



## Review

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By Guneet Wadera

Cooking with Stella is a social satire intricately wound around the film's central character Stella, a witty and sharp cook and her fascinating and intriguing mischief. On the surface the story seems simple enough, a Canadian diplomat couple by played Maya (Lisa Ray), her Chef husband (David McKeller) and Zara (Alexiane Perreault) who reallocate to unfamiliar terrain, the capital city of India-New Delhi. Stella comes into their life as an aide to smoothen their transition and amalgamation into this new world. Progressing swiftly from servant to Cooking Guru, Stella wounds her web of deception around the rather naive, Michael until a twist in the tale brings into the story, Tannu (Shriya Sharan) as Zara's Nanny. Director, Dilip Mehta infuses the flavour and aroma from the streets of Delhi onto the screen with such finesse that the viewer merrily journeys into Stella's world. The subtleties and nuances in the narration of the film add the essential mirch and masala, making the film an enchanting, insightful and scrumptious watch! The performances by the entire cast are impressive however special mention must be made of the perfect casting and outstanding performance of Seema Biswas in the role of Stella. Her witty one-liners will definitely have the audiences in splits. Although Stella is a shrewd conniver devising schemes to get rich quick, she's also shown to have a caring and sharing side making her extremely loveable and therein lies the quintessence of the film. As the opening credits of film states, 'A story that is true...Almost.' A dash of reality, a sprinkle of humour are the key ingredients for this recipe and this dish definitely delivers! B+