Paul Revere’s Ride
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

(1st and 2nd stanzas)

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

He said to his friend, “If the British march
By land or sea from the town to-night,
Hang a lantern aloft in the belfry arch
Of the North Church tower as a signal light,—
One if by land, and two if by sea;
And I on the opposite shore will be,
Ready to ride and spread the alarm
Through every Middlesex village and farm,
For the country folk to be up and to arm.
Paul Revere’s Ride

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

(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.**