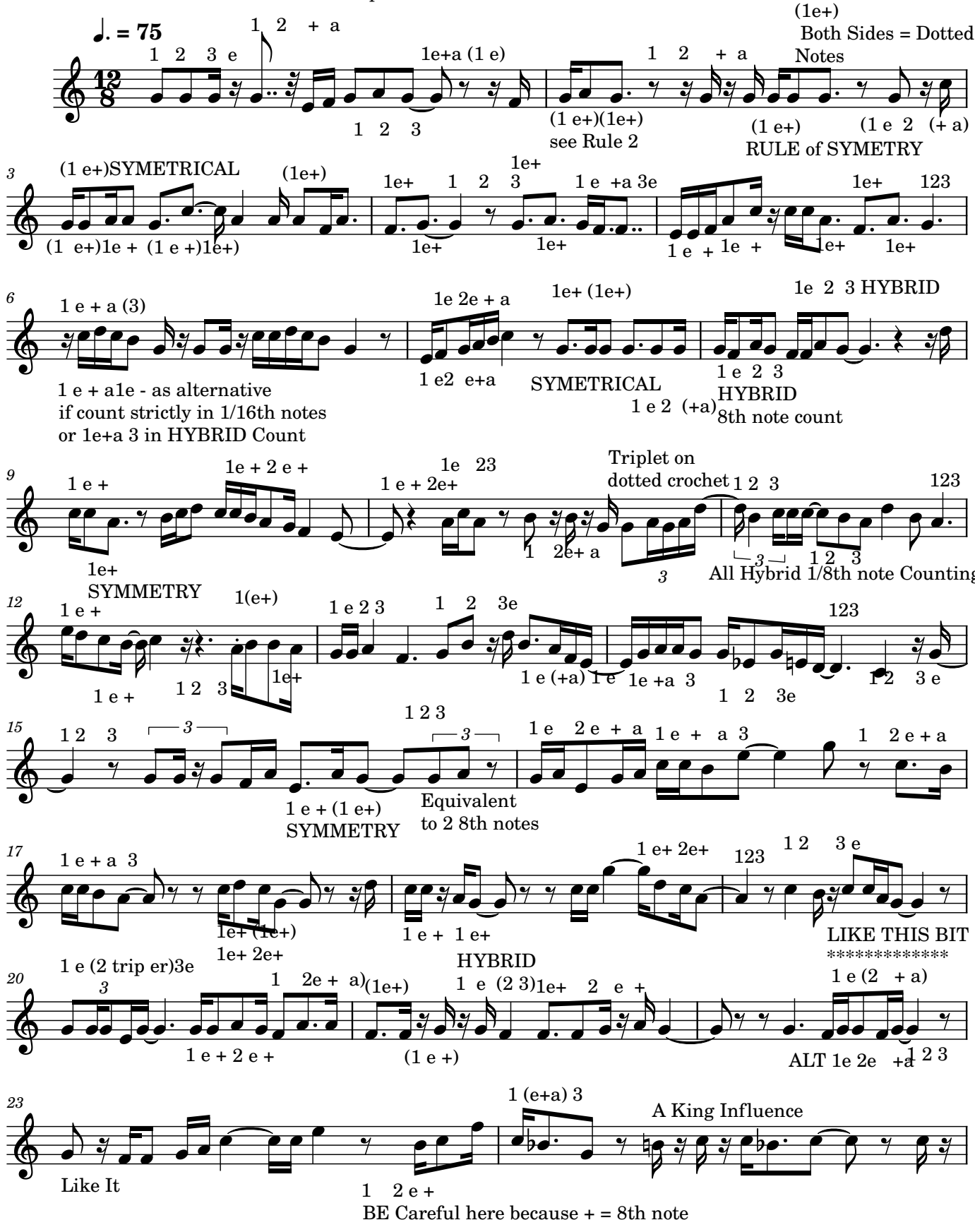
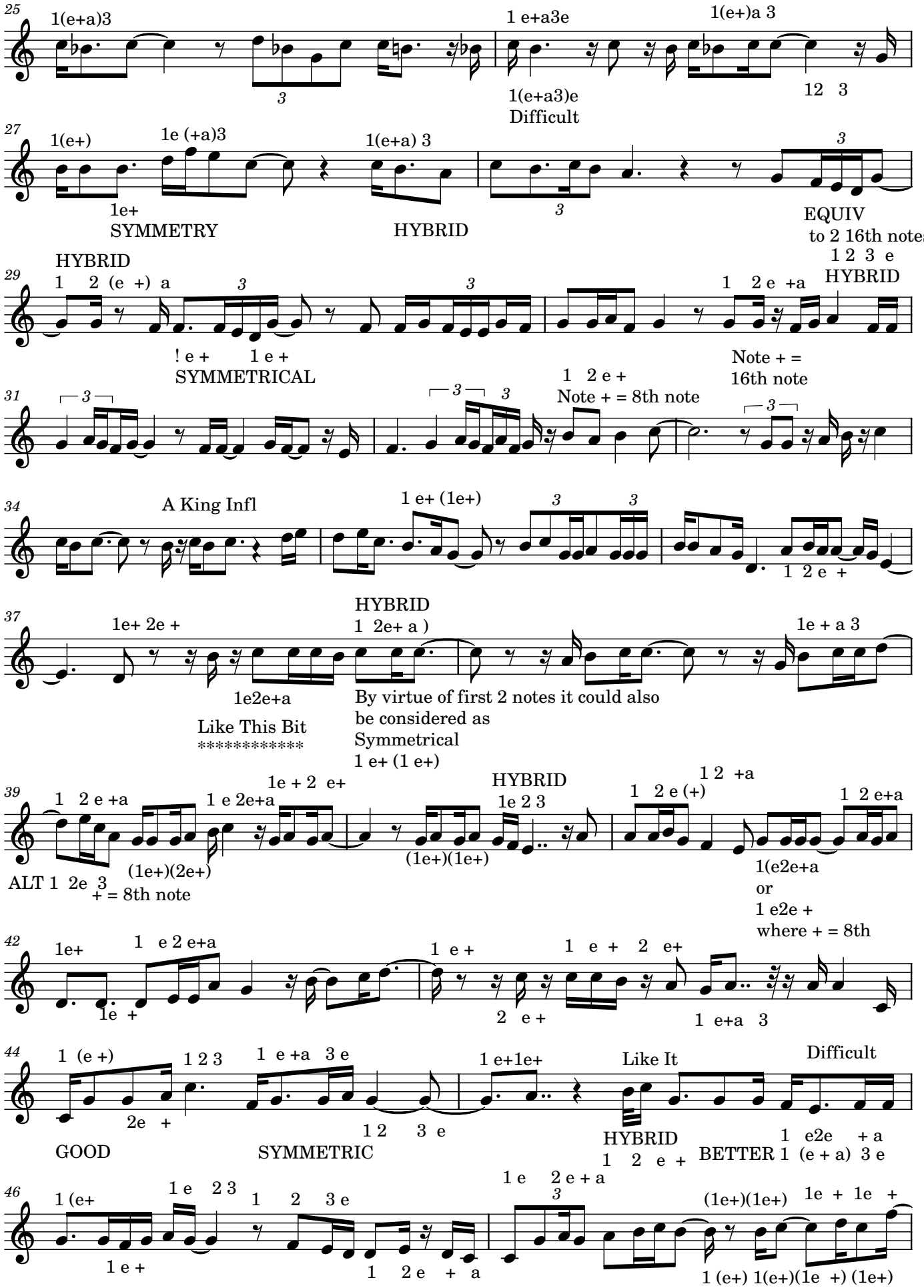
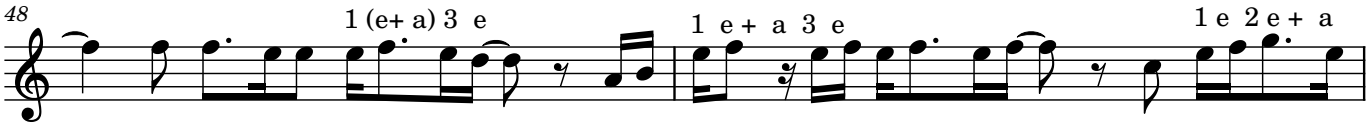
Shortcut Counting in 12/8 Time
Definitive vrs

Steve White

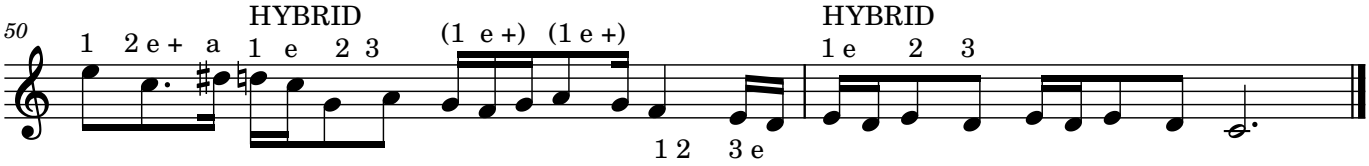
+ = spoken and worth 1/16 th note




25
1(e+a)3
3
1 e+a3e
1(e+a3)e
Difficult
1(e+)a 3
12 3
27
1(e+)
1e+
SYMMETRY
1e (+a)3
1(e+a) 3
HYBRID
3
EQUIV
to 2 16th notes
1 2 3 e
29
HYBRID
1 2 (e +) a
! e +
1 e +
SYMMETRICAL
HYBRID
1 2 e +a
Note + =
16th note
31
1 2 e +
Note + = 8th note
34
A King Infl
1 e+ (1e+)
1 2 e +
37
1e+ 2e +
1e2e+a
Like This Bit
****
HYBRID
1 2e+ a)
By virtue of first 2 notes it could also
be considered as
Symmetrical
1 e+ (1 e+)
1e + a 3
39
1 2 e +a
ALT 1 2e 3
+ = 8th note
1 e 2e+a
(1e+)(2e+)
1e + 2 e+
HYBRID
1e 2 3
(1e+)(1e+)
1 2 e (+)
1 2 +a
1 2 e+a
1(e2e+a
or
1 e2e +
where + = 8th
42
1e+
1e +
1 e 2 e+a
1 e +
2 e +
1 e + 2 e+
1 e+a 3
44
1 (e +)
2e +
GOOD
1 2 3
1 e +a 3 e
SYMMETRIC
1 2 3 e
1 e+1e+
HYBRID
1 2 e +
Like It
BETTER
Difficult
1 e2e + a
1 (e + a) 3 e
46
1 (e+
1 e +
1 e 2 3
1 2 3 e
1 2e + a
1 e 2 e + a
3
(1e+)(1e+)
1 (e+)
1e + 1e +
1(e+)(1e +) (1e+)



NOTE Brackets used have no Musical Value
They are simply to draw your attention to which parts of
the Count fit the notes to which they apply so if
you encounter 1e (+a) just count as 1 e+a



As a GENERAL RULE You would start any count with either a sixteenth 1/16th count
of 1 e + a or (1e+) depending on wether the first 3 or 4 notes are either an odd number or an even number.
If odd you would be best to start with the (1e+)method. 0r even use the (1 e + a) count. If the first note is an 8th note then finish off the count with a 2 e + a count. If the 2nd beat resolves to a full 8th note a further short cut you could use is a 2 (+a).

So if the first 2 or 3 notes add up to a dotted 1/8th use the (1e+) because the rest of the phrase will be SYMMETRICAL
equivalent to a dotted 8th note or 3 x 16th notes.
HOWEVER if the first 2 or 3 notes do not resolve
to a dotted 1/8th note then use the (1 e+a) method.

At the end of Bar 45 shows 2 methods useful for counting PHRASES where the beginning starts with a 16th note.
Where a 16th note is followed by a dotted 8th note (3 x 16ths notes) then a further shortcut can be used of a (e + a).
This phrase cannot be summed to dotted 8th sp the SYMMETRICAL ! e + (1e+) method cannot be used.
so this introduces a new shortcut method that can be commonly used when the phrase begins with an 8th note followed by a dotted 8th and finally summing to an 8th or equivalent.