2. Una tragedia Domestica
("The Road", Mile 34)
(A Soap Opera)

Percussive sounds may be accompanied by spontaneous, freely articulated vocal noises (grunts, coughs, single syllables, "scat", gibberish), without determining beforehand.

(Texts are optional. Performer may also change or add ad lib., in any language.)

for Chris Newman
Frederic Rzewski (1998)

A

♩= 112 — espressivo — rit. — ♩= 144 — rit. — a tempo — rit. — Ped. — sub. — ♩= 104 — cresc. e accel. — rit. — 8va.

Copyleft Sound Pool Music (BMI), 1999

♩= 128

pp cresc. mp pp f p pp molto rit.

♩= 96

mf rit. p pp f accel. pp a tempo mp accel. f rit. pp

(cry softly; speak:) "I can't take it anymore"

mp (knock on keyboard lid) (slap under keyboard) (slap sides of instr.) ff (trem.) (knock on keyboard lid)

8va

3 pp 3 p mp 3 mf pp f (sustain with middle pedal)

Ped.

B

p f pp f dimin. pp mp

Ped.

p mf pp ff

♩= 144

pp p f p pp

8vb

mp mf p pp (short coughing, choking fit) speak:)

"How can I keep my marriage together if I'm in love with Jan at the same time?

8va

♩= 96

(tap on keyboard lid)

f

(slap under keyboard) (knock on keyboard lid)

(rit.) ff

Ped.

(speak:) oh!

sfz

♩= 104

mf pp

swinging

p f

♩= 120

pp p f rit. p

Ped.

(middle pedal off)

C

f dimin. p rit.

(roll chords)

♩= 104

mf cresc.

con Ped.

8va

ff

p cresc. f

♩= 96

pp

p

una corda

(hold with middle pedal)

♩= 128

p tre corde mp mf f

♩= 96

ff pp

p f

(spitting or farting speak)

"It was so loathsome... It's impossible to describe."

(scratch under keyboard; inhale & exhale, with tongue between teeth, making a slurping or sucking sound)

Ped.

molto rit.

8va

♩= 72

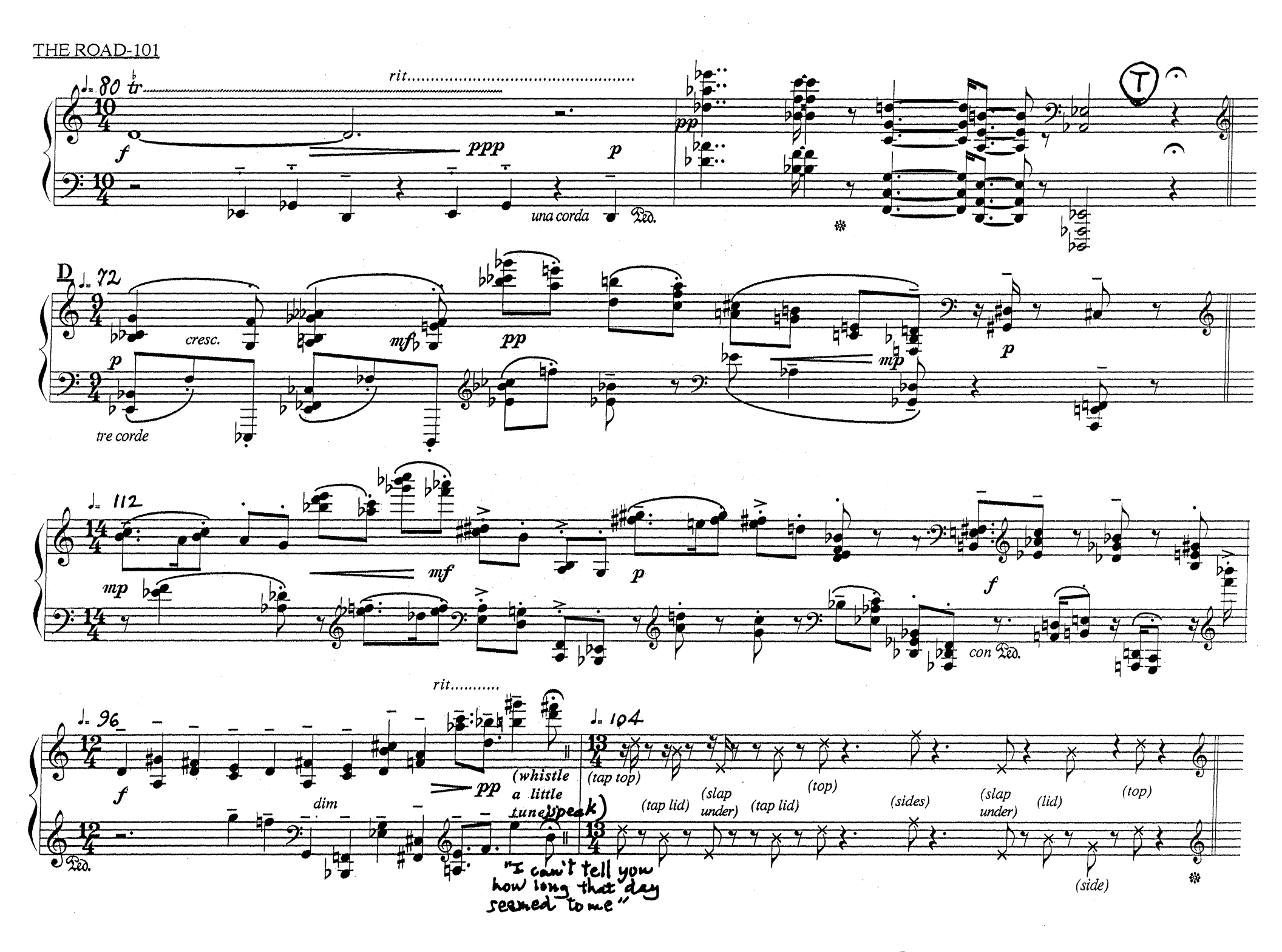
pp

1/2 Ped.

cresc.

mf

pp


♩= 80
tr
rit.
f
ppp
p
una corda
Ped.
pp
T
D
♩= 72
cresc.
p
tre corde
mf
pp
mp
p
♩= 112
mp
mf
p
f
con Ped.
rit.
♩= 96
f
dim
pp
Ped.
(whistle a little tune)
"I can't tell you how long that day seemed to me"
♩= 104
(tap top)
(tap lid)
(slap under)
(tap lid)
(top)
(sides)
(slap under)
(lid)
(top)
(side)

♩= 120 marcato

pp

1/2 Ped. una corda

cresc.

rit.....

ff

p

Ped.

♩= 96

pp

ppp

♩.64 (roll chords slightly)

pp

cresc.

mf

ppp

Ped.

♩= 96

pp

mp

ppp

E

pp

p

f

tre corde

p

f

(wood noises sigh:)

"Aaaaahhhh... yes, yes... this was... yes..."

Ped.

f

(tap on keyboard lid)

(Ped.)

♩= 120

p cresc. mf pp ppp

Ped.

fp fp fp fp f fp fp fp

♩= 96

p ff pp

trem.

F

rit.

mf

(knock on lid:)

(improvise, r.h. solo, white notes only, sing; p speak:)

cresc. f

Ped.

"It was good while it lasted — but there comes a time when you have to realize that it's over."

♩= 120

poco a poco rit. - - -

p *mf* *pp* rit. molto *f*

♩= 128

p subito

cresc.

poco a poco rit.

f *p*

allargando

♩= 96

ff *p* rit. *pp*

meno mosso

(roll chords)

mp cresc. *mf* *p*

rit. - - - -

a tempo

8va

pp

mf

poco a poco ritardando

mp

pp

(clap hands several times, laugh, speak:) "That's good! I could hardly believe it. Was Stella really betrayed by her best friend.

Ped.

G

(a tempo)

(tap on lid) (top) (under) (sides) (trem. beneath keyboard)

slow, accel.

p

mf

poco rit.

p

Ped.

♩= 112

8va

pp

p

mp

mf

Ped.

♩= 88

p

cresc.

rit.

f

p

♩= 72

p

cresc.

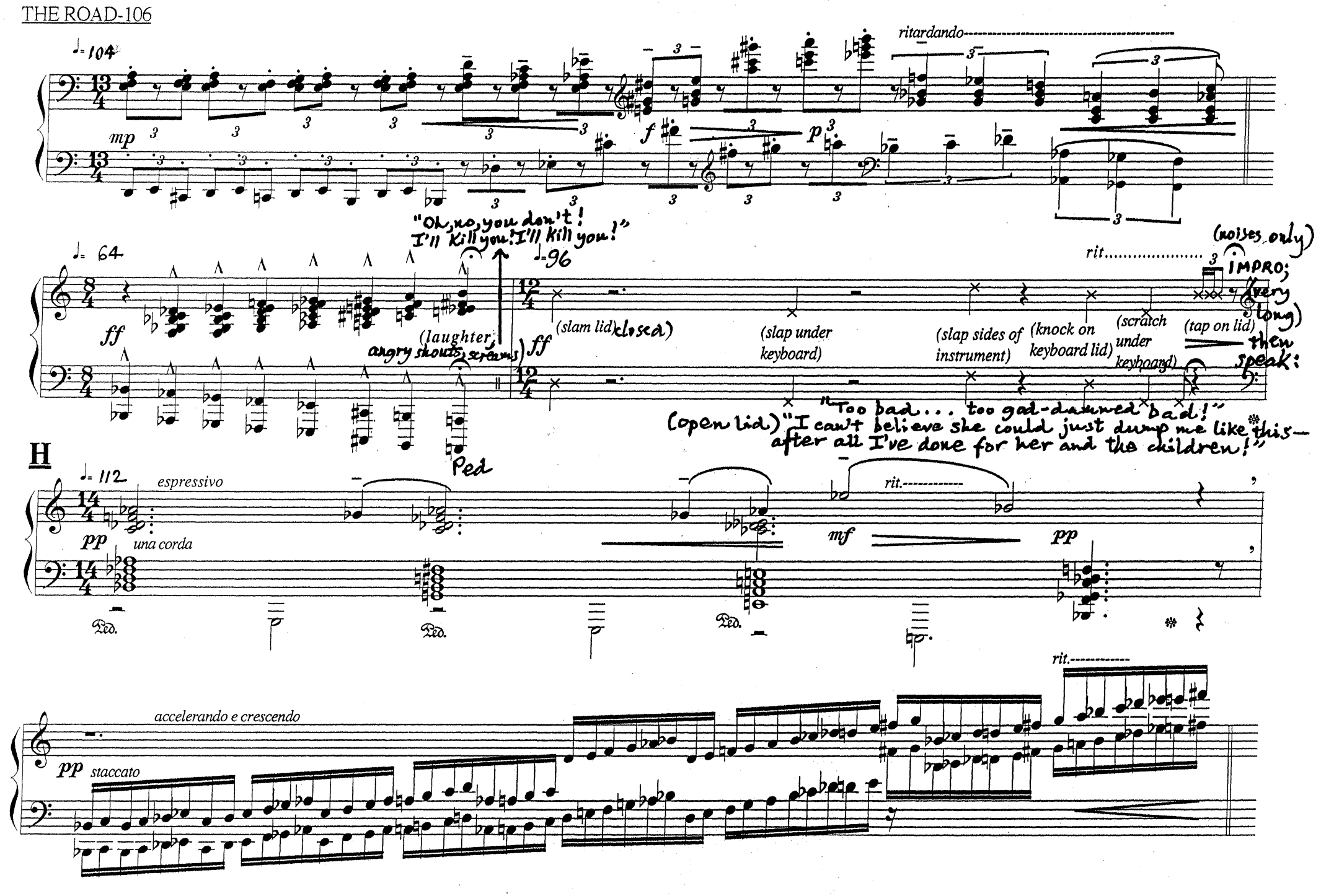
mf

dim.

rit.

p

(roll chords)


♩= 104
mp
f
p
ritardando
"Oh, no, you don't!
I'll kill you! I'll kill you!"
♩= 64
ff
(laughter; angry shouts, screams)
♩= 96
ff
(slam lid closed)
(slap under keyboard)
(slap sides of instrument)
(knock on keyboard lid)
(scratch under keyboard)
(tap on lid)
rit.
(noises only)
IMPRO; (very long)
then speak:
(open lid) "Too bad... too gad-damned bad!
"I can't believe she could just dump me like this—
after all I've done for her and the children!"
Ped
H
♩= 112
espressivo
pp
una corda
mf
pp
rit.
Ped.
accelerando e crescendo
pp
staccato
rit.

8va

f mp p pp pp f p pp

Ped. Ped. 8vb

♩=128

pp f p

tre corde

Ped.

f mf mp p pp

una corda

(sighing, sobbing)

speak:)

ppp

"It's over.
It's over.
It's over."

(scratch under keyboard)

♩=96

ff pp

Ped.

♩=72

p pp ppp

(roll slowly)