Cruel to Be Kind
Written by Nick Lowe & Ian Gomm (1979)

**Intro (four beats each)**

C   Em   F   G
C   Em   F   G   G

**Verse 1**

C   Em
Oh I can't take another heartache
F   G
Though you say you're my friend, I'm at my wits end
C   Em
You say your love is bona fide
F   Am   Dm   F
But that don't coin-cide, with the things that you do
Em   F
And when I ask you to be nice
G
You say... you got to be

**Chorus**

F   G   Em   Am*2
Cruel to be kind in the right measure
F   G   Em   Am*2
Cruel to be kind it's a very good sign
F   G   Em   Am*2
Cruel to be kind means that I love you
F*2   Dm7   C
Baaa-by, you gotta be cruel to be kind

**Instrumental Interlude (four beats each)**

C   Em   F   G
Verse 2

C Em
Well I do my best to understand dear
F G
But you still mystify, and I want to know why
C Em
I pick myself up off the ground
F Am Dm F
To have you knock me back down, again and again
Em F
And when I ask you to explain
G
You say... you got to be

Repeat Chorus

F G Em Am*2
Cruel to be kind in the right measure
F G Em Am*2
Cruel to be kind it's a very good sign
F G Em Am*2
Cruel to be kind means that I love you
F*2 Dm7 C
Baaa-by, you gotta be cruel to be kind

Guitar Solo (four beats each)

C C A A
Oohhh Oohhh, Oohhh Oohhh

(follows Chorus rhythm)

F G Em Am*2
F G Em Am*2
F G Em Am*2
F*2 Dm7
Repeat Verse 2

C               Em
Well I do my best to understand dear
F               G
But you still mystify, and I want to know why
C               Em
I pick myself up off the ground
F               Am               Dm               F
To have you knock me back down, again and again
Em               F
And when I ask you to explain
G
You say... you got to be

Repeat Chorus

F               G               Em               Am*2
Cruel to be kind in the right measure
F               G               Em               Am*2
Cruel to be kind it's a very good sign
F               G               Em               Am*2
Cruel to be kind means that I love you
F*2               Dm7
Baaa-by, you gotta be cruel to be...

F               G               Em               Am*2
Cruel to be kind in the right measure
F               G               Em               Am*2
Cruel to be kind it's a very good sign
F               G               Em               Am*2
Cruel to be kind means that I love you
F*2               Dm7
Baaa-by, you gotta be cruel to be...

F               G               Em               Am*2
Cruel to be kind in the right measure
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F               G               Em               Am*2
Cruel to be kind means that I love you
F*2               Dm7               C
Baaa-by, you gotta be cruel to be kind