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Enabling Acts: The Hidden Story of How the Americans with Disabilities Act Gave the Largest US Minority its Rights (Hardback)

By Lennard J. Davis

Beacon Press, United States, 2015. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. The first significant book on the history and impact of the ADA--the eyes on the prize moment for disability rights The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is the widest-ranging and most comprehensive piece of civil rights legislation ever passed in the United States, and it has become the model for disability-based laws around the world. Yet the surprising story behind how the bill came to be is little known. In this riveting account, acclaimed disability scholar Lennard J. Davis delivers the first behind-the-scenes and on-the-ground narrative of how a band of leftist Berkeley hippies managed to make an alliance with upper-crust, conservative Republicans to bring about a truly bipartisan bill. Based on extensive interviews with all the major players involved including legislators and activists, Davis recreates the dramatic tension of a story that is anything but a dry account of bills and speeches. Rather, it s filled with one indefatigable character after another, culminating in explosive moments when the hidden army of the disability community stages scenes like the iconic Capitol Crawl or an event some describe as deaf Selma, when students stormed Gallaudet University demanding...



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