Exploring Onomatopoeia

As you read the poem, look for examples of onomatopoeia. Indicate the line number where the onomatopoeia occurs, quote the lines themselves, and explain what the word describes and the purpose that the onomatopoeia serves. Think about how the word that poet chooses matches action or item described in the poem.

Line Number	Excerpt	Words	Describes
	Example: Hear the sledges with the bells— Silver bells! What a world of merriment their melody foretells! How they tinkle, tinkle, tinkle, In the icy air of night!	tinkle	The sound of the bells By repeating the word, the poet emphasizes that the bells are ringing several times. "Tinkle" is a happy, positive word that matches the "merriment of their melody." The bells are making a sound that the speaker enjoys.

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