

# Cat's in the Cradle Harry Chapin (1974)



[A] [A] My [A] child arrived just the [C] other day  
He [D] came to the world in the [A] usual way  
But there were [A] planes to catch and [C] bills to pay  
He [D] learned to walk while I [A] was away  
And he was [G] talkin' 'fore I knew it and [Em] as he grew  
He'd say [C] I'm gonna [Em] be like [A7] you dad  
You [C] know I'm gonna [Em] be like [A] you

**Chorus:** And the [A] cat's in the cradle and the [G] silver spoon  
[C] Little boy blue and the [D] man in the moon  
[A] When you comin' home dad I [G] don't know when  
But [C] we'll get to-[Em]-gether [A7] then son  
You [C] know we'll have a [Em] good time [A] then

My [A] son turned ten just the [C] other day  
He said [D] Thanks for the ball Dad come [A] on let's play  
[A] Can you teach me to throw I said [C] not today  
I got a [D] lot to do he said [A] that's OK  
And he [G] walked away but his [Em] smile never dimmed  
And said [C] I'm gonna [Em] be like [A7] him yeah  
You [C] know I'm gonna [Em] be like [A] him

## Repeat Chorus

Well he [A] came from college just the [C] other day  
So [D] much like a man I just [A] had to say  
[A] Son I'm proud of you can you [C] sit for a while  
He [D] shook his head and [A] he said with a smile  
What I'd [G] really like Dad is to [Em] borrow the car keys  
[C] See you [Em] later can I [A] have them please

## Repeat Chorus

I've [A] long since retired my [C] son's moved away  
I [D] called him up just the [A] other day  
I said I'd [A] like to see you if [C] you don't mind  
He said I'd [D] love to Dad if I could [A] find the time  
You see my [G] new job's a hassle and the [Em] kids have the flu  
But it's [C] sure nice [Em] talking to [A7] you Dad  
It's been [C] sure nice [Em] talking to [A] you  
And as I [G] hung up the phone it oc-[Em]-curred to me  
He'd [C] grown up [Em] just like [A7] me,  
My [C] boy was [Em] just like [A] me

And the [A] cat's in the cradle and the [G] silver spoon  
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You [F] know I'm gonna [Am] be like [D] you

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