



# Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network

By Caroline Levine

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

**Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network** By Caroline Levine

*Forms* offers a powerful new answer to one of the most pressing problems facing literary, critical, and cultural studies today--how to connect form to political, social, and historical context. Caroline Levine argues that forms organize not only works of art but also political life--and our attempts to know both art and politics. Inescapable and frequently troubling, forms shape every aspect of our experience. Yet, forms don't impose their order in any simple way. Multiple shapes, patterns, and arrangements, overlapping and colliding, generate complex and unpredictable social landscapes that challenge and unsettle conventional analytic models in literary and cultural studies.

Borrowing the concept of "affordances" from design theory, this book investigates the specific ways that four major forms--wholes, rhythms, hierarchies, and networks--have structured culture, politics, and scholarly knowledge across periods, and it proposes exciting new ways of linking formalism to historicism and literature to politics. Levine rereads both formalist and antiformalist theorists, including Cleanth Brooks, Michel Foucault, Jacques Rancière, Mary Poovey, and Judith Butler, and she offers engaging accounts of a wide range of objects, from medieval convents and modern theme parks to Sophocles's *Antigone* and the television series *The Wire*.

The result is a radically new way of thinking about form for the next generation and essential reading for scholars and students across the humanities who must wrestle with the problem of form and context.

 [Download Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network ...pdf](#)

# Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network

By Caroline Levine

## Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network By Caroline Levine

*Forms* offers a powerful new answer to one of the most pressing problems facing literary, critical, and cultural studies today--how to connect form to political, social, and historical context. Caroline Levine argues that forms organize not only works of art but also political life--and our attempts to know both art and politics. Inescapable and frequently troubling, forms shape every aspect of our experience. Yet, forms don't impose their order in any simple way. Multiple shapes, patterns, and arrangements, overlapping and colliding, generate complex and unpredictable social landscapes that challenge and unsettle conventional analytic models in literary and cultural studies.

Borrowing the concept of "affordances" from design theory, this book investigates the specific ways that four major forms--wholes, rhythms, hierarchies, and networks--have structured culture, politics, and scholarly knowledge across periods, and it proposes exciting new ways of linking formalism to historicism and literature to politics. Levine rereads both formalist and antiformalist theorists, including Cleanth Brooks, Michel Foucault, Jacques Rancière, Mary Poovey, and Judith Butler, and she offers engaging accounts of a wide range of objects, from medieval convents and modern theme parks to Sophocles's *Antigone* and the television series *The Wire*.

The result is a radically new way of thinking about form for the next generation and essential reading for scholars and students across the humanities who must wrestle with the problem of form and context.

## Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network By Caroline Levine Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #577932 in Books
- Published on: 2015-01-04
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: .80" h x 6.40" w x 9.50" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 192 pages

 [Download Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network ...pdf](#)

## **Editorial Review**

Review

**Winner of the 2015 James Russell Lowell Prize, Modern Language Association**

**Winner of the 2016 Dorothy Lee Award for Outstanding Scholarship in the Ecology of Culture, Media Ecology Association**

**One of *Flavorwire*'s 10 Best Books by Academic Publishers in 2015**

"Challenging and original."--**Michael Wood, *London Review of Books***

"This impressive, innovative book connects art and politics by way of forms."--**Andrew Sturgeon, *Flavorwire*, from "10 Must-Read Academic Books of 2015"**

"Levine proposes a fresh way to think of formalism in literary studies. . . . To illustrate her methodology, Levine turns her sights in many directions, from 19th-century classics by writers such as Dickens to contemporary television (*The Wire*). Throughout, Levine's prose is lucid and engaging."--**Choice**

"*Forms* is a genuinely interdisciplinary book, and Levine exhibits considerable ambition and intellectual dexterity in her integration of different disciplinary perspectives."--**Gregory Tate, *Review of English Studies***

From the Back Cover

"This is a big, brilliant, necessary book. As demonstrated in its climactic discussion of *The Wire*, it takes the defense of formalism way beyond the insistence that the continuity of forms across time is as historical as their differences are. With a confidence backed by superb erudition, a lively eye for structures of injustice, and a refreshingly practical commitment to questions of how lives might be rearranged to make them more endurable, Caroline Levine is uniquely qualified to issue this trumpet blast of a manifesto."--**Bruce Robbins, Columbia University**

"This is a truly extraordinary book, a book of a generation. If this were only a work of theory, it would already be one of the best scholarly books I've read. But it is also, more importantly, a model of method. Caroline Levine doesn't only prompt us to think; she shows us what to do. She has drawn the map that will lead us out of the dead end facing literary studies today--the dead end of wanting to talk about the literary in relation to the social but not knowing how."--**Amanda Claybaugh, Harvard University**

"This is a superlative work of literary theory--lucid, elegant, sophisticated. Caroline Levine clearly explains why formalist analysis is the heart of what literary scholarship does best, and she defends form as a category that provides the most rigorous route to the connections between art and social context. This is a brilliant advance on the New Formalism."--**Nicholas Dames, Columbia University**

About the Author

**Caroline Levine** is David and Kathleen Ryan Professor of the Humanities at Cornell University. She is the author of *The Serious Pleasures of Suspense* and *Provoking Democracy*.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Annette Morrison:**

As people who live in often the modest era should be up-date about what going on or details even knowledge to make them keep up with the era that is certainly always change and move ahead. Some of you maybe can update themselves by studying books. It is a good choice for yourself but the problems coming to anyone is you don't know what one you should start with. This Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network is our recommendation so you keep up with the world. Why, as this book serves what you want and want in this era.

#### **Doris Edwards:**

The guide untitled Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network is the guide that recommended to you you just read. You can see the quality of the guide content that will be shown to anyone. The language that article author use to explained their ideas are easily to understand. The writer was did a lot of investigation when write the book, to ensure the information that they share to your account is absolutely accurate. You also could get the e-book of Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network from the publisher to make you much more enjoy free time.

#### **Jesse Harrison:**

Spent a free time to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their sparetime with their family, or their particular friends. Usually they carrying out activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic in the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Will you something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? Could be reading a book could be option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing that you will ask may be what kinds of book that you should read. If you want to consider look for book, may be the publication untitled Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network can be good book to read. May be it may be best activity to you.

#### **Jewel Tarr:**

Reading a book to become new life style in this season; every people loves to read a book. When you read a book you can get a lots of benefit. When you read guides, you can improve your knowledge, since book has a lot of information in it. The information that you will get depend on what kinds of book that you have read. If you would like get information about your study, you can read education books, but if you want to entertain yourself look for a fiction books, this sort of us novel, comics, as well as soon. The Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network offer you a new experience in examining a book.

**Download and Read Online Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy,  
Network By Caroline Levine #26HBAIJRWLG**

# **Read Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network By Caroline Levine for online ebook**

Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network By Caroline Levine Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network By Caroline Levine books to read online.

## **Online Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network By Caroline Levine ebook PDF download**

**Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network By Caroline Levine Doc**

**Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network By Caroline Levine Mobipocket**

**Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network By Caroline Levine EPub**

**26HBAIJRWLG: Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network By Caroline Levine**