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**LESBIAN FEMINISM, EROTICISM AND SEXUALITY IN SHOBHA  
DE'S STARRY NIGHT AND MANJU KAPUR'S MARRIED WOMAN:  
A CRITIQUE**

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**ABSTRACT**

Shobha De, a great literary figure and writer of Indian writing in English delineates female sufferings in her books. Her goal is to protect women rights. Her intention is to feature the pathetic state of Indian women under the overwhelming burden of man controlled society. The women characters in Manju kapur's Married Women and Shobha De's Starry Nights are completely concern with their own rights being women; still they become victims of male dominated society. They attempt to set themselves free from the deep rooted problem of sexual orientation and separation.

Kapur's distraction with the female rebel against profound established family esteems and the organization of marriage is depicted through her books. It is a fascinating contextual analysis of lesbian story techniques in Manju Kapur's *A Married Woman*, female sex and sexual character is inseparable from her perspective. The novel uncovered the local relationship. Astha's lesbian association with Pipee is, rather a subordinate articulation of Astha's feminist awakening within a man centric structure. The novel encompasses heteronormativity at last. Astha in her eagerness transforms into a lesbian and ends up noticeably flippant with everything including her children and her partner, and Peepalika a lesbian woman who is a widow.

An attempt is made through this paper pertaining to the status of Indian women in the compositions of Shobha De and Manju Kapur in which they speak to sexuality, as indicated a woman is to be taken as a simple toy, an object of desire and lust with pleasure but man's

equivalent and respected partner. Their women characters without a doubt uncover their feminist perspective. The present paper explores sexuality in honored society where women are dealt with simple as commodity and the paper looks to give an investigation of the Lesbian Feminism, Eroticism and Sexuality in the books of Shobha De's *Starry Night* and Manju Kapur's *Married Woman*.

**KEYWORDS**

Feminism, Indian women, New Woman, female sexuality, Eroticism, Sexuality, lesbian feminism, patriarchy.