The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald

Gordon Lightfoot 1976

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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

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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

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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] / [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

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

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