

SIXTEEN TONS

for S.A.T.B. voices, a cappella*

1/9

*Arranged by
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*Words and Music by
MERLE TRAVIS*

Swing ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 152$) ($\overline{\text{D}\text{D}} = \overline{\text{D}\text{D}}$)

finger snaps through m. 13

SOPRANO *mf*

Du du du du du du du. _____

ALTO *mf*

Du du du du du du du. _____

TENOR *mf*

Du du du du du du du. _____

BASS *mf*

Du du du du du du doom** doom

4

7

Some _____

Some _____

Some _____

BASS

doom doom ba doom doom doom doom doom. _____

sim.

peo-ple say a man is made out - ta mud, a poor man's made out - ta

peo-ple say a man is made out - ta mud, a poor man's made out - ta

peo-ple say a man is made out - ta mud, a poor man's made out - ta

11 doom doom doom doom — ba doom doom doom

mus-cle and blood, mus-cle and blood and skin and bones, a

mus-cle and blood, mus-cle and blood and skin and bones, a

mus-cle and blood, mus-cle and blood and skin and bones, a

doom doom — ba doom doom doom doom du —

finger snaps through m. 22

14 (end finger snaps)

mind that's weak and a back that's strong. You load six - teen tons,

mind that's weak and a back that's strong. You load six - teen tons,

mind that's weak and a back that's strong. You load six - teen tons,

doot

Doom doom

17

18

3/9

wha-da ya get? An - oth - er day old - er and deep - er in debt. Saint

wha-da ya get? An - oth - er day old - er and deep - er in debt. Saint

wha-da ya get? An - oth - er day old - er and deep - er in debt. Saint

doom doom ba doom doom doom doom ba doom

20

(end finger snaps)

Pe - ter, don't 'cha call me 'cuz I can't go. I owe my soul to the

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doom doom doom du doot to the

23

com - pa - ny store. Du du du du du du du

com - pa - ny store. Du du du

com - pa - ny store. Du du du du du du

com - pa - ny store. Du du du

finger snaps through m. 35

4/9

26

28

du oo du oo du oo
doom doom doom doom ba doom doom doom

29

du du du du du doot
I was born one morn- in' when the sun did - n't shine,-
du du du du du doot
doom doom ba doom doom doom doom ba doom

32

du du du du du doot
picked up my shov - el and I walked to the mine, I load - ed
Du du du du du doot
doom doom doom doom doom ba doom

du du du du doot

six - teen tons of num-ber nine coal and the straw boss said, "A well - a

du du du du du doot

doom doom doom du doot "A well - a

opt. BASS SOLO

finger snaps through m. 43

- - - - - You load six - teen tons, wha - da ya get? An -

bless my soul!" You load six - teen tons, wha - da ya get? An -

- - - - - You load six - teen tons, wha - da ya get? An -

bless my soul!" Doom doom doom doom _ ba doom

oth - er day old - er and deep - er in debt. Saint Pe - ter, don't 'cha call me 'cuz

oth - er day old - er and deep - er in debt. Saint Pe - ter, don't 'cha call me 'cuz

8 oth - er day old - er and deep - er in debt. Saint Pe - ter, don't 'cha call me 'cuz

doom doom doom doom _ ba doom doom doom

43

(end finger snaps)

b/g

I can't go. I owe my soul to the com-pa-ny store.

I can't go. I owe my soul to the com-pa-ny store.

I can't go. I owe my soul to the com-pa-ny store.

doom du doot to the com-pa-ny store.

46

Du du du du du du du du oo —

— Du du du du oo —

Du du du du du du du oo —

Du du du doom doom doom doom ba doom
With intensity

50

mf mp

If you see me com-in' bet-ter

mf mp

If you see me com-in' bet-ter

mf mp

If you see me com-in' bet-ter

mp

doom doom doom doom doom doom

54

grad. cresc.

— step a - side,— a lot - ta men did - n't, a
grad. cresc.
 — step a - side,— a lot - ta men did - n't, a
grad. cresc.
 — step a - side,— a lot - ta men did - n't, a
grad. cresc.
doom doom ba doom doom doom

56

lot - ta men died. One fist of iron, the
 lot - ta men died. One fist of iron, the
 lot - ta men died. One fist of iron, the
doom doom ba doom doom doom

58

(end finger snaps)

oth - er of steel. You load
 oth - er of steel. You load
 oth - er of steel. You load
opt. SOLO
doom doom If the right one don't get-'cha then the left one will.

finger snaps through m. 65

61 opt. DESCANT

S. Du du du du

A. six - teen tons, wha - da ya get? An -

T. six - teen tons, wha - da ya get? An -

B. six - teen tons, wha - da ya get? An -

Doom doom doom doom ba doom

63 (rejoin section)

doot du du doot

oth - er day old - er and deep - er in debt. Saint

oth - er day old - er and deep - er in debt. Saint

oth - er day old - er and deep - er in debt. Saint

doom doom doom doom ba doom

65 S.

99

(end finger snaps) **Slowly** *f*

A. Pe - ter, don't 'cha call me 'cuz I can't go. *I*

T. Pe - ter, don't 'cha call me 'cuz I can't go. *I*

B. Pe - ter, don't 'cha call me 'cuz I can't go. *I*

doom *doom* *'cuz* *I can't* *go.* *I*

67

Tempo I *mf*

owe my soul *to the*

finger snaps

70

Slowly *(end finger snaps)* *quick fall-off*

com-pa - ny store. *Du du du du du du du du*

com-pa - ny store. *Du du du du du du du du*

com-pa - ny store. *Du du du du du du du du*

com-pa - ny store. *Du du du du du du du du*