

## **Around the Bend**

Crime Drama - Neo-Western - Family Drama - Dark Comedy

### **Tagline**

Our story speculates, “What if cocaine became legal in Oregon?” In a speculative twist of fate, it envisions an Oregon where cocaine will soon be legalized. April, our protagonist, is thrust into the center of a cutthroat game, where the cultivation and sale of cocaine are her only avenues to success. She's pitted against an eclectic cast of adversaries: shadowy locals, armed survivalists, enigmatic drifters, crooked politicians, the privileged elite, rugged mountain farmers, law enforcement at every level, the formidable Mexican cartel, and the omnipresent Big Pharma—perhaps the most daunting foe of all. Amidst this motley crew, she also faces the gauntlet of her husband's ethical, moral military scrutiny.

Each character in this tangled web underestimates April, unaware of her tenacity and strategic acumen. This is a narrative of grit and intrigue, where the stakes are high and the players ruthless. In navigating and conquering this world, April must summon all her resilience to outwit the intricate forces aligning against her.

### **Story:**

AROUND THE BEND weaves the intricate tale of a matriarchal lineage, chronicling the lives of three women: April, teetering on the brink of menopause and battling the ghosts of her rougher days; Jade, her seventeen-year-old daughter, a fiery and precocious spirit grappling with the throes of youth; and Eva, the octogenarian convict whose life of crime belies a rejection of conventional morality. This saga's heart is April, embodying the struggle between a checkered past and the yearning for normalcy.

This rich tapestry of family dynamics unfolds through characters that personify Freudian constructs: Eva, the id, embracing her criminal instincts with the belief that a life lived strictly by the book is a life half-lived; Jade, the ego, walks the tightrope of adolescence, influenced by her stepfather Jimmy—a veteran of the war on drugs—toward a stringent moral compass, yet still vibrant with youthful zeal; and April, the superego, is trapped by her internal conflict, understanding Eva's opportunism while empathizing with Jade's ethical dilemmas.

**Vein:**

In *AROUND THE BEND*, each woman's journey is a compass needle wavering between righteousness and survival, tradition, and independence, creating a poignant exploration of what it means to navigate the complex waters of a family legacy.

At the heart of *AROUND THE BEND* lies a pivotal question: On which side of morality will April land? Will she succumb to the shadows of her tumultuous past, or will she guide her daughter through the maze of an unjust world?

The volatile mix of April, Jade, and Eva's formidable wills sets the stage for fiery confrontations. But when thrust into Bend, Oregon's narcotics milieu—amidst the rise and eventual sanctioning of cocaine cultivation—their fraught interactions reach a boiling point. In the crucible of their interwoven lives, it's here that their desires and moralities clash spectacularly, threatening to ignite the powder keg of their coexistence.

**Task:**

*AROUND THE BEND* is not just a narrative of personal choice; it's an exploration of generational conflict, the seductive allure of easy vice, and the search for ethical anchorage in a world that often rewards the contrary.