

# CAT'S IN THE CRADLE

Moderately, with a 2 feel  $\text{♩} = 76$

Words and Music by  
HARRY CHAPIN and SANDY CHAPIN

E♭5




*mf*



I. My

Verses 1 & 2:

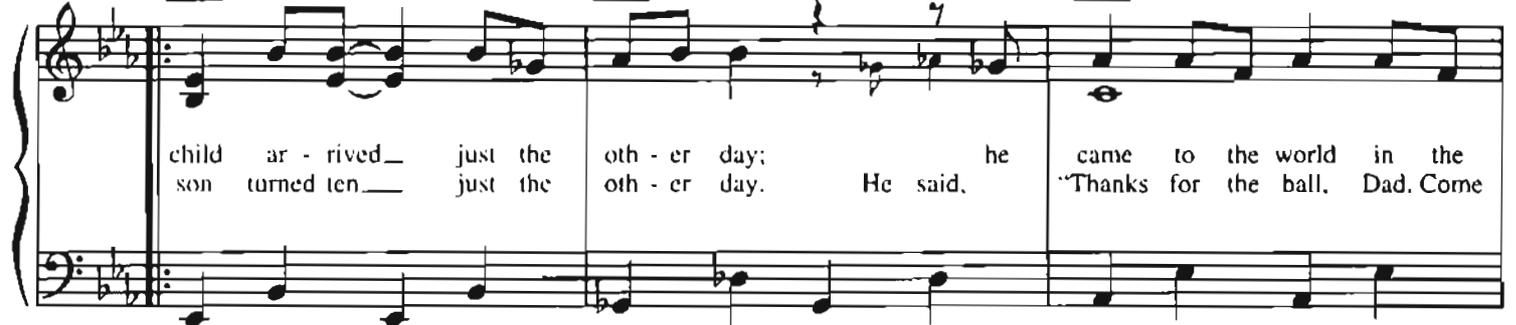
E♭



G♭



A♭

child ar - rived\_ just the oth - er day; he came to the world in the  
son turned ten\_ just the oth - er day. He said, "Thanks for the ball. Dad. Come

E♭



G♭




u - su - al way\_ But there were planes to catch\_ and bills to pay\_  
on, let's play\_ Can you teach me to throw?"\_ I said, "Not to - day\_ I got a

Ab Eb Db Db/C

He learned to walk while I was a - way. And he was talk - in' 'for I knew it. And his  
 lot to do." He said, "That's o - kay." And he walked a - way, but

Bbm7 Bbm/Ab Gb Bbm/F Eb

as he grew he'd say, "I'm gon - na be like you, Dad. You  
 smile nev - er dimmed. It said, "I'm gon - na be like him, yeah. You

Gb Bbm/F Eb

know I'm gon - na be like you." And the  
 know I'm gon - na be like him." him."

♩ Chorus: Eb Db Gb

cat's in the cra - dle and the sil - ver spoon, ... lit - tle boy blue and the man -



— in the moon... "When you com - in' home, 1.2. Dad?" "I don't know when, but  
3.4. Son?"

To Coda II

To Coda I



we'll get to - geth - er then, Son. yeah. Dad. You know we'll have a good time



then."

1. 2.

2. My 3. Well, he





came from col - lege just the oth - er day, so much like a man I just




had to say, — "Son, I'm proud of you. — Can you sit for a while?" — He






shook his head and he said with a smile, — "What I'd real - ly like, Dad, is to







bor-row the car — keys. See you lat - er. Can I have them, please?" And the

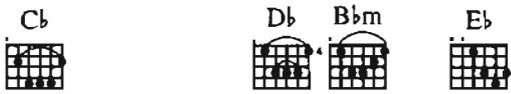
*D.S.  $\text{S}$  at Coda 1*

 Coda 1
 





then."



4. I've

## Verse 4:



long since re-tired, my son's moved a-way. I called him up just the



oth-er day. I said, "I'd like to see you if you don't mind." He said, "I'd



love to, Dad, if I can find the time. You see, my



new job's a has-sle and the kids have the flu, but it's sure nice talk-in' to

E $\flat$  G $\flat$  B $\flat$ m/F E $\flat$

you, Dad. It's been sure nice talk - in' to you." And as I

D $\flat$  D $\flat$ /C B $\flat$ m7 B $\flat$ m/A $\flat$  G $\flat$  B $\flat$ m/F

hung up the phone it oc - curred to me. he'd grown up just like

*mp*

E $\flat$ 5 G $\flat$  B $\flat$ m/F E $\flat$

D.S.  $\text{\$}$  at Coda II

me. My boy was just like me. And the

*mf*

$\oplus \oplus$  Coda II

E $\flat$  G $\flat$  B $\flat$ m/F E $\flat$  E $\flat$ 5

Dad, we're gon-na have a good time then."

*rit.* *a tempo*

E $\flat$