

I LOVE MY BED

TARA SHAW



New Orleans designer Tara Shaw just can't get enough of white rooms. She's gone through every shade in the deck, and then some.

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BARBARA KING: *You look like you're floating on a white cloud.*

TARA SHAW: White is just so serene. My whole house is white—I've probably got 100 shades. I tell people my right hand is an extension of a paint deck.

Has your bedroom always looked like this?

Oh, it's ever-changing. My bed before this one was verdure iron, and I had two little side tables. But I got married five years ago, and I said, 'Let's give the room some anchoring.' So I put this nice, masculine

marquetry chest on his side of the bed.

What does your husband keep in the drawers?

Not a thing. He has a dressing room. When you get married at this age, you *both* have to have your own dressing rooms. I've got my running tops in the first drawer, my running shorts and Capri pants in the second, and my pajamas in the third.

What kind of pajamas?

I sleep in pajama pants and tank tops from Claridge and King. It's a women's clothing company that's based on mens-wear. The pants have slits

and the top is slinky and long, and oh my God, I love them. I look *good* in my pajamas!

That's a rather grand bathroom. A chandelier!

Here's what happened. I put up those antique boiserie panels from France, and then to tone them down I put in that simple contemporary tub. And once I did that, I needed an element to soften it. Up went the chandelier. *Isn't it a little bit girly for a man?*

My husband has his own bathroom, too. He loved my old whirlpool tub, but I got way too hot in it, so

one day I replaced it with a soaking tub. He came home and went to take his whirlpool bath, and said, 'Where's the tub?' Well...it's *gone*, honey.

Are you going to leave things the way they are for a while?

Noooo. I've already sketched my next bed. It'll be wood, lacquered with white boat paint, and it'll have a big canopy. I love canopy beds, the way they comfort you and make you feel safe. It's like climbing back into the womb. A bed should have that safe comfort factor. ●

MAKE THE BED...

Custom Louis XVI canopy bed in Belgian Linen by Tara Shaw Maison. Sepia photo by Tara Shaw. Antique Louis XVI chest, vintage Venetian mirrors, 19th-century Italian lamps, 19th-century Italian chandelier: tarashaw.com.

Grande Hotel sheets in White/Grey; Marco blanket cover in Grey: sferra.com.

Lowell duvet cover and euro shams in White: matouk.com.

Sheers on canopy: maxwellfabrics.com.