

## Gender, Sexual dissidence and the “Queer” in Aruni Kashyap’s *His Father’s Disease*

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### **Abstract**

This article is an attempt to unearth the existing notions of gender, sexuality and emerging alternative forms of sexual practices and expressions within the Indian context by choosing to examine Aruni Kashyap’s short fiction titled *His Father’s Disease* from a queer perspective. Drawing inferences from postmodern critical discourses on queer subjectivity, this article examines the possibility of the text to define itself as a negotiation for queer space and identity, rightly exemplified through the metaphor of disease. The context of the entire engagement is an effort to re-examine the polemics of ‘queerness’ within the discourses of postcolonial queer marginality. The text provides a more inclusive approach in understanding the marginalized, without bracketing identities, thereby questioning the ‘standard’ heterosexual norm.

**Keywords:** Gender, sexuality, queer, heterosexuality, desire, construct