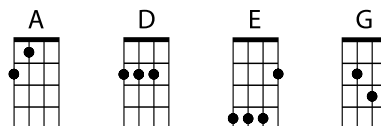


Cat's in the Cradle

Harry Chapin



E G A E
A child arrived just the other day he came into the world in the usual way
E G A E
But there were planes to catch and there were bills to pay, he learned to walk while I was away
D D
He was talking 'fore I knew it and when he could, he said,
G E G E E
"I'm gonna be like you, Dad, you know I'm gonna be like you."

E G D A
And the cats in the cradle and the silver spoon, little boy blue and the man in the moon
E G
When you comin' home Dad, I don't know when
D E G E E
But we'll get together then, yeah, you know we'll have a good time then

E G A E
My son turned ten just the other day, he said, "Thanks for the ball dad, come on, let's play.
E G A E
Can you teach me to throw?," I said "Not today, I got a lot to do," he said "That's OK."
D D
And he walked away but his smile never dimmed, he said
G E G E E
"I'm gonna be like him, yeah, you know I'm gonna be like him." **<Chorus>**

E G A E
Well he came from college just the other day, so much like a man I just had to say:
E G A E
"Son, I'm proud of you, can you sit for a while?" He shook his head and he said with a smile,
D D
"What I'd really like, Dad, is to borrow the car keys.
G E E
See you later, can I have them please?" **<Chorus>**

E G A E E
I've long since retired, my son moved away. I called him up just the other day, I said,
E G A E E
"I'd like to see you, if you don't mind." He said, "I'd love to, Dad, if I could find the time.
D D
You see, my new job's hassle and the kids have the flu,
G E G E E
But it's sure nice talking to you, Dad, it's been sure nice talking to you."
D D
And as I hung up the phone it occurred to me,
G E G E E
He'd grown up just like me. My boy was just like me. **<Chorus>**

Based upon a poem
written by his wife,
Chapin has said this song
"scars him to death."