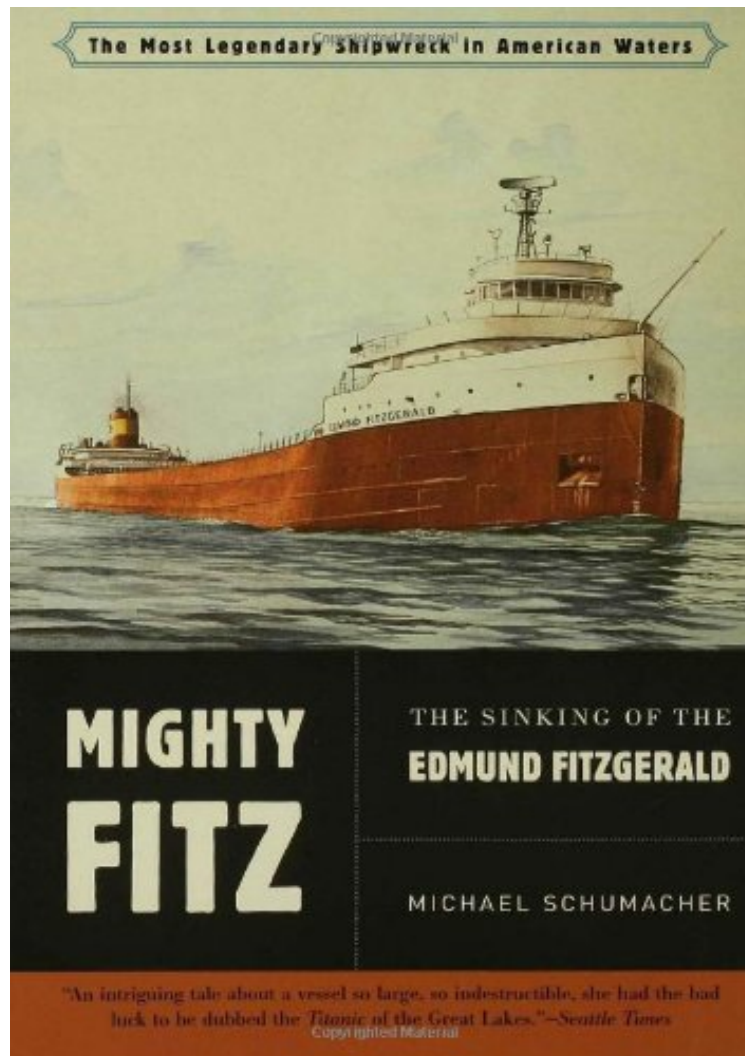


[Mobile book] Mighty Fitz: The Sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald

Mighty Fitz: The Sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald

Michael Schumacher

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Michael Schumacher : Mighty Fitz: The Sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mighty Fitz: The Sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great read for the Fitz enthusiast, good read, regardlessBy RYAN R.I was a year and 72 days old when the Titanic of the GL sunk, and grade school in the early 80s when I heard Gordon Lightfoot's song. I've had interest in the story since. Mighty Fitz is the only book I've read on the topic and the detail Schumacher goes into almost makes you feel as if you're onboard during the tragic final run. Reading about the sinking gave me an eerie feeling. The book gives you several conclusions from those who were both there as well as those who investigated, and explored, as to what may have happened, but it's likely to stay a mystery to all but God. Regardless if you're a Fitz buff, Mighty Fitz is a good, somewhat haunting read. It gives you a good idea of the terror

both the Fitz and the Arthur M. Anderson's crew must've endured 11-10-75.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The most famous shipwreck in Great Lakes historyBy NateEven to this day, with no survivors and limited radio and visual contact with the trailing freighter, there is debate on whether the Fitz broke apart on the surface, upon hitting the bottom, and who/what was responsible for her sinking. Was it weather alone (a rogue wave perhaps), the design, the captain, the fact that she was overloaded (certainly she was over the limit she was initially designed for) and were the hatches compromised by 'green' water, did she bottom out in the shoals of eastern Lake Superior thus compromising her hull? So many unanswered questions. The families of 29 sailors endured the pain of losing their fathers, brothers, sons and friends for almost 40 yrs. No bodies were ever recovered, no survivors to tell the tale. If you read this book, be sure to listen to Gordon Lightfoot's spine-chilling "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald"..."When supertime came, the old cook came on deckSayin' "Fellas, it's too rough to feed ya"At seven PM a main hatchway caved inHe said, "Fellas, it's been good to know ya"The captain wired in he had water comin' inAnd the good ship and crew was in perilAnd later that night when his lights went out of sightCame the wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald"0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Truly AstoundingBy Rick KeanIt's a good, solid history of the ship and the region. Having grown up in Northern Ohio, with a father who regularly took me with him when he visited many of the large "ore boats" as part of his job with Mobil, I could relate to most of the towns and ports that were part of the story. Having worked one summer as a deckhand for the Columbia Steamship Division of Ogelsbay Norton (the same company as owned the SS Edmund Fitzgerald -- on the SS Crispin Ogelsbay), I could relate to the ships as well. Having taken one long voyage from Detroit to Green Bay, WI in the midst of a summer storm on Lake Superior, I can attest to the mammoth power of that freshwater lake that is larger, deeper and more ferocious than many saltwater seas.Yet the idea that a gargantuan vessel like the Mighty Fitz could have been driven under and broken up by wave action is truly astounding.

The tragic story of the most legendary shipwreck on America's inland waters.

From Publishers WeeklyIn honor of the 30th anniversary of the sinking of the Great Lakes ore carrier Edmund Fitzgerald, an event given lasting fame by singer Gordon Lightfoot's "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald," Schumacher recreates both the ship's final trip and the controversies that later eddied about the wreck's cause and the ultimate disposition of ship relics. Schumacher, biographer of Eric Clapton, Francis Ford Coppola and Allen Ginsberg, has also produced 25 documentaries about Great Lakes shipwrecksan indication of his passion. Even as he dissects the rancorous disputes that arose among family members of the dead, historians and others seeking to either memorialize or exploit the shipwreck, Schumacher never fails to bring a sympathetic and knowledgeable view of the story, as well as great respect to the memory of the 29 crew members who died. Although some of the literary devices he employs are formulaicthe high school student being called from class to learn of the death of her father, for exampleSchumacher, aided by his encyclopedic knowledge of Great Lakes shipwrecks and his abiding interest in telling an accurate, unsensationalized story makes them work in a rewarding narrative. (Nov.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.From BooklistSchumacher has previously written about popular music, which, given that his subject here owes its fame to a hit Gordon Lightfoot song, seems entirely appropriate. Schumacher chronicles theEdmund Fitzgerald from its 1958 launching as the largest freighter on the Great Lakes to its 1975 sinking, memorialized by the song. He emphasizes that while the sinking was sudden, the freighter had already severely flooded, and the real mystery is the cause of the flooding. He canvases various possibilities (faulty maintenance, leaking hatchways, etc.) in detail, with clarity and sobriety. He does as much, too, in portraits of the crew, assessing the possibility of human error without gratuitous finger-pointing, and he includes moving portraits of the crew's families. Finally, he gives a balanced account of the subsequent discovery and exploration of the wreck, some of which has been so competitive and in such dubious taste that the wreck has been declared a gravesite to which further diving is barred. A thoroughly admirable addition to Great Lakes and general maritime history. Roland GreenCopyright American Library Association. All rights reservedAbout the AuthorMichael Schumacher is the author of six books, including Family Business, Francis Ford Coppola, There but for fortune, Crossroads, and Dharma Lion. He lives in Wisconsin.