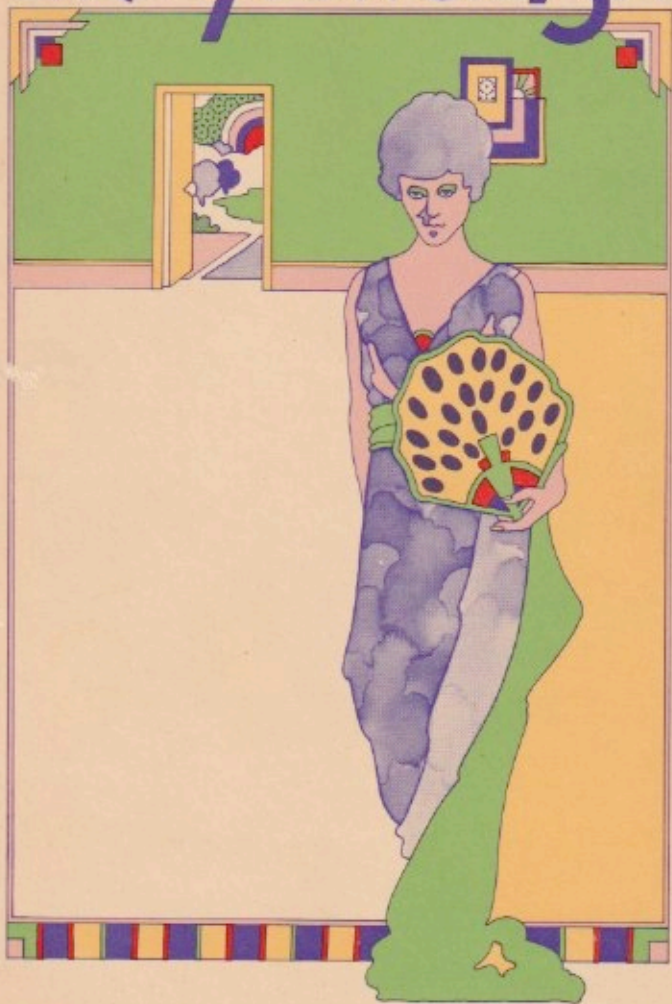


A HANDFUL OF DUST



Evelyn Waugh



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After seven years of marriage Lady Brenda Last was mildly bored with country life in the Victorian Gothic mansion that was the symbol of her husband's family pride. The affair she drifted into with a wholly worthless young man began as a diversion fashionable in her class and generation — and became a vortex of ironic calamities. Evelyn Waugh is too subtle a moralist, however, to point a moral, and leaves his readers to take what side they will in this story of a broken marriage. He is, moreover, too sophisticated a chronicler to ignore the comic and the ridiculous in human misfortune, and **A HANDFUL OF DUST** is well flavoured with his shrewd and astringent humour.

Cover design by Bentley/Farrell/Burnett

United Kingdom 60p
Canada \$2.25

Fiction
ISBN 0 14
00.0822 5