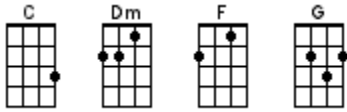


# The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald

Gordon Lightfoot 1976



**6/8 TIME means / 1 2 3 4 5 6 / or**  
**/ 1 2 /**

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

**[G] / [Dm] / [F][C] / [G] / [G]**

The **[G]** legend lives on from the **[Dm]** Chippewa on down  
Of the **[F]** big lake they **[C]** called Gitche **[G]** Gumee **[G]**  
The **[G]** lake, it is said, never **[Dm]** gives up her dead  
When the **[F]** skies of No-**[C]**vember turn **[G]** gloomy **[G]**

With a **[G]** load of iron ore twenty-six **[Dm]** thousand tons more  
Than the **[F]** Edmund Fitz-**[C]**gerald weighed **[G]** empty **[G]**  
That **[G]** good ship and true, was a **[Dm]** bone to be chewed  
When the **[F]** gales of No-**[C]**vember came **[G]** early **[G]**

The **[G]** ship was the pride of the A-**[Dm]**merican side  
Comin' **[F]** back from some **[C]** mill in Wis-**[G]**consin  
As the **[G]** big freighters go, it was **[Dm]** bigger than most  
With a **[F]** crew and good **[C]** captain well-**[G]**seasoned

Con-**[G]**cludin' some terms with a **[Dm]** couple of steel firms  
When they **[F]** left fully **[C]** loaded for **[G]** Cleveland  
And **[G]** later that night when the **[Dm]** ship's bell rang  
Could it **[F]** be the north **[C]** wind they'd been **[G]** feelin'?

**[G] / [Dm] / [F][C] / [G] / [G]**

The **[G]** wind in the wires made a **[Dm]** tattle-tale sound  
When the **[F]** wave broke **[C]** over the **[G]** railin' **[G]**  
And **[G]** every man knew, as the **[Dm]** captain did too  
'Twas the **[F]** witch of No-**[C]**vember come **[G]** stealin' **[G]**

The **[G]** dawn came late and the **[Dm]** breakfast had to wait  
When the **[F]** gales of No-**[C]**vember came **[G]** slashin'  
When **[G]** afternoon came it was **[Dm]** freezin' rain  
In the **[F]** face of a **[C]** hurricane **[G]** west wind

**[G] / [Dm] / [F][C] / [G] / [G]**

When **[G]** suppertime came, the old **[Dm]** cook came on deck sayin'  
**[F]** "Fellas, it's **[C]** too rough to **[G]** feed ya" **[G]**  
At **[G]** seven p.m. a main **[Dm]** hatchway caved in, he said  
**[F]** "Fellas, it's **[C]** been good to **[G]** know ya" **[G]**

The **[G]** captain wired in he had **[Dm]** water comin' in  
And the **[F]** good ship and **[C]** crew was in **[G]** peril  
And **[G]** later that night when his **[Dm]** lights went out o' sight  
Came the **[F]** wreck of the **[C]** Edmund Fitz-**[G]**gerald

**[G] / [Dm] / [F][C] / [G] / [G]**

Does **[G]** anyone know where the **[Dm]** love of God goes  
When the **[F]** waves turn the **[C]** minutes to **[G]** hours? **[G]**  
The **[G]** searchers all say they'd have **[Dm]** made Whitefish Bay  
If they'd **[F]** put fifteen **[C]** more miles be-**[G]**hind her **[G]**

They **[G]** might have split up or they **[Dm]** might have capsized  
They **[F]** may have broke **[C]** deep and took **[G]** water  
And **[G]** all that remains is the **[Dm]** faces and the names  
Of the **[F]** wives and the **[C]** sons and the **[G]** daughters

**[G] / [Dm] / [F][C] / [G] / [G] /**

**[G]** Lake Huron rolls, Su-**[Dm]**perior sings  
In the **[F]** rooms of her **[C]** ice-water **[G]** mansion  
Old **[G]** Michigan steams like a **[Dm]** young man's dreams  
The **[F]** islands and **[C]** bays are for **[G]** sportsmen **[G]**

And **[G]** farther below Lake On-**[Dm]**tario  
Takes **[F]** in what Lake **[C]** Erie can **[G]** send her  
And the **[G]** iron boats go as the **[Dm]** mariners all know  
With the **[F]** gales of No-**[C]**vember re-**[G]**membered

**[G] / [Dm] / [F][C] / [G] / [G]**

In a **[G]** musty old hall in De-**[Dm]**troit they prayed  
In the **[F]** Maritime **[C]** Sailors' Ca-**[G]**thedral **[G]**  
The **[G]** church bell chimed 'til it rang **[Dm]** twenty-nine times  
For each **[F]** man on the **[C]** Edmund Fitz-**[G]**gerald **[G]**

The **[G]** legend lives on from the **[Dm]** Chippewa on down  
Of the **[F]** big lake they **[C]** call Gitche **[G]** Gumee **[G]**  
Su-**[G]**perior, they said, never **[Dm]** gives up her dead  
When the **[F]** gales of No-**[C]**vember come **[G]** early

**[G] / [Dm] / [F][C] / [G] / [G]↓**

