

Sixteen Tons

225

For SAB* acapella

Arranged by
Kirby Shaw

Performance time: Approx. 2.05

Words and music by
Merle Travis

Soprano *mf* *Swing* $\text{♩} = 152$
Alto *mf*
Baritone *mf* *Finger snaps* *sim.*

Du du du du du du du du du, du, du, du, du, doom** doom doom, doom, -ba doom

**Doom ... go directly to "m"

Detailed description: This system contains the first four measures of the piece. The Soprano and Alto parts are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The Baritone part is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The tempo is marked 'Swing' with a quarter note equal to 152 beats per minute. The dynamics are marked 'mf' (mezzo-forte). The Soprano and Alto parts have lyrics 'Du du du du du du du du du, du, du, du, du,'. The Baritone part has lyrics 'Du du du du du du du du du, doom** doom doom, doom, -ba doom'. Above the Baritone staff, there are 'x' marks indicating finger snaps. The Baritone part includes a performance instruction: '**Doom ... go directly to "m"'. The piece ends with a fermata over the final note of the Soprano and Alto parts.

S *p*
A *p*
B *sim.* *p*

Some peo-ple say a man is
Some peo-ple say a man is
doom, doom, doom, doom, Doom, doom,

Detailed description: This system contains measures 5 through 8. The Soprano and Alto parts are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Baritone part is in bass clef with the same key signature. The dynamics are marked 'p' (piano) for the vocal lines and 'sim.' (sustained) for the Baritone accompaniment. The Soprano and Alto parts have lyrics 'Some peo-ple say a man is'. The Baritone part has lyrics 'doom, doom, doom, doom, Doom, doom,'. A box labeled 'A' is placed above the Soprano staff in measure 7. The piece ends with a fermata over the final note of the Soprano and Alto parts.

S
A
B

made out - a mud, a poor man's made out - a
made out - a mud, a poor man's made out - a
doom, doom, ba doom doom doom,

Detailed description: This system contains measures 9 through 12. The Soprano and Alto parts are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Baritone part is in bass clef with the same key signature. The lyrics for all parts are 'made out - a mud, a poor man's made out - a'. The Baritone part has lyrics 'doom, doom, ba doom doom doom,'. The piece ends with a fermata over the final note of the Soprano and Alto parts.

11 *end finger snaps*

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

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

B doom, doom, ba doom doom, doom, doom du

14 *knie*

S mind that's weak and a back that's strong. You load

A *knie* mind that's weak and a back that's strong. You load

B *knie* doot.

16 *Finger snaps* *sim.*

S six-teen tons wha-da ya get? An - oth-er day old-er and

A six-teen tons wha-da ya get? An - oth-er day old-er and

B Doom doom, doom, doom ba doom doom, doom,

End finger snaps

19

S
deep-er in debt, Saint Pe-ter, don't 'cha call me 'cuz I can't go, _ I

A
deep-er in debt, Saint Pe-ter, don't 'cha call me 'cuz I can't go, _ I

B
doom, doom, ba doom doom, doom, doom, du, _

22

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

A
owe my soul to the com - pa - ny store. _____

B
doot, To the com - pa - ny store _____

25

Finger snaps *sim.*

S
du du du du _____ a -

A
du du du du _____ a -

B
Du du du doom doom doom doom _ ba doom

28 B *p*

S hoo _____ Du du

A hoo _____ *f* I was born one morn-in' when the

B doom doom doom doom_ ba doom doom doom

31

S du, du _____ du doot, du, du,

A sun did-n't shine _____ picked up my shov-el and I

B doom, doom, _____ ba doom doom, doom,

33

S du, du _____ du doot, du, du

A walked to the mine _____ I load-ed six-teen tons of

B doom, doom, _____ ba doom, doom, doom

35 *End finger snaps*

S du, du doot.

A num - ber nine coal and the straw boss said, "A well - a

B doom, du doot, "A well - a

**Opt. baritone solo*

**Opt. baritone solo*

37 *Finger snaps* *sim.*

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

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

B bless my soul!" Doom, doom, doom, doom_ ba doom

40

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

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

B doom, doom, doom, doom_ ba doom doom, doom,

43 *End finger snaps*

S I can't go_ I owe my soul to the com-pa-ny store

A I can't go_ I owe my soul to the com-pa-ny store

B doom, du_ doot. to the com-pa-ny store

46 *Finger snaps*

S Du du du du du du du du -

A Du du du du

B Du du du doom, doom,

49 *sim.* *f*

S a hoo If

A a hoo If

B doom, doom, ba doom doom, doom, doom, doom_

52 C *mp*

S you see me com-in' bet-ter step a - side a

A you see me com-in' bet-ter step a - side a

B *mp*

Doom, doom doom, doom, ba doom

55 *grad. cresc.*

S lot-a men did-n't a lot-a men died One fist of i-ron the

A *grad. cresc.* lot-a men did-n't a lot-a men died One fist of i-ron the

B *grad. cresc.*

doom, doom, doom, doom ba doom doom doom,

58 *End finger snaps* *Opt. descant
(1-3 voices)*

S oth-er of steel You load

A oth-er of steel *solo (sung or spoken)* You load

B

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

61

S Du du du du
 six-teen tons, wha-da ya get? An other day old-er and

A
 six-teen tons, wha-ga ya get? An - oth-er day old-er and

B
 Doom, doom, doom, doom, ba doom, doom, doom,

64

S Du du du du
 deep-er in dept Saint Pe-ter, don't 'cha call me 'cuz I can't go_ I

A
 deep-er in dept Saint Pe-ter, don't 'cha call me 'cuz I can't go_ I

B
 doom, doom, ba doom doom, doom, 'cuz I can't go_ I

67

S
 owe_ my soul to the

A
 owe_ my soul to the

B
 owe_ my soul to the

70

S
com-pa - ny store Du du du du du du du du

A
com-pa - ny store _____ Du du du du

B
com-pa - ny store _____ Du du du du