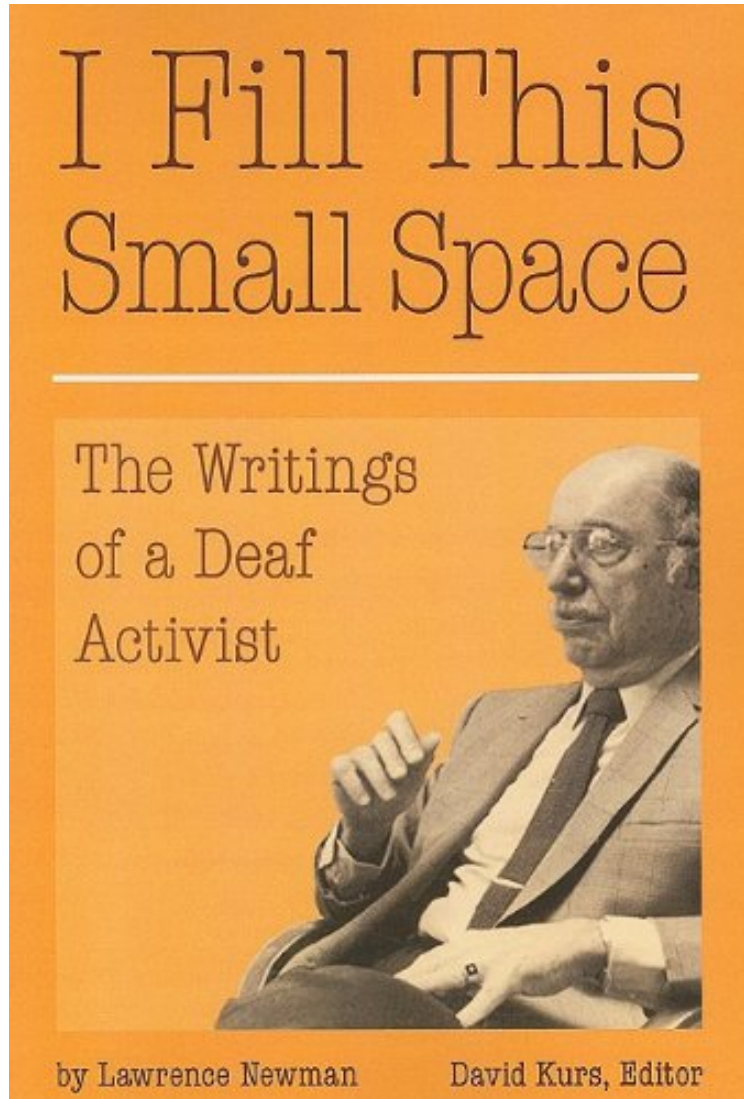


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I Fill This Small Space: The Writings of a Deaf Activist

Lawrence Newman

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Lawrence Newman : I Fill This Small Space: The Writings of a Deaf Activist before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised I Fill This Small Space: The Writings of a Deaf Activist:

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Lawrence Newman became deaf at the age of five in 1930, and saw his father fight back tears knowing that his son

would never hear again. The next time he saw his father cry was in 1978, when Newman received an honorary doctorate from Gallaudet University, his alma mater. Newman was recognized for his achievements as a life-long advocate for deaf education, including receiving California's Teacher of the Year award in 1968. Perhaps his greatest influence, however, stemmed from his many articles and columns that appeared in various publications, the best of which are featured in *I Fill This Small Space: The Writings of a Deaf Activist*. Editor David Kurs has organized Newman's writings around his passions: deaf education, communication and language, miscellaneous columns and poems on Deaf life, and humorous insights on his activism. His articles excel both as seamless arguments supporting his positions and as windows on the historical conflicts that he fought: against the Least Restrictive Environment in favor of residential deaf schools; for sign language, Total Communication, and bilingual education; and as a deaf teacher addressing parents of deaf children. A gifted writer in all genres, Newman amuses with ease (*On Mini and Midi-Skirts*), and moves readers with his heartfelt verse (*Girl with a Whirligig*). Newman ranges wide in his ability, but he always maintains his focus on equal rights for deaf people, as he demonstrates in his title poem *I Fill This Small Space*:
I fill this small space, this time
Who is to say yours is better
Than mine or mine yours

About the Author: Lawrence Newman, a retired school administrator and President of the National Association of the Deaf from 1986 to 1990, lives in Riverside, CA. David Kurs is a writer in Los Angeles, CA.