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Titolo	Nature's patterns [[electronic resource]] : a tapestry in three parts / / Philip Ball
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Nota di contenuto	A Winter's Tale: The Six-Pointed Snowflake -- Tenuous Monsters: Shapes between Dimensions -- Just For the Crack: Clean Breaks and Ragged Ruptures -- Water Ways: Labyrinths in the Landscape -- Tree and Leaf: Branches in Biology -- Web Worlds: Why We're All in This Together -- Epilogue: The Threads of the Tapestry: Principles of Pattern.
Sommario/riassunto	As part of a trilogy of books exploring the science of patterns in nature, acclaimed science writer Philip Ball here looks at the form and growth of branching networks in the natural world, and what we can learn from them. Many patterns in nature show a branching form - trees, river deltas, blood vessels, lightning, the cracks that form in the glazing of pots. These networks share a peculiar geometry, finding a compromise between disorder and determinism, though some, like the hexagonal snowflake or the stones of the Devil's Causeway fall into a rigidly ordered structure. Branching networks are.