

John U. Bacon
THE GALES OF NOVEMBER
The Untold Story of the Edmund Fitzgerald
Narrated by Johnny Heller

On the fiftieth anniversary of the Edmund Fitzgerald's sinking, the bestselling author of *The Great Halifax Explosion* tells the definitive story of the "Mighty Fitz."

For three decades following World War II, the Great Lakes overtook Europe as the epicenter of global economic strength. The region was the beating heart of the world economy, possessing all the power and prestige Silicon Valley does today. And no ship represented the apex of the American Century better than the 729-foot-long *Edmund Fitzgerald*—the biggest, best, and most profitable ship on the Lakes.

But on November 10, 1975, as the "storm of the century" threw 100 mile-per hour winds and 50-foot waves on Lake Superior, the Mighty Fitz found itself at the worst possible place, at the worst possible time. When she sank, she took all 29 men onboard down with her, leaving the tragedy shrouded in mystery for a half century.

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The Gales of November, award-winning journalist John U. Bacon presents the definitive account of the disaster, drawing on more than 100 interviews with the families, friends, and former crewmates of those lost. Bacon explores the vital role Great Lakes shipping played in America's economic boom, the uncommon lives the sailors led, the sinking's most likely causes, and the heartbreaking aftermath for those left behind—"the wives, the sons, and the daughters," as Gordon Lightfoot sang in his unforgettable ballad.

Focused on those directly affected by the tragedy, *The Gales of November* is both an emotional tribute to the lives lost and a propulsive, page-turning narrative history of America's most-mourned maritime disaster.

"John Bacon has done it again! This is another riveting narrative that puts facts on a still-mesmerizing legend. But this is more than getting the details right. Bacon has distilled the essence of the story and rendered a huge monument to those lost and a great gift to the rest of us."
—Ken Burns, filmmaker

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Cover design: Steve Attardo.

Cover art: Every Man Knew, oil on canvas, 24" x 30", by David W. Conklyn.

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Recorded Books, 8400 Corporate Drive, Landover, MD 20785.
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31999 Aurora Road, Solon, OH 44139 USA
Designed in Ohio. Made in China.
www.playaway.com

The Playaway format is recommended for children ages 5 and up.

67962
ISBN 979-8-89974-690-1



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