



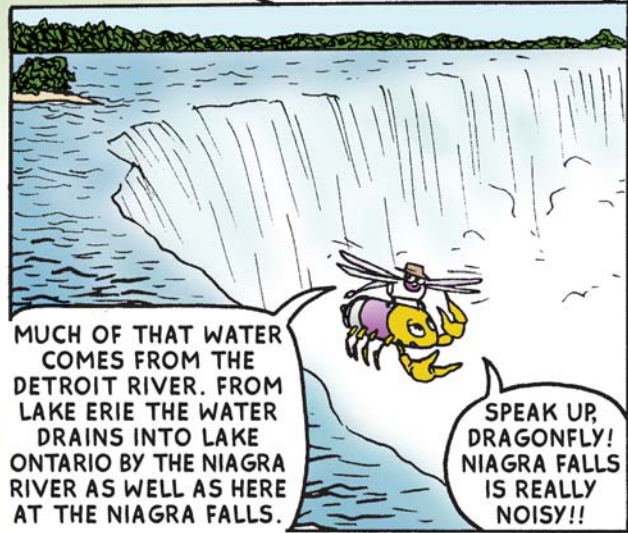
HEY, THIS HUGE AREA IS CALLED THE GREAT LAKES REGION. WHY IS THAT?

THERE ARE FIVE HUGE LAKES IN THIS AREA: LAKE ERIE, LAKE HURON, LAKE MICHIGAN, LAKE ONTARIO, AND LAKE SUPERIOR. THEY FORMED 10,000 YEARS AGO WHEN GLACIERS GOUGED THE LAND AND THE HOLES LATER FILLED WITH GLACIER MELTWATER. THESE LAKES BECAME ANOTHER WATER HIGHWAY FOR SETTLEMENT OF PEOPLE AND TRANSPORTATION OF CARGO. LET'S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT EACH LAKE!



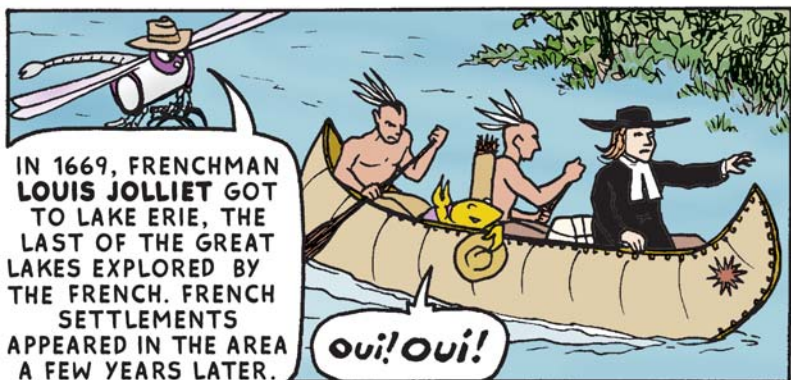
LAKE ERIE IS THE MOST SOUTHERN OF THE FIVE GREAT LAKES BORDERING OHIO, PENNSYLVANIA, NEW YORK, MICHIGAN, AND ONTARIO, CANADA. THIS LAKE WAS NAMED AFTER THE ERIE TRIBE, A GROUP OF NATIVE AMERICANS WHO LIVED ALONG ITS SHORE. IT COVERS MORE THAN 9,000 SQUARE MILES.

WOW, THAT'S SOME BIG LAKE!



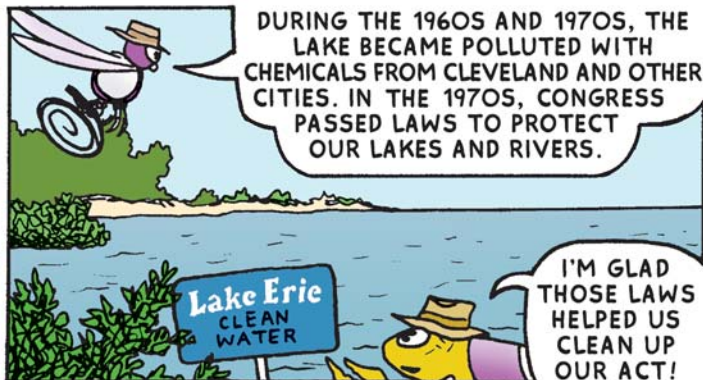
MUCH OF THAT WATER COMES FROM THE DETROIT RIVER. FROM LAKE ERIE THE WATER DRAINS INTO LAKE ONTARIO BY THE NIAGRA RIVER AS WELL AS HERE AT THE NIAGRA FALLS.

SPEAK UP, DRAGONFLY! NIAGRA FALLS IS REALLY NOISY!!



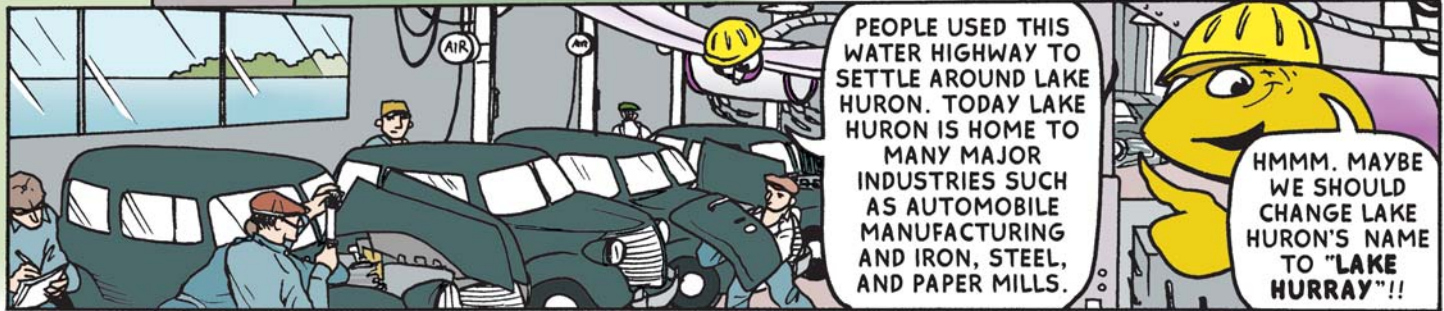
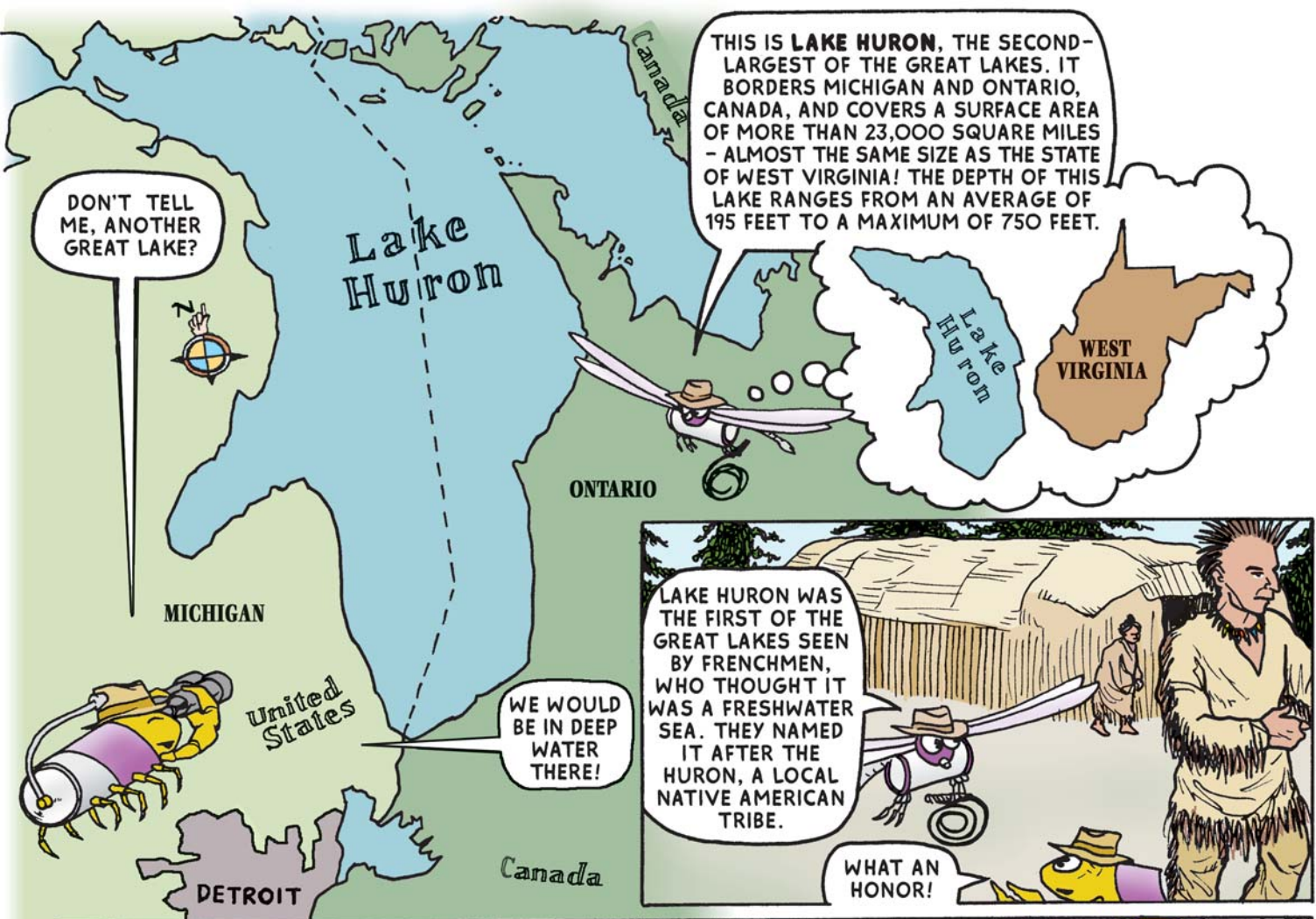
IN 1669, FRENCHMAN LOUIS JOLLIET GOT TO LAKE ERIE, THE LAST OF THE GREAT LAKES EXPLORED BY THE FRENCH. FRENCH SETTLEMENTS APPEARED IN THE AREA A FEW YEARS LATER.


oui! oui!



DURING THE 1960S AND 1970S, THE LAKE BECAME POLLUTED WITH CHEMICALS FROM CLEVELAND AND OTHER CITIES. IN THE 1970S, CONGRESS PASSED LAWS TO PROTECT OUR LAKES AND RIVERS.

I'M GLAD THOSE LAWS HELPED US CLEAN UP OUR ACT!





HEY, THERE 'S CHICAGO! THIS MUST BE LAKE CHICAGO?

GOOD GUESS, SCORPY, BUT THIS IS ACTUALLY **LAKE MICHIGAN** - THE ONLY GREAT LAKE ENTIRELY LOCATED IN THE UNITED STATES. THE WORD MICHIGAN COMES FROM THE NATIVE AMERICAN WORD "MICHIGAMI," WHICH MEANS "GREAT WATER."




LAKE MICHIGAN IS BORDERED BY INDIANA, ILLINOIS, WISCONSIN, AND MICHIGAN. IT IS THE LARGEST FRESHWATER LAKE IN THE UNITED STATES, COVERING MORE THAN 22,300 SQUARE MILES WITH AN AVERAGE DEPTH OF 279 FEET. AT ITS DEEPEST POINT, IT IS MORE THAN 900 FEET DEEP!



LAKE MICHIGAN IS KNOWN FOR ITS BEAUTIFUL BEACHES. THE BEACHES ON THE SOUTHERN AND EASTERN SHORES ARE SANDY AND COVERED WITH DUNES. THE WESTERN AND NORTHERN SHORES ARE ROCKY.

I GUESS THERE'S A BEACH FOR EVERYONE ON LAKE MICHIGAN.



ONCE AGAIN, PEOPLE USED THE LAKE AS A WATER HIGHWAY FOR SETTLEMENT. THERE ARE SEVERAL LARGE CITIES ALONG THE SHORE OF LAKE MICHIGAN: CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, AND MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN. MORE THAN 12 MILLION PEOPLE LIVE ALONG THE SHORES OF LAKE MICHIGAN.

YIKES - I HOPE THEY DON'T ALL GO TO THE BEACHES AT ONCE!

I'D HATE TO FALL OFF THAT DEEP END!



Lake Ontario

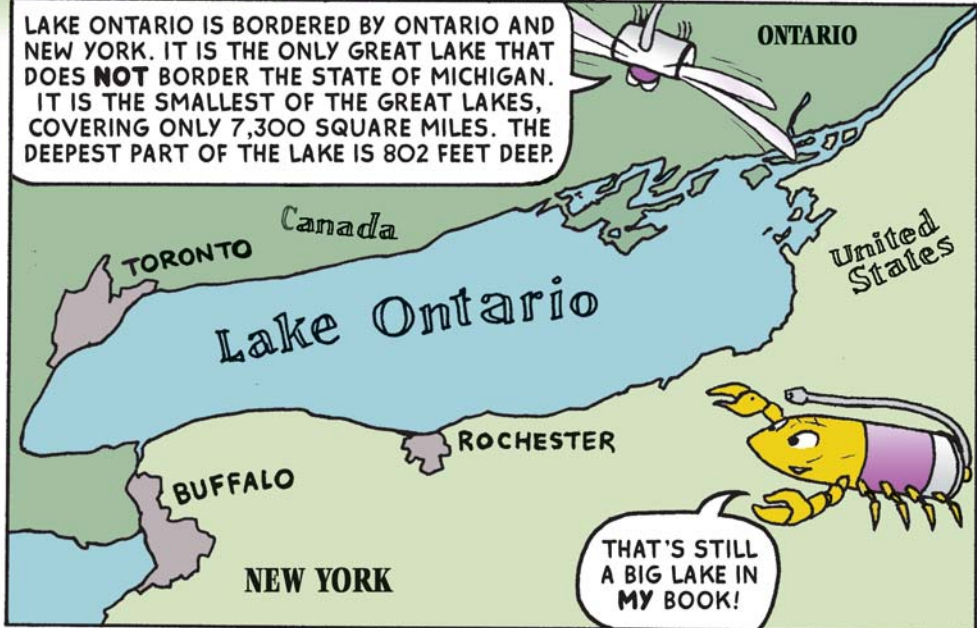
LAKE ONTARIO,
HUH? SOUNDS
CANADIAN TO ME!

CORRECT, SCORPY! THE
CANADIAN PROVINCE ONTARIO
WAS NAMED AFTER LAKE
ONTARIO! THE NAME COMES
FROM THE IROQUOIS INDIAN
WORD MEANING "BEAUTIFUL
LAKE" OR "SPARKLING WATER."



TRADING POSTS WERE
BUILT BY BOTH FRENCH
AND BRITISH SETTLERS
AROUND LAKE ONTARIO.
THE SIGNING OF THE
JAY TREATY IN 1794
GAVE CONTROL OF THE
BRITISH FORTS TO
THE AMERICANS.

U.S.A!
U.S.A!



LAKE ONTARIO IS BORDERED BY ONTARIO AND
NEW YORK. IT IS THE ONLY GREAT LAKE THAT
DOES **NOT** BORDER THE STATE OF MICHIGAN.
IT IS THE SMALLEST OF THE GREAT LAKES,
COVERING ONLY 7,300 SQUARE MILES. THE
DEEPEST PART OF THE LAKE IS 802 FEET DEEP.

ONTARIO

TORONTO

Canada

Lake Ontario

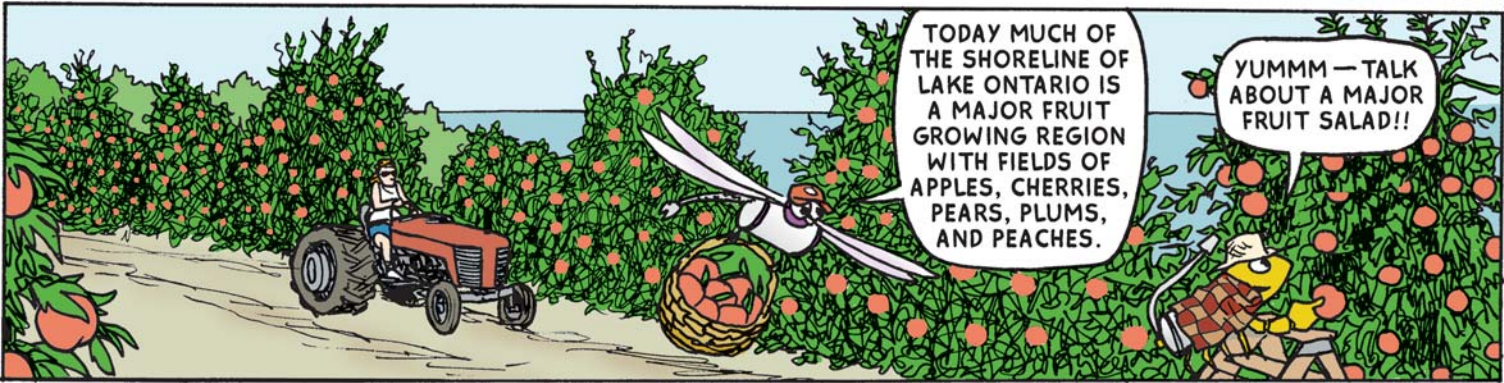
United States

BUFFALO

ROCHESTER

NEW YORK

THAT'S STILL
A BIG LAKE IN
MY BOOK!



TODAY MUCH OF
THE SHORELINE OF
LAKE ONTARIO IS
A MAJOR FRUIT
GROWING REGION
WITH FIELDS OF
APPLES, CHERRIES,
PEARS, PLUMS,
AND PEACHES.

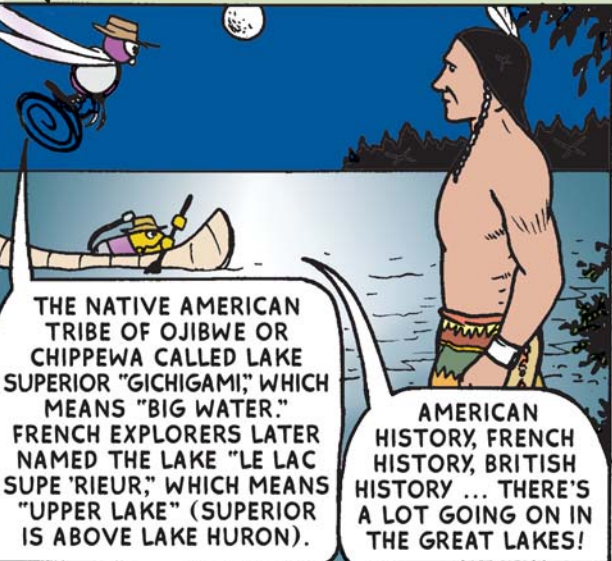
YUMMM - TALK
ABOUT A MAJOR
FRUIT SALAD!!



PHEW! TELL ME THIS IS OUR LAST GREAT LAKE TO LEARN!

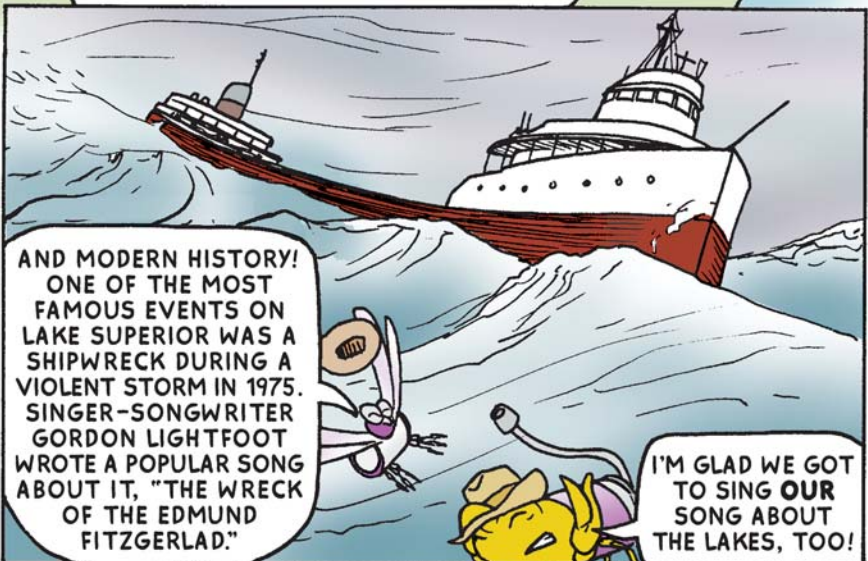
YES, JUST ONE LEFT - LAKE SUPERIOR. IT IS BORDERED BY ONTARIO, MINNESOTA, WISCONSIN, AND MICHIGAN. IT IS THE LARGEST OF THE GREAT LAKES AND IS THE LARGEST FRESHWATER LAKE IN THE WORLD, COVERING 31,700 SQUARE MILES, WITH AN AVERAGE DEPTH OF 483 FEET. THE DEEPEST PART OF THE LAKE IS 1,332 FEET. LAKE SUPERIOR IS LARGER THAN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA!

SOUNDS SUPERIOR TO ME!



THE NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBE OF OJIBWE OR CHIPPEWA CALLED LAKE SUPERIOR "GICHIGAMI," WHICH MEANS "BIG WATER." FRENCH EXPLORERS LATER NAMED THE LAKE "LE LAC SUPE 'RIEUR," WHICH MEANS "UPPER LAKE" (SUPERIOR IS ABOVE LAKE HURON).

AMERICAN HISTORY, FRENCH HISTORY, BRITISH HISTORY ... THERE'S A LOT GOING ON IN THE GREAT LAKES!



AND MODERN HISTORY! ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS EVENTS ON LAKE SUPERIOR WAS A SHIPWRECK DURING A VIOLENT STORM IN 1975. SINGER-SONGWRITER GORDON LIGHTFOOT WROTE A POPULAR SONG ABOUT IT, "THE WRECK OF THE EDMUND FITZGERLAD."

I'M GLAD WE GOT TO SING OUR SONG ABOUT THE LAKES, TOO!