**One proposal for the structure of מגילת אסתר**

**A** – Presentation of אחשורוש and his realm [1:1]

**B** – אחשורוש’s banquet for all the provinces and the special banquet for שושן [1:2-8]

**C** – המן casts lots; war against the Jews set for י"ג אדר [3]

**D** – המן’s letter [3:14]

**E** – אסתר’s first party [5]

**F** – המן consults with his party [5:10-14]

**G** – **בלילה ההוא נדדה שנת המלך [6:1]**

**F’** – המן consults with his cronies [ו:יג]

**E’** – אסתר’s second party[ז:א-ז]

**D’** – מרדכי’s letter [8:8]

**C’** – "ונהפוך הוא" – the Jews’ war against their enemies on י"ג אדר [9:1-6]

**B’** – Banquet of the Jews in all the provinces and a special banquet in שושן [9:14-18]

**A’** – Conclusion: אחשורוש’s powerful reign [10:1]