



Norman Small was one of the great minor league baseball players of all time. Over the course of his long baseball career, he would have as teammates four future Hall of Famers and play with or against dozens of others who would see action in the major leagues. Small, however, never made it.

This is the story of a baseball player who unsuccessfully chased his dream of becoming a major leaguer for nearly twenty years. From a struggling young member of the Cardinals' farm system to a nearly forty-year-old home run hitter, it was a career that may have brought disappointment at never reaching the big leagues, but it was by no means a failure. Norman Small achieved great baseball success even though it may have been at a lower level than he would have preferred. He found fame and was made financially comfortable because of his baseball skills.

From teams in the small Class D textile towns of North Carolina to the Durham Bulls and the Jersey City Giants, Small played baseball at every minor league level. The career of the New York native took him to places ranging as far as big cities like Toronto to small towns in the deep South. Rich with the lore of the Golden Age of minor league baseball, Norman Small's story offers a unique look at a part of American history.