CONTENTS

Preface ix

Introduction: Alchemy of a Material World 1

PART I: THE PLEASURE OF TREASURE

1. What Lies Beneath
   The Material and Mystical Origins of Mineral Wealth 17

2. Creating Value
   The Endurance of Precious Jewels 39

3. The Rush Factor
   Tracing the Mineral Roots of Global Power Through Gold, Coal, and Oil 62

PART II: TOIL AND TREASURE

4. The Darker Side of Fortune
   The Psychology of Treasure Dependence 89

5. Curing the Resource Curse
   Minerals and Global Development 110

6. The Spoils of the Earth
   The Ecological Toll of Extractive Excitement 132
PART III: MEASURE FOR MEASURE

7. Destination Cradle
   *The Quest for Material Cycling* 161

8. The Restoration Ethic
   *Hurting and Healing Ecosystems* 185

9. Embracing the Treasure Impulse
   *Toward Cautionary Creativity* 207

   Epilogue: Embracing Uncertainty 235

Appendix

*Notable Minerals and Their Human Uses* 239

Notes 245

Index 278