G-4117 COONEY • Exodus Reading for the Great Vigil

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ACCOMPANIED SCRIPTURE

Exodus Reading

For the Great Vigil

RORY COONEY

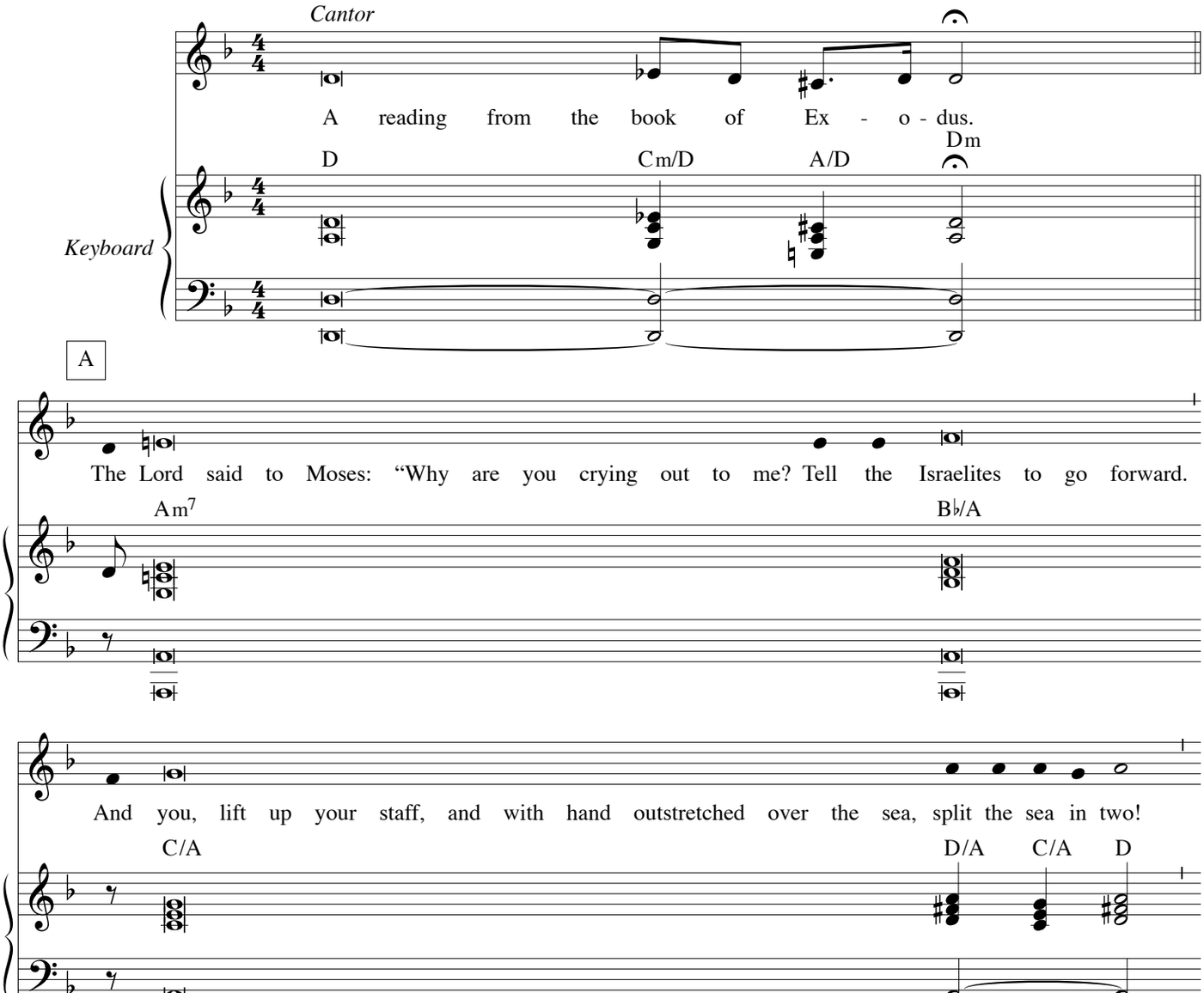
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EXODUS READING FOR THE GREAT VIGIL

Exodus 14:15-15:1

Setting by Rory Cooney



A choral edition (with a congregation part) is available separately from the publisher, G-4117C.

An instrumental part for flute is available separately from the publisher, G-4117INST.

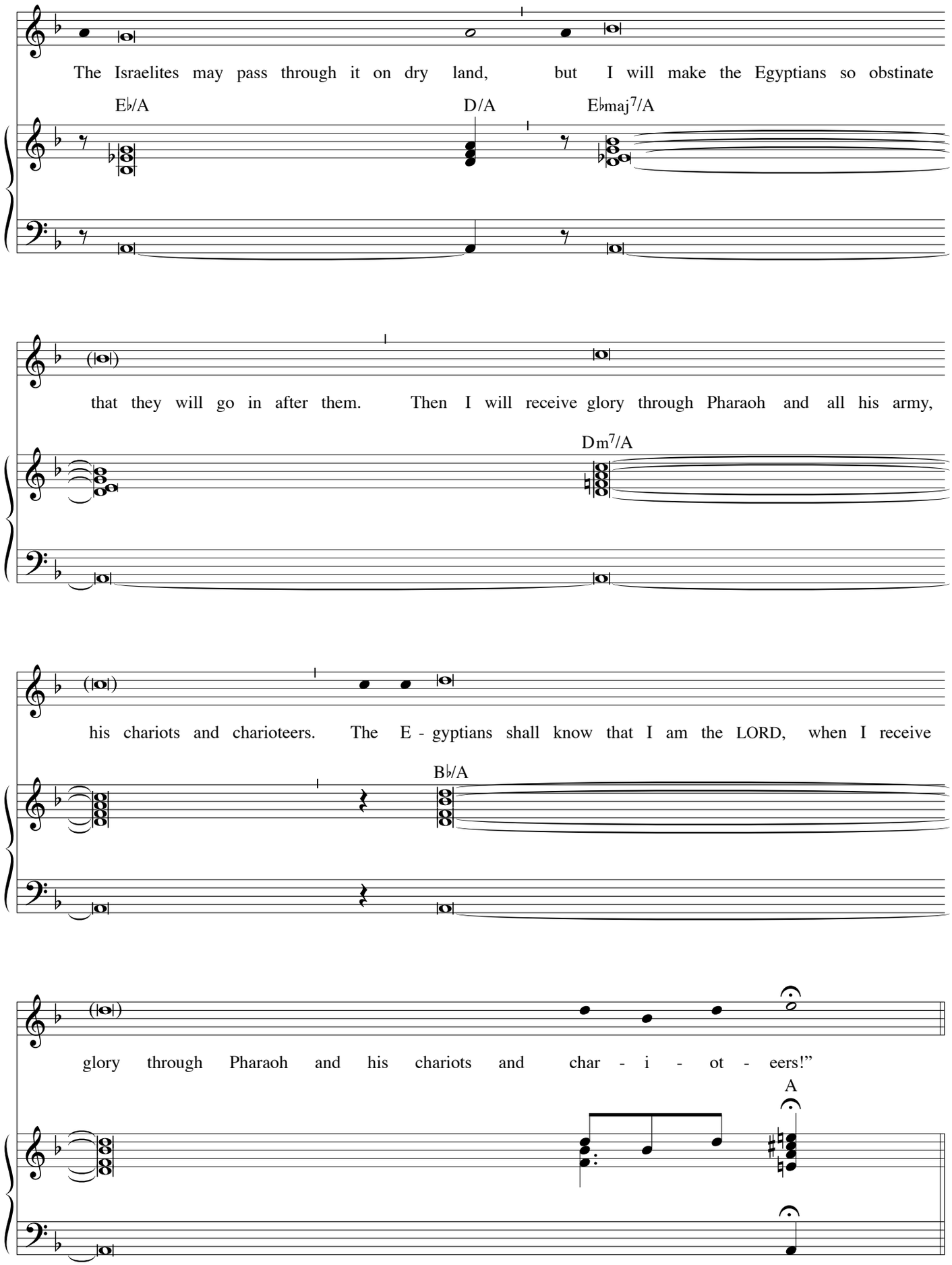
NOTES: This is another piece I wrote with my son Joel in mind. When he and other children were in the catechumenate at St. Jerome in Phoenix, it brought home to me that we should be proclaiming the stories of our faith in a style dynamic enough to engage adults and children through the long, late vigil. Furthermore, I wanted to write this setting so that no "worship aid" was necessary, i.e., since the liturgy of the word at the vigil is done (by us) in the dark, it needs to be immediate. Everything that the assembly sings is sung first by the cantor. That's why there are repeat bars around every phrase.

PERFORMANCES NOTES: The verses of the reading are done freely, in *recitative* style. The hand-clapping before each refrain sets up the "klezmer" tempo, like "Hava Nagilah." The final refrain develops into the longer response, i.e., with the "horse and chariot" developing into "fear and loneliness, death and emptiness," etc. After the last verse of the reading itself, we usually bring the music to a dead stop, and start clapping at a much slower tempo, *accelerando* through the refrains and responses. There is a grand *ritard* at the very end of the piece.

One fun way of performing this is to have an oboist or soprano sax player play some mid-eastern scales before the cantor begins each time, just improvising on a mixolydian scale to give the song another dimension of relationship to Isreal. The sax player on the recording, Mark Mellis, has actually been the cantor for us on this song in the past, and he brings his sax right up to the ambo with him. It's great fun.

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Refrain I

clap

♩=108-110

Cantor, All repeat

Cantor, All repeat

Sing the song of free - dom! God has won the vic - t'ry.

Dm Gm E A Dm Gm E A

mf - f

coll' 8va (ad lib.)

Cantor, All repeat

To Sections B-D

Horse and char - i - ot are cast in - to the sea.

D/F♯ D7 E♭ Cm6 A/C♯ A7 Dm

B

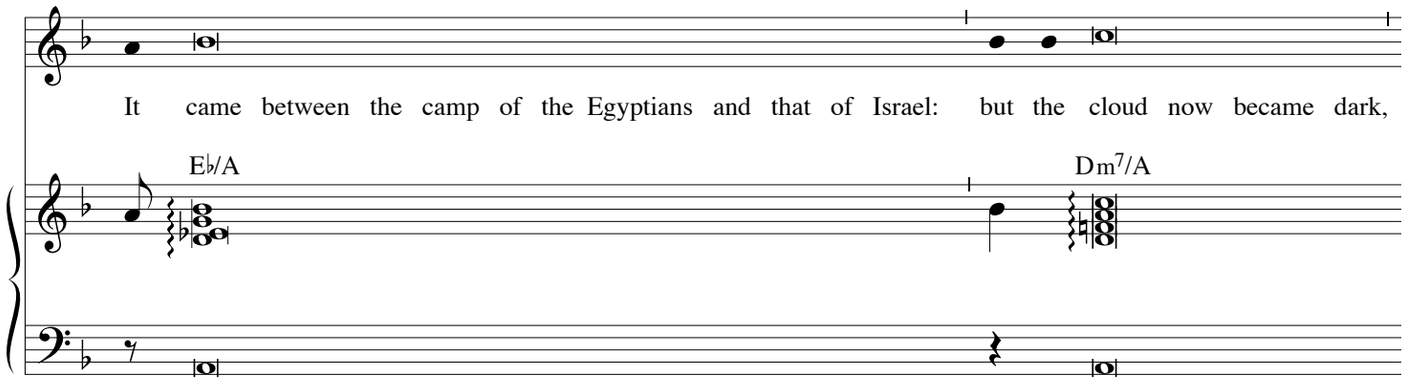
The angel of God, who had been leading Israel's camp, now moved and went around behind them.

Am7 B♭/A

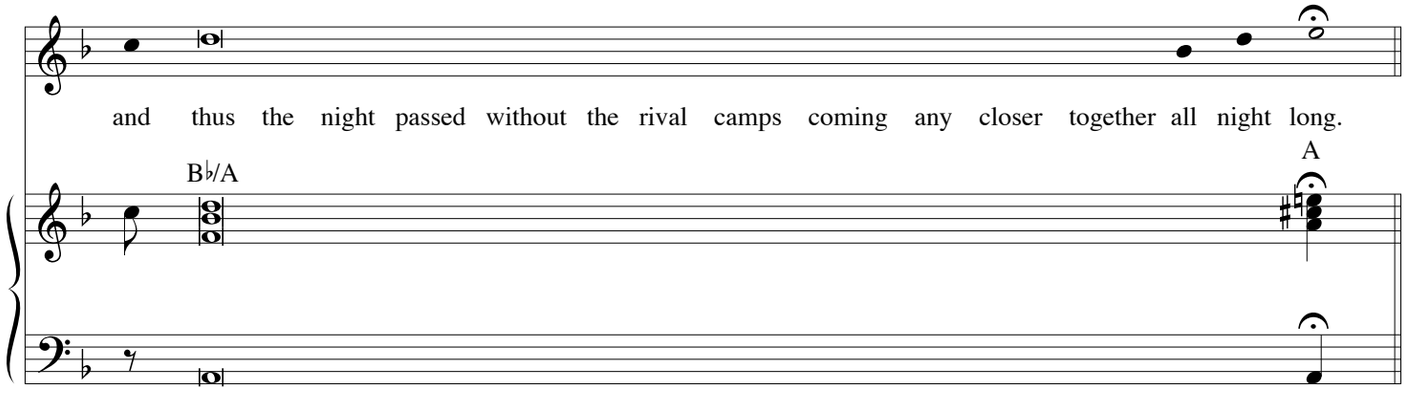
The column of cloud also, leaving the front, took up its place be - hind them.

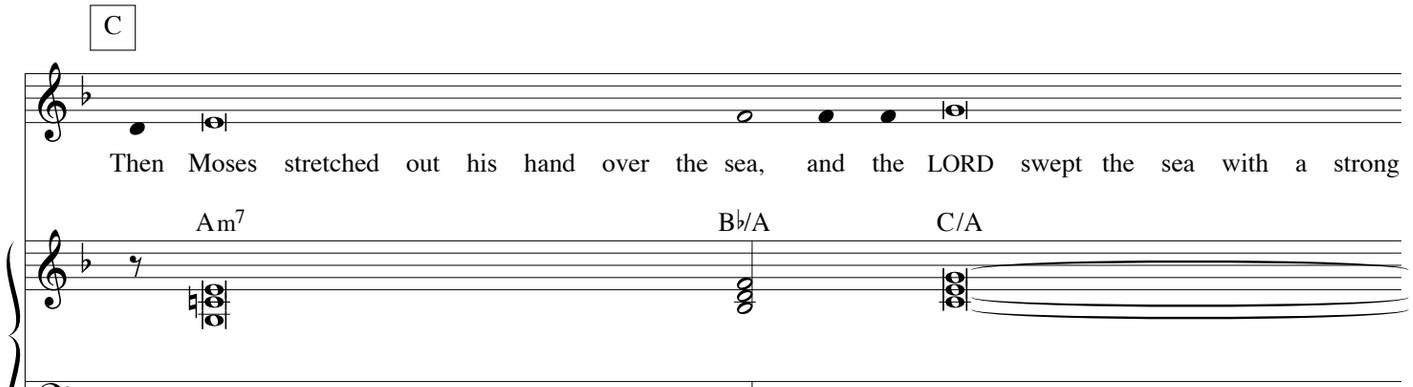
C/A D

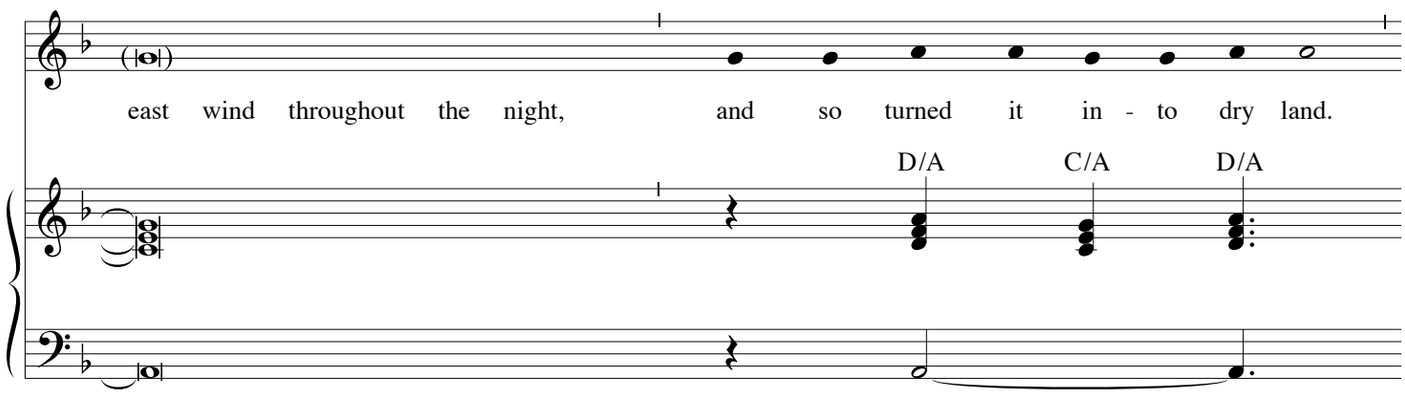
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To Refrain I



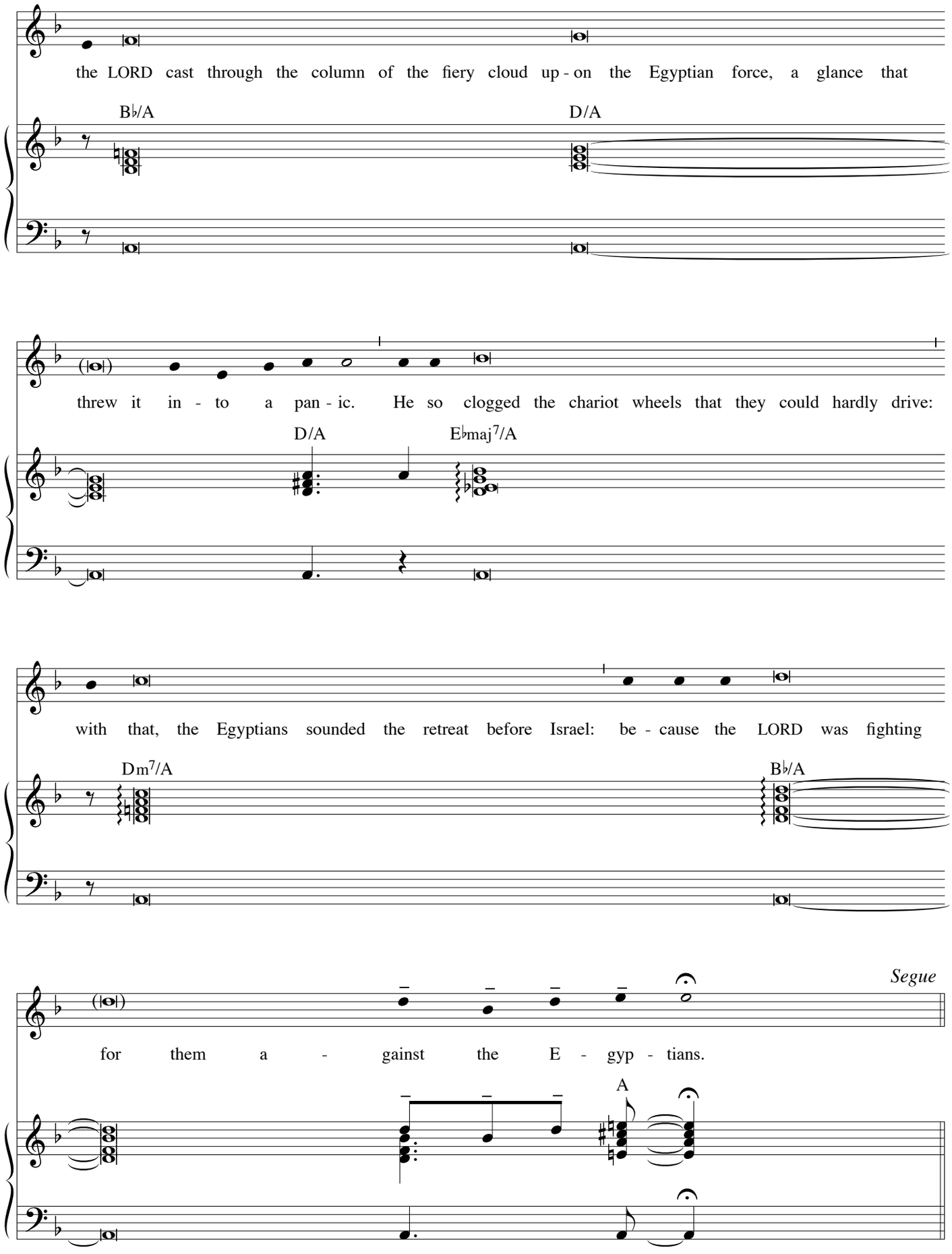




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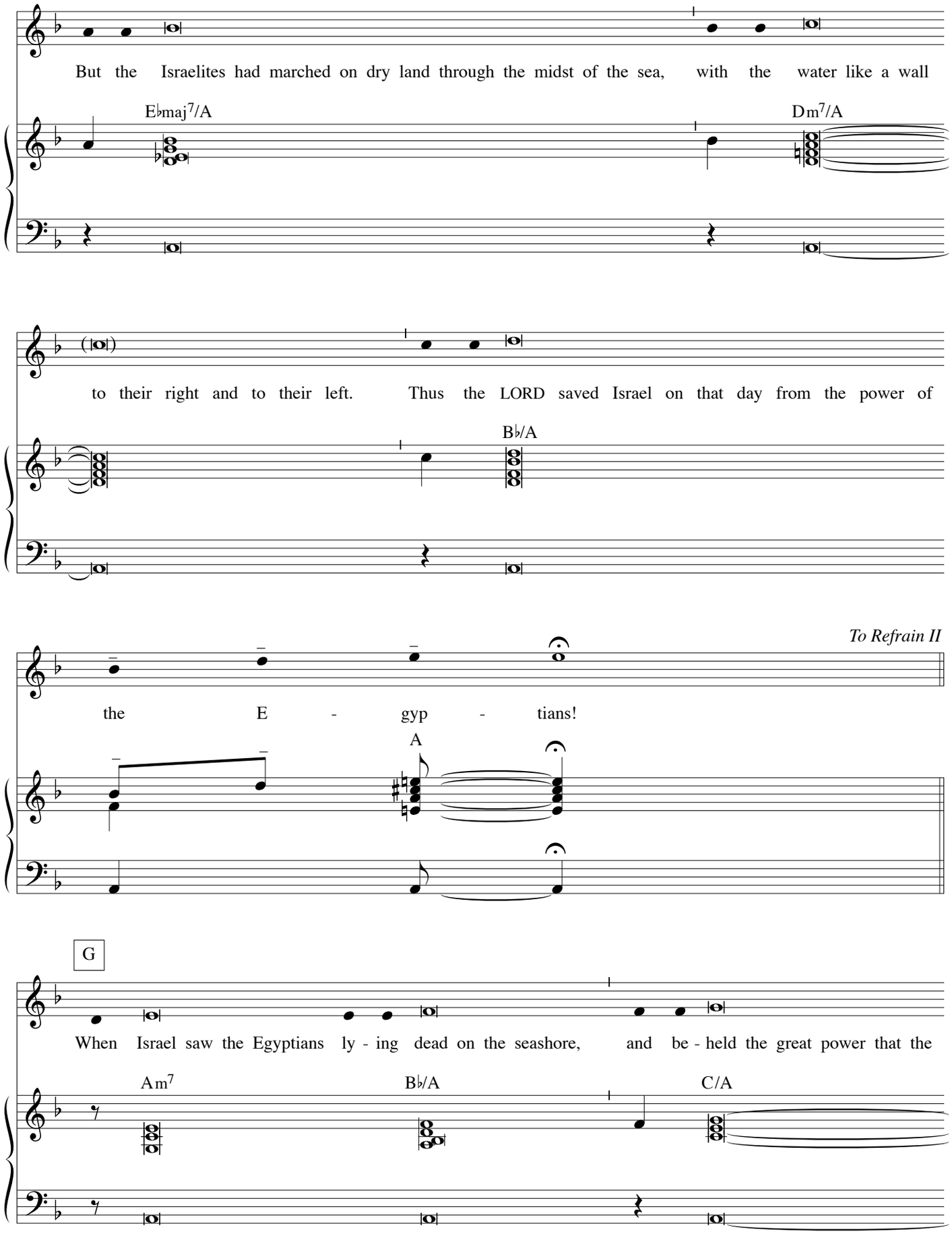
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