

Beulah Pavarotti



The biggest voice in the Pavarotti house on the outskirts of Modena, Italy, in the early 1940s did not belong to little Luciano but rather to his sister, Beulah. It was *she* who could shatter glass with her high Gs and make all of the neighborhood dogs and ducks howl in confusion, not Luke. It was Beulah whose temper tantrum-instigated vocal outburst on June 20, 1943, caused the Adapazari-Hendek earthquake. And the handkerchief that her bro traditionally clutched during his solo recitals? Luciano originally used it to shield his ears from the 110-dB ululations little sis regularly belted out, and the great tenor simply decided to always keep it handy. So what happened to Beulah Pavarotti? Ahh, it is a tale of intrigue and bizarre convolutions that must, due to space limitations today, be left for another time.