Materials, transformed from natural resources into the buildings, equipment, vehicles and goods that underpin our remarkable lifestyle, are made with amazing efficiency. But our growing demand is not sustainable. Prof Allwood evaluates all the options and explains how we can greatly reduce the amount of material demanded and used in manufacturing, while still meeting everyone's needs.

Bill Gates named Prof Allwood’s book as one of the best he read in 2015, saying "I learned a lot from this thoughtful look at a critical topic".