

# Sixteen Tons

Key of Dm

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First Note: A (Count: 1 - 2 - 3 - Some)

## Verse 1:

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

## Chorus:

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

## Verse 2:

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

## Chorus:

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

**Verse 3:**

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

**Chorus:**

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

**Verse 4:**

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

**Chorus:**

