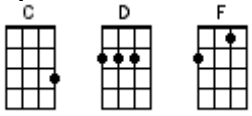
Cat’s in the Cradle v3

Harry Chapin/Cat Stevens 1974



Intro: [D] [G] [D] [D]

Chorus: The **[D]** cat's in the cradle and the **[C]** silver spoon,
Little **[F]** boy blue and the **[D]** man in the moon,
[D] "When you coming home, dad?" **[C]** "I don't know when",
But **[F]** we'll get together **[D]** then,
You **[F]** know we'll have a good time **[D]** then. **[D]**

My **[D]** child arrived just the **[F]** other day,
He **[C]** came to the world in the **[D]** usual way, but there were
[D] planes to catch, **[F]** and bills to pay, he
[C] learned to walk while **[D]** I was away,
And he was **[C]** talking 'fore I knew it, and **[Am]** as he grew,
He'd say **[F]** "I'm gonna be like **[D]** you, dad",
[F] "You know I'm gonna be like **[D]** you".**[D]**

Chorus: The **[D]** cat's in the cradle and the **[C]** silver spoon,
Little **[F]** boy blue and the **[D]** man in the moon,
[D] "When you coming home, dad?" **[C]** "I don't know when",
But **[F]** we'll get together **[D]** then,
You **[F]** know we'll have a good time **[D]** then. **[D]**

My **[D]** son turned ten just the **[F]** other day, he said
[C] thanks for the ball, dad, **[D]** come on let's play, can you **[D]** teach me to throw, I said, **[F]** not today,
I got a **[C]** lot to do, he said, **[D]** that's okay, and he
[C] walked away, but his **[Am]** smile never dimmed,
It said, **[F]** I'm gonna be like **[D]** him, yeah,
[F] You know I'm gonna be like **[D]** him. **[D]**

Chorus: The **[D]** cat's in the cradle and the **[C]** silver spoon,
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[D] "When you coming home, dad?" **[C]** "I don't know when",
But **[F]** we'll get together **[D]** then,
You **[F]** know we'll have a good time **[D]** then. **[D]**

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

I've **[D]** long since retired and my **[F]** son's moved away,
I **[C]** called him up just the **[D]** other day,
I said, **[D]** I'd like to see you if **[F]** you don't mind,
He said, **[C]** I'd love to, dad, if I could **[D]** find the time,
You see, **[C]** my new job's a hassle, and the **[Am]** kids have the flu,
But it's **[F]** sure nice talking to **[D]** you, dad,
It's been **[F]** sure nice talking to **[D]** you, **[D]**
(slow down) And as I **[C]**↓ hung up the phone, it **[Am]**↓ occurred to me,
He'd **[F]**↓ grown up just like **[D]**↓ me,
My **[F]**↓ boy was just like **[D]**↓ me. **[D]**↓

Chorus/Outro: The **[D]** cat's in the cradle and the **[C]** silver spoon,
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[D] "When you coming home, dad?" **[C]** "I don't know when",
But **[F]** we'll get together **[D]** then,
You **[F]** know we'll have a good time **[D]** then. **[D↓↓↓↓]**