

CIRCLE GAME by Joni Mitchell

C F C
Yesterday, a child came out to wonder,
F G
Caught a dragonfly inside a jar,
C F Em
Fearful when the sky was full of thunder,
F G C
And tearful at the falling of a star.

F C
CHORUS: And the seasons they go 'round and 'round,
F C
And the painted ponies go up and down.
F C
We're captive on a carousel of time.
F Em F
We can't return, we can only look behind from where we came,
Em F G C
And go round and round and round in the circle game.
F C

Then the child moved ten times round the seasons,
F G
Skated over ten clear frozen streams.

C F Em
Words like "when you're older" must appease him,
F G C
And promises of someday make his dreams. **CHORUS**

F C
Sixteen springs and sixteen summers gone now,
F G
Cartwheels turn to car wheels through the town.
C F Em
And they tell him, "Take your time, it won't be long now,
F G C
"Til you drag your feet to slow the circles down." **CHORUS**

F C
Years spin by and now the child is twenty,
F G
Though his dreams have lost some grandeur coming true.
C F Em
There'll be new dreams, maybe better dreams and plenty,
F G C
Before the last revolving year is through. **CHORUS**