

## **Ford Tennessee Ernie "Sixteen Tons"**

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Some people say a man is made out of mud  
A poor man's made out of muscle and blood  
Muscle and blood and skin and bones  
A mind that's weak and a back that's strong

You load sixteen tons what do you get  
Another day older and deeper in debt  
Saint Peter don't you call me 'cause I can't go  
I owe my soul to the company store

I was born one morning when the sun didn't shine  
I picked up my shovel and I walked to the mine  
I loaded sixteen tons of number nine coal  
And the straw boss said well a bless my soul

You load sixteen tons what do you get  
Another day older and deeper in debt  
Saint Peter don't you call me 'cause I can't go  
I owe my soul to the company store

I was born one morning it was drizzling rain

Fighting and trouble are my middle name  
I was raised in the canebreak by an old mama lion  
Ain't no high tone woman make me walk the line

You load sixteen tons what do you get  
Another day older and deeper in debt  
Saint Peter don't you call me 'cause I can't go  
I owe my soul to the company store

If you see me coming better step aside  
A lot of men didn't a lot of men died  
One fist of iron the other of steel  
If the right one don't get you then the left one will

You load sixteen tons what do you get  
Another day older and deeper in debt  
Saint Peter don't you call me 'cause I can't go  
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