

## Sixteen Tons

Hank Thompson

Some people say man is made out of mud  
A poor man's made out of muscle and blood  
Muscle and blood and skin and bone  
A mind that's a-weak and a back that's strong  
You load sixteen tons and what do you get  
Another day older and deeper in debt  
Saint Peter don't you call me 'cause  
I can't go I owe my soul to the company store  
I was born one mornin' when the sun didn't shine  
I picked up my shovel and I walked to the mine  
I loaded sixteen tons of number nine coal  
And the store-boss said the "Well-a bless my soul"  
You load sixteen tons and what do you get  
Another day older and deeper in debt  
Saint Peter don't you call me 'cause  
I can't go I owe my soul to the company store  
I was born one mornin', it was drizzlin' rain  
Fightin' and trouble are my middle name  
I was raised in the cane-brake by an old mama lion  
Cain't no a high-tone woman make me walk the line  
You load sixteen tons and what do you get  
Another day older and deeper in debt  
Saint Peter don't you call me 'cause  
I can't go I owe my soul to the company store  
If you see me comin', better step aside  
A lot of men didn't and a lot of men died  
One fist of iron, the other of steel  
If the right one don't git ya, then the left one will  
You load sixteen tons and what do you get  
Another day older and deeper in debt  
Saint Peter don't you call me 'cause  
I can't go I owe my soul to the company store