



AUTHOR WORKSPACE: RANDEE DAWN

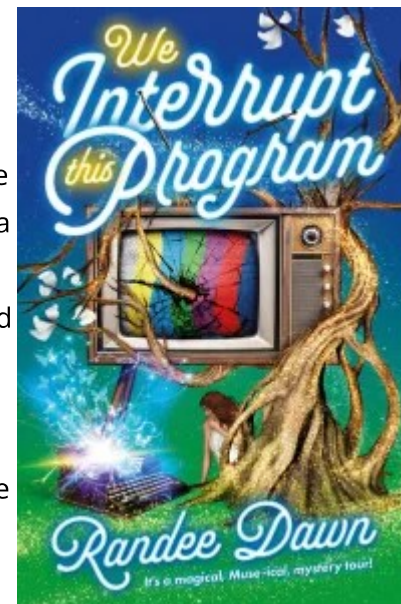
by Randee Dawn | Apr 3, 2026 | Author Workspaces, Features



Author P. Djèlí Clark once said that he can write *anywhere*, which makes me deeply envious. Sure, I can write on the road when necessary – this essay comes to you from the Doubletree Hilton in Wellington, New Zealand. But given a choice, I always want to be back home in my office. Not only is it a blue-hued museum of *me*, filled with books and small foxes and memories – it's a stolen room.

All right, maybe not stolen as much as *co-opted*. My office is the master bedroom of the Brooklyn townhouse I share with my husband. But where else could I put a gigantic mechanical treadmill desk? It dwarfed the space of the second bedroom and I got claustrophobic. So the master became my office, and I have become the mistress of the space.

Blue has always been a favorite color – the dark and light shades sing sky and sea to me, both places to get lost and drift mentally. In my blue room dominated by the ugly (but beloved!) treadmill desk I've done what I can to surround myself in the things that give me joy. Bookshelves line the upper parts of the wall, waterfaling down between my two



windows facing out into the street. The lower shelves are my TBR pile (or some of it), and they're all festooned with various mementoes: a ghost under a bell jar, an Eeyore plush, a cardboard butterfly map given away at a convention.

From my perch at the desk, behind me I have a kind of trophy wall – a gold record from Radiohead, who loved an article I wrote about them back in the 1990s; an article about *Law & Order* coming to a close (it came back, of course) for the *New York Times*; small giclées from artist Luke Chueh, whose work has a cuddly yet morose tone I adore. There's also my shelfie of recent works, added during the pandemic to give the wall behind me some marketing personality. On one side of the shelf sits my bronze fox musician minis – every time I've had a novel published I treat myself to another from the collection, purchased at New York City's Scully & Scully (not an ad).



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When I'm behind the desk I can gaze across the room at the high bookshelves (which were more full in recent days; we're preparing for a possible move) and enjoy having my friends in the room with me: I'm a sucker for photo booths, and I keep those strips clipped in a garland below the books. The other side of the room features multiple mirrors – two embedded in the closet doors (the house is from 1946 and has some ... quirks) and one giant one that perches on my dresser. The mirrors are unique remnants of the house's original owners – one was a glassmaker – and they're unique, fragile

touches that give our home personality.

The things themselves don't make the stories, of course. That's up to me. But by setting myself in this blue-hued museum of me, the Muse knows where my heart resides. Together, we weave stories. And that's why – as a small wooden plank nailed to my door indicates – this is *My Happy Place*.

Rande Dawn is the bestselling author of the “funny as hell” pop culture fantasy novel *Tune in Tomorrow* from 2022 and its *Tune-iverse* 2026 follow-up *We Interrupt This Program*. She's also the author of the dark Celtic musical fantasies *The Only Song Worth Singing* and *Leave No Trace*, both of which published in 2025. Her short fiction has appeared in numerous anthologies, including most recently *Dark Spores: Stories We Tell After Midnight, Vol. 4*. She is the co-author of *The Law & Order: SVU Unofficial Companion*, hosts a course called *How to Be Interviewed* through Creative Coaching Partners, and curates and hosts a monthly reading series in Brooklyn called Brooklyn Books & Booze . A veteran entertainment journalist for The LA Times, Variety and Today.com, Rande lives in Brooklyn.



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