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## **Desire, Defiance, Disability: A Critical Study of *Margarita with a Straw***

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**Abstract:**

Conventional stereotypes are challenged by portraying disabled people in a way that questions the idea that they are docile, dependent, or lacking in sexual agency. The film, 'Margarita with a Straw' (2014) depicts real-life encounters of individuals within the disabled group, particularly women who possess a body that is considered both disabled and queer, which deviates from societal norms. The film goes beyond the typical portrayal of the disabled to emphasise the exploration of identity. It challenges the concept of being a person with a disability in a society that primarily values able-bodied persons. The introduction of such films signifies a notable departure from the traditional Bollywood-style storytelling, showcasing a unique perspective that has transformed Indian cinema and facilitated international recognition and significance. The emerging literature on Bollywood films has begun to present a more nuanced analysis of filmic portrayals of disability that situate films within the larger cultural and social context. 'Margarita with a Straw' (2014) offers a groundbreaking departure from the traditional portrayal of disability and sexuality. It defies the misconception that people with disabilities lack sexual desire and are unproductive. This study examines and expresses the different challenges encountered and sexual desires expressed by persons with disabilities and how they are constrained by societal norms in their daily lives.

**Keywords:** Sexual Desire, Disability, Bollywood Cinema, Societal Norms, Archetypes.