

## ***The WRECK of the EDMUND FITZGERALD*** **(Gordon Lightfoot)**

THE LEGEND LIVES ON FROM THE CHIPPEWA ON DOWN ... OF THE BIG LAKE THEY CALL GITCHE GUMI  
SUPERIOR, IT'S SAID, NEVER GIVES UP HER DEAD ... WHEN THE SKIES OF NOVEMBER TURN GLOOMY

WITH A LOAD OF IRON ORE - 26,000 TONS MORE ... THAN THE EF WEIGHED EMPTY  
THAT GOOD SHIP AND TRUE WAS A BONE TO BE CHEWED ... WHEN THE GALES OF NOVEMBER CAME EARLY

*OH SAY A PRAYER / FOR THE MEN OF THE EDMUND FITZGERALD*

THE SHIP WAS THE PRIDE OF THE AMERICAN SIDE ... LOADED DEEP AT A MILL IN WISCONSIN  
AS THE BIG FREIGHTERS GO IT WAS BIGGER THAN MOST ... WITH A CREW AND A CAPTAIN WELL-SEASONED  
ON GOOD VOYAGE TERMS WITH A COUPLE OF STEEL FIRMS ... FOR THE PORT OF DETROIT SHE WAS STEERING  
BUT LATER THAT NIGHT WHEN THE SHIP'S BELL RANG TWICE ... COULD IT BE THE NORTH WIND SHE WAS  
FEELING?

THE WIND IN THE WIRES MADE A TATTLETALE SOUND ... AND THE WAVES TOOK A PIECE OF HER RAILING  
THEN EVERY MAN KNEW, AS THE CAPTAIN DID, TOO ... 'T WAS THE WITCH OF NOVEMBER COME A-STEALING

THE SKY WAS LIKE SLATE AND THE BREAKFAST WAS LATE ... AS THE GALES OF NOVEMBER CAME SLASHIN'  
WHEN AFTERNOON CAME IT WAS ALL FREEZING RAIN ... IN THE FACE OF A HURRICANE WEST WIND

WHEN SUPPER TIME CAME THE OLD COOK CAME ON DECK ... SAYING "FELLAS, IT'S TOO ROUGH TO FEED YA!"  
AT SEVEN P.M. THE MAIN HATCHWAY GAVE IN .. HE SAID "FELLAS, IT'S BEEN GOOD TO KNOW YA!"

THE CAPTAIN THEN KNEW THAT THE WAVES HAD SMASHED THRU ... AND THE GOOD SHIP WAS SURELY IN PERIL  
AND WHEN LATER HER LIGHTS WERE NO LONGER IN SIGHT ... ' TWAS THE END OF THE EF

DOES ANYONE KNOW WHERE THE LOVE OF GOD GOES ... WHEN THE WAVES TURN THE MINUTES TO HOURS?  
THE SEARCHERS ALL SAY SHE'D HAVE MADE WHITEFISH BAY ... IF THEY'D PUT FIFTEEN MORE MILES BEHIND  
HER

SHE MIGHT HAVE SPLIT UP OR SHE MIGHT HAVE CAPSIZED ... AS SHE PLOUGHED THRU THE FURIOUS WATERS  
NOW ALL THAT REMAINS ARE THE FACES AND THE NAMES ... FOR THE WIVES AND THE SONS AND THE  
DAUGHTERS

LAKE HURON ROLLS ON AND SUPERIOR SINGS ... IN THE ROOMS OF ITS ICE-WATER MANSIONS  
OLD MICHIGAN STEAMS LIKE A YOUNG MAN'S DREAMS ... ITS ISLANDS AND BAYS ARE FOR SPORTSMEN

AND FARTHER BELOW LAKE ONTARIO ... TAKES IN WHAT LAKE ERIE CAN SEND HER  
AS THE IRON BOATS GO, THE LAKE MARINERS KNOW ... TO BEWARE OF THE GALES OF NOVEMBER

ON A COLD WINTER DAY MANY GATHERED TO PRAY ... IN THE MARITIME SAILORS' CATHEDRAL  
THE CHURCH BELL IT CHIMED AND RANG 29 TIMES ... FOR EACH MAN ON THE EF

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