

# sixteen tons

## Stan Ridgway

Some people say a man is made outta mud  
A-made outta mud an' muscle an' blood  
Muscle an' blood an' skin an' bones

A mind that's weak and a back that's strong You load sixteen tons and whaddya get?  
Another day older and deeper in debt  
Saint Peter, doncha call me, 'cause I can't go

I owe my soul to the company store Well, I was born one night when the sun didn't shine  
I picked up a shovel, I went towards the mine  
I loaded sixteen tons of number nine coal

The straw boss said, "Well, bless my soul!" You load sixteen tons and whaddya get?  
Another day older and deeper in debt  
Saint Peter, doncha call me, 'cause I can't go

I owe my soul to the company store Well, if ya see me comin' better step aside  
A lotta men didn't, a lotta men died  
One fist of iron, the other of steel

And if the right one don' getcha, well, the left one will You load sixteen tons and whaddya get?  
Another day older and deeper in debt  
Saint Peter, doncha call me, 'cause I can't go

I owe my soul to the company store You load sixteen tons and whaddya get?  
Another day older and deeper in debt  
Saint Peter, doncha call me, 'cause I can't go  
I owe my soul to the company store

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