

Harry Chapin - Cats in the Cradle 1/2

For the Intro I play a simple chord melody - (I use an [E-on the 7th fret, a [D-in 1st position), and an [E](1st position). I basically use these three chords with a lot of ornamentation for chord melody (not seen here) - just listen to the original intro to hear the melody & you'll be able to match it with these chords and ornamentation. I don't play this version with a capo since it fits my voice better without one - however use a capo if needed. Almost all of the chords used here are basic first-position chords (unless you want to play them elsewhere). The A/C# Chord is just an "A" Chord with a C# (A-string-4th fret) in the bass.

Here are basic the chord fingerings used:

E-022100 G-320033 A-002220 D-000232

Bm-224432 C-032010

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Harry Chapin - Cats in the Cradle

(Intro)

[E]-7th fret with ornamentation] [D] [E]-first position]

(Verse 1)

My [E] child arrived just the [G] other day, He [A]came to the world in the [E] usual way

But there were [E] planes to catch and [G] bills to pay, He [A] learned to walk while I

was away

And he was [D] talking 'for I [A/C#] knew it, and [Bm] as he grew

He said [G] "I'm gonna [Bm] be like [E]you, dad, you [Bm]know I'm gonna [D]be like [E]you"

(Chorus)

And the [E] cat's in the cradle and the[D] silver spoon,

[G] Little boy blue and the [A] man in the moon

[E] "When you commin' home dad?" "I [D] don't know when,

But [G] we'll get [Bm]together then[E], You [G] know we'll have a [Bm]good time [E]then"

(Verse 2)

My [E] son turned ten just the [G] other day, He said [A] "Thanks for the ball dad, come

on let's play

Can you [E] teach me to throw", I said [G] "Not today I got a [A] lot to do", He said OK"

He [D] walked [A/C#] away but his [Bm] smile never dimmed,

He said [G] I'm gonna [Bm] be like [E] him, yeah, You [Bm] know I'm gonna [D] be like [E]him

(Chorus)

(Intro)

(Verse 3)

Well he [E]came from college just the [G]other day, So [A] much like a man I just
[E]had

say

"Son I'm [E]proud of you can you [G]sit for a while?" He [A]shook his head and he[E]
with a smile,

"What I'd [D]really like [A/C#] dad is to [Bm] borrow the car keys,
[G]See you [Bm] later can I [E]have them please?"

(Chorus)

(Instrumental Bridge)

[C] - [D] - [Bm] - [E] 2X

(Intro)

(Verse 4)

I've [E] long since retired, my [G]son's moved away, [A] I called him up just the [E]
day

I said "I'd [E]like to see you if [G]you don't mind", He said "I'd[A] love to dad if I
the time,

You see the my [D]new job's a[A/C#]hassle and the [Bm]kids have the flu

But it's [G]sure nice [Bm]talkin' to [E]you dad - It's [G]sure nice [Bm]talkin' to[E]
you"

And as I [D]hung up the [A/C#]phone it [Bm]occurred to me,

He'd [G]grown up [Bm]just like [E]me

My [G]boy was[Bm] just like [E]me

(Chorus)

And the [E]cat's in the cradle and the [D]silver spoon, [G]Little boy blue and the
in the moon

[E]"When you commin' home son?" "I [D]don't know when, But [G]we'll get [Bm]together
Dad,

(slowly) . . . We're [G]gonna have a [Bm]good time [E]then"

(END)

Intro Slowly

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