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## Something Concrete

An Industry Built on Sand

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Authors: Alia Bengana - Claude Baechtold - Antoine Maréchal

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What is the concrete industry attempting to conceal? This essential graphic novel shows the dark side of our modern architecture.

"Straw, earth—those are for poor people. Concrete—now that's modern!"

That's what Franco-Algerian architect Alia Bengana was told when she went to the Sahara to build a guest house. When she saw all the trucks transporting sand over 1,200 kilometers to make concrete, she wondered whether architects and the construction industry hadn't fallen on their faces! During the COVID crisis, Alia and her husband Claude spot a drilling rig near their Swiss chalet. Are people looking for sand in this area? It's time for Alia to take a deeper look into her favorite material. With Claude and another friend, the editor-in-chief of a Swiss magazine, Alia plunges into the ever-shifting world of concrete...

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