

♩ = 160

Verse

E G A E

4 E G A E

8 D D/C# Bm Bm/A

10 GD/F# E GD/F# E

Cat's in the Cradle

Harry Chapin
Verities & Balderdash (1974)
Capo I

Chorus

14 E D G A

18 E D

20 GD/F# E GD/F# E

E G
My child arrived just the other day
A E
He came into the world in the usual way
G
But there were planes to catch and bills to pay
A E
He learned to walk while I was away
D D/C# Bm Bm/A
And he was talking 'fore I knew it and as he grew
G D/F# E G D/F# E
He said "I'm gonna be like you, dad. You know I'm gonna be like you."

E D A G Bm

2 3 1 1 3 2 1 1 2 2 1 3 1 3 4 2 1

E D
And the cats in the cradle and the silver spoon
G A
Little boy blue and the man in the moon
E D
When ya comin' home, dad/son? I don't know when
G D/F# E G D/F# E
But we'll get together then, son/dad, you know we'll have a good time then

E G
My son turned ten, just the other day
A E
He said, "Thanks for the ball, dad. Come on, lets play.
G
Can you teach me to throw?" I said "Not today
A E
I've got a lot to do." He said, "That's okay."
D D/C# Bm Bm/A
And he walked away but his smile never dimmed
G D/F# E G D/F# E
It said, "I'm gonna be like him, yeah. You know I'm gonna be like him."

E D A G Bm

Mando Chords

1 2 3 1 2 1 2 1 3 3 1 1

CHORUS

Cat's in the Cradle



E G
 He came from college, just the other day,
 A E
 So much like a man, I just had to say,
 G
 "Son, I'm proud of you. Can you sit for a while?"
 A E
 He shook his head and he said with a smile,
 D D/C# Bm Bm/A
 "What I'd really like, dad, is to borrow the car keys.
 G D/F# E
 See you later. Can I have them please?"

CHORUS

E G
 I've long since retired, my son's moved away.
 A E
 I called him up just the other day.
 E G
 I said, "I'd like to see you if you don't mind."
 A E
 He said, "I'd love to, dad, if I could find the time
 D D/C# Bm Bm/A
 You see, my new job's a hassle and the kid's got the flu,
 G D/F# E G D/F# E
 But it's sure nice talking to you, dad. It's been sure nice talking to you."
 D D/C# Bm Bm/A
 And as I hung up the phone, it occurred to me,
 G D/F# E G D/F# E
 He'd grown up just like me. My boy was just like me.

CHORUS

Alt Voicings

E	D	A	Bm	G
2 3 4 1	3 2 1 1	4 1 3 2	3 1 1 1	3 1 2 1