

# Circle Game

by Joni Mitchell (1966)

*Bm*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *Am*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *Bm*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *Am*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *Bm*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *Am*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *G*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *Cadd9/G*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *G*

*G* *Cadd9/G* *G*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *Cadd9/G*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *G*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *Cadd9/G*<sup>(1/2)</sup>

Yesterday a child came out to wonder,

*G* *Cadd9/G* *D* *D7*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *D7sus4*<sup>(1/2)</sup>

Caught a dragonfly inside a jar.

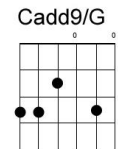
*G* *Cadd9/G*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *G*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *Bm* *Bm*

Fearful when the sky was full of thunder, and

*Cadd9/G* *G*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *Bm*<sup>(1/4)</sup> *Am*<sup>(1/4)</sup> *G*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *Cadd9/G*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *G*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *Cadd9/G*<sup>(1/2)</sup>

tearful at the falling of a star.

And the



*G* *Bm*<sup>(1/4)</sup> *Am*<sup>(1/4)</sup> *Em7*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *Em7* or *G*

seasons they go round and round, and the

*G* *Bm*<sup>(1/4)</sup> *Am*<sup>(1/4)</sup> *Em7*<sup>(1/2)</sup>

painted ponies go up and down.

*Am7* *Cadd9/G* *G*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *Cadd9/G*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *G*

we're captive on the carousel of time.

*Cadd9/G* *C/G* *Em*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *Bm*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *C*

We can't return we can only look behind from where we came, and go

*Gma7* *Am*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *Bm*<sup>(1/4)</sup> *Am*<sup>(1/4)</sup> *G*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *Cadd9/G*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *G*<sup>(1/2)</sup> *Cadd9/G*<sup>(1/2)</sup>

round and round and round in the circle game.

Then the child moved ten times round the seasons,  
Skated over ten clear frozen streams.  
Words like, when you're older, must appease him,  
And promises of someday make his dreams.

Sixteen springs and sixteen summers gone now,  
Cartwheels turn to car wheels thru the town.  
And they tell him, take your time, it won't be long now,  
Till you drag your feet to slow the circles down.