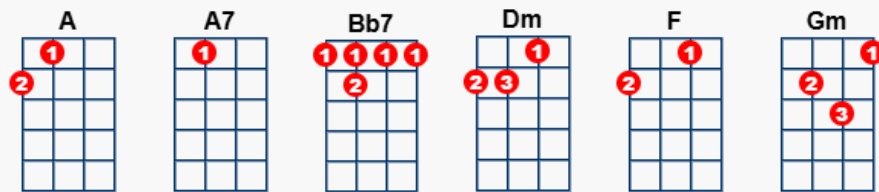


Sixteen Tons – Tennessee Ernie Ford



(Intro) [Dm] Do do do do [A7] do do do [Dm] do

Some [Dm] people say a [F] man is [Bb7] made out of [A7] mud,
A [Dm] poor man's [F] made out of [Bb7] muscle and [A7] blood.
[Dm] Muscle and blood and [Gm] skin and bones,
A [Dm] mind that's weak and a [A] back that's [A7] strong.

*You load [Dm] sixteen [F] tons and [Bb7] what do you [A7] get?
An [Dm] other day [F] older and [Bb7] deeper in [A7] debt.
St. [Dm] Peter, don't you call me cos [Gm] I can't go.
I [Dm] owe my soul to the [A7] company's [Dm] store.*

Well, [Dm] I was born one [F] morning [Bb7] when the sun didn't [A7] shine,
I [Dm] picked up my [F] shovel and [Bb7] walked to the [A7] mine.
I [Dm] loaded sixteen tons of [Gm] number nine coal,
And the [Dm] straw boss said, "Well, [A] bless my [A7] soul!"

*You load [Dm] sixteen [F] tons and [Bb7] what do you [A7] get?
An [Dm] other day [F] older and [Bb7] deeper in [A7] debt.
St. [Dm] Peter, don't you call me cos [Gm] I can't go.
I [Dm] owe my soul to the [A7] company's [Dm] store.*

Well, [Dm] I was born one [F] morning it was [Bb7] drizzlin' [A7] rain,
[Dm] fightin' and [F] trouble are my [Bb7] middle [A7] name.
I [Dm] was raised in the cane-break by an [Gm] old mamma lion,
Can't no [Dm] high-toned woman make me [A] walk the [A7] line.

*You load [Dm] sixteen [F] tons and [Bb7] what do you [A7] get?
An [Dm] other day [F] older and [Bb7] deeper in [A7] debt.
St. [Dm] Peter, don't you call me cos [Gm] I can't go.
I [Dm] owe my soul to the [A7] company's [Dm] store.*

If you [Dm] see me [F] comin' [Bb7] better step [A7] aside,
A [Dm] lot of men [F] didn't and a [Bb7] lot of men [A7] died.
One [Dm] fist of iron and the [Gm] other of steel,
If the [Dm] right one doesn't get you then the [A] left one [A7] will.

*You load [Dm] sixteen [F] tons and [Bb7] what do you [A7] get?
An [Dm] other day [F] older and [Bb7] deeper in [A7] debt.
St. [Dm] Peter, don't you call me cos [Gm] I can't go.
I [Dm] owe my soul to the [A7] company's [Dm] store.*