My pappy said when I was seventeen you're six feet tall and you r face is clean

And it don't look right for a boy that old to not make a livin' loadin' coal

Loadin' coal loadin' coal I'm a double first cousin to a dad bl amed mole

Never get rich for to save my soul and forty 'leven years a loa din' coal loadin' coal

Ain't never got acquainted with a dollar bill and I don't ever reckon that I ever will

A dollar ain't made for a fellar I'm told that scoops up a livi n' loadin' coal

Loadin' coal loadin' coal...

I cussed everything in the mining camp from a shovel and my pic k to my carbide lamp

But I know mighty well till I grow old I'll still be a cussin' but loadin' coal

Loadin' coal loadin' coal...

I know just as well as coal is black one of these days the mine s were strike

And I'll sit around starvin' till I'm finally told There's a nickel more a ton for loadin' coal Loadin' coal loadin' coal...