Character Pieces
in Romantic Style

12 Short Piano Solos

Martha Mier

Character pieces are short piano works that most often communicate a single emotion or idea, such as the joy of spring or the image of a child falling asleep. Composers first began writing character pieces in the 19th century, during the Romantic period, as a personal, inward-looking form of musical expression, on a smaller scale than the lengthy and highly structured sonatas of the Classical period. Many of the Romantic-period composers created character pieces. Important collections include the *Scenes from Childhood*, Op. 15, by Robert Schumann and the *Songs Without Words* by Felix Mendelssohn. My goal in writing *Character Pieces in Romantic Style* was to create new character pieces carefully graded for students that emulate this important art form from the Romantic period. Some of the pieces are bold in character, while others are lyrical and introspective. These moods are suggested by each title. I hope students enjoy exploring these pieces and use them to develop musical, imaginative playing.

Martha Mier

The Balance Beam 14
The Challenge 16
Gentle Ocean Waves 12
Gospel Sing 22
A Moment in Time 4
My Heart Sings 10
The Organ Grinder 20
Reflection 8
Sea Treasures 6
The Secret 2
Song of the Matador 18
Wind Chimes 5

Alfred Music
P.O. Box 10003
Van Nuys, CA 91410-0003
alfred.com

Copyright © 2018 by Alfred Music
All rights reserved. Printed in USA.

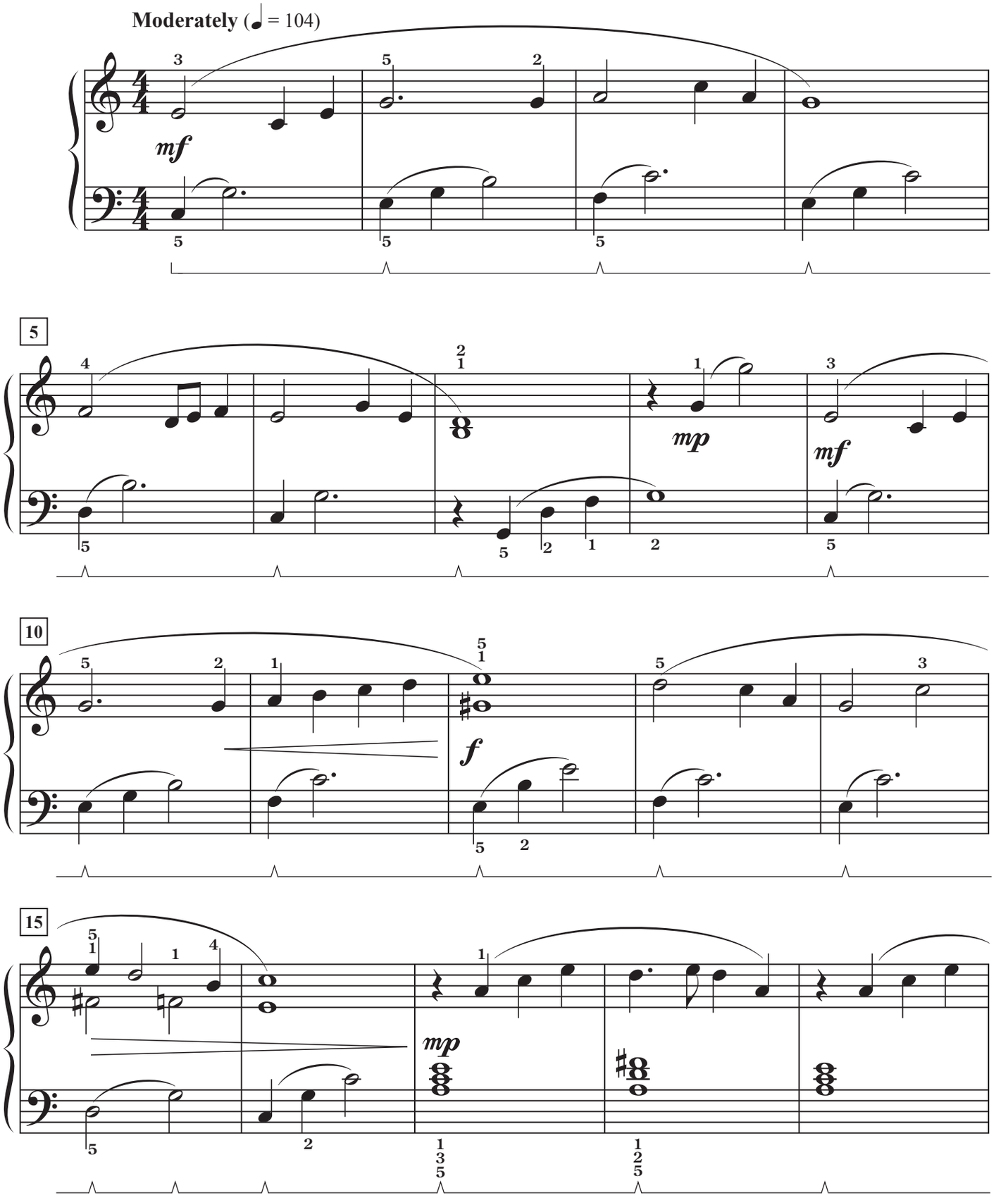
No part of this book shall be reproduced, arranged, adapted, recorded, publicly performed, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted by any means without written permission from the publisher. In order to comply with copyright laws, please apply for such written permission and/or license by contacting the publisher at alfred.com/permissions.

ISBN-10: 1-4706-4143-7
ISBN-13: 978-1-4706-4143-6

Cover art: Beautiful Pantone-coloured hues © Getty Images / LeslieLauren

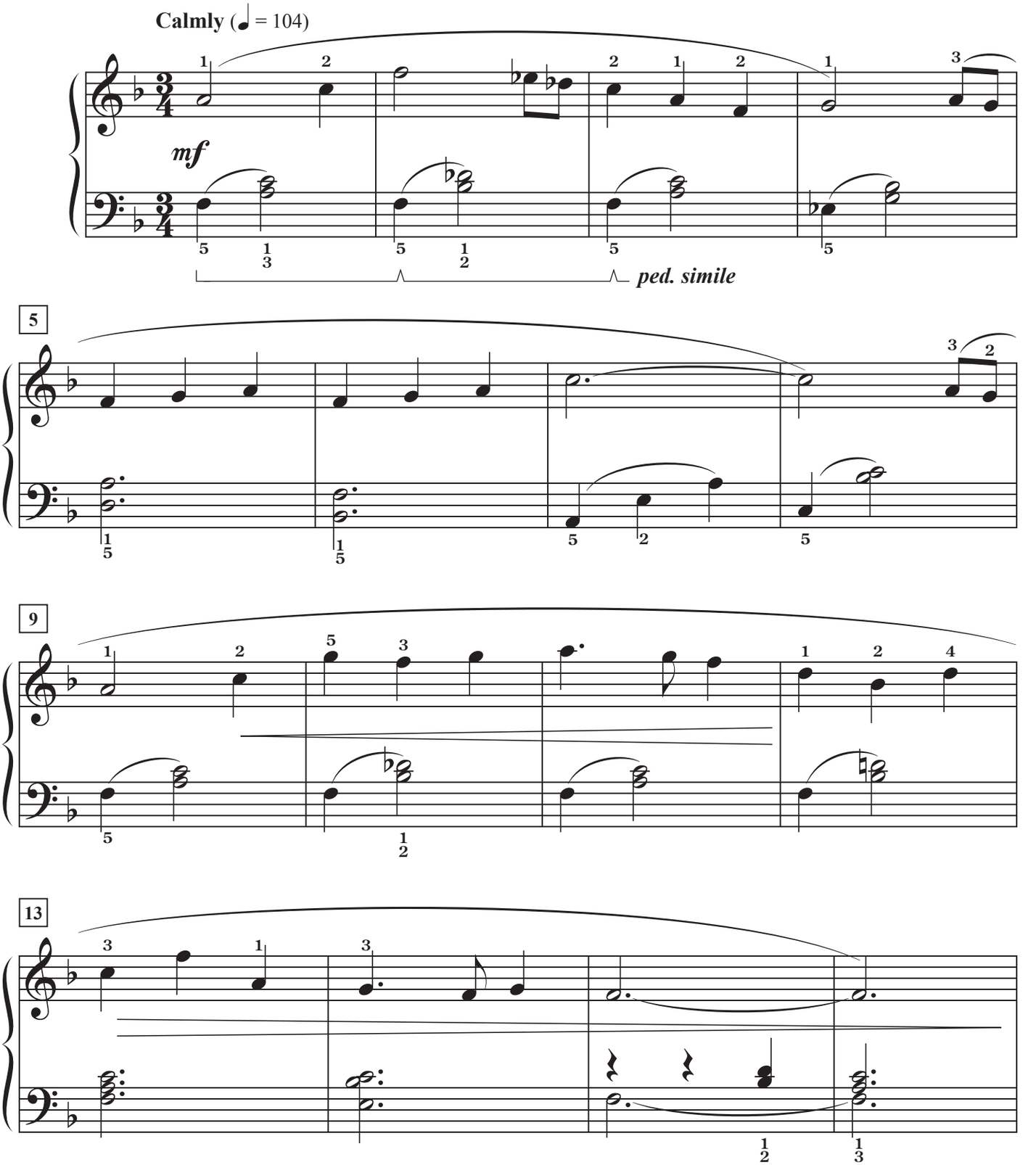
The Secret

Martha Mier



Sea Treasures

Martha Mier



Character Pieces
in Romantic Style

12 Short Piano Solos

Martha Mier

Character pieces are short piano works that most often communicate a single emotion or idea, such as the joy of spring or the image of a child falling asleep. Composers first began writing character pieces in the 19th century, during the Romantic period, as a personal, inward-looking form of musical expression, on a smaller scale than the lengthy and highly structured sonatas of the Classical period. Many of the Romantic-period composers created character pieces. Important collections include the *Scenes from Childhood*, Op. 15, by Robert Schumann and the *Songs Without Words* by Felix Mendelssohn. My goal in writing *Character Pieces in Romantic Style* was to create new character pieces carefully graded for students that emulate this important art form from the Romantic period. Some of the pieces are bold in character, while others are lyrical and introspective. These moods are suggested by each title. I hope students enjoy exploring these pieces and use them to develop musical, imaginative playing.

Martha Mier

Beneath the Stars 2
A Brief Interlude 24
Elegant Dance 20
A Faded Memory 22
Hummingbirds at Play 14
Majestic Iceberg 16
My Heart's Secret 10
The Old Diary 8
The Promise 18
Reverie 6
Summer Love 12
Tranquility 4

Alfred Music
P.O. Box 10003
Van Nuys, CA 91410-0003
alfred.com

Copyright © 2018 by Alfred Music
All rights reserved. Printed in USA.

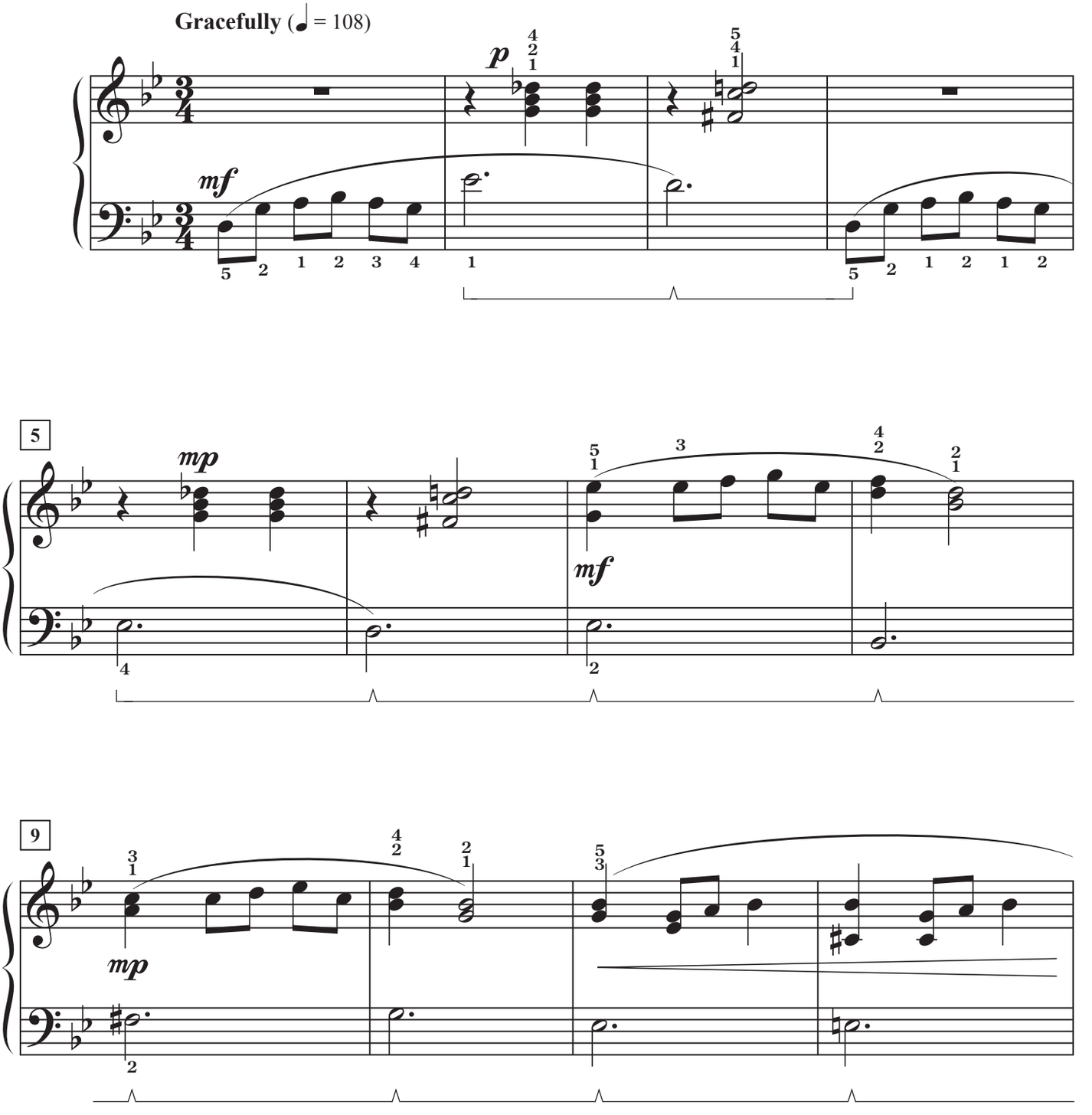
No part of this book shall be reproduced, arranged, adapted, recorded, publicly performed, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted by any means without written permission from the publisher. In order to comply with copyright laws, please apply for such written permission and/or license by contacting the publisher at alfred.com/permissions.

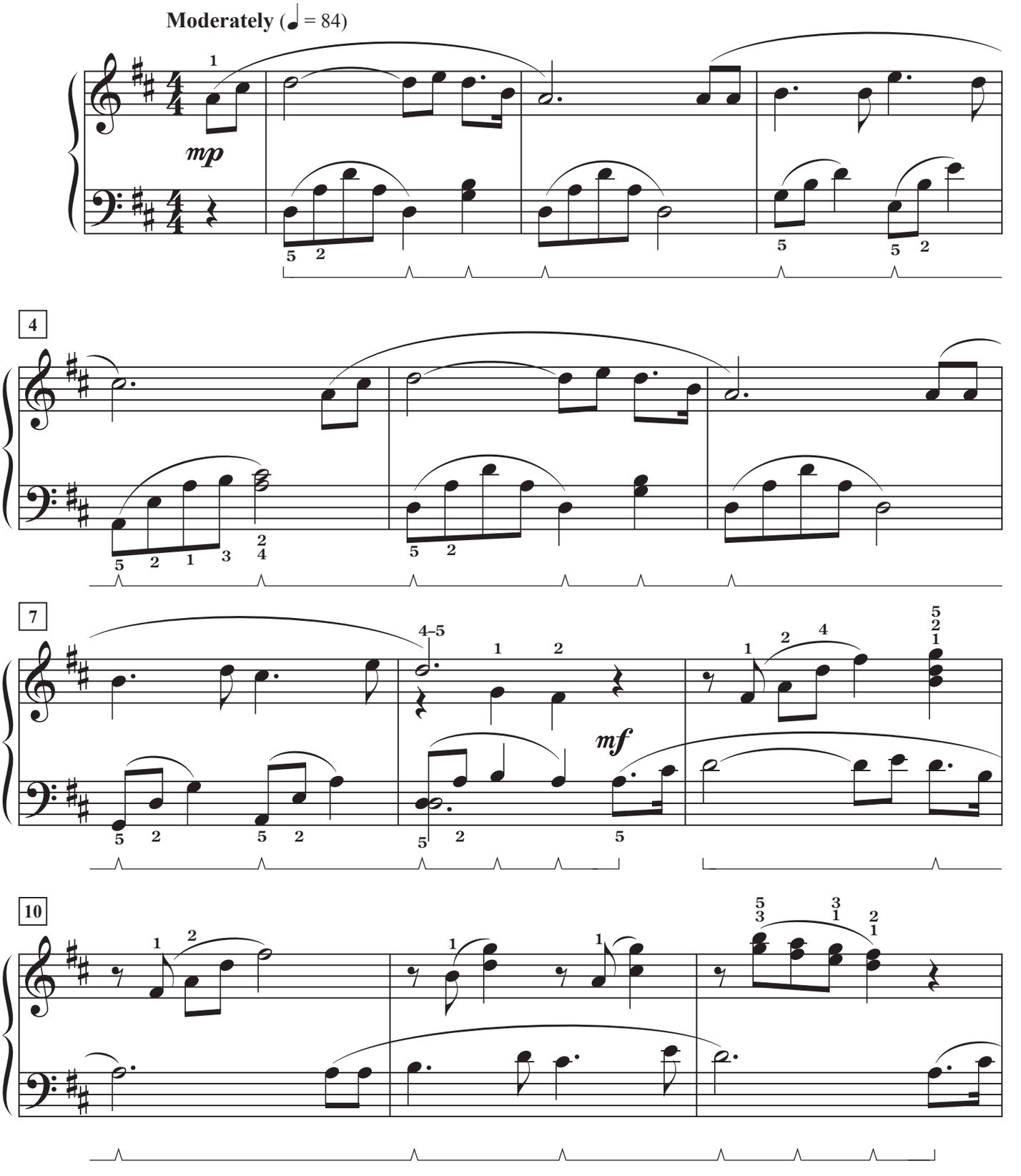
ISBN-10: 1-4706-4144-5
ISBN-13: 978-1-4706-4144-3

Cover art: Beautiful Pantone-coloured hues © Getty Images / LeslieLauren

Beneath the Stars

Martha Mier



Tranquility

Martha Mier