

16 Tons

Tom Jones

Note to play in the same key as the recording you have to drop a whole tone down... DGCFAD

The chords are relative to that open position, so Am is played X03320, although it is actually a Gm

Intro

=====

Am /G F E

Am /G F E

Verse 1

=====

Am /G F E  
Some people say a man is made out of mud  
Am /G F E  
A poor man s made outta muscle and blood...  
Am C Dm F  
Muscle and blood skin and bone  
Am E Am E  
A mind that s a-weak and a back that s strong

Chorus 1

=====

Am /G F E  
You load sixteen tons and whaddya get?  
Am /G F E  
A-nother day older and deeper in debt  
Am C Dm F  
Saint Peter dontcha call me cause I can t go  
Am E Am  
I owe my soul to the company store

Verse 2

=====

Am /G F E  
I was born one morning when the sun didn t shine  
Am /G F E

I picked up my shovel and I walked to the mine

**Am C Dm F**

I loaded sixteen tons of number nine coal

**Am E Am**

The strawboss said Well, Bless my soul!

Chorus 2

=====

**Am /G F E**

You load sixteen tons and whaddya get?

**Am /G F E**

A-nother day older and deeper in debt

**Am C Dm F**

Saint Peter dontcha call me cause I can t go

**Am E Am**

I owe my soul to the company store

Verse 3

=====

**Am /G F E**

I was born one morning it was drizzling rain

**Am /G F E**

Fighting and trouble are my middle name

**Am C Dm F**

I was raised in the cane-break by an old mama lion

**Am E Am**

Can t no hot-coloured woman make me haunt the line

Chorus 3

=====

**Am /G F E**

You load sixteen tons and whaddya get

**Am /G F E**

A-nother day older and deeper in debt

**Am C Dm F**

Saint Peter dontcha call me cause I, I can t go

**Am E Am**

I owe my soul to the company store

Verse 4 - key change!

=====

**Bbm /Ab Gb F**

If you see me coming better step a-side

**Bbm /Ab Gb F**

A lotta men didn t a lotta men died

**Bbm Db Ebm Gb**  
I got one fist of iron the other of steel  
**Bbm F Bbm**  
If the right one don t get ya then the left one will

Chorus 4  
=====

**Am /G F E**  
You load up sixteen tons and whaddya get  
**Am /G F E**  
A-nother day older and deeper in debt  
**Am C Dm F**  
Saint Peter dontcha call me cause I can t go  
**Am E Am**  
I owe my soul to the company store

-----

I hope I ve done it justice!

Kevin O Brien  
Watford  
England  
May 2011

watfordkev@gmail.com