

BY DOROTHY CARUSO

ENRICO CARUSO

HIS LIFE AND DEATH

SIMON AND SCHUSTER



*Because Enrico
so deeply loved her
I dedicate this book
to the memory
of his mother*

THE PHOTOGRAPH which appears on the jacket and as the frontispiece is reproduced through the courtesy of the photographer, Kaiden Kazanjian. The remaining photographs were supplied by Dorothy Caruso and the Culver Service.

THE CARICATURES which appear throughout the book were all drawn by Enrico Caruso, with the exception of Dorothy Caruso's portrait of her husband as Don Alvaro. All of the drawings except "Caruso Making a Record" originally appeared in the Italian-language newspaper, *La Follia di New York*, and were later used in several editions of *Caricatures by Enrico Caruso*, published by Marziale Sisca. They are reprinted here by special arrangement with Mr. Sisca.

Foreword

IF I DO not begin my story in the usual chronological way, it is because I have chosen a moment in time from which I can look backward and forward as if I were standing in a doorway between two familiar rooms. It is the story of two lives that merged into one life, and it is that life of which I write.

The letters of Enrico to me are as much a part of the story as that which I have written. I have left them in the form in which he wrote them. They are misspelled and touching, full of humor and sadness and old wisdom. At times they are curiously Biblical.

I was twenty-five when I married Enrico and twenty-eight when he died. When I write of us I am again twenty-five years old, living once more our splendid tragic life.

Dorothy Caruso

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HOW HE LOOKED

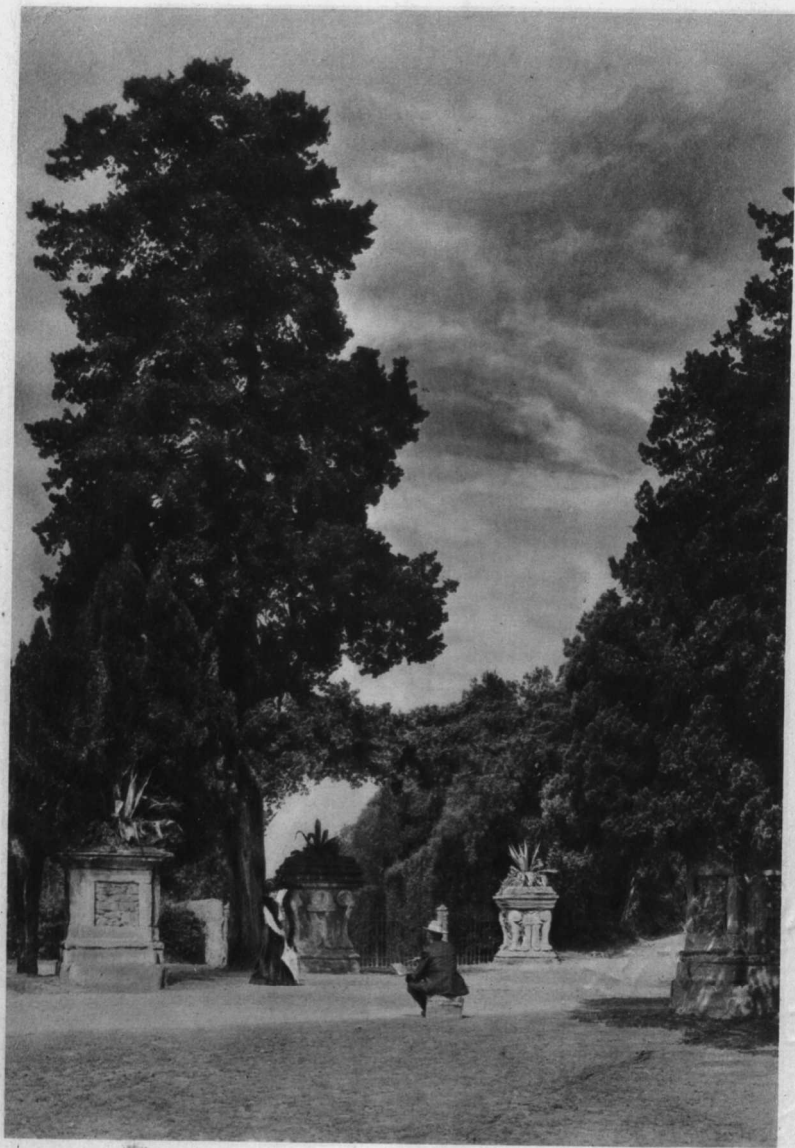
OFF STAGE



This was Caruso's first published photograph, taken when he was 19. Since his only shirt was being washed, he draped himself in a bed-spread to receive the photographers. See page 143.



Caruso as he looked when he left Italy to come to America in 1904 for his first season at the Metropolitan.



Entrance to the park of the Villa Bellosguardó at Signa, Italy. This gate was broken down by the Revolutionists. See page 35.



Caruso arriving in New York in November, 1913 from his last season in Austria and Germany.



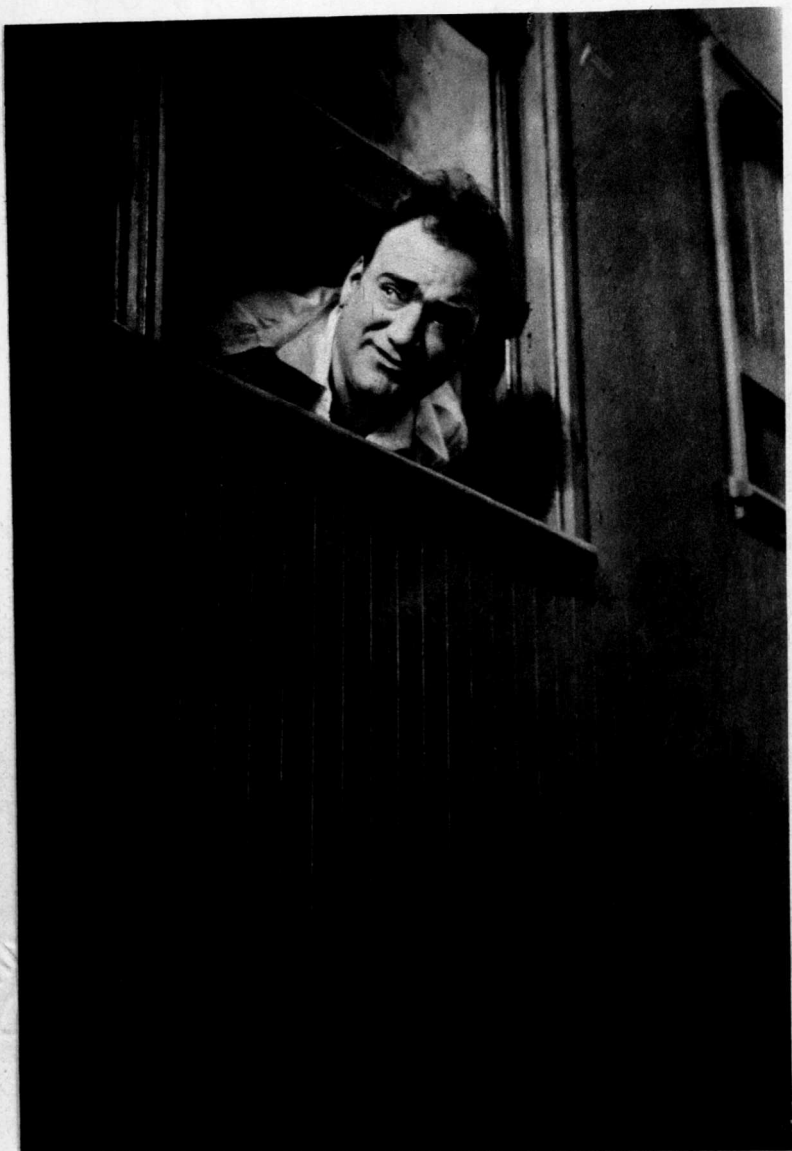
Gloria at the time of her christening. Although she was given five names, her father always called her Puschina.



Caruso with the old Italian comedian, Gravina, at the stage-door of the Metropolitan. In the background are his tall secretary, Zirato, and his accompanist, Fucito.



Singing at Sheepshead Bay, September, 1918.



From the train window at Monterey en route to Mexico City.
September, 1919.