

SIXTEEN TONS

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

Arranged by
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Words and Music by
MERLE TRAVIS

Swing (♩ = ca. 152) (♩♩ = $\overset{\frown}{\text{♩}} \text{♩}$)

finger snaps through m. 13

TENOR
mf
Du du du du du du du du.

BARITONE
mf
Du du du du du du du du.

BASS
mf
Du du du du du du du doom** doom

PIANO
(for rehearsal only)
mf
Swing (♩ = ca. 152) (♩♩ = $\overset{\frown}{\text{♩}} \text{♩}$)

4 7

Some—

Some—

sim.

doom doom — ba doom doom doom doom —

* Also available for S.A.T. B. (41893) and S.A.B. (41894).

** "Doom" - go directly to "m"

8

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

doom doom doom doom _ ba doom doom doom

11

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 _

14

(end finger snaps)

finger snaps through m. 22

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

wha - da ya get? An - oth - er day old - er and

wha - da ya get? An - oth - er day old - er and

doom doom — ba doom doom doom

This system contains measures 17 and 18. It features a vocal melody in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef. The lyrics are: 'wha - da ya get? An - oth - er day old - er and'. The music is in 8/8 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 17 ends with a double bar line, and measure 18 begins with a new line of music.

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

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

doom doom — ba doom doom doom

This system contains measures 19 and 20. The lyrics are: 'deep - er in debt. Saint Pe - ter, don't 'cha call me 'cuz'. The music continues in the same 8/8 time and key signature. Measure 19 ends with a double bar line, and measure 20 begins with a new line of music.

(end finger snaps)

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. —

This system contains measures 21 and 22. The lyrics are: 'I can't go. — I owe my soul to the com - pa - ny store.'. The music continues in the same 8/8 time and key signature. Measure 21 ends with a double bar line, and measure 22 begins with a new line of music. The system concludes with a final double bar line.

24

finger snaps through m. 35

Du du du du du du du du

Du du du du du du du du

Du du du doom doom

27

28

oo

oo

I was

doom doom ba doom doom doom doom doom ba doom

30

du du du du doot

born one morn - in' when the sun did - n't shine,

doom doom doom doom ba doom

du du du du du doot

picked up my shov - el and I walked to the mine, I load - ed

doom doom doom doom ba doom

(end finger snaps)

du du du du doot

six - teen tons of num - ber nine coal and the straw boss said,

opt. SOLO

doom doom doom du doot "A well - a

finger snaps through m. 43

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

40

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

42

Pe - ter, don't 'cha call me 'cuz I can't go. — I
 Pe - ter, don't 'cha call me 'cuz I can't go. — I
 doom doom doom du —

44

(end finger snaps)

owe my soul to the com - pa - ny store. Du du du du
 owe my soul to the com - pa - ny store. Du du du du
 doot to the com - pa - ny store.

finger snaps through m. 58

du du du du oo

Du du du du oo

Du du du doom doom doom doom ba doom

du

50

If you

If you

doom doom doom doom

If you

53

With intensity

see me com-in' bet-ter step a-side, a

see me com-in' bet-ter step a-side, a

doom doom doom doom ba doom

With intensity

55 *grad. cresc.*

lot - ta men did - n't, a lot - ta men died.____

lot - ta men did - n't, a lot - ta men died.____

doom doom doom doom ba doom

grad. cresc.

57

One fist of iron, the oth - er of steel.____

One fist of iron, the oth - er of steel.____

doom doom doom doom If the

opt. SOLO

59 *(end finger snaps)*

You load

You load

right one don't get - 'cha then the left one will.

(end solo)

grad. cresc.

finger snaps through m. 65

61

opt. DESCANT

Du _____ du du du du _____

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

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

B.
Doom doom doom doom _____ ba doom

63

(rejoin section)

_____ doot du 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

doom doom doom doom _____ ba doom

65 T. *(end finger snaps)* **Slowly** *f*

B. 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

Slowly *f*

67 *quick fall-off* **Tempo I** *mf*

owe — my soul to the

owe — my soul 3 to the

owe — my soul 3 to the

Tempo I *mf*

70 *finger snaps* **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

com - pa - ny store. Du du du du

Slowly