# Great Lakes Song

Shel Silverstein, Pat Dailey 1990



**INSTRUMENTAL INTRO: / 1 2 / 1 2 /**

**[C]** Freshwater **[C]** highway **[Am]** coming down from **[Am]** Canada

**[F]** All around the **[F]** shoreline **[G]** you can hear them **[C]** sing **[G]**

The **[C]** Great Lakes are a diamond on the **[Am]** hand of North America

A **[F]** brightly shining jewel on the **[G]** friendship border ring

**[C]** Freshwater highway **[Am]** coming down from Canada

**[F]** All around the shoreline **[G]** you can hear them **[C]** sing **[G]**

**CHORUS:**

**[C]** Sweet Mother Michigan **[Am]** Father Superior

**[F]** Coming down from Mackinac and **[G]** Sault Ste. Marie

**[C]** Blue water Huron flow **[Am]** down to Lake Erie-o

**[F]** Fall into Ontario and **[G]** run on out to **[C]** sea **[G]**

**[C]** Hardy are the seamen on the **[Am]** ships that load the iron ore

**[F]** Sailing out of Thunder Bay and **[G]** bound for Buffalo

**[C]** Hardy are the fishermen just **[Am]** like their fathers were before

They **[F]** say they’ll bury me at sea **[G]** come my time to **[C]** go **[G]**

**CHORUS:**

**[C]** Sweet Mother Michigan **[Am]** Father Superior

**[F]** Coming down from Mackinac and **[G]** Sault Ste. Marie

**[C]** Blue water Huron flow **[Am]** down to Lake Erie-o

**[F]** Fall into Ontario and **[G]** run on out to **[C]** sea **[G]**

**[C]** Oh, the tales the sailors spin of **[Am]** mermaids singing in the wind

The **[F]** sinking of the Bessemer, the **[G]** drowning of the crew

**[C]** Memories of waters crossed, of **[Am]** women won and fortunes lost

Are **[F]** etched upon their faces and their **[G]** faded old tat-**[C]**toos **/ [C]↓[G]↓ /**

**[Am]↓** Down below the quarterdecks, the **[F]↓** old men mend the fishing nets

And **[C]** up above, the windy bridge, the **[G]** young men curse into the wind

**[Am]↓** All along the Windsor Straits, the **[F]↓** wives, the mothers, lie awake

And **[C]** pray Our Lady of the Lake will **[G]** send them home a-**[G]**gain **/ [G] / [G]**

**CHORUS:**

Singing **[C]** sweet Mother Michigan **[Am]** Father Superior

**[F]** Coming down from Mackinac and **[G]** Sault Ste. Marie

**[C]** Blue water Huron flow **[Am]** down to Lake Erie-o

**[F]** Fall into Ontario and **[G]** run on out to **[C]** sea **[G]**

**[C]** Sweet Mother Michigan **[Am]** Father Superior

**[F]** Coming down from Mackinac and **[G]** Sault Ste. Marie

**[C]** Blue water Huron flow **[Am]** down to Lake Erie-o

**[F]** Fall into Ontario and **[G]** run on out to **/** **[Am]** se-**/[Am]**-e-e-**/[F]**ea **/**

**[F]** Run on out to **[C]** sea **[C] / [C] / [C]↓[G]↓[C]↓**



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