Scene 9: Mental Ward

(Doctor approaches Arvin.)

_Brightly_

\( \frac{1}{4} \) \( = 92 \)

(Doctor approaches Arvin.)

_DOCTOR_

\textit{ppp}

be true."

\textit{ppp}

Pro-fes-sor Ar-vin? Do you hear me?

(Hands him the letter; despondent, he does not look at it right away)

\textit{mf}

This letter just came for you. I'm so...
Doctor: sorry to hear about the outcome of your trial. Deeply sorry. I can only imagine—

[Music notation]

Doctor: imagine— I hope one day we can live in a world where your affliction is seen as clinical illness. A disease

[Music notation]
Doctor

in the tissues of the brain that issues

Not from some personal

mp

cresc.

But from the happening of faulty electrical charges

p

cresc.

mf

poco accel.

In the neurons and cranial lobes.
Not some sort of moral sickness, No-thing to be a-

shamed about. Pro-fes-sor Ar-vin? Pro-fes-sor Ar-vin?

I am fin-al-ly rea-dy to be cured of it all.
Oh my goodness! Professor Arvin! Willingness is always the first step!

I will be back very shortly.

Poco più mosso (Exit the Doctor. Arvin, alone, gathers up bed sheets and start to fashion them into a noose. Then notices letter that the Doctor has brought him. With interest, he opens it. Capote appears to him.)