Grade 1½

Music for String Orchestra

Isle of Mystery

Cooper Ford

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INSTRUMENTATION

Violin I 8
Violin II 8
Viola 5
Cello 5
Bass 5

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Notes

Explore the unknown with your beginning orchestra on the *Isle of Mystery.* Students will experience the unique sounds of the Phrygian mode, while using only the notes of the D major scale and rhythms with only quarter and half notes. Parts are doubled in 2nd violin and viola, as well as cello and bass. Bring something truly unique to your students and audience with this suspenseful piece.
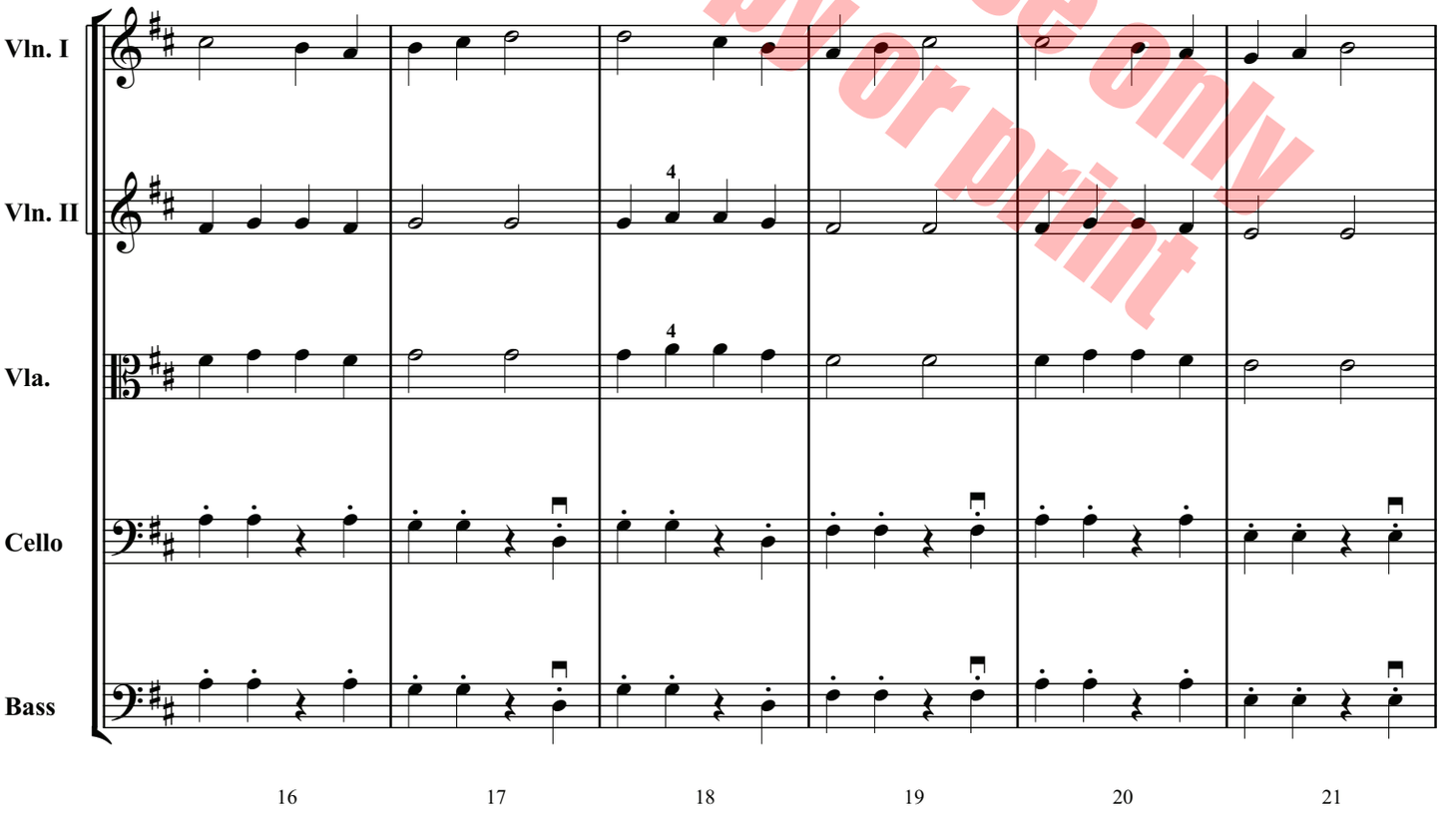
About the Composer

Cooper Ford is a music educator, composer, and conductor. He began learning the violin and trumpet at a young age in the school music program in his hometown of Chatham, New Jersey. During that time, he was encouraged by his teachers to explore his interest in composition, culminating in the performance of one of his string orchestra pieces, "Ballad and Inferno," during his senior year of high school. Since then, he has continued to write for a variety of ensembles, focusing on string and full orchestra. He is a winner of the ASTA/NJ Composer Competition with "Scenes from an Unwritten Tale," which was performed by Sinfonia from The New Jersey Youth Symphony.

Cooper received his Bachelor of Music in Music Education from The College of New Jersey and Master of Music in Music Education from the University of Florida. He is currently the Orchestra Director at North Brunswick Township High School in North Brunswick, New Jersey, where he also teaches classes in Music Production. Previously, he was on the conducting staff of the New Jersey Youth Symphony, working primarily with students in grades 5-7. He is a member of the American String Teachers Association (ASTA) and the National Association for Music Education (NAfME).
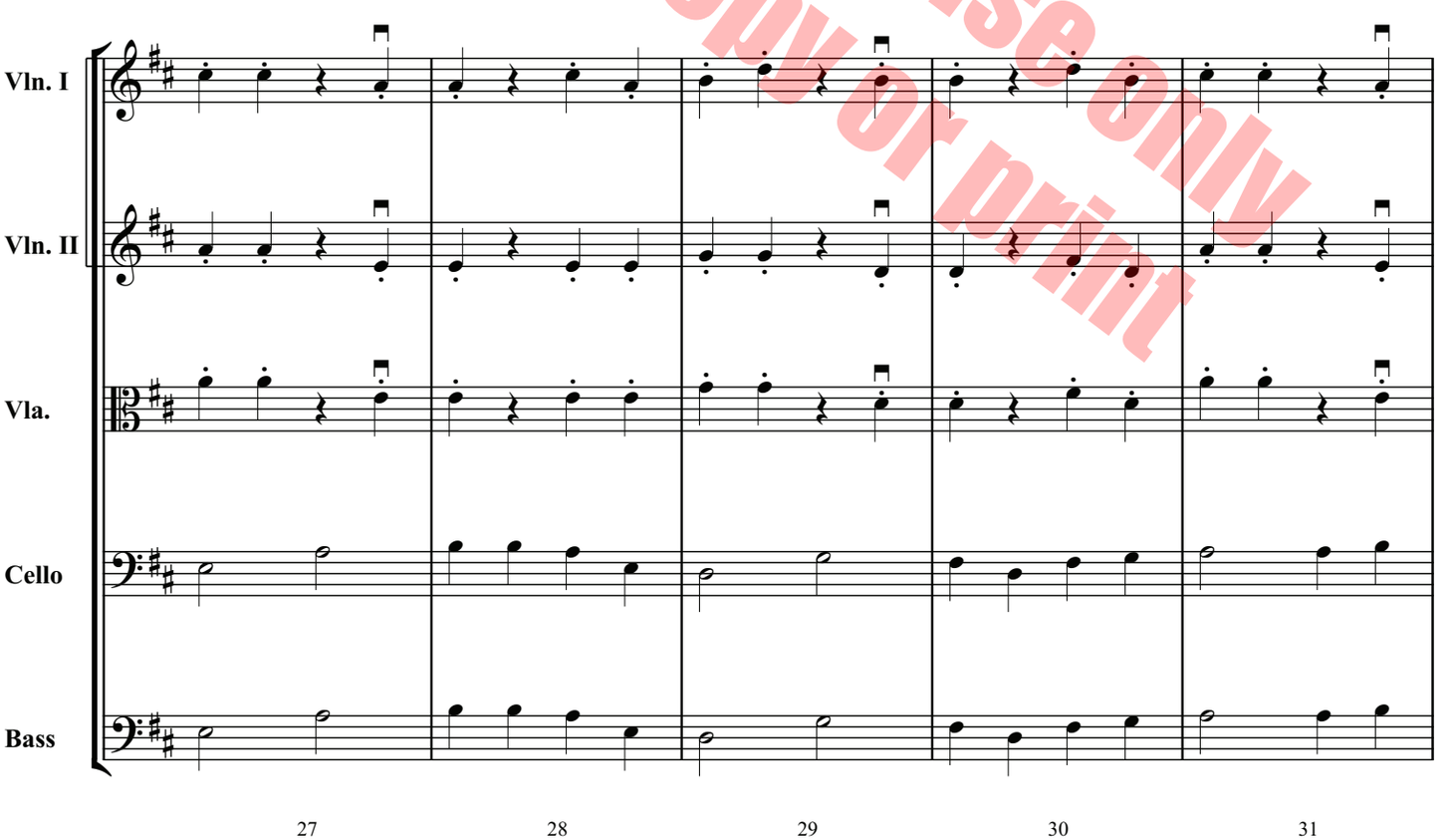
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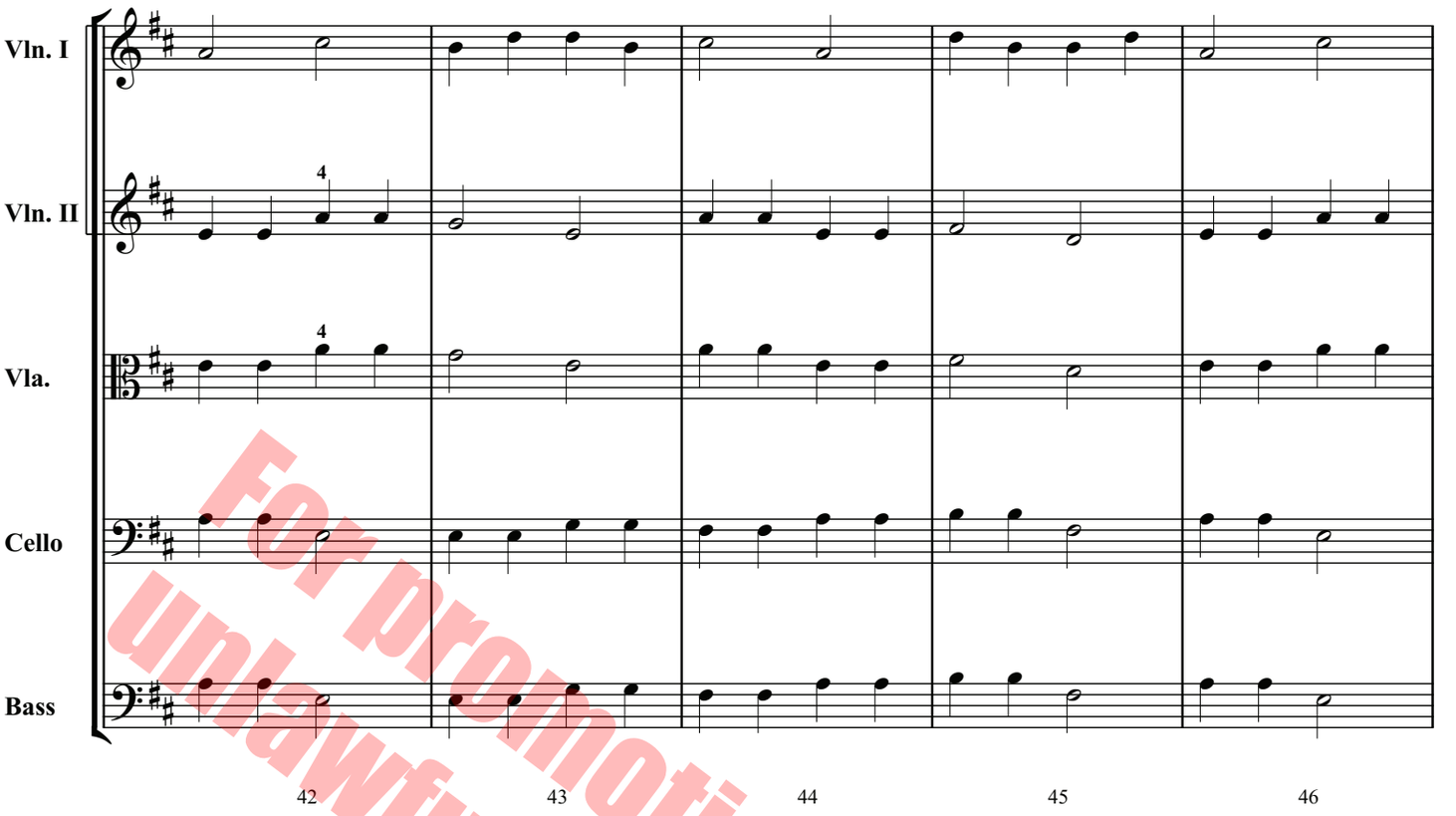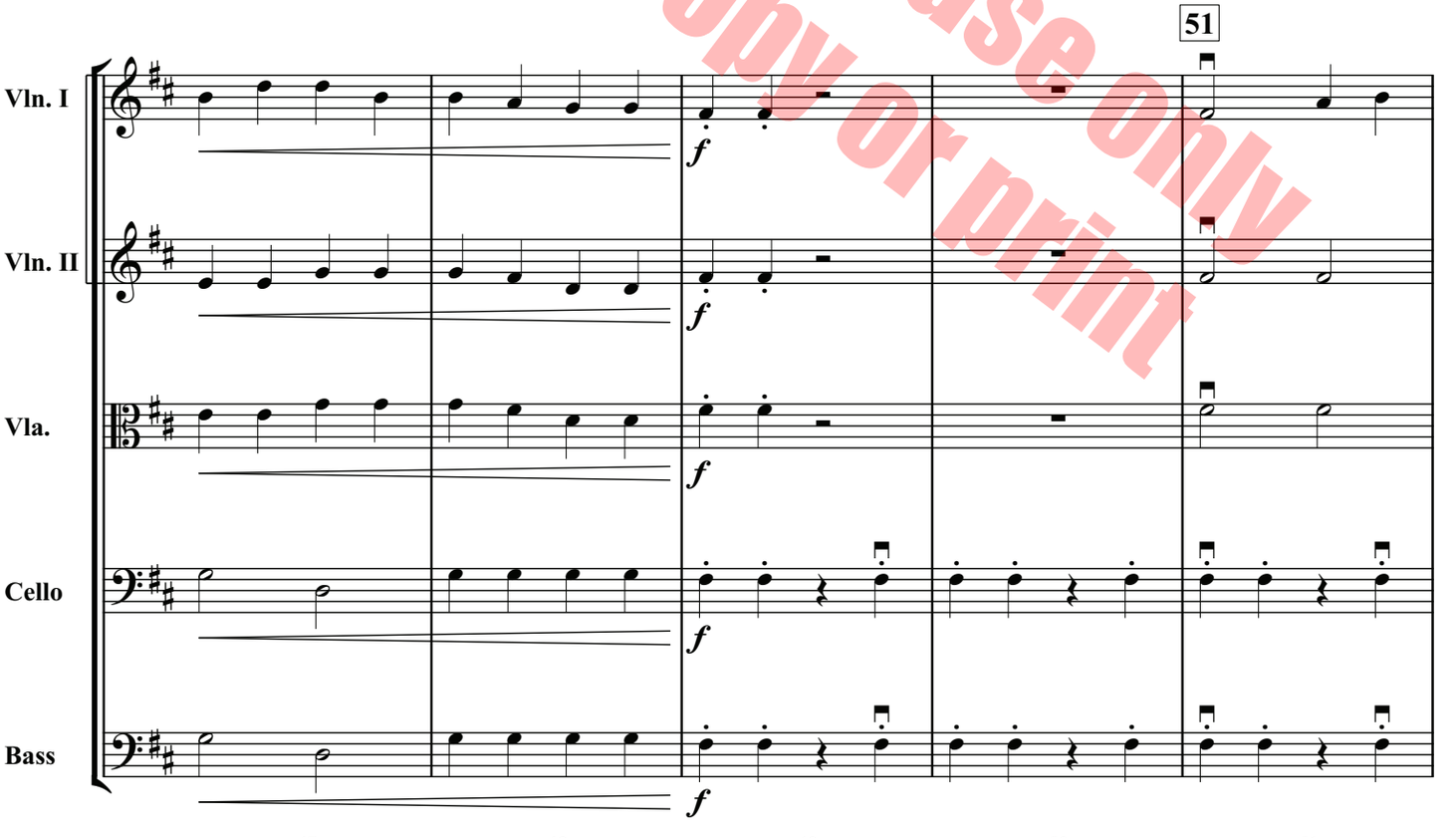




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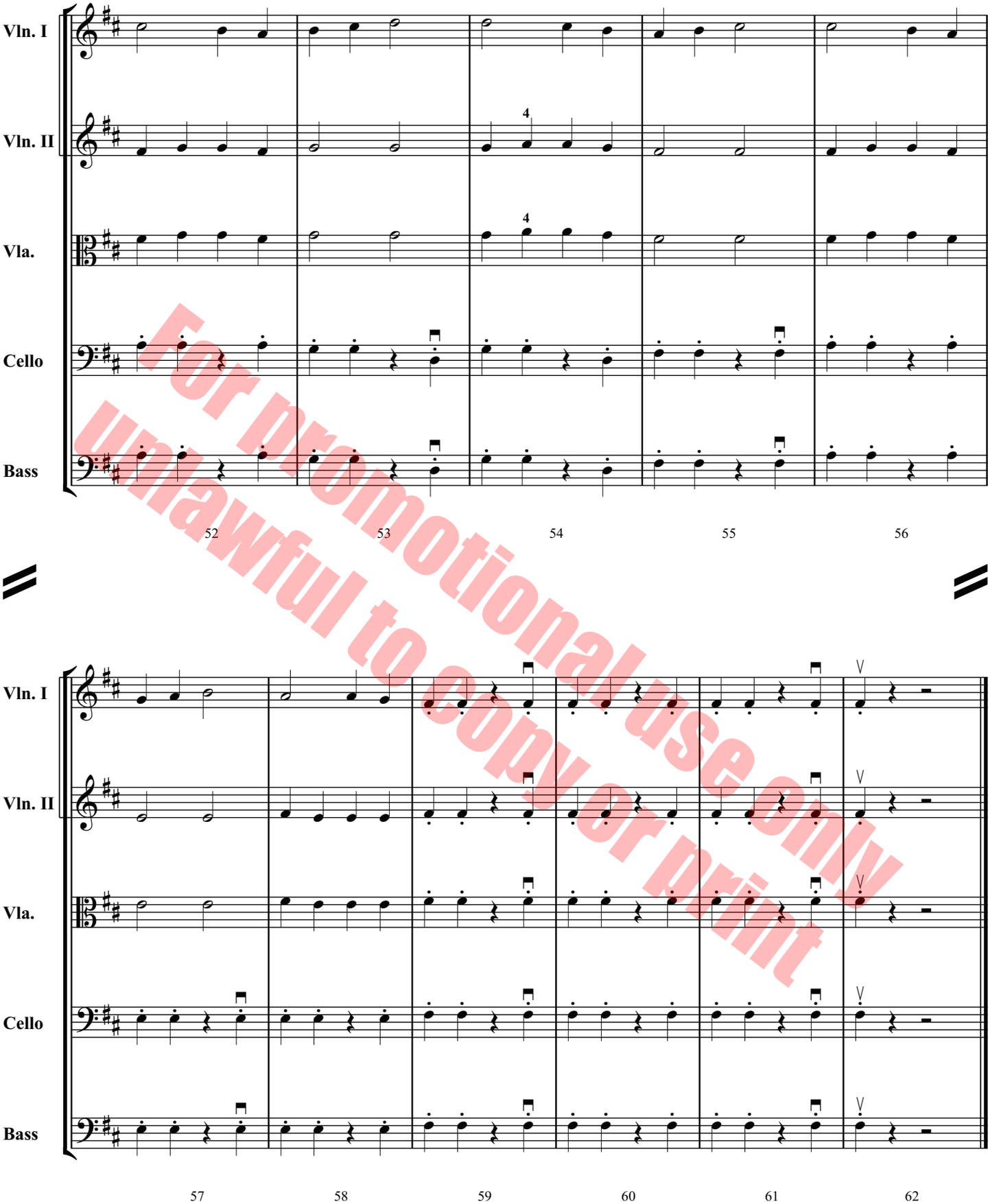




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