

The Circle Game

Buffy Sainte-Marie

Yesterday a child came out to wonder
Caught a dragonfly inside a jar
Fearful when the sky was full of thunder
And tearful at the falling of a star
Then the child moved ten times round the seasons
Skated over ten year frozen streams
Words like when you're older must appease him
And promises of someday make his dreams
And the seasons they go round and round
And the painted ponies go up and down
Were captive on the carousel of time
We can't return, we can only look behind from where we came
And go round and round and round in the circle game
Sixteen springs and sixteen summers gone now
Cart wheels cross to car wheels through the town
And you tell him, "Take your time, it won't be long now"
Till you drag your feet to slow those circles down
So the boy who dreamed tomorrow, now is twenty
Though his dreams have lost some grandeur, coming true
There'll be new dreams, maybe better dreams a plenty
Before the last revolving year is through
And the seasons they go round and round
And the painted ponies go up and down
Were captive on the carousel of time
We can't return, we can only look behind from where we came
And go round and round and round in the circle game

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