

Proposed Chiastic Structure and Outline of Song of Solomon

From R. L. Alden.

- A 1:1–4a “Take me away”
- B 1:4b Friends speak
- C 1:5–7 “My own vineyard”
- D 1:8–14 “Breasts,” “silver,” “we will make”
- E 1:15–2:2 “House”
- F 2:3–7 “His left arm” “daughters of Jerusalem ... so desires,” “apple,” “love”
- G 2:8–13 “Fragrance,” “come my darling,” “blossoming”
- H 2:14–15 “Vineyards,” “show me”
- I 2:16–17 “My lover is mine”
- Ja 3:1–5 “The watchmen found me”
- Jb 3:6–11 Description of carriage, “gold,” “Lebanon,” “daughters of Jerusalem”
- Jc 4:1–7 Description of girl, “Your eyes ... hair ... teeth”
- K 4:8–15 “Myrrh,” “spice,” “honey,” “honeycomb,” “wine,” “milk”
- L 4:16 “Into his garden”**
- L’ 5:1a “Into my garden”**
- K’ 5:1bc “Myrrh,” “spice,” “honey,” “honeycomb,” “wine,” “milk”
- Ja’ 5:2–9 “The watchmen found me”
- Jb’ 5:10–6:1 “Gold,” “Lebanon,” “daughters of Jerusalem”
- Jc’ 6:4–11 Description of girl, “Your eyes, ... hair ... teeth”
- I’ 6:2–3 “My lover is mine”
- H’ 6:13–7:9a [10a] “Vines,” “wine,” “that we me gaze on you”
- G’ 7:9b–13 [10b–14] “Fragrance,” “come my darling,” “blossom”
- F’ 8:1–5 “His left arm,” “daughters of Jerusalem ... so desires,” “apple,” “love”
- E’ 8:6–7 “House”
- D’ 8:8–9 “Breasts,” “silver,” “we will build”
- C’ 8:10–12 “My own vineyard”
- B’ 8:13 “Friends”
- A’ 8:14 “Come away”¹

¹ Duane A. Garrett, *Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs*, vol. 14, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1993), 375.