Author: Paul Gallico.

Source: book.

Number of pages: 31.

Number of chapters: 0.

Publisher, time and date of publication: Michael Joseph, 1951.

Kind of text: religious, friendship, animals.

Explanation of the title: There is a small miracle at the end of the story. The donkey Violetta becomes healthy again.

Fiction: yes, the small miracle is based on a real story but the characters exist only in the imagination of the author and are not based on real persons.

Point of view: the author tells the story.

Description of the main characters:

Pepino is a small thin and brown boy with enormous dark eyes, large ears and upstanding black hair.

His donkey Violetta: dust-coloured little donkey with the Mona Lisa smile and friendly gentle eyes and long, pointed brown ears.

Description of the main theme: The whole story is based on the faith of Pepino in Saint Francis and God.

My own opinion: It was a short story again, but the events make the story attractive.
Beginning: a little description of the little village Assisi and then the story starts with the normal life of Pepino. Later Violetta gets sick.

Ending: the donkey recovers.

Genre: religion – adventure.

Climax: the little miracle: the discovery of the leaden box and the recovery of the little donkey.

Style: you can read the author loves animals and can tell much about them. It is written in a religic style.

Summary: Pepino and his donkey Violetta are not rich, Pepino works with his donkey and loves him. The donkey gets sick, and Pepino is very sad because he knows something is wrong with the donkey. He goes to the crypt of St. Francis with Violetta but he can’t come in because it is forbidden. He goes to the monastery to see the Bishop but he can’t help him. Pepino goes to Rome to see the Pope. He bring flowers for the Pope, the Pope is charmed with the flowers and it works, he gets some letters for the Saint. Then they go to a very old church. They breake the wall because the chruch is closed for hundreds of years. They find a leadeen box filled with flowers and a feather. The smile of the monkey returns and the donkey gets healthy again.