



Thank you for auditioning for

AUSTEN'S PRIDE

at ACT OF CONNECTICUT

ROLE: JANE AUSTEN

Present in the room will be director, producing team & casting.

Initial Call please prepare:

- A short song from your book in the style of or from the show. Style is very legit.
- Be familiar with the enclosed sides IN CASE you are asked to read.

If you are called back, please prepare:

- This ENTIRE character packet.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Be sure to bring your picture and resume, otherwise we will not have one in the room!

NOTE:

All roles speak with a proper, RP accent.

To familiarize yourself with the style of this show, feel free to explore the show's website:
<https://www.austensprideamusical.com>

Thanks so much!

W | S Casting

wojcik | seay casting, llc

247 west 38th street, 10th floor, nyc ny 10018 p: 212.929.2339 f: 212.869.4707 wscastingonline.com

JANE AUSTEN / MRS. REYNOLDS --- SIDE #1

START

AUSTEN

(Calls from offstage)

Cassandra! Cassandra!!!

(CASSANDRA breaks out of her reverie and turns toward the door)

CASSANDRA

Jane?

(AUSTEN bursts into the room)

AUSTEN

(Handing a letter out to CASSANDRA)

Here, dear Sister.

CASSANDRA

What on earth?

AUSTEN

Read!!!

CASSANDRA

“Dear Miss Austen, we are pleased to inform you that all copies of ‘Sense and Sensibility’ have been sold –” Jane!

AUSTEN

(Giddy with excitement)

Keep reading!

CASSANDRA

“... Owing to its success we would like to consider more of your work for publication –” Oh, Jane! I am so proud of you. What are you going to send?

AUSTEN

(Fear sets in)

Oh!

CASSANDRA

(Getting an idea)

I know!

AUSTEN

What?

CASSANDRA

(SHE points at the manuscript on the table)

‘First Impressions’ ... I started reading it again ...

AUSTEN

‘First Impressions’?!

(CASSANDRA nods)

You must be joking.

CASSANDRA

Why?

AUSTEN

It was my first attempt at a novel ... besides ... it’s only meant for the family.

CASSANDRA

Father thought it was good enough to be published.

AUSTEN

And the publisher refused to read it.

CASSANDRA

Fifteen years ago.

(AUSTEN and CASSANDRA stare at each other)

AUSTEN

No.

CASSANDRA

Why not?

AUSTEN

(AUSTEN picks up the ‘First Impressions’ manuscript. *Music cue.* Reading)

“Mr. Bingley was once upon a time coming of age when he was tempted to look at Netherfield House.”

(She closes the manuscript. *Music cuts off.* To CASSANDRA)

There. That’s why. It doesn’t even have a good opening line.

CASSANDRA

But you could rework it. Like you did with ‘Sense and Sensibility.’

AUSTEN

Good God, Cassandra! ‘Sense and Sensibility’ was ... froth -- Granted, good froth, but now I have a chance to write something significant. ‘First Impressions’ is romantic and I am not romantic -- But I haven’t been working on anything -- What if I can’t do it? Where will that

leave us? -- Destitute and still dependent on our brothers! It's not like prospective husbands are beating a path to our door. Look at us.

CASSANDRA

Jane!

AUSTEN

We have wrinkles!

END

JANE AUSTEN / MRS. REYNOLDS --- SIDE #2

START

(AUSTEN sits down at the pianoforte and begins to bang away, trying to determine what to do next)

(CASSANDRA enters)

CASSANDRA

Jane? Stop! You are going to break a string!

(AUSTEN stops playing. *Music stops*)

AUSTEN

(Under her breath)

Mr. Darcy is being rather familiar with Elizabeth.

CASSANDRA

(Not seeing the issue)

... Alright ...

AUSTEN

He looks at her --

ELIZABETH

(Rolling her eyes)

Only to criticize.

AUSTEN

-- with a steadfast gaze.

ELIZABETH

Absence of mind.

CASSANDRA

And?

AUSTEN

Don't you see? Mr. Darcy ... is in love with her.

ELIZABETH

(Shocked)

Don't be absurd!

CASSANDRA

Isn't that how the story goes?

AUSTEN

It's how the story went. It's not realistic.

CASSANDRA

But it's romantic.

AUSTEN

And I am not romantic!

CASSANDRA

You were.

AUSTEN

And look where that got me. Happy endings aren't real, Cassandra. I refuse to write one.

CASSANDRA

But what is the alternative? Misery?

AUSTEN

You are one to talk. Especially since you just admitted you would have married for money.

CASSANDRA

I said given the chance I would have been open to making a practical match.

(AUSTEN guffaws)

But that doesn't mean I don't enjoy a good love story.

AUSTEN

Yes! Always longing for fantasies you can't have. // All agog over Mr. Darcy. He isn't a hero. He is just another selfish man who enjoys the power of doing what he likes. I bet he divided Mr. Bingley from Jane.

CASSANDRA

(Trying to get a word in, speaking over AUSTEN)
// Happy endings give people hope! Jane! Stop!!! Just stop it.

ELIZABETH

What?!

CASSANDRA

When did you become so bitter? So selfish that you have no regard for the feelings of others?!

(Pause)

AUSTEN

You have said quite enough.

CASSANDRA
(CASSANDRA tries to protest)

Jane!

AUSTEN

Get out.

END

JANE AUSTEN / MRS. REYNOLDS --- SIDE #3

START

MRS. GARDINER

(To AUSTEN)

May we see the house, Mrs. Reynolds?

(AUSTEN takes on the role of MRS. REYNOLDS, the Pemberley housekeeper, and invites the GARDINERS and ELIZABETH into Pemberley. CASSANDRA observes/reads the scene)

AUSTEN (as MRS. REYNOLDS)

Of course! “This is the portrait gallery.”

MR. GARDINER

(Pointing out a portrait of Darcy)

Is that Mr. Darcy?

AUSTEN (as MRS. REYNOLDS)

“Yes, and very like him.”

MRS. GARDINER

It is a handsome face.

AUSTEN (as MRS. REYNOLDS)

(To ELIZABETH)

“Do not you think him a very handsome gentleman, Ma’am?”

ELIZABETH

(As if seeing him for the first time)

Yes. Very handsome.

MR. GARDINER

Is he much at Pemberley in the course of the year, Mrs. Reynolds?

AUSTEN (as MRS. REYNOLDS)

“I daresay he may spend half his time here.”

MRS. GARDINER

If he were to marry, he might spend more.

AUSTEN (as MRS. REYNOLDS)

“Yes, Ma’am; but I do not know when that will be. I do not know who is good enough for him.”

ELIZABETH

(Taken aback)

It is very much to his credit that you should think so.

AUSTEN (as MRS. REYNOLDS)

“I say no more than the truth. Some people call him proud; but I am sure I never saw anything of it. I have never had a cross word from him in my life, and I have been in service here since he was a child.”

MRS. GARDINER

His father was an excellent man.

AUSTEN (as MRS. REYNOLDS)

“Yes, Ma’am, and his son will be just like him. – Already he is just as generous to the poor.”

MR. GARDINER

You are lucky to have such a master.

AUSTEN (as MRS. REYNOLDS)

“Yes, sir, I know I am. There is not one of his tenants or servants but what will give him a good name.”

END

26

S
A
Wedding
Guests

Ahh

T
B

Pno.

START

31

Austen

relaxing

Eve-ry-one wants a hap-py end-ing. Eve-ry-one wants their dreams to come true.

S
A
Wedding
Guests

Safety

T
B

Pno.

relaxing

Safety

No. 21 - NOT ROMANTIC - 4

(To ELIZABETH)

Austen

34

Eve-ry-one has a choice. This is what she wan-ted to do. She is ro-

Pno.

34

rubato

Austen

B

37

man-tic; she'll al-ways be a true ro-man-tic who can-not see _____ how some

Pno.

B

37

pp *mp*

(Watching CHARLOTTE /
CASSANDRA marry MR.
COLLINS)

Austen

41

choose to live life prudent-ly. They won't wait for love to call. She is not ro-

Pno.

41

No. 21 - NOT ROMANTIC - 5

45

Austen

man - tic. She won't de - ny ——— that what he of - fers can sat - is - fy. When I think it

Pno.

49

Austen

o - ver, I know that I ——— was once ro - man - tic, *pull back* but now I ——— un - der - stand why *release*
But when he broke my heart

Pno.

pull back *release*

53

Austen

oth - ers nev - er ——— fall ——— in love ——— at all.
I made a choice not to love at all

Pno.

let ring!

Ad.

APPLAUSE
SEGUE

APPLAUSE
SEGUE

Austen

43

This is the sto - ry I will send and so much more than I ev - er knew!

Company

p Ooh _____ Ooh _____

Pno.

43

Elizabeth

46 + JANE:

Is - n't it won - der - ful?

Darcy

8 + BINGLEY:

Company

Won - der - ful!

Pno.

46

No. 45 - FINALE - 5

(AUSTEN witnesses the wedding of the happy couples)

48

Austen

Eve-ry-one wants a hap-py end-ing. Eve-ry-one wants their dreams to come true.

Elizabeth

mp + JANE:

You are so won-der-ful.

Darcy

mp + BINGLEY:

You are so won-der-ful.

S
A

Company

Ooh...

Pno.

No. 45 - FINALE - 6

C

51

Austen

Love gives us choic - es! To be ro - man - tic,

Pno.

mp

55

Austen

or not at all... If we're ro - man - tic, we hear love

p

S
A

Company

p

Choic - es. Choic - es.

T
B

Choic - es. Choic - es. Choic - es.

55

Pno.

let ring!

No. 45 - FINALE - 7

59

Austen

call. Love is won - der - ful. It's glo - ri - ous. It's nev - er ev - er

59

Pno.

63

Austen

wrong. (Calling out) Cassandra! Cassandra!

63

S
A
Company

mp Oh Ahh

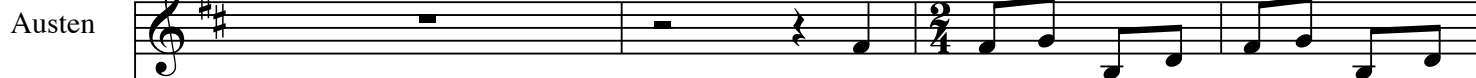
T
B

63

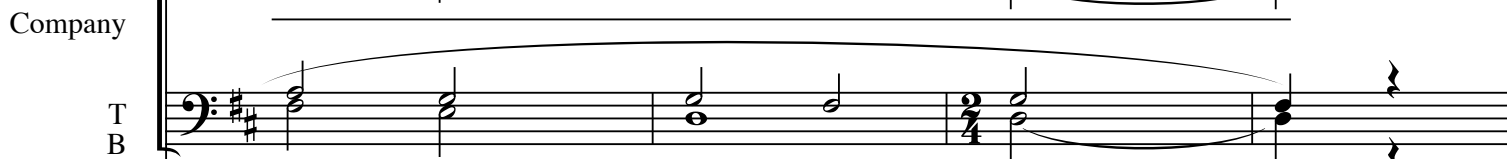
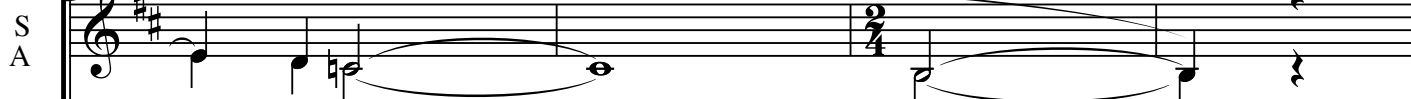
Pno.

No. 45 - FINALE - 8

66



And with that choice we take a chance. We



66



CASSANDRA: (Entering)
Jane?

70



find where we be - - - long!

f

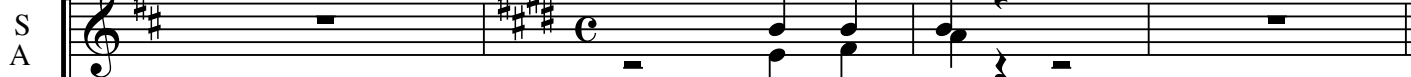
71a

G.P.

72

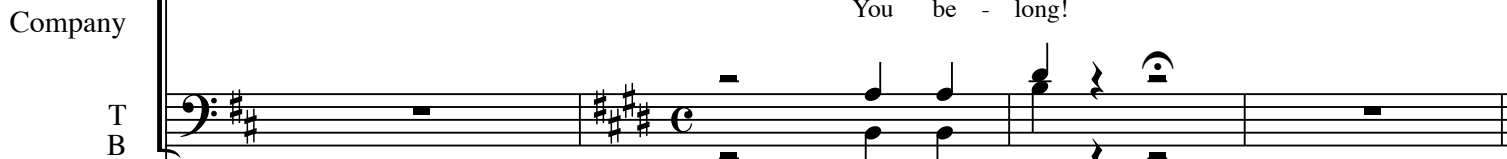
(To CASSANDRA)

I am ro -



You be - long!

G.P.



70



G.P.

No. 45 - FINALE - 9

D

73

Austen

man - tic. I choose to be a true ro -

S
A

Ahh

Company

T
B

D

73

Pno.

75

Austen

man - tic who longs to see the mir - a - cle of

S
A

Company

T
B

75

Pno.

No. 45 - FINALE - 10

77

Austen

love beau - ti - ful and free!

S
A

Company

Ahh

T
B

Pno.

E

Triumphantly ♩ = 96

79

Austen

E

I will write of love.

79

Pno.

mf

No. 45 - FINALE - 11

83

Austen

I will write the sto - ries of

Pno.

87

Austen

learn - ing from a past mis - take, of

FULL COMPANY + CASSANDRA:

S
A

Company

Ahh

T
B

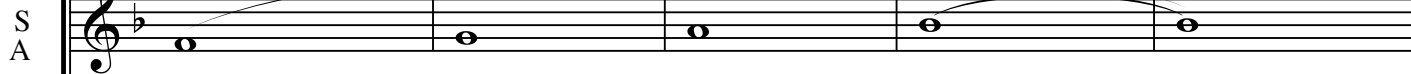
Pno.

No. 45 - FINALE - 12

91

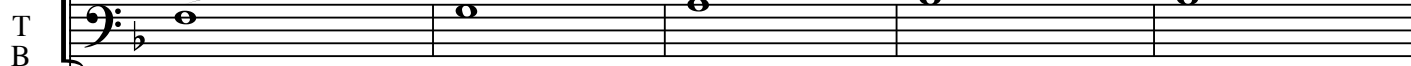


self - less love, of risks we take! _____



Company

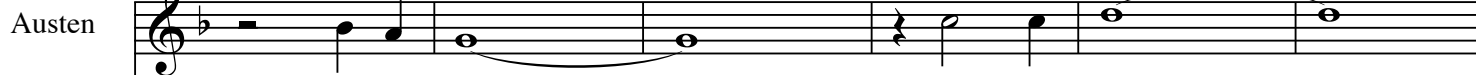
Ahh _____



91



96



I will write... _____ I will write... _____



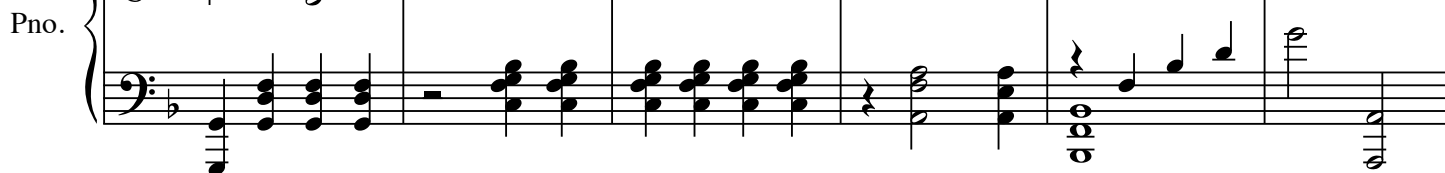
Company

"First Im - pres - sions"...

Sec - ond Chanc - es...



96



No. 45 - FINALE - 13

(Embracing her manuscript) $\text{♩} = \text{♩.}$

102

Austen

I _____ will write... _____

S
A

Company

Is - n't love won - der - ful? _____

T
B

Yes, it is won-der-ful!

102

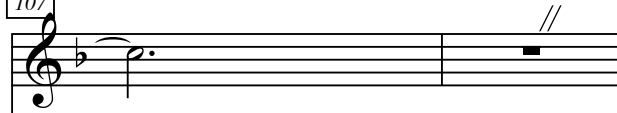
Pno.

f

No. 45 - FINALE - 14

107

Austen



AUSTEN: "It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife."

S
A



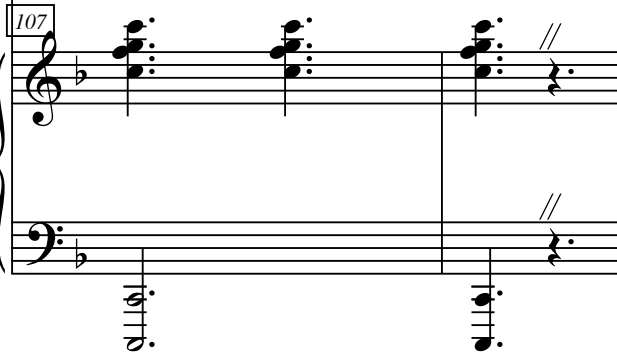
Company

Love is so won-der-ful!

T
B



Pno.



No. 45 - FINALE - 15

109 *f* $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

Austen
of love! _____

Elizabeth
+ JANE, BINGLEY and
ADDITIONAL VOICES *f* Be - lieve in love! _____

Darcy
8
OPT.
TACET $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

S
A
Company *f* Of love! _____

T
B

109 $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

Pno. *f*

No. 45 - FINALE - 16

(Blackout)

END

112

Austen

Elizabeth

Darcy

S
A

Company

T
B

Pno.

112

ff

sfz

FINIS

A

No. 2d - CHOICES (Finale) - 4

13

START

Austen



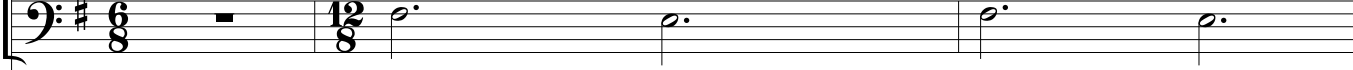
In this sto - ry that nev - er re - ceived a - ny glo - ry, do

S
A
Company



p Sto - ry. Glo - ry.

T
B



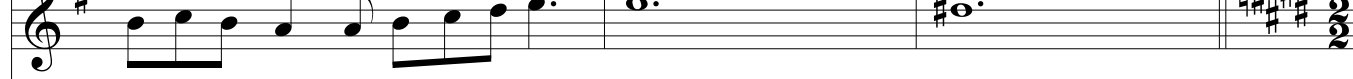
Pno.



16


molto ritardando

Austen



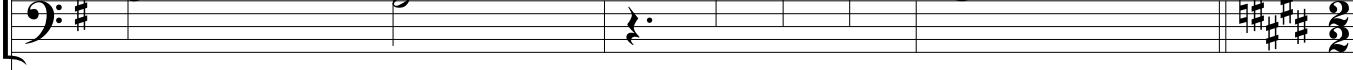
char - ac - ters tong to live and be free.

S
A
Company

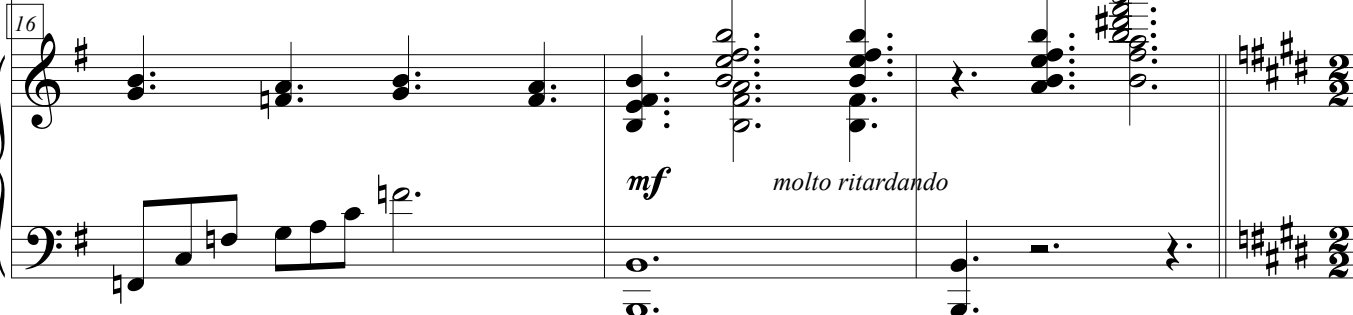


Choic - es... *f* Live and be free!

T
B



Pno.



mf *molto ritardando*

B $\text{♩} = 112$

No. 2d - CHOICES (Finale) - 5

19

f

Austen

Once I wrote of love. Once I wrote this

Company

Ooh

19

Pno.

mf

25

Austen

sto - ry called 'First Im - pres - sions,' Years a - go, I

Company

Ooh

25

Pno.

No. 2d - CHOICES (Finale) - 6

31

Austen

wrote. But what did I know when I wrote of

S
A
Company

T
B

Ooh _____ Ooh _____

31

Pno.

C

37

Austen

love? _____ I was young and un - a -

S
A
Company

T
B

_____ Ahh _____

37

Pno.

No. 2d - CHOICES (Finale) - 7

43

Austen

fraid. Ahh _____ I

S
A
Company

What mis - takes were made? _____

T
B

43

Pno.

49

Austen

want my sto - ries to en - dure. I want to know,

S
A
Company

And _____ want to

T
B

49

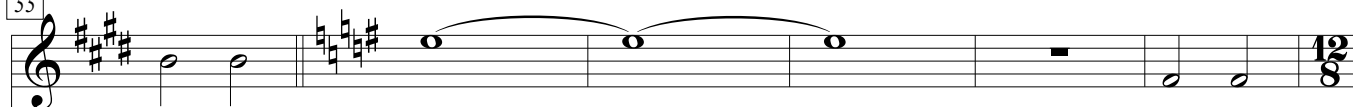
Pno.

No. 2d - CHOICES (Finale) - 8

$\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

55

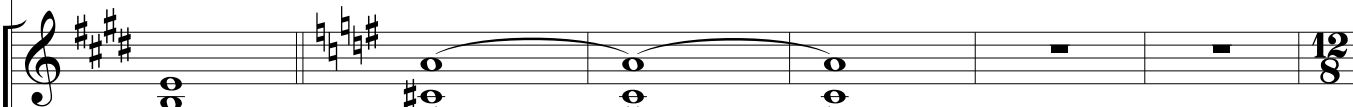
Austen



to be sure! _____ Do my

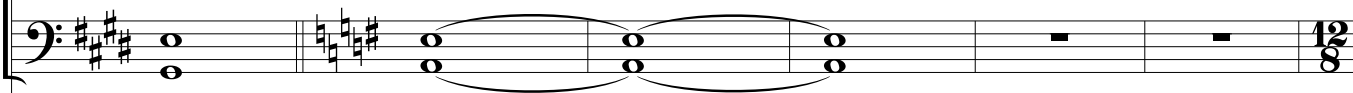
Company

S
A

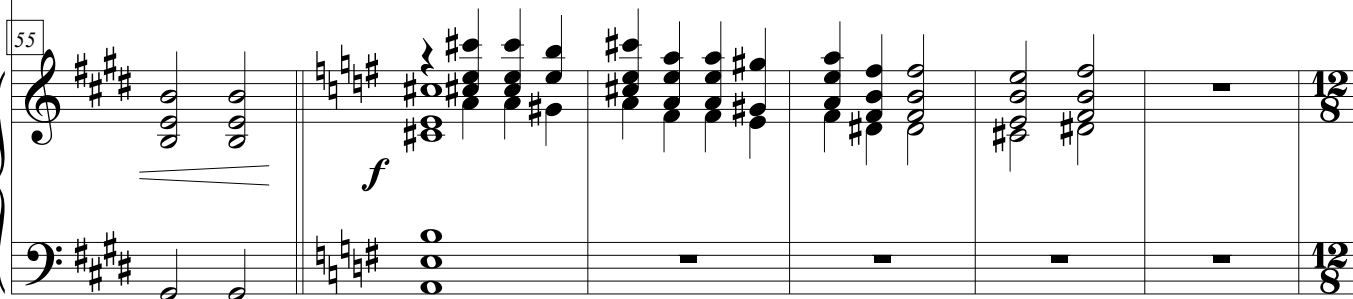


be sure. _____

T
B



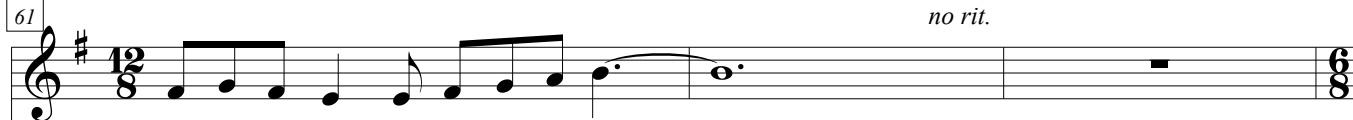
Pno.



D

61

Austen



no rit.

char - ac - ters long to live and be free? _____

To be free. _____

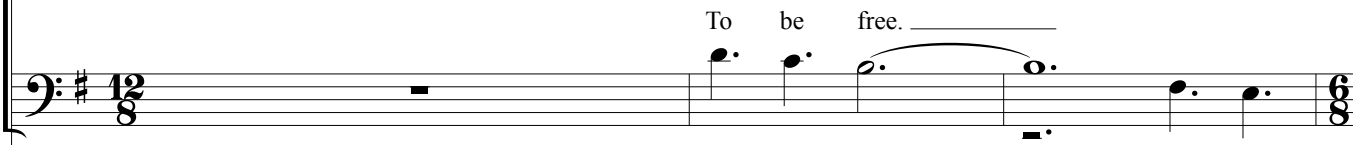
Company

S
A



Choic - es...

T
B

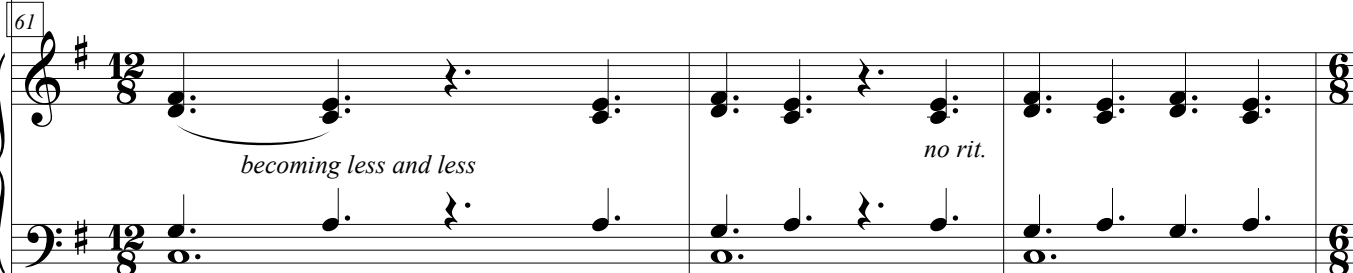


To be free. _____

Choic - es...

61

Pno.



becoming less and less

no rit.

No. 2d - CHOICES (Finale) - 9

(The Assembly dissolves, leaving AUSTEN at her table)

64

Austen

Re - view... Ex - am - ine...

Company

Choic - es. Choic - es.

Pno.

END

68

Austen

Con - sid - er...

Company

Choic - es.

Pno.

pp