

The Families

The First Generation

François and Fanny

The African artisan and his princess, captured into slavery and brought to the wilds of Louisiana in 1735. He accepted their fate and insisted that she accept it, too.

The Second Generation

Coincoin

Beautiful, talented, and fiery, she swore over the dead bodies of her parents that one day their family would be free, rich, and proud. She kept her vow.

The Third Generation

Augustin

Half-African, half-French, he ruled over the Isle of Canes as patriarch of a legendary colony of *creoles de couleur* who lived in pillared mansions yet toiled beside the 500 slaves who tilled their 18,000 acres.

The Fourth Generation

Perine

Born to riches, she died in shame; but she never forgot the heritage of her family or the brutal Civil War that destroyed it. Through the persecutions of Reconstruction and Jim Crow, hers was a different vow: *Never* would her family forget who they were, until the day came that they could—and *would*—reclaim their pride and their Isle. She, too, kept her promise.