# NUCLEAR WINTER

Clarinet
Violin
Cello

Bryan W. Christian

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Nuclear Winter is comprised primarily of natural harmonics in the viola and cello lines. When sustained, natural harmonics, especially double-stops, will typically have a very unstable quality. This instability of harmonics is used as a compositional device to represent the bitterness of a nuclear winter. Additionally, the clarinet line predominately represents the relationship of this bitterness to mankind.

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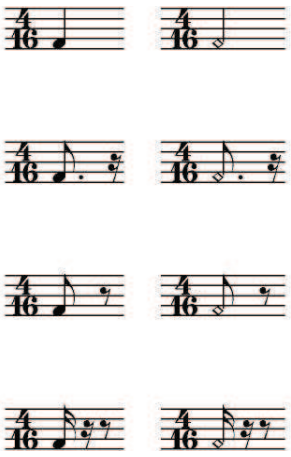
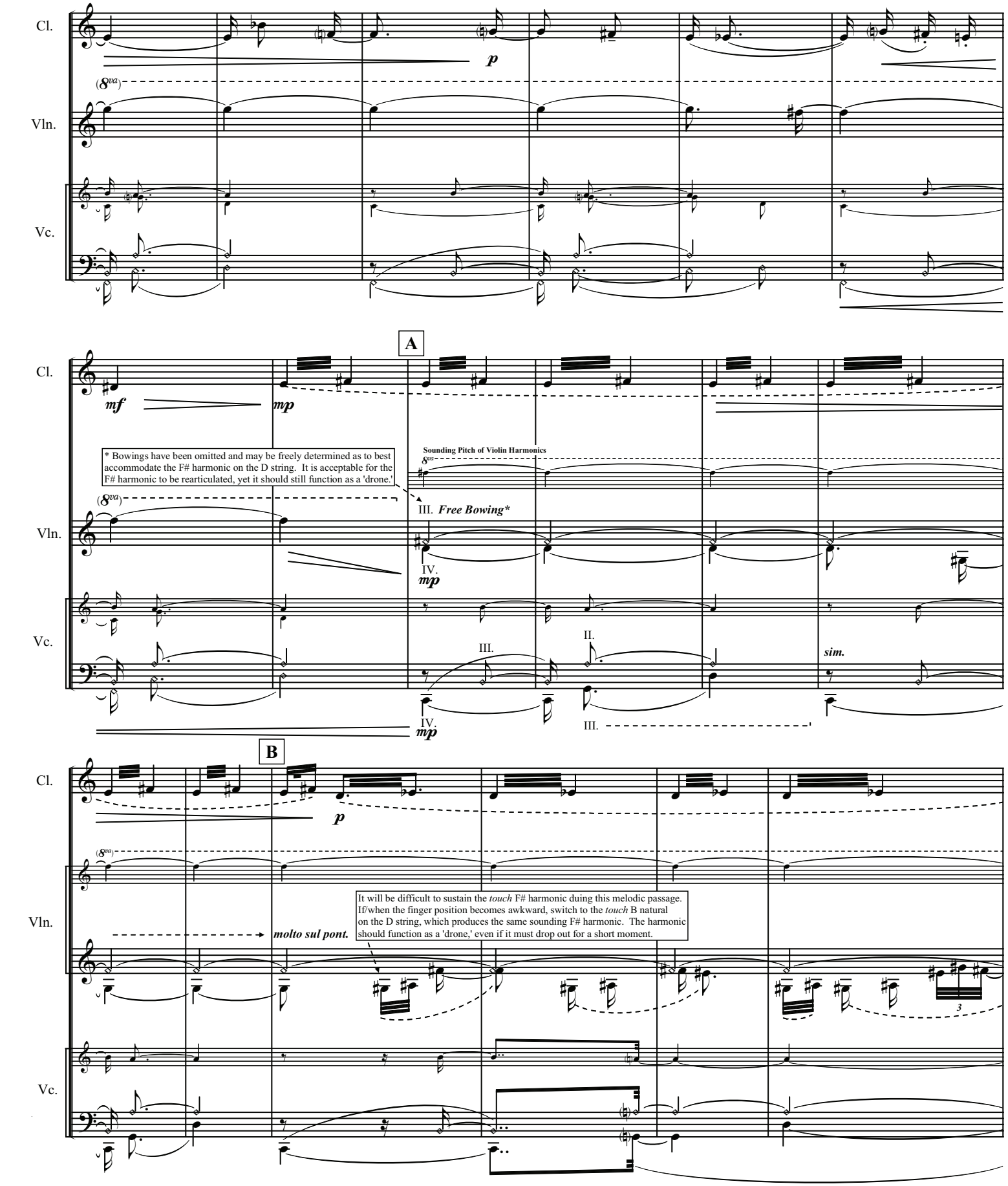
## Natural Harmonic Notation

Regarding harmonics, only natural harmonics are used in *Nuclear Winter*. The 4/16 meter was chosen to create a simplified notation that would not be metrically confusing. Refer to the comparisons to the right. The use of beams eliminates metric ambiguity that might have come about in a meter that uses half notes, such as 4/8 or 4/4. The string to be played is always indicated by a roman numeral above or below the diamond shaped note head. The desired pitch is indicated on an additional staff.




Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
p
(8va)
A
mf
mp
* Bowings have been omitted and may be freely determined as to best accommodate the F# harmonic on the D string. It is acceptable for the F# harmonic to be rearticulated, yet it should still function as a 'drone.'
Sounding Pitch of Violin Harmonics
III. Free Bowing*
IV.
mp
III.
II.
sim.
B
molto sul pont.
It will be difficult to sustain the touch F# harmonic duing this melodic passage. If/when the finger position becomes awkward, switch to the touch B natural on the D string, which produces the same sounding F# harmonic. The harmonic should function as a 'drone,' even if it must drop out for a short moment.

REMAINDER OF SCORE UNAVAILABLE TO PREVIEW

for a full score, please send a request to
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