

The Greatest

Don Schlitz as sung by Kenny Rogers

Key of C

Intro **C** **C** **C**
Intro //// //// ////

Verse 1:

C **C**
Little Boy, in a baseball hat,
 G **F/** **C / //**
Stands in the field, with his ball and bat,
C **C**
...Says I am the greatest player of them all,
 G **F//** **C//**
Puts his bat on his shoulder and he tosses up his ball,
 G
And the ball goes up and the ball comes down,
F **C**
Swings his bat all the way around,
 G
The world's so still you can hear the sound,
 F **C** **C**
The baseball falls....to the ground, ////

Verse 2:

C **C**
Now the little boy doesn't say a word,
 G **F/** **C / //**
Picks up his ball, he is unde-tered,
C **C**
...Says I am the greatest there has ever been,
 G **F//** **C//**
And he grits his teeth and he tries it a-gain,
 G
And the ball goes up and the ball comes down,
F **C**
Swings his bat all the way around,
 G
The world's so still you can hear the sound,
 F **C** **C**
The baseball falls....to the ground, ////

Bridge:

Am **F**
He makes no excuses. He shows no fears,

C
G
G / (tacet)

He just closes his eyes and listens to the cheers,

Verse 3:

C **C**
 Little boy, he ad-justs his hat,
G **F /** **C / //**
 Picks up his ball, stares at his bat,
C **C**
 ...Says I am the greatest the game is on the line,
G **F //** **C //**
 And he gives his all one last time,
G
 And the ball goes up like the moon so bright,
F **C**
 Swings his bat with all his might,
G
 And the world's so still as still can be,
F **C** **C**
 And the baseball falls...and that's strike three, **////**

Verse 4:

C
 Now it's supper time and his mama calls,
G **F /** **C / //**
 Little boy starts home with his bat and ball,
C **C**
 ...Says I am the greatest that is a fact,
G **F //** **C //**
 But even I didn't know I could pitch like that,
C **C**
 He says I am the greatest that is understood,
G **F //** **C /**
 But even I didn't know I could pitch that good.

