

The Circle Game – Joni Mitchell (1968)

Intro: C Csus4 C Csus4

C F C / C F G7 - G7sus4 - G7
 Yesterday a child came out to wonder. Caught a dragonfly inside a jar
 C F Em7 / F C - G7 - C - Csus4 - C
 Fearful when the sky was full of thunder... and tearful at the falling of a star

C G - F - C - / G - F - C -
 And the seasons they go round and round and the painted ponies go up and down
 F / C /

- We're captive on a carousel of time
 F / Em7 F
 - We can't return, we can only look ... behind from where we came
 Em7 Dm - G7 - C - Csus4 - C
 And go round and round and round in the circle game.

C F C / C F G7 - G7sus4 - G7
 Then the child moved 10 x round the seasons. Skated over 10 clear frozen streams
 C F Em7 /
 Words like "when you're older" must appease him
 F C - G7 - C - Csus4 - C
 And promises of "someday" make his dreams

Chorus

C F C /
 Sixteen springs and sixteen summers gone now
 C F G7 - G7sus4 - G7
 Cartwheels turn to carwheels through the town
 C F Em7 /
 And they tell him, take your time, it won't be long now
 F C - G7 - C - Csus4 - C-
 'Til you drag your feet to slow the circles down

Chorus

C F C /
 So the years spin by and now the boy is twenty
 C F G7 - G7sus4 - G7
 Though his dreams have lost some grandeur coming true
 C F Em7 /
 There'll be new dreams, maybe better dreams and plenty
 F C - G7 - C - Csus4 - C
 Before the last revolving year is through.

Chorus

Em7 Dm{pause} C - Csus4 - C{stop}
 And go round and round and round in the circle game.

Chords

