The full article is published in the *Journal of Literary and Cultural Disability Studies*, Vol.16. No.2. [https://www.liverpooluniversitypress.co.uk/journals/article/67723/](https://www.liverpooluniversitypress.co.uk/journals/article/67723/)

**The Intersections of Masculinity and Disability in Khaled Hosseini’s *A Thousand Splendid Suns* and Leila Aboulela’s *Lyrics Alley***

**ABSTRACT**

The main objective of this article is to examine the representation of disability in Hosseini’s *A Thousand Splendid Suns* and Aboulela’s *Lyrics Alley* with a view to illustrating the intersections of disability and masculinity in the lives of the two protagonists, Tariq and Nur. This article examines the representation of physical disability from the perspective of the social disability theory which views disability as a marker of minority identity; meaning that disability is not a personal defect but rather a condition caused by society’s inability to accommodate differently-abled people. Following Rosemarie Garland-Thomson’s argument that disability is nothing but another aspect of “bodily variation,” this article examines the representation of Nur and Tariq and investigates the impact of their newly-acquired disability on society’s and their own understanding of masculine identity in two decidedly patriarchal societies. The article also investigates how each of the two writers address the complexities of disability experience, and whether or not they manage to present a positive image of the disabled.