

Cat's in the Cradle

Harry Chapin (1974)

[Capo 1st fret]

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

D
And the cat's in the cradle and the silver spoon,
G A
Little boy blue and the man in the moon.
E D
"When you comin' home dad?" "I don't know when,
G Bm E G Bm E
But we'll get together then, you know we'll have a good time then."

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

(Chorus)

G A E
Well he came from college just the other day, so much like a man I just had to say,
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 A/C# Bm G Bm E
"What I'd really like dad is to borrow the car keys; See you later can I have them please?"

(Chorus)

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

(Chorus)