



# The Life-Changing Manga of Tidying Up: A Magical Story

*Marie Kond?, Yuko Uramoto (Illustrator), Cathy Hirano (Translator)*

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**From the #1 *New York Times* best-selling author and lifestyle/cleaning guru Marie Kondo, this graphic novelization brings Kondo's life-changing tidying method to life with the fun, quirky story of a woman who transforms her home, work, and love life using Kondo's advice and inspiration.**

Marie Kondo presents the fictional story of Chiaki, a young woman in Tokyo who struggles with a cluttered apartment, messy love life, and lack of direction. After receiving a complaint from her attractive next-door neighbor about the sad state of her balcony, Chiaki gets Kondo to take her on as a client. Through a series of entertaining and insightful lessons, Kondo helps Chiaki get her home--and life--in order. This insightful, illustrated case study is perfect for people looking for a fun introduction to the KonMari Method of tidying up, as well as tried-and-true fans of Marie Kondo eager for a new way to think about what sparks joy. Featuring illustrations by award-winning manga artist Yuko Uramoto, this book also makes a great read for manga and graphic novel lovers of all ages.

## The Life-Changing Manga of Tidying Up: A Magical Story Details

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Author : Marie Kond? , Yuko Uramoto (Illustrator) , Cathy Hirano (Translator)

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# From Reader Review The Life-Changing Manga of Tidying Up: A Magical Story for online ebook

## Kristina Horner says

I loved this! It embodied everything I love about Marie Kondo and really did walk readers through her entire method, but in a way that had all the heart of a Japanese manga. Definitely keeping this one on my shelf to remind me that even on my messiest days, I'm no Chiaki-at-the-start-of-this-book. :P

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## Amanda says

When I heard there was a manga version of this book, I was very intrigued. It was a cute refresher on tidying and makes me want to do another round. I'm still keeping all my unread books though. :P

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## Matteo Fumagalli says

Videorecensione: <https://youtu.be/LYgl9CKThpg>

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## j e w e l s says

The KonMari Method of household organization has been bantered about amongst my friends for the last year, but I had not read the book until now. This graphic novel is a super cute, appealing way of presenting the valuable information to all ages. I read it fast, went back to reread sections and I love the illustrations. I have never even looked at a graphic novel before, and I was pleasantly surprised by how fun this one is. The techniques make sense immediately since it is all visual. I loved this book!

Some of the ideas in the book are just *out there* as in "far out, man", even to a Portlandian like me. I don't care if my clothes receive my love and appreciation, I'm not going to fold dresses and skirts into a drawer. But, the advice on getting rid of the clutter is priceless. I especially like and will use the information on sorting all the paper that seems to accumulate constantly in my house.

I know a lot of my reader peeps will cringe at the "getting rid of books" section! I happen to agree with the author. I only keep books I love and that bring me joy. Once I have read a book, I pass it on to someone else because I have already experienced it.

My 20-year old is anxious to read this precious little book and I would be thrilled if some of the tidying ideas that Marie Kondo introduces will take hold! Thanks so much to Ten Speed Press for giving me the opportunity to read and review this book. All opinions are my own.

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## Rose says

Quick review for a quick read. I could say that my initial reaction upon finishing this book was "ERMAHGARD, THIS IS SO CUTE AND INFORMATIVE AND I CAN'T DEAL, AND KONMARI REALLY DOES LOOK LIKE A FAIRY! GAAAAAAAHHHH!"

But then that really would only scratch the surface of the amount of joy that I received from this book. It's a cute story that takes many of the principles from Marie Kondo's "The Life Changing Magic of Tidying Up" and puts it in a story-based manga format. The illustrations in it are adorable, and the story was one I connected to very much. The manga focuses on the efforts of 29-year old Chiaki as a single woman who can't seem to keep a boyfriend, works a busy job, and comes home to a house that's...less than tidy. (Understatement.)

Chiaki really wants to learn how to tidy, so she googles resources to help her do so. In pops KonMari to save the day. Chiaki goes through each of the principles of the KonMari method, but at the same time finds herself connecting to the reasons why her life seems so chaotic. There's even a something of a cute budding romance story in here. I'll admit I had a big goofy grin on my face as I read through this (it's a quick read, probably less than an hour if you read it in one sitting). It's one I'm really glad I've added to my personal library, and I would recommend it for anyone who wants a cute and quick reference to a rather cool method of organization.

Overall score: 4.5/5 stars.

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## Milliebot says

### 2.5 stars

This review and others posted over at **my blog**.

I don't normally read these type of lifestyle books and a manga edition was probably the only way I was ever going to pick up this book.

It's a cute comic (fyi: it's not set up in traditional manga style, you read this from front to back and left to right, or it won't make much sense lol) and I enjoyed the art style. Marie organizes the book by category of items – the way she believes you should be organizing your own items, rather than room by room. The main categories she uses for items in your life are clothing, books, papers and sentimental books. Her first lesson is to think about your ideal lifestyle and what you want to achieve through tidying. She then tackles the best way to sort through items in these categories and finally ideas on how to store them. Her mantra throughout the book is to only keep what “sparks joy” in you.

I understand the general principle of this book, but the big takeaway for me was clothing organization. I am not at all like Chiaki, who lives in what I'd classify as a dump and who is someone I'd consider a slob. Sorry to any readers whose homes might be cluttered and “messy” – I'm not saying you're a bad person, but if you leave your clothes and dishes and papers lying haphazardly all over every inch of your place, I think you're a slob. Despite Sweetbeeps's best efforts to create piles of clothing all over our house, I generally keep things tidy and could have people over without freaking out about the general state of our lives.

But, I do tend to hoard certain items (other than books, yes) and we don't have as much space as I'd like so tips on organization and culling my hoards are appreciated. I had already started the project of going through all my clothes before reading this and I did get some excellent tips on how to store clothes, especially in regards to folding what I keep in drawers. My closet storage is limited and that will be a challenge when I tackle it, but I can say since reading this book I've reorganized my bureau and folded my shirts and tanks and leggings per Marie's method and it has given me more space and a better view of what items I have on hand. I won't go into crazy detail, but she stresses storing items upright and folding them into rectangles, almost like they're in a file folder – this method puts less weight on your folded clothes, in addition to making it easier to see what you have, and I guess they're less likely to wrinkle. I haven't had this method in place long enough to test the less wrinkle theory though.

Okay, so enough about clothing. What I really disagreed with Marie on was her theory for keeping or discarding books. She claims you should not be reading what the book is about, but rather just touching the cover and seeing if it sparks joy within you. Sorry, but that's not how I work. She asks, "Do you feel joy when surrounded by books that you've never read?" YES. She believes that you've missed ideal time to read a book you own (re: immediately after buying it) then "someday" never comes and you'll never get to that book. Well, despite having a frighteningly massive TBR, I do pick up books at random, even ones I've owned for years. She also notes that you should donate all these unread books and they'll come back to you if they're meant to. I don't believe that either! And why would I donate a book I bought and then possibly someday buy it again?

It's not to say I never purge my collection – I do get rid of books I didn't enjoy after reading them and I will go through my shelves randomly and pick out books I know I'm not going to read and donate them. But it would be depressing to only own books I've read! I like living in a library, thanks.

I do need to go through some of my more sentimental possessions and find a better way to store them, but chances are I'll always own a lot of "stuff" because I like owning stuff and things. I also neglected to thank my clothing that I was getting rid of or to toss a pinch of salt on something to remove bad karma. These are sort of cultural/mindset ideas that don't gel with me and I don't feel the need to perform them when discarding my things.

I don't necessarily think I'm the target audience for this book, but it did inspire me to get back into going through my clothing, which I appreciated. I also understand the overall message, which is, don't let items that don't give you joy (or are functionally necessary, I suppose) clutter up your life. I think if you're looking for a quick, animated summary of tips for organizing your whole home, you might enjoy this more than I did.

I received this book for free from Blogging for Books in exchange for an honest review. This does not affect my opinion of the book or the content of my review. All opinions in this post are my own.

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## **Isa Cantos (Crónicas de una Merodeadora) says**

Esta es una adaptación *manga* del libro sobre el orden de Marie Kondo. Esta mujer es una gurú que promete que tu vida mejorará si ordenas tu casa según su método. ¿Que por qué leí esto? Bueno, por trabajo. Pero en realidad (y sorpresivamente) me gustó. El formato de *manga* me atrapó de inmediato porque las claves y *tips* de Marie Kondo no estaban expuestas de un modo académico, sino involucradas en la vida de los protagonistas de esta historia (a la que le faltó un beso al final, pero *oh, well...*).

Me gustaron mucho todos los *tips* que sugiere para organizar ropa, papeles y otros objetos, pero estoy en profundo desacuerdo con lo que Marie Kondo piensa sobre los libros. ¿Cómo me vas a decir que los libros que no he leído nunca los leeré y que su momento pasó en el momento en el que no los leí cuando los compré? En eso no puedo estar de acuerdo. Nunca. *Never*. ¿AH? Y encima dice que la manera de escoger qué libros debes quedarte es ponerle la mano encima, sin abrirlos, y decidir si la sensación que te producen es de felicidad. *I mean...* **\*inserte emoji poniendo los ojos en blanco aquí\***

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### Cyndi says

I read KonMari's book, The Magic of Tidying and it was excellent! This one added more info and was even more helpful. The visual in the manga art was very useful.  
Gotta admit, though that I skipped the tidying of books a bit. Clothes? No prob. Movies? Yep. Music? Pshaw! But, books? ?Joy! ?Joy! ?Joy! Oh well. ?????

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### Renégade ♥ says

[

Uh... sorry. Just had a moment there...

(hide spoiler)]

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### Hana Bilqisthi says

Seru dan relatable..semoga bisa beberes kamar juga. Makasih google books untuk diskon 75%nya ?

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### Mehsi says

It is time to tidy up your life! Well, if you are such a terrible case as Chiaki is. :P

I already knew about the normal book, and I even tried it, but it just wasn't for me. So when I saw there was a manga for the book, I was curious, but also hesitant. I read a sample online and well, I couldn't resist. The art was fun, the story seemed interesting, and I wanted to know if garbage-dump-living Chiaki could change her way.

Chiaki is really terrible in cleaning/tidying up. I mean, I get that you get a bit sloppy with such a busy life as she has, but to turn your house into a garbage heap? Something out of a hoarders episode? No. I did wonder if her mom/dad/other adults ever taught her to clean, but given everything, I guess not? Thankfully our girl feels that something should change, she wants to invite people over, and also feel welcome in her home, plus not stab herself with random stuff. And that is when she finds an ad and Marie Kondo steps into her life. She

will help with everything, though Chiaki will have to do most things on her own, Marie just tells her what to do and how to keep it neat. I quite like that, I was worried that Marie would help with everything and then Chiaki wouldn't learn anything.

In between the chapters we have little help parts that again explain what happened in this chapter/what Chiaki learned and gives us some more pointers.

There was also a hint of romance, though I do hope that this romance has better luck for Chiaki than her previous romances (and I also hope that she won't take his hobbies/collect stuff for that hobby, like she did with all her other boyfriends). But I have a good feeling about it. They do match together and it seems Chiaki is truly happy with him.

I loved seeing Chiaki's home get more and more clean, she really has a nice home... under all that junk.

Plus I am happy that not only did we see Chiaki's home, we also saw her work, have lunch, and we see her past (boyfriends mainly).

Also, really, why does she keep all the stuff from her boyfriends? I can understand smaller items that have emotional value, but snowboards? Tea stuff? I would throw them out as fast as I can when after a break-up.

I did feel that it was a bit too preachy at times for me. It felt a bit like if you don't do it the Marie Kondou way then you are doing things wrong. Also the whole your items/clothes support you so you should love and respect them was just a bit too much for a down-to-earth girl like me. No, I am not going to clap my hands or wave my hands to "wake up" my stuff.

Eh, not like I need a tidying fairy, my house is so sparkly my boyfriend makes jokes about it often. ;) And sure my clothes are not folded as fancy as her way (not really possible due to my closet), and sure we have a lot of stuff (at least that is how it feels to me), but no way I am throwing more stuff away, I already clean enough, and my boyfriend already tells me that stuff can just stay and I shouldn't clean too much. :P

The art was also nice, one of the reasons I got this book.

It was a bit confusing though as this is a manga, but it is published the Western way. So as you can imagine at times I felt like I was reading it the wrong way.

But all in all, I really enjoyed this manga, and Chiaki was just a fabulous protagonist, hopefully she can keep it up and doesn't make her home a mess again. I would recommend this manga.

Review first posted at <https://twirlingbookprincess.com/>

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**Melissa ♥ Dog/Wolf Lover ♥ Martin says**

This book was soooooooooooooo cute =)

And I did actually learn some tidbits of information about getting rid of stuff. I have been getting rid of stuff

for some time now but it never seems to make a difference. And I have recently started getting rid of books I'm not going to read again so it's making more room!

Chiaki is the girl in this book and boy is she a hoarder! But I thought Chiaki and Marie had a good time tidying up and setting priorities. I actually have a few more things I want to add to my big giveaway pile after reading this little book. I love giving stuff away, it's so refreshing to get things out and know that someone will actually use it =) I don't think I would have paid much attention to the real book (I think there is a real book format) as much as I did with this little manga. It was just too cute and I loved the pictures.

There just happens to be a cute boy next door that she can invite over after she tidy's up! ♥

He got to see her house by accident before it was clean and he freaked. I mean, I would too. It was super impressive when it was clean though.

Either way, I loved this book being in manga form. I really enjoyed it.

\*Thank you to BloggingForBooks for a print copy of this book.\*

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## **Anki says**

So, I have somewhat mixed feelings about this book. First, the positives: this is a sweet story that provides an accessible example of what the KonMari method is and how to apply it in your life. There isn't really any *new* information here per se, but presenting the information in a story format helps readers see how the KonMari method works. Having examples like this can be incredibly useful, and like I said, the story is cute.

That said, I cannot understand *why* the publisher decided to flip this book to read left-to-right. This is 2017, not 1997, and manga is mainstream and popular enough that reading a "backwards book" (right-to-left format) isn't exactly a barrier to entry. It wasn't *terrible* reading this flipped, but the art felt subtly off. Also...they didn't flip everything. Some panels are unflipped, and the floorplan of Chiaki's apartment at the beginning of the book is also unflipped (and it's obvious; you see her full apartment a page later). I want to get a copy of the Japanese version to get a better idea of exactly what all was changed.

I'm glad this manga is available in English. I'm glad I own it, even as I question the formatting decisions of the publisher. I wish it were available in English in an unflipped format.

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## **Jessi ♥? H. Vojsk says**

This was so adorable!

It was a perfect little summary of Konmari.



The Manga is about Chiaki, a Sales rep with a messy home. Marie Kondo helps her to tidy up her home and her life.

The illustrations were absolutely fitting for every moment and so so cute!

I loved this book so much. Definitely a recommendation!

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### **Jen says**

Liked it, but give up my books?!? Actually, I think I'm doing ok with getting rid of things, but maybe I will look over my stuff and consider the "joy" the things give me. Worthwhile, quick read. I liked the folding lesson. That will help re: space for clothes. 3.5 stars, rounded up because it had given me some new ideas. Recommended if you are trying to downsize.

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