X8660 XUONG RONG DEN (VIETNAM, 1993)
(Other titles: Los cactus negros; Land of the black cactus; Black cactus)

Credits: director, Le Dan; writers, Pham Thuy Nhan, Nguy Ng.

Cast: Viet Trinh, Vo The Vy.

Summary: Melodrama set in contemporary Ho Chi Minh City and the southern Vietnamese countryside. An exploration of the mistreatment of Amerasians left behind after the American withdrawal. Lai (Viet Trinh) the 20-year-old son of a Vietnamese woman farmer and an unknown African American soldier suffers mistreatment in his village. In response, he strives to be the best Vietnamese around. He falls in love with local girl Cham girl named Ma (Vo The Vy) and gets her pregnant, but her parents will not let them marry. So Lai goes to Ho Chi Minh City to make his fortune. Instead, he falls prey to an older woman who wants to pretend he is her son to gain a ticket to the U.S. Lai tries to maintain contact with Ma but fails due to illiteracy and unknowingly just misses making contact with his father who has come to HCMC looking for him. Lai finally decides to return to the village find Ma and his child.


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