

## A major family novel centring on a mysterious portrait



Dr. Bettina Storks  
**The Enigmatic Smile**  
[Das geheime Lächeln]  
Novel

Diana Taschenbuch  
480 pages  
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Bettina Storks, born in 1960, studied German literature, German philology and cultural sciences and gained her PhD at Freiburg University. After several years working as an editor she published her novels *The House on the Edge of the Sky* and *The Voices Over the Sea*.

When journalist Emilia Lukin stumbles across the picture of a woman at an auction, it is as if she were looking into a mirror. Could this be her unknown grandmother Sophie who was disowned by her parents as a young woman? There are all sorts of wild rumours going round the family concerning her extravagant life in Paris, yet Emilia's mother Pauline refuses to say anything. Emilia travels to the house of her deceased grandmother in Provence and follows the trail of the enigmatic picture back to Paris – and deep into the past.

For readers of Anne Gesthuysen and Anne Jacobs.