Tristan Rhys Williams

The sky is thin as paper here

solo baritone

Performance notes:

General:

To/from niente

To maximum loud dynamic

All other dynamics: SEMPRE SUBITO

Inhalation only bars:

1/2 - 'argh', gasping, high pitched, loud, quick intake

2/2 & 7/2 - silent but deliberate nasal inhalation

3/2 - 'x', guttural 'ch' sound as in Bach (phlegmy)

4/2 - long, sibilant 's' sound

5/2 - long 'sh' sound

6/2 - soft, inverted whistle

7/4 - morph from 'sh' to 'l' tongue position (gradual movement of tongue in mouth)

Phonetic symbols:

ɑ	ɛ	i	ɒ	ɪ	ʊ	ʌ
(as in Welsh vowels:)						
a	e	i	o	u	w	y

"-------": Dotted lines denote a gradual morph between vowel sounds

Other techniques:

[ːm/nː]~~~	Delicate, continuous lip-smacking with pursed lips
⌐↳	Exhale
V↳	Inhale (when pitches are attributed to inhalation they are drawn in brackets with an arrow to denote the unpredictability of the resultant tone)
ord.	With very little vibrato
BR(M)	Breathy (audible air sound) released through mouth (think: Flute embouchure)

BR (WZ) Breathy with a background wheeze created at the back of throat - try for perforations in the pitch and unregulated upper partials

RT Rattle - a growling sound from back of throat behind the pitch

Cross/square note heads (as used at b.16 & b.22) denote toneless breath sound or notes with very little tone content - e.g. ' ' quavers, ' ' as in **ch**ips)

Duration: ca. 12 minutes

TRW, London 2008

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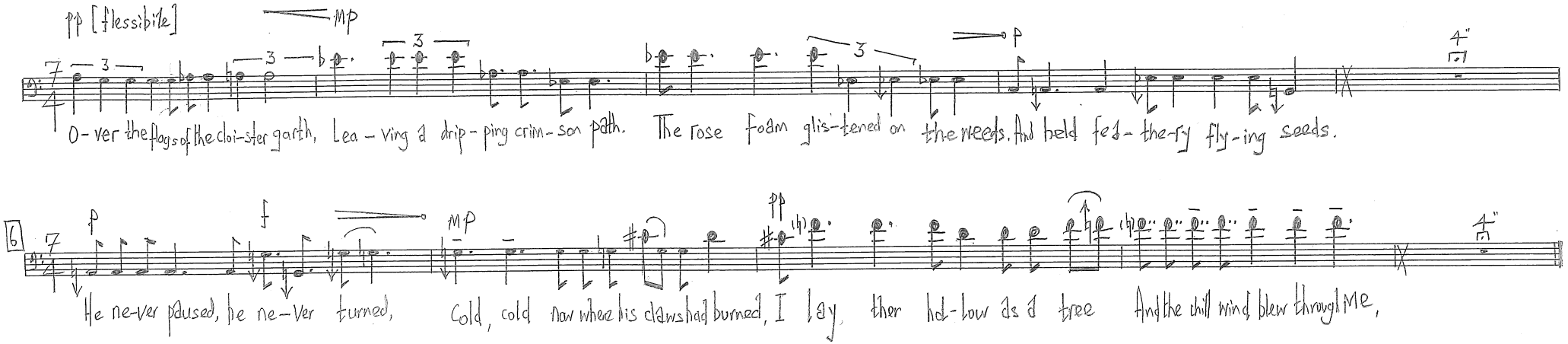
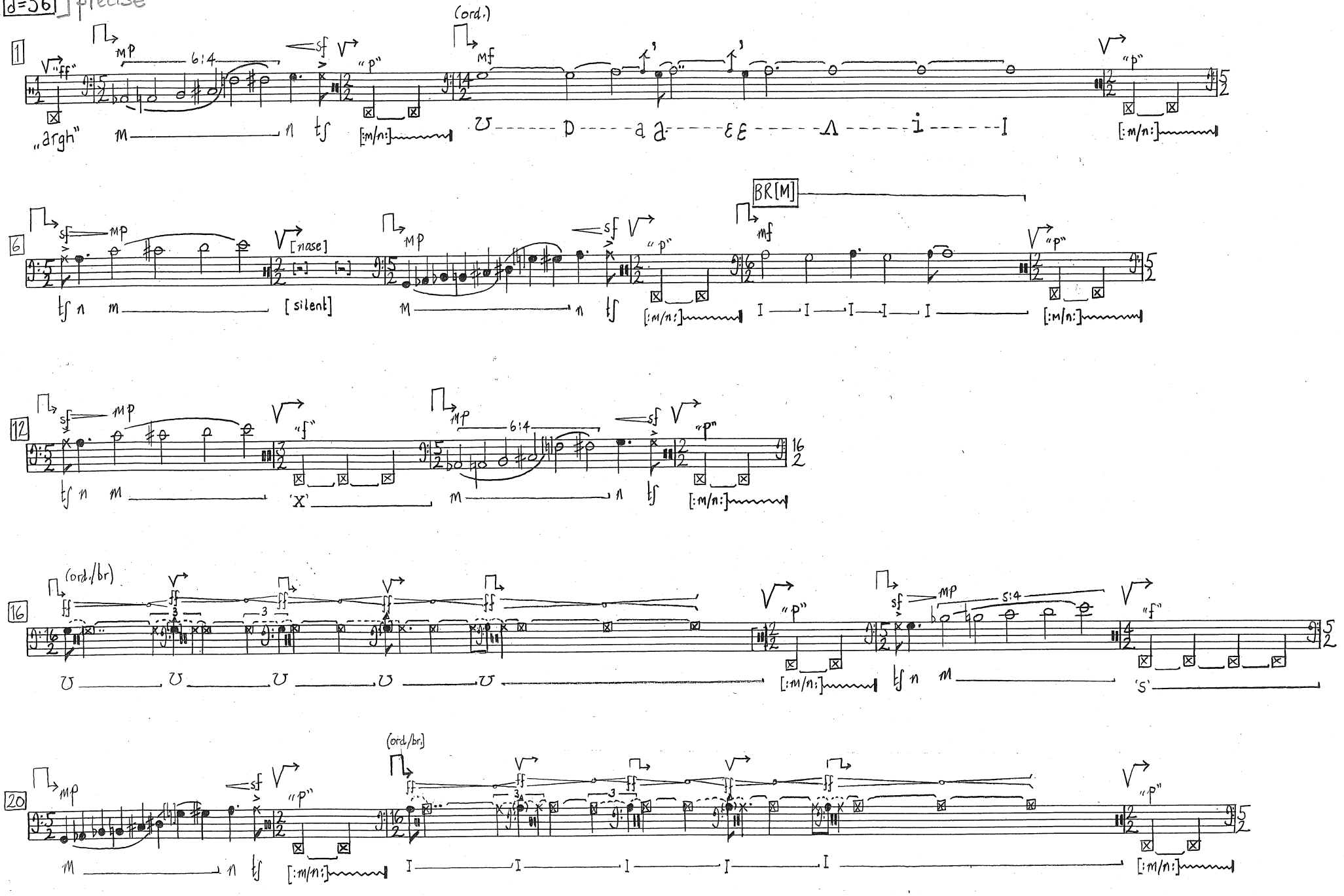
Tristan Rhys Williams

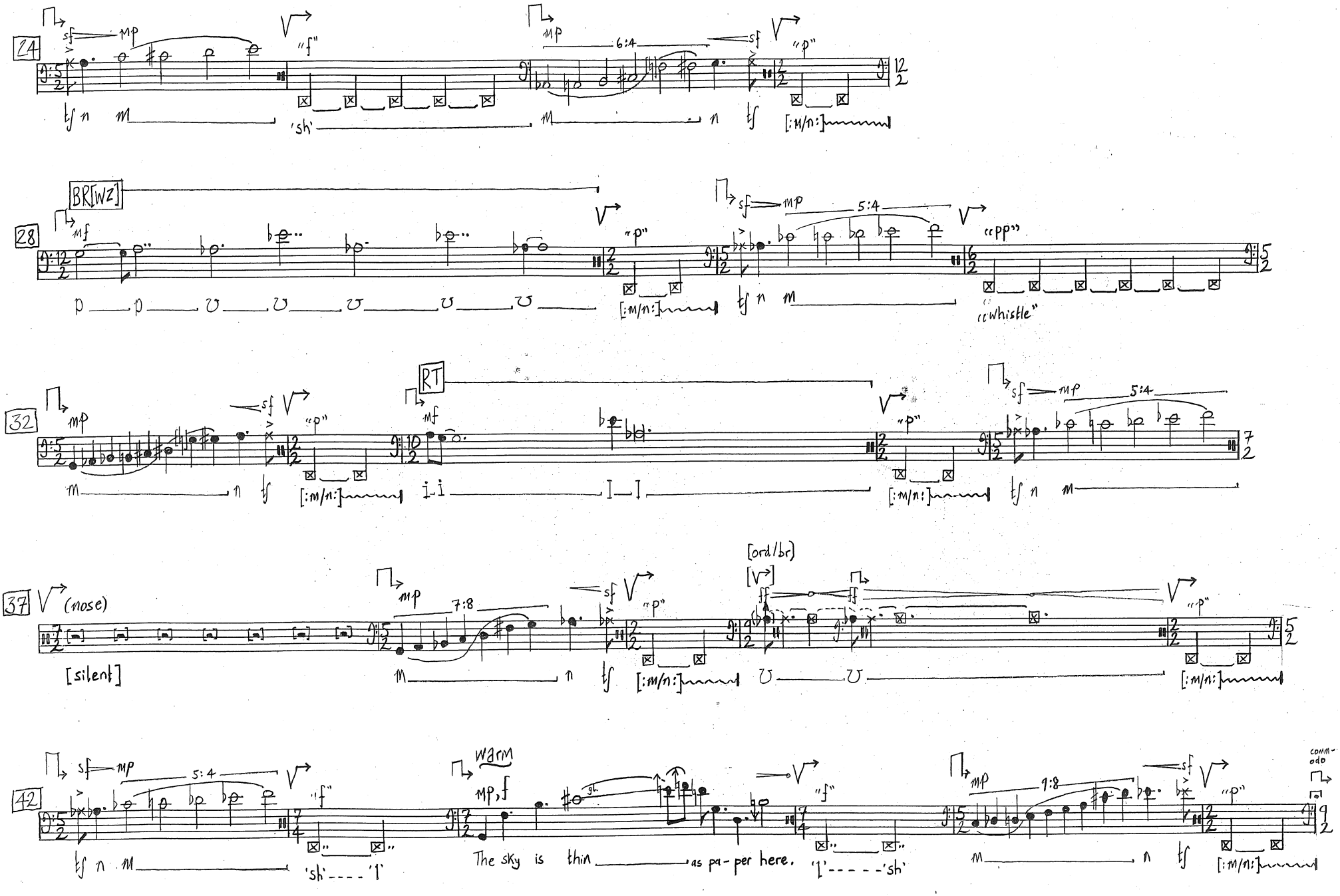
Opening stanzas: The Secret Pug:
Denton Welch
Recurring fragment: Cities of the Red Night:
William S. Burroughs

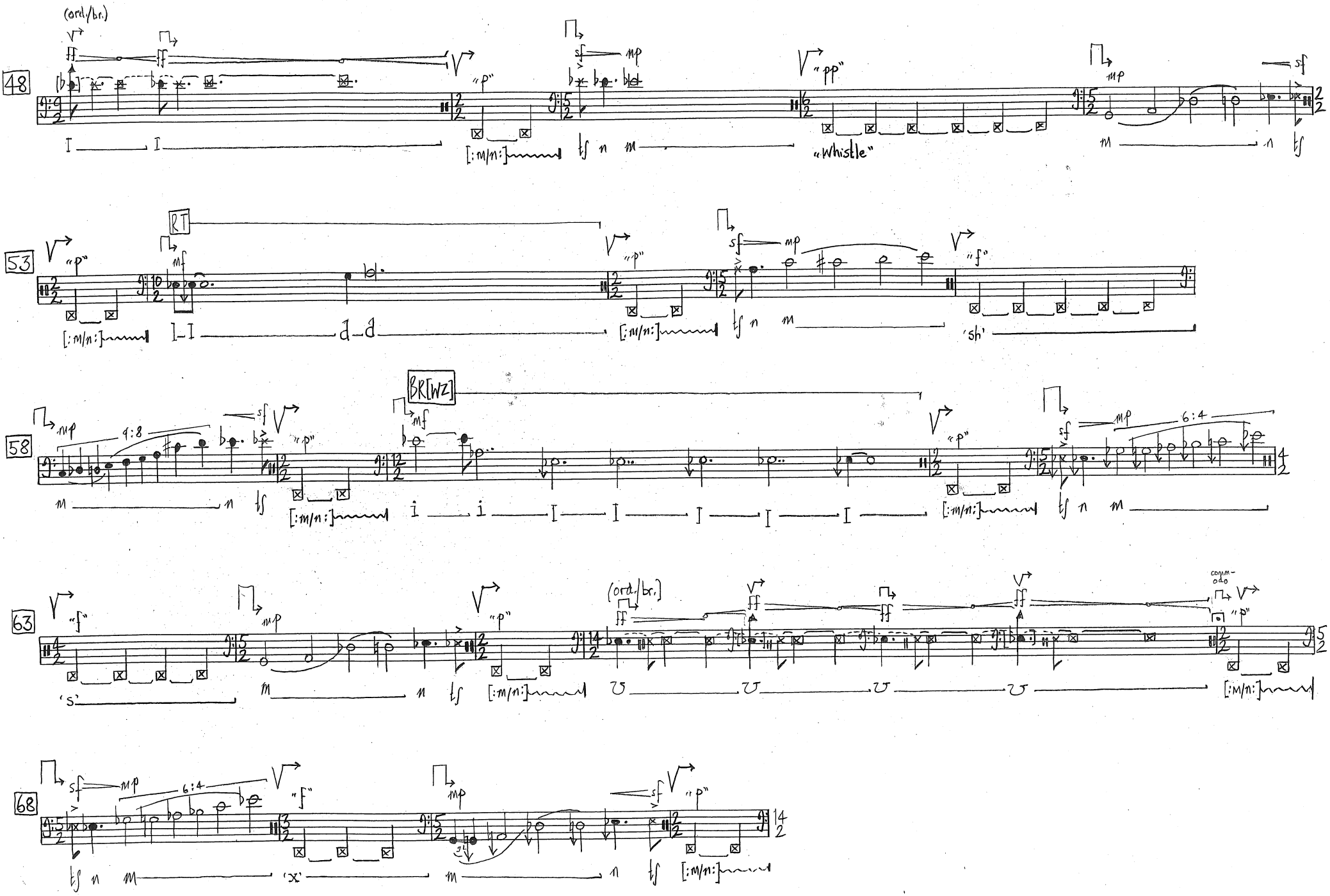
♩ = 56 at most

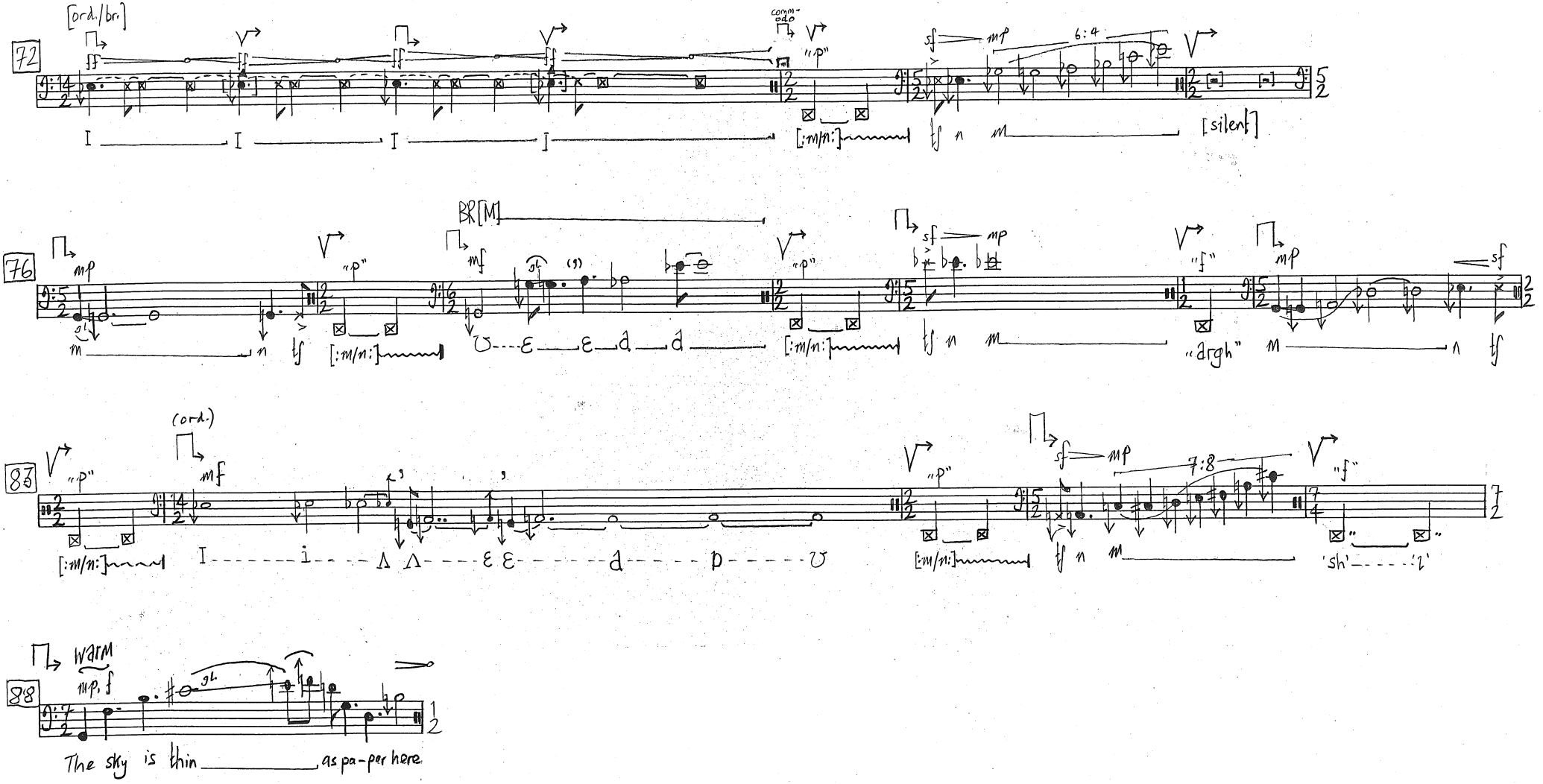


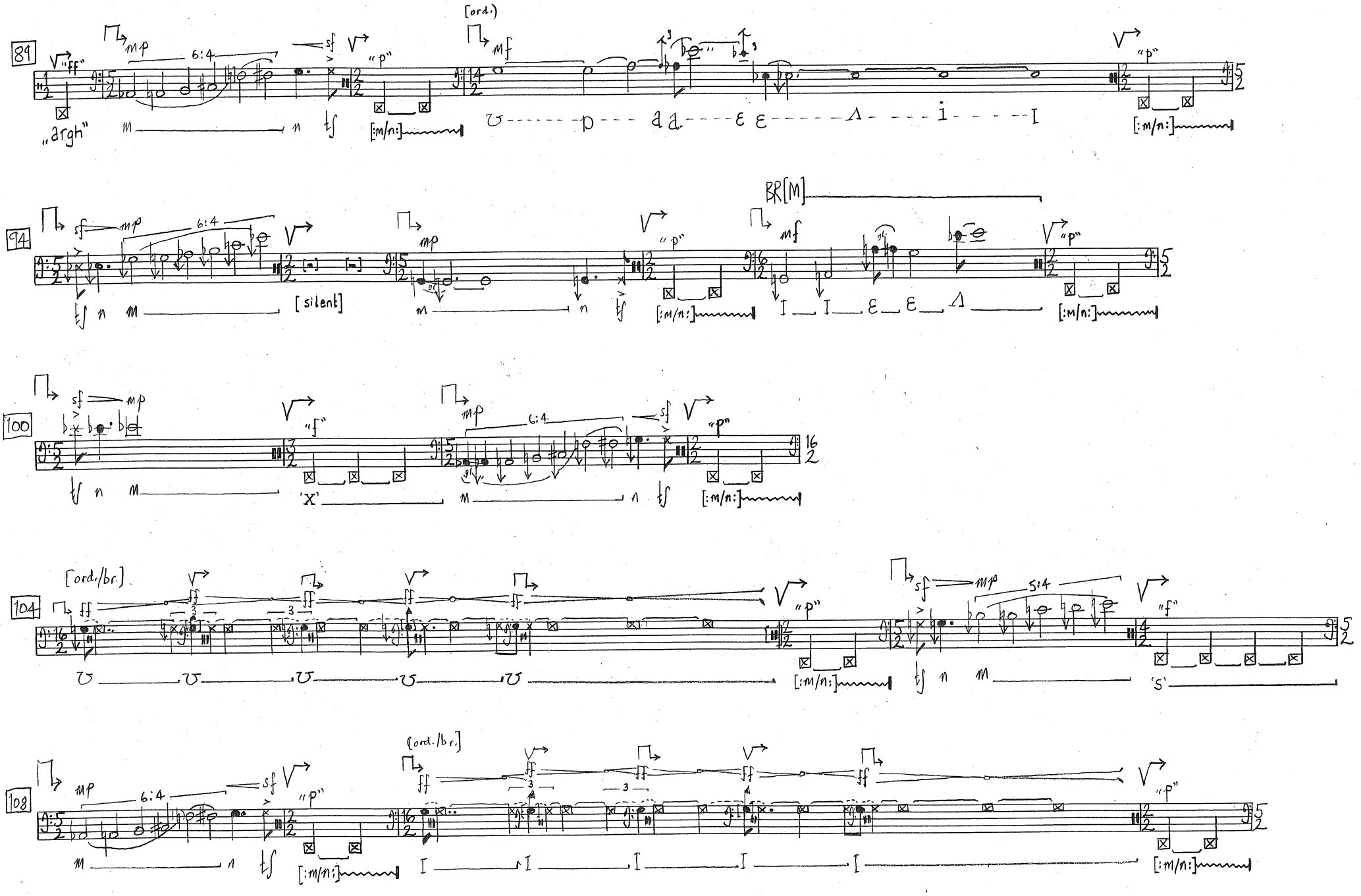
[♩=56] precise

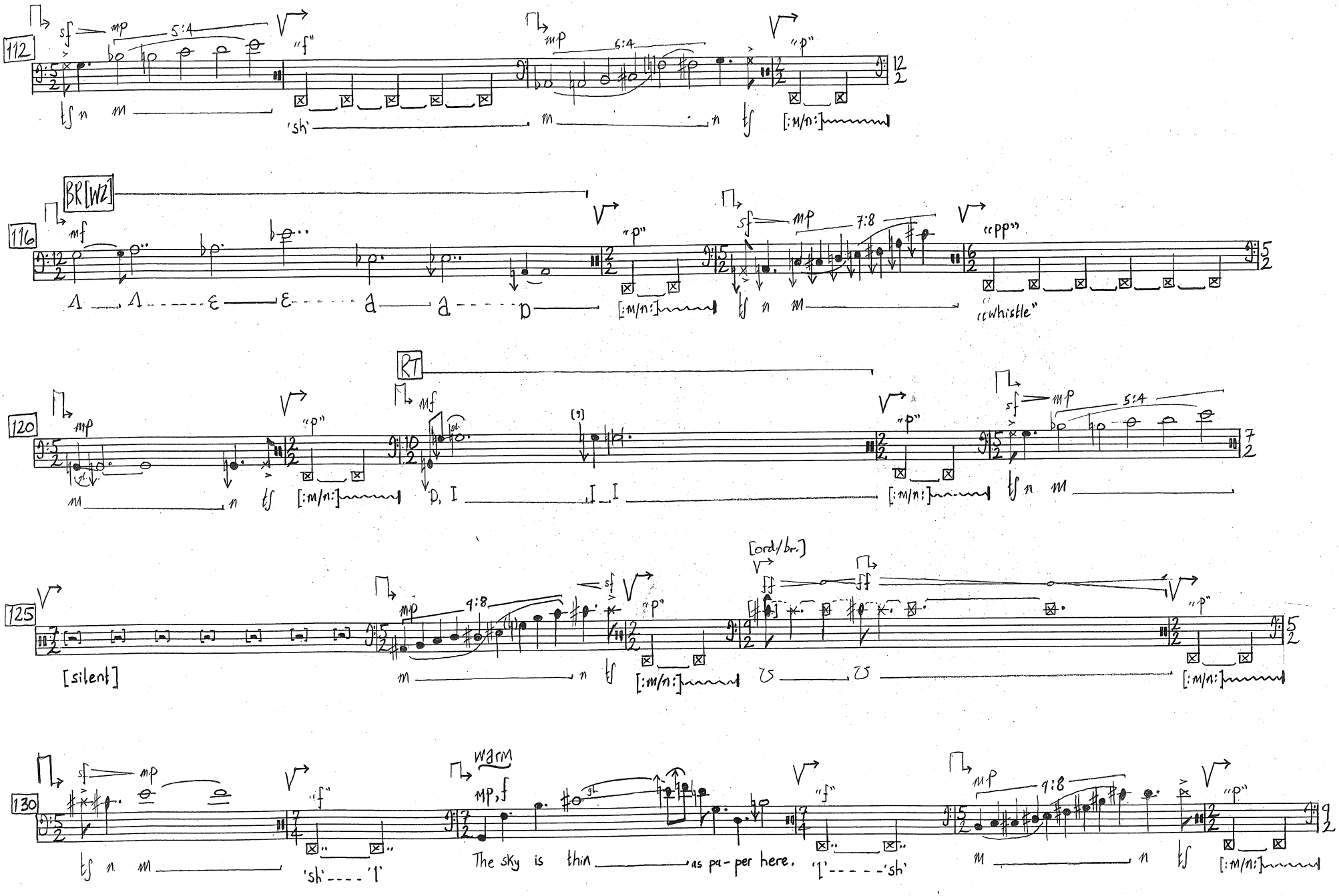

1
(ord.)
"ff"
mp
6:4
sf
"p"
mf
"p"
"argh"
m
n
tf
[:m/n:]
ʊ
ɒ
a
ɑ
ɛ
ʌ
i
ɪ
6
[nose]
[silent]
BR[M]
12
"f"
'x'
16
(ord./br)
5:4
's'
20
(ord/br)

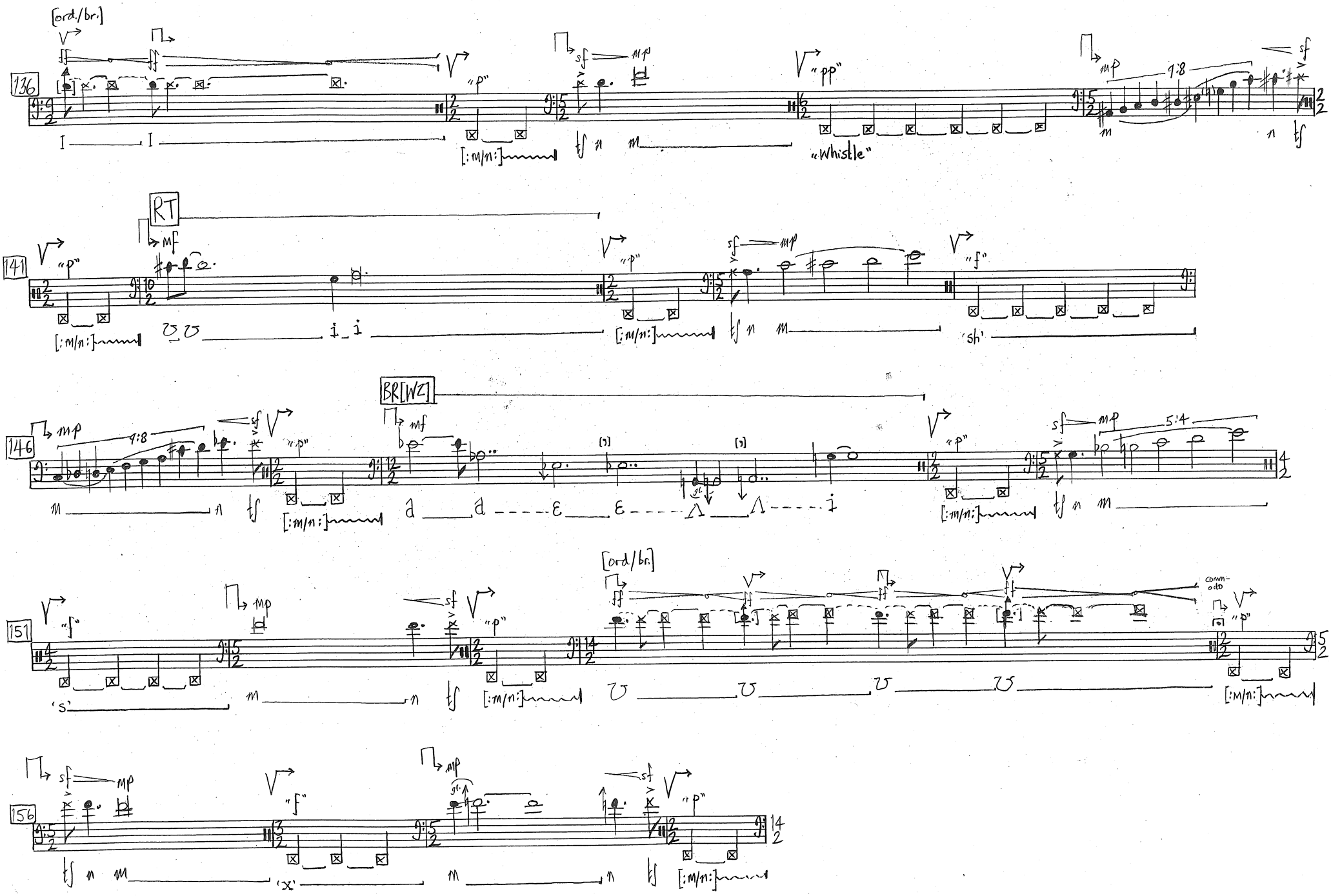

24
sf
mp
"f"
6:4
"p"
'sh'
[:m/n:]
28
BR[WZ]
mf
5:4
"pp"
"whistle"
32
RT
37
(nose)
[silent]
7:8
[ord/br]
ff
42
warm
mp, f
The sky is thin as pa-per here.
'sh' - - - - 'l'
'l' - - - - - 'sh'
9:8
comm-odo

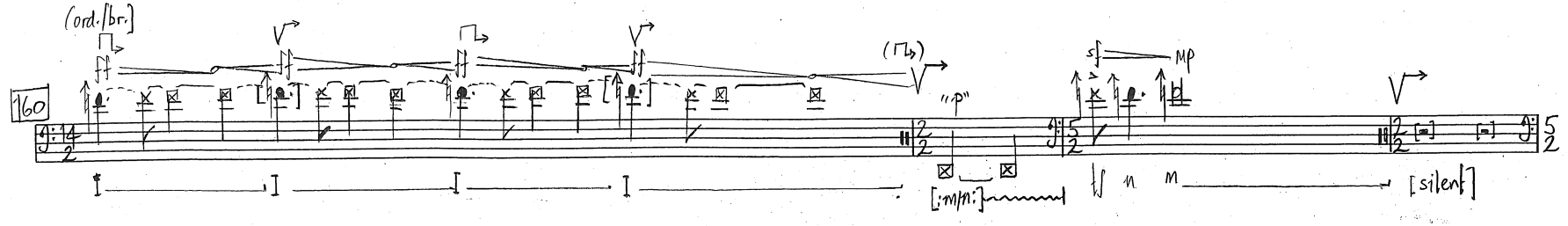

(ord/br.)
48
"p"
"pp"
"Whistle"
53
RT
"p"
"f"
'sh'
58
BR[WZ]
9:8
6:4
63
"f"
(ord/br.)
comm-odo
'S'
68
6:4
'X'

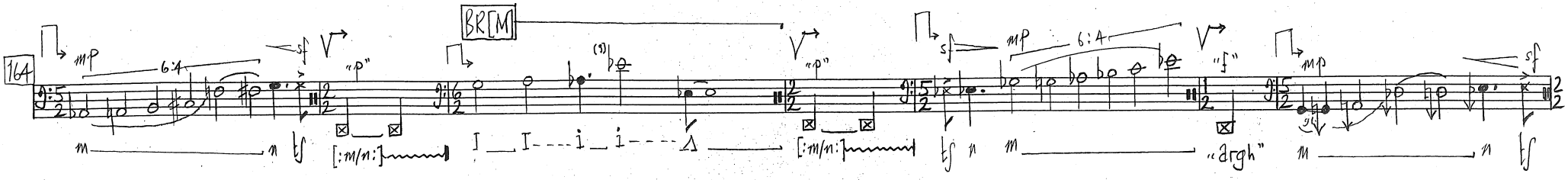

72
[ord./br.]
comm-odo
"p"
sf
mp
6:4
[silent]
76
BR[M]
mp
"p"
mf
sf
"f"
"argh"
83
(ord.)
mf
"p"
sf
mp
7:8
"f"
'sh'
88
warm
mp, f
The sky is thin as pa-per here

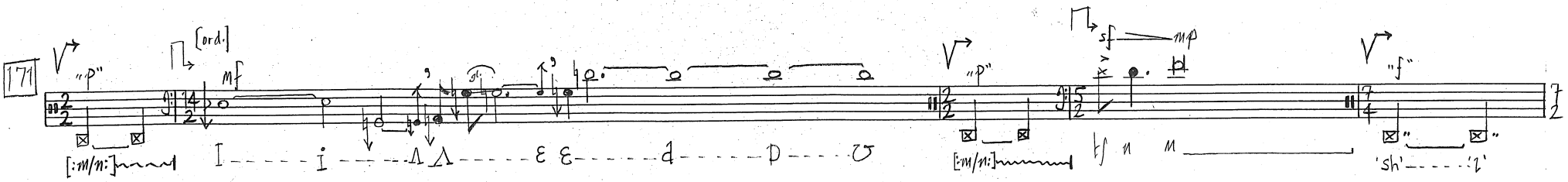

89
"ff"
mp
6:4
sf
"p"
[ord.]
mf
"p"
"argh"
[m/n:]
94
sf
mp
6:4
"p"
mp
"p"
mf
"p"
BR[M]
[silent]
[m/n:]
100
sf
mp
"f"
mp
6:4
sf
"p"
'x'
[m/n:]
104
[ord./br.]
ff
"p"
sf
mp
5:4
"f"
[m/n:]
's'
108
mp
6:4
sf
"p"
[ord./br.]
ff
"p"
[m/n:]
[m/n:]

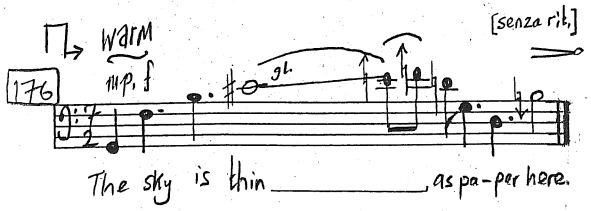

112
sf
mp
5:4
"f"
mp
6:4
"p"
'sh'
[:m/n:]
116
BR[W2]
mf
"p"
sf
mp
7:8
"pp"
"whistle"
120
RT
mf
"p"
5:4
[silent]
9:8
[ord/br.]
ff
130
warm
mp, f
"f"
9:8
The sky is thin as pa-per here.
'sh'
'l'


[ord./br.]
136
"p"
sf
mp
"pp"
"Whistle"
141
RT
mf
"f"
'sh'
146
BR[WZ]
151
[ord/br.]
comm-odo
'S'
156
'x'


(ord./br.)
160
"p"
sf
mp
[silent]


164
mp
6:4
sf
"p"
BR[M]
"f"
"argh"


171
"p"
[ord.]
mf
sf
mp
"f"
'sh'


176
warm
mp, f
[senza rit.]
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