

The Circle Game (F) Joni Mitchell 1966

Intro: C F G7

1st Note: E

Tempo:108

C F C
Yesterday a child came out to wonder,

F G7
Caught a dragon-fly inside a jar.

C F Em
Fearful when the sky is full of thunder,
F C Dm7 C (Dm7) F C
And tearful at the falling of a star.

C Dm7 C
Chorus: And the seasons, they go 'round and 'round,
Dm7 C
And the painted ponies go up and down.

F C
We're captive on the carousel of time.

F Em
We can't return, we can only look be-hind
F

C Dm7 C (Dm7) F C Em
From where we came,
And go 'round and 'round and 'round in the circle game.

C F C
Then the child moved ten times round the seasons,
F G7
Skated over ten clear frozen streams.

C F Em
Words like "when you're older" must appease him,
F C Dm7 C (Dm7) F C
And promises of someday make his dreams.

Chorus: (above)

C F C
Sixteen springs and sixteen summers gone now,
F G7
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 C Dm7 C (Dm7) F C
'Till you drag your feet to slow the circles down."

Chorus: (above)

C F C
So the years spin by and now the boy is twenty,
F G7
Though his dreams have lost some grandeur coming true.

C F Em
There'll be new dreams, maybe better dreams, and plenty,
F C Dm7 C (Dm7) F C
Before the last revolving year is through.

Chorus: (above)

