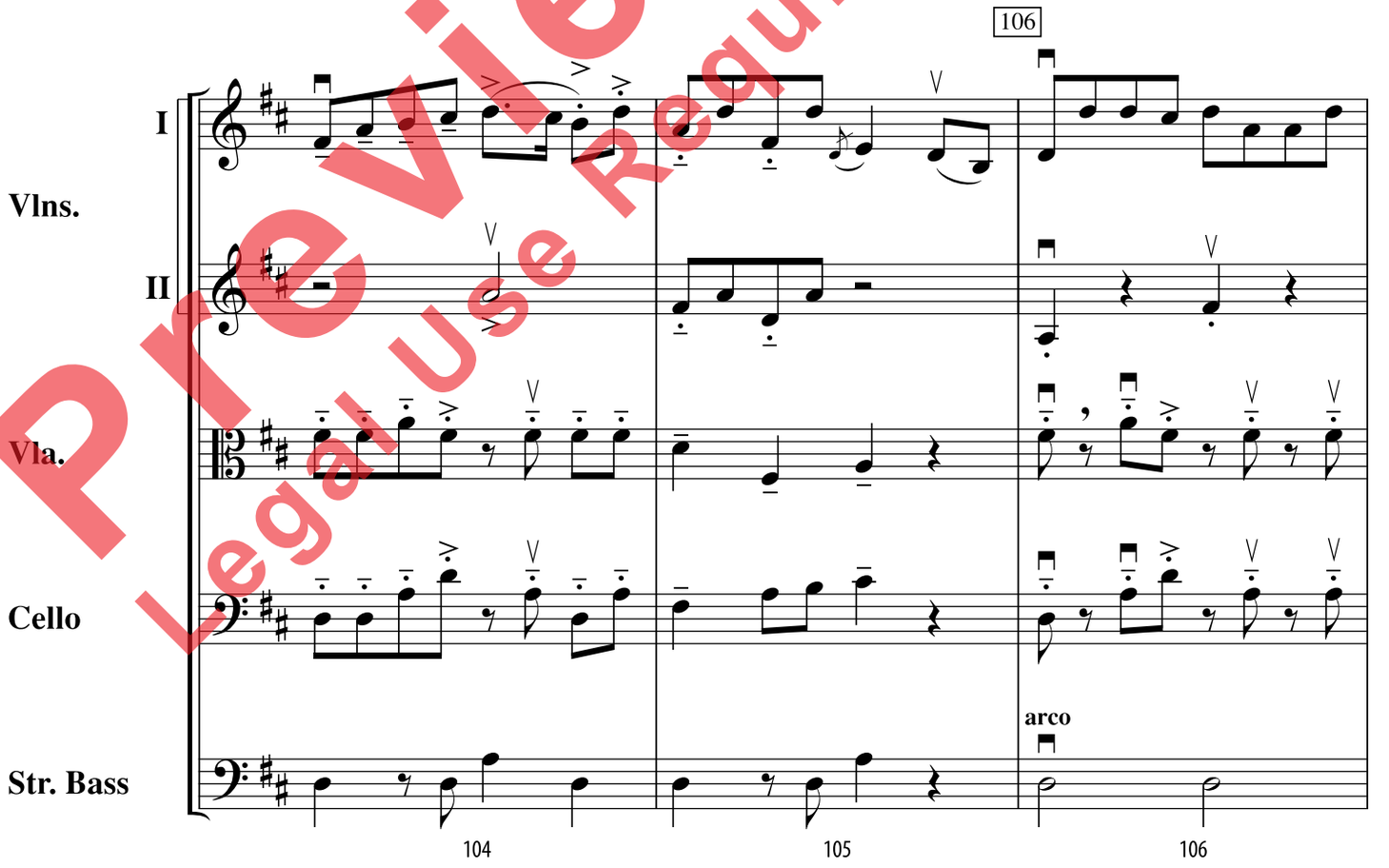

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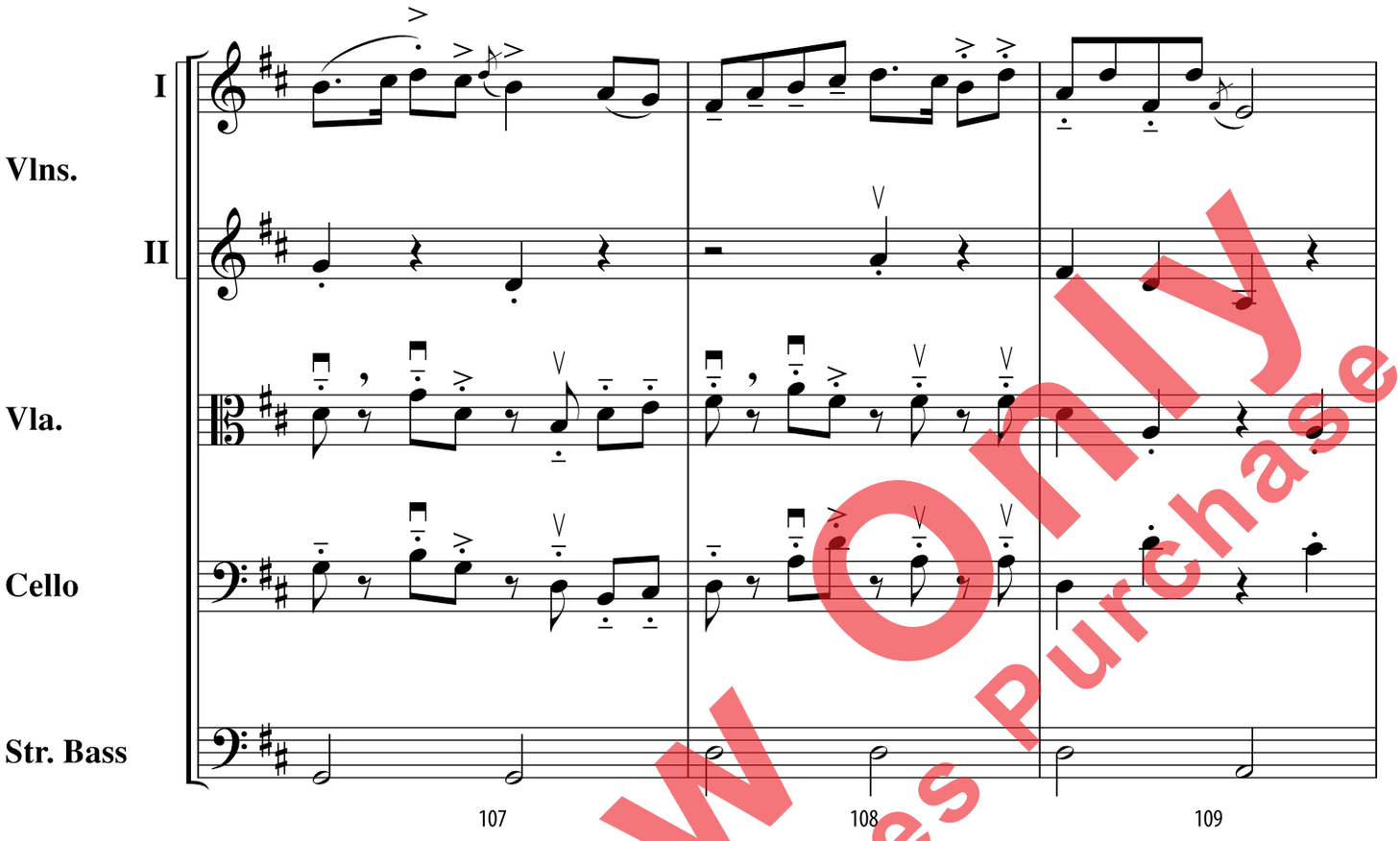

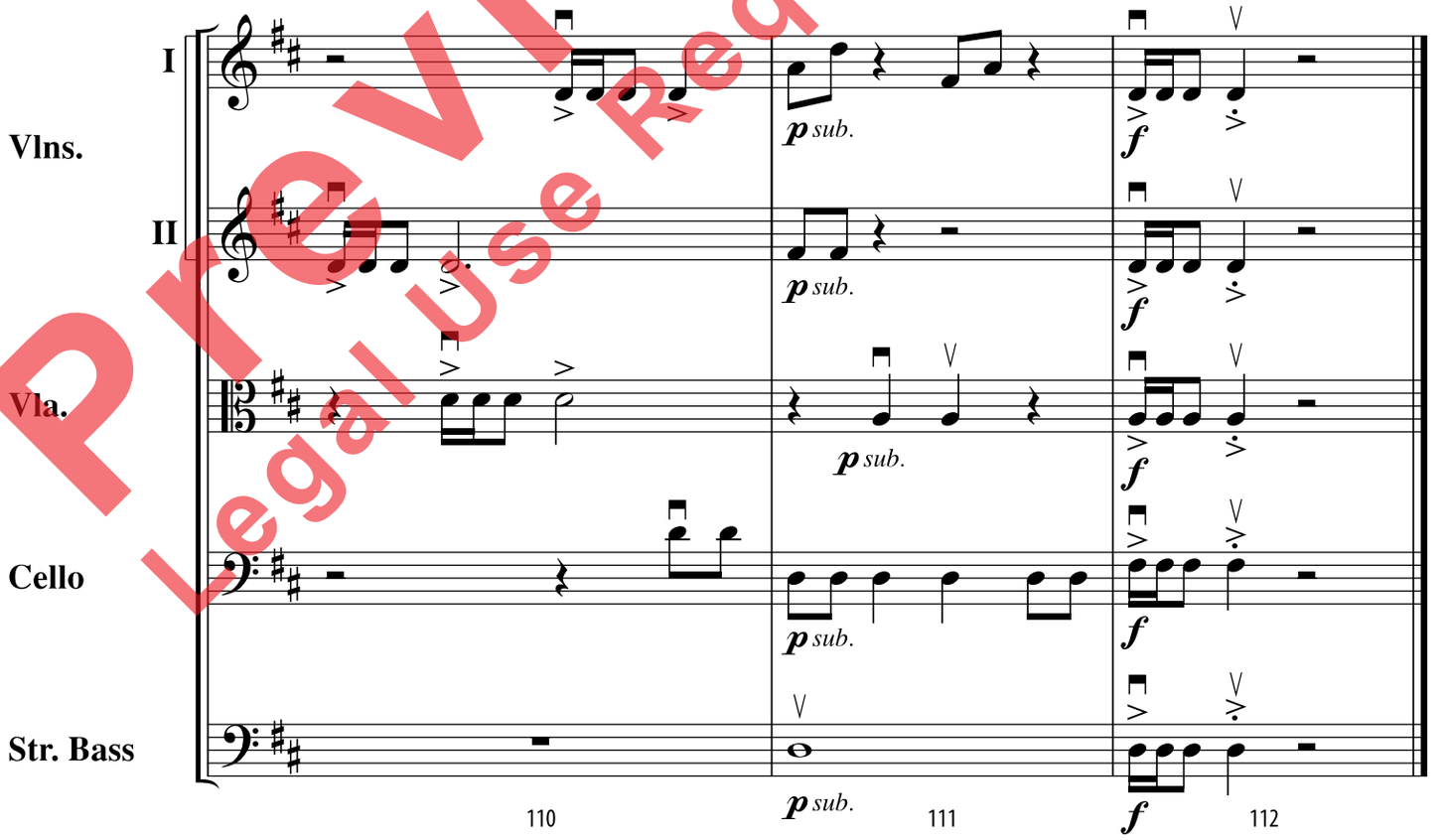

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