

Paul Revere's Ride

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

(1st and 2nd stanzas)

1 **Listen, my children, and you shall hear**
2 **Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere,**
3 On the eighteenth of April, in Seventy-five;
4 Hardly a man is now alive
5 **Who remembers that famous day and year.**

1 *He said to his friend, "If the British march*
2 **By land or sea from the town to-night,**
3 *Hang a lantern aloft in the belfry arch*
4 **Of the North Church tower as a signal light,--**
5 One if by land, and two if by sea;
6 And I on the opposite shore will be,
7 *Ready to ride and spread the alarm*
8 *Through every Middlesex village and farm,*
9 *For the country folk to be up and to arm.*

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(7th stanza)

1 **Meanwhile, impatient to mount and ride,**
2 **Booted and spurred, with a heavy stride**
3 On the opposite shore walked Paul Revere.
4 **Now he patted his horse's side,**
5 Now he gazed at the landscape far and near,
6 *Then, impetuous, stamped the earth,*
7 *And turned and tightened his saddle girth;*
8 **But mostly he watched with eager search**
9 **The belfry tower of the Old North Church,**
10 As it rose above the graves on the hill,
11 Lonely and spectral and somber and still.
12 *And lo! as he looks, on the belfry's height*
13 *A glimmer, and then a gleam of light!*
14 **He springs to the saddle, the bridle he turns,**
15 *But lingers and gazes, till full on his sight*
16 **A second lamp in the belfry burns.**



