Four Tunes for May Day

There are many old customs and several tunes and dances associated with May Day (Laa Boaldyn) on the Isle of Man. In 2020, Culture Vannin sponsored a competition for new music inspired by the May Day traditions. Of the competition winners, four tunes have been selected and arranged for recorder quartet by Kevin Kelly.
If played together as a suite, Kevin suggests this order:
(1)Variations (2)Gorse (3)Beauty (4)Take a Match

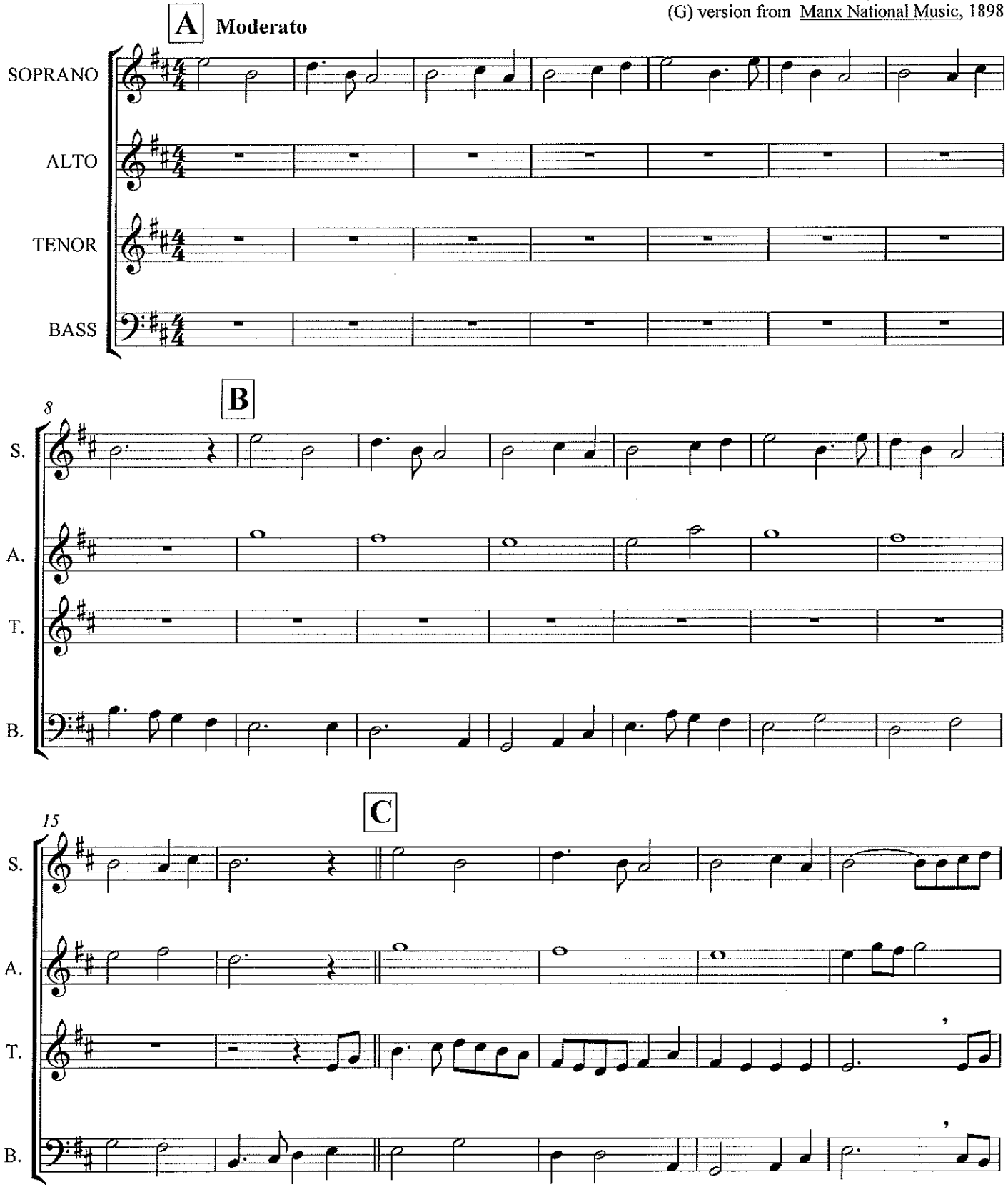
Kevin Kelly, 2023 kkelly@uga.edu

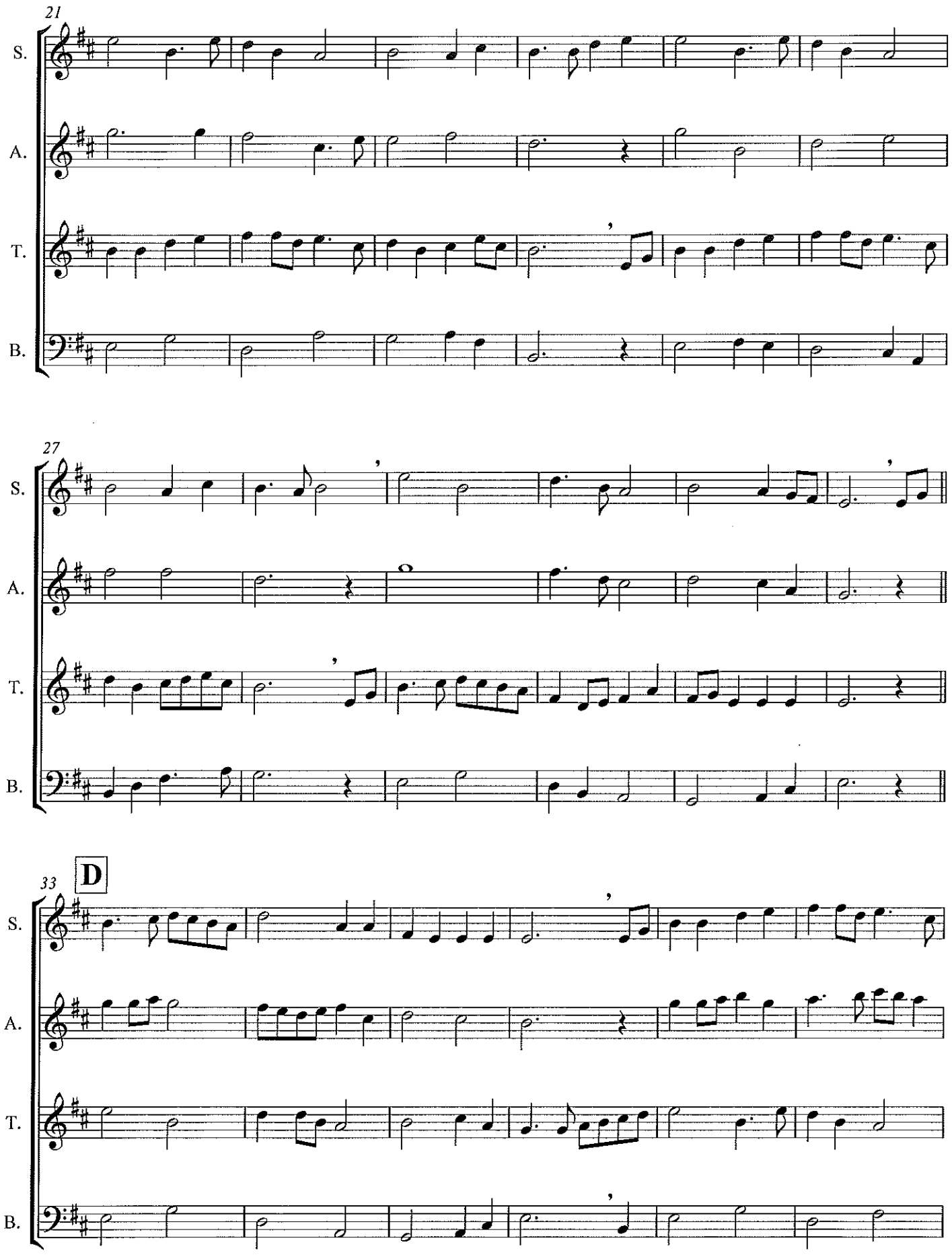
Full score

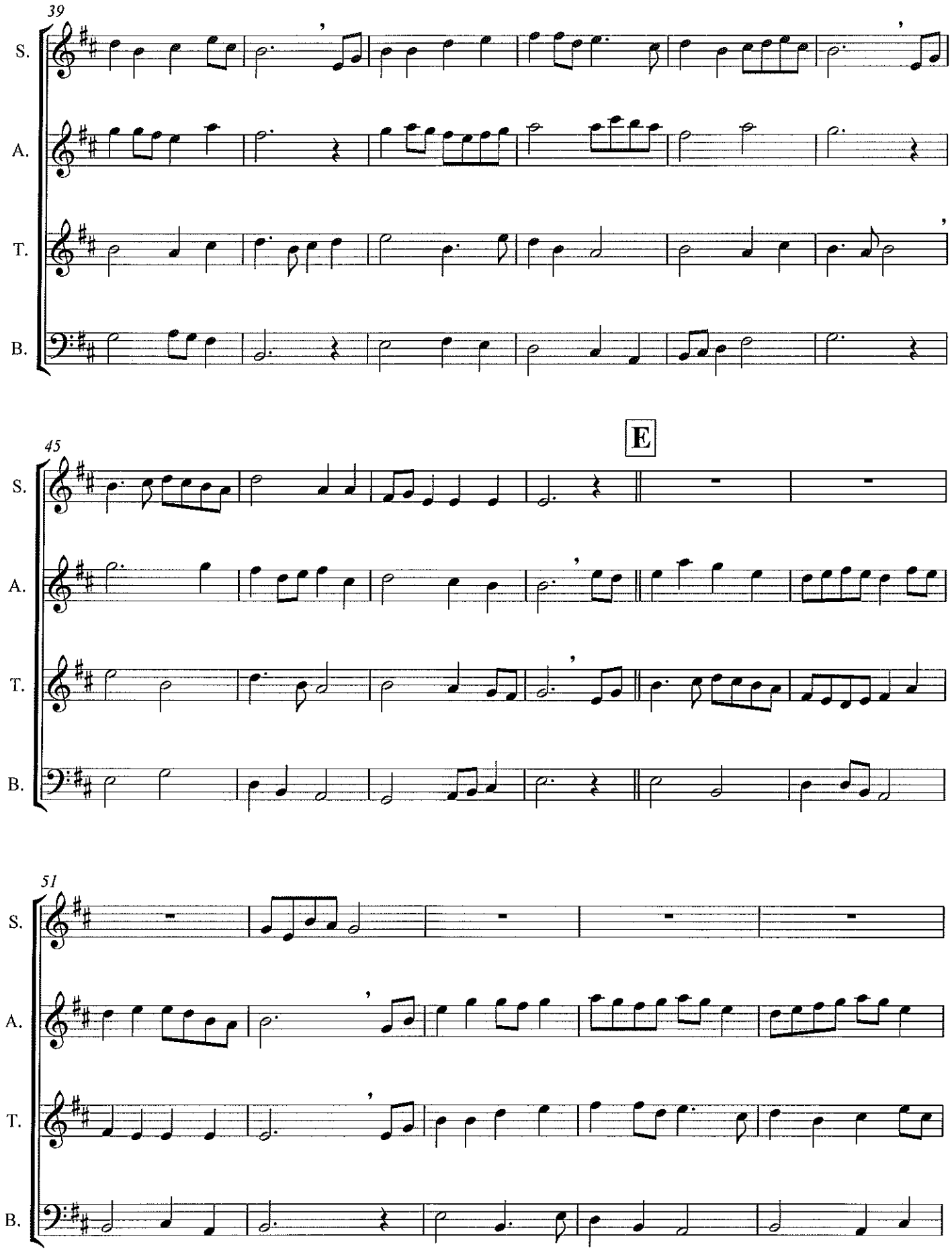
Variations on "May Day Morning"

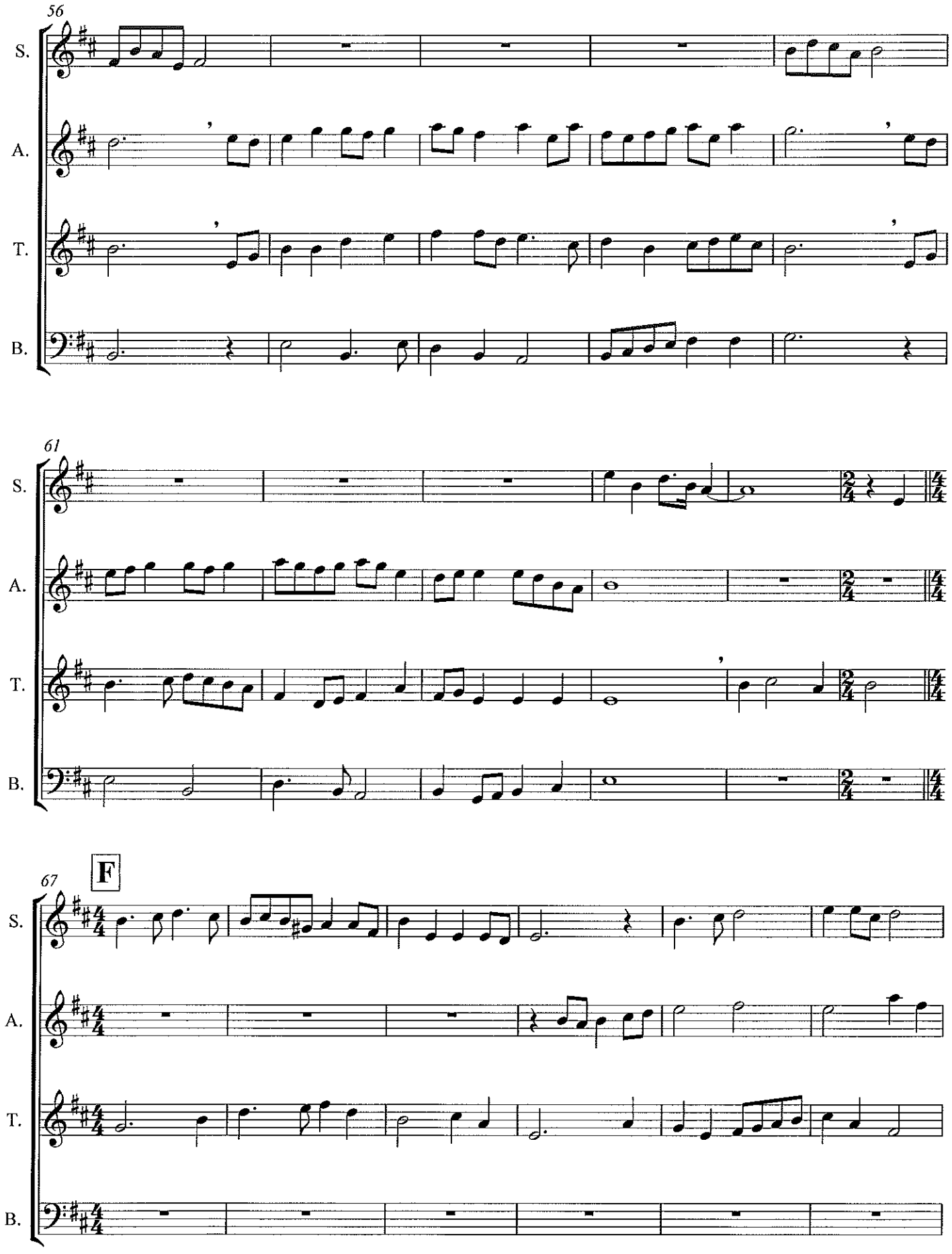
Moghrey Laa Boaldyn

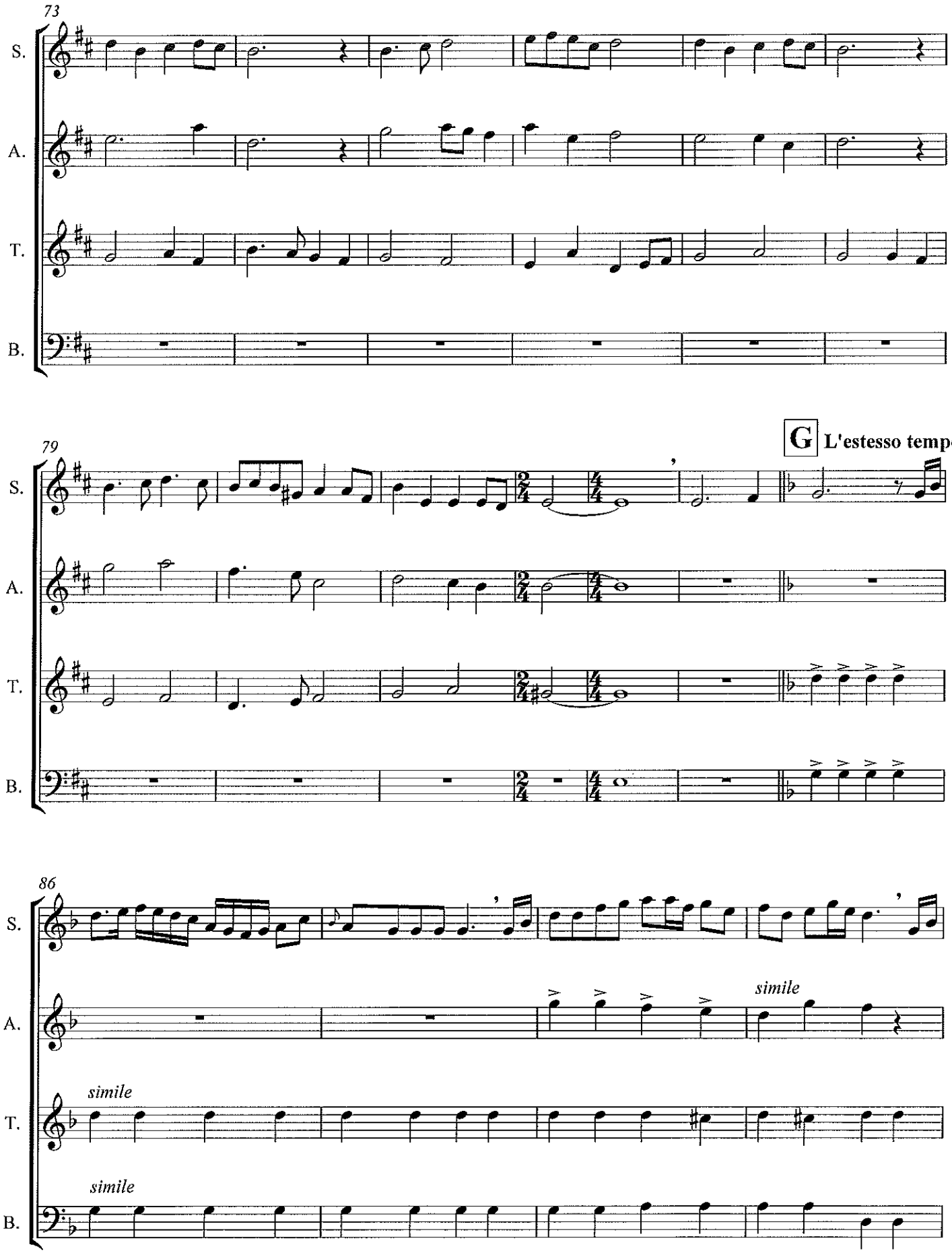
arr. Kevin Kelly
(E) countermelody by Chloe Woolley
Kiaull Manninagh Jiu, May 2016
(F) variation by Grainne Joughin
Culture Vannin Boaldyn Collection 2021
(G) version from Manx National Music, 1898

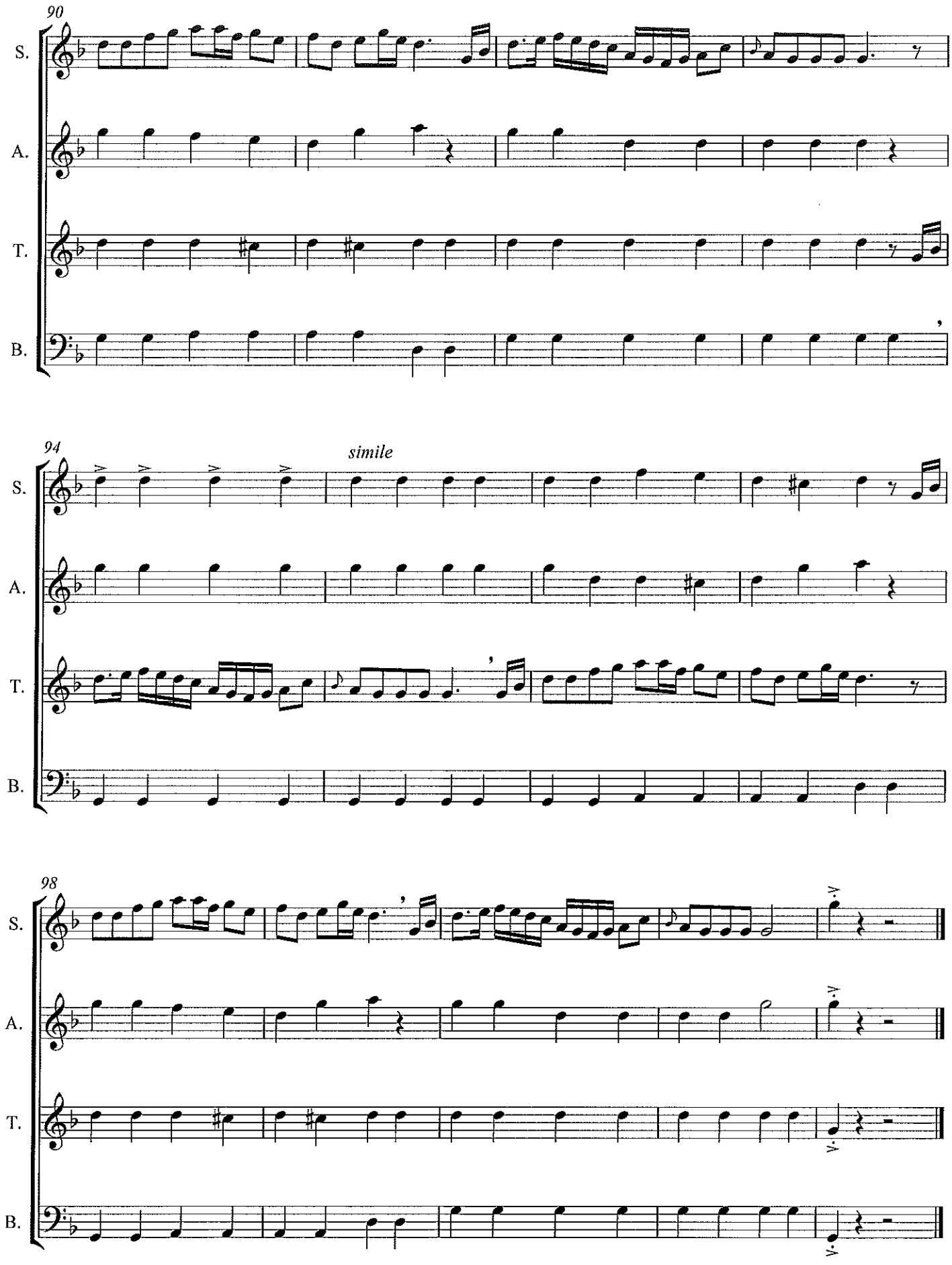



21
S.
A.
T.
B.
27
S.
A.
T.
B.
33
D
S.
A.
T.
B.


39
S.
A.
T.
B.
45
E
51


56
S.
A.
T.
B.
61
S.
A.
T.
B.
67
F
S.
A.
T.
B.

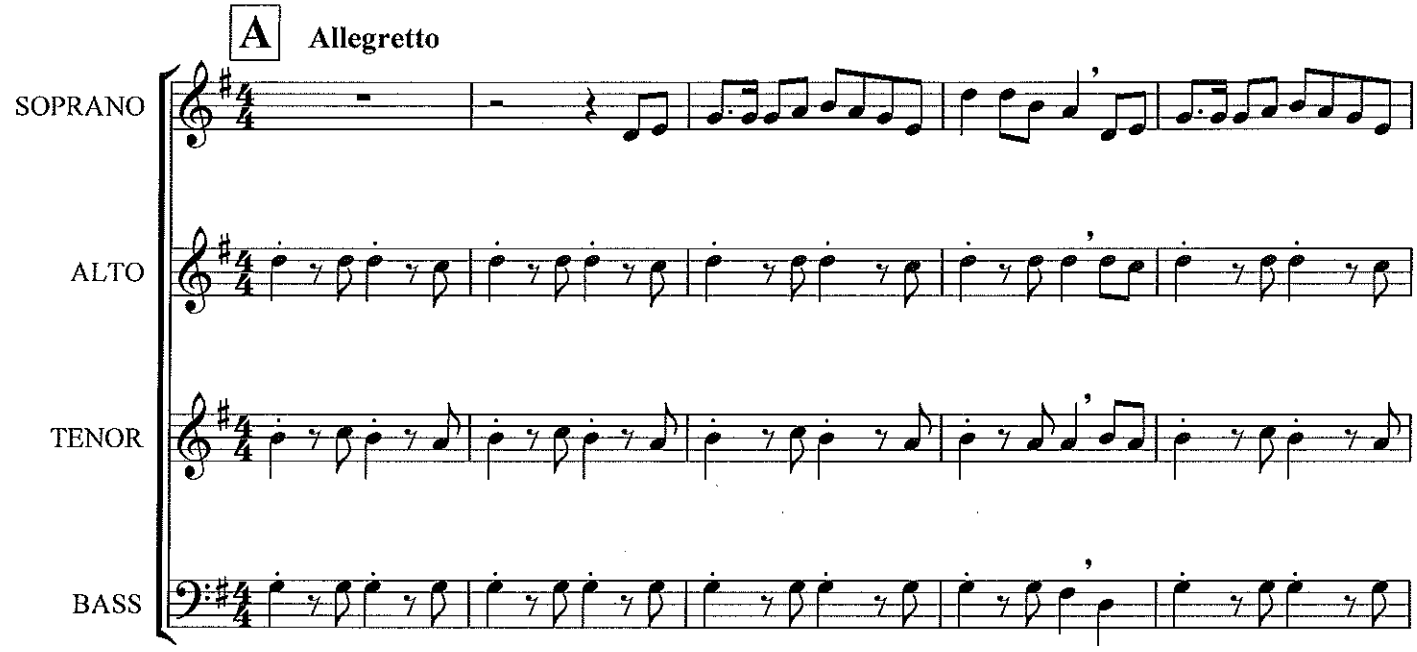

73
S.
A.
T.
B.
79
G L'estesso tempo
86
simile
simile
simile

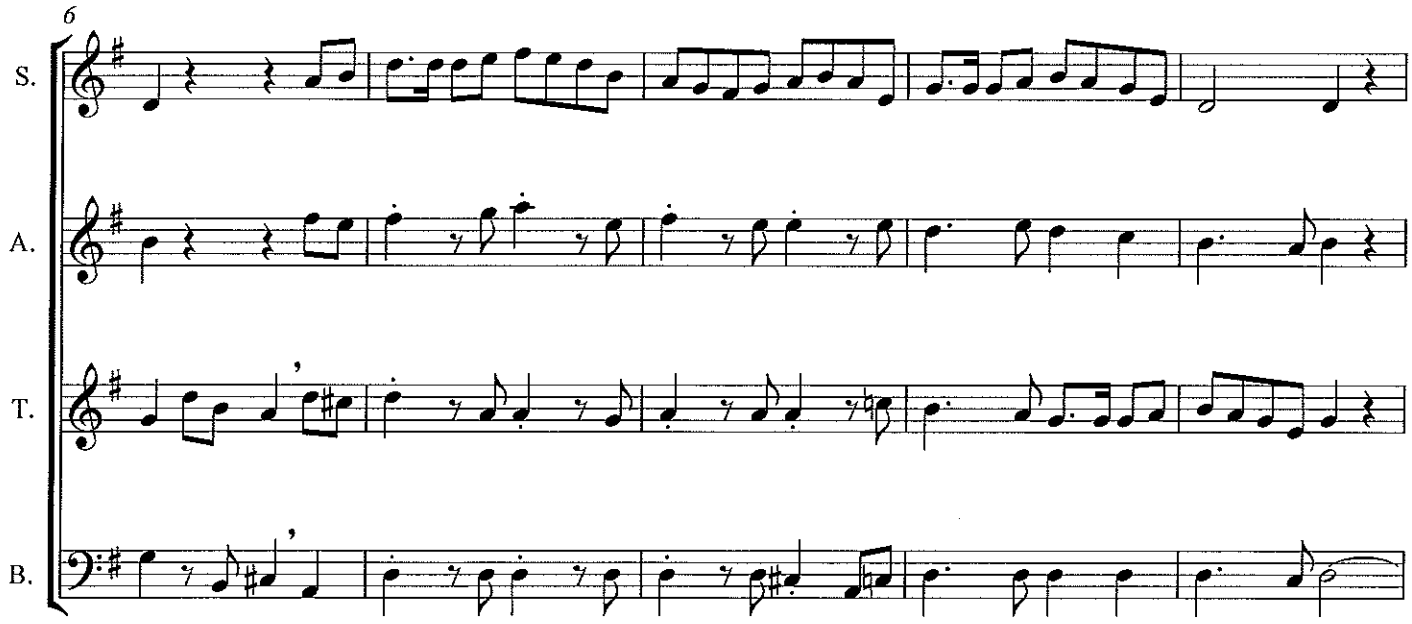

90
S.
A.
T.
B.
94
simile
98

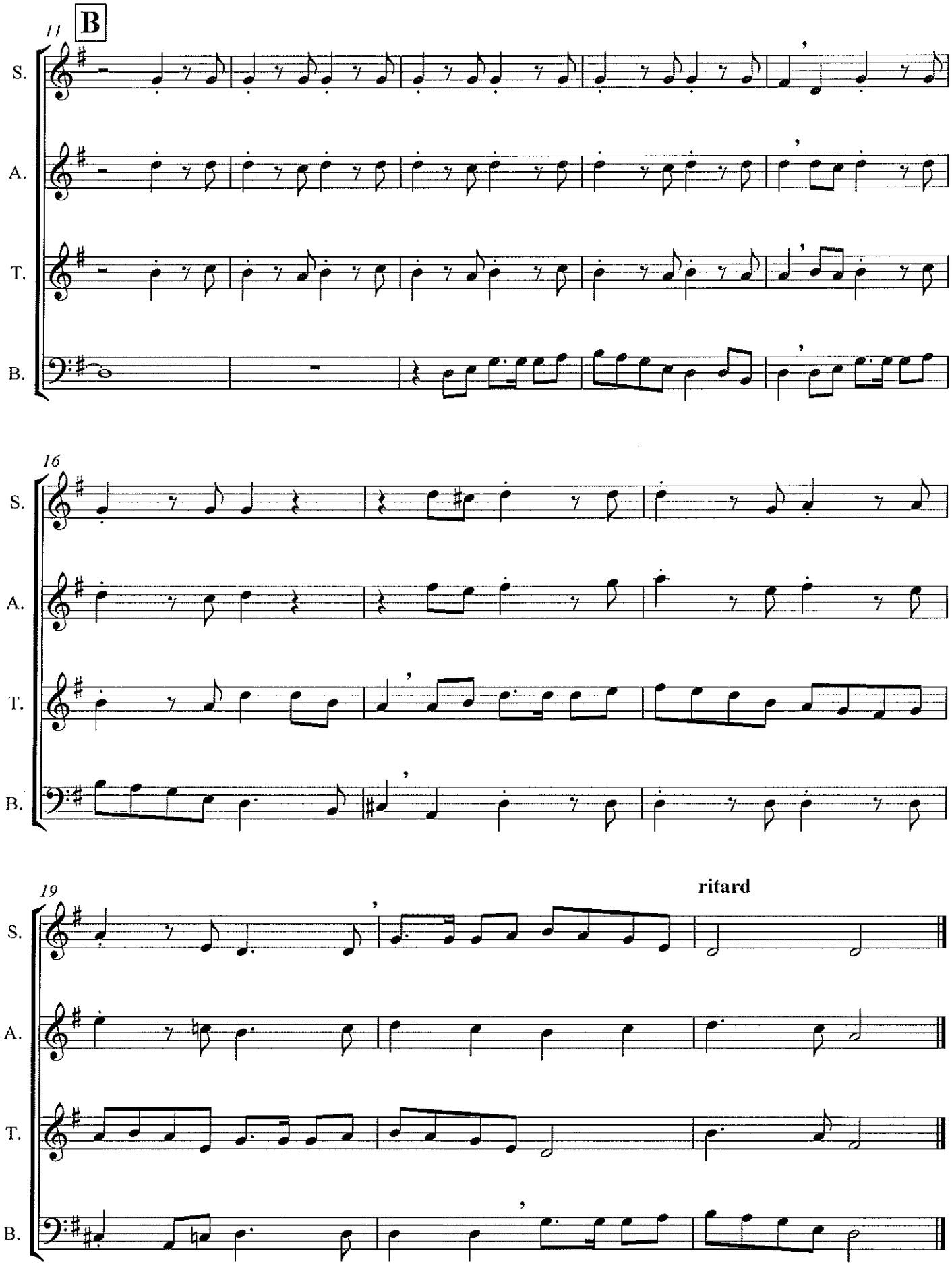
Gorse

Aattin

Kinley Clugston
Culture Vannin Boaldyn Collection 2021
arr. Kevin Kelly



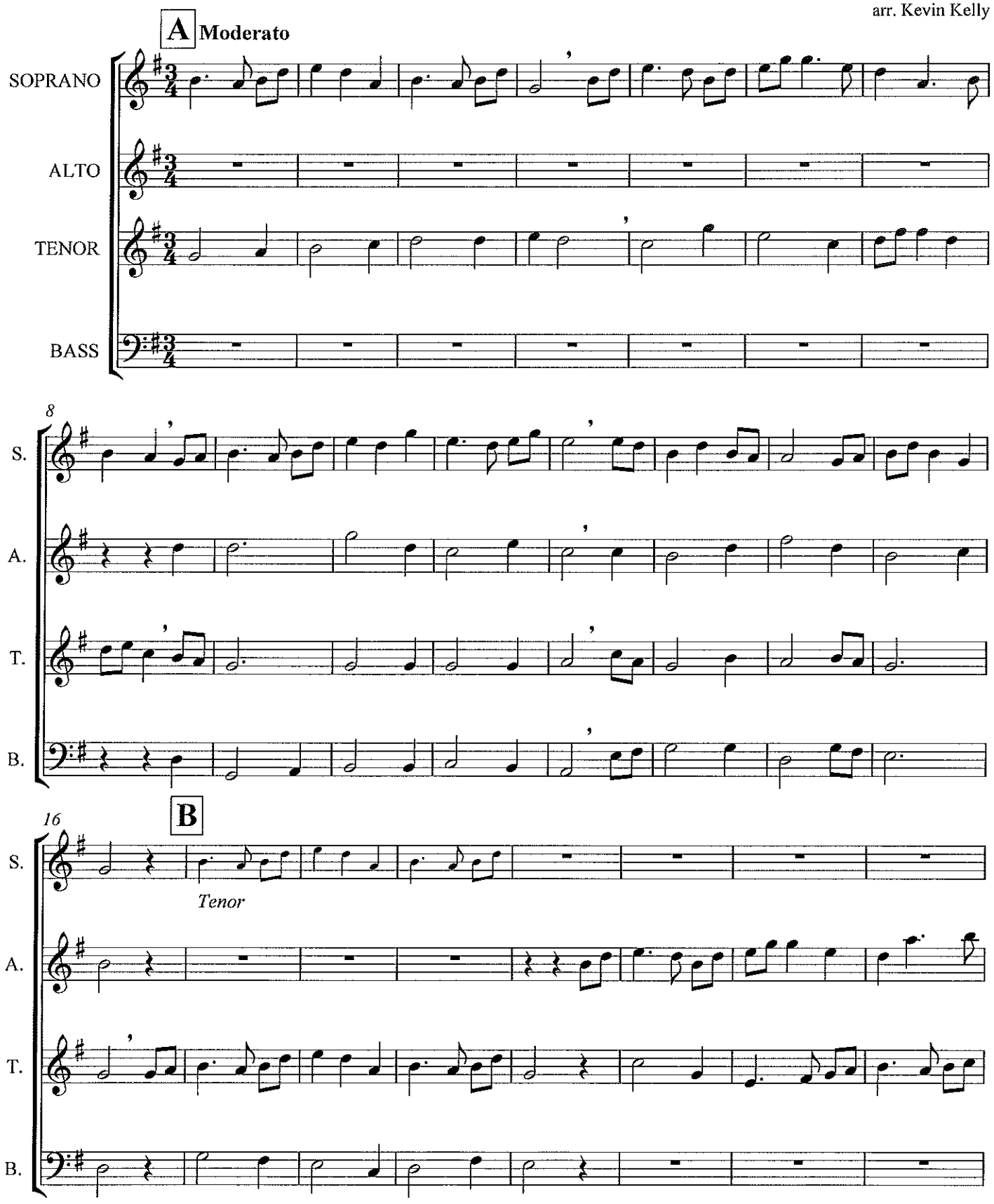


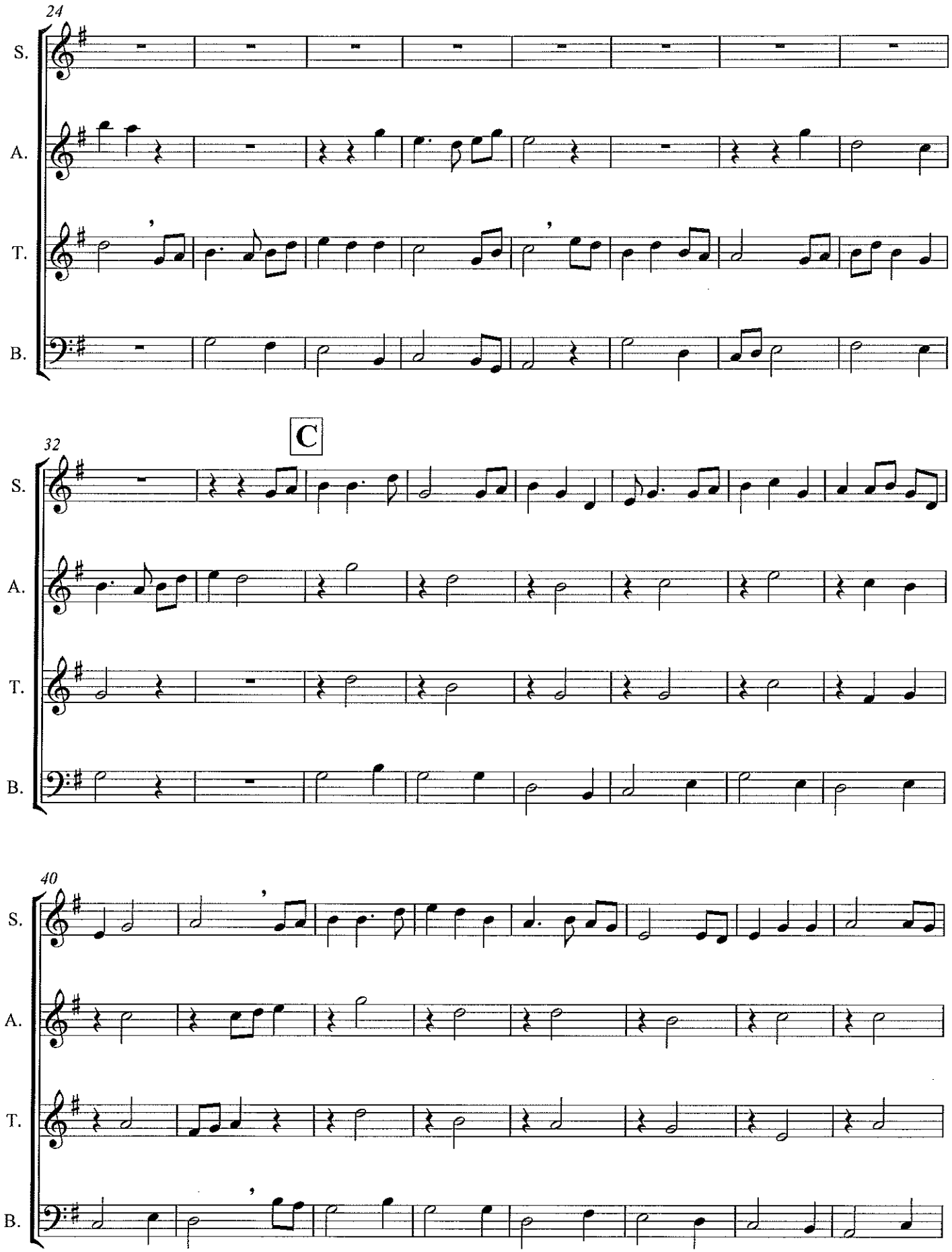

11
B
S.
A.
T.
B.
16
S.
A.
T.
B.
19
ritard
S.
A.
T.
B.

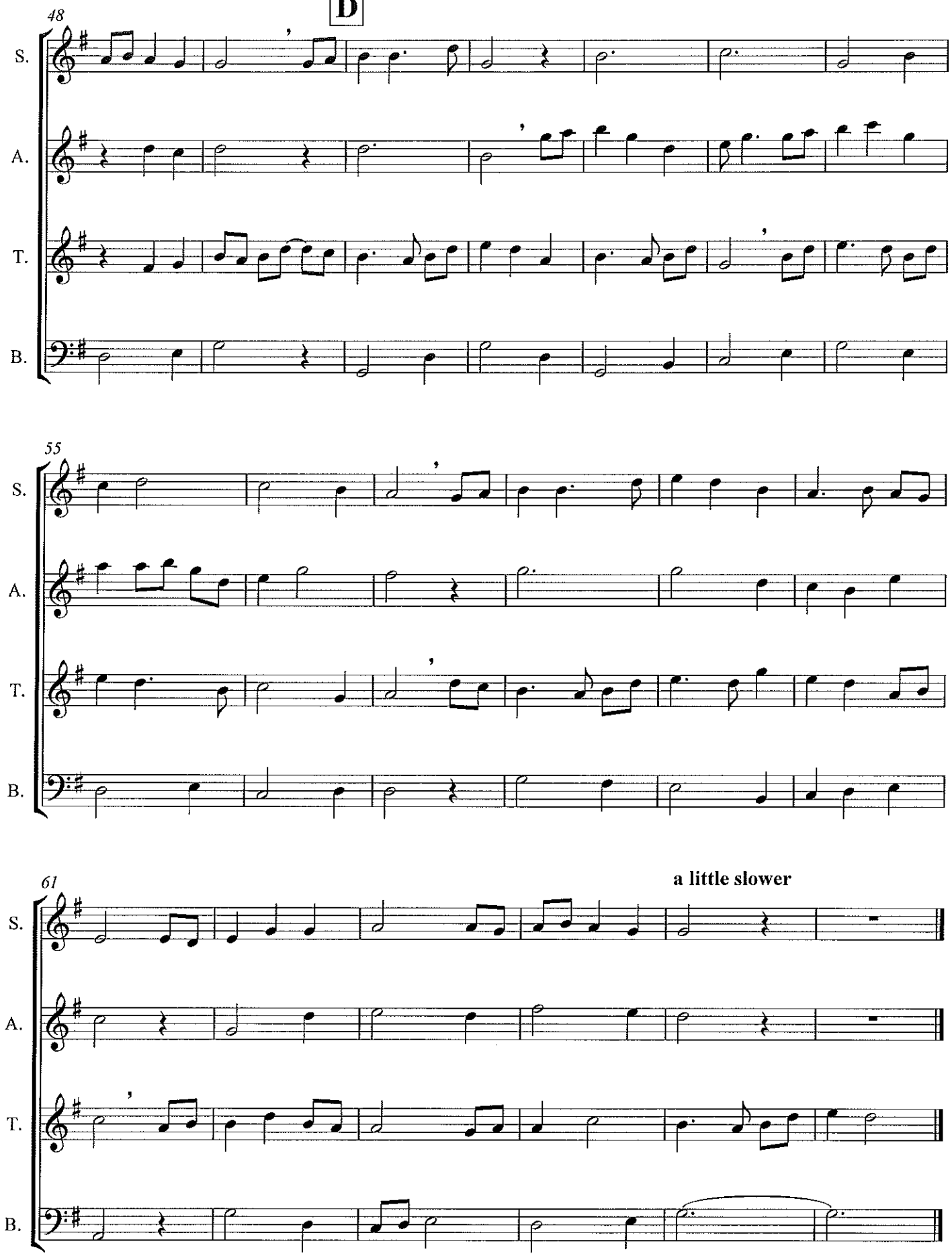
Beauty of Spring

Aalid yn arree

Isla Callister
Culture Vannin Boaldyn Collection 2021
arr. Kevin Kelly



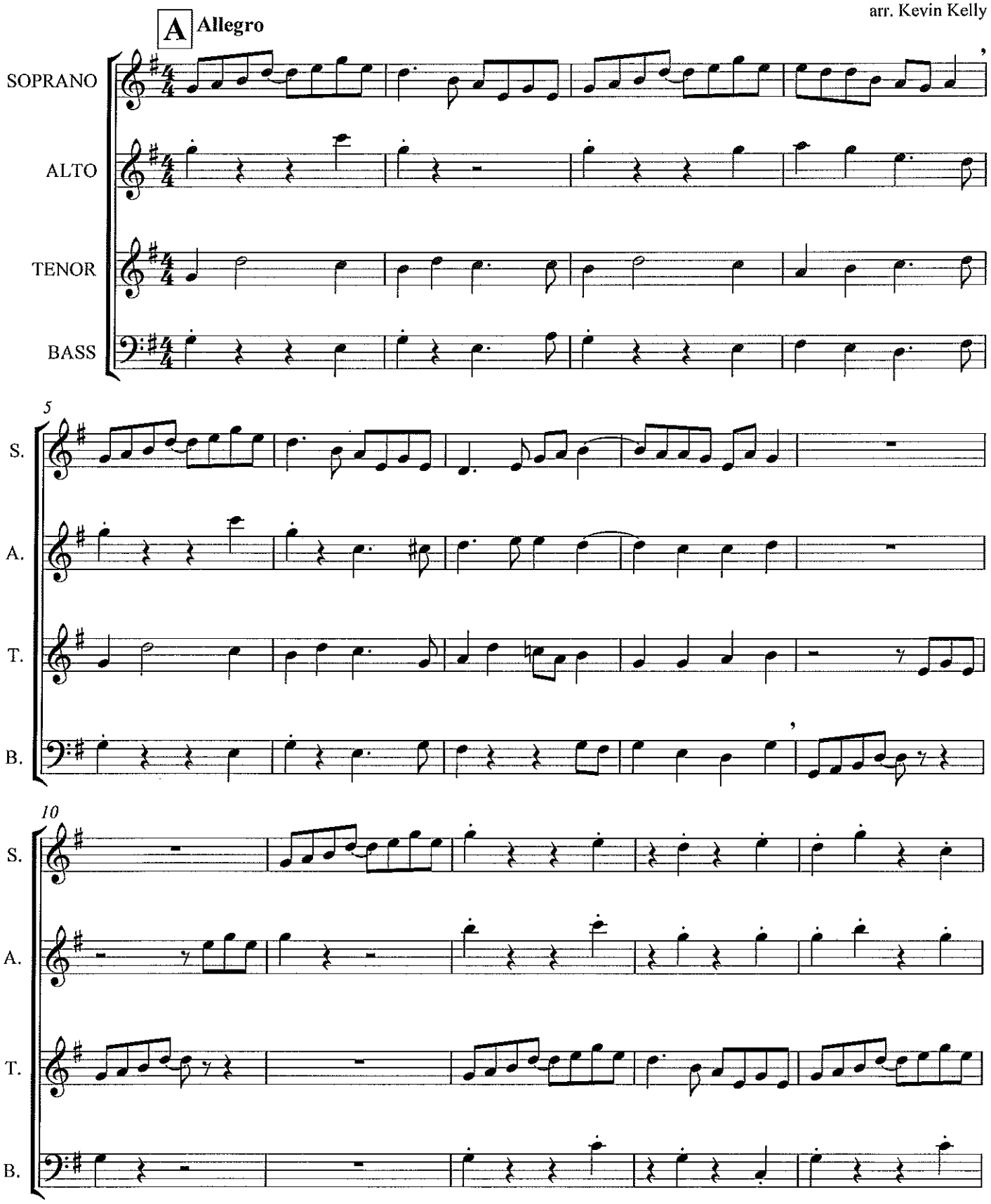

24
S.
A.
T.
B.
C
32
S.
A.
T.
B.
40
S.
A.
T.
B.

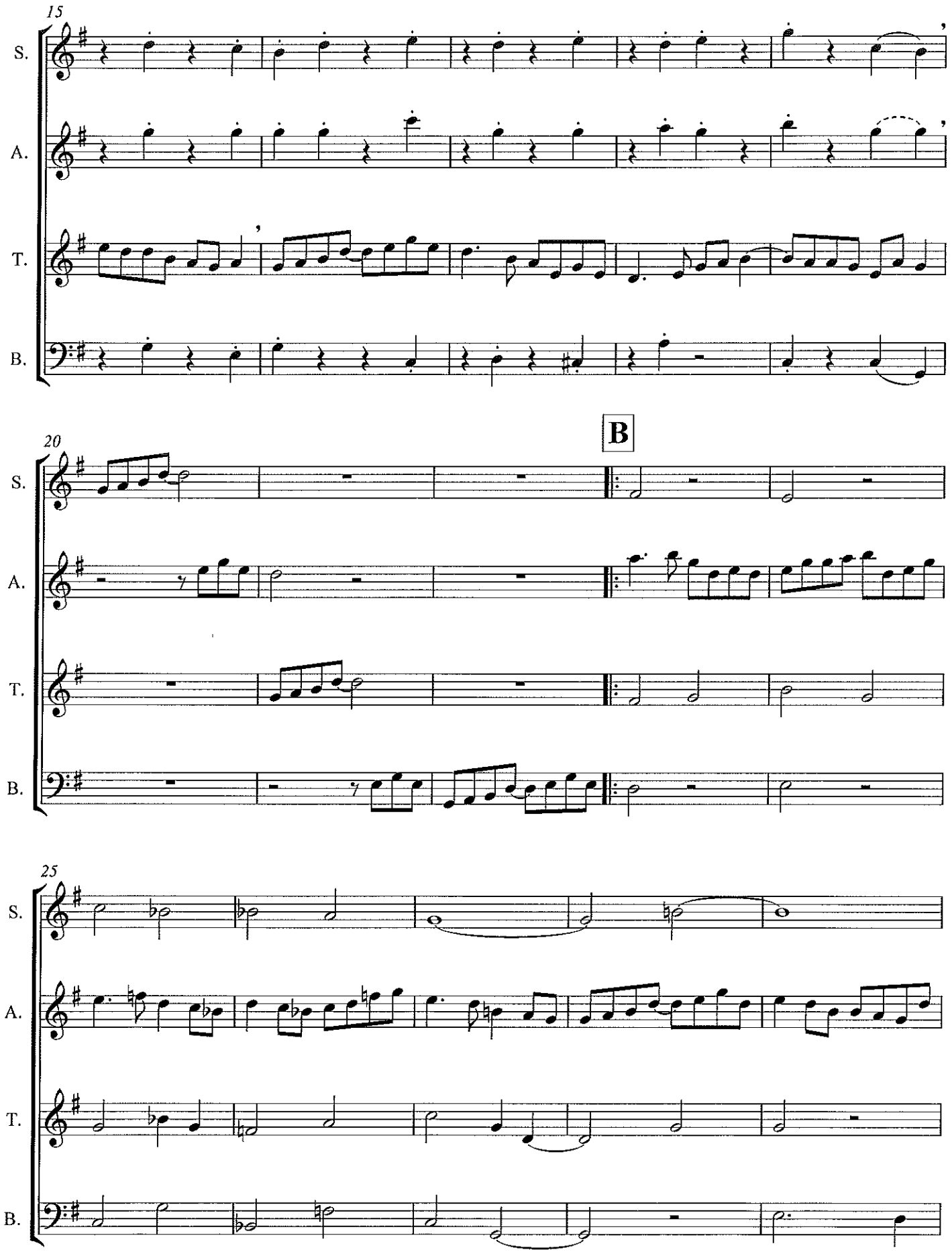

D
48
S.
A.
T.
B.
55
S.
A.
T.
B.
61
a little slower
S.
A.
T.
B.

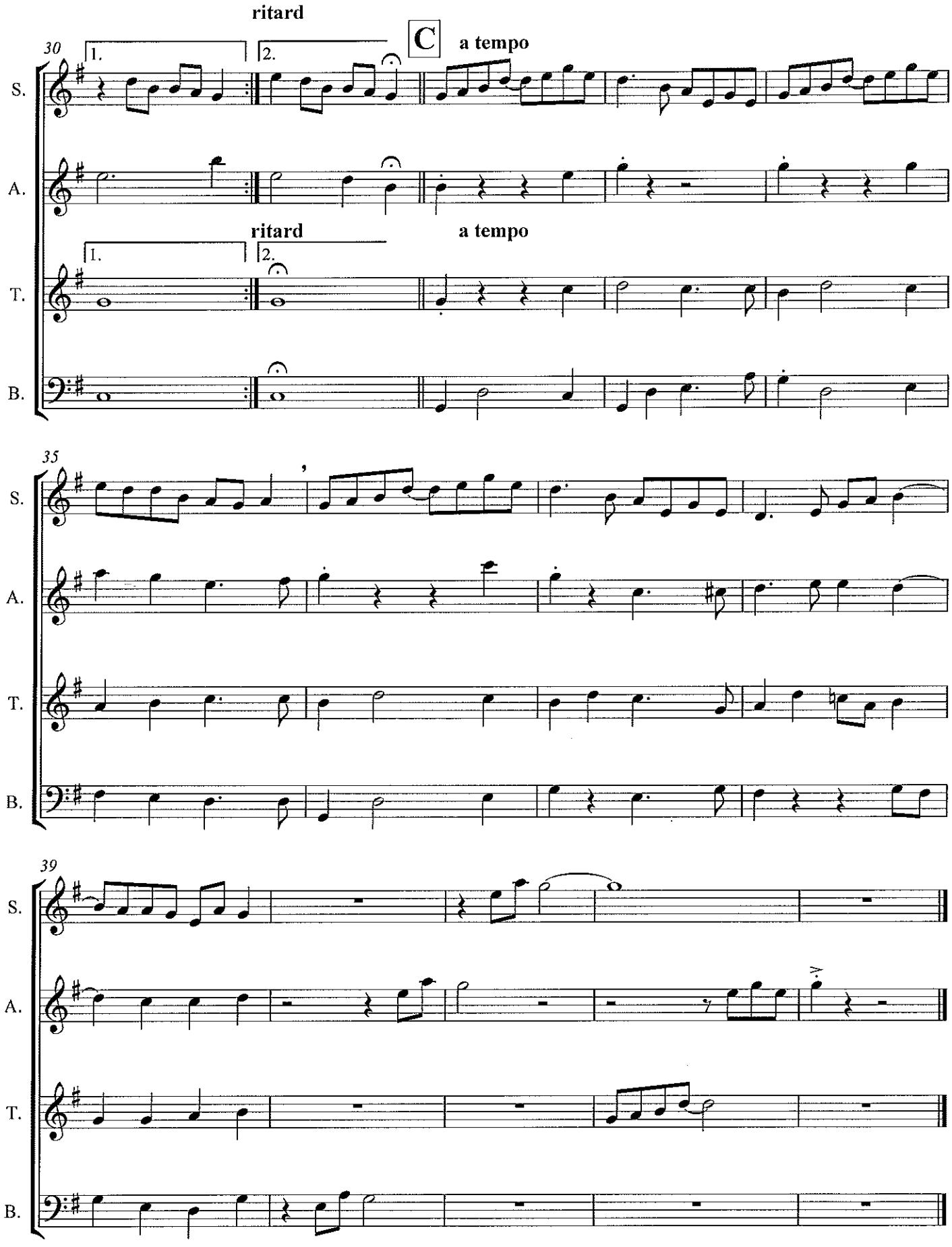
Take a Match to a Gorse Bush

New Boaldyn Tune

Beccy Hurst
Culture Vannin Boaldyn Collection 2021
arr. Kevin Kelly




15
S.
A.
T.
B.
20
B
25


ritard
C
a tempo
30
1.
2.
S.
A.
ritard
a tempo
1.
2.
T.
B.
35
S.
A.
T.
B.
39
S.
A.
T.
B.