

“DECEPTIVE CALM” begins against the turbulent backdrop of declared martial law in South Carolina. In the Spring of 1968, two American legends, Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert Kennedy, are felled by assassins. Their commitment was to help African Americans win the right to vote, attend integrated schools, use public accommodations and end a separate and unequal society. In the South it was a tough time to be Black.

A stunning light-skinned beauty, Vanessa, lives in a Catholic orphanage for Black children. A Ku Klux Klan attack, the death of the nun who reared her, and a back-alley abortion lead Vanessa to change her race. Obtaining the birth certificate of a dead White baby, she assumes the child’s identity. Her charmed life as a mesmerizing and glamorous on-air personality in San Francisco abruptly ends when her first child is diagnosed with Sickle Cell Disease. The aftermath of the discovery brings down one of the pillars of California society. An investigation seems clear cut until nothing in her past is as it appears.

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