

dodi, "my beloved" = her pet name for him
ra'yati, "my love" = his pet name for her

- 1) 1.1 Superscription
- 2) 1.2-3.11 We meet *ra'yati* and *dodi*. songs of flirtation and fantasy
 - a) 1.2-8 *ra'yati* and her girlfriends sing about *dodi*
 - i) 1.2-4 *ra'yati* sings to and about *dodi*
 - (1) 1.2a *ra'yati* sings about *dodi* to her girlfriends
 - (2) 1.2b-4a *ra'yati* sings (as though?) to *dodi*
 - (3) 1.4b *ra'yati* and her friends sing about *dodi*
 - ii) 1.5-6 *ra'yati* defends herself to the daughters of Jerusalem (or to her brothers)
 - iii) 1.7 *ra'yati* sings to *dodi*
 - iv) 1.8. *dodi* responds (this could be the daughters)
 - b) 1.9-11 *dodi* sings *ra'yati's* praises and promises her gifts
 - c) 1.12-14 *ra'yati* sings about their attractive smells
 - d) 1.15-2.3 *ra'yati* and *dodi* sing compliments to one another
 - i) 1.15 *dodi* sings
 - ii) 1.16a *ra'yati* responds
 - iii) 1.16b-17 *ra'yati* compliments (or fantasizes about) the setting of their love affair
 - iv) 2.1 *ra'yati* sings of herself, alluring him
 - v) 2.2 *dodi* responds
 - vi) 2.3 *ra'yati* responds
 - e) 2.4-6 *ra'yati* reminisces and fantasizes about *dodi*
 - f) 2.7 Refrain to daughters of Jerusalem
 - g) 2.8-3.5 *ra'yati* sings about *dodi*
 - i) 2.8-17 *ra'yati* fantasizes about and longs for *dodi's* love song to her
 - (1) 2.8-10a *ra'yati* sees *dodi* approaching

- (2) 2.10b-15 *dodi's* love song, quoted by *ra'yati*; he longs for her
 - (a) 2.10b-13b he sings, "come away with me in springtime" (section marked by inclusio)
 - (b) 2.14 he sings of finding her
 - (c) 2.15 something foils their love (uncertain which of them is speaking)
- (3) 2.16-17 *ra'yati* claims him; longs for him [2.16 refrain to *dodi*]
- ii) 3.1-4 *ra'yati* seeking the love of her life
- iii) 3.5 Refrain to daughters of Jerusalem
- h) 3.6-11 *ra'yati's* dream wedding fantasy told to the daughters of Jerusalem
- 3) 4.1-8.7 *dodi* and *ra'yati*. songs of longing for one another
 - a) 4.1-5.1 *dodi* sings to *ra'yati*. how precious you are
 - i) 4.1-7 *dodi* sings a *wasf* to *ra'yati*. you are as precious as the land of milk and honey
 - ii) 4.8-5.1a *dodi* sings to *ra'yati*. come away with me, for you are the destination
 - (1) 4.8 The invitation
 - (2) 4.9-15 *dodi*. you are as a treasure
 - (a) 4.9-11 how precious you are. emotions, tastes, smells
 - (b) 4.12-15 you are as precious as a garden
 - (c) 4.16 *ra'yati* responds. calls on creation, that her garden would be his garden
 - (d) 5.1a *dodi* accepts her invitation and basks in her garden
 - (3) 5.1b *ra'yati* invites her girlfriends to share the joy (uncertain who this is)
 - b) 5.2-8 *ra'yati* sings about *dodi*—he is out of reach (fantasy?)
 - i) 5.2a *ra'yati* sings of hearing *dodi* at the door
 - ii) 5.2b *dodi* asks to be invited in
 - iii) 5.3-6 *ra'yati* can't get to him soon enough (or can she?—vv. 4-5)
 - iv) 5.7 *ra'yati* laments about the sentinels
 - v) 5.8 *ra'yati* calls on her girlfriends for help (variation on the refrain)

- c) 5.9-8.3 *ra'yati* and *dodi* long for each other; her girlfriends join in
 - i) 5.9-6.3 *ra'yati* sings to her girlfriends about *dodi*
 - (1) 5.9 her girlfriends respond (to v. 8), encouraging her to sing about *dodi*
 - (2) 5.10-16a *ra'yati* responds, singing a *wasf* for *dodi*
 - (3) 5.16b-6.3 *ra'yati* continues to sing about longing for *dodi*
 - (a) 5.16b *ra'yati* claims *dodi*
 - (b) 6.1 her girlfriends offer to help find *dodi*
 - (c) 6.2 *ra'yati* responds, she knows where he is after all. in his garden
 - (d) 6.3 *ra'yati* summarizes. refrain to *dodi*
 - ii) 6.4-10 *dodi* sings a *wasf* for *ra'yati* (note repeated phrases from ch. 4 *wasf*)
 - iii) 6.11-12 *ra'yati* sings of *dodi* (fantasy?)
 - iv) 6.13-7.9 *dodi's* songs about *ra'yati*
 - (1) 6.13a song about *ra'yati* (unclear who is singing this)
 - (2) 6.13b *dodi* responds, defending *ra'yati*
 - (3) 7.1-9 *dodi* sings another *wasf* for *ra'yati*
 - v) 7.10-8.4 *ra'yati* invites (cf. 4.16) and longs for *dodi*
 - (1) 7.10-13 *ra'yati* invites him [7.10 refrain to *dodi*]
 - (2) 8.1-3 *ra'yati* wishes for him
 - (3) 8.4 *ra'yati's* refrain to the daughters of Jerusalem
 - vi) 8.5-7 song about *dodi*
 - (1) 8.5a her girlfriends are watching them
 - (2) 8.5b-7 *ra'yati* asks for *dodi's* pledge of love; sings to the power of love
- 4) 8.8-12 *ra'yati* sings of her brothers
 - a) 8.8-9 *ra'yati* quotes her brothers taunting her
 - b) 8.10-12 *ra'yati* comes back at them
- 5) 8.13-14 Parting songs of longing
 - a) 8.13 *dodi*
 - b) 8.14 *ra'yati*

