

# THE CHARLATAN

A Novel

By CHRISTINE ARNOTHY

"Christine Arnothy is an artist in fiction . . . one of the most interesting young writers in Europe" Orville Prescott wrote in *The New York Times*. The author of *I Am Fifteen—And I Don't Want To Die* emerged as a novelist of extraordinary talent with her second book, *God Is Late*. Now, in *The Charlatan*, Miss Arnothy delves even deeper and more skillfully beneath the surface of human relationships in this perceptive story of a loveless marriage.

Deprived of everything but the outward appearance of a normal, well-to-do household, Max Grosjean dragged out a humiliating existence with his neurotic wife Isabelle only because of his love for their daughter, Corinne. Isabelle's hypochondria demanded the constant, cringing attention of her family,

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yet they could not begin to answer her insatiable need.

When young "Doctor" Constantin started his malpractice of "curing" middle-aged women with his "magic" hands and the rays from his electric heater, Isabelle became the answer to his dreams—his first rich patient. As Constantin's power over Isabelle grew, Corinne became increasingly revolted by her mother's unsavory liaison with the doctor and his daily presence in the Grosjean home. Bitter at her father's apparent weakness in dealing with the affair, Corinne rebelled and became completely estranged from both Max and Isabelle. How Max is released from his intolerable situation, and how Corinne finds a new understanding and approach to life forms the deeply moving climax of this compelling novel.

**E. P. DUTTON & COMPANY**  
300 Fourth Avenue  
New York 10, N. Y.



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Author of

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