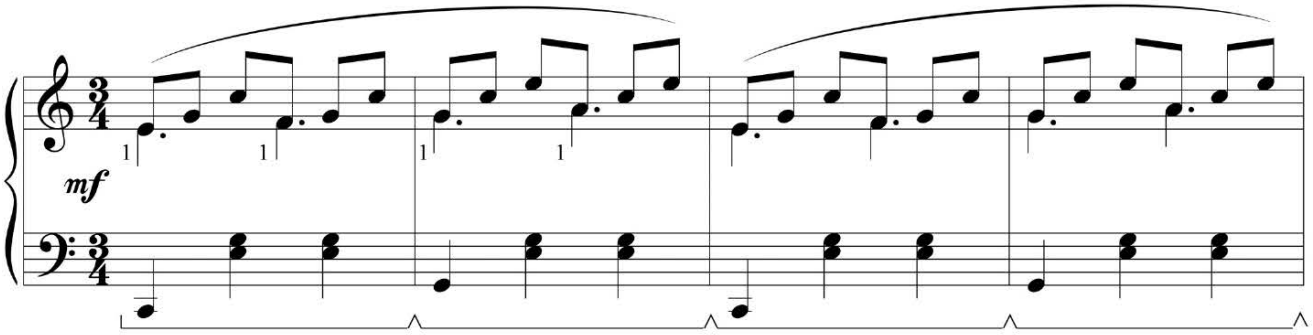
The
MAYRON COLE PIANO METHOD



William's Waltz
A Syncopated Waltz

Below is an excerpt from William's Waltz:



1. You notice (above) that the RH is playing dotted quarter notes and eighth notes. The manner in which the notes are written tells you to depress and HOLD (with your thumb) the dotted quarter note as you play three eighth notes in succession. _____ (yes or no?)

2. When music notes are written with two stems, that is telling you that two "voices" are playing at the same time. (Yes, the term is "voices" even though a musical instrument is playing the notes.) When two "voices" sound the same tone at the same time, it is called a unison. Look at the sample above. Do you see that the dotted quarter (stem-down note) plays at the same time as an eighth note (stem-up note)?
_____ (yes or no?)

3. Play the above measures with your RH and count aloud: **ONE** + two **+** three +. Hopefully, you could feel the accent on ONE and the "+" of beat two. Accenting a note that is not normally accented is called "syncopation". Accenting each measure on beat one is a natural accent, but accenting on the up-beat of beat two is not a natural accent.

4. Does syncopation mean to accent a note that is normally accented?
_____ (yes or no?)

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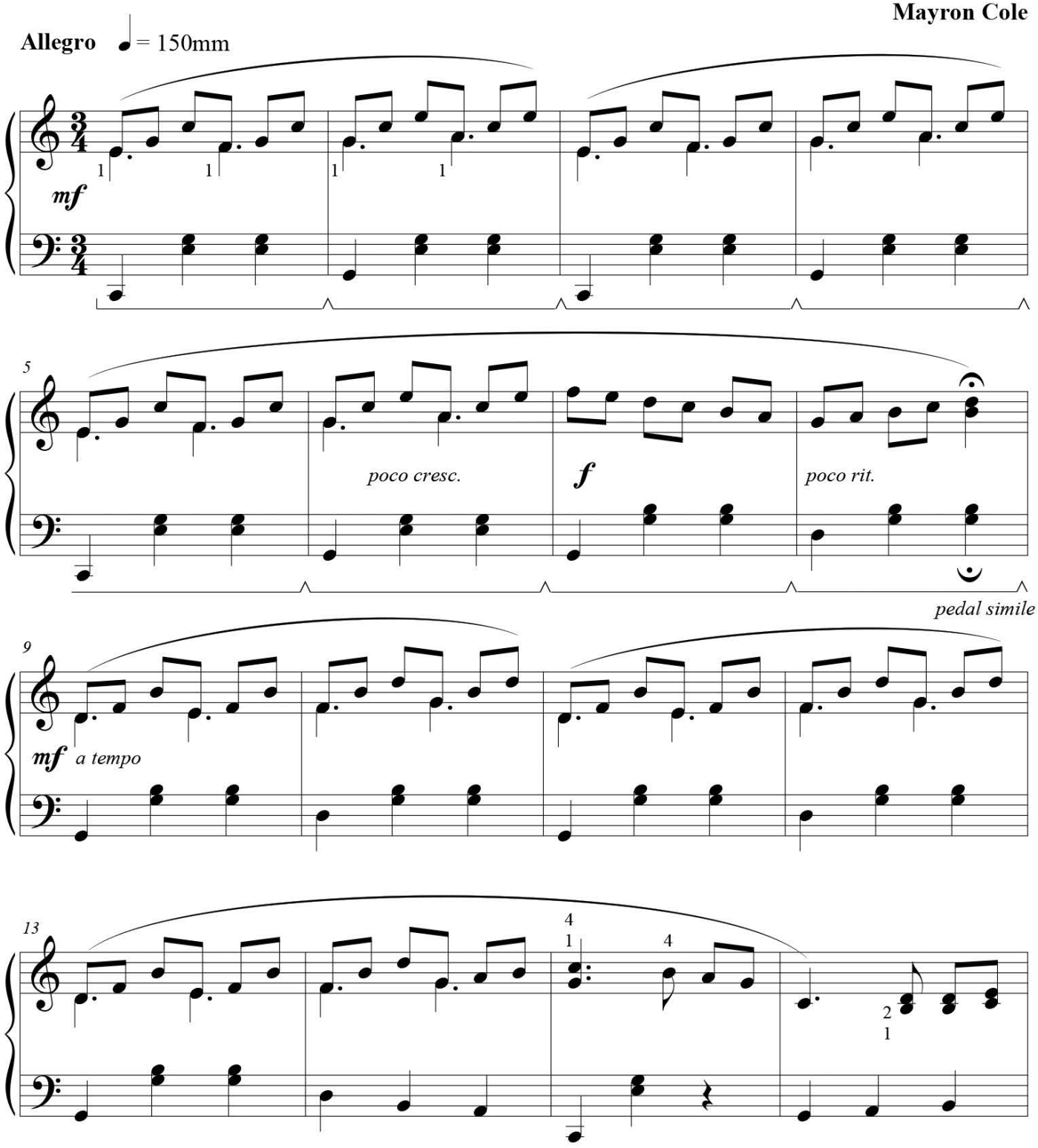
William's Waltz

A Syncopated Waltz

(orchestrated accompaniment has a 2 measure count-in)

Mayron Cole



F R E E P I A N O M E T H O D . C O M
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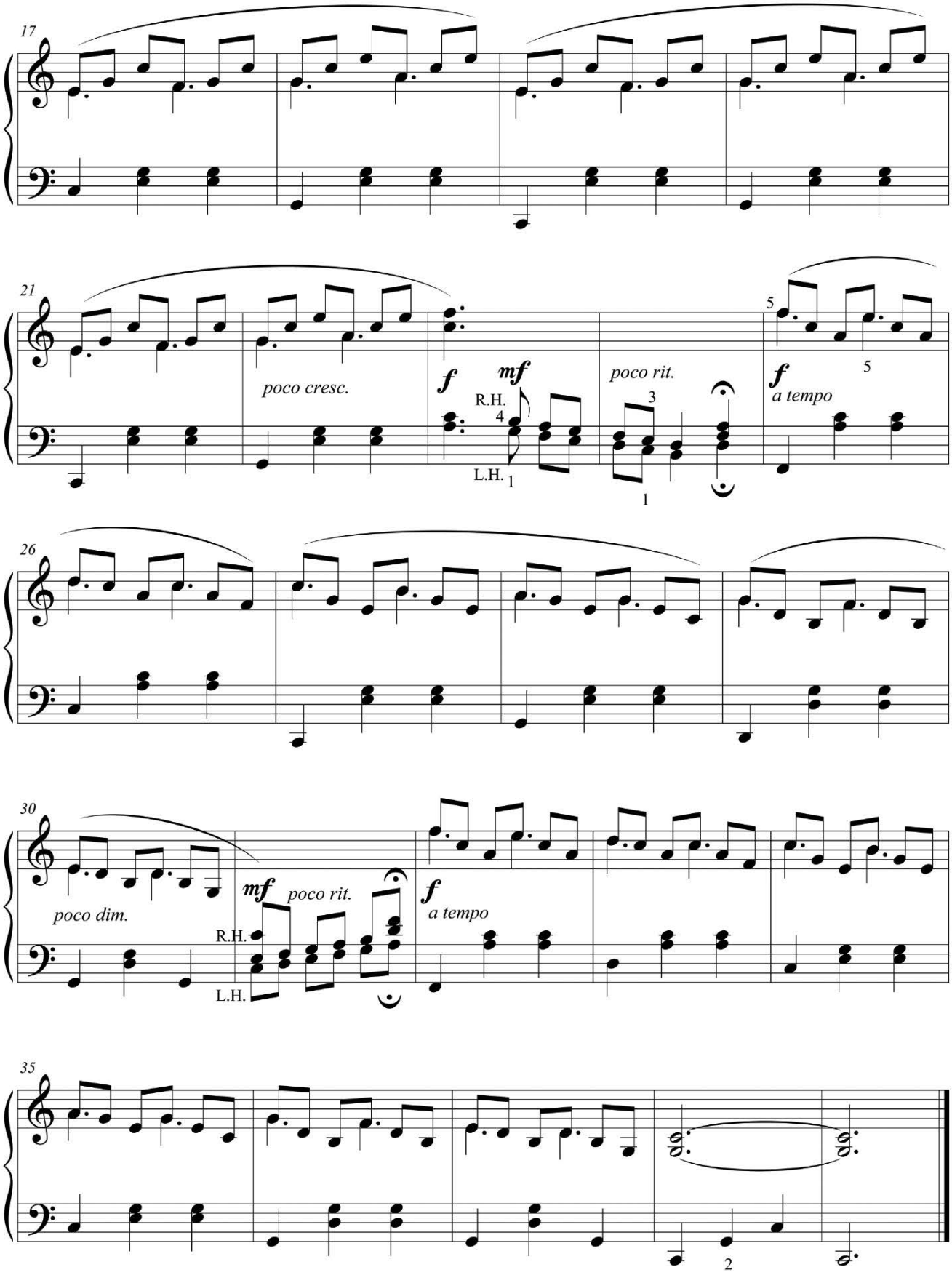

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5. The LH of William's Waltz plays three beats per measure. This keeps the waltz tempo flowing. Look again at the excerpt of William's Waltz on the previous page. Slowly play both hands together as you count aloud. Was it easy?
_____ (yes or no?)



Legato Pedaling

6. Look under the bass staff of William's Waltz. Do you see a pedal mark with a small peak at the end of each measure? _____ (yes or no?)

This new pedal mark tells you to use legato pedaling (also called half pedaling.)

How to Legato Pedal

Depress the right pedal (damper pedal) half-way. Let the pedal "up" when you see the little peaks at the end of each measure. This pedaling style will give your music a legato sound. Half pedaling will become a natural way for you to pedal after you use it for a while.

Information to Impress Your Friends:

Look at the beginning of William's Waltz above the treble clef. Do you see "♩=150 mm"? _____ (yes or no?)

This is telling you the suggested performance speed for William's Waltz. But what does the "mm" stand for? It stands for Maezel's Metronome. Maezel was a German craftsman who invented the metronome. "Allegro" means "happy" but what speed is "happy"? If you are using a metronome, set your metronome to ♩=150 mm. To this day, composers still mark metronome speeds with the initials "mm" to honor Maezel and his first metronome. Another bit of trivia... Maezel invented a hearing device for Beethoven when Beethoven realized he was going deaf. It was called an "ear trumpet". It looked a lot like a megaphone with the small end inserted into the outer ear. Regretfully, the hearing aid did not work.

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