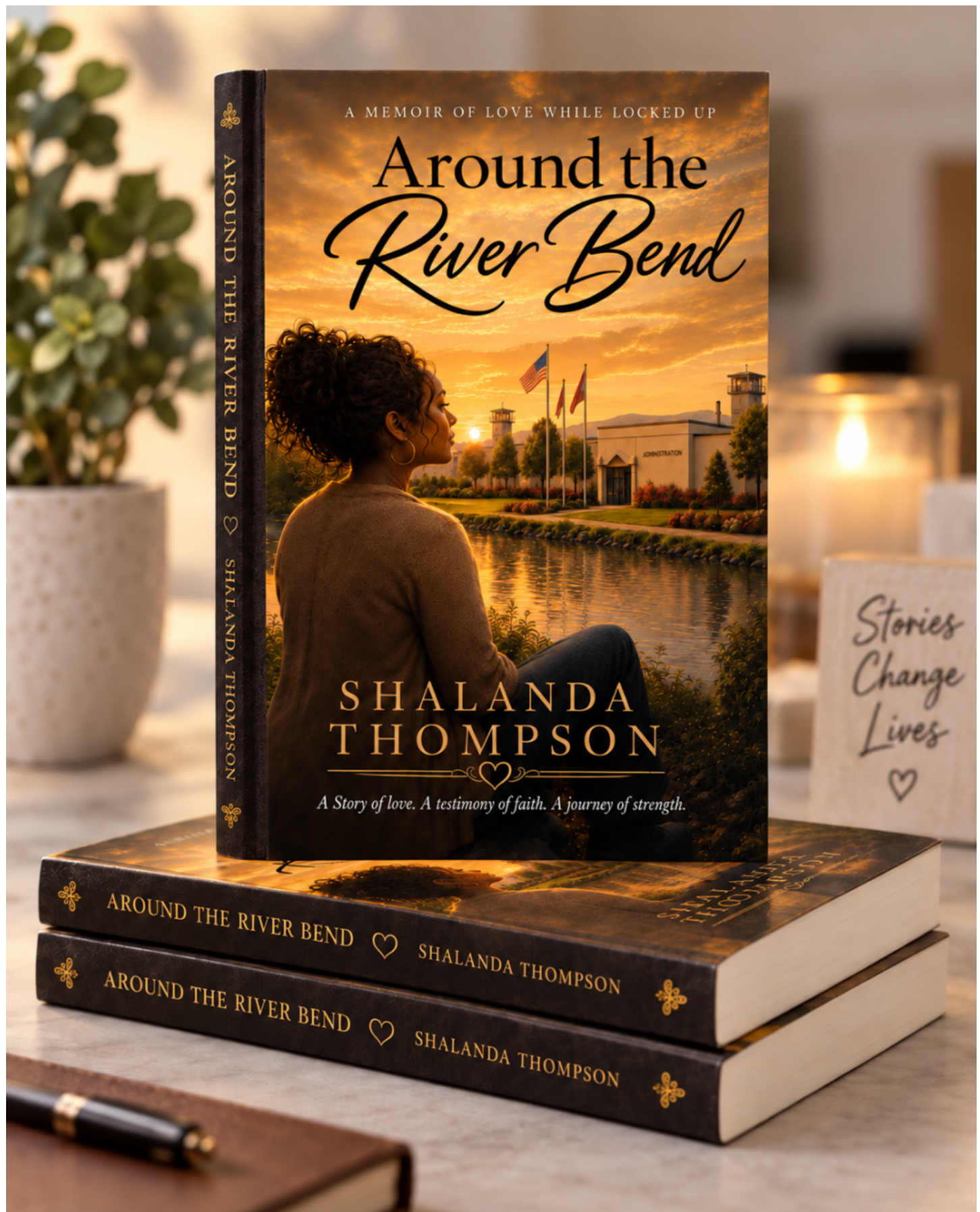


Shalanda Thompson Announces October 26, 2026 Release of Around the River Bend: A Memoir of Love While Locked Up



Aliso Viejo, California Sep 22, 2026 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.IssueWire.com)) - Author Shalanda Thompson announces the release of her memoir, *Around the River Bend: A Memoir of Love While Locked Up*, an intimate story of love, faith, perseverance, family, and the challenges of maintaining a relationship across prison walls.

Thompson's memoir follows a journey that begins with childhood memories and an unexpected connection that later develops into a deeply committed relationship. After reconnecting with Eric "Black" Thomas while he was incarcerated at Riverbend Maximum Security Institution, Thompson found herself entering a world she never imagined would become such a significant part of her life.

Through prison visits, handwritten letters, monitored phone calls, emotional setbacks, family support, and years of waiting, their relationship continued to grow. The memoir explores not only romantic love, but also the emotional and financial realities experienced by families who remain connected to incarcerated loved ones.

At the heart of *Around the River Bend* is a story about commitment and second chances. Thompson shares the difficult moments alongside the joyful ones, including the couple's engagement inside the prison visitation room and their long journey toward Thomas's eventual parole after twenty-five years of incarceration.

The memoir also reflects Thompson's personal growth as a mother, partner, and woman of faith. Her story emphasizes perseverance, forgiveness, accountability, rehabilitation, and the belief that people are capable of meaningful change.

Around the River Bend: A Memoir of Love While Locked Up will be officially released on **October 26, 2026**, inviting readers into a deeply personal story about choosing hope when circumstances make hope difficult.

Book Title: *Around the River Bend: A Memoir of Love While Locked Up*

Author: Shalanda Thompson

Release Date: October 26, 2026

Genre: Memoir / Inspirational Nonfiction



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