

Sixteen Tons

Frankie Laine

Some people says the man's made out of mud
Man's made out of flesh and blood
Flash and blood and skin and bone

A mind that's weak and a back that's strongYou load sixteen tons, so what do you get
Another day older and deeper in debt
So, St. Peter don't you call me 'cause I can't go

I owe my soul to the company storeI was born one morning when the sun didn't shine
Picked up my shovel and I went to the mine
I loaded sixteen ton of number nine coal

The straw-boss said, "God-dog your soul" You load sixteen tons and, now, what do you get
Another day older and deeper in debt
So, St. Peter don't you call me 'cause I can't go

I owe my soul to the company storeI was born one mornin' when it was drizzle in rain
Fightin' and shootin' is my middle name
I was born in a canebreak, raised by my ol' mama hound

No high-tone mama can make me walk the lineI load sixteen tons, so what do you get
Another day older and deeper in debt
So, St. Peter don't you call me 'cause I can't go

I owe my soul to the company storeYou see me comin' you better step aside
A lot of men didn't and a whole lot of them died
One fist of iron and one of steal

The right one don't get you, boy, the left one willSo, load sixteen ton, what do you get
Another day older and deeper in debt
So, St. Peter don't you call me 'cause I can't go
I owe my soul to the company store

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