

Am

16 TONS

[Verse 1]

Am **F** **E**
Some people say a man is made outta mud
Am **F** **E**
A poor man's made outta muscle 'n blood...
Am **Dm** **F**
Muscle an' blood an' skin an' bone
Am **E** **Am**
A mind that's weak and a back that's strong

[Chorus]

Am **F** **E**
You load sixteen tons an' whaddya get?
Am **F** **E**
Another day older an' deeper in debt
Am **Dm** **F**
Saint Peter doncha call me 'cause I can't go
Am **E** **Am**
I owe my soul to the company store

[Riff]

[Verse 2]

Am **F** **E**
I was born one mornin' when the sun didn't shine
Am **F** **E**
Picked up my shovel and I walked to the mine
Am **Dm** **F**
Loaded sixteen tons of number nine coal
Am **E** **Am**
And the strawboss said, "Well, bless my soul!"

[Chorus]

Am **F** **E**
You load sixteen tons an' whaddya get?
Am **F** **E**
Another day older an' deeper in debt
Am **Dm** **F**
Saint Peter doncha call me 'cause I can't go
Am **E** **Am**
I owe my soul to the company store

[Riff]

[Verse 3]

Am **F** **E**
 I was born one morning in the drizzlin' rain
Am **F** **E**
 Fightin' and trouble are my middle name
Am **Dm** **F**
 I was raised in the canebreak by an' ol' mama lion
Am **E** **Am**
 Ain't no high-tone woman make me walk the line.

[Chorus]

Am **F** **E**
 You load sixteen tons an' whaddya get?
Am **F** **E**
 Another day older an' deeper in debt
Am **Dm** **F**
 Saint Peter doncha call me 'cause I can't go
Am **E** **Am**
 I owe my soul to the company store

[Riff]

[Verse 4]

Am **F** **E**
 If ya see me comin' better step aside
Am **F** **E**
 A lotta men didn't, a lotta men died
Am **Dm** **F**
 With one fist of iron, the other of steel
Am **E** **Am**
 If the right one don' getcha then the left one will.

[Chorus]

Am **F** **E**
 You load sixteen tons an' whaddya get?
Am **F** **E**
 Another day older an' deeper in debt
Am **Dm** **F**
 Saint Peter doncha call me 'cause I can't go
Am **E** **Am**
 I owe my soul to the company store

[Riff]