

Cecilie Enger

One Eye Closed

Et øye lukket

 NORLA Selected Title

Genre: Fiction

Category: Novel

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English sample translation available

A powerful new novel by Cecilie Enger.

A single painting sets a chain of events in motion when Erika Randem receives an unexpected phone call. An elderly man wants to buy *The Horse in the Bug*, a painting by Erika's late husband, the artist Peter Sunde. The work has been gathering dust in her basement storage for more than twenty years. When it is brought back into the light, it uncovers a family history stretching across generations.

Moving between wartime Oslo in the 1940s, the village of Dale in the 1960s, and the decades leading up to the present day, the novel interweaves the lives of six people whose fates are bound together in unexpected ways.

Peter was fascinated by the bog's ability to preserve whatever it enfolds, and that fascination continues to haunt those who were closest to him. He was found dead in the very landscape he spent his life painting. Could *The Horse in the Bug* hold the key to the mysteries surrounding Peter's life?

One Eye Closed is a novel about inheritance and guilt, about the invisible threads that bind families together, about art's power both to conceal and to reveal, and about what can happen when we begin searching for what has long been hidden.



Photo: Julie Pike

Cecilie Enger was born in 1963, and has studied history, Norwegian and journalism. She also works as a feature journalist when she is not writing critically-acclaimed novels. Her first novel *Necessity* was published in 1994 and was warmly received by critics. Her big break came with *Mother's Gifts* in 2013, which sold internationally and earned her the Booksellers' Prize that year. She is perhaps best known for biographical and historically-inspired novels as well as strong portraits of female characters.

Previous titles

A Minute's Silence, 2023

The White Map, 2021

Breathe for Me, 2017

Mother's Gifts, 2013

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