

Spotlight

Friday December 8

Now that the sun is making its coy arrival mid-day and spending the rest of its time rising late and going home early the season of the cozy reading nook is at hand. For this week's spotlight I am bringing to you the defining publication in the genre of painfully adorable cat manga.

Chi's Sweet Home is a manga series written and illustrated by Kanata Konami. The series originally appeared in the manga magazine *Weekly Morning* in 2004. Since then, its popularity has steadily increased resulting in a collection of twelve volumes being published in North America.

The graphic novel is irresistibly cute and simple enough to pull in even the most reluctant reader. The series follows the story of a small grey and white kitten named Chi who gets lost in a park and is found by a young boy named Yohei. Yohei takes Chi home and the family is quicken smitten with him. The only problem is their apartment complex doesn't allow pets. From there the series is full of silly hi-jinks associated with hiding Chi from the nosy landlord. The most charming aspect of the series though is Chi's monologue about what is happening. Chi's interpretation of the family's behaviour will be enjoyed by anyone who has ever shared a space with a cat. An older, wiser cat also makes an appearance to guide Chi in the ways of being a cat – namely figuring out how to steal food and escape. This is a cozy and fun read perfect for any age.

Megan Clark
Public Services Librarian

