

Sixteen Tons - Merle Travis

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Am Dm E
 Some people say a man's made out of mud.
 Am Dm E
 But, a poor man's made out of muscle and blood.
 Am Dm
 Muscle and blood, skin and bones,
 Am E E7
 A mind that's weak and a body that's strong.

CHORUS:

Am Am/G Am/F E Am Am/G Am/F E
 You load sixteen tons and whaddya get? Another day older and deeper in debt.

Am Dm
 Saint Peter don't you call me 'cause I can't go,

Am E Am
 I owe my soul to the company store

I was born one morning when the sun didn't shine,
 Picked up my shovel and walked to the mine.
 I loaded sixteen tons of number nine coal;
 The straw boss said "Well, damn my soul!"

CHORUS:

I was born one morning, it was drizzling rain.
 "Fightin'" and "Trouble" are my middle name.
 I was raised in a cane break by an old mama lion.
 Can't no high-toned woman make me walk the line.

CHORUS:

If you see me comin', you better step aside.
 Another man didn't and another man died.
 I've got a fist full of iron and a fist full of steel.
 If the left one don't get you, well, the right one will.

CHORUS: