

# Cat's in the Cradle

Harry Chapin (1942-1981)  
arr. Larry Nickel

♩ = 120 (♩ = 60)

*rubato*  
*solo - (child-like)*

*mp* *freely* *saa* *p* When ya com-in' hom'

*mp* *p* Cat's in the cra-dle and the sil-ver spoo (n)

Cat's in the cra-dle and the sil-ver spoo

5

*mp* *mf* When ya com-in' home, Dad?

*mp* *p* *mf* Lit-tle\* boy blue and the man in (n)

Lit-tle\* boy blue and the m the moo (n)

\* (liddle)

9 **A** story telling ♩ = 13♩

Mm\*

M\*

*a tone lower - before the downbeat (from the previous 8th)*

**B**

16 *p* *mp* *p*

*mf* unison

Oo

My child ar- rived just the o-ther day, he came to the world in the ay. But there were

*mp*

21 *p* *mp*

Oo

planes t' catch and bills t' pay, he learned to walk while I was a-way and he was

25 *mf*

"I'm gon-na be like you Dad. Y'

talk- fore I knew it and as he grew he'd say, "I'm gon-na be like you Dad. Y'

PERUSAL SCORE ONLY - PLEASE DO NOT COPY

29

know I'm gon-na be like you." *f* *p*

know I'm gon-na be like you." *f* *p* *mf* My

35

C

all men *mf* He sa' for the ball, Dad, come on let's play. Can you

son turned ten, just the o-ther day. *ssa*

*guitar picking style* *p*

39

teach m... "w?"... He said, "That's O - kay." *mp*

I said, "Not to- day;\_ I've got a - lot to do." and he

*guitar picking style* *p*

43

*mp*

"I'm gon-na be like him, yeah. Y'

walked a- way but his smile ne-ver dimmed. "I'm gon-na be like yeah. Y'

*p*

Ped. Ped. Ped.

47

*mf* know I'm gon-na be like him.\* *f* melody at's in the cra-dle and the sil - ver spoon,

*mf* know I'm gon-na be like him.\* And the cat's in the cra-dle and the sil - ver spoon,

\*close to "m" or

*mf*

pedal freely

52

*ssa*

lit-tle and the man in the moon. When y'com-in' home, Dad? I don't know when.

lit- boy blue and the man in the moon. I don't know when.

56 unison (s.a.t.)

We'll get to-gether then, son, you know we'll have a good time the

We'll get to-gether then, son, you know we'll have a good tir en.

60 **E** s.a. - unison *mf*

He came from col - lege just the

*mp*

tenors *p*

Oo

65

o - th so much like a man I just had to say "Son, I'm proud of you, can you

*mp*

Oo

69

sit for a while? He shook his head and he said with a smile, "What I'd real-ly had, is to

73

bor-row the car keys... See y' lat - er, ave them please?" And the

*mf*

*mf*

And the

77

**F** *altos on melody*

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

the cra-dle and the sil - ver spoon,

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8

*ssa*

*unison (s.a.t.)*

81

When y' com-in' home, Dad? I don't know when. We'll get to-geth-er then, son, you

I don't know when. We'll get to-geth-er th son, you

85

**G** *full warm sound*

know we'll have a good time then. Ah...

*tbb*

know we'll have a good time then. Ah...

91

*ssa*

*mf*

Ah...

*gliss.*

I've

*8va*

**H**

95

*mp*

Oo

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

*p* *pp* *p* *pp*

100

*mf*

He said, 'I'd l , if I can find the time. You see, my

love to see you if you don't mind."

105

new : has-sle and the kids have the flu, but it's sure nice talk-in' to you, Dad. It's been

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109

sure nice talk-in's to you.

*p* And as I hung alone it oc -

8<sup>vb</sup> Ped.

113

cured to me, — He'd grown up like me. My boy was just like

*mp* My boy was just like

*mp* My boy was just like

**a tempo**

117 *mf* me. **I** *f* *altos on melody* And the cat's in the cra-dle and the sil - ver spoon,

*mf* And the cat's in the cra-dle and the sil - ver spoon,

*f* *mf*

PERUSAL SCORE ONLY - PLEASE DO NOT COPY

121 *ssa*

lit-tle boy blue and the man in the moon... When y'com-in' home, Dad? I don't know when.

lit-tle boy blue and the man in the moon... know when.

125 *unison (s.a.t.)* **molto rit.**

We'll get to-gether then, son, know we'll have a good time then.

We'll get to-gether then, you know we'll have a good time then.



Harry Chapin (1942 - 1981) was an American singer-songwriter who became one of the most popular singers of the 1970s. He is best known for his folk rock songs including "Taxi", "W\*O\*L\*D", "Flowers Are Red" and the hit - "Cat's in the Cradle".

Chapin was also a dedicated humanitarian who fought to end world hunger; he was a key player in the creation of the Presidential Commission on World Hunger in 1977. In 1987, Chapin was posthumously awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for his humanitarian work.

The "Cat's in the Cradle" lyrics began as a poem written by Harry's wife, Sandra "Sandy" Gaston; His recording of the song was nominated for the 1975 Grammy Award for Best Male Pop Vocal Performance and was inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame in 2011. Harry died on July 16, 1981 when his car was hit by a truck in Jericho, New York.

"Cat's in the Cradle" has been a meaningful reminder for composer/arranger Dr. Larry Nickel, who has three children and six grandchildren.