

Sixteen Tons by Tennessee Ernie Ford (Capo 2nd)

[Intro] Am Am Am Am

[Verse 1]

Am G F E

Some people say a man is made outta mud.

Am G F E

A poor man's made outta muscle 'n blood.

Am G Dm7 F

Muscle an' blood an' skin an' bones...

Am Am E Am

A mind that's weak and a back that's strong.

[Chorus]

Am G F E

You load sixteen tons... whadaya get?

Am G F E

Another day older an' deeper in debt.

Am G Dm7 F

Saint Peter doncha call me 'cause I can't go...

Am Am E Am Am*

I owe my soul to the company store.

[Verse 2]

Am G F E

I was born one mornin' when the sun didn't shine.

Am G F E

I picked up my shovel and I walked to the mine.

Am G Dm7 F

I loaded sixteen tons of number nine coal...

Am Am E Am

And the straw boss said, "Well, bless my soul!" **Back up to Chorus**

[Verse 3]

Am G F E
I was born one morning it was drizzlin' rain.

Am G F E
Fightin' and trouble are my middle name.

Am G Dm7 F
I was raised in the cane break by an' ol' mama lion...

Am Am E Am
Can't no high-tone woman make me walk the line.

[Chorus]

Am G F E
You load sixteen tons... whadaya get?

Am G F E
Another day older an' deeper in debt.

Am G Dm7 F
Saint Peter doncha call me 'cause I can't go...

Am Am E Am Am*
I owe my soul to the company store. *{repeat line on last chorus & let fade}*

[Verse 4]

Am G F E
If ya see me comin' better step aside.

Am G F E
A lotta men didn't, a lotta men died.

Am G Dm7 F
With one fist of iron, the other of steel.

Am Am E Am
If the right one don' getcha then the left one will. **Back up to Chorus**