

# Ed Bruce, Growing Up

Words & Music by  
Ed Bruce and Phil O'Donnell

Second day of third grade, Three Oaks Elementary  
She sat in the first row, I was all the way across the room  
It might as well have been the far side of the moon  
I had to get her attention, she wouldn't look at me  
I waited for the bell to ring, and when we went outside for recess  
I put a cricket down the backside of her dress  
Had to take a note home, Mama spanked my butt  
Daddy hugged me, "Son, that's part of growing up";

You live and learn to give and take  
When to use your strength  
And when you need a gentle touch  
Sometimes it takes patience  
Sometimes a greater store of love  
You learn it growing up

Andy was my best friend, all the way through high school  
We couldn't wait for Friday night  
We'd chip in change for gas in his car and roam  
One night I was grounded so he went out on his own  
Two o'clock in the morning, I'd just gotten to sleep  
Mama took the call and woke me  
"That was Andy's Daddy on the phone";  
Andy missed that hairpin curve on Levee Road  
Andy loved to run hard, he never buckled up  
Mama held me when I cried growing up

You live and learn to give and take  
When to pray for strength  
When understanding's not enough  
Look life in the eye  
Even when the road gets rough  
It's not easy growing up

I can't forget the day she called me home from work  
The pains were getting closer  
She said, "Hon, don't panic, but it's time to go";  
We named him "Andy"; for a friend I used to know  
It hit me just this morning, I dropped him off at school  
No great revelation  
I bowed my head and thanked the Lord for all I've got  
Little league and family picnics in the park  
Both our folks are doing well, the circle's filling out  
I treasure every moment; I'm still growing up

You live and learn to give and take  
Always try to do your best  
And hope that it's enough  
If you don't lose the faith  
You'll always find the love  
It's all part of growing up