

Cruel to be Kind – year: 1979/1999 Performer: Nick Lowe/Letters to Cleo

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b0l3QWUXVho>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b9X4rZAA4y8>

All chords 4 beats unless indicated

Introduction: [C] [Em] [F] [G]
[C] [Em] [F] [G] [G]

Oh [C] I can't take another [Em] heartache
Though you [F] say you're my friend, [G7sus4] I'm at my wit's end
[C] You say your love is [Em] bonafide, but that [F] // don't coin [Em] // cide
[Dm] With the things that you [F] do
And when I [Em] ask you to be [F] nice, you [G7sus4] say

You've gotta be [F] // cruel to be [G] // kind, [Em] // in the right [Am] //
measure
[F] // Cruel to be [G] // kind, it's a [Em] // very good [Am] // sign
[F] // Cruel to be [G] // kind, [Em] // means that I [Am] // love you, [G7sus4]
baby
(You've [G7] gotta be cruel) You [G7] gotta be cruel to be [C] kind [Em] [F] [G]

Well I [C] do my best to under [Em] stand dear
But you [F] still mystify and [G7sus4] I wanna know why
[C] I pick myself up [Em] off the ground
To have you [F] // knock me [Em] // back down, [Dm] again and a [F] gain
And when I [Em] ask you to ex[F] plain, you [G7sus4] say

You've gotta be [F] // cruel to be [G] // kind, [Em] // in the right [Am]
// measure
[F] // Cruel to be [G] // kind, it's a [Em] // very good [Am] // sign
[F] // Cruel to be [G] // kind, [Em] // means that I [Am] // love you, [G7sus4]
baby
(You've [G7] gotta be cruel) You [G7] gotta be cruel to be [C] kind
[C] oo-oo-oo [A] oo-oo [A7] oo-oo

[F] // Cruel to be [G] // kind, [Em] // in the right [Am] // measure
[F] // Cruel to be [G] // kind, it's a [Em] // very good [Am] // sign
[F] // Cruel to be [G] // kind, [Em] // means that I [Am] // love you, [G7sus4]
baby [G7sus4]

Cruel to be Kind – Continued

Well I [C]do my best to under[Em]stand dear
But you [F] still mystify and [G7sus4] I wanna know why
[C]I pick myself up [Em] off the ground
To have you [F] //knock me [Em] //back down, [Dm] again and a[F]gain
And when I [Em] ask you to ex[F]plain, you [G7sus4] say

You've gotta be [F] //cruel to be [G] // kind, [Em] //in the right [Am]
//measure

[F] // Cruel to be [G] // kind, it's a [Em] // very good [Am] // sign

[F] //Cruel to be [G] // kind, [Em] // means that I [Am] // love you [G7sus4]
baby

(You've [G7] gotta be cruel) You [G7] gotta be cruel to be [F] //kind

[F] (Cruel to be [G]

// kind), oh [Em] // in the right [Am] //measure

[F] // (Cruel to be [G] // kind), it's a [Em] // very very [Am] //very good [F] //
sign

[F] // (Cruel to

be [G] //kind), it [Em] // means that I [Am] // love you, [G7sus4] baby

(You've [G7] gotta be cruel) You [G7] gotta be cruel to be [C]/kind

