# Mighty Fitz: The Sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald

In the cold, unforgiving waters of Lake Superior, a tragedy unfolded on November 10, 1975, that would forever etch the name of the Edmund Fitzgerald in maritime history. The "Mighty Fitz," as she was affectionately known, was a behemoth of a ship, the largest ore carrier on the Great Lakes, capable of hauling a staggering 26,000 tons of iron ore.



#### Mighty Fitz: The Sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald

by Michael Schumacher

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 4.7 out of 5 Language : English File size : 911 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled : Enabled X-Ray Word Wise : Enabled Lending : Enabled Print length : 258 pages



The story of the Edmund Fitzgerald is a tale of human resilience, technological hubris, and the relentless power of nature. On that fateful day, the ship set sail from Superior, Wisconsin, bound for Detroit, Michigan, with a full load of taconite pellets. As the Fitz steamed across the lake, a fierce storm was brewing, bringing with it howling winds, towering waves, and blinding snow.

As the storm intensified, the Fitz encountered heavy seas and began to take on water. The crew fought valiantly to save their ship, but the relentless pounding of the waves proved too much. At 7:10 PM, the Edmund Fitzgerald disappeared from radar screens, vanishing without a trace. All 29 crew members perished in the icy depths of Lake Superior.

The sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald sent shockwaves through the maritime community and beyond. The loss of such a massive ship and so many lives was a tragedy that shook the nation. In the aftermath of the disaster, numerous investigations were launched to determine the cause of the sinking. However, despite extensive research and speculation, the exact sequence of events that led to the Fitz's demise remains a mystery.

Over the years, the story of the Edmund Fitzgerald has been immortalized in song, literature, and film. Gordon Lightfoot's haunting ballad, "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald," has become an iconic tribute to the lost ship and her crew. The disaster has also been the subject of numerous documentaries and books, including Michael Schumacher's acclaimed "Mighty Fitz: The Sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald."

In his meticulously researched book, Schumacher delves deep into the events surrounding the sinking of the Fitz. He examines the ship's design, construction, and maintenance, as well as the weather conditions on the day of the disaster. Schumacher also explores the heroic efforts of the rescue crews who responded to the Fitz's distress calls, and he interviews survivors and family members to provide a deeply personal account of the tragedy.

Mighty Fitz is a gripping and unforgettable account of one of the most infamous maritime disasters in American history. Schumacher's masterful storytelling and meticulous research bring the events of that fateful night vividly to life, offering a haunting reminder of the fragility of human life in the face of nature's fury.

The sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald is a story that continues to fascinate and intrigue to this day. It is a tale of tragedy, heroism, and the enduring power of the human spirit. Mighty Fitz is the definitive account of this iconic maritime disaster, a must-read for anyone interested in shipwrecks, Great Lakes history, or the enduring allure of the unknown.



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