

# Sixteen Tons

artist:Tennessee Ernie Ford , writer:Merle Travis

Tennessee Ernie Ford - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3I15\\_KUsOzs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3I15_KUsOzs) sorta with capo on 2

[Dm] Do do do do [A7] do do do [Dm] do

Some [Dm] people say a [F] man is [Bb7] made out of [A7] mud,  
a [Dm] poor man's [F] made out of [Bb7] muscle and [A7] blood.  
[Dm] Muscle and blood and [Gm] skin and bones,  
a [Dm] mind that's weak and a [A] back that's [A7] strong

You load [Dm] sixteen [F] tons and [Bb7] what do you [A7] get?  
An [Dm] other day [F] older and [Bb7] deeper in [A7] debt  
St. [Dm] Peter, don't you call me 'cause [Gm] I can't go.  
I [Dm] owe my soul to the [A7] company's [Dm] store.

Well, [Dm] I was born one [F] morning [Bb7] when the sun didn't [A7] shine,  
I [Dm] picked up my [F] shovel and [Bb7] walked to the [A7] mine  
I [Dm] loaded sixteen tons of [Gm] number nine coal,  
and the [Dm] straw boss said, "Well, [A] bless my [A7] soul!"

You load [Dm] sixteen [F] tons and [Bb7] what do you [A7] get?  
An [Dm] other day [F] older and [Bb7] deeper in [A7] debt  
St. [Dm] Peter, don't you call me 'cause [Gm] I can't go.  
I [Dm] owe my soul to the [A7] company's [Dm] store.

Well, [Dm] I was born one [F] morning it was [Bb7] drizzlin' [A7] rain,  
[Dm] fightin' and [F] trouble are my [Bb7] middle [A7] name  
I [Dm] was raised in the canebreak by an [Gm] old mamma lion,  
can't no [Dm] high-toned woman make me [A] walk the [A7] line

You load [Dm] sixteen [F] tons and [Bb7] what do you [A7] get?  
An [Dm] other day [F] older and [Bb7] deeper in [A7] debt  
St. [Dm] Peter, don't you call me 'cause [Gm] I can't go.  
I [Dm] owe my soul to the [A7] company's [Dm] store.

If you [Dm] see me [F] comin' [Bb7] better step [A7] aside,  
a [Dm] lot of men [F] didn't and a [Bb7] lot of men [A7] died  
One [Dm] fist of iron and the [Gm] other of steel,  
if the [Dm] right one doesn't get you then the [A] left one [A7] will.

You load [Dm] sixteen [F] tons and [Bb7] what do you [A7] get?  
An [Dm] other day [F] older and [Bb7] deeper in [A7] debt  
St. [Dm] Peter, don't you call me 'cause [Gm] I can't go.  
I [Dm] owe my soul to the [A7] company's [Dm] store.

