

CATS IN THE CRADLE

Artist: Harry Chapin

Intro E D E

Verse 1

My child arrived just the other day
But there were planes to catch and bills to pay
And he was talkin' 'fore I knew it
He'd say "I'm gonna be like you Dad"

He came to the world in the usual way
He learned to walk while I was away
And as he grew
You know I'm gonna be like you"

Chorus

And the cat's in the cradle and the silver spoon
When you comin' home Dad
But we'll get together then son

Little boy blue and the man on the moon
I don't know when
You know we'll have a good time then

Verse 2

My son turned ten just the other day, He said
Can you teach me to throw", I said "Not today
And he walked away
And said, "I'm gonna be like him, yeah

"Thanks for the ball, Dad, come on let's play
I got a lot to do", he said, "That's ok"
But his smile never dimmed
You know I'm gonna be like him"

Chorus

And the cat's in the cradle and the silver spoon
When you comin' home Dad
But we'll get together then son

Little boy blue and the man on the moon
I don't know when
You know we'll have a good time then

Verse 3

Well, he came home from college just the other day
"Son, I'm proud of you, can you sit for awhile"
"What I'd really like, Dad
See you later

So much like a man I just had to say
He shook his head and said with a smile
Is to borrow the car keys
Can I have them please

Chorus

And the cat's in the cradle and the silver spoon
When you comin' home Dad
But we'll get together then

Little boy blue and the man on the moon
I don't know when
You know we'll have a good time then

Instrumental C D B_m E

Verse 4

I've long since retired, my son's moved away
I said, "I'd like to see you if you don't mind"
You see my new job's a hassle
But it's sure nice talkin' to you Dad

I called him up just the other day
He said, "I'd love to, Dad, If I can find the time
And the kids have the flu
It's been sure nice talkin' to you"

Bridge

And as I hung up the phone
He'd grown up just like me

It occurred to me
Yeah, my boy was just like me

Chorus

And the cat's in the cradle and the silver spoon
When you comin' home Dad
But we'll get together then

Little boy blue and the man on the moon
I don't know when
You know we'll have a good time then

Outro G

NOTES:

Capo I

Alternate – Capo III

- E = D
- D = C
- G = F
- A = G
- B_m = A_m
- C = B^b

