

THE SUBSTITUTE

When a financially desperate woman is hired to step into the life of a missing tech entrepreneur's wife, the arrangement appears simple: follow instructions, maintain appearances, and ask no questions. But the role places her inside a world of wealth, control, and private grief, where every gesture is observed and every silence seems loaded with meaning. The man she is meant to deceive is powerful, guarded, and still shaped by the woman who vanished from his life, yet beneath the polished surface of their marriage lies a fragile emotional fault line that begins to draw them dangerously close.

As the performance deepens, so does the cost. What begins as a calculated impersonation becomes an intimate trap in which desire, guilt, and dependency start to blur. The more convincingly she inhabits another woman's life, the harder it becomes to separate survival from betrayal. Then the past begins to move again. Secrets tighten, loyalties fracture, and the woman at the centre of the deception realises she may not be the only one playing a role. In a story of identity, longing, and emotional manipulation, love becomes inseparable from risk.

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