

THE ULTIMATE GUIDE

TO CHOOSING CHARACTER NAMES

Back in print and better than ever, *The Writer's Digest Character Naming Sourcebook* has been updated and expanded to help you find character names and their meanings quickly and easily!

This one-of-a-kind resource was specifically designed with the writer in mind. Inside you'll find:

- 25,000+ first names and surnames, and their meanings, listed by origin
- Names and surnames from more than 45 countries
- A reverse lookup of names by meaning
- An alphabetical index of names
- An explanation of naming practices and historical context for each origin
- A list of the top ten most popular names in the United States every year from 1880–2003
- Instruction on how to create believable names that fit your characters and your story

This exciting new edition also includes advice from a number of best-selling authors, including Elizabeth George, Alexander McCall Smith, Homer Hickam, Marian Keyes, *Big Fish* author Daniel Wallace, and others. You'll get the inside scoop on their naming methods, plus the stories behind the names of their most famous characters.

So throw out your old telephone books and baby-naming guides—*The Writer's Digest Character Naming Sourcebook* meets all your naming needs!

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How has *Big Fish* author Daniel Wallace's method for character naming evolved throughout his career? What unique advice does he have for you? (See page 152.)

Which author bases his or her character names on friends' names: Jennifer Crusie, Homer Hickam, Hallie Ephron, or Alexander McCall Smith? (See page 206.)

Where does Elizabeth George look when she is desperate for a great name? (See page 338.)

Find the answers to these questions in *The Writer's Digest Character Naming Sourcebook*, and learn how more of your favorite authors—like Marian Keyes, Jodi Picoult, David Morrell, Michael Connelly, and others—name their characters. Get advice from the experts on how to create memorable and meaningful names!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sherrilyn Kenyon is the *USA Today* and *The New York Times* best-selling author of several series, including *The Dark-Hunters*, *Brotherhood of the Sword*, *The MacAllisters*, *Sex Camp Diaries*, and *BAD Boys*. Her novel *Fantasy Lover* was voted one of the top ten romances of 2002 by Romance Writers of America. Along with her fictional work, Sherrilyn is an accomplished nonfiction author who has contributed to such works as *The Writer's Complete Fantasy Reference*.

THE WRITER'S DIGEST

CHARACTER
NAMING
SOURCEBOOK

SECOND EDITION

SHERRILYN KENYON

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Please note that many of the languages corresponding with the origins in this book use different diacritical marks that are essential to the letters in their alphabets and to the pronunciation of their names. For the most part, these diacritical marks are not included in the book. If you want to ensure complete accuracy, be sure to do independent research for the correct spelling of the names.

ONLINE RESEARCH TIPS

A Note About Accuracy

As you research names for your fictional characters, keep in mind how important accuracy is to you. All possible effort has been taken to keep errors from creeping into this book. Nonetheless, no one source of naming information can be considered infallible or perfectly objective. If accuracy is essential to the success of your story, you should verify information from any one source by cross-checking it against another source—preferably another type of source. The naming resources listed below are convenient because they can be accessed online; but, like most online information sources, they cannot be assumed to be 100 percent correct.

Genealogy Resources

Genealogists spend a lot of time researching names, and it is important for them to know historical naming practices if they want to be successful. Many genealogists post information they have uncovered in their research—from specific family history to general naming practices in certain areas of the world at specific times. Just a few of the online resources for genealogists are census and immigration records, ship passenger lists, and names taken from gravestones in cemeteries.

A huge index of genealogical information is available through Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites at www.CyndisList.com. The information you'll find at this site not only can help you choose appropriate names for your characters, but also can provide invaluable information for settings and character background.

About.com is another good site to visit for genealogical information. The information at <http://genealogy.about.com> includes lists of surname meanings and information about naming practices in several countries and cultures. While you're visiting About.com, don't forget to use the search feature to check for general information about places featured in your book.

Baby Name Sites

It seems like there are dozens of Web sites designed to help you choose a first name for your child. These sites can be a source of

inspiration as you choose a name for your character. Most baby name sites allow you to search for names by gender and origin, so you can specify that you're looking for a female name of Chinese origin, for instance. The meaning of each name is given, but if accuracy is important to you, you should verify the information found at baby name sites through another source.

A general search under "baby names" through Google or any other popular search engine will yield a host of sites. Some of these include:

www.BabyNames.com
www.BabyCenter.com/BabyName/
www.babynamesworld.com
www.BehindTheName.com
www.BabyNameNetwork.com

Search Engines

Using a search engine is a good way to find obscure information about naming practices. Keep cultural differences and alternate terminology in mind when you enter your search terms. For instance, a search under "first name" will probably yield different results from a search for "given name" or "Christian name." If you don't get good results with the search term "last name," try "surname," and "family name" as well. Likewise, search for both "nickname" and "byname" for information about informal names. The advanced search features of many search engines will allow you to search for sites containing at least one of several different search terms. In other words, you can save time by searching for sites that contain *either* the term "surname" or the term "family name," for instance. Many search-engine sites also include indexes of information by topic. Some host communities of people who share a common interest (such as genealogy or a foreign culture); as long as you are courteous and follow the rules for the community, you can join the mailing list, read correspondence among the group members, and post requests for information.

Some popular search engines include:

www.Google.com
www.Yahoo.com
www.Altavista.com

www.Lycos.com

www.HotBot.com

Special Sources

Online encyclopedias can help out with general information about a culture and its customs and language. One particularly helpful online encyclopedia is Wikipedia at <http://en.wikipedia.org>. Anyone can contribute to this free encyclopedia, which means that the range of information available through this site is very broad. (In some cases, it may also mean that the information should be verified through other sources.) Wikipedia happens to have quite a bit of information on naming practices.

There are other online sources that can provide vast amounts of information, you just have to look for them. And when you find them, be careful to double check their accuracy and legitimacy.

Native Speakers and Other Experts

Travel sites can also help with your research. Look for sites put up by organizations trying to promote tourism to a specific country or city; sites created by travelers chronicling their experiences and advice for other travelers; and sites established by émigrés who wish to share their native culture with others.

If you can't find the information you need in print or online, contact the international office at a university near you. An advisor may be able to put a note with your contact information in the student newsletter or on a bulletin board. Most universities offer foreign language instruction as well as classes in culture and history. Language and history professors and graduate students may be able to supplement your research or verify information obtained from another source. Conduct as much research as you can through other channels before contacting someone at a university—that way, you are more likely to know the specific questions you need to ask in order to complete your research.

Most colleges and universities have Web sites with departmental contact information. If you can't find a specialist in the U.S., look up universities in other countries. You can often send an e-mail message to the department chair or administrator, and you may get a response, even if the university is in a non-English-speaking country.

THANKS

A special thanks to the following people who shared their time and knowledge about different cultures and their naming practices:

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sherrilyn Kenyon is the *USA Today* and *New York Times* best-selling author of several series, including *The Dark-Hunters*, *Brotherhood of the Sword*, *The MacAllisters*, *Sex Camp Diaries*, and *BAD Boys*. Her novel *Fantasy Lover* was voted one of the top ten romances of 2002 by Romance Writers of America. Along with her fictional work, Sherrilyn is an accomplished nonfiction author who has contributed to such works as *The Writer's Complete Fantasy Reference*.

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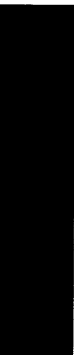
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THE CRAFT OF NAMING

lighting powerful • **Quemby**, **Quamby** from the woman's name
Helena light • **Konstantin** steadfast • **Payton**, **Paden**, **Pat**
Marcos, **Mario**, **Martin**, **Martino**, **Martinez** warrior • **Gabriella** **Gabrielle**
Tasane beautiful view • **Oksana**, **Oxana** beautiful • **Ngun**
Odelle, **Odella**, **Odelina**, **Odelinda**, **Odille**, **Otha**, **Othella**, **Othett**
Antton peace prayer • **Phyllis** green
Alzbeta the noblest of women • **Adam** to be reckoned to • **Edo** • **Wilhelm** the warrior
Burton, **Burhtun** lives in the fortified town • **Saara**, **Sari**, **Saia**, **Sr**
Ange, **Angelina**, **Angelina**, **Angelika** angel • **Yolanda**, **Yolanda**, **Yolande** the
Glynis, **Glynies**, **Glynis**, **Glynis** from the girl • **Brendan**, **Breandan**
Lurline, **Lurlina**, **Lurlene**, **Lurlene** fortresses • **Konrad**, **Kurt**, **Kuna**, **Kun**, **F**
Kora, **Katakán**, **Katoka**, **Katica**, **Katus**, **Kolo**, **Kaunka**
Debra, **Devora**, **Devoria** dew • **Mayah**, **Maia**, **Michelle**, **Micheline**, **M**
Terdos bold • **Sakan** sword •
Maura, **Maia**, **Maura**, **Muire**, **Mamma**, **Maira** mother • **Rafa**
Rafael, **Raphael**, **Rafaelo** God has healed • **Kalya**, **Kalya** for
Pammiel, **Pamolina**, **Pamelina**, **Pamella** peace of honey • **Teresa**
Kaleka double chiding deer • **Pannoosau** noble • **Kessa**
Yasmena sweet flower • **Saeed**, **Said**, **Sorayah** happy • **Roxy**
Fatma sacred • **Fatma** sacred; name of pilgrimage • **M**
Nikito victorious

Christina • **Nicola**, **Nikito** victorious • **Victory**
Ally • **Tira**, **Tyra** strong • **Alan**, **Aran**, **Ailen**, **Alley**
Brig • **Boris**, **Boyeko** noble • **Brig**
Horacio sacred • **Salvador** • **Salvador**
Francis, **Francine**, **Fanchon**, **Franciska**, **France**, **Fr**
Wolfgang wolf's way • **Solada** bold • **Niran** chief of
Tuan noble • **Sang** light • **G**
Catherina, **Cathryn**, **Catherine**, **Cate** mother • **Leta**, **Lora**
Cary, **Carry** from the war • **Myra**, **Merna**, **M**
Orson, **Oerson** like iron • **Azzah**, **Aziza** noble • **Sofiya**
Jia happy and good • **Li** strength • **Wen** peace
Leene from the war • **Velli**, **Veikka**, **Vello** battle • **Ada**, **Aida**, **A**
Bromy from the bottom • **Harlan**, **Harland** from the hill
Anton beyond • **Clavia**, **Chlois** for
Julie, **Julia**, **Juliette**, **Juliet**, **Julietta**, **Julita** youthful • **Simone** for
Ferook, **Ferook** One who knows the truth • **Gedara**, **Gadara** in
Morgan, **Morgane**, **Morgana** dweller of the sea • **Mulan** purple
Faith, **Faibha**, **Fayth** faithful • **Ralph**, **Ralf**, **Rolf**, **Roife** red • **Susanna**, **Sanna** ill • **Keel**, **Keel**
Deirdre, **Deirda**, **Deardrid** strong • **Bernard**, **Bernon**, **Berriot**, **Bernard**, **Bene**
Greta, **Gretal**, **Greta**, **Gretel**, **Gredal**, **Orya**, **Gtha**, **Gretchen** noble • **Isana**, **Izsa**
Narayan shining water • **Cassidy**, **Cassidie** cheer • **Valentina**, **Valerie** brave • **Harshie** for
Reka sweet • **Pakuna** deer jumping powerful • **Quemby**, **Quamby** from the woman's name
Teresa, **Teresina**, **Tereza**, **Terezhina** summer harvest • **Helena** light • **Konstantin** steadfast • **Payton**, **Paden**, **Pat**
Nadine hope • **Marco**, **Marcos**, **Mario**, **Martin**, **Martino**, **Martinez** warrior • **Gabriella** **Gabrielle**
Rupert bright fame • **Tasane** beautiful view • **Oksana**, **Oxana** beautiful • **Ngun**
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Glynis, **Glynies**, **Glynis**, **Glynis** from the girl • **Brendan**, **Breandan**, **Browan**, **B**
Lurline, **Lurlina**, **Lurlene**, **Lurlene** fortresses • **Konrad**, **Kurt**, **Kuna**, **Kona**, **Kur**
Coralia, **Coralia** from the city of the sea • **Kora**, **Katakán**, **Katoka**, **Katica**, **Katus**, **Kelo**, **Kaunka**, **Karsinka**
Debra, **Devorah**, **Debra**, **Devora**, **Devoria** dew • **Mayah**, **Maia**, **Michelle**, **Micheline**, **Micheline**, **M**
Terdos bold • **Sakan** sword • **Ulfar** like wolf • **Rafa**
Rafael, **Raphael**, **Rafaelo** God has healed • **Kalya**, **Kalya** for
Pammiel, **Pamolina**, **Pamelina**, **Pamella** peace of honey • **Teresa**
Kaleka double chiding deer • **Pannoosau** noble • **Pessy**, **Keiri**, **Keida** the
Yasmena sweet flower • **Saeed**, **Said**, **Sorayah** happy • **Roxy**
Fatma sacred • **Fatma** sacred; name of pilgrimage • **M**
Nikito victorious

NAMING CHARACTERS

Without a doubt one of the hardest things a writer has to do, other than plot a book, is aptly name the characters. To quote Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, "What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet." But would it?

A heroine named Bertha doesn't invoke the same response as a Regina or a Juliet. A memorable character name will not only define the book and shape the story, but it should invoke an instant image in the reader's mind.

Case in point, Scarlett O'Hara places a much different image in the reader's mind than Katie O'Hara or even Katherine O'Hara. The name Scarlett completely captures the spirit and fire of the Margaret Mitchell character that we all know and love as the turbulent heroine of *Gone with the Wind*. Her full name was in fact Katie Scarlett O'Hara. The name Katie is sweeter, more demure, almost childlike, while Katherine is proper and formal, neither of which would have been appropriate for our Scarlett.

NAMING GUIDELINES

For myself, when I'm asked about how I come up with names I always say that my people (I never use the term *character* because to me it makes them unreal and to me the people in my books are real, breathing entities) name themselves, and this is oddly enough true. Whenever I sit down to write, my people introduce themselves to me. I then listen to them dictate to me their stories.

But since that is seldom helpful to other writers, I have long been giving workshops and writing articles on more practical ways to get a handle on your own people. Having published works in all major genres, I have learned one thing: Most naming techniques will work no matter what you're writing.

However, you might wish to keep certain things in mind that are genre specific, which I will go into later. For now, here are the ten major guidelines that transcend genre.

1. Capture the persona.

You should always try to choose a name that captures the character's personality, an instant reader association that will allow them to know something about that character. What you wish to convey is solely up to you. But make the name mean something. Don't just arbitrarily decide on a name for any of your people, including secondary characters. You never know when that character will come back to be the hero of another book or even another series. Spend time with every character in your story, large or small. Take a little time and get to know them. Almost everyone human has some type of baggage that comes along with their names. Playing off of this will make your character seem more real.

In my suspense thrillers, the head of the Bureau of American Defense is named Joe Q. Public. His name serves a dual purpose. It shows that his father had a really sick sense of humor that Joe at times shares, and it allows me to play off the fact that the director of BAD isn't your "average Joe." His name is also a constant reminder to the agents that at the end of the day, they all serve a greater purpose. They fight not for themselves, but for the public at large.

Likewise, in my Dark-Hunter vampire novels, their leader is named Acheron, which is an ancient Greek name in keeping with his eleven-thousand-year-old heritage. The name itself is taken from the River of Woe in the Underworld that mortal souls must cross in order to reach their final resting place. The symbolism of the name and its meaning were perfect for Acheron's role in my vampire universe.

In my Brotherhood of the Sword medieval series, I have a character named Damien St. Cyr. The name Damien is a Norman French form of the Greek Daemon, which means "demon." The character in the series is a good guy turned evil, but who is ultimately redeemed. While he is evil, Demon is the perfect choice for him. His surname comes from the Catholic Saint Cyr, who was a pilgrim to the Holy Land who was persecuted because of his beliefs. Since Damien was taken prisoner in the Holy Land and tortured for his faith and political position, he took that name as his as a reminder of everything he had suffered and survived.

When deciding on names, think of your character name's connotation. In *The Three Musketeers* by Alexandre Dumas, Lady de Winter is the cold and calculating villainess. The name completely suits her.

However, if you are writing a romance novel, you might not want to name your heroine Winter or anything that makes the reader think that she is unfeeling or emotionally distant.

Choosing a name that captures your character is truly limited only by your imagination. But always remember that it is the first link your reader will have to your story.

2. Choose a name in keeping with your character's heritage and personality and/or trade.

A wonderful example of this is found in Sara Paretsky's V.I. Warshawski series. V.I. is sensitive about her name, which is a formal-sounding Victoria. She refers to herself mostly as Vic, which is in keeping with her tough PI reputation. Her last name, Warshawski, is indicative of her father's Polish heritage. A few members of her family and friends sometimes call her Vickie, but she is extremely selective about who gets to use that name with her.

Now this isn't to say that she couldn't be a PI named Victoria Warshawski or Vickie Warshawski, but that would lend itself to a whole other dimension in the series as she struggled for respectability. Most people would feel much more comfortable entrusting their lives and secrets to a Vic or V.I. than they would with a Vickie.

How you want to play the character is solely up to you, but do remember that in certain fields unorthodox names will carry a lot of personal baggage for the character.

3. Make the name harmonious.

Vary the syllables between first and last names. Jonathan Wright has a much more attractive ring to it than John Wright. However, nonvaried names can work effectively in such cases as Ian Fleming's James Bond. But I think one of the reasons why his name is so successful is because he usually introduces himself as "Bond. James Bond," which has its own unique harmony to it as well as conveying the character's trademark arrogance.

I've heard many writers say that to them the perfect harmonious blends are names that add up to a total of five syllables. I'm not sure I agree with it, but I have noticed that I stick to four- and five-syllable names myself.

The main thing is not to get in a rut. Don't make every character in the book a four- or five-syllable name, just the main characters.

4. Keep the character's name consistent with his or her time period.

Readers will be thrown off if they find a Sherri or Brandy in your tenth-century Viking novel set in Scandinavia, unless it is a time travel and they are from the modern era.

However, there's more to this than just the obvious. Having a name that is accurate to the time period is one thing, but you should always remember the reader's expectations as well. I will never forget years ago when I was on an online bulletin board where a reader was expressing her extreme anger over an author using the name Brian in a medieval set historical. When I wrote to explain to her that the name was a common ancient Irish name and was used by several Irish kings, including Irish High King Brian Boru (940–1014) the reader still accused me of being wrong because everyone knows the name Brian is a twentieth-century name.

Likewise, I have seen people say the same of the name Tiffany, which is, in fact, a common medieval French Norman name (Tifini, Tiffini, or Tiphany) as far back as the twelfth century. Tiffany with its “modern” spelling is even found in seventeenth-century records as a given name both in England and here in the New World.

But because readers associate names such as these with modern culture, be aware that should you use them even though it is accurate to your time period, some readers will never be convinced that you did your research. As a result of this, I often caution writers to stick to known historical names for their time periods or to at least be ready to defend their choices when they deviate from what readers expect.

5. Keep the character's social status in mind.

Until recently, it was virtually unheard of to find European nobility named “common” names such as Sarah, Molly, Emma, etc. They relied on the traditional names such as Elizabeth, Victoria, Anne, and such that were recycled through their families. Today they are bucking that tradition, but remember that if you have a character who does, it would be a cause for alarm to the rest of the family who might want a more traditional name chosen.

Likewise, if your character is a dirt farmer from rural Alabama circa the depression era, he most likely wouldn't have the name Rupert, Ignacio, or Pedro.

In *No Ordinary Princess*, Pamela Morsi has an interesting character named Princess whose father was an average, common man who made it rich in the oil mines. He named his daughter Princess because that is what she was to him, and Princess had a hard time living up to that name.

6. Use nicknames.

If you have a character that historically or culturally has to have a horrifically bad name such as Horatio Hornblower, you might wish to use a nickname for them. With a little imagination these can be played very well. One of the best examples of this is Stephanie Laurens, who uses nicknames to add an additional layer to her characters. In her best-selling Cynster series, all the men have traditional English noble names such as Rupert, Sylvester, Harry, etc., which are not romantic names by any means.

So, to stay historically accurate and yet give her readers names that would be evocative and sexy, she nicknamed every one of them with names such as Scandal, Devil, Demon, etc., but the neatest part about this is that none of the names are given for the reason the reader expects.

Take the name Vane for instance. Some readers might expect it to come from the fact that he is vain, but, in fact, the nickname stems from his being steadfast like a weather vane that always points true north.

7. Vary the names of the characters.

Don't get stuck on a letter or a rhythm. If you use names that sound or look alike, it can become confusing to readers. Alice, Alec, Alister, Adam, Aaron begin to look alike to the reader. I've also noticed that most writers tend to get stuck on certain letters for names. My two sins are the letters *A* and *S*. For some reason, I gravitate toward those letters and I have to force myself to use the rest of the alphabet.

8. Remember the genre.

Again, this gets back to reader expectations. If you are writing a Western and you have a hero named Giles de Givrey, it most likely won't ring true to your audience. Likewise fantasy readers aren't expecting to come across a heroine named Martha Williams.

9. If you choose a name that breaks the rules, explain it.

The above names could work, provided you let the audience know that Martha Williams fell into an enchanted tree while she was visiting a state park in Idaho and woke up in an alternate universe where she now has to battle evil to save the world. Or Giles might be the child of French immigrants who came out west to start a new life and were then murdered by the bad guy.

10. Avoid the names others have made famous.

Most character names are not trademarked; however, some are. But regardless of whether they've been trademarked, it's always a good idea to avoid the names that other people have made famous.

Yes, Anita Blake is a common name, but readers can sometimes get defensive about seeing another author use a name one of their favorite authors made famous—in this case, Laurell K. Hamilton's famous vampire hunter. Sometimes it happens inadvertently, but you should always try to stay away from other's territory.

Likewise, try to stay on top of naming trends in your chosen genre. Certain names seem to run in cycles, and I have never really figured out why. I remember a while back the name Shea was extremely popular in the fantasy genre. It seemed as if every book I picked up had a character named Shea.

When I started writing my book *Fantasy Lover*, no Julians were in sight. Yet, when my book came out, it seemed to be the year of the Julian. Every book I picked up had the name in it.

Use your character names to your advantage. Let them help you develop your story in other ways as well. One of the worksheets that I use in workshops asks the author to think about the character's birth order and how the parents felt about his or her birth. In one of my novellas, I have a character named Adrian Lesley Cole who is a man. The reason he has that name is that his mother hates men and she was determined that she would not have a son. As a result, she refused to give him a masculine name. Both the name and her feelings toward him influence their relationship and his life.

How a character feels about his or her name is a goldmine of character development just waiting to happen. Never be afraid to be creative. Remember, regardless of what you're writing, this is your world. These are your people. Make them your own.

SPECIFIC GENRE ADVICE

Writing in a specific genre often requires some extra considerations when naming your characters. Use the following advice to help create suitable genre character names.

Science Fiction/Fantasy: One of the things that I find helpful whenever I'm creating a new world is to pick a culture or language to build from. In the case of my vampire world, I use Greek as my base language for new terminology and for first and last names. It helps to build consistency, and it gives me a foundation to build from.

Case in point, my vampires are called Daimons, which is the Greek word for “demon,” because they predate the origin of the word *vampire*. Everything in their world comes from ancient Greece, therefore the realm of Katoteros is taken from the Greek word meaning “nether,” and Kalosis is from the Greek word *Kalasi* meaning “hell.” I don't always choose a Greek term as my root word, but when I'm making up new terms, I make sure that they at least sound Greek.

One thing I would always caution against though is using names that the reader stumbles over. Most of us read aloud in our heads. If a reader has a hard time understanding the name, you run the risk of losing him or her.

However, when you create an entirely new universe or realm, your characters' names—as well as the names of the realms they inhabit—may have no direct reference to Earth or civilizations, as in the case with Margaret Weis and Tracy Hickman's *Death Gate Cycle* series.

For example, the elves have lyrical names such as Agah'ran and Rees'ahn. The dwarves' names, Limbeck and Jarre, summon images of solidity and strength. One of the evil magicians, Sinistrad, has a name that instantly evokes the feeling of malevolence. The main antagonist in the series is a magician named Xar, giving images of darkness and maliciousness.

The four realms they use are Arianus (air), Pryan (fire), Abarrach (stone), and Chelestra (water). Reading the names of the realms, the reader has a sense of what that world is comprised of.

As you can see, when creating worlds of this type, let your mind run free using names with sounds that suggest the image you want to portray.

Horror: Horror, much like SF/F, is a genre where you can let your mind run wild. However, I hold the belief that if Amity Beach had been named Hell Town, *Jaws* wouldn't have been half as scary. Most horror writers tend to take the mundane and make it spooky. To me, part of this is taking something as innocuous as naming your car Christine and turning that car with such a wholesome name into a lethal killer.

In Stephen King's epic Dark Tower series, readers automatically know they are going to be reading a "dark" book. In the first book of the series, King names his lead character Roland of Gilead, based on a poem "Childe Roland" by Robert Browning. The name gives the character historical complexity as well as meaning for the reader.

Another character in the Dark Tower series shows us the differing personalities that names portray. Odetta Holmes is a woman with a dual personality, one that she is unaware of. Odetta is rich, polite, and formal, just as her name suggests. Her alter ego, Detta Walker, is a tough, mean, street-smart killer. When King meshes these two personalities into one and forces them to take on each other's attributes, the result is Susannah Dean, formal and kind as well as tough and street-smart.

One thing that King has brought through several of his works from *The Stand* to *The Eyes of the Dragon* to the Dark Tower series is the consistent use of the same letters (R.F.) as the resident evil. In *The Stand* it was Randall Flagg; in *The Eyes of the Dragon*, again, it was Randall Flagg; and in the Dark Tower series it was Richard Fannin.

The constant use does not only intrigue the reader, but the implication instantly frightens, which, of course, is King's ultimate goal.

Romance: No hard, fast rules exist for naming a romance character. My personal tastes run to using a softer name for my heroines and a stronger name for my heroes. That being said, I don't always follow through with this. Romance readers seem to be open-minded about what they'll accept.

In contemporary romance, the writer can take many liberties since the names don't need to be historically accurate. In Suzanne Brockmann's *Unsung Hero*, Navy SEAL Lieutenant Tom Paoletti's name instantly brings to mind strength and dependability. When first introduced to the heroine, Dr. Kelly Ashton, the reader will picture a vibrant, spunky woman who is also intelligent and proud of it.

Regional settings often dictate the names of the people in contemporary stories. Here is where it pays to do some research. Find out what groups settled into the area. Local white pages or community phone books are an ideal resource for regional names. The surname Boudreaux might be a common name for Louisiana but would sound distinctly out of place in downtown Chicago. Armed with the knowledge of the surname origins, you can then look up the ethnic section of this book to find a larger list. Case in point, the French settled Louisiana. Therefore when naming a Cajun character, the best place to look is under French. If you have an NYPD character and have done the research to see that many of them are of Irish descent, look under Celtic, Gaelic, and Irish.

With historical romance, the readers do like to see traditional names of that time period, and as I have seen, if readers don't believe the name belongs, they could become irate.

Johanna Lindsey keeps her readers and characters rooted in the tumultuous Regency period with her Malory series. It is not just a matter of utilizing names that the reader will believe were used in the early nineteenth century, it also means having the correct use of titles as well as the names of residences, which reflected the owner.

One of the characters in the Malory series, Anthony, is a rather handsome rake. Society knows him as Lord Anthony, a name tied to power, status, and fear. Yet, his family calls him Tony, and the reader instantly knows that the persona Tony portrays to society is nothing like the real man, who is a jokester and charmer.

Another character is Regina Ashton, niece to the Malorys. Most call her Regina, invoking the image of refined beauty and elegance, of which she is. However, one of her uncles calls her Reggie, instantly making the reader picture an imp of a girl getting into all sorts of trouble without thought to consequences. Yet another uncle calls her Reagan, and we get an additional picture of the character, this one of a strong-willed and levelheaded woman. And as we read through the story we find that Regina is indeed all those things and more. Lindsey captures the heroine in each of the names.

Thrillers: In the case of the protagonists, the trend seems to be for short average names such as Tom Clancy's Jack Ryan or J.D. Robb's Eve Dallas. Again, strong names are the norm. Readers seem to expect something catchy and smart.

War/Military: In the case of W.E.B. Griffin's Corps series, the names are specific to the World War II time period, such as Edward Banning, Malcolm "Pick" Pickering, and Ernestine Sage. Military writers are careful to assign their characters names that are also geographically and culturally correct.

Griffin uses names that were common in high society at the time, as most of his characters were not only successful military men but also wealthy and prominent in society.

Teen fiction: The first teen books that usually come to mind are the Harry Potter series. With her spellbinding books, J.K. Rowling has immortalized the name Harry—a boy who starts out average but then turns out to be special. Teens want to read about people their own age. They don't want to read about a Florence, they want to read about a Carly or a Madison. Meg Cabot has also captured teens and young girls across the country with her Princess Diaries series and heroine Mia Thermopolis.

Western: One of the premiere writers of westerns, Louis L'Amour defined the genre with his unforgettable pioneer family, the Sacketts. From Barnabas to Orrin, the names fit the characters like well-worn boots. The Old West was filled with such hard names as Wyatt Earp, Billy the Kid, and Doc Holliday—and readers of Western fiction have come to expect their characters to have names along those lines.

Surnames may vary; however, one must be careful to remain true to the period and history. For example, a lot of Irish people immigrated to the West but not many Russians. One would be more likely to run into a Curly Joe O'Keefe than they would a Curly Joe Rominov.

Mystery: Agatha Christie captured the genre with her Belgian sleuth, Hercule Poirot. Hercule is a French form of Hercules, and to read that name invokes an image of a man with more strength and integrity than a normal person has. It was the perfect fit for the brilliant detective.

Another example is Elizabeth Peters and her Amelia Peabody series. The name Amelia certainly suits the brainiac Egyptologist as no other name could.

Sherlock Holmes and his famous sidekick Dr. Watson and nemesis Moriarty are three characters created by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

The mere mention of these characters' names invokes the image of high intellect, tenacity, perseverance, and extreme cleverness. How different would the story have been if Doyle had named the characters Robert Stanley, Dr. Brown, and Bruno?

Erotica: The erotica genre has no rules. Some readers prefer the more common names, such as Brandon and Cindy, giving rise to the idea that average, everyday people can experience erotic adventures. Others like names that have great sex appeal, like Delilah or Eve, and Slade or Tristan, which give the reader an immediate sense of sensuality and sexual prowess.

You need to be careful as names not normally associated with sex and sexuality, such as Bertha or Percy, can send the reader inaccurate images of your character. Subsequently, instead of having images of a strong, viril man they would see a scrawny, wimpy nerd.

Paranormal: Paranormal is a genre that can take a reader from modern day Houston, Texas, to Renaissance England in the space of a few pages. It allows the writer many degrees of leniency as far as names go; however, it brings its own special restrictions. Rules of both contemporary and historical fiction apply. Since paranormal can encompass any and all genres, from Western to horror to romance to erotica, the rules of the specific genres accessed must apply.

It is perfectly acceptable, and indeed desirable, to find a heroine with the name Makayla who has traveled back in time so the reader will easily identify the character and the confusion and conflict the time travel has caused.

NAMING PLACES AND THINGS

Character names are important, but so are the names you give your settings, homes, and animals. If you write SF/F, then most likely you need to create your own world or universe and aptly name it. Again, it is usually easier to pick an ethnic basis for your nomenclature. Deciding on these names for alternate or parallel universes isn't always easy.

Neither is finding the perfect name for the castle in your medieval story. If you write a historical and your character is a peer of the realm, then he needs a title, sometimes more than one.

What about your character's favorite horse, dog, cat, or any other animal? You can't name the character's dog Muhammad Ali if your book is set in the Roman period.

This is why names are so important to books. Readers have to connect on all levels—from the characters to the animals to the setting. We are known by our names, and every word in the language packs an emotional and mental wallop.

Remember the power of a single word to create an image in the mind. One of my favorite songs is written by Tal Bachman, and I use it often while teaching writing classes. "If You Sleep" is about a woman who dies, and it contains one stanza that, with only a handful of words, paints the perfect image of a funeral in your mind. You can see it vividly. People have emotional and mental associations to all words. Achilles and Samson will always be names of great strength. Percy or Cecil will always be associated with a prissy type of man.

But names also transcend the characters. If your work is set in a modern-day corporate environment, you'll have issues of liability. Even if you don't say anything negative about a company, its lawyers might be rather upset if you use its trademarked business name without permission. In my *Sex Camp Diaries* series, I have a publishing company. To avoid any unpleasanties, I made it a fictional company, which I named Rose Publishing.

Likewise, I seldom pick a real town to set any of my stories in, whether they are historical or contemporary. The one rare exception is New Orleans, which I use as a setting for my vampire novels for several reasons. One, I used to live there, and two, it is a perfect atmospheric setting for the paranormal.

Using an existing place is tricky unless you are extremely familiar with it. People who live there don't like to see a character go the wrong way down a one-way street. You are also limited by real-life history and culture. For that reason, I prefer to create my own realm. But that being said, Laurell K. Hamilton has done an incredible job of bringing zombies and vampires into St. Louis.

If you're like me and you want to create believable cities and towns, it's easier to base the initial layout on a town or city that you are intimately familiar with. Then choose a name that conveys the emotion you wish the reader to connect to your place. Antarctic,

Connecticut, has an entirely different feel than Sun City, Connecticut, does. Greenville casts the opposite image than Dust Bowl does.

But whether you're naming people or places, there is something to be said for searching a naming book to find the exact name that matches your image. That "aha" moment when your eyes scan the page, light on a name, and the person in your head begins to call out, "That's me!" That's when you know you've found the right name.

AFRICAN

Africa has no single naming system. Many different approaches are used in selecting names for children. The most common themes center around respect for ancestors and a deep desire to carry on the names of the ancestors. Coupled with this is recognition of the circumstances of birth. Thus, children born on a given day may be named for that day or for the hour or the season of their birth. Many peoples in Africa also name children in honor of relatives or friends who have recently passed on so as to preserve the name and in the belief that the person has been resurrected in the newborn child.

One naming system is that of the Gikuyu people in Kenya, who always name children after their relatives in a strict system. In this system a firstborn boy is named after his paternal grandfather and a second-born boy after his maternal grandfather; girls are named in the same way after their grandmothers. Third-borns and beyond are named after their parents' brothers and sisters, again alternating between the maternal and paternal sides in the same way. This system means that a "Mugikuyu" (Gikuyu person) will always know both the given name and surname of a child if they know the child's sex, birth order, and the names of the child's parents, grandparents, and aunts and uncles.

Hereditary surnames are not a part of native African culture, although some populations commonly use patronymics. Areas of Africa that are Muslim often use Arabic naming practices, and surnames are used in some areas heavily affected by European colonization. In some areas, a child is given a Western surname (and often a first name as well) when he or she enters school. Naming practices and forms depend on tribal culture, native language, local religion and colonization.

A few surnames:

Azzouzi	Ngoimgo
Diako	Nkansah
Emecheta	Obote
Goniwe	Olembe
Hadhari	Ramaphosa
Kabadi	Rutu
Kangwena	Shukuma
Kwei	Sudani
Mahasampo	Tengelei
Mellouk	Tsirinana

FEMALE

Aba—Thursday's child
Abebi, Abebe—asked for
Abeni—prayed for
Abiba—born after grandmother died
Aissa—gratitude
Aman—trustworthy
Amandla—strength
Aminia—faithful
Anana—gentle
Anaya—looks to God
Anisa—friendly
Arziki—wealth
Asabi—special birth
Asis—sun
Ayanna—beautiful flower
Ayoka—brings joy
Aysha—life
Baako—firstborn
Baba—Thursday's child
Badu—tenth child
Bikita—anteater
Bron—source
Caimile—proverb name
Cataya—proverb name
Cheche—small one
Chinara—God accepts
Chipo—gift
Delu—only girl
Diata—lion
Ebere—mercy
Ellema—milkmaid
Elon—God loves me
Faizah—victory
Falala—abundantly born
Fayola—walks with honor

Femi—beloved
Fisseha—joy
Fola—honor
Folake—pampered with riches
Gavivi—money is good
Gimbya—princess
Gzifa—content
Habika—sweetheart
Hada—salty place
Halima—gentle
Hanzila—path
Hawa—desire
Hazina—treasure
Hidi—root
Ifama—everything is all right
Ilori—unique treasure
Iman—faithful
Iniko—born in dark days
Isabis—beautiful
Isoke—gift
Jahzara—blessed princess
Jendayi—thankful
Jira—blood relative
Johari—gem
Juji—love in abundance
Kabibe—small lady
Kadija—wife of the prophet
Kainda—daughter of the hunter
Kambo—hard worker
Kamili—without blemish
Kanene—little thing in the eye
 is big
Kapera—child to die
Karasi—wisdom
Karimah—generous
Kasinda—in a family of twins

Kaula—buying
Keeya—blossom
Keisha, Keshia, Kesia—favorite
Kianga—sunshine
Kiden—first female in family of boys
Kissa—born after twins
Lateefah—gentle
Lehana—to refuse
Limber—joyful
Lisimba—lioness
Mahdi—predicted
Maizah—astute
Malaika—angel
Mandisa—sweet
Miyanda—root
Nabelung—lovely
Nafuna—breech birth
Nailah—achiever
Nala—successful
Narkeasha—beautiful
Nasha—born with the rains
Nyeki—second wife
Onaedo—golden
Ontibile—God looks out for
Palesa—flower
Qwara—tribal name
Rach—frog
Raziya—agreeable
Safara—her own space
Safiya—pure
Saidah—happy
Salihah—correct
Sanura—kitten

Sarama—pleasant
Semira—content
Shakila—lovely
Shasa—rare water
Shasmecka—princess
Sibongile—thanks
Sika—cash
Sima—prize
Sitembile—trust
Siyanda—growth
Sukutai—hug
Taifa—tribal
Takala—part of the corn
Takiyah—religious
Tale—green
Tapanga—sweet
Thandiwe—beloved
Tiombe—shy
Ujana—young
Ulan—first of twins
Vasha—language
Venda—from the Bantu
Waseme—meaning unknown
Winta—desire
Xhosa—sweet, tribal name
Xolani—begs forgiveness
Yatima—without parents
Yoruba—tribal name
Zalika—noble
Zhenga—queen
Zina—name
Ziraili—God's helper
Zula—brilliant

MALE

Abu—father
Aitan—challenge fight

Ajani—victor
Alake—honored one

Bahari—of the ocean	Kaseko—insult
Barke—blessing	Kasim—leashed anger
Braimah—father of many	Katungi—wealthy
Chata—finish	Kazi—work
Chiamaka—God’s greatness	Kenyi—first son after many females
Chike—power of God	Keon—meaning unknown
Dakarai—happiness	Kimoni—important man
Davu—beginning	Kojo—Monday’s child
Dembe—peace	Leeto—travels
Diallo—bold	Lolonyo—beautiful love
Duka—everyone	Mablevi—honest one
Dume—oxen	Makalo—questioning
Essien—born sixth	Mansa—ruler
Fabunni—gift from God	Morathi—intelligent man
Faraji—consolation	Nabulung—not received
Gamba—warrior	Naeem—benevolent
Gazali—mystic	Obiajulu—consolation
Godana—male	Oringo—hunter
Haben—pride	Otieno—night born
Hajiri—to flee	Paulo—resting place
Harith—farmer	Polo—alligator
Haruni—from the mountains	Raimi—sympathetic
Hirsi—amulet	Razi—secret
Ibeamaka—agnates are splendid	Roho—soul
Ife—bold love	Runako—good-looking
Ige—born breech	Russom—chief
Iggi—single son	Saidi—one who helps
Ilom—enemy of many	Shakir—grateful
Issay—hirsute	Silko—king of Nubia
Jabilo—shaman	Simba—lion
Jabulani—joyous	Sondo—Sunday’s child
Jafuru—stream	Sulaiman—peaceful (form of Solomon)
Jayvyn—spirit	Tabansi—endurance
Jelani—mighty	Tabari—historical figure
Juma—Friday’s child	Tedros—gift of God
Kabili—ownership	Tenen—Monday’s child
Kaikura—squirrel	
Kami—desert	

Tumo—fame
Tupac—warrior with a message
Uba—rich
Upendo—love
Wasaki—enemy

Yobachi—honor to God
Zaid—grow
Zareb—protector
Zikomo—thanks
Zulu—heaven

HALLIE EPHRON



Hallie Ephron is part of the two-person team that creates the Dr. Peter Zak mystery series. Under the pen name G.H. Ephron, Hallie and neuropsychologist Donald A. Davidoff, Ph.D., have published four books. Hallie is one of the four writing Ephron sisters.

It took us forever to name our mystery series character. Thank goodness for the global find-and-replace feature in Word. Finally we settled on Peter for a first name because it's masculine but not macho. For the last name we wanted something short, strong, and easy to remember. We settled on Zak. We might have chosen differently if we'd realized that the name would have to be modified in the Dutch translations. In Dutch, both *Peter* and *Zak* are swear words—I believe for the same unmentionable.

ANGLO-SAXON

The hereditary surnames that we take for granted today were once unknown to the Anglo-Saxon population of England. In fact, few people had any form of identification other than their given name. Occasionally, the names of nobility would include an epithet or description, such as Alfred the Great, Aethelflaed Lady of the Mercians, Harald Bluetooth, Edward the Confessor, or Harold Godwineson (son of Godwine).

In the century before the Norman invasion in 1066, more and more of the English were referred to by their occupation, a distinguishing feature, or their home—for example, Aiken the Miller, Sherard the Bald, or Aisley of York.

Anglo-Saxon parents searched hard to find distinctive names for their children, names that hadn't been used by an ancestor and weren't being used by anyone in the village or town. To aid in this endeavor, they turned to literature and also combined words and names to form unique names. Edwyn, for example, is a combination of the prefix *Ed-*, which means “wealthy or noble,” and *Wyn*, which means “friend.”

FEMALE

Acca—from Acca	Arianrod—silver wheel
Aedre—stream	Ashley, Aisley, Aisly—from the ash tree grove
Aefentid—evening	Audrey—noble strength
Aefre—forever	Bearrocsir—from Berkshire
Aethelflaed—sister of King Edward	Bernia, Beornia—battle-maid
Aethelthryth—wife of King Ecgrith	Bisgu—cares
Alodie, Alodia—rich	Bletsung—blessing
Andswaru, Andsware—answer	Bliss—happy
Anlicnes, Anlicnisse—image	Blythe—cheerful
Annis—unity	Bodicea, Bodiccea, Bodicia, Boadicea, Boudicea, Boudicca—victory; also queen of the Iceni
Ar—mercy	
Ardith—good war	



Brigantia—Yorkshire goddess
 Brimlad—seaway
 Bysen—unique
 Cartimandua—name of a queen
 of Brigantes
 Catherine, Cathryn, Catheryn,
 Cate—pure (form of
 Katherine)
 Cearo—sorrow
 Chelsea—seaport
 Claennis—purity
 Clover—clover
 Coventina—name of a nymph
 Cwen, Cwene—queen
 Cyst—best
 Daedbot—penance
 Daisy—day's eye
 Darlene, Darline, Darelene,
 Darelle, Daryl, Darel—
 tenderly loved
 Dawn—dawn
 Devona—from Devon
 Diera—from Diera
 Dohtor—daughter
 Don—mother goddess
 Eacnung—bears children
 Eadgyth—wife of Edward the
 Confessor
 Eadignes—bliss
 Easter, Eostre—goddess of the
 dawn; myth name
 Eda, Edina—wealthy
 Edith, Editha, Edita, Edit, Edyt,
 Edyth—wealthy gift
 Edlyn, Edlynne, Edlynn, Edla,
 Eadlin, Edlin—princess
 Edmee, Edmunda, Edmonda—
 rich protector (form of
 Edmund)

Edris, Edrys—wealthy ruler
 Eldrida, Elda, Eldride—wise
 adviser (form of Eldred)
 Elene—name of a poem
 Elga—elf's spear
 Ellenweorc—famous courage
 Ellette—little elf
 Elswyth—elf from the willow
 trees
 Elva, Elvia—good elf
 Elvina, Elwine, Elwyna—friend
 of the elves
 Engel—angel
 Erlina, Erline, Erlene, Aerlene—
 elfin
 Esma, Esme—kind defender
 Estra—myth name
 Etheswitha—name of a princess
 Freya—queen of the gods
 Garmangabis—goddess
 worshipped in Lanchester
 Hamia—Syrian goddess
 Harimilla—Tungrian goddess
 Hilda, Hild—battle-maid
 Ifield—meaning unknown
 Juliana—name of a poem
 Kendra—prophetess
 Linette, Lynet, Lynette—bird
 Lora, Loretta—small sage one
 Lyn, Lynn, Linn, Lynna, Lynne—
 cascade
 Mae, May—kinswoman
 Maida, Mayda—maiden
 Megan, Meghan—strong and
 capable
 Mercia—from Mercia
 Mildred—gentle adviser
 Moira, Moire—bitter

Nelda—by the alder tree
Nerthus—mother of earth
Odelia, Odella, Odelina,
 Odelinda, Odilia, Otha,
 Othilia, Odette, Ottilie,
 Odelyna, Odelyn—little
 wealthy one
Ora—money
Orva—brave friend
Osberga, Osburga—name of a
 queen
Rheda—goddess
Rowena—white-haired
Sibley—friendly

Silver—white
Shelley, Shelly—from the ledge
 meadow
Sulis—goddess who watched
 over Bath
Sunniva, Synne, Synnove,
 Sunn—gift of the sun
Taite, Tayte, Tate, Tait—happy
Udele, Udela—wealthy
Viradecthis—Tungrian goddess
Whitney—from the white island
Wilda—wild
Willa—desired
Wilona, Wilone—hoped for

MALE

Aart, Arth, Arthur, Artair—noble
 bear
Abeodan—announce
Ablendan—blind
Abrecan—storm
Ace, Acey—unity
Acennan—brings
Acwellen, Acwel—kills
Adamnan—name of an abbot
Aelle—name of several kings
Aethelbald—king of Mercia
Aethelbert—name of a king
Aethelfrith—name of a king
Aethelhere—name of a king
Aethelred—name of a king
Aethelwulf—name of a king
Agiefan, Agyfen—gives
Agilberht—name of a bishop
Aglaeca—fighter
Aheawan—cuts down
Ahebban—wages war

Ahreddan—rescues
Aidan—fiery one
Aiken—oaken
Albinus—name of an abbot
Alchfrith—meaning unknown
Alden, Aldin, Alwin, Aldwyn—
 wise protector
Aldrith—name of a king
Aldhelm—name of a bishop
Aldred—old adviser
Alfred—name of a king
Alger, Algar—noble spearman
Almund—defender of the temple
Alwalda—all-ruler
Amaethon—god of agriculture
Anbidian—patient
Ancenned—only child
Andettan—confesses
Andsaca—enemy
Andswarian, Andswaru—
 answer

Andweard, Andwearde,
 Andwyrdan—present
 Anfeald—simple
 Anhaga—solitary
 Ann, Ane—name of a king
 Anna—name of a king
 Anson—son of Ann
 Anwealda—ruler
 Archard, Archerd—sacred and
 powerful
 Archibald—bold
 Arian—spares
 Arlice, Arlyss, Arlys, Arwyroe—
 honorable
 Astyrian—remove
 Atelic—horrible
 Athelstan, Aethelstan—name of
 a king
 Atol—hateful
 Attor, Ator—venom
 Atyhtan—entice
 Audley—from the old meadow
 Averil, Averill—born in April
 Avery—elf ruler
 Awiergan—cursed
 Baecere—baker
 Baldlice—bold
 Bana, Banan—slayer
 Banning—one who reads the
 bannspublic announcement
 especially in church of a
 proposed marriage
 Bar—boar
 Bawdewyn, Bawdewyne—bold
 friend
 Bayen, Benwick, Benoit—from
 Ban
 Beadurinc—warrior
 Beadurof—bold in war
 Bealohydg—enemy
 Bearn—son
 Bebeodan—commands
 Bede—name of a historian
 Beircheart, Bertie—intelligent
 army
 Bellinus—name of a king
 Beorn—warrior
 Beornwulf—name of a king
 Beowulf—intelligent wolf
 Berkeley, Barclay—from the
 birch meadow
 Bestandan—stands beside
 Besyrwan—ensnares
 Betlic—splendid
 Birdoswald—from Birdoswald
 Bliss—happy
 Boniface—good
 Borden, Bordan—from the boar
 valley
 Bowden, Boden, Boyden,
 Bowdyn—blond
 Brecc—name of a king
 Brice, Bryce—son of a nobleman
 Broga, Brogan—terror
 Bronson—son of the dark man
 Brun, Bron—dark-haired
 Byrtwold—meaning unknown
 Cadman—warrior
 Cadwallon—name of a king
 Caedmon—wise warrior
 Caedwalla—name of a king
 Caflice—brave
 Camden, Camdene—from the
 winding valley
 Ceawlin—name of a king
 Cedd—name of a bishop

Cenwalh—name of a king
Ceolfrith—name of an abbot
Ceolwulf—name of a king
Cerdic—name of a king
Chad—name of a saint
Chapman—merchant
Cnut—name of a king
Colby—from the dark village
Corey—chosen
Courtland, Courtney,
 Courtney—from the court
Cuthbert—famous; intelligent
Cynegils—name of a king
Cyneheard—meaning unknown
Cynewulf—name of a king
Cynn—family
Cynric, Cyneric—powerful
Cyst—best
Daegal, Dougal, Douglas—
 dweller by the dark stream
Dalston—from Dougal's place
Deman—judge
Denby—from the Danish
 settlement
Denisc—Danish
Deogol—secret
Derian—harm
Desmond—gracious defender
Devon, Devyn—from Devon
Drefan—trouble
Dreng—warrior
Dreogan—suffers
Drew—wise
Druce—son of Drew
Durwin, Durwyn—dear friend
Eadbert—name of a king
Eadig—blessed
Ealdian—live long

Earh—coward
Earl, Earle, Eorl—nobleman
Earm—wretched
Ebissa—meaning unknown
Ecgrith—name of a king
Edgar, Edgard, Eadgard—
 wealthy spear
Edlin, Edlyn, Eadlyn—wealthy
 friend
Edmund, Edmond, Eamon—rich
 protector
Edred—name of a king
Edric—wealthy ruler
Edsel—from Edward's hall
Edson, Eddison—Ed's son
Edward, Eadward—rich
 guardian
Edwin, Edwyn, Eadwyn—
 wealthy
Edwy—name of a king
Egbert—name of a king
Egesa, Egeslic—terror
Eldred, Eldrid, Eldwin, Eldwyn—
 wise adviser
Ellen, Elne—courage
Elmer—noble
Erconberht—name of a king
Erian—plows
Ethelbald—name of a king
Ethelbert—name of a king
Ethelred—name of a king
Ethelwulf—name of a king
Fairfax—blond
Faran, Feran—advances
Farmon, Firman—traveler
Felix—name of a saint
Finan—name of a bishop
Fleming—from Flanders

Fraomar—name of a king	Hrothgar—legend name
Freeman—free man	Hrypa—shouter
Fugol—bird	Ida—name of a king
Fyren—wicked	Iden—wealthy
Gaderian—gathers	Ine—name of a king
Galan—sings	Irenbend—iron bend
Gar, Garr—spear	Irwin, Irwyn—sea lover
Garberend—spear-bearer	Isen—iron
Garrett, Gareth—strong spear	Iuwine—friend
Geoffrey, Geoff—God's peace	Jeffrey—God's peace (form of Geoffrey)
Geraint—name of a king	Kenric, Kendrick, Kendryck— royal ruler
Gifre—greedy	Kent—white
Gildas—name of a historian	Kenway—brave in war
Gimm—gem	Kimball, Kim—royally brave
Godric—rules with God	Landry—ruler
Godwine—God's friend	Lane, Lange, Lenge—long
Gordon, Gordie, Gordy—from the three-cornered hill	Lar—teaches
Govannon—god of the forge	Larcwide—counsel
Graham, Grahem, Graeme, Gram—warring	Lathrop—from the farmstead with the barn
Gremian—enrages	Leanian—reward
Grendel—legendary monster	Leax—salmon
Grimbold—fierce; bold	Leof—beloved
Grimm, Grimme—fierce	Lidmann—sailor
Grindan—sharp	List—cunning
Halig—holy	Lucan—joins
Halwende—lonely	Lufian—love
Ham—home	Lunden—from London
Hengist—son of Wodan	Lynn, Linn, Lyn, Lin—cascade
Heolstor—darkness	Maccus—son of Gus
Heorot—deer	Magan—competent
Hererinc—hero	Mann—vassal
Heretoga—commander	Manton—from Mann's castle
Hilderinc—warrior	Maponus—god of youth and music
Hlaford—master	Mars Leucetius—god worshipped at Bath
Hlisa—fame	
Holt—from the forest	

Maxwell—from Maccus's pool
Merton—from the farm by the
sea
Modig—brave
Nechtán—name of a king
Nerian—protects
Newton—from the new farm
Nodens, Nodons—British god
Norton—from the north farm
Norville, Norvel—from the north
state
Nyle—desire
Octa, Oclha—son of Hengist,
grandson of Wodan
Odell, Odel—wealthy
Odon, Odin, Odi, Ody—wealthy
defender
Offa—name of a king
Ord—spear
Ordway—warrior armed with a
spear
Orlege—battle strife
Ormod—sad
Orvin, Orvyn—brave friend
Osríc—divine ruler
Oswald—divine power
Oswine—name of a king
Oswiu—name of a king
Oswy—name of a king
Oxa—ox
Page, Paige—page
Peada—name of a prince
Penda—name of a king
Pendragon—from the dragon's
enclosed land
Penrith—from Penrith
Perry—from the pear tree
Piers, Pierce, Pearce—rock
(form of Peter)

Pleoh—danger
Prasutagus—name of a king
Putnam—from the sire's estate
Raedan, Raedbora—advises
Raedwald—name of a king
Ramm—ram
Rand—shield
Rawlins—son of Rolfe
Recene—quick
Renweard—guardian of the
house
Rheged—from Rheged
Rice, Ryce—powerful
Rinan—rain
Rinc—warrior
Ripley—from the shouter's
meadow
Rolfe—meaning unknown
Rodor—sky
Rowe, Roe, Ro, Row—red-haired
Roweson, Rowson, Ruadson—
Rowe's son
Russell—fox
Rypan—plunders
Sar, Sarlic—pain
Scand—disgrace
Scead, Sceadu—shade
Sceotend—archer
Scowyrhta—shoemaker
Scrydan—clothes
Scur—storm
Seamere—tailor
Seaton—from the farm by the
sea
Seaver, Seber, Sever—fierce
stronghold
Selwyn, Selwin—friend at court
Seward—guards the coast

Shelby—from the ledge farm
 Sheldon—from the hill on the
 ledge
 Shelley—from the ledge
 meadow
 Shephard, Shepard—shepherd
 Sheply—from the sheep
 meadow
 Sherard—of glorious valor
 Sherwin, Sherwyn—quick as the
 wind
 Sibley—friendly
 Sigebert—name of a king
 Sihtric—name of a king
 Slean—strikes
 Slegc—hammer
 Snell—bold
 Stearc—severe
 Stedman, Steadman—owns a
 farm
 Stefn—stem
 Stepan—exalts
 Stewert, Stewart, Stuart—
 steward
 Stillman—gentle
 Stilwell—from the tranquil
 stream
 Storm—storm
 Strang—strong
 Swift—swift
 Swithun—name of a saint
 Synn—sin
 Tamar—from Tamar
 Tedman, Tedmund,
 Theomund—national
 protector
 Tellan—considers
 Temman—tame
 Teon—harms
 Tilian—strives
 Tobrecan, Tolucan—destroys
 Tobrytan—crushes
 Toland, Tolan—from the taxed
 land
 Torht, Torhte—bright
 Torr—tower
 Tracy, Trace, Tracey—brave
 Tredan—tramples
 Treddian—leaves
 Trymian—encourages
 Trymman—strengthens
 Upton—from the high town
 Verge—owns four acres of land
 Wacian—watchful
 Wade—moving
 Waelfwulf—wolf of slaughter
 Wallace, Wallis—from Wales
 Wann—dark
 Ware—wise
 Warian—attend
 Wellington—from the wealthy
 estate
 Werian—defends
 Whitney—from the white island
 Wilbur—beloved stronghold
 Wilfrid—name of a saint
 Willan—desired
 Winchell, Wynchell—drawer of
 water
 Wine, Wyne—friend
 Winter—born in winter
 Wirt, Wurt—worthy
 Wissian—guide
 Woden—king of the gods

Worthington—from the river's
side

Wregan—accuses

Wright—tradesman

Wulf—wolf

Wulfgar—wolf spear

Wulfhere—name of a king

Wylie—enchanted

Wyman—fighter

Yrre—anger

ARABIC

Arabic names are patronymic in origin, meaning that they are taken from the name of the father, but religious names are also extremely popular. Additionally, names can be descriptive and occupational. Adults are seldom called by their given name except by close friends and family. It is insulting to call any parent or older person by his or her given name.

Moslem names are taken from the names of the prophet Muhammad's immediate family and from the Koran. To help in this endeavor, Muslims combine names that incorporate the necessary religious names.

An Arab's complete name follows this order: professional title, given name, title (Inb, Bin, or Binte), name of father and possibly a few ancestors (genitive indicator, or term that indicates who the child's parents were/are is dropped), Abu or Um, followed by the name of the eldest son (if they have one), then a trade, place, or tribe name. Sometimes, names are shorter and are made up of some combination of the above.

An example of a male name would be Katib Bahir Bin Kalil Kadir Hassan Abu Lufti Riyad. Translation: The Writer Bahir, son of Kalil, grandson of Kadir, great-grandson of Hassan, father of Lufti, from the garden or tribe of Riyad. To most he would simply be known as Katib Bin Kalil Abu Lufti. A female name would be Nazirah Binte Nur Um Lufti. Translation: Nazirah, daughter of Nur, mother of Lufti.

Common genitive articles are:

Ibn—son of

Bin—son of

Binte—daughter of

Abu—father of

Um—mother of

Abd—servant

Al, El—definite article

FEMALE

- Aaliyah, Aliya—exalted, to ascend
Abia—great
Abir—fragrant
Abra—lesson
Adara—virgin
Aden—fiery one
Adiba—polite
Adila—similar
Adiva—gentle
Afraima—fruitful
A'ishah, Aisha, Ayisha, Ayska, Asia, Ashia, Asha—lively
Akila, Akilah—intelligent (form of Akil)
Ali—exalted
Alima—knows dance and music
Almira—princess
Altair, Altaira—flying eagle
Alula—firstborn
Alzena, Alzan, Alzina, Alzena—woman
Amal, Amala—hope
Amani—desire
Amber—jewel
Ameerah, Amira—princess
Amina, Amineh—faithful
Anan—clouds
Anisa, Annissa—gracious
Ara—opinionated
Arub, Aruba—loves her husband
Asfoureh—bird
Asima, Azima—defender (form of Asim)
Atia—ancient
Atifa—affection
Atiya—gift
Azhar, Azhara—flower
Azizah, Aziza—cherished
Azra—like a virgin
Bab—from the gateway
Bahira—sparkling (form of Bahir)
Baraka, Barakah—blessed
Bashiyra, Bashira—joyful
Basima, Basimah—always smiling (form of Basim)
Batul, Batula—virgin
Bibi, Bibsbebe—lady
Buthaynah—of a beautiful body
Cala—fortress
Cantara—bridge
Carna—horn
Dirran—unknown origin
Fadila, Fadilah—virtue
Faiza—victorious
Faridah—unique (form of Farid)
Fatima—accustom; daughter of a prophet
Fatin, Fatinah, Fatina—captivating
Ghada—graceful
Habiba—beloved (form of Habib)
Hadil—dove call
Hadiya—gift
Hadya—guide
Haifa, Hayfa—slender
Hala—moon halo
Halah—nimble
Hana—happiness

Hasna—beautiful	Muna—desire
Helima—gentle	Munira—sparkling (form of Munir)
Iamar—moon	Myiesha—blessing of life
Imam—one who believes in God	Nabila—noble one (form of Nabil)
Iman—faithful	Nada—giving
Intisar, Intisara, Intizara— triumphant	Nadira—precious (form of Nadir)
Isra—night traveler	Nafeeza—special
Israt—affectionate	Naimah—comfortable
Jala—charity	Nawal—gift
Jamilah, Jamila—beautiful	Nawar—flower
Jehan—lovely flower	Nazirah—alike
Jumanah—a silver pearl	Nimah—blessing
Kadira—strong	Noor, Noura, Nureh—light
Kalila—dearly loved	Noya—ornament
Kamilah, Kamila—perfection	Nudar, Nudara—gold
Karida—untouched	Oma—commanding
Karima, Karimah—generous (form of Karim)	Qadira—powerful (form of Qadir)
Kebira—powerful	Qamra—moon
Khalidah—eternal	Rabi—breeze
Latifa, Latifah—kind, gentle (form of Latif)	Rafa—happy
Leila, Laila, Layla—born at night	Rahimateh—grace (form of Rahimat)
Lina—delicate	Raja—hope
Mahala—marrow	Rana—behold
Majida—glorious	Rasha—gazelle
Makarim—honorable	Rashida—righteous
Malak—angel	Rihana—sweet basil
Malika—master (form of Malik)	Rima—white antelope
Manal—achieve	Saba, Sabah—morning
Manar, Manara—light	Sabira, Sabirah—of great patience (form of Sabir)
Mariam, Maryam—bitter (form of Mary)	Sadira—ostrich running from water
Matana—gift	Safa—innocent
Maysun—has a beautiful face	
Melek—angel	
Meryl, Meriel, Muriel—myrrh	

Saffron—spice	Tarub—happy
Safia—pure	Thana—gratitude
Safiyyah—tranquil	Thara—riches
Sagirah—little one	Thurayya—star
Sahar—awakening	Ulima—learned
Saida, Saidah—fortunate	Vega—falling
Sakina, Sakinah—tranquil	Wahiba, Wahibah—generous one (form of Wahib)
Salima, Salimah—safe	Wahida, Wahidah—unique
Salwa—comfort	Walida—just born
Samar—conversations at night	Waqi—falling
Sameh—forgiver	Wasima—lovely
Samira, Samirah—woman who entertains	Widad—love
Samma—sky	Widjan—ecstasy
Sana—radiant one	Yasmin, Yasmina, Yasmeen— jasmine
Sara—princess (form of Sarah)	Yusra—prosperous
Saree—noble	Zada, Zayda, Zaida—lucky
Sarsoureh—bug (form of Sarsour)	Zafirah—victorious (form of Zafir)
Sawsan—lily of the valley	Zahara—blossom
Shahira, Shahirah—famous	Zahirah—sparkling (form of Zahir)
Shakira, Shahirah—grateful (form of Shakir)	Zahrah, Zahra—white
Sharifa, Sharifah—noble	Zalika—noble
Shunnareh—pleasant (form of Shunnar)	Zara—princess (form of Sarah)
Siham—arrows	Zarifa—graceful
Sultana—queen	Zayna—beauty
Sumehra—lovely face	Zenobia—father's ornament
Tahira, Tahirah—pure (form of Tahir)	Zohra—full bloom
Talibah—scholar	Zuleika—wise beauty
	Zulema—peaceful

MALE

Aban—meaning unknown	Abd al'alim—servant of the all- knowing
Abba—father	Abd al Bari—servant of Allah
Abbas—lion	

Abd al Hakim—servant of the wise	Ansari—helper
Abd al Jabbar—servant of the mighty	Anwar—shining one
Abd al Matin—servant of the strong	Arif—knowing
Abd al Qadir—servant of the capable	Asad—lion
Abd al Rashid—servant of the guided	Asfour—bird
Abd al Sami—servant of the all-hearing	Ashraf—honorable
Abdel—servant	Asim—defender
Abd-er-Rahman, Abdalrahman—servant of the merciful one	Aswad—black
Abdullah, Abdul—servant of God	Avicenna—myth name
Abir—fragrant	Azim—grand
Absalom—father of peace	Aziz—powerful
Abu Bakr—companion of Muhammad	Azzam—determined
Aden—fiery one	Baghel—ox
Adil—judicious	Bahir—sparkling
Adnan—meaning unknown	Barakah—blessed
Ahmed—praiseworthy	Bari—of Allah
Akbar—great	Bashshar—brings good news
Akil—intelligent	Basim—always smiling
Akram—generous	Bilal—Muhammed's first convert
Aladdin—servant of God	Boulus—small (form of Paul)
Al'alim—omniscient	Bruhier—name of a sultan
Aleser—lion	Burhan—proof
Ali—exalted	Butrus—rock (form of Peter)
Alim—learned	Cemal—perfect
Altair—flying eagle	Coman—noble born
Amal—hope	Dabir—teacher
Amin—honest	Dawud—beloved (form of David)
Amir—prince	Diya al din—faithful
Ammar—builder	Ebrahim—father of many (form of Abraham)
	Eisa—God saves (form of Jesus)
	Emir—prince
	Fadil—generous
	Fahd—lynx
	Faisal, Faysal—decisive, resolute

Farid—unique
 Faris—knight
 Farook, Farouk—one who knows
 the truth
 Farran, Ferran—baker
 Faruq—wise
 Fatin—captivating
 Faxhir—proud
 Feroz—successful
 Firdos—paradise
 Gadi—my wealth
 Gadiel, Gadil—God is my wealth
 Gamal—camel
 Ghassan—youthful
 Ginton—garden
 Givon—high hill
 Habib—beloved
 Haddad—smith
 Hafiz—guardian
 Hakim, Hakeem—wise
 Halim—gentle
 Hamal—lamb
 Hanna—gracious God (form of
 John)
 Harb—war
 Haroun, Harun—high mountain;
 lofty (form of Aaron)
 Haroun al Rachid, Harun al
 Rachid—Aaron the upright
 Hashim—destroys evil
 Hasim—decisive
 Hassan—handsome
 Husain, Hussain, Hussein—small
 beauty
 Husam al Din—sword of faith
 Ibrahim—father of many (form
 of Abraham)
 Idris—meaning unknown;
 prophet's name

Imam—one who believes in God
 Jabbar—mighty
 Jabir—comforts
 Ja'far—meaning unknown
 Jaleel—great
 Jamal, Jamil—handsome
 Jawhar—jewel
 Jedidiah—hand
 Jibril—archangel
 Kadar, Kedar—strong
 Kadin, Kaden, Khalil—
 companion
 Kadir—green
 Kalb—dog
 Kalid—eternal
 Kalil—good friend
 Kaliq—creative
 Kamal, Kamil—perfection
 Kardel—meaning unknown
 Karif, Kareef—born during
 autumn
 Karim, Kareem—generous
 Kasib, Kaseeb—fertile
 Kasim, Kaseem—divided
 Kateb—writer
 Kemal—perfect
 Khaldun, Khalid—eternal
 Khalif—successor
 Khalil—friend
 Kharouf—lamb
 Khayri—generous
 Khayyat—tailor
 Khoury—priest
 Latif—kind, gentle
 Lufti—kind
 Mahir—skilled
 Makin, Makeen—strong
 Malik—master

MICHAEL CONNELLY



Michael Connelly is author of the mystery series featuring Hieronymus Bosch. His most recent novel of the series is *The Closers*. He is also the author of *The Poet* and its sequel *The Narrows*. His books have been translated into many languages and are sold worldwide.

I think the naming of characters is one of the most important elements in storytelling. If you start with the belief that your story lives or dies with character, then you begin to see how important a name could be. I believe it is important that the writer never misses an opportunity to say something about character. A name is a starting point. I choose names based on sounds sometimes, but most often I am going for a deeper or hidden meaning. I look for the use of metaphor in a name.

The choice of the name Hieronymus Bosch for a contemporary detective was not arrived at quickly. In fact, when I started writing the first book about this character I called him Pierce. No first name. Just Detective Pierce. This name came from an essay I had read regarding the creation of the fictional detective. The essay held that the detective must be able to pierce all veils and levels of society. He must go wherever the case took him. I took this direction to heart and even called my detective Pierce. It was later, when I was halfway through the first draft of the novel, that I decided to name my detective after an obscure painter from the fifteenth century that I had studied many years before in a college art class. I had a hunch that the name Hieronymus Bosch would work for me on multiple levels. If the reader knew the painter's work, then he would know the metaphor. The painter Bosch created worlds of chaos. His paintings were of a world gone wrong. My Detective Bosch would be investigating chaos. A murder is certainly a symptom of a world gone wrong. On the other hand, if the painter was too obscure for most readers, I thought that it was still a good use of the name. The name is so unusual I thought it might help plant the hook in the reader. I thought the reader would possibly press on to find out more about this detective and where his crazy name came from.

I am glad I went with Hieronymus Bosch as a name for my detective. But later I circled back and used Pierce for the name of the protagonist in another book.

Mansoor—victor
Marid—rebellious
Marwan—meaning unknown
Matin—strong
Moukib—last of the prophets
Mubarak—fortunate
Mudawar—round
Muhammad, Hamid, Hammad,
Hamden, Hamdun, Humayd,
Mahmoud, Mahmud,
Mehemet—praised
Muhunnad—sword
Mukhtar—chosen
Munir—sparkling
Musa—taken from the water
(form of Moses)
Mustafa—chosen one
Nabil—noble one
Nabi Ulmalhamah—prophet of
war
Nadim—friend
Nadir—precious
Najjar—carpenter
Nasim—fresh air
Nasir—helper
Nasser—victorious
Nour, Nur—light
Omar, Omer, Ommar—first son
Osama—lion
Osman—tender youth
Qadir—powerful
Qasim, Qaseem—divides
Rabi—breeze
Rafi—exalted
Rafiq—companion
Rahimat—grace
Rahman—merciful
Ra'id—leader

Rakin—respectful
Rashad, Rashid—integrity
Riyad—garden
Sabih—handsome
Sabir—of great patience
Sadik—truthful
Sadiq—friend
Saghir—short
Sahir—wakeful
Salah—righteous
Salim, Saleem, Salem—peace
Salman—conqueror
Sami—all-hearing
Samman—grocer
Saqr—falcon
Sarsour—bug
Sayyid—master
Seif—sword of the faith
Shakir—grateful
Sharif—honest
Shunnar—pleasant
Sulaiman—peaceful (form of
Solomon)
Tabari—meaning unknown
Tahir—pure
Tamir—owns palm trees
Tarafah—tree
Tarif—unique
Tarik—star; path
Taweel—tall
Taysir—makes easier
Umar, Umarah—long life
Wafiy—loyal
Wahib—generous one
Walid—newborn male
Wasim—handsome
Xavier—intelligent



Yacoub—supplanter (form of
Jacob)
Yaman—meaning unknown
Yasin—rich
Yasir—rich
Yusuf—God adds (form of
Joseph)

Zafir—victorious
Zahid—altruistic
Zahir, Zuhayr—sparkling
Zaki—smart
Zero—empty
Zoltan—ruler

ARMENIAN

Armenian surnames are chosen from place names and occupational names. They also can be patronymic and descriptive.

Surnames ending in -uni or -ooni were common among Armenian aristocracy: Sasuni. Surnames ending in -ian or -yan are frequently patronymic or occupational in origin: Davidian (son of David), Najarian (son of a carpenter). Other surnames are based on place names, and were formed by adding -lian or -tsian: Marshlian (from Marash). Armenian surnames were frequently modified or shortened when the bearer moved to another country. Because Russia or the Soviet Union claimed or occupied Armenia at various times, some Armenian names have Russian endings (-ov or -ova; -sky or -skaya).

A few surnames:

Abovian	Karayan
Akopian	Kevorkian
Avdالبekian	Khodijian
Bedrosian	Kooyumjian
Bogdanian	Meliksetian
Bogosian	Missirian
Chalabov	Narekatsi
Dilbarian	Nurijanian
Draskhankertsi	Ozmanian
Egoyan	Petrosian
Fatalov	Rostomian
Gharibian	Sadoyan
Haig	Sarkissian
Hegelian	Shatverian
Hovhaness	Tumanyan
Iskandarian	Yesoyan
Izmirlian	Zarafian

FEMALE

Anahid—divine; moon goddess; myth name (form of Diana)	Miriam—rebellious; biblical name
Ankine—valuable	Nairi—from Armenia
Anoush—sweet tempered	Ohanna—God's gracious gift
Araxie—river inspired poetry	Perouze—turquoise
Armenouhie—woman from Armenia	Serpuhi, Sirpuhi—holy
Dikranouhi—queen	Shakeh—meaning unknown
Elmas—diamond	Shoushan—lily (form of Susan)
Gadara, Gadarine—from the top of a mountain	Siran—beautiful
Gayane—meaning unknown	Siroun—lovely
Karyan—dark one	Sirvat—beautiful rose
Lucine—moon	Takouhi—queen
Margarid—pearl (form of Margaret)	Vartoughi—rose
	Voshki—golden
	Zagir, Zagiri—flower
	Ziazan—rainbow

MALE

Antranig—firstborn	Hagop—supplanter (form of James)
Ara—legend name	Haig—from the hedged field
Armen—Armenian	Haroutyoun—resurrection
Arpiar—sunny	Hovan, Hoven, Hovhanness— God's gift
Arshavir—meaning unknown	Hovsep—God adds (form of Joseph)
Artaxiad—name of a king	Izmirlian—from Izmir
Athangelos—name of a historian	Jirair—hardworking
Avarair—from Avarair	Karayan—dark
Avedis—brings good news	Kevork—farmer
Bedrosian—rock; descended from Peter	Khachig—small cross
Boghos—small (form of Paul)	Kolb—from Kolb
Dickran, Dikran—name of a king	Korian—name of a historian
Eznik—name of a fifth-century philosopher	Krikor—watchful (form of Gregory)
Garabed—forerunner	
Ghoukas—light (form of Luke)	

Magar—meaning unknown

Mesrop—name of a saint

Nishan—sign

Parounag—grateful

Sahak—one who laughs (form of
Isaac)

Sarkis—royalty

Tiridates—name of a king

Vahe—victor

Vartan—giver of roses

Yervant—meaning unknown

Zeroun—wise

ARTHURIAN LEGEND NAMES

The legendary King Arthur is thought to be based on a sixth-century military leader who led the native Britons against the invading Saxons. Arthurian history is almost impossible to distinguish from Arthurian legend, and each new iteration of the legend was influenced by the language, culture, and politics at the time it was written. There are very few names associated with the historical Arthur; many of the names as we know them now have been invented or adapted from other, older names. For instance, Arthur's sword was given the name Excalibur by the twelfth-century French author Wace, who adapted the name from Geoffrey of Monmouth's Caliburn, which came from the name of a legendary Irish sword Caladbolg, which came from the Welsh Caledfwlch. Many names from Arthurian legend appear French; this is the influence of French writers, especially Chretien de Troyes, who introduced Lancelot into the legend in the twelfth century.

Surnames were not used in Arthur's time, but bynames were not unusual. A byname is a descriptive nickname, like Le Fay (the fairy) and Pendragon (head of the dragons). The names in this section should not be taken as representative of sixth-century Britain. For more information, see the sections on Anglo-Saxon, Celtic, English, French, Gaelic, Irish, Scottish, and Welsh names.

FEMALE

Acheflour, Blancheflor,

Blancheflour—white flower

Ade—a mistress of Lancelot

Albiona—white

Angharat, Angharad—a love of

Peredur

Anglides—mother of Alexandre
(twelfth century)

Anna—Arthur's sister (twelfth
century)

Argante—name of a queen
(thirteenth century)

Astolat—Lady of Shalott; kills
herself for the love of
Lancelot (thirteenth
century)

Avalon, Avilon, Avaron,
Avarona—Arthur's burial
place

Bedegrayne—name of a castle

- Belakane—an African queen
(thirteenth century)
- Branwen, Branwyn—daughter of
Llyr
- Brengwain—unknown
- Camelot—Arthur's castle
(twelfth century)
- Chelinde, Chelinda—Tristan's
grandmother
- Clarine—mother of Lancelot
- Clarissant—sister of Gawain
- Condwiramurs—wife of Percival
- Cotovatre—name of a lake
- Creiddyladl—daughter of Lludd
- Cundry, Cundrie—woman who
condemns Percival
- Dechtire, Dechtere—unknown
- Deira—unknown
- Dummonia—unknown
- Elaine, Elayne, Helain—mother
of Lancelot
- Elizabeth—sister of Mark
- Elsa—rescued by Percival
- Enid, Enite, Enide—faithful/
abused wife
- Enygeus—grandmother of
Percival
- Ettard, Ettare—lover of Pelleas
- Fenice—unknown
- Floree—unknown
- Florete—unknown
- Galiene—a lady
- Ganieda—Merlin's sister
- Graine, Grainne—taken from
Igraine
- Grisandole—a princess who
dresses as a man
- Guenloie—a queen
- Guinevere, Guanhamara,
Gvenour, Wenhaver,
Quinevere, Guanhumora—
Arthur's queen
- Gwenddydd—Merlin's sister
- Gwendlolen—Arthur's wife
- Gwendoloena—Merlin's wife
- Gwenhwyfach—Guinevere's
sister
- Herzeloide—Percival's mother
- Iblis—wife of Lancelot
- Igraine, Igerne, Ygerne,
Igrayne—mother of Arthur
- Isabella—unknown
- Isolde, Isoud, Ysolde, Isoude—
lover of Tristan
- Kundry—unknown
- Laudine—a widow
- Lausanne—Lake Geneva
- Lidoine—daughter of Cavalon
- Llamrei—Arthur's horse
- Luned, Lunet, Lunete—servant
of Laudine
- Lynet, Lynette—sister of
Lyonors
- Lyonesse, Lyones—wife of
Gareth
- Lyonet—sister of Lyones
- Lyonors, Lysanor—mother of
Boore
- Maledysaunte—unknown
- Matilda—mother of Merlin
- Melissa—unknown
- Modron—goddess; possible
precursor of Morgan le Fay
- Morcades—sister of Arthur
- Morgan, Morgana, Morgan le
Fay—half sister of Arthur;
enchantress

Morguase, Morgawse,
Margawse—mother of
Gawain
Nineve, Nimue, Nimiane, Vivien,
Viviane, Nyneve—the Lady
of the Lake
Olwyn—daughter of a giant
Orgueilleuse—an arrogant lady
Pridwyn, Prydwyn—name of
Arthur's ship

Ragnall—Gawain's wife
Saveage—sister of Lyones
Sebille—a fairy
Shalott—land of Astolet
Sigune—Percival's cousin
Soredamors—Gawain's sister
Tyramon—a fairy princess
Yserone—unknown

MALE

Aballach, Avalloc—father of
Modron
Accalon—lover of Morgan le Fay
(fifteenth century)
Aglaval, Aglarale, Aglaral—
brother of Percival
(fourteenth century)
Agravain—brother of Gawain
(thirteenth century)
Alain—from Alain le Gros, one of
the Fisher kings (thirteenth
century)
Albion—from Britain
Alexandre, Alixandre—nephew
of King Mark (twelfth
century)
Aleyn—a Fisher king
Alis—brother of Cliges (twelfth
century)
Amr, Anir—son of Arthur (ninth
century)
Andret—King Mark's nephew
(twelfth century)
Anguysh—father of Isolde

Antfortas—keeper of the grail
(thirteenth century)
Antor, Auctor—foster father of
Arthur (thirteenth century)
Apollo—uncle of Tristan
Arden—unknown
Arthgallo—high honor
Arthur—king of Britain
Augwys—brother of Lot
(thirteenth century)
Awarnach—a giant
Bagdemagus—father of
Meleagant (twelfth century)
Baldulf—a knight (thirteenth
century)
Balin, Balen—brother of Balaan
(fifteenth century)
Ban—father of Lancelot
(thirteenth century)
Beal—unknown
Beaumains—white hands
Bedivere, Bedver, Bedwyr—
returns Excalibur to the
Lady of the Lake (thirteenth
century)

Bellangere—son of Alixandre
Benigied Vran—unknown
Benoyce—name of a kingdom
(thirteenth century)
Bernlak, Bercilak, Bredbeddle—
the Green Knight
Bersules—a knight
Bertram—a knight (twelfth
century)
Bicoir—father of Arthur
(seventh century)
Bladud—unknown
Blaise—a cleric (thirteenth
century)
Blamor—unknown
Bleoberis—unknown
Bliant—healer (thirteenth
century)
Bodwyn—brother of Mark
Bohort, Bors—uncle of Arthur
(thirteenth century)
Borre, Boarte, Lohoot—son of
Arthur
Brademagus—unknown
Bran—unknown (sixth century)
Brandeles, Brandelis—a knight
(fifteenth century)
Brangore, Brangorre,
Brangoire—unknown
(thirteenth century)
Branor—a knight (thirteenth
century)
Brennus, Brenius—a supposed
king of Britain (fifteenth
century)
Breuse, Brehus—a knight
Breri—a messenger
Briefbras—unknown

Bryan—Lord of Pendragon
Cabal, Cafall—Arthur's dog
(ninth century)
Cacamwri—servant
Cador—nephew of Arthur
(thirteenth century)
Cadwallon—name of a king
(seventh century)
Caerleon—name of a battle site
Cai, Che, Ke—Arthur's brother,
son of Ector (variant of Kay)
Caliburn, Caliborne, Caliborn,
Caliburnus, Calibor—
various names for Arthur's
sword
Calles—unknown
Calogrenant—a knight (twelfth
century)
Camlann, Camelon—site of
Arthur's last battle
Caradoc, Caradawc—son of
Bran
Carmelide—Guinevere's father
(thirteenth century)
Carrado—a knight
Catterick, Catterik—name of a
battle
Cavalon—name of a king
Caw—name of a giant
Celidone, Celidon—unknown
Chapalu, Cath—name of a
monster
Clamedeus—name of a king
Clarion—name of a king
Claudas—name of a king
Corbenic—where the grail was
kept
Crudel—name of a king

Culhwch—Arthur's nephew	Floлло—son of Gawain
Custennin—unknown	Florence—son of Gawain
Cymbeline—unknown	Frollo, Froille—killed by Arthur
Cynfarch—unknown	Gahariet, Gaheris—sons of Lot
Daguenet, Dagonet—Arthur's fool	Gahmuret—Percival's father
Dinadan—friend of Tristan	Galahad—son of Lancelot
Dinas—unknown	Galahalt, Galahault—name of a prince
Dodinel—unknown	Galatyn, Galantyne—Gawain's sword
Domingart—unknown	Galeron—a knight
Dristan, Drystan—an adviser to Arthur	Gallehant—unknown
Druas—a murderer	Galvarium—a knight
Drudwyn—a knight	Gareth—son of Lot
Drust—unknown	Gawain, Gauvain—eldest son of Lot
Dudon—unknown	Gesnes—unknown
Dynadin—a knight	Giflet, Girflet, Griflet—returns Excalibur to the lake
Echoid—unknown	Gildas—unknown
Ector, Ektor—father of Arthur (fifteenth century)	Girard—unknown
Edern—unknown	Glais, Gais—Percival's grandfather
Eliaures—unknown	Glewlywyd—unknown
Elidure—unknown	Gorlois—Igraine's husband
Emyr—unknown	Gorre, Gore—a kingdom
Engres—a usurper	Gouvernail, Governayle, Gorvenal—a knight
Erbin—unknown	Griffith, Griffyth—a murderer
Erec, Erek—son of Loc	Gringolet, Gringalet—Gawain's horse
Escalibor, Excalibur—Arthur's sword	Gryfflet—killed by Lancelot
Escanor—knight slain by Gawain	Guerehes—brother of Gawain
Escorant—unknown	Guiderius—unknown
Evadeam—a dwarf	Guivret—a dwarf king
Evelake, Evalac—name of a king	Gurgalan—a pagan king
Evrain—name of a king	Gwyr—unknown
Evrawg—unknown	Hebron—unknown
Feirefiz—a mulatto heathen who becomes Christian	

Hellekin—French lover of
Morgan le Fay (thirteenth
century)
Hoel—father of Isolde
Houdain, Houdenc—Tristan's
dog
Howel—killed by Arthur
Huon—meaning unknown
Isdernus—knight of Arthur
Ither—killed by Percival
Johfrit—a knight
Kadyriath—meaning unknown
Kaherdin—brother of Isolde
Kailoken—a fool
Kanelingres—father of Tristan
Kardeiz—son of Percival
Kay, Kei—Arthur's brother, son
of Ector
Kyner—unknown
Lamorak, Lamorat—brother of
Percival
Laodegan—unknown
Laudegrance, Leodegraunce—
father of Guinevere
Lancelot, Lancelot—knight of
Arthur, lover of Guinevere
Launfal—a knight
Leodegan—Guinevere's father
Lionel—cousin of Lancelot
Lacheu—Arthur's son
Llew—unknown
Lludd—name of a king
Llychlyn—unknown
Loc—father of Erec
Lohengrin—son of Percival
Lot—name of a king
Lucan—brother of Arthur
Lucius—a Roman emperor

Mabon—a knight
Mabonagrain—a knight
Mabuz—ruler of Death Castle
Madoc—unknown
Mador—accuser of Guinevere
Maheloas—lord of the Isle of
Glass
Malduc—a wizard
Mariadok—King Mark's servant
Maris—unknown
Mark—Tristan's uncle
Marrok—a knight thought to be
a werewolf
Medrod—unknown
Melchior—unknown
Meleagant—kidnapped
Guinevere
Melechan—Mordred's son
Meliadus, Meliodas—Tristan's
father
Melwas—name of a king
Melyon—son of Mordred
Merlin—Arthur's tutor
Moraunt—unknown
Mordrain—name of a king
Mordrayans—unknown
Mordred, Modred—son/nephew
of Arthur
Morgan Tud—a physician
Morholt, Morold—prince killed
by Tristan
Nafiens—unknown
Nantres, Nentres—name of a
king
Nascien—unknown
Nudd—a knight
Octha—enemy of Arthur
Ocvran—father of Guinevere

Osla—unknown	Rhngomyant—unknown
Owain—son of Urien	Rhydderch—unknown
Ozanna—unknown	Rion—a pagan giant
Padarn—unknown	Rivalen—Tristan's father
Palomydes, Palamedes—a knight	Ron—unknown
Pant—father of Lancelot	Ryence, Ryons, Royns—a Welsh king
Passebreul—unknown	Saffire—unknown
Pellam—father of Pelles	Sagramour, Sagremor—a knight
Pellamor, Pellinore—name of a king	Taliesin—sixth-century poet
Pellean—Percival's father	Tentagil, Tintagel—land of Igraine
Pelleas, Pelles—a Fisher king	Tor—son of Pellinore
Pendragon—head of the dragons	Tortain—unknown
Percival, Perceval, Percyvelle, Parzifal, Parsifal—hero of several Arthurian stories	Trevrizent—Percival's uncle
Peredur—unknown	Tristram, Tristan—a knight
Peredurus—name of a king	Turquine—unknown
Petrus—one of Joseph's disciples	Uriens, Urien—name of a king
Phelot—unknown	Uther—Arthur's father
Pheredin—unknown	Uwaine, Uwayne—unknown
	Vortigern—name of a king
	Vortimer—Vortigern's son
	Yder, Ider—unknown
	Ysbaddaden—a giant

BASQUE

Basques are the most ancient identifiable ethnic group in Europe, and scholars believe they have occupied their lands in the western Pyrenees for at least several thousand years. The Basques speak Euskara, an ancient language unrelated to the Indo-European languages spoken in the rest of western Europe. Basqueland straddles the border between France and Spain, and Basques have been seeking some degree of cultural and political autonomy from those national governments since the early 1900s.

Basque naming practices have been influenced by Spanish culture, so many Basque names are similar to Spanish names (Garcia, Sanchez, Diaz). During most of the twentieth century, the use of ethnic Basque names was discouraged in Spanish culture. Since the 1970s, however, Basque first names have been used much more freely.

First names are frequently taken from Basque mythology and history, but Basque surnames are typically toponymic—based on place names. Specifically, surnames were often taken from the name of the family's *baserri*, or farmhouse. *Baserri* names were based on the location of the house (Urkialde, “beside the birch tree”), the activities of the people who lived in it (Mintegi, “nursery operator”), the name of a householder (Alonsotegi, “Alonso’s house”), or a characteristic of the house itself, like age or quality of construction (Etxeberria, “the new house”). Etxebarria is the most common Basque surname.

A few surnames:

Abaroa	Danborenea
Arrigorriaga	Durango
Aurrecoechea	Elizalde
Azkoaga	Elorrieta
Basarte	Ernaut
Basategi	Errotabarri
Beaskoetxea	Etxegarai
Belaustegi	Guerediaga
Bilbao	Ibarran
Curutchet	Ibarretxe

Iturbe
Jauregi
Larrazabal
Lizarmendi
Loidi
Lopetegi
Mendazona
Mendibe
Mintegui
Oramuno

Osabene
Osteincoechea
Pagadigorria
Sagastizabal
Ugarte
Urkialde
Urrutia
Ygartua
Zubiar

FEMALE

Agurtzane, Ainhoa, Aitziber,
Alona, Arama, Arrate—
reference to the Virgin Mary
Aintzane—glory
Alazne—miracle
Alesandese—defender of
mankind (form of
Alexander)
Amaia—end
Andere—manly (form of
Andrew)
Argi—light
Arrosa—rose (form of Rosa)
Aurkene—present
Balere—strong
Barkarne, Barkarna—lonely
Bixenta—victory
Catalin—pure (form of
Katherine)
Danele—God is my judge (form
of Daniel)
Deiene—religious holiday
Edurne—snow
Eguskine, Eguskina—sunshine
Garaitz—victory

Gechina—graceful
Gizane—reference to Christ's
incarnation
Gotzone—angel
Igone—reference to Christ's
Ascension
Iratze—reference to the Virgin
Mary
Jaione—reference to the
Nativity
Jakinda—hyacinth (form of
Hyacinth)
Kepa—stone
Kontxesi—reference to the
Immaculate Conception
Mirari—miracle
Naiara, Naiaria—reference to
the Virgin Mary
Nerea, Neria—mine
Osane—health
Tote—meaning unknown
Yanamari—bitter grace (form of
Annamarie)
Yera—reference to the Virgin
Mary
Zurine, Zurina—white

MALE

- Adiran—from the Adriatic
Ager—gathers
Aingeru—messenger
Akil—from the river Akil
Ander—manly (form of Andrew)
Antton—priceless (form of Anthony)
Asentzio—ascending
Benat—bear
Bingen, Bittor—conqueror
Danel—God is my judge (form of Daniel)
Deunoro—all saints
Dunixi—god of wine (form of Dionysus)
Edorta—rich guardian (form of Edward)
Edrigo—strong ruler (form of Richard)
Edur—wine
Elazar—God helps
Erromon—from Rome
Etor—steadfast
Gabirel—God-given strength (form of Gabriel)
Gaizka—savior
Gentza—peace
Gotzon—angel
Gurutz—Holy Cross
Iker—visits
Inaki, Inogo—ardent
Ixaka—laughs
Jakome—supplanter (form of James)
Kemen—strong
Kerbasi—warrior
Mikel—godlike
Mikolas, Mikolaus—victory of the people (form of Nicholas)
Ortzi—meaning unknown
Palben—blond
Txanton—God adds, priceless (for Joseph Anthony)
Txomin—like God
Ugutx—named for John the Baptist
Unai—shepherd
Urtzi—sky
Xabier, Xavier—owner of a new home
Xanti—named for Saint James
Ximon, Ximun, Xylon—God is heard (form of Simon)
Yosu—God saves
Yuli—youthful (form of Julius)
Zadornin—god of the harvest; myth name (form of Saturn)
Zigor—punishes
Zorion—happy

CAMBODIAN

Cambodian surnames come first and given names come second. People with short names are referred to by both names.

While surnames are usually passed from father to children, a father may give a favored child his first name as a surname.

A few surnames:

Chey	Sat
Chun	Sen
Haing	Sien
Hen	Sihanouk
Heng	Sin
Him	Sok
Im	Som
Pan	Toan
Prak	Vann

FEMALE

Baen—meaning unknown	Kunthea—fragrant
Bopha—flower	Mliss—flower
Botum—princess	Pich—diamond
Channary—full moon	Samnang—lucky
Chantrea—moon	Sopheap—gentle
Chenda—intellect	Tevy—angel
Dara—star	Thirith—meaning unknown
Kalliyān—best	Tola—October
Kiri—mountain peak	Vanna—golden
Kolab—rose	Veata—wind

MALE

Arun—morning sun	Chay—attractive
Bourey—great city	Chhan—meaning unknown
Bun-Rong—meaning unknown	Dara—star
Chankrisna—sweet-smelling tree	Jun-Chhoun—beautiful
	Kimān—meaning unknown

LORRAINE HEATH



Lorraine Heath is the author of numerous historical, contemporary, and young adult romantic titles. In 1995 and 1996, she won the *Romantic Times* Career Achievement Award for Americana Historicals.

My most memorable character names are the Leigh brothers. This Texas trilogy (*Texas Destiny*, *Texas Glory*, and *Texas Splendor*) involved three brothers, and I wanted them to be very Texas. I have a friend whose husband was named Dallas, and another friend who named her son Austin—two Texas cities. But I had three brothers and I couldn't decide which city would work as a name for the third brother. A cousin sent me a family history, and as I was looking through it, I discovered we had a relative in the late 1800s whose first name was Houston—and everything seemed to come together for this trilogy at that point. I had a clear vision for each brother. Each brother's personality also seemed to reflect the city that his name came from: Dallas was strong and bold, Austin was laid-back, and Houston struggled to find his place.

I have found that names usually have a great impact not only on the characters themselves, but because they define the characters, they also influence how the story unfolds.

Kiri—mountain peak
Makara—January
Meng—meaning unknown
Munney, Munny—wise
Nath—meaning unknown
Nghor—meaning unknown
Nhean—knowledgeable
Norodom—meaning unknown
Phirun—rain
Pich—diamond
Ranariddh—meaning unknown

Rangsey—multi colors
Rithisak—powerful
Sakngea—statesman
Samnang—lucky
Samrin—leader name
Sen—meaning unknown
Sim—meaning unknown
Solvann—of gold
Uth—meaning unknown
Varin—meaning unknown
Veasna—destiny, fate
Vibol—abundant



CELTIC

The Celtic languages are a branch of the Indo-European language group. Once spoken all across Europe, Celtic languages are now spoken only in the British Isles and France.

There aren't any Celtic surnames per se, although some modern surnames in the British Isles no doubt developed from Celtic given names or bynames. (Bynames were descriptive nicknames used before the existence of surnames to distinguish between persons with the same given name.) For more information, see the sections for English, Gaelic, Irish, Scottish, and Welsh names.

FEMALE

Adsaluta—myth name	Arlana, Arlene, Arela, Arleen,
Aife—great warrior woman; myth name	Arleta, Arlette, Arlina, Arline—oath (form of Arlen)
Aifric, Afric, Africa, Aphira— pleasant	Armelle—princess
Aigneis—pure (form of Agnes)	Bab, Bav—meaning unknown
Ailidh—kind	Bari—spear thrower
Aina, Aine—joy	Berit, Birgit, Berta, Birte— intelligent
Aingeal—angel	Betha, Beatha—life
Aithne—fire	Birkita—strength
Alanna, Alane, Alina, Aline, Alene—beautiful	Blair—from the plain lands
Alastriona, Alastrine, Alastrina—avenger (form of Alastair)	Brangaine—character from Isolde legend
Alice, Alys, Ailis, Elsha—sweet, noble	Branswen—sister of Bendigeidfran
Alma—loving	Brenna—raven
Andraste—victory	Bretta, Bret, Brit, Brite, Brittany, Brita—from Britain
Annwn, Annwfn—the Otherworld; myth name	Briana—strong (form of Brian)
Ardra—noble	Bricta—meaning unknown
Arienh—oath	Brid, Bride, Brighid, Breeda, Brigid, Brigitta, Brigitte, Birgit, Britta, Brietta, Brita,

Brites, Brygid, Bridget,
 Birkita, Brit—strong
 Brina—defender
 Caoilfhionn, Keelin—slender
 and comely
 Caoimhe—beauty, grace,
 gentleness
 Cara—friend
 Carmel—garden
 Cary, Carey—from the river
 Cerdwin—mother goddess
 Cinnia, Cinnie—beauty
 Cordelia—jewel of the sea
 Corey—ravine
 Coventina—name of a nymph
 Culyer—chapel
 Daghda—meaning unknown
 Dana—from Denmark
 Dechtire—nursemaid; myth
 name
 Deirdra, Deirdre—sorrowful
 Deoch—princess of Munster;
 myth name
 Diva, Deva, Devona, Divone,
 Deheune—divine one
 Donella—dark-haired elfin girl
 Donia—dark-skinned
 Doreen, Doreena—moody
 Edana, Ena—passionate
 Edna, Ena, Ethne—fire
 Emogen, Emogene—maiden
 Enid—spirit
 Enys—from the islands
 Epona—meaning unknown
 Erina, Erin, Erie, Erea—from
 Ireland
 Etain—sparkling
 Evelyn, Engl, Evelina, Eveline—
 light; gives life

Fedelm—wife of Loegaire; myth
 name
 Fenella—white shoulders (form
 of Finola)
 Fianna—legendary tale
 Findabair—daughter of Medb;
 myth name
 Fingula—daughter of Lyr; myth
 name
 Fiona—fair one
 Genevieve—white wave
 Germaine—loud of voice
 Gilda, Gildas—serves God
 Ginerva, Ginebra, Ginessa—
 white as foam
 Gitta—strong
 Grania—love
 Guennola—white
 Guinevere, Guenevere,
 Gwenyver—white lady
 Gwendolen, Gwendolin,
 Gwyndolin, Gwenn,
 Gwynn—of the white brow
 Gwenneth, Gweneth, Gwynith,
 Gwenith—blessed
 Imogen, Imogene—maiden, girl
 Iona, Ione—from the king's
 island
 Isold, Isolde, Isolda—fair lady
 Jennifer, Jennyfer, Jennyver,
 Jenny—white wave
 Kaie—combat, battle
 Keelin, Keely, Keelia—beautiful
 Kendra—hill
 Kennocha—lovely
 Lavena—joy
 Leslie, Lesley—from the gray
 fortress

Linette, Linnette, Lynette,
 Lynet—grace
 Lyonesse—little lion
 Maureen, Moreen—great
 Mavis, Mavelle, Mavie—
 songbird
 Meadghbh, Maeveen, Mabina—
 nimble
 Medb, Maeve—mythical queen
 Melva, Melvina, Malvina—
 handmaiden
 Meredith—protector of the sea
 Moina, Moyna—noble
 Morgan, Morgance, Morgane,
 Morgana—lives by the sea
 Morna—dearly loved
 Morrigan—war goddess
 Moya, Moira, Mor—exceptional
 Myrna, Merna, Mirna, Moina,
 Morna, Moyna—beloved
 Nantosuelta—meaning
 unknown
 Neala, Nealie—champion (form
 of Neal)
 Newlyn—from the new spring
 Nola—famous
 Oifa—sister of Ove; myth name

Oilell—mythical queen
 Olwen, Olwyn—daughter of
 Yspaddaden; myth name
 Oppida—meaning unknown
 Oriana—blond
 Ove—daughter of Dearg; myth
 name
 Penarddun—daughter of Beli;
 legend name
 Regan, Reaghan—little king
 Rhiannon—pure maiden
 Ronat—seal
 Rowena—white-haired
 Saraid—excellent
 Seanna—God's grace
 Selma—comely
 Shayla—fairy palace
 Shela—musical
 Shylah—loyal to god
 Treva—prudent
 Tully—peaceful
 Ula—sea jewel
 Una—white wave
 Venetia—blessed
 Wynne, Winnie, Wynn timer—fair
 Yseult—fair
 Zenevieva, Zinerva—pale

MALE

Adair—from the ford by the oak
 trees
 Ahern, Ahearn—lord of the
 horses
 Ailbe—white
 Ailill—king of Connaught; myth
 name

Airell—nobleman
 Alan, Allen, Allan, Allyn—
 handsome
 Alanson—son of Allan
 Angus, Anghus, Aengus,
 Aonghus—exceptionally
 strong

Annan, Anant—from the stream
Ansgar—divine spear
Anwell, Anwyl—beloved
Anyon—anvil
Aod—son of Lyr; myth name
Ap Owen—son of Owen
Arawn—king of the Underworld;
myth name
Argyle—from the land of the
Gauls
Arlen, Arlin, Arlyn, Arlan,
Arland—oath
Arthur, Artur, Art, Atty, Attie,
Arturo—noble bear
Baird—bard
Barry, Bairrfhionn, Barra,
Bearach, Bearchan—good
marksman
Beacan, Becan—small
Bedwyr—Arthurian legend
name
Bendigeidfran—blessed raven
Bevan, Bevin, Bevyn—young
soldier
Blaine, Blayne, Blane, Blainey,
Blayne—thin
Blair—from the plain lands
Boadhagh—meaning unknown
Bowden, Bowdyn, Boden,
Bodyn, Boyden, Boyd—
blond
Bowen, Bowyn—son of Owen
Boynton—from the white river
Bran, Brann—raven
Brasil, Breasal, Basil—battle
Breanainn, Breandan, Bredon,
Brandan—sword
Brendan, Bran, Bram, Broin,
Brennan—raven

Brett, Bret—a Breton
Briac—esteem
Brian, Bryan, Bryant, Briant—
strong
Brice, Bryce—swift
Bricriu—the poison-tongued;
myth name
Britomartus—meaning
unknown
Burgess—town citizen
Cachamwri—servant of Arthur;
legend name
Cadell—battle
Cadman—warrior
Caedmon—wise warrior
Calder—from the stony river
Calum—dove
Cameron, Camero, Camey—
crooked nose
Camlin—crooked line
Caoimhghin—gentle
Caradoc—beloved
Cardew—from the black fortress
Carew, Carey, Cary—from the
fortress
Carney, Car, Carr, Cathaoir,
Cathair—victorious
Carrol, Carroll—manly (form of
Charles)
Casey—brave
Cassivellaunus, Caswallan—
Arthurian legend name
Cathal, Cahal, Conall, Connell—
strong in battle
Cathbad—meaning unknown
Cedric—chief
Celyddon—father of Culhwch;
myth name

Chad—warrior
 Clust—son of Clustfeinad; myth name
 Clustfeinad—myth name
 Coalan—slender
 Cocidius—hunter god; myth name
 Coinneach—handsome
 Conall—Ulster chieftain; myth name
 Conan, Conant, Con, Conn, Cuinn—wise
 Conchobar—hero; myth name
 Condan, Condon—dark-haired wise man
 Conlaoch—meaning unknown
 Conn—son of Lir; myth name
 Connla—son of Conn; myth name
 Conroy—wise
 Conway—hound of the plain
 Corann—druid; myth name
 Cormac, Cairbre, Carbry—charioteer
 Cradawg—son of Bran; myth name
 Cuchulainn—the Hound of Ulster; myth name
 Culain, Culann—smith; myth name
 Culhwch—meaning unknown
 Cullen—cub
 Custennin—giant; myth name
 Cynyr—meaning unknown
 Dallas—dwells by the waterfall
 Daman—demon
 Darcy—dark
 Dearg—son of Daghdha
 Dermot—free
 Desmond—from south Munster
 Deverell—from the riverbank
 Devin, Devyn—poet
 Dillion—faithful
 Dinsmore—from the hill fort
 Doane—from the sand hill
 Donald, Don, Doyle, Doy—ruler of the world
 Donat, Donal, Domhnall, Donall, Doran, Dorran—stranger
 Donnally, Donnelly—brave, dark man
 Donnchadh, Donogh, Donaghy, Donovan—strong fighter
 Douglas, Douglas—dark water
 Drem—son of Dremidydd; myth name
 Drew—wise
 Driscoll, Driscol, Driskell—interpreter
 Drostan, Drystan—noisy (form of Tristan)
 Druce—wise
 Drudwyn—Mabon's dog; myth name
 Drummond—lives on the hilltop
 Duane, Dewain, Dwayne—song
 Duer—hero
 Duff, Dubv, Duffy—dark-faced
 Dughall, Dougal, Doughal—dark stranger
 Duncan, Dunham—dark warrior
 Dunn—dark-skinned
 Dyfed—from Dyfed
 Ea, Edan—fire
 Eburacon—lives near the yew-tree estate


Efnisien—son of Euroswydd;
 myth name
 Egan, Eghan—fiery
 Egomas—meaning unknown
 Einion—anvil
 Elidor—monk; myth name
 Emrys—immortal (form of
 Ambrose)
 Ennis—from the island
 Erim—legend name
 Evan—young fighter
 Evnissyen—meaning unknown
 Ewen, Ewan, Ewyn, Eoghann,
 Eoin—young
 Farrel, Farrell—brave
 Ferchar—son of Uisnech; myth
 name
 Ferdiad—meaning unknown
 Ferghus, Fergus, Fearghus—of
 manly strength
 Ferris—rock
 Fiacre, Fiacra—eagle
 Fiallan—meaning unknown
 Fiamain—meaning unknown
 Finbar, Finnbar, Fynbar,
 Finnobarr—blond
 Finian—handsome
 Finn, Fingal—myth name
 Fionn—fair, white
 Floyd—gray
 Forsa—meaning unknown
 Gall—stranger
 Galvin, Galvyn—sparrow
 Gelban—meaning unknown
 Gildas—serves God
 Gilmore—servant of the Virgin
 Mary
 Gilroy—serves the king
 Girard—meaning unknown
 Glen, Glyn, Glenn—from the glen
 Glifieu—son of Taran; myth
 name
 Gorsedd—from Arberth; myth
 name
 Gruddieu—son of Muriuel; myth
 name
 Guy—sensible
 Gwalchmai—myth name
 Gwawl—son of Clud; legend
 name
 Gwefl—son of Gwastad; myth
 name
 Gwern—son of Matholwch;
 myth name
 Gwernach—myth name
 Gwri—of the golden hair
 Gwynham—father of Teithi;
 myth name
 Hafgan—myth name
 Halwn—meaning unknown
 Hefeydd—father of Rhiannon;
 myth name
 Heilyn—son of Gwyn; myth
 name
 Henbeddestr—fastest man
 Henwas—brother of
 Henbeddestr; myth name
 Herne—hunter god; myth name
 Hoel—meaning unknown
 Huarwar—son of Halwn; myth
 name
 Hueil—son of Caw; legend name
 Huon—meaning unknown
 Iden—wealthy

Innis, Innes—from the river
 island
 Irvin, Irven, Irvyn, Irving—white
 Kane, Kayne—intelligent
 Karney, Kearney—fighter
 Keane, Keene—tall and
 handsome
 Kegan, Keegan, Keaghan—son of
 Egan
 Keir—dark
 Keith—wind
 Kelvin, Kelvyn, Kelwin,
 Kelwyn—from the narrow
 river
 Kembell, Kemble, Kimball—
 chieftain, warrior
 Kendall, Kendal, Kendhal—from
 the clear river valley
 Kendrick—hill, mountain
 Kenn—clear water
 Kenneth—handsome
 Kent, Kentigern—head chief
 Kermit, Kermodé—son of
 Diarmaid
 Kerry, Keary—dark one; county
 name
 Kerwin, Kerwyn, Kirwin, Kirwyn,
 Kieran—little black one
 Kevin, Kevyn, Kevan—gentle,
 handsome
 Killian, Kilian—blind
 Kunagnos—wise
 Kynthelig—guide; myth name
 Lairgnen—of Connaught; myth
 name
 Lann—sword
 Lee, Leigh—healer
 Leith—wide river
 Lesley, Leslie—from the gray
 fortress
 Lincoln—from the settlement by
 the pool
 Lir—a mythical king
 Llewelyn—lion
 Lloyd—gray
 Llyr—a mythical king
 Lorne—man of Lorne
 Luxovious—god of Luxeuil;
 myth name
 Mabon—god of youth; myth
 name
 Mac, Mack—son of
 Maccus—hammer
 Macklin, Macklyn—son of Flann
 Maddox, Maddock—beneficent
 Malcolm—servant of Saint
 Columba
 Malvin, Malvyn, Melvin, Melvyn,
 Melville—leader
 Matholwch—myth name
 Medr—myth name
 Medredydd—son of Medredydd;
 myth name
 Menw—son of Teirwaedd;
 legend name
 Merlin, Merlyn—falcon
 Morfran—ugly demon; myth
 name
 Morgan, Morven, Morvyn,
 Mariner, Marvin, Marvyn,
 Moryn, Murray, Murry—
 lives by the sea
 Mungo—lovable
 Murdoc, Murdoch, Murdock—
 protector of the sea

Murtagh—protects the sea
Mynogan—father of Beli; myth name
Naois—warrior; myth name
Neal, Neil, Nealon, Nell, Neale, Niall, Neill, Niallan, Nyle—champion
Nels—chief
Nelson—son of Neil
Nemausus—god of Nimes; myth name
Newlin, Newlyn—from the new spring
Niece, Neese—choice
Nisien—son of Euroswydd; myth name
Nolan, Noland—noble
Orin, Oran—white
Oscar, Oskar, Osker, Osckar—divine spear
Ossian, Oisin—fawn
Owen, Owyn, Owyn—young warrior
Pendaran—meaning unknown
Perth, Pert—from the thorn-bush thicket
Phelan—little wolf
Powell—son of Howell
Pryderi—care
Pwyll—lord of Annwn; myth name
Quin, Quinn—wise
Regan, Reghan, Reagan, Reaghan—little king
Renfrew—from the still river
Rivalin—meaning unknown
Ronan—small seal
Roy—red-haired

Sativola—name of a saint
Sawyer—cuts timber
Scilti—messenger of Arthur; legend name
Setanta—son of Sualtam; myth name
Sheridan—untamed
Sidwell—from the broad well
Sloan, Sloane—fighter
Sugn—son of Sugnedudd; myth name
Tadhg—prince of Munster; myth name
Taliesin—bard; myth name
Tangy—fighter
Taran—meaning unknown
Teague, Teaghue—poet
Teirtu—meaning unknown
Teithi—son of Gwynham; myth name
Tegid—meaning unknown
Teyrnon, Tiernan, Tiernay—regal
Tor—rock
Torrey, Tory—lives by the tower
Trahern—strong as iron
Tremayne, Tremaine—from the town encircled by stone
Trevor—wise
Tristan, Tristen—noisy
Tristram—full of sorrows
Tuireann—meaning unknown
Turi—bear
Twrch, Trwyth—myth name
Uchdryd—son of Erim; legend name
Uisnech, Usenech—meaning unknown

MARIAN KEYES

 Marian Keyes has published seven novels: *Watermelon*, *Lucy Sullivan Is Getting Married*, *Rachel's Holiday*, *Last Chance Saloon*, *Sushi for Beginners*, *Angels*, and *The Other Side of the Story*, all best sellers around the world, a total of nine million of her books having been sold to date. *Sushi for Beginners* and *Angels* were No. 1 best sellers on *The Sunday Times* list.

My characters' names are very, very important to me for all kinds of reasons, and I'm never entirely comfortable with a character until I feel they have a name that "fits" their personality. Because I write about "regular" women, it's important that they have a "regular" name. Names like Claire, Anna, Lisa, Lucy, Tara are all kind of friendly; they're names that most women can relate to. Unlike say, Cassandra and Saskia, which are "other woman" type names, as far as I'm concerned. I like short names, as much as possible, because I've noticed when I'm reading books where the characters have long names, that it drags the pace of the narrative slightly. Similarly, it's important that my names are pronounceable: One of my most favorite names in the whole world is Aoife, an Irish name pronounced *Eefa*, but if no one outside of Ireland knows what my character's name is, they'll never bond with her. Likewise with my male characters, their names are very important. I've tried to steer clear of calling romantic heroes names like Jake and Lance, because they're caricatures of "starring male" names.

Usk-water—meaning unknown
Varden, Vardon—from the green
hill

Varney—from the alder grove
Vaughn—small

Weylin, Weylyn—son of the wolf
Wynne—fair
York—yew tree
Yspaddaden—father of Olwyn;
myth name

CHINESE

Chinese names traditionally include three characters: a family name, a generational name, and a given name, in that order. In China, a person is addressed by last name first. Chinese immigrants and travelers will often reverse their names to avoid confusion, putting the family name at the end and the given name at the beginning. Chinese émigrés and their children often take a Western first name and a Chinese middle name. Naming practices vary slightly between the Cantonese and Mandarin populations, as well as in Taiwan and Hong Kong.

The Chinese character for family name is made up of the symbols for “woman” and “to give birth,” so it is believed that family names were originally passed down from mother to child. Most family names consist of one character. Chinese women usually retain their maiden names after marriage, but may put the husband’s family name in front of the maiden name. While many cultures have a wide variety of family names, China has relatively few in common use: about 500.

If a Chinese child is given a two-character name, the first character is often shared among all the members of the same generation in the family. It is increasingly common for the generational name to be omitted; only about half of young Chinese are given a generational name today.

In China, almost any word can be used as a given name. One word can have several pronunciations (or tones), and each tone can have a separate meaning. Hui, when pronounced with the fourth tone, means flower; when pronounced with the first tone, it means brilliance or glory. Parents may choose the name of a celebrity, a name related to the prevailing culture (red, revolution), or a name expressing a wish for the child. It can also be very important to give a child an auspicious and balanced name. Choosing such a name can be a very involved process. For instance, the Chinese believed that all things were made up of five elements: metal, wood, water, fire, and earth. From a child’s birth date and time, a fortune teller can determine which elements a child is lacking, and the child can be given a name associated with that element. If the child is lacking in water, he or she can be given a name that included a word like river, tide, or



rain. This is only one of the complex calculations involved in the traditional method of naming a child; in fact, there are entire books on the process. If it is important that your Chinese character be named in the traditional manner, make sure you do some additional research.

In 1977, statistics revealed that 40 percent of the Chinese population have one of the following family names. (These names are sometimes transliterated differently.)

Chen	Wu
Huang	Yang
Li	Zhao
Liu	Zhang
Wang	Zhou

Other popular family names are:

Gao	Sun
Guo	Xiao
Hu	Xu
Lin	Zheng
Ma	Zhu

FEMALE

An—peace	Jie—pure
Bo—precious	Jin—golden
Chao—great one	Jun—truth
Chen—sunrise	Le—joy
Chow—summer	Lei—bud of the flower
Chyou—autumn	Li—rose
Cong—clever	Lian—graceful willow
Da Xia—endless summer	Lien—lotus
Feng—maple	Ling—dawn
Genji—golden	Lixue—lovely snow
Guan Yin—goddess of mercy	Mee—beautiful
Heng—meaning unknown	Ming—bright moon; dynasty name
Hua—blossom	
Jia—lovely and good	Mingmei—intelligent

LINDA NEEDHAM



Linda Needham is the author of seven historical romances with Avon Books. Several of her books have been *USA Today* best sellers.

I'm always on the lookout for clever character names. I harvest them from theater programs, maps, telephone books, TV listings. But my newest resource comes right out of the Internet age. It costs nothing if you have access to the Web. In fact, these names arrive by the bucketful every day in your e-mail in-box. That's right! It's spam! Or rather, spammers, those falsely named "senders" who are constantly flogging mortgages and Russian brides and male enhancement products. The names are usually too eccentric for your hero or heroine, but they're great for secondary characters, proving that spam is actually good for something.

The following examples arrived in my e-mail in-box on the same morning: Ellis Paige, Hollis Higgins, Isreal Cates, Jeffrey Tackett, Langdon Barr, Luther Kilgore, Magdalen Maribel, and Wilford Mock. Rusty Pitts came a day later, to a fellow writer. Boy, was I jealous of that one!

Mulan—magnolia blossom
Park—cypress tree
Ping—duckweed
Qi—finest jade
Qiao—attractive
Qing—spring water
Rong—glory
Shan—coral
Shu—kind, gentle
Shuang—bright, clear
Sun—diminishing
Tai—sun
Tao—long life
Ting—graceful
Wan—gracious
Wei—valuable

Wing—glory
Xia—summer lotus
Xiang—fragrant
Xiao—morning
Xin—happy
Xing—twin stars
Xiu—elegant
Xi Wang—hope
Xue—snow
Yan—bird, a swallow
Yi—happy
Yue—beautiful
Zhen—precious
Zhi—wise healer
Zi—graceful, beautiful



MALE

An—peace	On—peace
Bo—precious	Park—cypress tree
Chan—clan name	Ping—duckweed
Chen—vast	Qiao—attractive
Cheng—to become	Qing—spring water
Chi—youthful vitality	Rong—glory
Chung—wise one	Shan—coral
Cong—clever	Shen—thinker
Dewei—highly principled	Sheng—victory
Fai—bright light	Shing—victory
Guang—light	Shuang—bright, clear
Ho—goodness	Sun—diminishing
Hsin—dynasty name	Tai—sun
Jie—pure	Tao—long life
Jin—golden	Wang—kingly
Jun—truth	Wen—ornamental
Kong—bright	Wing—glory
Le—joy	Xiao—morning
Li—strength	Xing—twin stars
Liang—fine	Xi Wang—hope
Lok—joy	Ye—universe
Long—dragon	Yu—pure jade
Manchu—pure	Yuan—original
Ming—bright moon; dynasty name	Yue—beautiful
	Zhi—wise healer

CZECHOSLOVAKIAN

Czech and Slovakian names follow very similar patterns, though they may have slightly different spellings. This list is Czechoslovakian because it contains names from both origins.

Czechoslovakian surnames are taken from descriptive, patronymic, occupational, and place names. Overall, they tend to be short, and female surnames always end in *-ova* or *-a*. Below are the rules to form female surnames from male surnames.

1. Add “-ova” to the male surname.

Novak/ Novakova

Horak /Horakova

2. If male surname ends with “y,” change the “y” to an “a” to form the female surname.

Novy/Nova

Zeleny/Zelena

Exceptions:

1. If male surname ends with “ek,” “ec,” “el,” then in female surname “e” is left out and -ova is added (“k,” “c,” or “l” stays).

Tichacek/Tichackova

Bobek/Bobková

Vrabec/Vrabcová

Havel/Havlová

2. If a male surname ends with “a” then in female surname “a” is left out and -ova is added.

Peterka/Peterkova

Ryba/Rybova

Prochazka/Prochazkova

Blaha/Blahova

3. If a male surname ends with “i” then the female version is the same as the male version

Krejci/Krejci

A few surnames listed as male/female:

Bednar/Bednarova	Krejci/Krejci
Benes/Benesova	Kubas/Kubasova
Bily/Bila	Mlynar/Mlynarova
Bobek/Bobkova	Nemec/Nemcova
Capek/Capekova	Novak/Novakova
Cermak/Cermakova	Pekar/Pekarova
Cerny/Cerna	Polak/Polakova
Dedek/Dedkova	Ryba/Rybova
Dudek/Dudkova	Rybar/Rybarova
Hlinka/Hlinkova	Silny/Silna
Hnedý/Hneda	Slansky/Slanska
Horak/Horakova	Suchy/Sucha
Hrusosky/Hrusovska	Svec/Svecova
Kopecky/Kopecka	Tesar/Tesarova
Kozel/Kozlova	Vrba/Vrbova
Kral/Kralova	Zapotocky/Zapotocka
Krasny/Krasna	Zelenka/Zelenkova

FEMALE

Alzbeta, Beta—consecrated to God (form of Elizabeth)	Jana—God's gift
Anezka—pure (form of Agnes)	Jirina—farmer (form of George)
Anna, Anicka—grace (form of Anne)	Kamilla—from a noble family
Barbora, Bara—stranger (form of Barbara)	Katerina—pure (form of Katherine)
Bela, Bel, Belia, Bell—white	Klára—clear, bright (form of Clare)
Beta—servant of God	Krasava—beautiful
Bozena—meaning unknown	Kristyna—Christ's
Dana—God is my judge (form of Daniel)	Lenka—torch
Dusana—spirit (form of Dusan)	Libuse, Libusa—myth name
Eliska—truthful	Lida—cultured
Frantiska—free (form of Francis)	Lucie, Lucia—light (form of Luke)
Ivana—gracious God (form of John)	Ludmila, Lida—loved by the people
	Marie, Marenka, Maruska—bitter (form of Mary)

Marketa—pearl (form of Margaret)
Michaela, Misa—who is like God (form of Michael)
Milada—my love
Milena—favored
Milka, Mila—industrious
Miroslava, Mirka—peaceful glory (form of Miroslav)
Nadezda—with hope
Nikola, Nikolka—victory of the people (form of Nicholas)
Otká—fortunate heroine

Pavla—small (form of Paul)
Rusalka—wood sprite
Ruzena, Ruzenka, Ruza—rose (form of Rosa)
Svetlana, Svetla—gift
Tereza, Terezka—reaper (form of Theresa)
Verushka—faith
Vlasta—myth name
Zdenka—winding sheet
Zophie—wise (form of Sophia)
Zuzana, Zuzka, Zuza—lily (form of Susan)

MALE

Adam—of the red earth
Antonin, Tonda—priceless (form of Anthony)
Bedrich—peaceful ruler
Bilko—white
Bohumil, Bohous—God's peace
Cestmir—fortress
Dusan—spirit
Eda—rich guardian (form of Edward)
Evzen, Eugen—well-born (form of Eugene)
Ferda—brave
Frantisek, Franta—free (form of Francis)
Holic—barber
Honza—gift from God
Jakub, Kuba—supplanter (form of Jacob)
Jarda—myth name
Jaroslav—famous for his power; myth name

Jirka, Jiri, Juraj—farmer (form of George)
Josef—God adds (form of Joseph)
Jozka—God adds (form of Joseph)
Kafka—birth
Kamil—from a noble family
Karel—manly (form of Charles)
Kazimir—destroys peace (form of Casimir)
Laco—famous ruler
Ladislav, Lada—glorious ruler
Lojza—famous warrior
Lukas—light (form of Luke)
Martinek, Marek—warlike (form of Marcus)
Michal—who is like God (form of Michael)
Miklos—victory of the people (form of Nicholas)
Milan, Milos—favored, beloved

Miloslav—loves glory
Mirek—peace
Miroslav—peaceful glory
Oldrich—powerful, wealthy
Ondrus, Ondras, Ondra,
 Ondrej—manly (form of
 Andrew)
Otik, Oto, Otakar—wealthy
Pavlov, Pafko, Pavel, Pavol—
 small (form of Paul)
Pepik—God will add
Peterka, Petr—rock (form of
 Peter)
Praza, Lomsky, Lomy—from
 Prague
Radek—happy, glad
Reznik—butcher

Risa—strong ruler (form of
 Richard)
Rostislav—meaning unknown
Siman—heard
Standa, Stanislav—camp glory
Tomik, Toman—twin (form of
 Thomas)
Tonda—meaning unknown
Vaclav—great glory (form of
 Wenceslas)
Vasek—victorious
Vavrin, Vavrinec—laurel (form
 of Lawrence)
Viktor—victorious (form of
 Victor)
Vilem—resolute protector (form
 of William)

DANISH

Danish surnames began in the late Middle Ages, but not until the nineteenth century were they used regularly as hereditary names. Even in the nineteenth century, most people continued to use just their given name without any other title. In fact, the Danish government was forced to intervene to get people to use surnames. In 1828, the government declared that children should receive both a given and family name at birth. An 1860 act made surnames permanent.

Unfortunately, most of the Danish people simply added *son* (-*sen*) or *daughter* (-*datter*) to the father's name, which produced an inordinate number of -*sen* names. To help counteract this trend, in 1904 the government began encouraging Danish people to change their surnames. As a result, many kept their -*sen* suffixes and just added a hyphen along with their occupation.

A few surnames:

Andersdatter	Johansen
Andersen	Jørgensen
Bang	Kiersted
Bjorn	Kirkegaard
Bruun	Kjaer
Christiansen	Kristoffersen
Claussen	Kruse
Dahl	Larsen
Damgaard	Lundvall
Dinesen	Madsen
Dyhr	Møller
Eriksen	Mortensen
Fabricius	Nielsen
Frederiksdatter	Nørgaard
Frederiksen	Olsen
Friis	Østergaard
Gruntvig	Petersen
Guildenstern	Rayner
Hansen	Søndergaard
Holst	Sørensen
Iversen	Vestergaard
Jensen	Yager

FEMALE

- Abellona—mannish
Agneta—pure (form of Agnes)
Ailsa—consecrated to God
(form of Elizabeth)
Aleksia—defender of mankind
(form of Alexander)
Almeta—pearl
Andrea—manly (form of
Andrew)
Annelise—graceful light
Annemette—bitter pearl
Arvada—eagle
Astrid—divine strength
Bergitte, Britta—strong (form of
Bridget)
Bitten—good
Clady—lame (form of Claudia)
Dagmar—maiden of the day
Dakin—Danish, of Denmark
Dana—from Denmark
Dorothea—God's gift (form of
Dorothy)
Ebba—strength
Else—consecrated to God (form
of Elizabeth)
Eva—life (form of Eve)
Federikke—peaceful ruler (form
of Frederick)
Gelsomina—jasmine
Gjerta—protection
Gudrun—divine knowledge
Gytha—warring
Hanne—gracious God (form of
John)
Hedvig—strife (form of Hedwig)
Inga, Inger—daughter of a hero
Ingeborg—Ing's protection
Ingelise—Ing's grace
Jensine—God has blessed
Karen, Katrine—pure
Kirsten, Kristine—believes in
Christ (form of Christian)
Kolinka—born to the
conquering people (form of
Kolinkar)
Laila—night
Larine, Larina—laurel (form of
Lawrence)
Lisbet, Lise—consecrated to
God (form of Elizabeth)
Margarethe, Meta—pearl (form
of Margaret)
Mettalise—graceful pearl
Nielsine—champion (form of
Neal)
Petrine, Pedrine—rock (form of
Peter)
Rigmor—myth name
Saffi—wise
Semine—goddess of the
heavens
Sigrid—victorious counselor
Sofie—wise (form of Sophia)
Sorine, Sorina—god of thunder;
myth name (form of Thor)
Stinne, Stina—believes in Christ
(form of Christian)
Thora, Thyra—god of thunder;
myth name (form of Thor)
Trudel—strong
Vibeke—little woman
Wilhelmine—resolute protector
(form of William)

MALE

- Anders, Anker—manly (form of Andrew)
Aren, Arend—eagle (form of Arnold)
Argus—vigilant
Axel—father of peace
Balduin—bold
Bardo—hill, furrow (form of Bartholomew)
Bent—blessed
Berde, Brede—glacier
Bodil, Bo—commanding
Caesar—long-haired
Christian—believes in Christ
Christoffer—Christ-bearer (form of Christopher)
Dane—from Denmark
Diederik—ruler of the people (form of Dietrich)
Ejnar—warrior
Enok—meaning unknown
Erik—eternal ruler (form of Eric)
Eskild—meaning unknown
Frans, Franz—free (form of Francis)
Frederik—peaceful ruler (form of Frederick)
Fritz—free
Gregos—watchful (form of Gregory)
Hans—gracious God (form of John)
Harald—army ruler (form of Harold)
Henrik, Henning—rules the home (form of Henry)
Hjalmar—meaning unknown
Jakob—supplanter (form of Jacob)
Jens, Jen, Joen—gracious God (form of John)
Joren, Joris, Jory, Jorgen—farmer (form of George)
Josef—God adds (form of Joseph)
Karl—manly (form of Charles)
Klaus—victory of the people (form of Nicholas)
Knud—kind
Kolinkar—born to the conquering people
Lars, Lauritz—laurel (form of Lawrence)
Magnus—great
Mikkel—who is like God (form of Michael)
Mogens—powerful
Niel—champion (form of Neal)
Niels, Niles, Nils—son of Niel
Olaf, Ole—ancestor (form of Olaf)
Pedar—rock (form of Peter)
Poul—small (form of Paul)
Soren—god of thunder; myth name (form of Thor)
Svend—young
Tage—day
Thor—god of thunder; myth name
Ulrik—ruler of all
Valentin—valiant, strong (form of Valentine)
Vilhelm—resolute protector (form of William)

DUTCH

Dutch names consist of a first, middle, and last name. Given names are chosen by the parents, and children are sometimes named after parents or grandparents.

Hereditary surnames began in the thirteenth century in the upper classes. By the seventeenth century, the lower classes were also using surnames. Most surnames began as patronymics but also encompass occupational, place, and descriptive names. A Dutch woman usually takes her husband's name at marriage, but it is not uncommon for a woman to keep her name. If she takes her husband's surname, the husband's name is placed before the woman's maiden name. When Aleen de Vries marries Carel Jansen, she becomes Aleen Jansen de Vries. Surnames are usually passed from father to children.

Common articles are:

van—of (unlike *von* in German, *van* does not indicate nobility)

de—the (used with nicknames and, on occasion, occupational names)

van den—from the (used with place names)

van der—from the

ver—combination of *van* and *der*

ter, tor, ten, tom—at the (used with place names)

-sen, -sze, -sz, -se—son

het—the

't—the

op, on—from a farm

-man—used with place names, indicating the bearer is from there

A few surnames:

Bleecker

Bakker

Carstens

Christoffels

Citroen

de Jong

de Vries

Dehaan

Dekens

Dekker

Deman

Devisser

Devoss

Dewitt

Geldersman

Groot

Jansen	van der Klei
Kersten	van Dyck
Korstiaan	Van Ness
Lange	Vanderbilt
Rossevelt	Vanderpool
Schuyler	Vanderveer
Skipper	Verbrugge
Smedt, Smid, Smit	Vogel
Stille	Vromme
Ten Eyck	Wevers
Ter Heide	Wit
Van Aken	Woudman
van den/der Berg	Zeeman



SARI ROBINS



Sari Robins writes Regency romances. The first novel of her Andersen Hall series, *One Wicked Night*, has been published by HarperCollins.

In *One Wicked Night*, my heroine, Lillian Kane, is a baroness in her own right, and in her circles, family name, title, and birthright are paramount. I chose her name Lillian because she blossoms like a lily and Kane because her stepfather is a blight on her family. Her family name is especially poignant for her since she does not know her biological father's identity.

I wanted her to learn that the name she creates for herself, through thought and deed, is more important than identity by birth. So the man she falls in love with, Nicholas Redford, is an orphan, named by happenstance, the location where he was abandoned as a babe.

As Nick explains to Lillian, "I was found on a snowy Christmastide near a low water junction where the town folk crossed the river. Hence, the Nicholas reference and 'reed ford' becoming Redford, thanks to the inventiveness of the local justice of the peace. The name suits me fine, but I'm starting to believe what Dunn always said. That your true name, the one you make for yourself, is the only one that counts."

FEMALE

Adrie—from the Adriatic	Kaatje—pure (form of Katherine)
Alva—meaning unknown	Karel—manly (form of Charles)
Anke, Anika, Anki—grace (form of Anne)	Lene—light
Annemie—bitter grace	Lina, Lien—pure
Arabella—beautiful eagle	Mahault—strong battle-maid (form of Matilda)
Betje—devoted to God	Marieke—bitter (form of Mary)
Brandy, Brande—fine wine	Mina—protector
Dorothea—God's gift (form of Dorothy)	Nelleke—horn
Edda—poetic	Rozamond—known defender
Francisca—free (form of Francis)	Saskia—Saxon
Gisela—pledge, oath	Skye, Skyla, Schyler, Skylar—sheltering
Grishilde, Griseldis, Grushilda—gray battle-maid (form of Griselda)	Sofie—wise (form of Sophia)
Gusta, Gust—staff of God (form of Gustav)	Sybylla, Sibylla—prophetess (form of Sybil)
Hendrika—rules the home (form of Henry)	Tryne—pure
	Wigburg—young

MALE

Ambrosius—immortal (form of Ambrose)	Bram—father of many (form of Abraham)
Arend—eagle (form of Arnold)	Carel—free
Arje—dark; from the Adriatic (form of Adrian)	Cecilius—blind (form of Cecil)
Arne—eagle (form of Arnold)	Claudios—lame (form of Claude)
Barend—bear	Claus—victory of the people (form of Nicholas)
Bartholomeus—hill, furrow (form of Bartholomew)	Clementius—merciful (form of Clement)
Basilus—regal (form of Basil)	Dirck, Dirk—God's gift (form of Theodore)
Berg—mountain	Dwight—blond
Bonifacius—good (form of Boniface)	Egidius—youthful

Espen—bear of God
Eugenius—well-born (form of Eugene)
Eustatius—peaceful
Everhart—brave as a boar
Godewyn—good friend
Gottfried—God's peace (form of Godfrey)
Gotthard—divine, firm
Gregor—watchful (form of Gregory)
Hagen—heart and mind
Harold—army ruler
Henrick—rules the home (form of Henry)
Hugo—intelligent (form of Hugh)
Izaak—one who laughs (form of Isaac)
Jakob—supplanter (form of Jacob)
Jan—gracious God (form of John)
Jeremias—exalted of the Lord (form of Jeremiah)
Jilt—money
Joost—good and honest
Josef—God adds (form of Joseph)
Karel—manly (form of Charles)

Kees—horn colored
Klaas—victory of the people (form of Nicholas)
Koenraad—bold
Krisoijn—curly-haired
Kyler—archer
Larry, Lars, Larz, Lauritz—laurel (form of Lawrence)
Maarten—don't deceive
Mogens—powerful
Narve—strong
Nicolaas—victory of the people (form of Nicholas)
Noach—comfort
Piet—rock (form of Peter)
Roosevelt—from the rose field
Rutger—famous spearman (form of Roger)
Theodorus—God's gift (form of Theodore)
Thies, Thjis—God's gift (form of Matthew)
Tiebout—bold
Veit—guide (form of Guy)
Vogel—bird
Vromme—wise
Waldemar—strong ruler
Wim—strong protector
Wolter—powerful warrior (form of Walter)

EGYPTIAN

The Ptolemaic rulers, Roman Emperors and Pharaohs of Egypt could have a series of names and titles, but usually a two- or three-name system went as follows:

1. A name relating to the god Horus (names that end with -re or -ra) that also represented the bearer as a ruler of Earth and a divine spirit, and ruler of all Egypt, both North and South.
2. The individual's given name.

An example of a full name would be *Sahura Amen*.

Commoners usually had a single name, and these names frequently incorporated the names of gods: Ra, Re, Amen, Amun, Aten.

The Moslem settlers of the region use the rules listed in the section of this book on Arabic names. Other settlers use the naming system of their native tribe or land. Thus, there are no purely Egyptian surnames.

FEMALE

Ain—priceless	Chione—daughter of the Nile; myth name
Akila—intelligent (form of Akil)	Cleopatra—name of a queen
Amunet—goddess of mystery; myth name	Dalila—gentle
Anat—wife of Seth; myth name	Dendera—from Dendera
Annippe—daughter of the Nile	Echidna—monster; myth name
Astarte—wife of Seth; myth name	Edjo—another form of Uadjit; myth name
Auset—another name for Isis; myth name	Eshe—life
Aziza—precious (form of Azizi)	Femi—love
Bahiti—fortune	Fukayna—intelligent
Bast—personification of the heat of the sun; myth name	Habibah—beloved
Bastet—cat; myth name	Hafsah—married to the prophet
Bennu—eagle	Halima—gentle
	Haqikah—honest
	Hasina—good

Hathor, Hathor-Sakmet—
goddess of destruction;
myth name
Hatshepsut—name of a queen
Hehet—goddess of the
immeasurable; myth name
Heqet—frog-headed goddess;
myth name
Ife—love
Isis—goddess of magic; myth
name
Jamila—beauty
Jendayi—thankful
Kakra—twin
Kamilah—perfection
Kanika—black
Keket—goddess of darkness;
myth name
Kesi—born of a troubled father
Khepri—morning sun
Kissa—born after twins
Lapis—named for the lapis
stone
Layla—born at night
Lotus—lotus flower
Maat—goddess of order and
justice; myth name
Mafuane—soil
Maibe—grave
Mandisa—sweet
Mariasha—perfect one; bitter,
with sorrow
Masika—born during rain
Meht-urt—represented by a cow
Memphis—myth name
Mert, Mert-sekert—lover of
silence
Mesi—water

Meskhenet—destiny
Monifa—lucky
Mosi—born first
Moswen—light skin
Mukamutara—daughter of
Mutara
Mukantagara—born during war
Mukarramma—revered
Muminah—pious
Mut—mother; myth name
Nabirye—mother of twins
Naeemah—benevolent (form of
Naeem)
Nailah—successful
Nashwa—wonderful feeling
Nathifa—pure
Naunet—goddess of the ocean;
myth name
Nebt-het, Nephthys—nature
goddess; myth name
Neema—born to wealthy
parents
Nefertari—name of a queen
Nefertiti—name of a queen
Nekhbet—vulture-goddess;
myth name
Nephthys—daughter of Nut and
Geb; myth name
Net, Neith—divine mother
Nile—from the Nile
Nit—myth name
Niut—goddess of nothingness;
myth name
Nourbese—wonderful
Nubia—from Nubia
Nuru—born during the day
Nut—sky goddess; myth name
Ode—from the road

Olabisi—brings joy	Serq, Selk—another form of Isis; myth name
Olufemi—beloved of the gods	Shani—wonderful
Omorose—beautiful	Sharifa—respected
Oni—wanted	Shukura—grateful
Oseye—happy	Siti—lady
Panya—mouse	Subira—patient
Pili—born second	Suma—ask
Quibilah—peaceful	Tabia—talented
Rabiah—born in the spring	Tahirah—pristine
Ramla—prophetess	Tale—green
Rashida—righteous	Talibah—scholar
Raziya—agreeable	Tauret—goddess of pregnant women; myth name
Rehema—compassionate	Tefnut—atmospheric moisture; myth name
Renenet—goddess of fortune; myth name	Thema—queen
Sabah—born in the morning	Theoris—great
Safiya—pure	Thermuthis—another form of Renenet; myth name
Sagira—little one	Uadjit—cobra-goddess; myth name
Sakhmet—lioness; goddess worshipped in Memphis; myth name	Umayma—little mother
Salama—peaceful	Umm—mother
Salihah—agreeable	Urbi—princess
Sanura—kitten	Walidah—newly born
Sechet—myth name	Yaminah—meaning unknown
Sekhet—wife of Ptah; myth name	Zahra—flower
Selma—secure	Zalika, Zaliki—well-born
	Zesiro—twin

MALE

Abasi—stern	Adom—receives help from the gods
Abayomi—brings joy	Agymah—meaning unknown
Abubakar—noble	Akhenaten—devoted to Aten
Adeben—born twelfth	Akiiki—friendly
Adio—righteous	Akil—intelligent
Adofo—fighter	

Akins—brave
 Amen, Amun, Ammon—god of a united Egypt; myth name
 Amenhotep—name of a pharaoh
 Amenophis—name of a pharaoh
 Amen-Ra—personification of the power of the universe; myth name
 Amsu, Amsi—personification of reproduction; myth name
 Amun—god of mystery; myth name
 An-her, Anhut—myth name
 Anubis, Anpu—god of the dead; myth name
 Anum—born fifth
 Anzety—god of Busiris; myth name
 Apis—dead bull thought to be Osiris; myth name
 Apophis—meaning unknown
 Asim—defender
 Aswad—black
 Ata—twin
 Atemu—great god of Annu; myth name
 Aten—sun-disk; myth name
 Atsu—twin
 Atum—whole
 Ausar—another name for Osiris; myth name
 Azibo—earth
 Azizi—precious
 Baal—meaning unknown
 Babafemi—loved by his father
 Badru—born during the full moon
 Bakari—noble oath
 Bankole—meaning unknown
 Baruti—teacher
 Beb, Bebti, Babu, Baba—Osiris's firstborn; myth name
 Behdeti—myth name
 Bes—brings joy; dwarf god; myth name
 Bomani—warrior
 Chafulumisa—fast
 Chatha—ends
 Chatuluka—departs
 Chenzira—born on a journey
 Cheops—name of a pharaoh
 Chibale—kinsman
 Chigaru—hound
 Chike—power of God
 Chisisi—secret
 Chuma—wealthy
 Dakarai—happiness
 Darius—name of a pharaoh
 Darwishi—saint
 Djoser—name of a pharaoh
 Donkor—humble
 Ebo—born on Tuesday
 Edfu—from Edfu
 Fadil—generous
 Faki—meaning unknown
 Fenuku—born late
 Fenyang—conquers
 Fineas—the Nubian; dark-skinned
 Funsani—a request
 Gahiji—hunter
 Garai—settled
 Geb—earth god; myth name
 Gyasi—wonderful
 Haji—born during the pilgrimage

Hakizimana—God saves	Khepri—morning sun
Hamadi—praised	Khnemu—to model
Hanbal—pristine	Khnum—reborn sun; myth name
Hanif—believes	Khons—god of the moon; myth name
Hapi—god of the Nile	Khufu—name of a pharaoh
Hapu—name of a pharaoh	Knepf—meaning unknown
Harakhty—disguise of Horus; myth name	Kontar—only son
Hasani, Husani—handsome	Kosey—lion
Heh—god of the immeasurable; myth name	Lateef—gentle
Heru—sun god; myth name	Lisimba—lion
Hondo—war	Lukman—prophet
Horemheb—name of a pharaoh	Luzige—locust
Horus—god of the sky; myth name	Madu—of the people
Hu—nature god; myth name	Makalani—clerk
Idogbe—brother of twins	Manu—born second
Ini-herit—he who brings back the distant one	Maskini—poor
Ishaq—laughs	Masud—lucky
Issa—God saves	Matisimela—root
Jabari—brave	Mbizi—water
Jafari—creek	Memphis—from Memphis
Jahi—dignified	Menes—name of a king
Jibade—related to royalty	Menkaura—name of a pharaoh
Jumoke—loved by all	Mensah—born third
Kafele—would die for	Min—god of fertility; myth name
Kamuzu—medical	Minkah—justice
Kaphiri—hill	Month—god of Thebes; myth name
Kasiya—departs	Mosegi—tailor
Kazemde—ambassador	Mosi—born first
Kek—god of darkness; myth name	Moswen—light skin
Khafra—name of a pharaoh	Msamaki—fish
Khaldun, Khalid—eternal	Msrah—born sixth
Khalfani—shall rule	Mudada—provider
Khentimentiu—god of the dead's destiny; myth name	Mukhwana—twin
	Musa—taken from the water (form of Moses)

Muslim—believer
 Naeem—benevolent
 Najja—meaning unknown
 Narmer—name of a king
 Nassor—victor
 Neb-er-tcher—god of the universe; myth name
 Nefertum—worshipped in Memphis; myth name
 Nexeu—meaning unknown
 Ngozi—blessed
 Niu—god of nothingness; myth name
 Nizam—disciplined
 Nkosi—rules
 Nkrumah—born ninth
 Nkuku—rooster
 Nun—god of the ocean; myth name
 Nuru—born during the day
 Oba—king
 Odion—born of twins
 Okpara—firstborn
 Omari—high born
 Onuris—brings back the distant one
 Osahar—God hears me
 Osaze—loved by God
 Osiris, Un-nefer—god of the dead; myth name
 Ottah—born third
 Oubastet, Bastet—cat; myth name
 Paki—witness
 Petiri—meaning unknown
 Pili—born second
 Psamtic—name of a pharaoh
 Psusennes—name of a pharaoh

Ptah—god worshipped in Memphis; myth name
 Ptolemy—name of pharaoh
 Qeb—father of the earth
 Quaashie—born on Sunday
 Ra—sun
 Ramses—name of a pharaoh
 Rashidi—wise
 Re—midday sun
 Re-Harakhty—Horus of the horizon; myth name
 Reshef—myth name
 Runihura—destroyer
 Saa—nature god; myth name
 Sabola—pepper
 Sadiki—faithful
 Salih—upright
 Seb—god of the earth; myth name
 Sebak—companion of Set; myth name
 Sefu—sword
 Sekani—laughs
 Senusnet—name of a pharaoh
 Sept—meaning unknown
 Serapis—another name for Apis; myth name
 Set, Sutekh—son of Seb and Nut; myth name
 Seth—murdered Osiris; myth name
 Sethos—name of a prince
 Shabaka—name of a king
 Shakir—grateful
 Shu—air; myth name
 Sifiye—meaning unknown
 Sneferu—name of a pharaoh
 Sobk—worshipped in Faiyum; myth name

Sudi—lucky
Tabari—meaning unknown
Tarik—name of a warrior
Tau—lion
Tehuti—god of earth, sky, air,
and sea; myth name
Teremun—loved by his father
Thabit—strong
Thoth, Astennu—god of the
moon; myth name
Thutmose—name of a pharaoh
Tor—king
Tsekani—close
Tum—great god of Annu; myth
name
Tumaini—hope

Tutankhamun—name of a
pharaoh
Typhon—meaning unknown
Ubaid—faithful
Ufa—flour
Umi—life
Unika—meaning unknown
Ur, Ur-Atum—great; myth name
Usi—smoke
Uthman—friend of Muhammad
Wamukota—left-handed
Yafeu—bold
Yahya—given by God
Yazid—meaning unknown
Zahur—flower
Zaid, Ziyad—he shall add
Zuberi—strong
Zuka—meaning unknown

ENGLISH

The naming heritage of England has been influenced by several different cultural and linguistic groups: the Celts; Romans; Angles, Saxons, and Jutes; the Vikings and Danes; and the Normans, who invaded in 1066. In these ancient cultures, people were known by given name only, by given name and patronymic, or by given name and byname.

A byname was like a nickname used to distinguish between two people of the same given name. Bynames reflected occupation, place of origin, or personal characteristics like temperament or appearance. When the Normans centralized the relatively advanced governmental systems of England and introduced a census, they also introduced the concept of surnames. As family names were adopted from the top of the social structure down, it was not unusual for bynames like Baker, Sutton, Little, and Red to become hereditary surnames. Surnames were also constructed from personal names. By the early 1300s, surnames were common, if not universal.

Given names were primarily of Anglo-Saxon origin before the Norman invasion, but after 1066 the number of given names in common use dwindled—ultimately to only forty or fifty names for each gender—and Biblical names became more common. Since then, influence from other cultures has expanded the name pool. It has become more acceptable to use words as names or to create new names. The list of given names below represents names of Anglo-Saxon origin as well as a few other origins. A great influx of names accompanied the Norman Conquest of 1066. Traditional Hebrew (Old Testament) names such as Mary, Joseph, Miriam, Rebecca, and so on, were not used until the late Middle Ages. New Testament biblical names such as John and Peter became popular around the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. These types of names can be found in the alphabetical index.

A few surnames:

Abbott	Bottomley
Annsion	Brown
Armstrong	Butler
Baker	Cartwright
Baxter	Clark

Cooper
Davidson
Faulkner
Fiske
Fletcher
Ford
Fuller
Girnwood
Goodayle
Hollister
Johnson
Jones
Lakeman
Little
Martin
Miller
Omphrey

Paddock
Peterson
Roberts
Robinson
Roper
Sawyer
Small
Smith
Statham
Taylor
Tomkin
Townsend
Tucker
Wainwright
Walker
White
Williams

FEMALE

Ada, Aida, Adda, Adia—happy
Alberta, Adalbeorht, Albertina,
 Albertyna, Albertine,
 Alberteen, Albertyne,
 Adalbrechta, Aldora,
 Aeldra—noble
Aldercy—chief
Aldis, Aldys—from the old
 house
Aleda, Aleta, Alita—winged
Alfreda, Aelfraed, Alfrida—elf
 counselor (form of Alfred)
Altheda, Altha, Althia—healer
Alura, Alhraed, Alurea, Allura—
 divine counselor
Alvina, Aethelwine, Aethelwyne,
 Aelfwine—friend of the elves

Amorica—ancient name for
 Britain
Anora—light
Arda, Ardelia, Ardi, Ardys,
 Ardine, Ardene, Ardeen,
 Ardella, Ardyne—warm
Arietta, Ariette—melody
Ashley, Aisley—from the ash
 tree grove
Atthealdre, Atilda, Athilda—at
 the elder tree
Audrey, Audra, Audie, Audre—
 noble strength
Aurea, Auria, Aria—gentle music
Autumn—born in the fall
Avis—refuge in battle
Avril, Averil, Averyl, Avryl—
 born in April

Beda, Beadu—warrior maid
 Berengaria, Berangari—bear-
 spear maid
 Bertilde, Beorhthilde, Bertilda—
 bright battle-maid
 Bertrade, Beorhtraed—bright
 counselor
 Bethia, Betia—house of God
 Beverly, Beverley—from the
 beaver meadow
 Birdie, Birdy—birdlike
 Blessing, Bletsung—blessing
 Bliss, Bliths—happy
 Blossom, Blostm—fresh
 Blythe, Blithe—cheerful
 Bonnie, Bonny, Bonie—sweet
 and good
 Brande—firebrand
 Brooke—stream
 Cadena, Cadyna—rhythmic
 (form of Cadence)
 Callie, Cally, Calli—lark
 Cambria—myth name
 Carmia, Carmya, Carmina,
 Carmine, Carmita,
 Charmaine—song
 Carol, Caroline, Carolyn,
 Carolina, Carrie—manly
 (form of Charles)
 Chelsea—seaport
 Claresta—brilliant
 Cleantha—glory
 Cleva—dwells at the cliffs
 Clover, Claefer—clover
 Cody, Codie, Codi—cushion
 Cordelia—myth name
 Corliss—good-hearted
 Cwen—queen

Cyne, Cym, Cim—ruler
 Cyneburhleah, Cynburleigh,
 Cymberly, Cimperleigh—
 from the royal meadow
 Daisy, Daesgesage—day's eye
 Dale, Dayle, Dael—lives in the
 valley
 Daryl—dearly loved
 Dawn, Dagian—dawn
 Dena, Deanna, Deana, Deane,
 Dina—from the valley
 Devona, Defena, Devonna,
 Devyna—from Devon
 Eadda, Ede, Eda, Eada—wealthy
 Eadwine, Edwina, Edina—
 wealthy friend (form of
 Edwin)
 Earlene, Erleen—noblewoman
 (form of Earl)
 Eartha, Ertha—worldly
 Earwine, Earwyn, Erwina,
 Erwyna, Earwyna,
 Aerwyna—friend of the sea
 Easter, Eastre—born at Easter
 Ebba—strength
 Edith, Edyth, Eadgyth—wealthy
 gift
 Edlyn, Eathelin, Eathelyn, Edlin,
 Edlen—noble waterfall
 Edmonda, Eadmund, Edmunda,
 Edmanda, Eduarda—rich
 protector (form of Edmund)
 Edrea, Earric, Edra—powerful
 Eferhild, Eferhilda—bear,
 warrior-maiden
 Egberta, Egbertina, Egbertine,
 Egbertyne—shining sword
 (form of Egbert)

Elberta, Elberte, Elbertina,
 Elbertine, Elbertyna—noble,
 glorious (form of Elbert)
 Eldrida, Eldreda—wise adviser
 (form of Eldred)
 Elethea, Elthia, Elethia—healer
 Elfrida, Elfreda, Elfrieda, Elva,
 Elvie—good counselor
 Elida, Elita, Elyta—winged
 Ella, Elle—beautiful fairy
 Elmira, Elmyra—noble
 Elva, Elvia, Elvie, Elfie, Elivina,
 Elvine, Elvyne, Elvin, Elvina,
 Elvena—good elf
 Enid, Enit, Enyd—spirit
 Erna, Earna—eagle
 Ernestine, Enerstyne, Enerstina,
 Earnestyna—serious (form
 of Ernest)
 Ethelreda, Aethelreda,
 Eathelreda—noble maiden
 Faith, Faithe, Fayth—faithful
 Fayre—beautiful
 Felabeorht, Filberta, Felberta—
 brilliant
 Fern—fern
 Fleta, Flyta—swift
 Fonda—tender
 Gay, Gayle, Gail, Gale—lively
 Gijs—bright
 Gilda, Gylda, Gyldan, Golda,
 Goldie, Goldy, Gildan—
 gilded
 Glad, Gleda—happy
 Gloriana, Glorianna, Gloriane—
 glorious grace
 Godiva, Godgifu—gift from God
 Goneril, Gonerilla—myth name
 Gracia, Grace, Gracie—grace
 Guendolen—white
 Gypsy—wanderer
 Gytha, Githa—gift
 Hayley—from the hay meadow
 Hazel, Haesel—nut
 Heallfrith, Hallfrita, Halfryta,
 Halfriht—peaceful home
 Heather—heather
 Hertha—mother earth
 Hilda, Hildie, Hild, Hilde—battle-
 maid
 Hlynn—waterfall
 Holly, Holea, Halig—holly
 Honey, Hunig, Honbria,
 Honbrie—sweet
 Hope—hope
 Hrothbeorhta, Hrothberta,
 Hrothnerta, Hrothbertina—
 bright, famous
 Huette, Huetta, Hughette,
 Hugiet, Hugetta—
 intelligent (form of Hugh)
 Ilde, Ilda—heroine
 Irvette, Irvetta—friend of the sea
 Ivy, Ivey, Ifig—ivy
 Jill—girl
 Jocelyn, Joscelyne, Josceline,
 Jocelyne—happy
 Kermeilde, Kermilda, Kermilla,
 Kermillie—gilded
 Kerrie, Kerry—dark one; county
 name
 Kimberly, Kim, Kimbra—from
 the royal fortress meadow
 Kimbrought, Kimbro—from the
 royal field
 Lark, Larke—lark

DEBBIE RALEIGH



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I would like to claim that my characters flow onto the page fully formed and wearing nice, shiny name tags attached to their lapels. In reality, getting a character named is more like a twelve-round bout of mud wrestling.

Names are more than just a label that writers hand out arbitrarily. They can give us important clues to characters. They can reveal heritage, social status, or inner traits that will be exposed throughout the story. A Beowulf is not the same hero as a Corey. A heroine named Meg does not offer the reader the same expectations as Jezebel. William Hunter III would not possess the same past or family as Blade.

The first step is knowing a character. Is there a specific personality trait that I want to emphasize? A shrewish Kate or demur Sarah? Is she named for a beloved grandmother? Or a wealthy aunt in hopes of an inheritance? Is it a name she hates or takes pride in?

The time period I'm writing in as well as social and cultural influences also have to be considered. Ariel might have a devoted father who is also a classic scholar, while Shevon is a fiery Irish rebel who was orphaned as a child. Two women with two very different backgrounds.

It is also important to avoid using names that make the reader scratch their head in puzzlement. Unique names are fine, but names that are impossible to pronounce or are spelled strangely will pull the reader out of the story. The names should be an added dimension to the character, never a distraction.

In the right hands a name can help create a character that will remain in the minds of readers forever.



Lassie, Lasse, Lass—little girl
 Leigh, Ley, Lee, Lea, Leah, Leia—
 from the meadow
 Leoma—bright
 Levina, Levene, Levyna—flash
 Liberty—liberty
 Lindsay, Lindsey—from the
 island of the linden tree
 Lissa, Lyssa—honeybee
 Lodema, Lodima, Lodyma—
 guide
 Lona, Loni—solitary
 Love, Lov—affection
 Luella, Louella, Luell—make
 amends
 Luvena, Luvina, Luvyna—little
 beloved one
 Lynn, Lyn, Lin, Linne—cascade
 Madra, Madre—mother
 Maida, Maegth, Maidie, Mady,
 Maidel, Mayda, Mayde—
 maiden
 Maitane, Maite, Maitena—dearly
 loved
 Mercia—from Mercia
 Mercy—mercy
 Merry—happy
 Mertice, Maertisa, Mertysa,
 Mertise—famous
 Mildred, Mildraed, Mildrid,
 Mildryd—gentle adviser
 Nara, Nearra—nearest
 Neda—wealthy guardian
 Nelda—by the alder tree
 Nellwyn, Nelwin, Nelwina,
 Nelwyna—bright friend
 Oleda, Oleta, Olita—winged
 Ora, Orabelle, Orabel—beautiful
 seacoast
 Oralie, Orelia—gold
 Orva, Ordwin, Ordwyn,
 Ordwyna, Ordwina—brave
 friend
 Peace, Pax—peace
 Philberta—brilliant
 Piper, Pipere—piper
 Poppy—flower
 Portia—offering
 Queena, Queenie—queen
 Ra, Rae—doe
 Radella, Raedself—elfin
 counselor
 Raven, Ravyn—dark-haired;
 wise
 Regan—myth name
 Ricarda—strong ruler (form of
 Richard)
 Rillette, Rilletta—stream
 Roberta, Robertia—bright;
 famous (form of Robert)
 Sabrina—legendary princess
 Saxona, Saxonia—of Saxony
 Scarlett, Scarlet—red
 Shelley, Scelfleah—from the
 ledge meadow
 Sherry, Sherri, Shirley—from the
 white meadow
 Starr, Starla, Star—star
 Stockard, Stockhart, Stockhard,
 Stokkard—hardy tree
 Storm, Stormy, Stormie—storm
 Summer, Suma—born during
 the summer
 Sunny—cheerful
 Tangerine, Tangerina—from
 Tangiers
 Tatum, Tayte, Tait, Tate—happy

Tuesday, Tiwesdaeg—born on
Tuesday
Twyla—woven
Tyne, Tyna, Tina—river
Velvet, Velouette—soft
Wallis, Waleis—from Wales
Wanetta, Wann—pale
Welcome—welcomed

Welsa, Welsie—from the west
Wenda—comely
Willa—resolute
Withypoll—twig head
Yedda—beautiful voice
Yetta—generous
Zavrina, Zabrina—legendary
princess (form of Sabrina)

MALE

Adam—of the red earth
Addy—ardent
Adney, Addaneye, Addney,
Adny—lives on the noble's
island
Aeldra—lives at the elder tree
Aelfdane—Danish elf
Aelfdene—from the elfin valley
Aethelisdun, Athelston,
Aetheston—from the
noble's hill
Aiken, Adken, Adkyn, Aikin,
Aickin—oaken
Ainsley, Ainslie, Ansley,
Aenedleah, Ansleigh—
meadow
Albern, Aethelbeorn, Alburn—
noble warrior
Albert, Alburt, Aethelberht,
Aethelbert—noble,
intelligent
Alden, Aldwine, Aldwyn,
Aldwin—wise protector
Aldo—old
Aldrich, Aldric, Aldrik—wise
ruler

Alford, Alvord, Avery—from the
old ford
Alfred, Alfredo, Aelfraed,
Aldrid—elf counselor
Allard, Alhhard, Aethelhard—
brave
All—handsome
Allred, Aldred, Aldrid—wise,
red-haired man
Almo, Aethelmaer, Athemar,
Athmarr—noble, famous
Alson, Alison, Adalson, Aliceson,
Alycesone—son of All
Alston, Aethelstun—from the
elf's home
Alton, Alden, Aldan, Aldtun—
from the old manor
Ann, Ain—name of a king
Anna—name of a king
Anscom, Aenescumb,
Anscomb—lives in the
valley of the majestic one
Ardell, Ardel—from the hare's
dell
Ardley, Ardaleah, Ardleigh—
from the home-lover's
meadow

Ardolf, Ardwolf, Ardolph—
home-loving wolf
Aric, Alhric, Arik, Alhric,
Alhrik—noble ruler
Arlo—fortified hill
Arnett, Arnet, Arnatt, Arnott—
little eagle
Arthgallo—myth name
Arundel, Arndell—from the
eagle's dell
Ashley, Ashly, Aisley,
Aescleah—from the ash tree
grove
Ashlin, Aesclin—lives at the ash
tree pool
Ashton, Aiston, Aesctun—from
the ash tree farm
Ashwin, Aescwine, Ashwyn,
Aescwyn—spear friend
Aurick—noble valor
Averil, Averill, Averell—born in
April
Avery, Aelfric, Aubrey—elf ruler
Axton, Aeccestane—
swordsmen's stone
Aylmer, Almer, Aethelmaere,
Aegelmaere—infamous
Aylward, Aegelweard,
Aethelweard, Athelward—
noble protector
Balder, Baldhere—bold army
Bancroft, Benecroft—from the
bean field
Barclay, Berkeley, Berkley,
Bercleah—lives at the birch
tree meadow
Barden, Bardan—lives near the
boar's den

Bardolf, Bardawulf, Bardolph,
Bardulf, Bardalph,
Barwolf—ax-wolf
Bardrick, Bardaric, Bardarik—
ax-ruler
Barnett, Beornet—leader
Baron, Barron—warrior
Barr, Barre—gateway
Barth—son of the earth
Bartram, Beorhthram,
Barthram—glorious raven
Bayhard, Bay—reddish-brown
hair
Beacher, Beceere, Beecher—
lives by the beech tree
Beck, Bek—brook
Bede—prayer
Bert, Burt, Beorht—bright
Bertram, Beorhthram—bright
raven (form of Bertrand)
Beverly, Beverley—from the
beaver meadow
Birch, Beore, Birk—birch tree
Birkey—from the birch tree
island
Birley, Byreleah—from the
cattle shed on the meadow
Black, Claec—dark
Blade, Blaed—wealthy glory
Blaise, Blaze—stutters
Blake, Blaec—black or white
Blakeley, Blakely, Blaecleah—
from the dark meadow
Blakey, Blacey—blond
Blanford, Blandford—gray-
haired
Blayne—twin
Bliss—happy

Blyth, Blythe—cheerful
Bors—myth name
Botolf, Botewolf, Botwolf—
herald wolf
Braden, Bradyn, Brad, Bradan,
Bradene—from the broad
valley
Bradley, Bradly, Bradleah—from
the broad meadow
Brady, Bradig—from the broad
island
Brainard, Branhard, Brainerd—
bold raven
Brandon, Branddun—from the
beacon hill
Brantley, Brant, Brand—proud
Brent, Brentan—from the steep
hill
Britto—myth name
Brock, Brok, Broc—badger
Brook, Brooke—stream
Brutus—myth name
Buck, Boc—male deer
Buckley, Bocleah, Bocley—lives
at the buck meadow
Budd, Buddy, Boda—herald
Bundy, Bondig—free
Burch, Birche, Birch—birch
Burchard, Burghard—strong as
a castle
Burdon, Burhdon—lives at the
castle
Burgess, Burgeis—town citizen
Burl, Byrle—cup-bearer
Burnett, Burnet—meaning
unknown
Burney, Bureig—lives on the
brook island

Byram—from the cattle yard
Byrd, Bird, Birde—bird
Byron—from the cottage; bear
Calder, Caldre, Calldwr—cold
brook
Cale, Cal, Cayle—bold
Camber—myth name
Carswell, Caersewiella—lives at
the watercress spring
Carvell, Carvel—from the villa
by the march
Cassibellaunus—myth name
Cedric, Caddarik, Caddaric—
chief
Cenehard, Cynhard—bold
Ceneward, Cynward—bold
guardian
Cenewig, Cenewyg—bold
warrior
Chad, Cadda—warrior
Chadburn, Chadburne,
Chadbyrne—from the
wildcat brook
Charles—manly
Charleton, Charlton—from
Charles's farm
Chatwyn, Chatwin—warring
friend
Chauncey, Chance, Chancey,
Chaunce, Chancellor,
Chaunceler—chancellor
Chester, Ceaster—lives at the
camp
Cheston, Ceastun—camp
Cingeswiella, Cingeswell,
Cinwell—lives at the king's
spring
Clay, Claeg, Clayton, Claegtun—
mortal

Clifford, Cliff—lives by the ford
 near the cliff
 Clinton, Clint, Clinttun—from
 the headland estate
 Clive, Clyve, Cleve—lives at the
 cliffs
 Cody, Codi, Codie—cushion
 Colbert, Culbert, Culbart,
 Ceolbeorht, Colvert—
 seaman
 Colby—from the dark village
 Coleman, Colemann—dark-
 skinned
 Collier, Colier, Collyer, Colyer—
 charcoal merchant
 Collis, Colis, Colys—son of the
 dark man
 Colter, Coltere—horse
 herdsman
 Colton, Colt, Coletun, Cole—
 from the dark town
 Corwin, Corwyn, Corwine,
 Corwan—friend of the heart
 Culver, Colver, Colvyr, Colfre—
 dove
 Cuthbert, Cuthbeorht—famous;
 intelligent
 Cutler—makes knives
 Cymbelline—myth name
 Cyneleah, Cyneley—lives in the
 royal meadow
 Cyning, Cyneric, Cynerik,
 Cynric, Cynrik—royal
 Dalbert, Delbert, Dealbert,
 Dealbeorht—proud
 Dale, Dael, Daley, Dayle—lives in
 the valley
 Darrell, Daryl—dearly loved
 Dean, Deanne, Dene, Dino—from
 the dene
 Dempster—judicious
 Denley—from the valley
 meadow
 Dennis—follower of Dionysus
 Derward, Deorward,
 Deerward—guardian of
 the deer
 Derwin, Derwyn, Derwan—
 friend of wild animals
 Drake, Draca—dragon
 Dunn—dark-skinned
 Dunstan—hill of stone
 Durwin, Durwyn, Deorwine—
 dear friend
 Earl, Eorl, Earle—nobleman
 Edbert, Eadburt, Eadbeorht—
 wealthy
 Edelmar, Edelmarr, Eadelmarr—
 noble
 Edgar, Eadger—wealthy spear
 Edmund, Edmond, Edmondo,
 Eadmund—rich protector
 Edrick, Edrik, Edwald, Edwaldo,
 Eadweald, Eadric—wealthy
 ruler
 Edsel, Eadsele—from Edward's
 hall
 Edward, Eduard, Eda, Edvard,
 Ede, Eideard, Eadward,
 Eadweard—rich guardian
 Edwin, Edwyn, Eadwyn,
 Eadwine—wealthy friend
 Egbert, Ecgbeorht—shining
 sword
 Eibhear, Ever, Evert, Everet,
 Everhard—strong as a boar

Elidure—myth name
Ellard, Eallard, Ealhhard—brave
Elmore, Elmoor, Elmer—lives at
the elm tree moor
Elvy, Elvey—elf warrior
Elwald, Elwold—old Welshman
Elwell, Eadwiella—from the old
spring
Elwyn, Elwin, Elwen—old friend
Emery, Emeric, Emerick—
meaning unknown
Erwin, Earwyn, Earwine,
Erwyn—friend of the sea
Esmond, Estmund, Esmund—
protected by God
Ethelbert, Aethelbeorht—
splendid
Everard, Eferhard, Ever—brave
as a boar
Ewald—powerful
Ewert, Eawart, Eweheorde—
shepherd
Ewing—lawyer
Fane, Fayne, Fain, Faegan,
Fagan—joyful
Farold, Faerwald—powerful
traveler
Farr, Faer—traveler
Ferrex—myth name
Filbert, Filburt, Felabeorht—
brilliant
Filmer, Filmore, Filmarr,
Felamaere—famous
Finn—blond
Firman—fair
Fiske—fish
Fitch, Fitcher, Fytch—ermine
Flint, Flynt—a stream

Ford—river crossing
Foster, Forest, Forrester—
keeper of the forest
Fowler—game warden
Frayne, Fraine, Freyne—
foreigner
Frewin, Frewyn, Frewen,
Freowine—noble friend
Frey—lord
Frick, Frika, Freca—bold
Fridolf, Fridolph, Fridwolf,
Friduwulf—peaceful wolf
Frisa—curly-haired
Gail, Gayle, Gale—lively
Garman, Garrman, Garmon,
Garmann—spearman
Garmond, Garmund, Garm—
spear protector
Garnett, Garnet—armed with
spear
Garr, Gar—spear
Garrett, Garrard, Garet—strong
spear
Garrick—rules by the spear
Garroway, Garwig—spear-
fighter
Garton, Garatun—lives in the
triangular farmstead
Garvin, Garvyn, Garwin, Garwyn,
Garwine—spear friend
Gary—carries spears
Gaukroger—Roger the clumsy
Gawain, Gawen, Gawyn—white
hawk
Geary, Gerry—flexible
Gehard, Gerd, Gerrit, Gerardo,
Gherardo—spear-hard
Geoffrey—God's peace

Geol—born at Christmas
 Gervase—serves
 Gifford, Gifuhard—gift of
 bravery
 Gijs—bright
 Gilbert, Gilburt, Guilbert,
 Giselbert, Gilpin—pledge
 Gildas—gilded
 Gilmer, Gilmar, Giselmaere—
 famous hostage
 Gladwin, Gladwyn, Glaedwine—
 happy friend
 Godwin, Godwyn, Godwine—
 God's friend
 Gold, Golden—blond
 Goldwin, Goldwyn, Goldwine—
 golden friend
 Goodwin, Goodwine,
 Goodwyn—God's friend
 Gorboduc—myth name
 Gordon, Garadun, Garadin,
 Garadyn, Garaden—from
 the three-cornered hill
 Graeham, Gram, Graegham—
 from the gray home
 Grant, Graent—great
 Grover, Grafere—lives in the
 grove
 Guiderius—myth name
 Hadwin, Hadwyn, Haethowine—
 friend in war
 Halbert, Halburt, Halbart,
 Halebeorht—brilliant hero
 Hale, Hayle, Haele—lives in the
 hall
 Hardwin, Hardwyn,
 Heardwine—brave friend
 Harelache, Harlak, Harlake—
 lives at the hare's lake
 Hare—rabbit
 Harlan, Harland—from the
 hare's land
 Harley, Harleigh, Hareleah—
 from the hare's meadow
 Hart, Heort—stag
 Harvey, Houerv, Herve—soldier
 Haslet, Haslett—from the hazel
 tree land
 Hastings, Haestingas—violent
 Haven, Havyn, Haefen—safety
 Hayden, Haydon—from the
 hedged-in valley
 Haywood, Heywood—from the
 hedged forest
 Hearne, Hern, Herne—hunter;
 myth name
 Heathcliff, Heathclyf, Hetheclif—
 from the heath cliff
 Histon—myth name
 Holden, Holdin, Holdyn—from
 the hollow in the valley
 Hollis—lives by the holly trees
 Howard, Heahweard—chief
 guardian
 Hring—ring
 Hroc—crow
 Hud, Hod—hooded
 Hugh, Huey, Hugi—intelligent
 Humility—humble
 Hunt, Hunter—hunter
 Hurlbert, Hurlbart, Herlbert,
 Herlebeorht—army strong
 Hurst, Hurste—lives in the
 forest
 Hwistlere—piper
 Innocent—innocent
 Irving, Irwin, Irwyn—sea friend

Ives—little archer
Iwdael, Idal—from the yew tree
valley
Jack—supplanter (derivative of
James)
James—supplanter
Jasper—treasurer (form of
Casper)
Keane, Keene, Keenan,
Keanan—sharp
Kemp, Kempe—warrior
Kendall—from the clear river
valley
Kenelm—defends the family
Kennard—bold
Kenneth, Ken—handsome
Kenrick, Kenrik, Kenryk—royal
ruler
Kent—from Kent
Kenton—from a farm in Kent
Kenward—bold guardian
Kenway—brave in war
Kim—ruler
King—royal
Kinsey—victorious
Kirk, Kyrk—dwells at the church
Knight—noble, soldier
Kyne, Ken—royal
Lach, Laec, Lache—lives near
water
Ladd, Lad, Ladde—attendant
Laibrook, Ladbroc—lives by the
path by the brook
Langford—lives near the long
ford
Leal, Lele—loyal
Lear, Lir—myth name
Lee, Lew—shelter

Leigh, Leo—from the meadow
Lind, Lynd—lives by the linden
tree
Lindell, Lindael—lives by the
linden tree valley
Linford, Lynford—from the
linden-tree ford
Locke, Loc—lives by the
stronghold
Locrine—myth name
Lorineus—myth name
Lowell, Lovell, Lyfing, Loefel—
beloved
Lud—myth name
Lydell—from the open dell
Lyman, Leman, Leyman—from
the valley
Lyndon, Linddun—lives by the
linden tree
Malin, Malyn—little warrior
Malvin, Malvyn, Maethelwine—
council friend
Manfred, Manfrid—peaceful
Mann—hero
Manning—son of a hero
Marley, Marly—from the march
meadow
Marshall, Marschall, Marshall—
steward
Mather, Maetthere—powerful
army
Maxwell—capable
Medwin, Medwyn, Medwine—
strong friend
Melvin, Melvyn, Maelwine—
strong friend
Merritt, Maeret—little famous
one

Mervin, Mervyn, Maerewine,
 Merwyn—famous friend
 Mitchell, Mitchel—like God
 Mordred, Modraed—brave
 Napier—in charge of royal linens
 Newland—lives on the new land
 Norvin, Norvyn, Norwin,
 Norwyn—friend of the north
 Nyle, Nye—*island*
 Oakley—from the oak tree
 meadow
 Odell, Odale, Odayle—of the
 valley
 Odom, Odam—*son-in-law*
 Odwulf, Odwolf, Odwolfe—
 wealthy wolf
 Ogelsby, Oegelsby, Ogelsvy,
 Ogelsvie—*fearsome*
 Orrick, Orick, Orick, Orrick,
 Haarac—from the ancient
 oak tree
 Orval, Orvil, Orville, Ordwald,
 Orwald—*spear-strength*
 Orvin, Orvyn, Ordwin,
 Ordwine—*brave friend*
 Os, Oz—*divine*
 Osbert, Osburt, Osbart,
 Osbeorht—*divinely brilliant*
 Osborn, Osburn, Osbourne,
 Osbeorn—*divine bear*
 Osmar, Osmarr—*divinely*
 glorious
 Osmond, Osmund, Osmont—
 divine protector
 Osred, Osrid, Osryd, Osraed—
 divine counselor
 Osruc, Osruc, Osruc—*divine*
 ruler
 Oswald, Osweald, Oswell—
 divine power
 Parkin, Perekin, Parle, Pierrel,
 Parnall, Pernel, Pernell,
 Pollock, Pauloc, Perkin,
 Perekin—*little rock*
 Parr—from the cattle enclosure
 Parsefal, Percival, Parsifal,
 Perceval—*valley piercer*
 Payne, Paine—*pagan*
 Pell, Paella—*mantle*
 Perry, Perye—from the pear tree
 Philip, Phillip—*lover of horses*
 Pierce, Pearce, Peirce—*rock*
 (form of Peter)
 Pit, Pyt—from the pit
 Porrex—*myth name*
 Prentice, Prentiss—*scholar*
 Preston, Prestin, Preostun—
 from the priest's farm
 Quentin, Quinton—from the
 queen's estate
 Rad, Raed—*red*
 Radbert, Radburt, Redman,
 Redamann, Readman—*red-*
 haired counselor
 Radburn, Radbyrne, Radbourne,
 Raedburne—*lives by the red*
 stream
 Radolf, Radolph, Raedwolf—*red*
 wolf
 Raedeman—*red-haired*
 horseman
 Ralph, Ralf, Raff, Rolf, Rolfe—
 wolf
 Ram, Ramm—*ram*
 Randolph, Randal, Randall,
 Rafe—*shield wolf*

Randy—coarse
 Rankin, Randkin—little shield
 Rans, Raven, Rand, Ren—raven
 Read, Reed, Reid—red-haired
 Redwald—strong counsel
 Reeve, Reve, Reave—steward
 Reginald, Regenweald—strong ruler
 Renfred, Renfrid, Regenfrithu—peaceful raven
 Richard, Rikkard—strong ruler
 Richman, Ricman, Rickman—powerful
 Rich—wealthy
 Ricker—strong army
 Rickward, Rikward, Ricweard—strong guardian
 Rider, Ryder, Ridere—knight
 Ridgely, Ridgeley—lives at the meadow's ridge
 Ridley, Redley, Raedleah—from the red meadow
 Rigby, Ricadene—lives in the ruler's valley
 Rigg—lives near the ridge
 Ring—ring
 Roan, Rowan—from the rowan tree
 Roe, Row—deer
 Ronald—mighty, powerful
 Roper—maker of rope
 Rover, Rovere—wanderer
 Royce, Royse—royal
 Ruck, Rook—raven
 Rudd, Ruddy, Reod—ruddy-colored
 Rudyard, Ruhdugeard—from the rough enclosure

Rune—secret
 Rush, Rysc—rush
 Russell—fox
 Rutherford—from the cattle ford
 Salton, Sahhltun—lives near the willow farm
 Sawyer, Sawyere—cuts timber
 Scott, Scottas—from Scotland
 Seabert, Seaburt, Seabright, Sebert, Saebeorht—glory at sea
 Sedge, Secg—swordsmen
 Sedgewic, Sedgewick, Secgwic, Sedgewik—from the sword grass place
 Seger, Seager, Segar, Saweger—seaman
 Selby, Seleby, Shelby—from the manor house
 Selwyn, Selwine, Selwin—friend at court
 Severin—severe
 Sewell, Sewall, Sewald, Saewald—mighty at sea
 Sexton, Sextein—meaning unknown
 Seymour—tailor
 Shandy, Scandy—boisterous
 Shattuck, Shaddock, Shaddoc, Schaddoc—shad-fish
 Shawn, Shaw—from the shady grove
 Sherlock, Scirloc—blond
 Sherman—cuts the nap of woolen cloth
 Sherwin, Sherwyn—quick as the wind
 Sidney, Sydney—from Sidon

Sigehere—victorious
 Skeet, Skete, Skeat, Sketes—
 swift
 Spark, Sparke—gallant
 Spear, Spere—spear
 Speed, Sped—success
 Spencer, Spenser—keeper of
 provisions
 Sproule, Sproul, Sprowle—
 active
 Stanley, Stan, Stanly—lives by
 the stony grove
 Stanway, Stanweg—lives by the
 stony road
 Starbuck—star-deer
 Starling, Staerling—bird
 Starr—star
 Sterling, Stirling—of honest
 value
 Sterne, Stern, Stearn—austere
 Stewert, Stewart, Stuart,
 Steward—steward
 Stillman, Stilleman, Stillmann—
 gentle
 Stod, Stodd—horse
 Storm, Storme—storm
 Stowe—place
 Strong, Strang—powerful
 Styles, Stiles, Stigols—stiles
 Swain, Swayn—knight's
 attendant
 Talon—claw
 Tate, Tayt, Tayte, Tait—happy
 Tearle, Thearl—stern
 Terrell, Tirell, Terrill, Tirell,
 Tyrell—thunder ruler
 Thain, Thane, Thegn, Thayne,
 Thain—follower
 Thaw, Thawain—thaw
 Thormond, Thurmond,
 Thormund—Thor's
 protection
 Thunder—stormy tempered
 Thurston, Thurstun, Thurstan—
 Thor's stone
 Tila, Tyla—good
 Tilman, Tillman—virile
 Tomkin, Thomkins—little Tom
 Tomlin—little twin
 Torr—tower
 Tostig—name of an earl
 Tripp, Trip, Trypp, Tryp,
 Tripper—traveler
 True, Treowe—loyal
 Trumble, Trumbald, Trumball—
 strong, bold
 Trumen, Truman, Treoweman—
 loyal
 Twain, Twein—cut in two
 Twitchell, Twitchel—lives on a
 narrow passage
 Tyler, Tylerc—maker of tiles
 Udolf, Udolph—wealthy wolf
 Ulfred—wolf of peace
 Ulger—wolf spear
 Ullock, Ullok, Ulvelaik—wolf
 sport
 Ulmar, Ulmarr—famous wolf
 Unwin, Unwyn, Unwine—
 unfriendly
 Vail, Vayle, Vale—lives in the
 valley
 Valiant—brave
 Vance, Vannes—grain fans
 Vinn—conqueror
 Wade, Wada, Waed—moving

Waite, Wait, Wayte—guard
Wake, Wacian—alert
Wallace, Waleis, Wallis, Walsh,
Welch, Welsh—from Wales
Walwyn, Wealaworth—Welsh
friend
War, Waer—wary
Ward, Warde, Warden, Worden,
Weard—guard
Wareine, Warren—gamekeeper
Warrick, Warwick, Warwyk,
Waeringawicum—fortress
Watt, Wat—hurdle
Wayne, Wain—craftsman
Wells, Welles—lives by the
spring
Wesley, Westley, Westleah—
from the west meadow
Whitlock, Whytlok—blond
Whitman—white-haired
Whitney—from the white island
Wilbert, Wilburt—resolute,
brilliant
Wilbur, Willaburh—beloved
stronghold
Wilfrid, Wilfred, Wilfryd—
resolute peace
Will, Willa—resolute
Willard, Willhard—resolute,
brave
William—resolute protector
Winchell, Wincel—drawer of
water
Wine, Wyne, Win, Winn—friend
Winfred, Wynfrid, Winfrid,
Winefrith, Wynfrith—friend
of peace
Winter, Wynter—born in the
winter

Witt, Witta—wise
Witter, Wittahere—wise warrior
Wolfe, Wolf, Wulf—wolf
Woodman—hunter
Woodrow—from the hedgerow
by the forest
Woodruff—bailiff
Woolsey, Wulfsize—victorious
wolf
Worden—defender
Wulfrith—wolf of peace
Wulfgar—wolf spear
Wyatt, Wiatt—guide
Wyman, Wigman—fighter
Wymer, Wigmaere—famous in
battle
Yule, Yul—born during Yule

ADDITIONAL NAMES

Abbot, Abbott—abbey father
Acker, Akker—from the oak tree
Ackerley, Ackley—from the oak
tree meadow
Ackerman—man of oak
Addis, Adamson—son of Adam
Addison—descendent of Adam
Adkins, Atkins, Atkinson,
Atkinsone—son of Aiken
Ainsworth—from Ann's estate
Alcott—from the old cottage
Alder, Aler—from the alder tree
Aldis, Aldus, Aldous—from the
old house
Amsden—from Ambrose's
valley
Anglesey—from Anglesey
Archer, Archere—bowman
Arkwright—makes chests

Arledge—lives at the hare's lake
 Arley, Arlie, Arleigh—from the
 hare's meadow
 Armstrong, Armstrang—strong
 arm
 Ascot, Ascott—lives at the east
 cottage
 Ashburn, Aesoburne—lives near
 the ash tree brook
 Ashby, Aeschby—from the ash
 tree farm
 Ashford, Atherton, Aethretun—
 lives at the spring farm
 Athmore, Attmore, Atmore—
 from the moor
 Atwater, Attewater—from the
 waterside
 Atwell, Attwell, Attewell—lives
 by the spring
 Atwood, Attewode—lives in the
 forest
 Atworth, Atteworthe—lives at
 the farmstead
 Bainbridge, Banbrigge,
 Bainbrydge—lives by the
 bridge over the stream
 Banaing, Banning—son of the
 slayer
 Barlow, Baehloew, Barhloew—
 lives on the bare hill
 Barnum, Beornham—from the
 nobleman's home
 Bartley, Bartleah, Bartleigh—
 from Bart's meadow
 Barton, Bart, Beretun—from the
 barley farm
 Baxter, Baker, Backstere, Bax—
 baker
 Beadutun, Beaton—from the
 warrior's estate
 Beaman, Beomann—beekeeper
 Beamer, Bemeere—trumpeter
 Belden, Beldan, Beldene,
 Beldon, Beldane—lives in
 the beautiful glen
 Bentley, Bentleah, Bentleigh—
 from the bent grass meadow
 Benton—lives on the moor
 Beresford, Berford—from the
 barley ford
 Berton, Burton, Beorhttun,
 Burhtun—from the fortified
 town
 Berwick, Berwyk—from the
 barley grange
 Bickford, Biecaford, Bick—from
 the hewer's ford
 Bink—lives at the bank
 Birkett, Birkhead, Birkhed—
 lives at the birch headland
 Birney, Burneig, Burney—lives
 on the brook island
 Birtle, Birtel, Byrtel, Birdhil,
 Birdhill—from the bird hill
 Bishop—overseer
 Bitanig—from the preserving
 land
 Blagdon, Blagdan, Blagden—
 from the dark valley
 Blakemore—from the dark
 moore
 Bolton—from the manor farm
 Bond—tied to the land
 Booth, Boothe, Bothe—lives in a
 hut

Borden, Bardene, Barden—from
 the boar valley
 Bosworth—lives at the cattle
 enclosure
 Bradburn, Bradbourne—from
 the broad brook
 Bradford—from the broad ford
 Bradwell—from the broad
 spring
 Bramwell, Braemwiella—from
 the bramble bush spring
 Brawley, Brawleigh, Braleah—
 from the hillslope meadow
 Brewster, Brewstere—brewer
 Bridger, Brydger, Bryggere,
 Briggere—lives at the bridge
 Brigham, Briggeham—lives by
 the bridge
 Brinton—from Brinton
 Brockley, Brocleah, Brocly,
 Brocleigh—from the badger
 meadow
 Broderick, Brodrig, Brodrik,
 Broderik—from the broad
 ridge
 Bromley, Bromleah, Bromleigh,
 Bromly—from the broom-
 covered meadow
 Brooks, Brookstone, Brookson—
 son of Brooke
 Brouger, Burghere—lives at
 the fortress
 Broughton, Burgtun—from the
 fortress town
 Brown, Brun—dark-haired
 Burbank, Burhbank—lives on
 the castle's hill
 Burley, Burhleag, Burleigh,
 Burly—lives at the castle's
 meadow
 Burn, Byrne, Bourne, Burne,
 Bourn—from the brook
 Burns, Bursone, Byrnes—son of
 Byrne
 Burton, Burhtun—lives in the
 fortified town
 Byford, Biford—lives at the river
 crossing
 Cadby, Cadabyr—from the
 warrior's settlement
 Caindale—from the clear river
 valley
 Caldwell, Caldwiella—from the
 cold spring
 Calvert, Calbert, Calfhierde—
 shepherd
 Carland—from the land between
 the streams
 Carleton, Carlton, Carlatun—
 from Carl's farm
 Carlisle, Carlyle—from the
 walled city
 Carson—son of Carr
 Carter, Cartere—drives a cart
 Carver—carves wood or sculpts
 Caster—from the Roman camp
 Chadwick, Chadwyk, Chadwik,
 Caddawyc—from the
 warrior's town
 Chapman, Ceapmann—
 merchant
 Chatham, Caddaham—from the
 soldier's land
 Chetwey, Chetwin, Cetewind—
 from the cottage on the
 winding path

BARRY FISLER



Barry Eisler is the author of the Rain books (*Rain Fall*, *Hard Rain*, and *Rain Storm*), a series of three thrillers that have been translated into over a dozen languages. They have also been optioned for a film.

Sometimes what makes a great character name is the name's resonance, its associations with other words. George Lucas knows this, and uses the concept well: Darth Vader is memorable in part because the name sounds like *death*, like *dearth* (of compassion, humanity), like *invader*, all concepts that are part of the Darth Vader "brand."

Stephen King had a great one with fictional killer Alexis Machine in *The Dark Half*; the surname tells you this guy is unstoppable and unfeeling, while the first name, classy and highborn, emphasizes these concepts by contrast. And Machine's creator and progenitor, the "not a nice guy" writer George Stark, was another good one: each name a single syllable, the second one meaning in part "harsh," "grim," "desolate." All concepts that provide a chillingly accurate description of what this character is going to be up to in the story.

Another one I love is the judge from Cormac McCarthy's *Blood Meridian*. Not "Judge," with an uppercase *J*; but "the" judge, implying his uniqueness to that station, and with a lowercase *j*, perhaps implying a certain unpretentiousness or lack of conscious effort. And of course the judge does in fact sit in judgment on mankind, whether as God or the devil the reader must decide alone.

Andrew Vachss has a winner with Burke. Think a guy named Burke—no first name—could be a softy? Of course not. And iconic Burke's single syllable name, with the clipped-off *k* at the end, hints at a lot about him: his directness, his toughness, his solitary existence.

Occasionally the name a character chooses for others reveals something about the character himself: What do we learn about George Miller's Mad Max by virtue of Max's habit of calling his dog, "Dog?" A lack of imagination? A reluctance to acknowledge anything beyond the generic about the animal, perhaps born out of a reluctance to form an attachment?

Chilton, Celdtun—from the farm
by the spring
Churchill, Circehyll, Churchyll—
lives at the church hill
Clayborne, Claiborn,
Claegborne, Claybourne,
Clayburn—from the clay
brook
Cleveland, Clifland, Clyfland,
Clevon, Cleon—from the
cliffs
Cliffton, Clifton, Cliftun, Clyftun,
Clyffton—from the farm
near the cliff
Cooper, Cupere, Coopersmith—
makes barrels
Courtland—lives at the
farmstead
Covell, Covyll, Cofahealth—lives
at the cave slope
Crandall, Crandell—from the
crane valley
Cranley, Cranleah, Cranly—from
the crane meadow
Cranston, Cranstun—from the
crane estate
Crawford—from the crow's ford
Creighton, Creketun—from the
town by the creek
Crichton—from the town by the
creek
Croften, Crofton—from the
enclosed town
Crompton—from the winding
farm
Cromwell, Crombwiella—from
the crooked stream
Crosley, Crosleah, Crosly,

Crosleigh—from the cross
meadow
Cwentun—from the queen's
estate
Dagwood—from the bright one's
forest
Dalton—from the farm in the
dale
Darnell, Darnall—from Darnall
Darton, Deortun—from the deer
park
Davis, Davidson, Davidsone—
David's son
Dearborn, Dearbourne,
Derebourne—from the deer
brook
Deems, Demason, Demasone—
judge's son
Dempsey—from the judge's
meadow
Denton—from the valley farm
Denver—lives at the valley's
edge
Diamond, Deagmund,
Diamont—bridge protector
Dickson, Dixon, Dikesone—son
of Dick
Doane, Doune—from the sand
hill
Dryden, Driden, Dridan,
Drygedene—from the dry
valley
Dudley—from the people's
meadow
Dunley, Dunleigh, Dunly,
Dunleah—from the hill
meadow



Dunton—from the farm on the
hill
Durward—gatekeeper
Eaton, Eatun—from the
riverside village
Edison, Eadwardsone,
Edwardson, Eddis—son of
Edward
Egerton—from the town on the
ridge
Elden, Eldan, Eldon, Ealhdu,
Ealdun—from the elves'
valley
Elder, Ellder, Eldur—from the
elder tree
Ellison, Eallison—son of Elder
Elsdon—from the noble's hill
Elsworth—from the noble's
estate
Elton—from the old town
Elwood, Ellwood, Ealdwode—
from the old forest
Eoforwic—from the bear estate
Erland, Eorlland, Eorland—from
the nobleman's land
Erling, Eorlson, Earlson—
nobleman's son
Estcott, Estcot—from the east
cottage
Everly, Eferleah, Everley,
Everleigh—from Ever's
meadow
Fairfax—blond
Farley, Farleigh, Farly, Faerrleah,
Fairlie—from the bull's
pasture
Farnell, Fearnhealh, Farnall,

Fernald—from the fern
slope
Farnham, Fearnhamm—from the
fern field
Farnley, Farnley, Fearnleah—
from the fern meadow
Farson, Farris, Fars—son of Farr
Felton, Feldtun, Feldun,
Feldon—from the field
estate
Fenton—from the farm on the
fens
Fielding, Felding—lives in the
field
Fitz—son
Fitz Adam, Fitsadam—son of
Adam
Fitz Water, Fitzwater, Fitz
Walter, Fitzwalter—son of
Walter
Fitzgerald, Fitz Gerald—son of
Gerald
Fitzgibbon, Fitz Gibbon,
Fitzgilbert, Fitz Gilbert—son
of Gilbert
Fitzhugh, Fitz Hugh—son of
Hugh
Fitzjames, Fitz James—son of
James
Fitzpatrick, Fitz Patrick—son of
Patrick
Fitzsimon, Fitz Simon,
Fitzsimmons, Fitzsimons—
son of Simon
Fleming—from Flanders
Freeland—from the free land
Fuller, Fullere—cloth thickener

Fulton, Fugeltun, Fulaton—from
the people's estate
Galt—from the high ground
Galton, Galeun—from the town
on the high ground
Gardner, Gardiner—gardener
Garfield, Garafeld—from the
triangular field
Garland, Gariland—from the
spear land
Garson, Garrson, Garstone—son
of Gar
Garwood, Ayrwode, Arwood—
from the fir forest
Gibson, Gibbesone—Gilbert's
son
Gilford—from Gill's ford
Golding—son of Gold
Granger, Grangere—farmer
Grantham, Graham—from the
great meadow
Grantland, Grantley—from the
large meadow
Grayson, Grayvesone—son of
the reeve
Greeley, Greely, Graegleah—
from the gray meadow
Gresham, Grisham—from the
grazing
Haagley, Hagly, Hagalean, Haig—
from the hedged enclosure
Haalstead, Heallstede—from the
manor house
Hadden, Haddon, Heath, Hadon,
Haden, Heathdene—from
the heath
Hadley, Heathley, Heathleah—

from the heath-covered
meadow
Hadrian—son of Adrian
Halford—from the hall by the
ford
Hall, Heall—from the manor
Hallam, Healum—from the
hillside
Halley, Healleah—from the
manor house meadow
Halliwell, Haligiwiella, Hallwell,
Holwell—lives by the holy
spring
Halsey, Halsig—from Hal's
island
Halton, Helton, Healhtun—from
the hillslope estate
Hamilton, Hamelatun—from the
grassy estate
Handord, Heanford—from the
high ford
Hand—worker
Hanley, Heanleah, Hanly—from
the high meadow
Harden, Hardin, Hardyn,
Harding, Heardind—from
the hare's valley
Harford, Haraford—from the
hare ford
Hargrove—from the hare grove
Harlow, Harlowe—from the
hare's hill
Harper, Hearpere—harpist
Harrison, Harris—son of Harry
Hartford, Harford—from the
stag's ford
Hartley—from the stag's
meadow

Hartwell, Heortwiella—lives near the stag's spring	Huntington, Huntington—from the hunting farm
Hawley, Hawly, Hagaleah—from the hedged meadow	Huntley, Huntly—from the hunter's meadow
Hayes—from the hedged land	Hutton—from the estate on the ridge
Hayward, Hagaward—keeper of the hedged enclosure	Huxford, Huxeford—from Hugh's ford
Healy—from the slope land	Huxley, Huxly—from Hugh's meadow
Hillock, Hillocke—from the small hill	Hwaeteleah—from the wheat meadow
Hilton—from the hall on the hill	Hweolere—wheel maker
Holbrook—from the brook	Hwertun—from the estate at the hollow
Holcomb—from the deep valley	Hwitby—from the white farmstead
Holmes—from the river island	Hwitcomb, Whitcumb—from the white hollow
Holt—from the forest	Hwitford—from the white ford
Horton, Hartun—from the gray estate	Hwithloew—from the white hill
Houghton—from the estate on the bluff	Hwitloc—from the white fortress
Howland—from the chief's land	Hyatt, Hiatt—from the high gate
Hraefnscaga—from the raven forest	Hyde, Hid, Hide—from the hide
Hristun—from the brushwood estate	Isham, Isenham—from the iron one's estate
Hrocby—from the crow's estate	Jackson—son of Jack
Hrocesburh—from the crow's forest	Jagger, Jager—carter
Hrycg—from the ridge	Jefferson—son of Geoffrey
Hrychleah—from the meadow's edge	Kendrick, Kendrik, Kendryk— son of Harry
Hrypanleah, Hrapenly—from the shouter's meadow	Kengsley—from the king's meadow
Hrytherford—from the cattle ford	Kenley, Kenly—from the king's meadow
Hudson, Hodson—son of the hooded man	Kester—from the Roman camp
Huntingdon, Huntingden—from the hunter's hill	Kingdon—from the king's hall

Kingston—from the king's
village or estate
Kingswell—lives at the king's
spring
Kipp, Kip, Kippar, Kippie—from
the pointed hill
Kirkley, Kirkly—from the
church's meadow
Kirkwood, Kyrkwode—from the
church's forest
Kleef—from the cliff
Knox, Knocks—from the hills
Laidley, Laidly—from the creek
meadow
Lander, Launder—from the
grassy plain
Landon, Langdon—from the
long hill
Lane, Laine—from the long
meadow
Langley, Langleah—from the
long meadow
Langston—from the long
enclosure
Lanston—from the long estate
Lathrop—from the farmstead
with the barn
Latimer—interprets Latin
Law, Lawe—from the hill
Lawford—from the ford at the
hill
Lawley, Lawly—from the hill
meadow
Lawson—son of Law or
Lawrence
Lawton—from the hillside farm
Leicester—from Leicester
Leighton, Layton, Lay—from the
meadow farm

Leland—from the meadow land
Leverton, Laefertun—from the
rush farm
Lincoln—from the settlement by
the pool
Lindisfarne—from Lindisfarne
Lindley, Lindleigh, Lindly—from
the linden tree meadow
Link, Line, Hline, Hlink—from
the bank
Linley, Linly, Linleah—from the
flax field
Linton, Lintun—from the flax
enclosure
Litton, Hlithtun, Lifton—from
the hillside town
Livingston—from Lyfing's town
Lockwood—from the enclosed
wood
Lorimer, Lorimar—saddle
maker
Ludlow—from the prince's hill
Madison—son of a mighty
warrior
Maitland—from the meadow
Manley, Manly, Mannleah—from
the hero's meadow
Mansfield, Maunfeld—from the
field by the small river
Manton—from the hero's town
or farm
Marden, Mardon—from the
valley with the pool
Marland, Marchman, Marland—
from the march
Marlow, Marlowe, Merlow—
from the hill by the lake

Marsden—from the marsh
 valley
 Marsh, Mersc—from the marsh
 Marston, Merestun—from the
 farm by the pool
 Marwood, Merewood,
 Merewode—from the lake
 forest
 Matherson, Mathers—son of
 Mather
 Mayfield—from the warrior's
 field
 Mead, Maed—from the meadow
 Melbourne, Melburn, Melbyrne,
 Mylnburne, Melborn—from
 the mill stream
 Meldon—from the hillside mill
 Meldrick, Meldryk, Meldrik,
 Mylnric—from the powerful
 mill
 Mercer—merchant
 Merton—from the farm by
 the sea
 Milburn, Milbyrne—from the
 mill stream
 Milford—from the mill's ford
 Miller—miller
 Millman, Milman—mill worker
 Milton—from the mill farm
 Milward—keeper of the mill
 Montgomery, Monte, Monty—
 from the wealthy man's
 mountain
 More, Moreland, Morland—from
 the moors
 Moreley, Morlee, Morly—from
 the meadow on the moor
 Moreley, Morlee, Morly—from
 the moors
 Morse, Morris, Morrisey,
 Morrison—son of More
 Morton—from the farm near
 the moor
 Moulton—from the mule farm
 Newell, Niewheall—from the
 new hall
 Newman—newcomer
 Newton—from the new farm
 Nixon, Nixen, Nicson, Nikson—
 son of Nick
 Norcross—from the north
 crossroads
 Northcliffe, Northclyf,
 Northclif—from the north
 cliff
 Northrop, Northrup—from the
 north farm
 Norton, Nortin, Northtun—from
 the north farm
 Norwood, Northwode—from the
 north forest
 Oakes, Okes—from the oak
 Ocelfa—from the high plain
 Ogdon, Oakden, Ogdon—from
 the oak tree valley
 Olney, Ollaneg—from Olney
 Onslow, Onslowe—from the
 zealous one's hill
 Oram, Orahamm, Orham—from
 the riverbank enclosure
 Orford—from the cattle ford
 Orlan, Ordland, Orland—from
 the pointed hill
 Orman, Ordman—spearman
 Ormeman—ship man

Ormemund, Ormund, Ordmund,
 Ormond—spear-defender
 Orson, Orsen, Ordson—
 Ormond's son
 Orton, Ortun, Oratun—from the
 shore farm
 Oxford, Oxnaford—from the ox
 ford
 Oxley, Oxnaleah—from the ox
 enclosure
 Oxton, Oxnatun—from the ox
 farm
 Palmer, Palmere—pilgrim
 Park, Parke, Pearroc—of the
 forest
 Parker—keeper of the forest
 Parkins, Parkinson—son of
 Parkin
 Parrish, Parisch—lives near the
 church
 Patton, Patten, Pattin, Paton—
 from the warrior's town
 Paxton, Pax, Paxtun—from the
 peaceful farm
 Payton, Paegastun, Peyton,
 Payden—from the fighter's
 farm
 Pemton, Pelltun—from the pool
 farm
 Penley, Penleigh, Pennleah—
 from the enclosed pasture
 meadow
 Penn, Pyn—from the enclosure
 Penton—from the enclosed farm
 Perkins, Perkinson—son of
 Perkin
 Phelps, Phillips, Philips—son of
 Philip
 Pickford, Picford—from the
 peak ford
 Pickworth, Picaworth—from the
 woodcutter's estate
 Pierson, Piers, Pearson—son of
 Pierce
 Pitney—from the preserving
 land
 Prescott, Prescott, Preostcot—
 from the priest's dwelling
 Presley, Pressley, Priestly—
 from the priest's meadow
 Prior, Pryor—head of a
 monastery
 Putnam—from the
 commander's estate
 Radcliffe, Radclyf, Raedclyf,
 Radcliff—from the red cliff
 Radley, Redley—from the red
 meadow
 Radnor, Raedanoran—from the
 red shore
 Radord, Raedford, Redford—
 from the red ford
 Raleigh, Rally, Ra Leah, Raaley,
 Raawley—from the roe deer
 Meadow
 Ralston—from Ralf's farm
 Ramsay, Ramsey—from Ram's
 island
 Ramsden—from the ram's valley
 Ranfield, Renfield—from the
 raven's field
 Ransey, Ransy—from raven's
 island
 Ransford—from the raven ford
 Ransley—from the raven's
 meadow

Ransom, Randson—son of Rand
 Rawson, Rawlins, Rawls—son of
 Rawley or Raleigh
 Rayburn, Reyburn, Raybourne—
 from the deer's stream
 Reading, Redding—son of Reed
 Redmond, Redmund, Radmund,
 Raedmund—protector,
 counselor
 Reeves, Reaves—son of Reeve
 Remington, Renton—from the
 raven farm
 Renshaw—from the raven forest
 Rexford—from the king's ford
 Rexley—from the king's
 meadow
 Rexton—from the king's farm
 Rhodes, Rodes—lives near the
 crucifix
 Ridge, Rydge—from the ridge
 Ridpath, Raedpath—lives near
 the red path
 Riggs—son of Rigg
 Ripley—from the shouter's
 meadow
 Risley—from the brushwood
 meadow
 Riston—from the brushwood
 farm
 Rodman—lives by the road
 Rodwell—lives by the spring
 near the road
 Romney—from Romney
 Ronson—son of Ronald
 Rowell, Rawiella—from the deer
 spring
 Rowley, Ruhleah—from the
 rough meadow
 Roxbury—from the raven's
 fortress
 Royden—from the royal hill
 Ruford, Rufford—from the red
 ford
 Rugby—from the raven's estate
 Rumford—from the wide ford
 Rushford, Ryscford—lives near
 the rush ford
 Rutledge—from the red pool
 Rutley—from the root meadow
 Rycroft, Rygecroft—from the
 rye field
 Ryland, Rygeland—from the rye
 land
 Ryman, Rygemann—rye
 merchant
 Ryton, Rygetun—from the rye
 farm
 Safford, Salford, Salhford—from
 the willow ford
 Salisbury—from the fortified
 keep
 Sanborn, Sanbourne—from the
 sandy brook
 Sanders, Sanersone, Saunders,
 Saunderson, Sanderson—
 Alexander's son
 Sandon—from the sandy hill
 Sanford—from the sandy ford
 Santon—from the sandy farm
 Sawyers—son of Sawyer
 Saxon, Saxan—swordsmen
 Seabrook, Saebroc—from the
 brook by the sea
 Seadon—from the hill by the sea
 Seaton, Seeton, Seton—from the
 farm by the sea

Sedgeley—from the
 swordsman's meadow
 Seely, Selig, Saelig, Sceley,
 Sealey—from the happy
 meadow
 Sefton—from Sefton
 Seldon, Selden, Salhdene—from
 the manor valley
 Seward, Saeward, Seaward—
 guards the coast
 Shadwell, Scadwiella—from the
 shed spring
 Shandley, Scandleah—from the
 loud meadow
 Sheffield, Scaffeld—from the
 crooked field
 Sheldon—from the shield farm
 Shelley—from the ledge
 meadow
 Shelton, Scelftun—from the hill
 on the ledge
 Shepherd, Shepard—shepherd
 Shepley, Sheply, Sceapleigh—
 from the sheep meadow
 Sherborne, Sherbourne,
 Sherbourn, Sherburne—
 from the clear brook
 Sherwood, Scirwode—from the
 bright forest
 Shipley—from the sheep
 meadow
 Shipton—from the sheep farm
 Siddell, Sidell, Siddael—from the
 wide valley
 Sidwell—from the broad well
 Silsby—from Sill's farm
 Skelton—from the estate on the
 ledge

Skipper, Skippere—ship's
 captain
 Skipton—from the sheep estate
 Slade, Slaed—from the valley
 Slaton, Slayton—from the valley
 farm
 Smedley, Smetheleah—from the
 flat meadow
 Smith, Smyth, Smythe—smith
 Snowden—from the snowy hill
 Somerset—from the summer
 settlers
 Somerton, Sumertun,
 Sumerton—from the
 summer estate
 Southwell—from the south
 spring
 Spalding, Spelding—from the
 split meadow
 Squire, Squier—shield bearer
 St. Alban—from St. Alban
 Stafford, Steathford—from the
 landing ford
 Stanbury, Stanburh, Stanberry—
 from the stony fortress
 Stancliff, Stanclyf—from the
 stony cliff
 Standish, Stanedisc—from the
 stony park
 Stanfield, Stanfeld—from the
 stony field
 Stanford, Sanford, Stamford—
 from the stony ford
 Stanhope, Stanhop—from the
 stony hollow
 Stanton, Staunton, Stantun—
 from the stony farm
 Stanwick, Stanwyk, Stanwik,

Stanwic—from the stony village	Tedmund—national protector
Stanwood, Stanwode—from the stony forest	Templeton, Tempeltun—from the temple farm
Stedman, Stedeman—owns a farm	Tennyson—son of Dennis
Stock, Stok, Stoc—from the tree stump	Terris, Terrys, Teryysone—son of Terrell
Stockley, Stocleah—from the tree-stump meadow	Thatcher, Thacher, Thaxter, Thacker, Thackere—roofer
Stockwell, Stocwiella—from the tree-stump spring	Thorley, Torley, Thurleigh, Thurleah—from Thor's meadow
Stoddard—keeper of horses	Thorn, Torn, Thorne—from the thorn tree
Stoke—from the village	Thorndyke, Thorndike, Thorndic—from the thorny dike
Stratford—from the river ford on the street	Thornley, Thornly—from the thorny meadow
Stroud, Strod—from the thicket	Thornton, Thorntun—from the thorn-tree farm
Suffield, Suthfeld—from the south field	Thorpe, Thorp—from the village
Sully, Suthleah, Suthley—from the south meadow	Thurlow, Thurhloew—from Thor's hill
Sumner, Sumernor—summoner	Tilden, Tiladene—from the fertile valley
Sutcliff, Sutclyf, Suthclif, Suttecliff—from the south cliff	Tilford—from the fertile ford
Sutton—from the south farm	Tilton—from the good estate
Swinton, Swintun—from the swine farm	Toft—from the small farm
Symington, Symontun—from Simon's estate	Toland, Tolland—owns taxed land
Taburer, Tab—drummer	Tolman—collects taxes
Tanner, Tannere—leather maker	Towley, Townly, Tunleah—from the town meadow
Tanton, Tamtun—from the quiet river farm	Townsend—from the end of the town
Tarleton, Thoraldtun—from the thunder estate	Tredway, Treadway, Thrythwig—strong warrior
Tedmond, Theomund,	

Trent—from the river Trent
 Trowbridge, Trowbrydge,
 Treowbrycg—from the tree
 bridge
 Truesdale, Truitestall,
 Truesdell—from the
 beloved one's farm
 Tucker, Toukere, Tuckere—
 tucker of cloth
 Tupper, Tuppere—ram herder
 Turner, Tournour—works on
 the lathe
 Twyford, Twiford—from the
 double river ford
 Tye, Tyg, Teyen—from the
 enclosure
 Tyson, Tyesone—son of Tye
 Udell, Udale, Udayle, Udall—
 from the yew tree valley
 Upchurch—from the upper
 church
 Upton, Uptun—from the upper
 farm
 Upwood, Upwode—from the
 high town
 Vingon, Vinson, Vinsone—son of
 Vinn
 Wadley—from Wade's meadow
 Wadsworth—from Wade's
 estate
 Wainwright—wagonmaker
 Wakefield, Wacfeld—from
 Wake's field
 Wakeley, Wacleah—from
 Wake's meadow
 Wakeman, Wacuman—
 watchman
 Walbridge, Walbrydge—from
 the Welshman's bridge
 Walby—from the Welshman's
 dwellings
 Walcot, Walcott, Weallcot—lives
 in the Welshman's cottage
 Walden—from the Welshman's
 valley
 Waldon, Waldron—from the
 Welshman's hill
 Walford—from the Welshman's
 ford
 Walker—thickener of cloth
 Waller, Weallere—mason
 Walton, Walworth,
 Wealaworth—from the
 Welshman's farm
 Wardell, Weardhyll—from the
 guardian's hill
 Warefield, Weifield—from the
 field by the weir
 Warford, Weiford—from the
 farm by the weir
 Warley, Warleigh, Weirley—
 from the weir meadow
 Warton, Warun—from the farm
 by the weir
 Washburn, Washbourne,
 Washburne, Waescburne—
 from the flooding brook
 Washington—from the
 intelligent one's farm
 Watford, Watelford—from the
 hurdle ford
 Watkins, Wattkins, Wattikinson,
 Wattekinson—son of Watt
 Watson, Wattesone, Watts,
 Wattson—son of Walter

Waverly, Waefreleah—from the
 quaking-aspen tree meadow
 Wayland, Wegland, Weyland—
 from the land by the
 highway
 Webley, Webbeleah—from the
 weaver's meadow
 Webster, Webb, Webbe,
 Webbestre—weaver
 Weddell, Wadanhyll—from the
 advancer's hill
 Welborne, Welburn, Welborn,
 Wiellaburne—from the
 spring brook
 Welby, Wiellaby—from the farm
 by the spring
 Weldon, Wielladun—from the
 spring by the hill
 Welford, Wiellaford—from the
 spring by the ford
 Wellington, Weolingtun—from
 the wealthy estate
 Welton, Wiellatun—from the
 spring farm
 Wentworth, Wintanweorth—
 from the white one's estate
 West, Wes—from the west
 Westbrook, Westbroc—from the
 west brook
 Westby—from the west farm
 Westcott, Westcot—from the
 west cottage
 Weston, Westun—from the west
 farm
 Wetherby, Weatherby,
 Wethrby—from the wether-
 sheep farm
 Wetherly, Weatherly,
 Wethrleah—from the
 wether-sheep meadow
 Wharton—from the estate at the
 hollow
 Wheatley—from the wheat
 meadow
 Wheeler—wheel-maker
 Whistler—piper
 Whitby—from the white farm
 Whitcomb—from the white
 hollow
 Whitelaw, Whitlaw—from the
 white hill
 Whitfield—from the white field
 Whitford—from the white ford
 Whitley—from the white
 meadow
 Whitmore, Whitmoor—from the
 white moor
 Whittaker—from the white field
 Wickam, Wiccum, Wichamm,
 Wickley, Wicleah—from the
 village meadow
 Wildon—from the wooded hill
 Wilford, Wylingford—from the
 willow ford
 Willis, Wilson, Willesone,
 Williams, Williamson—son
 of William
 Willoughby, Wyligby—from the
 willow farm
 Wilton, Wylltun—from the farm
 by the spring
 Windsor, Winsor, Wendlesora—
 from Windsor
 Winfield, Wynfield, Winefield—
 from a friend's field

Wingate, Windgate—from the winding gate
 Winslow, Winslowe—from Wine's hill
 Winston, Winton, Wynston—from Wine's farm
 Winthrop, Wythrop, Winthrop, Winetorp—from Wine's estate
 Winward, Wynward, Winswode, Winwood, Winwodem, Wynwode—from Wine's forest
 Witton, Wittatun—from the wise man's estate
 Wolcott, Woolcott, Wulfcot, Wolfcot—lives in Wolfe's cottage
 Woodley, Wodeleah—from the wooded meadow
 Woodward, Wudoweward—forester
 Worcester, Wireceaster—from the alder forest, army camp
 Wordsworth, Wulfweardsweorth—world guardian
 Worrell, Waerheall—from the true man's manor
 Worth, Weorth—from the farm
 Worton, Wyrttun—from the vegetable farm
 Wright, Wryhta—tradesman
 Wycliff, Wyclyf—from the white cliff
 Wyndham, Windham—from the windy village
 Wythe, Wyth—from the willow tree
 Yale—from the slope land
 Yardley, Yardly—from the enclosed meadow
 Yates—lives by the gates
 Yeoman, Yoman—retainer
 York—from the bear estate

FINNISH

Before 1920, members of farming families in Finland were known by their given names and a patronymic. In church and tax records, these families were also identified by the name of the farm they lived on, but the farm name was not part of a person's name. Because many records were kept in Swedish prior to the 1870s, patronymics recorded then were often formed by adding "son" or "dotter" to the father's given name. In Finnish, they were formed by adding "poika" or "tytär."

Soldiers, merchants, clergy, and tradesmen (such as blacksmiths and carpenters) adopted surnames long before the farming families. These surnames were often Swedish in origin, and some were based on patronymics, descriptions, occupations, and place names. Migrant farming families, particularly in eastern Finland, also used surnames before stationary farming families. The disparity in practice might be explained by the types of records kept by tax collectors: Family name was not important to the tax collector if the family was a stationary farming family. All that was needed was the village name and farm name. People who were more likely to move around were easier to keep track of if they had a family name.

Surnames become universal in 1920, when they were required by law. Modern Finnish names consist of a first and last name and sometimes include one or two middle names.

A few surnames:

Hämäläinen	Laine
Heikkinen	Mäkelä
Hietamäki	Mäki
Järvi	Mäkinen
Järvinen	Miettlinen
Joki	Mustanen
Kilpeläinen	Nieminen
Kirkkomäki	Seppänen
Kivi	Talo
Korhonen	Valkoinen
Koskinen	Virtanen

ELIZABETH BOYLE



Elizabeth Boyle is the author of nine novels, both adventurous and romantic. Four of her novels, *No Marriage of Convenience*, *Once Tempted*, *One Night of Passion*, and *Stealing the Bride*, are *USA Today* best sellers.

Sometimes giving a character an interesting nickname and no true name at all can be more intriguing to the reader than giving them a fully stated name. One of my favorite characters that I created was the Marquis of Templeton, or Temple to his friends. I have never stated his Christian name, even on the family tree I created for my Web site, and I get mail all the time from readers who want to know what his full name is. The idea of him having another name fascinates them. In my new book, *Something About Emmaline*, I did this for the heroine. She assumes the identity of another woman, so I decided not to share with the readers her real name.

FEMALE

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Aila, Aili—light bearer | Helena, Heli, Helja, Helli, Eila, |
| Aino—legend name | Elina, Leena—light (form of |
| Anna, Anne, Anja, Anneli, Anni, | Helen) |
| Annikki, Annukka, Anu— | Helmi—pearl |
| grace | Hiija—quiet |
| Anttiri—manly (form of Andrew) | Hikka—cap, hood |
| Aune—pure (form of Agnes) | Hilma, Minna, Miina, Mimmi— |
| Dorotea—God's gift (form of | resolute protector (form of |
| Dorothy) | William) |
| Eeva—life (form of Eve) | Ilmarinen—legend name |
| Eija—meaning unknown | Inari—lake |
| Emilia, Milja, Milla, Emma, | Ingria, Inkeri, Inka—hero's |
| Emmi—hardworking (form | daughter |
| of Emily) | Jaakkina—gracious God (form of |
| Hanna, Johanna, Hannele, Jaana, | Jukka) |
| Henna—gracious God (form | Jurma—legend name |
| of John) | Kalle—manly (form of Charles) |



Kalwa—heroine
 Katariina, Kaisa, Katri,
 Katrikki—pure (form of
 Katherine)
 Kerttu—strong with a spear
 (form of Gertrude)
 Kristiina, Kirsti, Kirsi, Tiina—
 believes in Christ (form of
 Christian)
 Kyllikki—woman of strength
 Laila—night
 Leppa—legend name
 Liisa, Elisabet, Eliisa, Elsa—
 consecrated to God (form of
 Elizabeth)
 Maarit, Marketta, Reeta, Reetta,
 Riitta—pearl (form of
 Margaret)
 Mari, Maria, Marja, Maija,
 Maikki, Maaria, Maarika,
 Marjukka—bitter (form of
 Mary)
 Martta—mistress (form of
 Martha)
 Mielikki—pleasant; mistress of
 forest, wife of Tapio; legend
 name
 Mirjam, Mirjami, Mirkka, Miia,
 Mia—rebellious; biblical
 name (form of Miriam)
 Paula—snare, string
 Paivikki, Paivi, Paiva—son of day
 (form of Paivio)
 Pirjo, Pirkko, Riitta—strong
 (form of Bridget)
 Preita—most loving one
 Riikka, Riika—peaceful ruler
 (form of Frederick)
 Ritva—meaning unknown
 Russu, Ruusu, Roosa—rose
 (form of Rosa)
 Saara, Sari, Saija, Salli—princess
 (form of Sarah)
 Sisko—sister
 Sofia, Sohvi—wise (form of
 Sophia)
 Susanna, Sanna—lily (form of
 Susan)
 Tuula—meaning unknown
 Tuulikki, Tuuli—wind; legend
 name
 Tyynne, Tyyni—calm
 Vappu, Valpuri—legend name
 Vellamo—protector

MALE

Aleksanteri, Alekski—defender of
 mankind (form of
 Alexander)
 Antero, Antti—manly (form of
 Andrew)
 Armas—beloved
 Eikki—powerful
 Erkki—eternal ruler (form of
 Eric)
 Heikki, Henri—rules the home
 (form of Henry)
 Ilmarinen, Ilmari—legend name
 Jaakkima, Aki—God will
 establish (form of Joachim)

- Jani, Janne, Johan, Johannes,
 Juhani, Juha, Jussi, Jukka—
 gracious God (form of John)
- Jari, Jalmari—helmet-wearing
 soldier
- Jarmo, Jarkko, Jamo—appointed
 by God
- Joosep, Jooseppi, Joosef,
 Juuso—God adds (form of
 Joseph)
- Jorma—farmer (form of George)
- Kaarle, Kaarl, Kaarlo, Kalle,
 Kal—manly (form of
 Charles)
- Kaleva, Kalevi—hero; legend
 name
- Kari—blessed (form of
 Markarios)
- Lauri, Lasse, Lassi—laurel (form
 of Lawrence)
- Lippo—legend name
- Markus, Markku, Marko—
 warlike (form of Marcus)
- Matti, Matias—God's gift (form
 of Matthew)
- Mikael, Mika, Mikko, Miika,
 Miikka—who is like God
 (form of Michael)
- Niles, Niilo—victory of the
 people (form of Nicholas)
- Olavi, Olli, Uolevi—ancestor
 (form of Olaf)
- Oskari—divine spear (form of
 Oscar)
- Paavo, Paaveli, Pauli—small
 (form of Paul)
- Paivio—son of day; legend name
- Pekka, Petteri, Petri—rock (form
 of Peter)
- Pentti—blessed (form of
 Benedict)
- Perttu, Parttyli, Perttuli—hill,
 furrow (form of
 Bartholomew)
- Rikkard, Riku—strong ruler
 (form of Richard)
- Risto—Christ-bearer (form of
 Christopher)
- Seppo—smith; legend name
- Severi—severe; legend name
 (form of Severin)
- Taavi, Taavetti—beloved
- Taneli—God is my judge (form
 of Daniel)
- Tapio—king or forest god;
 legend name
- Tauno—docile
- Teppo, Tapani—victorious
- Timo—God-fearing (form of
 Timothy)
- Toivo—hope
- Tuomas, Tuomo, Tomi,
 Tommi—twin (form of
 Thomas)
- Usko—faith
- Vaino—legend name
- Valkoinen—white
- Valtteri—powerful warrior
 (form of Walter)
- Vappu—legend name
- Veli, Veikko, Veijo—brother
- Viljo—resolute protector
- Ville, Vilho, Vilhelmi, Viljami—
 resolute protector (form of
 William)
- Yrjo—farmer (form of George)

FRENCH

French surnames are of two types: those coming from the Frankish Empire and those brought in by the Norman settlers in the tenth century. Last names began as epithets attached either after the name or to the name—for example, Pepin the Short or Charlemagne (Charles the Great). This tendency goes back to the Dark Ages but was restricted to the aristocracy.

When the Normans invaded England in 1066, they added epithets that named their estates in Normandy—Robert de Montgomerie, for example. If they didn't have an estate, they took the name of the province or town from whence they came—Piers de Paris.

By the twelfth century, some names had become hereditary, and by the thirteenth century they had become common. The handing down of a name from father to son was firmly established by the fifteenth century.

One interesting point about the Normans is that before hereditary surnames became commonplace, families stuck to a few names that alternated by generation. George would name his son after his own father, Gilbert, and when Gilbert grew to manhood and had a son, that son would be named George.

Surnames are descriptive, patronymic, or based on place or occupation.

In the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, biblical names became very popular: Peter, John, Jean, Luke, and so on. Right after the French Revolution, names were restricted to a list of French names that bore no resemblance to foreign words or names. Throughout the rest of French history, Teutonic, Norse, Slavic, Latin, and Danish names have been used.

The article *de* (of) between names was usually reserved for the nobility and denoted lands or estates the man held. *Le* means “the” and has been used with occupation or descriptive names.

A few surnames:

Bettencourt

Allain

Baudelaire

Beaumarchais

Benoit

Billaud

Bonnet
Charlebois
Cuvier
Davignon
Dubois
Dutetre
Fortier
Fournier
Frappier
Girard
Gosselin
Guignard
Hébert
Heuse

Lafontaine
Langelier
Lefèbvre
Marseau
Moreau
Olivier
Petit
Picard
Raison
Renault
Robillard
Rousseau
Severin
Therriault

FEMALE

Abella—breath (form of Abel)
Aceline—noble
Adele, Adela—pleasant
Adorlee—adored
Adrienne—dark (form of Adrian)
Afrodille—daffodil
Agathe—good (form of Agatha)
Aida—help
Aiglentine, Aiglentina—
 sweetbrier rose
Aimee, Amata, Amy, Ami—
 dearly loved
Alacoque—meaning unknown
Albertine, Albertina—noble;
 intelligent (form of Albert)
Albracca—legend name
Alcina—legend name
Alexandrine, Alexis—defender
 of mankind (form of
 Alexander)
Allegra—cheerful

Allete, Alita—winged (form of
 Aleta)
Amabelle, Amabella—beautiful,
 loving
Amarante—flower (form of
 Amarantha)
Ambre, Ambra—jewel
Amedee—loves God (form of
 Amadeus)
Amelie—hardworking (form of
 Amelia)
Amity, Amite, Amitee—friendly
Anceline, Ancelina—
 handmaiden
Andree, Andrea—manly (form of
 Andrew)
Angelette, Angeletta—little
 angel
Angelique, Angela, Angilia, Ange,
 Angeline, Angelina,
 Angelika—angel

Annette—little Ann
 Antoinette—priceless (form of Anthony)
 Apolline, Apollina—gift from Apollo
 Aubine, Aubina—blonde (form of Aubin)
 Aude, Auda—old; wealthy
 Aveline, Avelaine—nut
 Avice—warlike
 Aya—legend name
 Azura—blue
 Babette—stranger
 Belda—fair maiden
 Belisarda—legend name
 Berangaria—name of a princess
 Bernadette—strong as a bear (form of Bernard)
 Bertha—legend name
 Blanch, Blanche—white
 Blanchefleur—white flower
 Bonny, Bonnie—sweet and good
 Bradamate—legend name
 Brucie—forest sprite
 Brunella—dark-haired (form of Brun)
 Cadence, Cadencia—rhythmic
 Calandre—lark
 Calanthe, Calantha—lovely blossom
 Capucine, Capucina—cape
 Caresse—endearing
 Carine, Carina, Cateline—pure (form of Karen)
 Carnation—flesh-colored
 Carola, Carolina, Caroline, Carol, Carole—manly (form of Charles)
 Chantel—song
 Charlotte, Carlotta—manly (form of Charles)
 Charmaine, Charleen, Charlene, Charline—manly (form of Charles)
 Cherry, Cherie, Cher, Cheree, Cheri, Cherise—dear
 Cheryl—beloved
 Cinderella, Cendrillon—of the ashes
 Claire, Clarette—clear
 Clarice—clear, bright (form of Clare)
 Clarimunda—legend name
 Claudette, Claudine—lame (form of Claude)
 Clementina—merciful (form of Clement)
 Colette, Collette—necklace
 Comfort, Comforte—strength
 Coralie—coral
 Corette, Coretta—little maiden
 Cosette—victorious
 Crescent, Creissant—to create
 Daisi—daisy
 Damien, Damiane, Damia, Damiana—untamed
 Darcy, D'Arcy—from Arcy
 Delight, Delit—delight
 Delmare—of the sea
 Demi—name taken from heraldry
 Denise, Denice—follower of Dionysus (form of Dennis)
 Desiree, Desire, Desirat, Desideria—desired (form of Desirata)

- Diamanta—diamond
- Diane, Diana—divine; moon goddess; myth name
- Dixie—born tenth
- Dominique—of the Lord; born on Sunday (form of Dominic)
- Dorene, Dory, Doreen, Dorine, Dore—blonde
- Durandana, Durindana—legend name
- Edmee—rich protector (form of Edmund)
- Eglantine, Eglantina—wild rose
- Elinore, Elinor, Eleanor, Ellinor—light
- Elisa, Elise, Eliza, Elisabeth—consecrated to God (form of Elizabeth)
- Elita, Eleta—chosen
- Eloise, Eloisa, Eloise—famous in war
- Emmeline—industrious
- Erembourg—meaning unknown
- Ermengardine—meaning unknown
- Esmeraude, Emeraude—emerald
- Esperanza—hope
- Estelle—star (form of Esther)
- Eugenia—well-born (form of Eugene)
- Eulalie—well-spoken
- Fabienne—bean farmer (form of Fabian)
- Falerina—legend name
- Fanchon, Fanchone—free
- Fanette, Fanetta—crowned with laurels
- Fantine, Fantina—childlike
- Favor—approval
- Fawnia, Faunia, Faun, Fauna—fawn
- Fay, Faye, Fae—fairy
- Fayette—little fairy
- Fayme—famed
- Faethy—faithful
- Felicienne, Filicia, Felicia, Felicity—happy (form of Felix)
- Fifi, Fifine—nickname for Josephine
- Fleur—flower
- Fleurette—little flower
- Flordelis—legend name
- France—from France
- Fusberta—legend name
- Gaetane, Gaetana—from Gaete
- Galatee—white as milk
- Gallia, Gala, Galla—from Gaul
- Garland—crowned with flowers
- Gay—lively
- Gemma—jewel
- Geneva, Genevre—juniper
- Genevieve—white wave
- Georgette, Georgitte—farmer (form of George)
- Germana, Germaine, Germain—from Germany
- Gyongy—meaning unknown
- Halette—little Hal
- Harriet, Harriette, Harrietta, Harriette, Harrietta—army ruler (form of Harold); rules the home (form of Henry)
- Hedvige—strife (form of Hedwig)

Heloise—famous in war (form of Louis)
 Henriette, Henrietta—rules the home (form of Henry)
 Hilaire—happy (form of Hilary)
 Holly—holly
 Honore—honor
 Huette, Huguetta, Hugette—intelligent (form of Hugh)
 Isla—from the island
 Iva—from the yew tree
 Jacqueline—supplanter (form of Jacob)
 Jacquenette, Jacquenetta—little Jacques
 Jeanette, Jeanetta—little Jean
 Jeanne, Jehane—gracious God (form of John)
 Jessamine, Jessamina—jasmine
 Jewel, Jule—jewel
 Joanna—gracious God (form of John)
 Jolie—beautiful
 Josette, Josephine, Josepha, Josephe—God adds (form of Joseph)
 Joy—jewel; delight
 Julienne, Julie, Julia, Juliette, Juliet, Julietta, Julita—youthful (form of Julius)
 Karla—manly (form of Charles)
 Karlotta, Karoline, Karolina—manly (form of Charles)
 Karoly, Karcsi, Kari—joyful song
 La Roux—red-haired
 Laurel, Lauren, Laurene—laurel (form of Lawrence)
 Laurette—little laurel
 Laverna, Lavernia, La Verne, La Vergne—born in the spring
 Leala, Liealia, Lealia—loyal
 Leona, Leonie, Leone, Leonelle, Leonarda—brave lion (form of Leonard)
 Liane, Liana—to bind; youth
 Liriene, Lirienne—reads aloud
 Logistilla, Logestilla—legend name
 Lorraine, Loraine—from Lorraine
 Lotye, Letya, Letje—tiny and womanly
 Lucille, Lucile—light (form of Luke)
 Lundy—born on Monday
 Lynnette, Linette, Lyonette—little lion
 Magnolia—flower
 Manette, Mariette, Marietta, Marian, Marianne, Maria, Marie—bitter (form of Mary)
 Marcelle, Marcella, Marcellia—warlike (form of Marcus)
 Margo, Margauz, Margot, Marguerite, Marjori, Margery—pearl (form of Margaret)
 Marjolaine, Marjolaina—flower
 Marphisa—legend name
 Marvel, Marveille, Marvella, Marvelle—miracle
 Mathilde, Matilda, Mathilda, Mattie, Matty, Maud, Maude—strong battle-maid
 Maura, Maureen, Moreen,

Maurine, Maurina—dark-skinned (form of Maurice)
 Maurette—dark and elfin
 Mavis, Mavise—joy
 Melisande—honeybee
 Melodie—melody
 Melusina—dark-skinned
 Merci, Mercy—mercy
 Methena, Methina—meaning unknown
 Mignon, Mignonette—delicate
 Millicent, Millicente—industrious
 Mimi, Minna, Minnie, Minette, Minetta—resolute protector (form of William)
 Mirabelle, Mirabella—of incredible beauty
 Mireille—miracle
 Monique—counselor (form of Monica)
 Morgana—legend name
 Musetta, Musette—song
 Nadine—from Nada
 Nanna—wife of Balder; myth name
 Natalii, Natalie, Natuiche—born on Christmas
 Nicola, Nicolette—victory of the people (form of Nicholas)
 Ninette, Ninon, Nanon—grace
 Noel, Noelle, Noella—Christmas
 Odelette, Odeletta—little singer
 Olympe, Olympia—from Olympus
 Ophelie, Ophelia—serpentine
 Orane—rising
 Oriel—bird
 Orliena, Orlene, Orlina—gold
 Ormazd—legend name
 Orva—worth gold
 Paige, Page—page
 Pansy—flower
 Parnella—rock
 Pascale, Pascala, Pascaline, Pasclina—born on Passover (form of Pascal)
 Patience—patient
 Patrice—noble (form of Patrick)
 Pensee—thoughtful
 Phillipa—lover of horses (form of Philip)
 Pierrette, Pierretta—rock (form of Peter)
 Prunella, Prunellie—plum
 Rachelle—ewe (form of Rachel)
 Raina, Reine, Reina—queen
 Raissa, Raison—thinker
 Renee, Rene—reborn (form of Renato)
 Rive, Riva—from the shore
 Robinette, Robinetta—small robin
 Romaine, Romana—from Rome (form of Romano)
 Rose, Rohais, Roesia, Rosamonde—rose (form of Rosa)
 Rosemarie, Rosemaria—bitter rose
 Roux—red
 Roxane, Roxanne—bright; dawn
 Royale, Roial—regal
 Ruby, Rubie—red jewel
 Searlait—manly (form of Charles)

SARAH MLYNOWSKI



Sarah Mlynowski is the author of the best-selling novel *Milkrun* (Red Dress Ink), which has been published in sixteen countries. She is also author of *Fishbowl*, *As Seen on TV*, and *Monkey Business* (all from Red Dress Ink), as well as teen novel *Bras & Broomsticks* (Random House).

For many of my books, I give the protagonists names I always wished my parents had given me. The star of my first book *Milkrun* is Jackie, a name I always thought had far more spunk than boring Sarah. In that first book, I named the secondary characters after people I had sat beside in elementary school, such as Jonathan and Wendy. After five novels, I still find old yearbooks an excellent source for names. High school, college, my husband's graduate school. They're the perfect springboards.

Lately I've noticed that more unusual names can be more interesting, and more memorable. So I've peppered my books with names like Sunny, Raf, Mercedes. Basically I play around on the Internet and try to find inspiration in random words and images. Or I flip through *TV Guides* and brainstorm off celebrity names, such as Paris Hilton. I just named a secondary character London.

I find last names much harder to find, and occasionally unknowingly repeat myself. My editor once asked me if there was a reason I'd given the same surname to three different characters. Were they related? Um. No. Whoops. I still use yearbooks, but I often find myself cutting and pasting prefixes and suffixes. Such as in *Bras and Broomsticks*: Wein(berg) + (Morgan)stein = Weinstein. First name I always wished I'd had? Rachel. Enter protagonist, Rachel Weinstein.

Sidonie, Sidonia, Sydney—
follower of Saint Denys

Simone—God is heard (form of
Simon)

Slania, Slainie, Slanie—good
health

Solange, Silana, Solaine,
Solaina—dignified

Stephanie, Stefania—crowned in
victory (form of Stephen)

Suzanne, Suzette—lily (form of
Susan)

Sybila—prophetess (form of Sybil)
 Tempeste—stormy
 Tifini, Tiffini, Thiphany—gods incarnate
 Tilda, Tilly—mighty in war
 Trinette, Trinetta—little innocent
 Valeria, Valere, Valara, Valeraine—strength (form of Valerius)
 Vedette, Vedetta—from the guard tower
 Veronique—honest image (form of Veronica)
 Victorine, Victornia—victory

Vignette, Vignetta—little vine
 Villette, Villetta—from the country estate
 Viollette, Violetta—little violet
 Vivienne—lively
 Voleta, Voletta—veiled
 Xavierre, Xavierra—owner of a new home (form of Xavier)
 Yolanda, Yolande, Yolante—violet
 Yolette—meaning unknown
 Yseult—fair
 Yvette, Yvonee—little archer (form of Yves)
 Zara—light
 Zuria, Zuri, Zurie—white and lovely

MALE

Agramant—myth name
 Agrican—from the field
 Ahriman—legend name
 Alain—handsome (form of Alan)
 Aleron—knight
 Alexandre—defender of mankind (form of Alexander)
 Algernon, Algrenon—bearded
 Aloin, Aluin—noble friend
 Amaury—name of a count
 Andre—manly (form of Andrew)
 Ansel, Ancil, Acel, Ansell—adherent of a nobleman
 Arber—sells herbs
 Archaimbaud, Archambault, Archenbaud—bold
 Archard—sacred and powerful

Armand—soldier (form of Herman)
 Arnaud—eagle (form of Arnold)
 Arno—little eagle
 Arnou, Arnoux—eagle wolf
 Arridano—legend name
 Artus—noble
 Ashtaroth—legend name
 Astolpho—legend name
 Atlantes—legend name
 Aubert—noble
 Aubin—blond
 Aubrey, Albaric—blond ruler
 Audric, Aldrick, Aldrich—wise ruler
 Auriville—from the gold town
 Avenall, Avenelle, Aveneil—lives near the oatfield



Avent, Advent—born during
 Advent
 Aymon—legend name
 Bailey, Bayley—steward
 Balisarda—myth name
 Barry, Barrie—lives at the
 barrier
 Bartlett—plowman
 Bayard—legend name
 Beaufort—from the beautiful
 fortress
 Bellamy, Bell—handsome
 Beltane—legend name
 Bertrand—bright raven
 Bevis, Beauvais—from Beauvais
 Brice—from Briex town
 Brigliodoro—legend name
 Bruce, Brys—woods
 Brunelle—dark-haired (form of
 Brun)
 Burkett, Burcet—from the little
 stronghold
 Burnell, Burel—reddish-brown
 hair
 Burrell—reddish-brown skin
 Byron, Buiron—from the
 cottage; bear
 Campbell—from the beautiful
 field
 Carolos, Carlo, Carolus, Carlos,
 Carel—manly (form of
 Charles)
 Chandler, Chanler—maker of
 candles
 Channing—member of the
 bishop's council
 Chapin—clergyman
 Chappell, Chappel—from the
 chapel
 Charles, Cearbhall—manly
 Charlot—name of the son of
 Charlemagne
 Cheney—from the oak wood
 Christien, Cretiein—believes in
 Christ (form of Christian)
 Claude—lame
 Cloridan—myth name
 Clovis—name of a king
 Courtland, Courtney, Court,
 Curt, Courtnay, Cort—from
 the court
 Curtis, Curtice, Curcio—
 courteous
 Darcy, D'Arcy—from Arcy
 Davet—beloved
 Delmar, Delmer—of the sea
 Denis, Dennis, Denys, Dennet—
 follower of Dionysus
 Desire, Didier—desired (form of
 Desirata)
 Dexter—right
 Donatien—gift (form of Donato)
 Eliot, Elliott, Elliot—believes in
 God
 Etienne—crowned in victory
 (form of Stephen)
 Ferragus—legend name
 Ferrau—legend name
 Fitz—son of
 Fletcher—feathers arrows
 Florismart—legend name
 Florus—flower
 Forrest—dwells in the forest
 Fortun, Fortune—lucky
 Frontino—legend name
 Gaetan—from Gaete
 Ganelon, Gan—legend name

Gano—legend name
 Garland—crowned with flowers
 Gaspar, Gaspard—treasurer
 (form of Casper)
 Gaston, Gascon—from Gascony
 Gauthier, Gautier—powerful
 warrior (form of Walter)
 Geoffrey—God's peace
 Georges—farmer (form of
 George)
 Germain, Germano—from
 Germany
 Gifford, Guifford—chubby
 cheeks
 Gill, Gil—youthful (form of
 Julius)
 Gradasso—legend name
 Granville, Grenville—from the
 large town
 Grosvenor—great hunter
 Guerin—legend name
 Guy—guide
 Hamilton—from the mountain
 town
 Harbin—glorious warrior
 Harcourt—from the fortified
 farm
 Hardouin—name of a count
 Henri—rules the home (form of
 Henry)
 Hercule—Hera's glory; myth
 name (form of Hercules)
 Hugh—intelligent
 Ignace—fiery (form of Ignatius)
 Iven—little archer
 Jacques, Jacquelin—supplanter
 (form of Jacob)
 Javier—owner of a new home
 (form of Xavier)

Jay, Jaye—bluejay
 Jean—gracious God (form of
 John)
 Jean Baptiste—named for John
 the Baptist
 Jeffroi, Jeffrey—God's peace
 (form of Geoffrey)
 Jesper, Jasper—jasper stone
 Jules, Julian, Jullien—youthful
 (form of Julius)
 Karel—manly (form of Charles)
 Kerman—German
 Lance, Lancelot, Launcelot,
 Lancelin—servant
 Landers, Landis—from the
 grassy plain
 Langley, L'Angley—Englishman
 Latimer—interprets Latin
 Leal—loyal
 Legget—delegate
 Leon, Leone, Leonce, Leocadie,
 Leodegrance—brave lion
 (form of Leonard)
 Leroy—regal
 Leverett, Leveret—young rabbit
 Loring—from Lorraine
 Lothair—famous warrior (form
 of Lothario)
 Louis—famous in war
 Lowell, Lovell, Lowe, Louvel—
 beloved
 Loyal—true
 Lyle, Lisle—from the island
 Malagigi—legend name
 Mallory, Mailhaier—ill-fated
 Mandel, Mantel—makes
 garments
 Manville, Manneville—from the
 great estate

Marlon—little falcon
 Marmion—small one
 Marshall, Marshal, Marsh—
 steward
 Marsilius—legend name
 Maslin, Masselin—little Thomas
 Mason, Masson—stone worker
 Mayhew, Mahieu—God's gift
 (form of Matthew)
 Medoro—legend name
 Melville, Malleville—from
 Malleville
 Mercer—merchant
 Merle—blackbird
 Merlin, Merlion—falcon
 Michel, Michele—who is like
 God (form of Michael)
 Millard—strong
 Montague, Montaigu—from the
 peaked mountain
 Moore, More, Moor—dark-
 skinned
 Namo—legend name
 Neville, Neuveville—from the
 new town
 Noel—Christmas
 Normand, Norman, Norm—from
 the north
 Norris, Norice, Noreis—
 caretaker
 Nouel—a kernel
 Octave—born eighth
 Odo—name of a bishop
 Ogier—legend name
 Oliver—legend name
 Olivier—from the olive tree
 Onfroi—peaceful Hun
 Orson, Ourson—bear
 Orville—from the gold town
 Page, Paige, Padgett, Paget—
 page
 Paien—name of a nobelman
 Parfait—perfect
 Pascal, Pascual, Pasquale—born
 on Passover
 Peppin, Pippin—name of a king
 Percy, Percival—pierce
 Perrin, Perren, Perryn, Perry,
 Pierre—rock (form of Peter)
 Peverell, Piperel, Pepperell—
 piper
 Philip, Philippe, Phillipe—lover
 of horses
 Pierpone, Pierrepont—lives by
 the stone bridge
 Pinabel—legend name
 Platt, Plat—from the flat land
 Pomeroy, Pommeraië—lives
 near the apple orchard
 Porter, Portier, Porteur—
 gatekeeper
 Prewitt, Pruitt, Preruet, Pruet,
 Pruie—brave
 Pryor, Priour—head of a priory
 Quennel, Quesnel—from the
 little oak tree
 Quincy, Quincey—from the
 place owned by the fifth son
 Rabican—legend name
 Ranger, Rainger—ward of the
 forest
 Raoul—wolf (form of Rolf)
 Ray, Roy, Rey, Rui, Royal—regal
 Remy, Remi—rower
 Rene—reborn (form of Renato)
 Robert—bright, famous

Roch, Roche, Rocke—rock
 Romain—from Rome (form of Romano)
 Roslyn, Roslin, Roselin, Roselyn, Rosselin, Rosselyn, Ruff, Ruffe, Rush, Rushe, Rouse, Rushkin, Rousskin, Rust, Rousset—red-haired
 Royce—son of Roy
 Royden—from the royal hill
 Rule, Ruelle, Reule—famous wolf
 Russell, Roussel—reddish
 Saber—sword
 Sacripant—legend name
 Sargent—military attendant
 Satordi—god of the harvest; myth name (form of Saturn)
 Saville, Sauville—from the willow farm
 Scoville—meaning unknown
 Searlas, Searle, Searlus—manly (form of Charles)
 Senapus—legend name
 Senior, Seignour—lord of the manor
 Sennet, Sent—wise
 Seymour—from Saint Maur
 Sidney, Sydney—from Saint Denys
 Soren, Sorel, Sorrell—reddish-brown hair
 Sumner—summoner
 Tabor—drum
 Talbot, Talebot—bloodhound
 Talon—claw
 Taylor—tailor
 Tearlach—manly (form of Charles)
 Telford, Telfer, Taillefer, Telfor, Telfour—works in iron
 Thiery, Thibaud, Tibault—people's prince
 Toussaint—all saints
 Travers, Travis—from the crossroads
 Troy, Troyes—curly-haired
 Turner—champion in a tournament
 Tyson, Tyeis—son of a German
 Vachel—little cow
 Vaden—meaning unknown
 Vail, Vayle—lives in the valley
 Valiant—brave
 Vallis, Vallois—Welshman
 Varden, Vardan, Vardon, Verddun—from the green hill
 Verney, Vernay—from the alder grove
 Vernon—springlike
 Verrill, Verel, Verrall, Verrell, Veryl—true
 Vick, Vic, Vicq—from the village
 Warrane—warden of the game
 William—resolute protector
 Wyatt, Wiatt—guide
 Xarles—manly (form of Charles)
 Yves—little archer
 Yvon, Yvet—archer
 Zdenek—follower of Saint Denys
 Zerbino—legend name

GAELIC

In western Britain and Ireland, the Celtic language developed into Irish and Scottish Gaelic. Gaelic is very difficult to pronounce for English-speakers, and so many Gaelic names have been anglicized—given an English spelling based on the name's original pronunciation. The letters J, K, Q, V, W, X, Y, and Z do not exist in the Gaelic alphabet, so names containing these letters are almost certainly anglicized.

Surnames did not develop in Ireland and Scotland until after the tenth century. If an additional name was needed to distinguish between two people of the same given name, a byname was created. Bynames were like nicknames, and were often based on a person's occupation, birthplace, father, or personal characteristic. Some of these bynames eventually became surnames. Campbell, for instance, was originally the byname "cam beul" meaning "crooked mouth." (See the sections on Scotland and Ireland for examples of Gaelic surnames in these areas.)

FEMALE

Africa, Africa, Apirka—pleasant	Annabel, Annabelle, Annabella,
Aidan—fiery one	Anabal—lovely grace
Aigneis, Una—pure (form of Agnes)	Arienh—oath
Ailis—sweet, noble (form of Alice)	Aselma—fair
Aimil—hardworking (form of Amelia)	Ashling—dream
Aine—bright, radiant	Barabell, Barabal—stranger
Aingealag—angel	Bebhinn—harmonious
Airleas—pledge	Beitris—brings joy (form of Beatrice)
Alanna, Alain, Alayne, Allene, Allyn, Alina, Alana—beautiful	Bevin—sweet voice
Amber—fierce	Blaine—thin
Amhuinn—lives at the alder-tree river	Blair—of the fields
	Breandan, Brenda—little raven
	Brenna—raven
	Brighde—myth name
	Brodie—ditch
	Cailin—small girl

- Cairine—pure
- Cairistiona, Ciorstag, Ciorstan—believes in Christ (form of Christian)
- Caitlin, Caitrin—pure (form of Katherine)
- Caley—slender
- Cara, Carin, Caryn—friend
- Carling—little champion
- Casey—brave
- Cassidy, Casidhe—clever
- Cathasach, Caci, Casey—brave
- Catriona, Ceit, Cait, Caitlin—pure (form of Katherine)
- Cayleigh—party, celebration
- Ceallach—warrior maid
- Ceara—spear
- Ciarda—dark
- Coleen, Colleen—girl
- Con—exalted
- Cuini—queen
- Dacey—southerner
- Danu—goddess of fruitfulness
- Dara—of the oak
- Darby—free of envy
- Darra—wealth, riches
- Deirdre, Deidra, Deardriu—raging
- Dervla—from the poets
- Diorbhall—God's gift (form of Dorothy)
- Donalda, Domhnalla, Donia—ruler of the world (form of Donald)
- Donla—lady in brown
- Doreen, Dorene, Doire-Ann, Doireann—moody
- Duana—dark maid
- Dymphna—little poet
- Ealasaid—devoted to God
- Edana, Eideann—fiery one (form of Aidan)
- Eibhlin—light; gives life (form of Eileen or Evelyn)
- Eileen—sunlight
- Eilidh—light
- Eilionoir—light (form of Eleanor)
- Eilis—consecrated to God (form of Elizabeth)
- Eithne—fiery, ardent
- Ena—ardent
- Enda—like a bird
- Erin, Eryn—peace
- Erlina, Erline—girl from Ireland
- Fiona—fair one
- Fionnghuala—flower
- Flanna—red-haired (form of Flann)
- Frangag—free (form of Francis)
- Ghleanna—lives in the valley
- Giorsal—gray battle-maid (form of Griselda)
- Glen, Glenn, Glenna, Glennis, Glynnnes, Glynnis, Glynis—from the glen
- Grainne—grace
- Haley—wise, smart
- Iseabal, Isobail—devoted to God
- Ita—thirsty
- Keeley, Keely—beautiful
- Keera, Keira—dark, black
- Kellan—warrior princess
- Kennis—lovely
- Kerry, Keriam—dark one; county name

Keverne—saint name	Moibeal—lovable (form of Mabel)
Kyla—from the straits	Mor, Mairi, Muireall—bitter
Kyna—intelligent	Morag—blind
Laoidheach—from the pasture meadow	Muadhnaidh—little, noble one
Leah—light	Myrna—beloved
Leitis—happy	Nairne—from the alder-tree river
Leslie, Lesley—from the gray fortress	Nara—happy
Lili—lily	Neala—champion (form of Neal)
Liusaidh, Kelly, Kellie—warrior woman	Niamh—bright and beautiful
Mab—joy	Nola—fair champion
Maire, Mairin—bitter (form of Mary)	Nuallan—famous
Mairearad, Mairghread—pearl (form of Margaret)	Odharnait—pale
Malise—God’s servant	Onora—honor
Malvina—peaceful face	Orna—pale
Maolmin—polished chief	Peigi—peg
Marsali—pearl	Raghnaidh—sheep, ewe
Mildred—gentle adviser (form of Mildred)	Raonaid, Raonaidh—ewe
	Regan—little king
	Riane—small ruler
	Riley—valiant
	Ronan—small seal

HAYWOOD SMITH



Haywood Smith is the author of nine novels, including *The Red Hat Club* and *The Red Hats Ride Again* (St. Martin’s Press). She is a *Romantic Times* Career Achievement winner.

I named the hero from *Secrets in Satin* Garrett because it meant “strong spear” from Old English. So appropriate, even though I was probably the only person who got it until I started speaking about the book and told everybody. (They loved it.)

Names and their meanings are so important. (Except mine. Haywood means “conceived in the hay field beside the forest.” Not!)

Rory—red ruler
Ros, Rois, Roisin, Rosheen—
rose (form of Rosa)
Rossa—meadow
Rowan—rowan tree
Seonaid—gracious God
Sile, Silis, Sighle—blind (form of
Cecil)
Sine—gracious God (form of
Sean)
Siobhan, Siubhan, Shevaun,

Shivaun—gracious God
(form of John)
Siusan—lily (form of Susan)
Sorcha—intelligent
Taithleach—quiet
Tara—from the crag of a tower
Tierney—from the lord
Toirdealbach—myth name
Treasa—reaper (form of
Theresa)

MALE

Abboid—abbey father (form of
Abbott)
Adair, Athdara, Athdar—from
the ford by the oak trees
Adhamh—of the red earth (form
of Adam)
Ahern, Aherin, Aherne—lord of
the horses
Aidan, Aiden, Aodhan, Aodh—
fiery one
Ailin, Ailen, Ailean—handsome
Andreas—manly (form of
Andrew)
Airdsgainne—from the height of
the cliff
Airleas, Arlen—pledge
Allister, Alaster, Alai—avenger
(form of Alastair)
Alroy—red-haired
Aod—son of Lyr; myth name
Aodh—fiery one
Aodhhan, Aidan, Aodhagan—
ardent
Aonghus, Angus—exceptionally
strong

Arlen—oath
Arregaitheal—from the land of
the Gaels
Artur, Art—noble bear
Bacstair—baker
Baillidh—steward
Bain, Bharain, Bheathain—lives
near the clear stream
Bainbridge, Bainbrydge—lives
by the bridge over the
stream
Baird, Bard—bard
Balfour, Bailefour—from the
pastureland
Banain, Banning—little blond
one
Baran—noble warrior
Batair—strong warrior
Beagan, Beagen—little one
Bealantin—brave (form of
Ballantine)
Bearach, Barry, Barra—spear
Bearnard—strong as a bear
(form of Bernard)



Beathan—son of the right hand
Beattie, Beatie, Beatty,
 Biadhaiche—blesses
Bebhinn—harmonious
Becan—little one
Bhruic—badger
Blair—from the plain lands
Bowie, Bow, Bowen, Bowyn,
 Boyd, Buidhe—blond
Boyne, Bofind—white cow
Boynton—from the white river
Brady, Bradach—spirited
Brendan, Breandan, Brennan,
 Brendon—raven
Brom—raven
Brothaigh—from Brodie
Brus—woods (form of Bruce)
Buadhachan—victorious
Cailean, Cailen, Cailen, Colin,
 Colan, Collin, Coll—child
Caley, Caolaidhe—slender
Calhoun, Coillcumhann—from
 the narrow forest
Calum, Colm—servant of Saint
 Columba
Camden, Camdene—from the
 winding valley
Cameron, Camshron—crooked
 nose
Campbell, Caimbeul—crooked
 mouth
Canice—handsome
Caolabhuinn—from the narrow
 river
Carlin, Carlie, Cearbhallan,
 Carling—little champion
Carmichael, Caramichil—friend
 of Saint Michael

Carney, Ceanach—victorious
Carrick, Carraig, Charraigaich—
 from the rocky headland
Carroll, Carol, Carly, Carolus—
 manly (form of Charles)
Casey, Cathasach—brave
Cassidy, Casidhe—clever
Cathal—strong in battle
Cathmor, Cathmore,
 Cathaoirmore—great
 warrior
Cavan, Caomhan—handsome
Cayden—battle spirit
Ceallach—warrior
Ceannfhionn—blond
Ceileachan—little champion
Cerin—little dark one
Cian, Cein—archaic
Ciardubhan—little black one
Cinnard—from the high hill
Cinneididh—helmeted
Cinnfhail—from the head of the
 cliff
Clancy—red warrior
Cleary, Cleirach—scholar
Cluny, Clunainach—from the
 meadow
Coigleach—distaff
Coilleach, Choilleich—guards
 the forest
Coinleain—well-shaped
Coinneach—handsome
Colin, Coilin—virile
Colum, Columbanus, Calum—
 dove
Comhghan—twin
Comyn, Cuimean—meaning
 unknown

Conan—wise
 Conlan, Connlan, Conlin—hero
 Conn—chief
 Conroy, Conaire—wise
 Conway—hound of the plain
 Corcoran, Corcurachan—
 reddish skin
 Corey, Cori, Cory, Coire—ravine
 Cormac, Cormick, Cormack—
 charioteer
 Cowan, Cobhan—dwells by the
 hillside hollow
 Coyle—searches for battle
 Craig, Creag—dwells at the crag
 Criostoir, Crisdean—Christ-
 bearer (form of
 Christopher)
 Cronan—dark brown
 Cuilean—cub
 Cuinn—wise
 Cullan, Cullin, Cully—handsome
 Culley, Colle, Cully—dwells at
 the woodland
 Curran, Curr, Curney,
 Curadhan—hero
 Daibhidh—beloved (form of
 David)
 Daley, Daly—counselor
 Dall, Dallas—wise
 Darby, Diarmaid, Dermot,
 Dermod, Dermott, Diarmid,
 Diarmad—free of envy
 Darren, Daryn, Daron, Dearan—
 great
 Darry, D'ARY, Dar, Darce—dark
 Deasach, Dacey, Dacy—
 southerner
 Declan—goodness
 Delano—healthy black man
 Dempsey, Diomasach—proud
 Deorsa—farmer
 Derry—red-haired
 Desmond, Deasmumhan,
 Desmon—from south
 Munster
 Devlin, Devlyn, Dobhailen—
 fierce
 Devyn, Devin, Devan, Daimhin—
 servant
 Dillon, Diolmhain—faithful
 Domhnall, Donald—ruler of the
 world
 Donahue, Duncan—dark warrior
 Dooley, Dubhloach—dark hero
 Duff, Dubhthach, Duffy, Dugan,
 Dubhgan—dark-faced
 Dugal, Dugald, Dughall—dark
 stranger (form of Dougal)
 Dunbar—dark branch
 Duncan, Donnchadh—dark
 warrior
 Dunmore—from the fortress on
 the hill
 Eachann—steadfast
 Eachthighearn—horse lord
 Ealadhach—genius
 Eamonn, Eamon—rich protector
 Eanruig—rules the home
 Earnan—earnest
 Earvin—handsome
 Edan—fiery one (form of Aidan)
 Eideard—rich guardian (form of
 Edward)
 Ellar—steward, servant
 Eoghan, Egan, Egon, Eoghann—
 young fighter

Erin—peace
 Erskine—from the top of the cliff
 Euan, Ewan—of the yew
 Eumann—prosperous warrior
 Fagen, Faodhagan, Fagin—
 ardent
 Faolan—little wolf
 Farrell, Fearghall—victorious
 Farriss, Ferris—rock
 Fearcher, Farquhar—very dear
 Fergus, Fearghus, Ferghus—of
 manly strength
 Finbar—blond
 Fingal—fair stranger
 Finlay, Fionnlaoch, Fionn,
 Findlay, Finn, Fionnlagh—
 fair soldier
 Flann, Flannan—red-haired
 Flynn, Flin—son of the red-
 haired man
 Forbes, Fearbhirigh—wealth or
 stubborn
 Frang, Frannsaidh—free (form of
 Francis)
 Gabhan—white hawk (form of
 Gavin)
 Gaelbhan—sparrow
 Gair, Gear—short
 Galen, Gaylen, Galyn, Gaelan—
 tranquil
 Gall—stranger
 Gallagher, Galchobhar—eager
 helper
 Galloway, Galaway, Galway,
 Gallgaidheal—of the strange
 Gauls
 Galvin, Gaelbhan—sparrow
 Gannon, Gannie, Gionnan—fair-
 skinned
 Garvey, Gairbhith, Garbhach—
 rough peace
 Gaynor, Gayner—son of the
 blond man
 Gearald—spear ruler (form of
 Gerald)
 Gilleasbuig—sacred and bold
 Gille-Eathain—youthful (form of
 Julius)
 Gilmore—servant of the Virgin
 Mary
 Gilroy, Giollaruaidh—serves the
 king
 Giollamhuire—devoted
 Giollanaebhin—worships the
 saints
 Girven, Gervin, Girvyn,
 Garbhan—rough
 Glen, Glenn, Gleann—from the
 glen
 Glendon—from the glen
 Goraidh, Godfrey—God's peace
 Gordan, Gordain—hero
 Gorman—eyes of blue
 Gow—smith
 Grady, Gradey—noble
 Guin—blond
 Guthrie, Gaothaire—free wind
 Hogan, Hagan—young
 Hurley, Hurly, Hurlee—seaside
 Iain—gracious God (form of
 John)
 Innis—from the river island
 Iomar—archer
 Irving—handsome
 Kane, Kayne, Kaine—tribute
 Keefe, Keifer—handsome
 Keegan, Kegan—fiery

Keller—little champion
 Kelly, Kelley—warrior
 Kelvin—from the narrow river
 Kendrick—son of Harry
 Kennedy—helmeted
 Kenyon—blond
 Kermichael, Kermichil—from
 Michael's fortress
 Kermit—free
 Kern, Kerne, Kearn—little dark
 one
 Kerr—spear
 Kerry—dark one; county name
 Kerwin, Kerwyn, Kerwen—little
 black one
 Kevin, Kevyn—gentle,
 handsome
 Key—son of Aidan
 Kieran—black
 Kinnard—from the high hill
 Kinnell—from the head of the
 cliff
 Kyle—from the straits
 Labhruinn—laurel
 Lachlann—from Scandinavia
 Lawler—mumbles
 Lennon, Leannan—little cloak
 Lennox, Leamnach—lives near
 the place abounding in elm
 trees
 Leslie, Lesley, Liosliath—from
 the gray fortress
 Liam—resolute protector (form
 of William)
 Logan, Loghan—from the hollow
 Lon, Lonn—fierce
 Lucas—light
 Luthais—famous in war

Mac a'bhaird—son of Baird
 Mac a'bhiadhtaiche—son of
 Bhiadhtaiche
 Mac Adhaimh, MacAdam,
 MacAdhaimh—son of Adam
 Mac Ailean, MacLean,
 MacAilean, MacAllen—son
 of the handsome man
 Mac Alasdair, MacAladair,
 MacAllister—son of Alasdair
 Mac an Aba, MacNab—father's
 son
 Mac an Bhaillidh—son of the
 steward
 Mac an Bharain—son of the
 noble warrior
 Mac an Bhreatannaich—son of
 the Briton
 Mac an Tsagairt—son of the
 prelate
 Mac an t-Saoir—son of the
 carpenter
 Mac Artuir, MacArthur,
 MacArtuir—son of Arthur
 Mac Asgail—son of Asgail
 Mac Bheathain—son of the man
 who lives by the clear
 stream
 Mac Bhriain—son of the strong
 Mac Daraich—son of the man
 from the ford by the oak
 trees
 Mac Ghille Aindries—son of
 the one who served the
 manly one
 Mac Ghille-Bhuidhe—son of the
 one who serves the blond
 Mac Ghille-Dhuibh—son of

the one who serves the dark man	Neall, Niall, Neil—champion (form of Neal)
Mac Ghille-Dhuinn—son of the one who serves Brown	Nevin, Nevyn, Nevins—worships the saints
Mac Ghille-Easpuig—son of the one who serves the sacred and bold	Nolan, Noland, Nuallan—noble
Mac Ghille-Laider—son of the one who serves the strong armed	Odharnait, Oran, Odran, Oren, Orin, Orran, Orren, Orrin— pale
Mac Ghille Mhicheil, Carmichail—son of the one who served Saint Michael	Padraic, Padruig—noble (form of Patrick)
MacNair—son of an heir	Parthalan—son of the furrows
Malcolm—servant of Saint Columba	Peadar—rock (form of Peter)
Maloney, Maoldhomhnaigh— devoted to God	Phelan—little wolf
Malvin, Maolmin—polished chief	Piaras—rock
Manus, Mannis—great	Pol—little
Maoltuile—quiet	Proinsias—frank
Marcus—warlike	Quigley—distaff; unruly hair
Martainn—warlike (form of Marcus)	Quinlan—well-shaped
Mayo—lives near the yew trees	Quinn—wise
Micheil—who is like God (form of Michael)	Rafferty, Rabhartach—wealthy
Monroe—from the red swamp	Ragnall, Raonull—mighty power
Morvan, Morven, Morvyn, Morfinn, Morvin—pale	Raibeart—bright, famous (form of Robert)
Muireach—Moorish	Riley, Raghallach—valiant
Mungan—lovable (form of Mungo)	Riordan, Rioghbhardan—royal bard
Murchadh—protector of the sea	Ristead—strong ruler (form of Richard)
Murthuile—sea tide	Roan—red-haired
Neacal—victory of the people (form of Nicholas)	Rooney, Ruanaidh—red-haired
	Rory—red ruler
	Roy—red
	Ruairidh—famous ruler
	Ryan—little king
	Scully—town crier
	Senach—meaning unknown
	Seorus—farmer

Seosamh—God adds (form of Joseph)
Seumas—supplanter
Sholto, Siolat—teal duck
Sim—heard
Skelly, Skelley, Sguelaiche—storyteller
Slevin, Slevyn, Slavin, Slaven, Sleven, Slaibhin—mountain man
Sloan, Sloane, Sluaghan—fighter
Somhairle, Somerled—asked of God
Stiabhan—crowned in victory (form of Stephen)
Taggart—son of a prelate

Taithleach—quiet
Tavish—twin (form of Thomas)
Teague, Taidhg, Tadhg—poet
Tearlach, Tearley, Tearly—manly (form of Charles)
Tioboid—bold
Toirdealbhach—myth name
Tomas—twin (form of Thomas)
Tormod—from the north
Torrance, Terrence—from the knolls
Tully, Tulley, Tuathal—peaceful
Tynan, Teimhnean—dark
Uilleam—resolute protector (form of William)
Uisdean—intelligent
Zowie—meaning unknown

GERMAN

German surnames began in the south during the late twelfth century and moved north. By the sixteenth century, the names had become hereditary. Surnames derive from occupational, patronymic, descriptive, and place names.

Common suffixes are:

-sohn—son

-er, -mann—denote occupational names

-ke, -ish, -ush—are Slavic influences on the language

Certain common elements in German surnames relate to place names.

au—meadow or low area

bach—brook

bad—bath, spa

berg—mountain

burg—fortress or castle

fels—rock, cliff

furt—ford

hof—farm, courtyard

thal/tal—valley or dale

wald—forest, woods

Common articles:

von—can mean either “from” or “owner of a town or area”

zu—when used with names, means “at” and is usually reserved for aristocrats and used with a title

The *von* in the surname von Bremen, for example, might indicate nobility. On the other hand, it might indicate only that an ancestor moved to another area from Bremen, acquiring the surname “from Bremen.” Either *von* or *zu* may be used with a title: Count von Buest (in German, *Graf von Buest*). Some members of the nobility use the phrase “von und zu,” which indicated they were not only from a certain place, but still retained ownership of it: Baron von und zu Guttenberg (in German, *Freiherr von und zu Guttenberg*).

A few surnames:

Auerbach
Braun
Breit
Brugmann
Dengler
Drescher
Eichhorn
Eisenberg
Eschenbach
Finster
Fleischer
Frankenheimer
Gerhardt
Gottlieb
Gruenewald
Hammerstein
Hirsch
Huber
Kaiser
Kaufmann

Klein
Liebermann
Meier
Mendelsohn
Messerschmidt
Niemeyer
Nussbaum
Ostermann
Rahn
Reiner
Schmidt
Schuhmacher
Schuster
Stroebel
Tannenbaum
Unger
Von Schroeder
Wohlgemuth
Ziegler
Zimmermann

FEMALE

Ada—happy
Adalia, Adali, Adalie—noble
(form of Adel)
Adele, Adela—pleasant
Adeline, Adelinda, Adette,
Adelheide, Adelle, Adelina,
Adelita, Adelheid, Adal,
Adelaide, Adalheida—noble
Adelyte—has good humor
Adolpha, Adalwolfa—noble she-
wolf (form of Adolph)
Adrian, Adriane—dark
Agathe, Agatha—good (form of
Agatha)

Alarice, Alarica—noble ruler
(form of Alaric)
Alberta, Albertine, Albertyne,
Albertina—noble, intelligent
(form of Albert)
Alda, Alida, Aleda, Alyda,
Aldona—old (form of Aldo)
Alfonsine, Alphonsine—noble
and ready for battle (form of
Alphonse)
Alice, Alys, Alison, Alisz, Aliz,
Ailis, Alicia, Ailse, Aili—
sweet, noble

Alonsa—noble and ready for
 battle (form of Alphonse)
 Aloysia, Aloisia—famous in war
 (form of Aloysius)
 Alvar, Alva, Alvie, Alvara,
 Alvarie—army of elves
 Amalсанд, Amalасanda—
 industrious
 Amara—eternal
 Annemarie, Annamaria—bitter
 grace (form of Annemarie)
 Antonie—priceless (form of
 Anthony)
 Arabella—beautiful eagle
 Ararinda—tenacious
 Armina—warrior maid
 Arnalda—eagle (form of Arnold)
 Ava—like a bird
 Ballard, Baldhart—bold, strong
 Bathilda, Bathild, Bathilde—
 heroine
 Berdine, Berdina—intelligent
 maid
 Berit—intelligent
 Bernadette—strong as a bear
 (form of Bernard)
 Berta, Bertha, Bertina—bright
 (form of Bert)
 Binga, Binge—from the kettle-
 shaped hollow (form of
 Bing)
 Blas, Blasa—firebrand
 Bruna, Brune—dark-haired
 (form of Brun)
 Brunhilde, Brunhilda,
 Brunhild—armored battle-
 maid
 Chriselda—strong
 Clarimond, Clarimonda,
 Clarimonde—brilliant
 protectress
 Clotilda, Clotilde—renowned for
 war
 Conradina, Conradine—able
 counsel (form of Conrad)
 Dagmar, Dagomar—maiden of
 the day
 Della—bright
 Didrika—ruler of the people
 (form of Dietrich)
 Eadaion—joyous friendship
 Ebba—strength
 Edda—pleasant
 Edeline, Ediline, Edelina—noble
 Else, Elsie, Elsa, Elsha, Elica, Ilse,
 Ilyse, Elyse, Elsje—noble
 Emilie—hardworking (form of
 Emily)
 Emma—universal
 Engleberta, Engelbertha,
 Engelbertine,
 Engelbertina—bright angel
 (form of Engelbert)
 Eraman, Eramana—honorable
 Erma—war goddess
 Erna, Ernestine, Ernestina—
 serious (form of Ernest)
 Ethelinda, Ethelinde—noble
 serpent
 Etta—little one
 Felda—from the field
 Felisberta—intelligent
 Franziska—free (form of
 Francis)
 Frieda—peaceful
 Fritzi—peaceful ruler

Gaelle—stranger
 Galiena, Galiana—haughty
 Genevieve, Genowefa,
 Genoveva—white wave
 Geraldine, Gerwalt, Gerwalta,
 Gerhardine, Gerhardina,
 Geraldina—spear ruler
 (form of Gerald)
 Gerda, Gerde, Gerdie—
 protected
 Gertrude, Gertrut, Gertrud,
 Gertruda—strong with a
 spear
 Ghislaine, Guilaine—oath
 Gilberta, Gisilberhta—pledge
 (form of Gilbert)
 Gretchen—little pearl
 Griselda, Grisjahilde, Griselde—
 gray battle-maid
 Griswalda, Griswalde—from the
 gray forest (form of
 Griswald)
 Gudrun, Gudruna—divine
 knowledge
 Guida—guide
 Gunilla, Gunnel—battle-maid
 Gustel—noble
 Halfrida, Halifrid, Halfrid—
 peaceful heroine
 Hannelore, Hannelora—
 meaning unknown
 Harimanna, Harimanne—
 protective (form of
 Hariman)
 Hedda, Hadu—vigorous battle-
 maid
 Hedwig, Haduwig—strife
 Heidi, Heida, Hild, Hilda, Hilde—
 nobility
 Helene—light (form of Helen)
 Helga, Halag—holy
 Helma, Hilma—protective
 Herta, Hertha—of the earth
 Hida, Hide—warrior
 Hildegard, Hildimar, Hildemar,
 Hildemara—stronghold
 Hildreth, Hildireth—battle
 counselor
 Holda, Holde, Holle, Hulda,
 Hulde—beloved
 Huberta, Hugiberahta—
 intelligent (form of Hubert)
 Ida, Idaia, Idna, Idalie—active
 Idette, Idetta—hardworking
 Ilse—noble maid
 Irma, Irmine, Irimina, Irmigard,
 Irmgard, Irmuska—war
 goddess
 Isa, Isane, Isana—strong-willed
 Isolda, Isole, Isold—rule of ice
 Jakoba, Jakobe, Jakobie—
 supplanter (form of Jacob)
 Johanna—gracious God (form of
 Joan)
 Jolan, Jolanka, Joli—country
 Karola, Karolina, Karla,
 Karoline—manly (form of
 Charles)
 Katharina, Katchen, Kathe—
 pure (form of Katharine)
 Kuonrada—wise
 Leoda, Leute, Leota, Leopoldine,
 Leopolda, Leopoldina—of
 the people
 Linda, Lind, Lindie—pretty

Lisa, Lise, Lisette—consecrated
 to God (form of Elizabeth)
 Lorelei, Lurline, Lurlina, Lurleen,
 Lurlene—temptress
 Lorraine, Loraine—from
 Lorraine
 Lotte—masculine
 Louise, Louisane, Luise, Lovisa,
 Lujza, Luijzika, Loyce—
 famous in war (form of
 Louis)
 Luana, Ludkhannah, Luane—
 graceful battle-maid
 Magd, Mady, Magda—maiden
 Magnilda, Maganhildi,
 Magnhilda, Magnild,
 Magnilde—strong fighter
 Malene, Maddalena, Maddalene,
 Maddalen, Maddalyn—from
 the tower (form of
 Madeleine)
 Mallory, Madelhari—army
 counselor
 Marelda, Marilda, Marhildi,
 Marhilda—famous battle-
 maid
 Marlis, Marlisa, Maria—bitter
 (form of Mary)
 Mathilda, Mathilde, Mathild—
 strong battle-maid (form of
 Matilda)
 Millicent—industrious
 Minna, Mina, Minne, Mindy—
 love
 Nadette, Nadetta, Nadine,
 Nadina—courage of a bear
 Nixie—little water sprite
 Norberta, Norberaht,
 Norberte—bright hero
 (form of Norbert)
 Nordica, Nordika—from the
 north
 Odile, Odelina, Odiane, Odiana,
 Odette, Oda, Odila, Ordella,
 Ordalf—elfin spear
 Olinda—protector of property
 Otka, Otthild, Otthilde, Otthilda,
 Ottila, Otilie, Ottilia, Otylia—
 fortunate heroine
 Perahta—glorious
 Petronille, Petronilla—rock
 (form of Peter)
 Philippine, Philippina—lover of
 horses (form of Philip)
 Rachel—ewe
 Ricarda—strong ruler (form of
 Richard)
 Rikka—mistress of all
 Rilla, Rille, Rillia, Rillie—stream
 Roch—glory
 Roderica, Roderika—famous
 ruler (form of Roderick)
 Rolanda, Rolande—famous
 (form of Roland)
 Romilda, Ruomhildi, Romilde,
 Romhilda, Romhilde,
 Romhild—glorious battle-
 maid
 Rosamund, Rozomund,
 Rosemunda, Rosemonde,
 Rozmonda, Rosa—noted
 protector
 Rudelle, Rudella, Rupetta,
 Rupette—famous
 Senta, Sente—assistant
 Serilda, Sarohildi, Serhilda,

Serihilda, Serihilde,
 Serhilda, Serhild—armored
 battle-maid
 Sigfreda, Sigfrieda, Sigfriede—
 victorious peace (form of
 Siegfried)
 Solvig, Sigilwig—champion
 Suzanne—lily (form of Susan)
 Tibelda, Tibelde, Tibeldie—
 boldest
 Truda, Trude, Trudchen—
 strong
 Tugenda—virtue
 Ulla—has willpower
 Ulrike, Ulrica, Ulka, Uli—ruler
 of all
 Valborga—protecting ruler
 Vanda, Vande—wanderer (form
 of Wanda)

Verena, Verina, Verene—
 protector
 Vibeke, Viveka—little woman
 Walda, Welda—ruler
 Waldburga, Walborga—
 protecting ruler
 Wanda, Wande, Wandy—
 wanderer
 Warda—guard
 Wido—warrior maiden
 Wilda, Wilde—wild
 Wilhelmina, Wilhelmine—
 resolute protector (form of
 William)
 Winifred, Winifrid, Winifrida,
 Winifride—peaceful friend
 Winola—gracious friend
 Yseult—ruler of ice

MALE

Abelard, Adelhard—resolute
 Adal, Adel—noble
 Adalard, Adalhard—brave,
 noble
 Adalwine, Audwin, Audwine,
 Adalwen—noble friend
 Adler, Adlar, Ahren, Aren—eagle
 Adolf, Adalwolf, Adolph—noble
 wolf
 Alaric, Alarick, Alarik, Alrik,
 Aurik, Aric, Arick, Arik,
 Aurick—noble ruler
 Albrecht, Adelbert, Adalbert,
 Albert, Ailbe, Alvy, Ardal—
 noble, intelligent
 Aldo, Ald—old

Alemannus—myth name
 Alfonso, Alphonso—noble and
 ready for battle (form of
 Alphonse)
 Alger, Adalgar—noble spearman
 Alhsom—sacred fame
 Alois—famous warrior
 Altman, Altmann—old wise man
 Alvin, Alhwin, Alwin, Adalwin—
 noble friend
 Amory, Amery, Alhmarric—
 divine
 Andreas—manly (form of
 Andrew)
 Ann—name of a king
 Anson—son of Ann

Anton—priceless (form of Anthony)
 Archard—sacred and powerful
 Archimbald, Archibald—bold
 Armand—soldier (form of Herman)
 Arndt, Arnaud, Arnot, Arnoll, Arnott, Arnet, Arnett, Arnald, Arnold, Arnd, Arend, Arno, Arnell, Arnhold, Arnall—eagle
 Arne, Are, Adne, Arney, Arni, Arnt—eagle (form of Arnold)
 Arnwolf—eagle wolf
 Arvin—friend of the people
 Audric, Audrick, Adalric, Aldrik, Adalrik—wise ruler (form of Aldrich)
 Axel, Apsel, Aksel—father of peace
 Baldemar—princely
 Baldric, Baldrik—bold ruler
 Baldwin, Baldwyn, Balduin—bold friend
 Baltasar—protected by God
 Bannan—commander
 Bannruod—famous commander
 Barret, Berowalt—mighty as a bear
 Berdy—intelligent
 Berg—mountain
 Bern, Berne, Ber, Berrin—bear
 Bernard, Bernon, Bernot, Barnard, Benat, Barrett, Bernhard, Bernd, Berend, Berinhard, Barney, Bernardo, Bernardyn—strong as a bear
 Berthold, Berchtwald—bright ruler
 Bing, Binge—from the kettle-shaped hollow
 Bittan, Bitten—desire
 Bogart, Bogohardt—bowstring
 Brandeis—dwells on a burned clearing
 Brendan, Bren, Brendis—sword
 Bruno, Brunon—dark-haired (form of Brun)
 Burhardt, Burkhart—strong as a castle
 Clovis, Chlodwig—famous warrior
 Conrad, Conradin, Cord, Cort, Conrado—able counsel
 Corrado—bold
 Dagoberto—glorious day
 Derry, Dearg—red-haired
 Dick—strong leader
 Diederich, Dietrich, Dedrick, Dedrik, Derrick, Dieter, Dirk, Derek, Dierck, Dietz—ruler of the people
 Drugi, Drud—strong
 Dutch, Deutsch—German
 Eberhard, Eberhardt, Eburhardt, Eward, Evrard—strong as a boar
 Edel—brave
 Edingu—famous ruler
 Eduard—rich guardian (form of Edward)
 Edwin, Edwyn—wealthy friend
 Eginhard, Eginhardt, Einhard,

Egon, Enno, Eno, Einhardt—
strong with a sword
Ehren—honorable
Ellery—lives by the alder tree
Eloy, Ely—famous fighter
Emory, Emery—joint ruler
Englbehr, Englebert—bright
angel
Erchanbold—sacred, bold
Erchanhardt, Ekhard, Ekerd,
Eckerd, Erkerd—sacred
Erhardt, Erhard—honor
Erich—eternal ruler (form of
Eric)
Ernest, Earnest, Ernst, Erno—
serious
Errando—bold venture
Eugen—well-born (form of
Eugene)
Franz—free (form of Frank)
Fremond, Frimunt—noble
protector
Friedrich, Fritz—peaceful ruler
(form of Frederick)
Georg—farmer (form of George)
Gerhard, Gerard, Goddard—
spear ruler (form of Gerald)
Gerlach—spear thrower
Ghislain—oath
Gilleasbuig—bold
Godfrey, Godfried, Gottfried—
peaceful god
Griswold, Griswald—from the
gray forest
Hackett, Hacket—little hacker
Hamlet, Hamlett, Hamoelet—
from the little home
Hamlin—rules the home
Hans, Hann, Hanno, Han, Hanz—

gracious God (form of John)
Hardy, Harti—daring
Hariman, Harimann—protective
Hartman, Hardtman,
Hartmann—strong
Harvey—soldier
Heinrich—rules the home (form
of Henry)
Helmut, Helmutt—brave
Hernando—adventuresome
Herrick—army leader
Hewett, Hewitt, Hewlitt,
Hewlett—little Hugh
Hildebrand, Hildbrand—war
sword
Hobart, Hobbard, Hobard,
Hohberht—intelligent (form
of Hubert)
Howe, How, Hoh—high
Hugh—intelligent
Hulbert, Huldiberaht, Hubbard,
Hulbard, Hulbart—graceful
Humphrey, Hunfrid, Hunfried—
peaceful Hun
Ingel, Engel, Ingall, Ingalls—
angel
Ingelbert—bright angel
Jakob—supplanter (form of
Jacob)
Japhet—myth name
Jarman, Jarmann—German
Jarvis—sharp spear
Jay, Jaye—swift
Johan, Johann, Johannes—
gracious God (form of John)
Josef—God adds (form of
Joseph)
Jurgen—farmer (form of George)
Karl—manly (form of Charles)

DANIEL WALLACE



Daniel Wallace is the author of three novels, *Big Fish* (1998), *Ray in Reverse* (2000), and *The Watermelon King* (2003). His stories have been published far and wide in many magazines and anthologies, including *The Yale Review*, *The Massachusetts Review*, *Shenandoah*, and *Glimmer Train*. His illustrated work has appeared in the *Los Angeles Times* and *Italian Vanity Fair*. *Big Fish* has been translated into eighteen languages and was adapted for film.

I used to find my characters' names in the telephone book—opening it at random, closing my eyes, and letting my fingers do the choosing. This wasn't always successful, but it was better—and easier—than having to try and come up with something by myself. All the names I came up with seemed forced and unbelievable.

Then I named them after friends. This was fun because while almost no one else would know the origin of the name, I would; it was a little inside joke. I named dogs after old girlfriends, streets after teachers, and fathers—well, after my father. My real father's name was Eron Daniel Wallace—we called him E.D.—and most of my fictional fathers are named Ed or Edward.

But the times have changed, and so have I.

Now I get my names from spam. That's right: Those pesky unwanted e-mails are really the best place to find a name these days. All I have to do is look into the Deleted Items folder of Outlook Express, and there are dozens—no, *hundreds*—of names, right there in the From field, perfect for any character I might want to write about.

Let's take a look now!

The first name I come upon is Marina Carmichael. I think she really wants to direct me toward a porn site, but I'm not going there; instead, she'll become the attractive, mysterious, and unattainable girl-next-door.

Next? Evangelina Gunter. Hmm, I don't know if I have a story she'll be in, but it's good to know she's there, in case I need her.

Truman Ellison—there's a name for almost anyone. Sheryl McNair. Rusty Sims. Dolores Long. These are plain yet distinctive names. Perfect for any genre.

Some, of course, will never do. Colin L. Vang. Foster Dumas. King Stud. No. No, no, and no.

But Nellie Buckner? Yes. Tracy Webb? Why not? Xavier Williams? Who *wouldn't* want Xavier Williams in a story?

Then I come upon this name, one so good I hesitate to share it with you, in case I want to use it for myself.

Faith Yankovic.

This one, this Faith—she needs a novel. Please, somebody: Write it.

- Klaus—victory of the people
(form of Nicholas)
- Konrad, Kurt, Kuno, Konni, Kunz,
Kord, Koenraad, Koen—able
counsel (form of Conrad)
- Kuhlbert, Kulbert, Kulbart—
calm, bright
- Lamar, Lamarr, Landmari—
famous around the land
- Lambrecht, Lambert, Lambart,
Lambret, Lambrett—light of
land
- Leopold, Leopoldo—bold for his
people
- Lindberg, Lindeberg—from the
linden tree hill
- Lorenz, Loritz—laurel (form of
Lawrence)
- Loring, Lotharing, Lothar,
Lothair—famous warrior
(form of Lothario)
- Ludwig, Lutz, Ludwik, Luki,
Louis, Luis, Luduvico,
Lughaidh, Lewy, Luigi,
Luiginw—famous in war
(form of Louis)
- Mallory, Madelhari—army
counselor
- Mandel—almond
- Manfred, Manfred, Manfrit—
peaceful
- Meinhard, Meinke, Meino,
Maynard, Meinyard—firm
- Meinrad—strong adviser
- Nefen, Nefin, Nef, Neff—nephew
- Orbert, Odbert, Orbart,
Odbart—wealthy
- Oswald—divine power
- Othman, Otto, Otho, Othmann,
Othomann—wealthy
- Otto—born eighth
- Ottokar—happy fighter
- Penn—commander
- Penrod—famous commander
- Pepin, Peppi—petitioner
- Ragnorak—myth name
- Rainart, Rainhard, Reinhard,
Renke—strong judgment
- Rainer, Reiner—counsel
- Rambert, Reginberaht,
Rambart—mighty, intelligent
- Raymond—mighty protector



Reginald, Reggie, Rich, Rikard,
 Richard, Riocard, Rickard,
 Ryszard, Ristead, Riccardo,
 Ricardo—strong ruler
 Reynard, Reginhard, Reinhard—
 mighty brave
 Richmond—strong protector
 Ritter—knight
 Roald, Rald—mighty, powerful
 (form of Ronald)
 Roch, Rico—glory
 Rosswald, Roswell, Roswalt,
 Roswald—mighty horse
 Roth—red-haired
 Rune—secret
 Ruodrik, Rodrik, Roderick—
 famous ruler
 Rupert, Ruprecht—bright fame
 Rutger, Rudiger—famous
 spearman (form of Roger)
 Selig, Saelac, Selik—blessed
 Siegfried, Sigifrith, Sigfrid,
 Sigifrid—victorious peace
 Sigwald, Sigiwald, Sigwalt—
 victorious ruler
 Spangler, Spengler—tinsmith
 Stein—stone
 Tab, Tabbert, Tabbart—brilliant
 Tibalt—people's prince
 Treffen—meets
 Trennen—divides
 Tretan—walks
 Ubel—evil
 Ulrich, Uli, Ulz—ruler of all
 Valdemar, Valdemarr—famous
 ruler
 Vernados—courage of a bear
 Volker—people's guard
 Volney, Vollny—of the people
 Wagner—wagonmaker
 Waldemar, Waldemarr—strong
 ruler
 Waldo—ruler
 Waldron, Waldhramm,
 Waldrom—ruling raven
 Walfred, Waldifrid, Walfrid—
 peaceful ruler
 Wallache, Wallace—from Wales
 Waller—army ruler
 Walmond, Waldmunt—mighty
 protector
 Walter, Walthari—powerful
 warrior
 Walton, Walten—ruler
 Warren, Waren—loyal
 Weber, Webber—weaver
 Wendell, Wendel—wanderer
 Werner, Warner, Warenhari—
 defending warrior
 Wilbur, Willaperht, Wilpert,
 Wilburt, Wilbert, Wilbart—
 resolute, brilliant
 Wilfred, Willifrid, Wilfrid—
 resolute peace
 Wilhelm, Williamon—resolute
 protector (form of William)
 Wilmer, Willamar, Willmar,
 Wilmar, Willmarr—resolute,
 famous
 Wilmot, Willimod, Wilmod—
 resolute spirit
 Wolfgang—advancing wolf
 Wolfric, Wolfrick, Wolfrik—wolf
 ruler
 Wotan—myth name
 Zelig—happy

GREEK

Greek surnames are, for the most part, patronymic in origin. In ancient Greece, *son of* suffixes *-opoulos*, *-akis*, *-adhis*, *-idhis*, *-ides* were attached to the father's name if the bearer needed more identification in addition to his given name. Present-day surnames are taken from occupational, patronymic, descriptive, and place names.

Greek's have a first name, a patronymic (the father's first name in genitive case), and a surname. The typical ending for a patronymic is *-ou*: Georgion becomes Georgiou. When a woman gets married, she changes her patronymic from her father's name to her husband's name, then takes the husband's surname as well.

The prefix *Papa-* means that the bearer is related to a priest, which lends prestige to the name.

A few surnames:

Anagnostopoulos	Liatos
Adamidis	Melissanides
Androupolos	Melonakos
Antonopoulos	Mitsotakis
Arvanitidhis	Mylonas
Batsakis	Nikolaidhis
Borbokis	Nikolaou
Christofides	Panaotis
Coulouris	Panopoulos
Demarchis	Papadopoulos
Dhimitrakopoulos	Papandreou
Dimitrakos	Pappas
Giannakos	Paschalis
Houlis	Rigatos
Kalakos	Savakis
Kaloyeropoulos	Soukis
Kiriakopoulos	Spaneas
Kritopoulos	Theodorakis
Leonidis	Vamvakidis

FEMALE

- Abdera—from Abdera
Abellona, Abellone—mannish
Acacia, Akakia—guileless
Acantha, Akantha—thorn
Achlys—dark mist
Adara—beautiful
Adelpha, Adelphie, Adelphe—
dear sister
Ademia—unmarried, no
husband
Admeta—from a tale of
Hercules; myth name
Adonia—lover of Aphrodite
(form of Adonis)
Adriano—dark (form of Adrian)
Aeaea—*island of Circe*; myth
name
Aedon—*daughter of Pandareos*;
myth name
Aegea—from the Aegean
Aegina—*mother of Aeacus*;
myth name
Aello—*one of the Harpies*; myth
name
Aethra—*mother of Theseus*;
myth name
Aetna—from Aetna
Agafia, Agave, Agaue—good
(form of Agatha)
Agalaia—*splendor*; myth name
Agalia—happy
Agape—love
Agatha, Agathi, Agate, Agotha,
Agata—good
Agave—*mother of Pentheus*;
myth name
Aglaia—beautiful, splendid; one
of the three Graces; myth
name
Aglauros—*turned into stone by
Hermes*; myth name
Agnes, Agna, Aigneis, Agnese,
Agneta, Agnek, Agnella—
pure
Agueda—good (form of Agatha)
Aidoios—honored
Airlia, Airla—ethereal
Alatea—truth
Alcestis—*gave her life to save
her husband*; myth name
Alcina—form of Alcinous
Alcippe—*daughter of Ares*;
myth name
Alcmene—*mother of Hercules*;
myth name
Alcyone—form of Alcyoneus
Aldara, Aldora—winged gift
Alena, Alina—light (form of
Helen)
Aleris, Alerissa—meaning
unknown
Alesandere, Alexandra,
Alexandina, Alexine,
Alexina, Aleka—*defender of
mankind* (form of
Alexander)
Alesia—helper
Alethea, Althaia, Alethia,
Aletheia, Alecta—*honesty*
Alexia, Alexa, Alexis—aid
Alicia—sweet, noble (form of
Alice)

- Alpha—firstborn
 Althaea, Althea, Altheda—pure
 Alysia—bond
 Alyssa—rational
 Amalthea, Amaltheia—nursed
 Zeus; myth name
 Amara—eternal
 Amarantha, Amaranthe,
 Amaranda—flower
 Amaryllis—sparkling
 Amazonia—warrior woman
 Ambrosia—food of the gods;
 myth name
 Ambrosine, Ambrotosa—
 immortal (form of Ambrose)
 Amethyst—jewel
 Aminta—protector
 Amphitrite—sea goddess; aunt
 of Achilles; myth name
 Aymone—daughter of Danaus;
 myth name
 Anastasia, Anstice, Anstace—
 one who will be reborn
 Anatola, Anatolia—from the east
 (form of Anatole)
 Anaxarete—cruel woman
 punished by the gods; myth
 name
 Andrea, Andreas—manly (form
 of Andrew)
 Andromache—wife of Hector;
 myth name
 Andromeda—daughter of
 Cassiopeia; myth name
 Anemone—myth name
 Anezka—pure (form of Agnes)
 Angeliki, Angela, Angel,
 Angelique, Angelina,
 Angeline—angel
- Annis, Annys—whole
 Antea—form of Antaeus
 Anteia—wife of sea god Proteus;
 myth name
 Anthia, Anthea—flower
 Anticlea—mother of Odysseus;
 myth name
 Antigone—daughter of Oedipus;
 sister of Priam; myth name
 Antiope—daughter of Asopus;
 myth name
 Anysia—complete
 Aphrodite—goddess of love;
 myth name
 Apollina, Apollonia,
 Apollinaris—gift from
 Apollo
 Ara—myth name
 Arachne—changed into a spider
 by Athena; myth name
 Arcadia—of Arcadia
 Arene, Arena, Ariane, Ariana—
 holy one
 Arete, Areta, Aretha—beauty
 Arethusa—nymph; myth name
 Aretina—virtuous
 Argie, Argia—all-seeing
 Ariadne—very holy
 Artemia, Artemisia—gift from
 Artemis
 Artemis—goddess of the hunt;
 myth name
 Arva—eagle
 Asia—from the east
 Aspasia—welcomed
 Astra, Astrea, Asta—star
 Astraea—justice; surname for
 Artemis; myth name

Atalanta, Atlanta, Atalante—
 huntress; myth name
 Ate—goddess of irrationality;
 myth name
 Athanasia—immortal
 Athena, Athene—goddess of
 wisdom; myth name
 Atropes, Antropas—one of the
 Fates; myth name
 Aure, Aura—gentle breeze
 Autonoe—mother of Actaeon;
 myth name
 Autumn—myth name
 Ava—an eagle
 Avel—breath
 Axelia—defender of mankind
 (form of Alexander)
 Baptista—baptizer (form of
 Baptiste)
 Barbara, Bairbre, Baibin,
 Basham, Babita—stranger
 Basilia—regal (form of Basil)
 Baucis—wife of Philemon; myth
 name
 Berdine, Berdina—intelligent
 maid
 Berenice, Bernice—brings
 victory
 Beroe—traveled with Aeneas;
 myth name
 Beryl—crystal
 Briseis—slave of Achilles; myth
 name
 Bryony—plant, vine
 Caeneus—woman who asked to
 become a man; myth name
 Caitlin, Caitilin, Caitlyn, Cairin,
 Caitryon, Cairtriona, Catia,
 Catalin, Catalyn, Catherine,
 Catheryn, Cathryn,
 Catherin, Catharina,
 Catarina, Catheryna—pure
 (form of Katherine)
 Calandra—lark
 Calantha—lovely blossom
 Calida, Calli, Callie, Calla,
 Callista—the most beautiful
 Callia—beautiful voice
 Calligenia—born of beauty
 Calliope—Muse of epic poetry;
 myth name
 Calliste—another name for
 Artemis; myth name
 Callisto—nymph; mother of
 Arcas; myth name
 Calypso—nymph; daughter of
 Atlas; myth name
 Canace—myth name
 Candance, Candice, Cadis—
 sparkling
 Cassandra, Cassondra—
 prophetess no one believed;
 myth name
 Cassie—purity
 Cassiopeia—mother of
 Andromeda; myth name
 Casta—meaning unknown
 Castalia—sacred fountain of the
 Muses; myth name
 Cathleen, Cathlin, Cathlyn—
 pure (form of Katherine)
 Celaeno—one of the Harpies;
 one of the Pleiades; myth
 name
 Celandine, Celandina—swallow

- Celena, Celina—goddess of the moon; myth name
- Celosia—burning
- Cenobia—stranger
- Ceres—another name for Demeter; myth name
- Cestus—Aphrodite's girdle; myth name
- Ceto—goddess of the sea; myth name
- Charis—grace and beauty; myth name
- Charissa—loving
- Charybdis—daughter of Poseidon; myth name
- Cherise—grace
- Chloe—blooming
- Chloris, Cloris, Cloria—goddess of spring; myth name
- Christa—anoined
- Christine, Christen, Christiane, Christiana, Christian—believes in Christ (form of Christian)
- Chruse—golden
- Chryseis—daughter of Chryses; prisoner of Agamemnon; myth name
- Chrysilla—hair of gold
- Cinyras—founded the cult of Aphrodite; myth name
- Cipriana—myth name
- Circe—witch; myth name
- Clematis—flower name
- Cleo—famed
- Cleopatra—her father's fame
- Cliantha, Clianthe—glory
- Clio—celebrate
- Clotho—one of the Fates; myth name
- Clymene, Clymena—mother of Atalanta; myth name
- Clytemnestra—murdered her husband Agamemnon; myth name
- Clytie, Clyte—water nymph; myth name
- Colette—victory of the people (form of Nicholas)
- Cora, Corella—maiden
- Coral, Coralie, Coraline, Coralina, Coralin—from the coral of the sea
- Corinna, Corinne, Corin, Coretta, Corette—maiden
- Coronis—mother of Aesculapius; myth name
- Cosimia, Cosma—of the universe
- Cressida—golden one
- Creusa—daughter of Erechtheus; myth name
- Crocalle—myth name
- Crystal—sparkling
- Cybele—mother of the Olympians; myth name
- Cyma—flourish
- Cynara—myth name
- Cynere—thistle
- Cynthia, Cinthia—moon
- Cypriana, Cypris—from Cyprus
- Cyra—myth name
- Cyrene, Cyrena—mother of Aristaeus; myth name
- Cyrilla—lordly (form of Cyril)
- Cythera—from Cythera

Cytherea, Cytheria—another name for Aphrodite; myth name
 Daffodil—flower
 Damaris, Damara—gentle
 Damia—myth name
 Danae—mother of Perseus; myth name
 Daphne—bay tree
 Daria—rich
 Deianira—wife of Hercules; myth name
 Delbin, Delbina, Delbine—flower
 Delia, Della—myth name
 Delphine, Delphina, Delfine, Delfina, Delphia—from Delphi
 Delta—born fourth
 Demas, Demos—popular
 Demetria, Demeter—goddess of the harvest; myth name
 Desma, Desmoa—oath
 Desmona, Desdemona—unlucky
 Dia—daughter of Eineus; myth name
 Dianthe, Diantha—flower
 Dice, Dike—justice; myth name
 Dido—queen of Carthage who killed herself; myth name
 Dino—sister of the Gorgons; myth name
 Dione, Diona—mother of Aphrodite; myth name
 Dionysia, Dionysie—named for Dionysus, god of wine
 Dirce—wife of Lycus; myth name
 Dora, Dorette, Doralie, Doralia, Dorelia, Doralis, Doralice, Doretta—gift
 Dorcas, Dorkas—gazelle
 Dordie, Dordei—divine gift
 Doreen—beautiful
 Dorinda—beautiful gift
 Doris, Dorice, Doria, Dorea, Dorian, Dorien, Doriana—of the sea
 Dorothy, Dorothea, Dollie, Dolly, Doll, Dorita, Dorlisa, Dorte, Drew—God's gift
 Dryope—nymph; myth name
 Dyna—strong, powerful
 Dysis—sundown
 Ebony—dark wood, black
 Ecaterina, Ekaterina, Ecterine—pure (form of Katherine)
 Echidna—monster; myth name
 Echo—attended Hera; myth name
 Ede, Eda—generation
 Effie—fair flame
 Efterpi—beauty of face
 Egeria—water nymph; one of the Camenae; myth name
 Eidothea—sea nymph; myth name
 Eileithyia—goddess of childbirth; myth name
 Eirene—goddess of peace; myth name
 Elaine, Elena, Eleanor, Eleanora, Eleanore, Ellen, Elnora, Elora, Endora, Eleni, Elenitsa—light
 Eldoris—of the sea
 Electra—sparkling
 Elefteria, Elepheteria, Elephteria—free

Elisabet, Elisabeth, Elissa, Elisia,

Ellice—consecrated to God

Elma—friendly

Elpida, Elpide—hope

Endocia—unknown virtue

Ennea—born ninth

Enora—light

Enyo—goddess of war; one of
the Graeae; myth name

Eos—goddess of dawn; myth
name

Erasma—friendly

Erato—Muse of erotic poetry;
myth name

Erianthe, Eriantha, Erianthia—
sweet

Erigone—daughter of Icarius;
myth name

Erinyes—one of the Furies; myth
name

Eriphyle—wife of Amphiaraus;
myth name

Eris—goddess of discord; myth
name

Errita—pearl (form of Margaret)

Erytheia—one of the
Hesperides; myth name

Esmerelda, Esmeralda—
emerald

Eudosis, Eudoxia, Eduocia,
Eudosia, Eudocia, Eudokia—
highly regarded

Eugenia, Evgenia—well-born
(form of Eugene)

Eulallia—well-spoken

Eunice—joyous victory

Eunomia—order; myth name

Euphemia, Euphémie, Ephie—
well-spoken

Euphrasia—joyful

Euphrosyne—good cheer

Eurayle—wanders far

Europa—mother of Minos; myth
name

Eurycleia—nurse of Odysseus;
myth name

Eurydice—wife of Orpheus;
myth name

Eurynome—goddess of all
things; myth name

Eustella—fair star

Euterpe—Muse of the flute;
myth name

Evadne—wife of Capaneus;
myth name

Evangeline, Evangelia—bringer
of good news

Evania—peaceful

Evanthe, Evanth—flower

Fate—destiny; myth name

Fedora—God's gift (form of
Theodore)

Fern—feather

Filia—amity

Filipina—lover of horses (form
of Philip)

Filomena, Filomenia—lover of
man

Fotini—light

Gaea, Gaia—mother earth; myth
name

Galatea—white as milk

Galen—helper, tranquil

Gelasia—inclined to laughter
(form of Gelasius)

Gemina—twin

Georgia, Georgiana, Georgine,

- Georgette—farmer (form of George)
- Geranium—crane
- Giancinta, Giancinte—hyacinth (form of Hyacinth)
- Gina—well-born
- Glauce—murdered by Medea; myth name
- Gregoria, Gregoriana—watchful (form of Gregory)
- Greta, Gretal, Grete, Gretel, Gredel, Gryta, Ghita, Gretchen—pearl (form of Margaret)
- Haidee—modest
- Halcyone, Alcyone—daughter of Aeolus; myth name
- Halia, Helia—of the sun
- Halimeda—thinking of the sea
- Harmonia—daughter of Ares; myth name
- Hebe—goddess of youthful beauty; myth name
- Hecate—one of the Titans; myth name
- Hecuba, Hekuba—wife of Priam; mother of Paris and Hector; myth name
- Hedia, Hedy, Hedyla—pleasant
- Helen, Helena, Helli, Helene, Helenka, Halina—light
- Helice, Helike—from Helicon
- Helle—daughter of Athamas; myth name
- Hemera—day; myth name
- Henrika—rules the home (form of Henry)
- Hera, Here—wife of Zeus; myth name
- Hermione, Hermandine, Hermia, Hermandina—well-born
- Hero—priestess of Aphrodite; myth name
- Hesione—daughter of Laomedon; myth name
- Hesper, Hester—evening star
- Hesperia—daughter of Cebren; one of the Hesperides; myth name
- Hestia—goddess of hearth and home; myth name
- Hibiscus—flower
- Hilaeira—girl carried off by Pollux and Castor; myth name
- Hippodamia—wife of Pirithous; myth name
- Hippolyte, Hippolyta—queen of the Amazons; myth name
- Horae—goddess of the season; myth name
- Hyacinthe, Hyacinth—hyacinth
- Hyades—name for the nymphs; myth name
- Hydra—dragon killed by Hercules; myth name
- Hygeia, Hygieia—goddess of health; myth name
- Hypatia, Hypate—exceptional
- Hypermnestra—refused to kill her husband on their wedding night; myth name
- Hypsipyle—daughter of Thoas; myth name
- Ianthe, lantha, Ianthina—flower

- Iasus—mother of Atalanta; myth name
- Ida—name of a mountain; myth name
- Idalia—myth name
- Idola—vision
- Ileana, Iliona—from Troy
- Ilithya, Ilithia—myth name
- Ilona, Ilke, Ilka, Ica, Ilay, Ilon, Ilonka, Ilu, Ilusak—light
- Inesa, Inese, Ines, Inez—pure (form of Agnes)
- Ino—daughter of Cadmus; myth name
- Iola, Iloe—sister of Iphitus; myth name
- Iolanthe, Iolantha—violet
- Iona, Ione, Ionia, Ionessa—amethyst
- Iphegenia—sacrificed by her father Agamemnon; myth name
- Irena, Irene, Irini, Irina, Irinia, Iryna, Irynia—peace
- Iris, Irisa—rainbow
- Irta—pearl
- Isadora, Isidora, Isadore—gift of Isis
- Isaura, Isaure—gentle breeze
- Ismene, Ismini—daughter of Oedipus; myth name
- Ivanna—gracious God (form of John)
- Ivy—ivy
- Jacinta, Jacintha, Jacinthe—hyacinth (form of Hyacinth)
- Jarina, Jarine—farmer
- Jeno—well-born
- Jocasta—queen of Thebes; myth name
- Kaethe—pure
- Kaia—from the earth
- Kairos—myth name
- Kalliope—beautiful voice
- Kalonice—victory of beauty
- Kalyca, Kaly, Kali, Kalie, Kalika—rosebud
- Kanake—myth name
- Kandake—glittering
- Katherine, Kathrine, Katheryn, Kethryn, Katrina, Katarina, Katarin, Kate, Kit, Kitty, Karen, Karin, Koren, Karena, Kara, Kasia, Kassia, Kaisa, Kasen, Kasin, Katie, Katy, Katri, Kaethe, Katja, Katya, Kolina, Koline, Kora, Katakin, Katoka, Katica, Katus, Koto, Katinka, Kasienska, Kaska, Katarzyna, Kolina, Kore—pure
- Kay—glory
- Keleos—flaming
- Kepa, Kepe—stone
- Keres—evil spirits
- Kineta, Kinetikos—active
- Kirsten, Krista, Kristina, Khrustina, Kirsty, Kristell, Kristel, Kirstie, Krisztina, Kriszta, Kriska, Krysta, Krysia—believes in Christ (form of Christian)
- Kleopatra—her father's fame
- Kolete, Kolette, Klazina—victory of the people (form of Nicholas)

Kore—another name for
 Persephone; myth name
 Koren—maiden
 Kosmo, Kosma, Kasma,
 Kasmo—universal
 Kristin, Kristen—anoined
 Kynthia—moon
 Lachesis—one of the Fates;
 myth name
 Lais—favorite name with poets
 Lalage, Lalia—verbose
 Lamia—evil spirit who abducts
 and devours children; myth
 name
 Lampetia—myth name
 Lana, Lenci, Lena, Lina, Lenore,
 Leonora, Leora, Leonore,
 Leonarda—light
 Laodamia—daughter of
 Bellerophon; wife of
 Protesilaus; myth name
 Larissa, Larisse—happy
 Layna—truth
 Leda—mother of Helen; myth
 name
 Lelia—well-spoken
 Lethe—river of oblivion; myth
 name
 Lethia, Letha, Leitha—forgetful
 Leucippe—mother of Teuthras;
 myth name
 Leucothea, Leucothia—sea
 nymph; myth name
 Lexine, Lexina—defender of
 mankind
 Lia, Lea—bringer of good news
 Ligia—beautiful voice
 Lilis, Lilia, Lillis, Lili, Lily, Lilch,
 Lila, Lilla—lily
 Lissa—honeybee
 Loni—short form of Apollonia
 Lotus—lotus flower
 Luigina—well-born
 Lycoris—twilight
 Lydia, Lydea—from Lydia
 Lykaios—like the wolf
 Lyris, Lyra—lyrical
 Lysandra—liberator
 Macaria—daughter of Hercules;
 myth name
 Madge—approval
 Madora, Medora—ruler
 Magaere, Megara—one of the
 Furies; myth name
 Maia—mother of Hermes; myth
 name
 Malinda, Melinda—gentle
 Malva, Malvina, Malvine—soft
 Marmara, Marmee—shining
 Marpessa—daughter of Alcippe
 and Evenus; myth name
 Mathilde, Matilda—strong
 battle-maid
 Medea—wife of Jason who
 murders her children; myth
 name
 Medusa—cunning; one of the
 Gorgons; myth name
 Melania, Melanie—dark
 Melantha, Melanthe—dark
 flower
 Melantho—serving girl; myth
 name
 Melina, Melena—yellow as a
 canary
 Melissa, Melisse, Mellisa—
 honeybee; nymph; myth
 name

- Melita, Melleta, Meleta,
 Meleda—sweet as honey
- Melpomene—Muse of tragedy;
 myth name
- Merope—foster mother of
 Oedipus; myth name
- Metanira—wife of Celeus; myth
 name
- Metea—gentle
- Metis—resourcefulness; myth
 name
- Minerva—wise
- Minta, Mintha—plant name
- Mnemosyne—goddess of
 memory; myth name
- Moerae, Moirai—one of the
 Fates; myth name
- Moirai, Moirai—merit
- Moly—herb Hermes gave to
 Odysseus to protect him;
 myth name
- Mona—solitary
- Monica, Moniqua, Monika,
 Monique—counselor
- Musidora, Musadora—gift of the
 Muses
- Myra, Mira, Mirias—abundance
- Myrtle, Mytra, Merta, Myrtis,
 Myrtice, Myrtisa, Myrtia,
 Myrta—myrtle
- Naia—flowing
- Naida—water nymph; myth
 name
- Narkissa, Narcissa, Narcisa—
 self-love (form of Narcissus)
- Nathacha, Natasha, Natassia—
 born on Christmas (form of
 Natalie)
- Nausicaa—princess who finds
 Odysseus; myth name
- Nella, Nell, Nelly, Nellie, Nellis,
 Nelma—light
- Nemesis—goddess of
 vengeance; myth name
- Neola—youthful
- Neoma, Neomia, Neomenia,
 Neomea—new moon
- Nephele—cloud Hera made by
 Zeus that birthed the
 Centaurs; myth name
- Nerine, Nerina, Neried—named
 for the Nereides, sea
 nymphs; myth name
- Nerissa, Nerita, Nireta, Nerice—
 from the sea
- Neysa, Nessa, Nessia—pure
- Nicia, Nicea, Nicolette, Nicoletta,
 Niki, Nikolia, Nicola,
 Nicole—victory of the
 people (form of Nicholas)
- Nike—goddess of victory; myth
 name
- Niobe—fern
- Nitsa—peace
- Norah, Nora—honor
- Nox—goddess of night; myth
 name
- Nympha—bride
- Nysa, Nyse, Nyssa—goal
- Nyx—goddess of night; myth
 name
- Obelia, Obelie—pointed pillar
- Ocypete—one of the Harpies;
 myth name
- Odele, Odelle—harmonious
- Odelet, Odelette—little singer

Odessa, Odysseia—wrathful
 Oenone—daughter of Cebren;
 lover of Paris; myth name
 Oighrig—well-spoken
 Oleisia—protector of man
 Olympia, Olympe—from
 Olympus
 Omphale—queen of Lydia; myth
 name
 Onella, Olena, Olina—light
 Ophelia—serpentine
 Ophelie—wisdom
 Ophira—gold
 Orea, Oria—from the mountain
 Orithyia—myth name
 Ortygia—Calypso’s island; myth
 name
 Page—child
 Pallas—wise; another name for
 Athene; myth name
 Pamela—made from honey
 Panagiota—holy (form of
 Panagiotis)
 Pandora—released misery and
 hope into the world; myth
 name
 Panphila—all-loving
 Pansy—flower
 Panthea—all the gods
 Parthenia, Parthenie—chaste
 Pasha, Pesha—born on
 Passover (form of Pascal)
 Pasiphae—wife of Minos; myth
 name
 Peg, Peggy, Pegeen—pearl (form
 of Margaret)
 Pelagia—dweller by the sea
 Pelicia—weaver
 Pelopia—mother of Aegisthus;
 myth name
 Pempredo—sister of the
 Gorgons; myth name
 Penelope—faithful wife of
 Odysseus; myth name
 Penthea, Penthia—born fifth
 Pentesilea—queen of the
 Amazons; myth name
 Peony, Penny—flower
 Pephredo—dread; myth name
 Persephone, Persephonie—wife
 of Hades; myth name
 Persis—from Persia
 Petrina, Pierette, Petronella,
 Perrine, Petronelle, Petra,
 Petrine—rock (form of
 Peter)
 Phaedra—daughter of Minos;
 myth name
 Phaethusa—myth name
 Phemie—well-spoken
 Pheodora, Phedora—supreme
 gift
 Phila—loving
 Philana—lover of man
 Phillida, Phillina, Philina,
 Philida—loving
 Phillipa, Philippa—lover of
 horses (form of Philip)
 Philomela, Philomel—
 nightingale
 Philomena, Philomina—greatly
 loved
 Philothea—loves God
 Phoebe, Phebe—shining (form
 of Phoebus)
 Phoenix—bird that built its own

pyre and then was reborn
 from the ashes; myth name
 Phyllis, Phillis, Phylis, Philis—
 green bough
 Pleasure—myth name
 Podarge—one of the Harpies;
 myth name
 Polyhymnia—Muse of sacred
 song; myth name
 Polyxena—daughter of Priam;
 myth name
 Procne—wife of Pandion; myth
 name
 Psyche—lover of Cupid; myth
 name
 Pyrena, Pyrene, Pyrenie,
 Pyrenia—ardent
 Pyrrha—daughter of
 Epimetheus; myth name
 Pythia—prophetess
 Rena, Rina—peaceful
 Resi, Rezi—gatherer
 Rhea—wife of Cronus; mother of
 the gods; myth name
 Rheta, Rita, Rhete, Reta, Reit—
 speaker
 Rhoda, Rhodanthe, Rhodantha,
 Rhodia—rose
 Ritsa, Ritza—protector of man
 Rizpah—hope
 Saba—from Sheba
 Sandra, Sandrine, Sondar—
 defender of mankind (form
 of Alexander)
 Sapphira, Sapphire—blue jewel
 Scylla—sea monster; myth name
 Sebastene, Sebastienne,
 Sebastiana—revered (form
 of Sebastian)

Selena, Selene, Selina, Selia—
 moon
 Semele—mother of Dionysus;
 myth name
 Sibley, Sibyl, Sybil, Sybyl,
 Sibylla, Sybilla—prophetess
 Sinovia, Sinobia—stranger
 Sirena, Sirina—named for the
 Sirens
 Solon, Solonie, Solona, Solone—
 wise
 Sophia, Sophie, Sofia, Sofronia,
 Sofi, Saffi—wise
 Sophronia—of judicious mind
 Stasia, Steise, Stacie, Stacy,
 Stacey—shall be reborn
 Stephana, Stephania, Stephanie,
 Stephene, Stefina, Stefinia,
 Stevie—crowned in victory
 (form of Stephen)
 Stheno—mighty
 Strephon, Strephonn, Strep—
 one who turns
 Styx—river of the underworld;
 myth name
 Suadela—goddess of
 persuasion; myth name
 Symaethis—mother of Acis;
 myth name
 Syna—together
 Syrinx—nymph; myth name
 Tabitha—gazelle
 Terentia—guardian
 Teresa, Terese, Teresina,
 Terisita, Therese, Theresa,
 Tess, Tessie, Tressam,
 Terry, Tracy, Tassos,
 Tosia—reaper

Terpsichore—Muse of dance
 and lyric poetry; myth name
 Tessa—born fourth
 Tethys—daughter of Gaea; wife
 of Oceanus; myth name
 Thaddea, Thaddia—brave
 Thais—beloved
 Thalassa—sea goddess; myth
 name
 Thalia, Talia, Thaleia—joyous;
 Muse of comedy; myth name
 Thea, Thia, Theola—divine
 Thecla, Thekla, Tecla, Tekla—
 divine fame
 Thelma—nursing
 Themis—righteousness; myth
 name
 Theodora, Theda, Tedra, Tedre,
 Theodosia—God’s gift (form
 of Theodore)
 Theone, Thenoma, Thenomia,
 Theona—godly (form of
 Theon)
 Theophania, Theophaneia—
 God appears
 Theophilia, Tesia—divinely
 loved (form of Theophile)
 Theora, Theore, Thora—
 watcher
 Thera, Thira, Thyra, Tyra—
 untamed
 Thetis—mother of Achilles;
 myth name
 Thisbe—lover of Pyramus; myth
 name
 Tienette, Tynet—crowned in
 victory
 Timothea, Timothia—God-
 fearing (form of Timothy)
 Tiphanie, Theophanie,
 Theophane, Tifany, Tiffany,
 Tiffeny—gods incarnate
 Tisiphone—one of the Furies;
 myth name
 Titania—giant
 Trina, Trine, Tryn, Taryn, Taren,
 Terran, Terrian, Terriana,
 Tyrna, Tryne—innocent
 Tyro—nymph; myth name
 Urania—heavenly
 Ursa, Ursel, Ursula—little bear
 Vara, Varvara, Vavara—stranger
 Venessa, Vania, Vanny, Vanna—
 butterfly
 Veronica, Veronika,
 Veronicha—honest image
 Xanthe, Xantha, Xanthia—
 blonde
 Xenia—welcome
 Xylia, Xylina, Xylona, Xyliana,
 Xylinia—from the forest
 (form of Xylon)
 Yalena, Yalene—light (form of
 Helen)
 Yolanda, Yolande—violet
 Zandra, Zondra—defender of
 mankind (form of
 Alexander)
 Zanita—long teeth
 Zelia, Zelina, Zelinia—zealous
 Zenaide, Zenaida—myth name
 Zenia, Zena, Zene—friendly
 Zenobia, Zenobe, Zena, Zenna,
 Zenina, Zenda, Zenaida—
 born of Zeus

Zephyr, Zyphire, Zefiryn,
Zephyra, Zephira—of the
west wind
Zeta—born last
Zeva—sword
Zoe, Zoelie, Zoelle, Zoel, Zoya,
Zoia—alive

Zosima—lively
Zsofia, Zsofie, Zofia, Zofie—wise
(form of Sophia)
Zyta, Zita—reaper

MALE

Abderus—friend of Hercules;
myth name
Absyrtus—murdered by his
sister Medea; myth name
Abydos—from Abydos
Acastus—one of the Argonauts;
son of Pelias; myth name
Acestes, Agestes—myth name
Achates—friend of Aeneas;
myth name
Achelous—river god; myth
name
Acheron—river of woe; myth
name
Achilles—lipless; hero of the
Greeks; myth name
Acis—son of Faunus; lover of
Galatea; myth name
Aconteus—myth name
Acrisius—father of Danae;
grandfather of Perseus;
myth name
Acteon, Actaeon—hunter torn
apart by his own dogs; myth
name
Admetus—king of Pherae; myth
name

Adonis—lover of Aphrodite;
myth name
Adrastus—one of the Seven
against Thebes; myth name
Aeacus—grandfather of
Achilles; myth name
Aeetes—Medea's father; myth
name
Aegeus—second husband of
Medea; myth name
Aegis—shield of Zeus; myth
name
Aegisthus—cousin of
Agememnon; myth name
Aegyptus—brother of Danaus;
father of the Danaides; myth
name
Aeneas—praiseworthy
Aeolus—god of the winds; myth
name
Aesculapius, Asklepios—god of
medicine; myth name
Aeson—father of Jason; myth
name
Agamedes—murdered by his
brother for theft; myth name
Agamemnon—leader of the

- Greek forces against Troy;
myth name
- Agenor—son of Poseidon; myth
name
- Ajax—one of the Greeks at Troy;
myth name
- Akil—from the river Akil
- Alastair, Alastor, Alasdair—
avenger
- Alicides—descended from
Alcaeus
- Alcinous, Alcinoos—father of
Nausicaa; helped Odysseus
return home; myth name
- Alcmaeon—son of Amphiaraus;
myth name
- Alcyoneus—fought against
Athena; myth name
- Alexander, Alexis, Alec, Alex,
Aleksandur, Alessandro,
Alexandros, Alexandras,
Alexandrukas, Alix,
Aleksandr, Aleksy, Alexio,
Alexei, Alyosha,
Alyoshenka—defender of
mankind
- Aloeus—father of giants; myth
name
- Alphenor—myth name
- Alpheus—river god; myth name
- Ambrose, Ambrus, Ambrocio,
Athan, Athanasius,
Anstice—immortal
- Amphiaraus—one of the Seven
against Thebes; myth name
- Amphion—son of Zeus; myth
name
- Amphitryon—husband of
Alcmene; myth name
- Ampyx—father of Mopsus; myth
name
- Amycus—son of Poseidon; myth
name
- Anastasius, Anasztaz, Anastagio,
Anastasio—one who will be
reborn (form of Anastasia)
- Anatole, Anatoli, Anatolio,
Anatolijus, Anatol—from the
east
- Ancaeus—one of the Argonauts;
myth name
- Anchises—father of Aeneas;
myth name
- Anderson, Anders, Papandrou—
son of Ander
- Andraemon—myth name
- Andrew, Ander, Andres, Anker,
Antti, Adras, Andor,
Aindreas, Aindriu, Androu,
Aniol, Anndra, Andrea,
Andries—manly
- Androgeus—son of Minos; myth
name
- Angell, Angel, Angelo—angel
- Anibal—graced by God
- Anstice, Anastasios, Anstiss—
resurrected
- Antaeus—killed by Hercules;
myth name
- Anteros—brother of Eros; myth
name
- Anthony, Anton, Antony—
priceless
- Anthor—myth name

- Antilochus—son of Nestor; myth name
- Antinous—one of Penelope's suitors; myth name
- Antiphates—king of the Laestrygones; myth name
- Aonghas, Angus—exceptionally strong
- Apollo, Apoloniusz—manly beauty; myth name
- Arcas—son of Callisto and Zeus; myth name
- Archemorus—son of Lycurgus; myth name
- Ares—god of war; myth name
- Argo—name of Jason's ship; myth name
- Argus, Argos—all-seeing
- Arion—horse of Adrastus; myth name
- Aristaeus—son of Apollo; myth name
- Aristid—son of a great man
- Aristotle—intelligent
- Arsene, Arsenio—strong
- Artemas, Artemus, Artemesio—gift from Artemis
- Ascalaphus—turned into an owl by Persephone; myth name
- Asopus—river god; myth name
- Astyanax—son of Hector killed at Troy; myth name
- Athamas—brother of Sisyphus; father of Phrixus and Helle; myth name
- Athanasios—noble
- Atlas—one of the Titans; myth name
- Atreides—descended from Atreus
- Atreus—father of Agamemnon; myth name
- Attis—son of Manes; myth name
- Auster—myth name
- Autolykus—son of Hermes; myth name
- Avernus—portal to Hades; myth name
- Balasi—flat-footed
- Baltsaros, Balthasar—one of the three wise men (form of Balthazar)
- Baptiste—baptizer
- Baruch—blessed
- Basil, Basile, Basilio, Bazyli—regal
- Bastien, Bastiaan, Baste—revered (form of Sebastian)
- Baucis, Baccus, Baccaus—name of Dionysus; myth name
- Bellerophon—son of Glaucus; slew Chimera; myth name
- Biton—son of priestess; myth name
- Boethius—myth name
- Boreas—north wind; myth name
- Briareus—one of the Titans; myth name
- Cadmon—myth name
- Cadmus—from the east; son of Agenor; myth name
- Calais—son of Boreas; myth name
- Calchas—seer; myth name
- Capaneus—one of the Seven against Thebes; myth name

- Castor—twin of Polydeuces and brother of Helen of Troy; myth name
- Cebriones—myth name
- Cecrops—founder of Athens; myth name
- Celeus—father of Triptolemus; myth name
- Cenon—friendly
- Cephalus—husband who killed Procris; myth name
- Cepheus—father of Andromeda; myth name
- Cerberus—guardian to the gate of Hades; myth name
- Cercyon—name of a king; myth name
- Cesare, Caesare, Caseareo—long-haired (form of Caesar)
- Cetus—sea monster of Poseidon; myth name
- Ceyx—husband of Alcyone; myth name
- Charon—ferryman across the river Styx; myth name
- Chimera—monster killed by Bellerophon; myth name
- Chiron—centaur; myth name
- Christian, Cretien, Chris, Christiano—believes in Christ
- Christopher, Cristophe, Christobel, Christoph, Christophoros, Cristoforo, Christoffel—Christ-bearer
- Christos—Christ
- Chryses—priest of Apollo; myth name
- Chrysostom—golden-mouthed
- Claus, Claas, Colum, Cole—victory of the people (form of Nicholas)
- Cleobis—son of a priestess; myth name
- Cletus—summoned
- Cocytus—river of lamenting; myth name
- Coeus—father of Leto; myth name
- Corineus—myth name
- Corybantes—priest of Rhea; myth name
- Corydon, Coridan—ready to fight
- Cosmas, Cosmo, Cosima, Cos—order
- Cottus—one of the Titans; myth name
- Creon—Jocasta's brother; myth name
- Cronus—one of the Titans; myth name
- Cycnus—swan
- Cyprian—from Cyprus
- Cyr, Cyril, Cyryl, Cyrek, Coireall, Cirilo, Ciro, Cirio—lordly
- Cyrano—from Cyrene
- Cyrus, Ciro, Cy—sun
- Daedalus—killed his nephew; myth name
- Daemon—guardian spirit; myth name
- Damaskenos, Damaskinos—from Damascus
- Damian, Damen, Damae—tame
- Damocles—tyrant of Syracuse; myth name

- Danaus—king of Argos; father of the Danaides; myth name
- Daphnis—shepherd blinded for his infidelity; myth name
- Dardanus—founder of Troy; father of Erichthonius; myth name
- Deiphobus—son of Priam; myth name
- Delphinus—scout of Poseidon; myth name
- Demetrius, Demetri, Demetre, Demetrios—gift from Demeter
- Demodocus—blind bard; myth name
- Demogorgon—thought to be the name for Satan; myth name
- Demophon—son of Theseus; myth name
- Deucalion—son of Prometheus; myth name
- Dhimitrios—myth name
- Diomedes—evil king; myth name
- Dionysus, Denes, Dion, Dunixi, Denys, Dionysios, Dionysius—god of wine; myth name
- Dolius—shepherd; myth name
- Doran—gift
- Dorian—of the sea
- Echion—myth name
- Egidio—shield-bearer
- Elek, Eli—defender of mankind (form of Alexander)
- Eleutherios, Eleftherios—free
- Elpenor—one of Odysseus' men; myth name
- Enceladus—giant; myth name



KARYN LANGHORNE



Karyn Langhorne has written three nonfiction books, a play, screenplays, and novels. Her first novel, *A Personal Matter*, was published with HarperCollins.

It's very popular in the African-American culture for new moms to make up their own names based on an existing name—"updating them" with a new rhythm, usually by adding sounds to the beginning or the end. For example, in *A Personal Matter*, I created several young black women who had made-up names like Diamonique, T'keysa, and Nalexii. In *Gansta Psychic*, I made up LaTae and Carmenique. The names suit younger women in particular—and makes the story very realistic—something you want in a contemporary novel.

- Endre—manly (form of Andrew)
- Endymion—shepherd; myth name
- Enea—born ninth
- Eneas—praised
- Epeius—maker of the Trojan horse; myth name
- Epopeus—myth name
- Erasmus—worthy of love
- Ercole—gift from God
- Erebus—father of Charon; myth name
- Erechtheus—king of Athens; myth name
- Erichthonius—king of Athens; myth name
- Erymanthus—son of Apollo; myth name
- Erysichthon—cursed with an insatiable hunger that caused his death; myth name
- Estebe, Estevao—crowned in victory (form of Stephen)
- Eteocles—son of Oedipus; myth name
- Etor, Ettore, Eachann—steadfast
- Eubuleus—told Demeter about her daughter; myth name
- Eugene, Eugen, Eugenios, Eugenio, Evasn, Eoghan—well-born
- Eumaeus—swineherd who fought with Odysseus; myth name
- Eupeithes—father of one of Penelope's suitors; myth name
- Eurus—god of the east wind; myth name
- Euryalus—taunted Odysseus; myth name
- Eurylochus—turned into a pig by Circe; myth name
- Eurymachus—one of Penelope's suitors; myth name
- Eurypylyus—soldier against Greece in the Trojan War; myth name
- Eurystheus—cousin of Hercules; myth name
- Euryton—giant; myth name
- Eusebius—pious
- Eustace, Eustis, Eustachy—fruitful
- Evzen—noble
- Farris—rock
- Fedor, Feodor—God's gift (form of Theodore)
- Feodras—stone
- Filippo, Fulop, Flip, Filips—lover of horses (form of Philip)
- Galen—helper, tranquil
- Galinthias—servant of Alcmene; myth name
- Ganymede, Genymede—cup-bearer to the gods; myth name
- Gelasius—inclined to laughter
- George, Georg, Georges, Georget, Gorka, Gyorgy, Gyoergy, Gyuri, Gyurka, Geordie, Goran, Gheorghe—farmer
- Geryon—monster killed by Hercules; myth name

Giles, Gilles—shield-bearer
 Glaucus—son of Minos; myth name
 Gregory, Gregoire, Gregorie, Gregor, Grigor, Gruev, Grigorov, Gregos, Gergely, Gergor, Gregorio—watchful
 Guilio—youthful (form of Julian)
 Gyes—one of the Titans; myth name
 Haemon—son of Creon; myth name
 Hali—sea
 Halirrhothius—son of Poseidon; myth name
 Halithersis—seer who warns Penelope's suitors; myth name
 Haralambos—meaning unknown
 Hasione—myth name
 Hector—steadfast
 Helenus—son of Priam; myth name
 Helios—god of the sun; myth name
 Hephaestus—god of the crafts; myth name
 Herakles, Hercules—Hera's glory; myth name
 Hermes—messenger of the gods; myth name
 Hesperos—evening star
 Hieronim—meaning unknown
 Hipolit, Hippolytus—freer of horses
 Hippocampus—Poseidon's horse; myth name
 Hippogriff—part horse, part griffin; myth name
 Hippolytus—son of Theseus; myth name
 Hippomedon—one of the Seven against Thebes; myth name
 Hippomenes—winner of Atalanta; myth name
 Homer, Homerus, Homeros—security
 Hyacinthe, Hyacinthus—hyacinth (form of Hyacinth)
 Hylas—son of Theiodamas; myth name
 Hymen—god of marriage; myth name
 Hypnos—god of sleep; myth name
 Hyrieus—myth name
 Iapetus—one of the Titans; myth name
 Iasion—father of Plutus; myth name
 Iasius—myth name
 Iason—healer
 Ibycus—bard; myth name
 Icarus—gave wine to the citizens of Athens, who mistook it for poison and killed him; myth name
 Icarus—son of Daedalus; myth name
 Icelos—son of Hypnos; myth name
 Idas—one of the Argonauts; myth name
 Idomeneus—king of Crete; myth name

- Ignatius—fiery
 Inachus—river god; father of Io;
 myth name
 Iobates—myth name
 Ion—son of Apollo; myth name
 Iorgas, Igor—farmer
 Iphicles—twin of Hercules; myth
 name
 Iphis—hanged himself over
 unrequited love; myth name
 Iphitus—brother of Iole; myth
 name
 Irus—challenged Odysseus on
 his return to Ithaca; myth
 name
 Isidore, Isadore, Ixidore, Isidoro,
 Isidro—strong gift
 Istvan—crowned in victory
 (form of Stephen)
 Ivan, Ivanko—gracious God
 (form of John)
 Ixion—father of the centaurs;
 myth name
 Jacinto—hyacinth (form of
 Hyacinth)
 Jason, Jasun, Jay—healer;
 sought the Golden Fleece
 with the Argonauts; myth
 name
 Jenö, Jencir—well-born
 Jerome, Jeroen—sacred
 Jiri, Jirkar, Jurgisr, Jorisr, Jerzyr,
 Jorgenr, Jornr, Jorgr,
 Jorenr—farmer (form of
 George)
 Julian, Julius—youthful
 Kadmus—from the east
 Kaj—earth
 Karsten, Kristr—believes in
 Christ (form of Christian)
 Kedalion—myth name
 Keril, Kiril, Kyrillos, Kuirilr,
 Kiryilr—lordly
 Kester, Kestorr, Kitrr, Kiprr, Krisrr,
 Kristorr, Kristofrr,
 Krystupasr—Christ-bearer
 (form of Christopher)
 Khristos—Christ
 Klaus, Klaas—victory of the
 people (form of Nicholas)
 Kolya—victorious army
 Korudon—helmeted
 Kosmy, Kosmos—order
 Kratos—strength
 Krikor—watchful (form of
 Gregory)
 Kristian, Krischanr, Krzysztofrr,
 Khrystyianr—believes in
 Christ (form of Christian)
 Kyrillos—lordly
 Kyros—master
 Ladon—Hera's dragon; myth
 name
 Laertes—father of Odysseus;
 myth name
 Laestrygoner—tribe of giants;
 myth name
 Laius—father of Oedipus; myth
 name
 Laocoon—son of Priam; myth
 name
 Laomedon—father of Priam;
 myth name
 Lasse—victory of the people
 (form of Nicholas)

Leander, Lander, Leandro—
brave lion (form of Leonard)
Leksi—defender of mankind
(form of Alexander)
Lethe—river of oblivion; myth
name
Lichas—friend of Hercules;
myth name
Lidio—meaning unknown
Linus—flaxen-haired
Lippi, Lipp, Lippio—lover of
horses (form of Philip)
Loxias—crooked
Lycaon—king of Arcadia; myth
name
Lycomedes—king of Scyros;
myth name
Lycurgus—king of the Edones;
myth name
Lynceus—one of the Argonauts;
myth name
Lysander—liberator
Macaire, Makarioa, Marcario—
blessed
Machaon—son of Aesculapius;
myth name
Marsyas—satyr; myth name
Maur, Maurice—dark-skinned
Medus—son of Medea by
Aegeus; myth name
Melampus—seer; myth name
Melanippus—helped defend
Thebes from the Seven
against Thebes; myth name
Melanthius—sides with
Penelope's suitors against his
master Odysseus; myth name

Meleager—one of the
Argonauts; myth name
Melecertes—son of Ino; myth
name
Meletios—meaning unknown
Menelaus—brother of
Agamemnon; myth name
Menoceus—father of Jocasta;
myth name
Mentor—wise counselor
Mette—pearl
Mezentius—myth name
Midas—turned everything he
touched to gold; myth name
Mikolas—victory of the people
(form of Nicholas)
Mimis—myth name
Minos—king of Crete; son of
Zeus; myth name
Momus—god of ridicule; myth
name
Mopsus—seer; myth name
Morpheus—bringer of dreams;
myth name
Myles, Miles, Milo—destroyer
Myron—myrrh
Nape—myth name
Napolean, Napoleon—of the
new city
Narcissus, Narkis, Narcisse—
self-love; myth name
Nauplius—one of the Argonauts;
myth name
Nectarios—name of a saint
Neleus—son of Poseidon; myth
name
Nemo, Nemos—from the glen
Neotolemus—son of Achilles;
myth name

- Nereus—god of the sea; father of the Nereids; myth name
- Nestor—wisdom
- Nicholas, Nicholaus, Nicolas, Niles, Nils, Nokolai, Nik, Nick, Nicodemus, Nikodem, Nicole, Nicolaus, Nicol, Nilo, Nikita, Nikolos, Nilos, Niocole, Niocol, Niklaus, Nikolajis—victory of the people
- Nisus—father of Scylla; myth name
- Notus—south wind; myth name
- Obelix—pillar of strength
- Obiareus—one of the Titans; myth name
- Oceanus—father of the Oceanids; myth name
- Ocnus—incompetent
- Odysseus—wrathful; Greek hero whose return from the Trojan War took ten years; myth name
- Oedipus—swollen foot; killed his father and married his mother; myth name
- Oeneus—king of Calydon; myth name
- Oenomaus—son of Ares; myth name
- Oighrig—well-spoken
- Oles—defender of mankind (form of Alexander)
- Ophion—serpent; myth name
- Orestes, Oreste, Oreias—from the mountain; killed his mother and her lover to avenge his murdered father; myth name
- Orion—son of fire
- Orpheus—son of Apollo; myth name
- Orthros—guardian of Geryon; myth name
- Otis, Otos, Otus—keen of hearing
- Owen—young warrior
- Palaemon—sea god; myth name
- Palamedes—son of Nauplius; myth name
- Pan—god of flocks; myth name
- Panagiotis—holy
- Pancratius—supreme ruler
- Pandareos—thief; myth name
- Pandarus—Trojan soldier killed for breaking a truce; myth name
- Panteleimon—merciful
- Parthenios—virgin
- Parthenopaeus—one of the Seven against Thebes; myth name
- Paris—son of Priam; abductor of Helen of Troy; myth name
- Patroclus—friend of Achilles; myth name
- Pegasus—winged horse; myth name
- Peisistratus—son of Nestor; myth name
- Peleus—father of Achilles; myth name
- Pelias—son of Poseidon; myth name
- Pelops—father of Atreus; myth name

- Peneus—myth name
- Pentheus—king of Thebes; myth name
- Perdix—apprentice Daedalus murdered; myth name
- Pericles—myth name
- Persius, Perseus—son of Danae; myth name
- Peter, Pedro, Petr, Piotr, Peder, Perrin, Pekka, Petros, Panos, Pierro, Pietro, Pero, Peterke, Piero, Pello, Peru, Piarres, Preben, Per, Petter, Pierre, Pertras, Petrukas, Petrelis, Piet, Pieter, Pietr, Pedar, Peadair, Prophyrios, Piaras—rock
- Phaethon—son of Helios; myth name
- Phantasos—son of Hypnos; myth name
- Phaon—ferryman; myth name
- Phemius—bard; myth name
- Philander—lover of man
- Philemon—loves thought
- Philip, Pippo, Philippe, Phillip, Philipp, Pilib—lover of horses
- Philo, Phylo—friend
- Philoctetes—killed Paris; myth name
- Philoetius—cowherd; myth name
- Phineas, Phinees, Phineus—oracle
- Phlegethon—river of fire; myth name
- Phoebus—shining
- Phoenix—bird that built its own pyre and then was reborn from the ashes; myth name
- Phrixus—son of Nephele; myth name
- Phorbas, Phorbus—myth name
- Phorcys—sea god; myth name
- Pirithous—friend of Theseus; myth name
- Pirro—red-haired
- Pittheus—king of Trozen; myth name
- Pityocampes—pine-bender
- Plato—broad
- Plexippus—one of the Argonauts; myth name
- Plutus—wealthy; myth name
- Polites—myth name
- Pollux—brother of Helen; myth name
- Polycarp—much fruit
- Polydamas—Trojan soldier; myth name
- Polydeuces—twin of Castor and brother of Helen of Troy; myth name
- Polydorus—son of Priam; myth name
- Polyeidus—seer; myth name
- Polymestor—son-in-law of Priam; myth name
- Polynices—son of Oedipus; one of the Seven against Thebes; myth name
- Polyphemus—son of Poseidon; myth name
- Pontus—sea
- Porfirio—purple stone

Poseidon—god of the sea and ocean; myth name	Sandor—defender of mankind (form of Alexander)
Priam—king of Troy; myth name	Sarpedon—Trojan soldier killed by Patroclus during the Trojan War; myth name
Priapus—god of fertility; myth name	Sebastian, Sebastien, Sebestyen, Sebastiano—revered
Procrustes—stretcher; myth name	Seoirse, Seorsa—farmer (form of George)
Prokopios—declared leader	Sidney, Sydney—from Sidon
Prometheus—gave fire to man; myth name	Simon, Simeon, Symeon—God is heard
Protesilaus—offered himself as a sacrifice for the Greeks when they arrived at Troy; myth name	Sinon—convinced the Trojans to pull the horse inside the city walls; myth name
Proteus—sea god; myth name	Sisyphus—son of Aelous; myth name
Pygmalion—king of Cyprus; myth name	Socrates—name of philosopher
Pylades—friend of Orestes; myth name	Soterios—savior
Pyramus—lover of Thisbe; myth name	Spyridon—round basket
Pyrrhus—king of Epirus; myth name	Stamitos—enduring
Rasmus—amiable	Stephen, Steven, Stefan, Stefano, Stephano, Steverino, Stavros, Stefanos, Steafan, Staffen—crowned in victory
Rhadamanthus—judge in the underworld; myth name	Stoffel—Christ-bearer (form of Christopher)
Rhesus—king of Thrace; myth name	Takis—all-holy
Rhoecus—saved Hamadryad; myth name	Talus—mechanical man made by Hephaestus; myth name
Risto—Christ-bearer (form of Christopher)	Tantalus—condemned to eternal torment; myth name
Rodas—rose garden	Taxiarchai—archangel
Salmeoneus—king of Elis who, during Trojan War, pretended to be Zeus; myth name	Telamon—father of Ajax; myth name
Sanders, Saunders, Sander,	Telegonus—son of Odysseus; myth name

Telemachus—son of Odysseus;
 myth name
 Telephus—son of Hercules;
 myth name
 Tereus—king of Thrace; myth
 name
 Teucer—archer; myth name
 Teuthras—king of Mysia; myth
 name
 Thamyris—musician punished
 for hubris; myth name
 Thanatos—death; myth name
 Thanos, Thanasis—noble
 Thaumás—father of the Harpies;
 myth name
 Theoclymenus—befriended by
 Telemachus; myth name
 Theodore, Theodosios, Teadoir,
 Teodors, Theodrekr, Todor,
 Tuder, Tudor, Tivadar—
 God's gift
 Theon—godly
 Theophile, Teofile—divinely
 loved
 Theron—hunter
 Thersites—soldier in the Trojan
 War; myth name
 Theseus—son of Aegeus; myth
 name
 Thyestes—brother of Atreus;
 myth name
 Tigris—myth name
 Timothy, Timon, Timun,
 Timotheos, Timothea,
 Tiomoid, Tymon, Tymek,
 Tymoteusz—God-fearing
 Tiresias—blind seer; myth name
 Titos, Tito, Titus—giant
 Tityus—giant; myth name
 Toxeus—brother of Althaea;
 myth name
 Tracy, Tracey—bold
 Triptolemus—taught
 agriculture by Demeter;
 myth name
 Triton—sea god; son of
 Poseidon; myth name
 Trophonius—brother of
 Agamedes; myth name
 Tydeus—father of Diomedes;
 one of the Seven against
 Thebes; myth name
 Tyndareus—father of Castor
 and Polydeuces; myth name
 Typhon, Typhoeus—child of the
 Titans; myth name
 Tyrone, Turannos—lord
 Ulysses—wrathful
 Uranus—sky; myth name
 Urian—from heaven
 Vanko—gracious God
 Vasilis, Vasos, Vasileios, Vasyl,
 Vasylo, Vasytso—regal
 (form of Basil)
 Xanthus—immortal horse
 belonging to Achilles; myth
 name
 Xenophon, Xeno—strange voice
 Xenos—stranger
 Xerxes—leaving
 Xuthus—son of Helen; myth
 name
 Xylon—from the forest
 Yrjo, Yurii, Yura, Yurochka,
 Yure, Yuri, Yehor—farmer
 (form of George)

Zale—power of the sea

Zarek—God protect the king

Zelotes—zealous

Zelus—myth name

Zenas—living

Zeno, Zeus—supreme ruler of
the gods; myth name

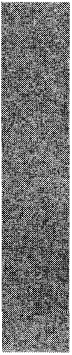
Zenon—friendly

Zephyrus—myth name

Zetes—son of Boreas; myth
name

Zoltan, Zoltar—life

Zotikos—meaning unknown



HEBREW

Since the Hebrews have no single national identity, surnames developed at odd intervals in communities throughout the world. Most last names were patronymic in a fashion similar to Arabic names. Now they tend to be more place oriented. Before hereditary surnames became common, Hebrews used *Ben* (son of) followed by their father's name, or they used the name of their home or a name from the Bible.

The first Hebrew surnames occurred in Spain. During the Middle Ages, Hebrews in Germany used the name of their houses for a surname. In 1785 in Austria, they were required to take surnames, and in 1787 they were restricted to using biblical names only.

In 1804, Russia prevented the Hebrews from altering their names. And in 1844, Russia compelled them to adopt surnames.

Poland passed laws in 1821 to require Hebrews to choose surnames. As late as 1942, France forbade them to change their names.

Again, there is wide variety in Hebrew surnames, when they came into being, and what form they took. Many Jewish surnames are indistinguishable from other surnames of the cultures in which they arose. I would caution writers to do more research on the nomenclature of the region and branch of the Hebrews they are interested in.

A few surnames:

Aboab	Daoud
Abrams	Einstein
Altschul	Farache
Amselem	Gabra
Baruch	Ginsberg
Benabu	Goldstein
Ben-David	Greenberg
Benjamin	Grün
Ben-Shlomo	Halevi
Berliner	Hasson
Blum	Herzhaft
Cardoso	Hitzig
Cassel	Isaac

Joseph
Kantor
Kleinlerer
Kohn
Levine
Levy
Malka
Mindel
Myer

Rabbinowitz
Reis
Rosenberg
Rosenthal
Schwab
Segal
Serrafe
Sinai
Tischler

FEMALE

Abarrane—father of many (form of Abraham)
Abelia, Abelie—breath (form of Abel)
Abigail, Abegayle, Abaigael, Abaigeal, Abby, Abbie, Avichayil, Abichail, Avigail—gives joy
Abir, Abira—strong
Abra—father of many (form of Abraham)
Achazia—held by the Lord
Adah—beautiful
Adama—of the red earth (form of Adam)
Adar, Adara—fire
Aderes—protector
Adiel—God's ornament
Adine, Adinam, Adena, Adene—tender
Admina—of the red earth (form of Adam)
Afra—doe
Ahuva, Ahava, Ahuda, Ahave—dearly loved
Ailat, Ayalah—behind

Ailsa, Ailsie—consecrated to God (form of Elizabeth)
Akiva, Akibe, Akiba—protected
Aleeza, Aliza, Alizah, Alitza, Aleezah—joyous
Alona, Allona, Allonia, Alonia—strong as an oak
Alumit, Aluma—girl
Amaris, Amariah, Amarisia, Amarise, Amarissa—given by God
Anamari, Annamarie, Anamarie—bitter grace
Anat, Anate, Anata, Anatie—singer
Ann, Anne, Ane, Annie, Anny, Ayn, Anna, Ana, Annette, Anetta, Anita, Anitra, Annora, Annorah, Anora, Anais, Antje, Ance, Aneta, Anka, Asenka, Anyuta, Asenke, Annze, Anica, Anichka, Asya, Anku—grace
Anneliese, Annaliese, Annalisa, Analise—grace, consecrated to God

Annikki, Aniki, Aniko, Annikka,
 Anika, Annikke—grace
 Annot—light
 Aoife—life (form of Eve)
 Araminta, Araminte—lofty
 Ardath, Aridatha—flowering
 field
 Ariel, Arielle, Ariela, Ariellel,
 Athaleyah—lioness of God
 Ashira—wealthy
 Ateret, Atarah, Atara—crowned
 Athalia, Athalie, Atalia, Atalie—
 God is great
 Atira, Atera—pray
 Avera—transgresses
 Avivit, Avivi, Aviva—innocent
 Axelle, Axella—father of peace
 (form of Axel)
 Aya, Aiya—bird
 Azalea, Azelia, Azelie, Aziel—
 flower
 Aziza—meaning unknown
 Bathsheba, Bethsheba—oath
 Battseeyon, Battzion—daughter
 of Zion
 Batya, Bitya—daughter of God
 Beathag—to serve God
 Becky—captivating
 Benta—wise
 Beruriah—selected by God
 Bethel, Betheli—house of God
 Bethseda, Bethsaida—merciful
 Bettina, Bettine, Betti, Betty,
 Bozi, Bella, Betje, Betsy—
 consecrated to God (form of
 Elizabeth)
 Beulah, Beula—to marry
 Bina—intelligence; musical
 instrument

Bracha, Brachah—blessed
 Carmel—garden
 Carmella, Carmela, Carmeline,
 Carmelina—garden (form of
 Carmel)
 Carmen—guard
 Cassia—cinnamon
 Chanah, Chana—graceful
 Chasidah—pious
 Chasya, Chasye—shelter
 Chava, Chaya, Chabah, Chaba,
 Chayka, Chaka—life
 Chaviva, Chavive—dearly loved
 (form of Chavivi)
 Chedva—joyous
 Chephzibah—she is our delight
 Cochava—star
 Csilla—defender
 Daba—kind words
 Daganyah, Daganya—
 ceremonial grain
 Dalit, Dalis—drawing water
 Daliyah, Daliah—tree branch
 Danette, Daniela, Danita, Danele,
 Danelle, Danielle, Danae,
 Danya, Danila, Dania,
 Danetta, Danit—God is my
 judge (form of Daniel)
 Daphna, Daphnah, Daphne—
 victory
 Dara—compassion
 Davina, Davinia, Davinah,
 Davida, Davi, Davite,
 Davitah—beloved (form of
 David)
 Dayla—branch
 Debora, Deborah, Debra,
 Devora, Devoria—bee

Delilah, Delila, Dalila—desired
 Dena, Dina, Dinah—avenged
 Derora, Derorit, Derorice—free
 Divsha, Divshah—honey
 Dodie—beloved
 Eden, Edan—perfect
 Edra, Edrea, Edria—powerful
 Efrosina—fawn
 Eliora, Eleora, Elora—God is
 light
 Elka, Elke—oath to God
 Ellice, Eliane, Elia, Eliana—
 Jehovah is God
 Elspeth, Elli, Elizabeth,
 Elisabeth, Elisabet, Elsie,
 Eliza, Erzsebet, Elisheva, Els,
 Elzira, Elizaveta, Elisaveta,
 Elisavet—consecrated to
 God
 Emmanuelle, Emunah,
 Emmanuella—God is with us
 (form of Emmanuel)
 Endora—fountain
 Erelah, Erela—angel
 Erith, Eritha—flower
 Ester, Eszter, Esther, Estrela—
 star
 Etana—determined
 Etel, Etilka, Ethel—noble
 Eva, Eve, Eeva, Evika, Evike,
 Evacska, Ewa—life
 Evelyn—light; gives life
 Fifne, Fifna, Fina—God adds
 (form of Joseph)
 Gabrielle, Gabriella, Gavra,
 Gavrila, Gavrilla, Gabriele—
 God-given strength (form of
 Gabriel)
 Gail, Gayle, Gayleen, Gaylene—
 father's joy
 Galia, Gallia, Galilah, Galila,
 Galya, Galina, Galenka,
 Galochka—God shall
 redeem
 Galit, Gali, Galice—fountain
 Ganit, Ganet, Gana, Ganice—
 garden
 Gazit, Gisa, Giza—cut stone
 Geva—hill
 Gilah, Gila, Gilit, Geela, Gilia, Gili,
 Gilala, Gilal, Gilana, Gilat—
 eternal joy
 Giuseppina, Giuseppie—God
 adds (form of Joseph)
 Grazyna, Grazina, Grazinia—
 grace (form of Grace)
 Guiditta—praise
 Gurit, Gurice—cub
 Hadar, Hadara—glory
 Hadassah—myrtle
 Hagar—flight
 Hali—necklace
 Hannah, Hanan, Hanna, Hanne,
 Hannele, Hannela—gracious
 God (form of John)
 Haya—life
 Heba—gift of God
 Hedia—God's voice
 Hedva—joy
 Helsa—devoted to God
 Hephzibah, Hepsiba,
 Hepzibeth—she is my
 delight
 Hulda, Holda—weasel
 Ideh—praise
 Ilana, Ilanit—tree
 Ilia—God is Lord

Ilse—God's word
 Ionanna—grace
 Iris—flower
 Isabel, Izabella, Isabelle, Isabella,
 Isibéal—consecrated to God
 (form of Elizabeth)
 Ivana, Ivane, Iva, Ivanna—
 gracious God (form of John)
 Izso—God's salvation
 Jacoba, Jakoba, Jakobah,
 Jaquenette, Jaquetta,
 Jocelin, Joceline, Jocelyn,
 Jaqueline, Jaquelina—
 supplanter (form of Jacob)
 Jada—wise
 Jael—mountain goat
 Jaen—ostrich
 Jaffa, Jafit, Jafita—beauty
 Janet, Jane, Jayne, Janetta,
 Janette, Janice, Janis, Joan,
 Joanna, Johanna, Jone, Jan,
 Jenda, Jana, Jaine, Janie,
 Janne, Janine, Janka, Janina,
 Janita, Jansje, Jans, Jaantje,
 Juana, Juanita, Joka—
 gracious God (form of John)
 Jardena, Jardina—meaning
 unknown
 Jemima, Jonati—dove
 Jemina—listened to
 Jensine, Jensina—God has
 blessed
 Jerusha—married
 Jessica, Jessie—wealthy
 Joakima, Jokine, Jokina,
 Joaquina, Joaquine—God
 will establish (form of
 Joachim)
 Jobina, Jobyna—persecuted
 (form of Job)
 Jochebed—God's glory (form of
 Jocheved)
 Joelle, Joella, Joelliane,
 Joelliana, Jola—Jehovah is
 God
 Jora—rain in autumn
 Jordane, Jordan—descended
 Josepha, Josephine, Josette,
 Josetta, Josepina, Joxepa,
 Josebe, Jose, Josie, Josee,
 Jozsa—God adds (form of
 Joseph)
 Judith, Judy, Judie, Jodie, Judit,
 Juci, Jutka, Jucika—praised
 (form of Jude)
 Kadisha—holy
 Kalanit—flower
 Karmia, Karmit, Karmelit,
 Karmelita, Karmelite—
 Lord's vineyard
 Kazia, Ketzia, Kezia—cinnamon
 Kefira—lion cub
 Kelilah, Kelula, Kyla—victorious
 Keren, Keryn, Keran—horn
 Ketura—incense
 Kinneret, Kinnette—harp
 Kiva, Kivi, Kiba—protected
 Ksená—praise be to God
 Laila, Lailie, Laili, Laylie—night
 Lea, Leah—tired
 Ledah—birth
 Lemuela, Lise, Liza, Lisabette,
 Lisabet, Lisavet, Liesbeth,
 Liesbet, Lizbeth, Lizbet—
 consecrated to God (form of
 Elizabeth)

Lesham—previous
 Levia—join
 Lewanna—moon
 Lilith, Lily, Lilie, Lilah—lily
 Lirit, Lirita—poetic
 Livana—white
 Magda, Magdalen, Magdalene,
 Magdala, Magdalena,
 Madalen, Maialen, Matxalen,
 Madel, Maidel, Madeleine,
 Madelaine, Madelene,
 Madelena, Madalyn, Malina,
 Marlene, Marlena—from the
 tower
 Mahala, Mahalia—tender
 Maia—bitter
 Malak—messenger
 Malcah, Malkah, Milcah—queen
 Mangena—melody
 Manuela—God is with us (form
 of Emmanuel)
 Mariamne, Miriam—rebellious
 Maribel, Maribelle, Maribella—
 bitter, beautiful
 Marla—bitter
 Marna, Marnina—joyful (form of
 Marnin)
 Mary, Mara, Mae, Maria, Maren,
 Miren, Mariette, Marika,
 Mallaidh, Marie, Marion,
 Mariska, Molly, May, Marily,
 Marthe, Martha, Mirit, Miri,
 Mira, Marisha—bitter
 Matea, Mattea, Matthea,
 Matthia, Mathea, Mathia—
 God's gift (form of Matthew)
 Mava—pleasant
 Mayah, Maia—close to God
 Mazel—luck
 Mehetabel, Mehitabelle,
 Mettabel, Meheytabel—
 God's favor
 Meira—light
 Menachemah, Menachema—
 consolation (form of
 Menachem)
 Menuha—peaceful
 Michelle, Micheline, Michaelae,
 Michalin, Mikele, Michaela,
 Michaelina—who is like God
 (form of Michael)
 Mitzi, Mieze—small, bitter
 Moria, Moriah, Morit, Moriel,
 Morice, Morise—God
 teaches
 Moselle—from the water
 Naamah, Naomi, Neomi, Navit—
 pleasant
 Naamit—bird
 Naavah, Naava—beautiful
 Nathania—gift from God (form
 of Nathaniel)
 Naysa—miracle of God
 Nechama, Nehama—comfort
 Nedivah, Nediva—giving
 Neorah, Nora, Norah—light
 Neta, Nita—grace
 Nili—success
 Nina, Nana, Nan, Nanna, Nancy,
 Nanelle, Nanelia, Nanette,
 Nanetta, Nanine, Nanny,
 Nannie, Nancsi, Ninacska,
 Nusi, Nusa, Nainsi, Nin—
 grace
 Niria, Nira—plow

Nirit, Nurit, Nurita, Nureet—
 plant
 Nisi—emblem
 Nitzanah, Nizana, Nitza—
 blossom
 Noga—sparkle
 Noy—decoration
 Odeda, Odede—strong
 Odelia—praise to God
 Ofra, Ofrah—fawn
 Ona, Onit—graceful
 Ora, Orah, Oralee, Orali, Orlee—
 light
 Ornah, Ornette, Ornetta, Orna—
 cedar tree
 Orpha, Orprah, Orpah—fawn
 Orzora—God's strength
 Orzsebet—consecrated to God
 (form of Elizabeth)
 Paili, Polly, Pall, Poll—bitter
 Pazit, Pazia, Pazice, Paz, Paza—
 golden
 Peninah, Penina—pearl
 Perzsike, Perke, Perzsi—
 devoted to God
 Qeturah—incense
 Raananah—unspoiled (form of
 Raanan)
 Rachel, Rachele, Rakel—ewe
 Raizel—rose
 Ranit, Ranita, Ranice, Ranica—
 lovely tune
 Raphaella, Rafela—healed by
 God (form of Raphael)
 Raquel, Rahil, Raonaid—
 innocent
 Reba, Rabah—fourth born
 Rebecca, Reveka, Rebekah,
 Rivka—captivating

Rena, Rina, Rinna, Rinnah—
 joyous song
 Rimona—pomegranate
 Rishona—first
 Rivka—captivating (form of
 Rebecca)
 Ronli, Rona, Ronia—my joy
 Rosanne, Rosana—graceful rose
 Ruth, Ruta—friend
 Sabra—to rest
 Sadie, Sara, Sarah, Sally, Sallie,
 Sarita—princess
 Salome, Salomeaex, Saloma,
 Selima, Schlomit, Shulamit—
 tranquil
 Samantha—name of God
 Samara, Shemariah—protected
 by God
 Samuela—asked of God (form of
 Samuel)
 Sapphira, Sapphire—blue jewel
 Sara, Sarah—princess
 Sarai—argumentative
 Segulah—precious
 Sela, Sele, Seleta—rock
 Semadar—berry
 Semira, Sheiramoth—from
 heaven
 Seraphina, Seraphine, Serafine,
 Serefina—fiery one; angel
 Shaina, Shaine—beautiful
 Sharon—from the land of Sharon
 Sheena—God's gift
 Shelah—request
 Shifra—beautiful
 Shira, Shiri—tune
 Sidonia, Sidonie—captivates
 Simcha—joyous

TINA WAINSCOTT



Tina Waincott published her first novel in 1994. She has published nine novels since then, her most recent being *What She Doesn't Know* (St. Martin's Paperbacks).

I must confess that one of my favorite hero names came from a real-life villain. I was reading a true crime book about a guy who shot at people on a bus, and his name totally fit the man who was forming in my mind. I changed the spelling of the name, and Silas Koole became one of my favorite heroes, appearing in *Unforgivable*.

I sometimes use real names in my books as a way to honor friends. Of course, I always get their permission. One friend didn't want to be included. I think she regretted it once the book came out.

Never force a name on a character. I have some neat names I'm dying to use, but I just haven't found the right character for them. Make sure the name feels right.

Simona, Simone—God is heard
(form of Simon)

Sippora—bird

Susan, Sue, Susie, Susy—lily

Susanna, Susannah, Suzanna—
graceful lily

Suzette, Suzetta—little lily

Talia, Talya, Tal—dew of heaven

Talori, Talora—morning's dew

Tamara, Tamar, Tamarah—palm
tree

Tamma, Teme, Temima—
without flaw

Tema—righteous

Temira—tall

Thadine, Thadina—given praise

Thirza—delightful

Thomsina, Thomasin, Tomasina,

Tomasine—twin (form of
Thomas)

Tikva—hope

Tivona—nature lover (form of
Tivon)

Tova, Toba, Toibe—goodly

Tsifira—crown

Tzilla—defender

Tzippa, Tzipporah—bird

Tzivia—doe

Tziyona—of Zion

Urit, Urice—light

Uzziye—God's strength

Vania, Vanna—God's gift

Varda, Vardit, Vadit, Vared—
rose

Vida, Vidette—dearly loved

Ya-akove—supplanter (form of
Jacob)

Yachne—kind
Ya-el—wild goat
Yaffa, Yaffit—beautiful
Yardenah—from the river
Jordan
Yarkona—green
Yedidah—friend
Yehudit, Yuta, Yuhudit—praise
Yelizavetam, Yelysaveta—
consecrated to God (form of
Elizabeth)
Yeve, Yetsye, Yevunye—life
(form of Eve)
Yocheved—God's glory
Yona, Yonina, Yonita—dove
(form of Yonah)
Yordana—descended from
Yoseba, Yosebe, Yosepha,

Yosephina—God adds (form
of Joseph)
Yovela—rejoice
Zahavah, Zehave, Zehuva,
Zehavit, Zehavi—golden
Zaneta, Zanna—God's gift
Zara, Zarah—day's awakening
Zehira—protected
Zemira, Zemirah—joyous
melody
Zera, Zera'im—seed
Zerlinda, Zarahlinda—beautiful
dawn
Zibiah, Zibia—doe
Zilla, Zillah—shadow
Zimra, Zimria, Zemira, Zemora,
Zamora—song of praise
Zippora, Zipporah—beauty
Ziva—splendid
Zohar, Zoheret—sparkle

MALE

Aaron, Aron—high mountain;
lofty
Abaddon—destruction
Abbot, Abbott—abbey father
Abbotson—son of Abbot
Abe—father of many (form of
Abraham)
Abel, Abie—breath
Abijah, Abisha—the Lord is my
father
Abir, Aitan, Avniel—strong
Abner—father of light
Abraham, Abram, Abramo,
Avraham, Aram, Abarron,
Avidor—father of many
Adam—of the red earth

Adamson—son of Adam
Adar, Adir—fire
Addai—man of God
Aderet—crown
Adin, Adiv—delicate
Adlai—witness
Adley—judicious
Admon—red peony
Adon—the Lord
Adriel, Adriyel—of God's flock
Ager, Asaph, Asaf—gathers
Akiba, Akub, Akiva—replaces
Akim—God will establish
Almon—forsaken
Alon—oak
Alter—old



Alva—exalted
 Amal—work
 Amasa—burden
 Amichai—my parents are alive
 Amiel, Ami-el—of the Lord's
 people
 Amikam, Amram—rising nation
 Amin—honest
 Amir—proclaimed
 Amiram—of lofty people
 Amita, Amiti, Ammitai—truth
 Ammi—my people
 Amnon, Amon—faithful
 Amos—brave
 Aran—nimble
 Ardon—bronze
 Ari, Arie, Ariel, Aryeh, Arye—
 lion of God
 Arion—melodious
 Armon—castle
 Arnon—roaring stream
 Arvad—wanderer
 Asa—healer
 Asher—happy
 Ashur—black
 Atarah—crown
 Avi, Avidan, Avidor, Aviel,
 Avniel—father
 Avichai—my father is alive
 Avidan—God is just
 Avigdor—father protection
 Avimelech, Abimelech—father
 is king
 Avinoam—pleasant father
 Aviram, Abiram—father of
 heights
 Avisha, Avishai—gift from God
 Avital—father of dew
 Aviv—young
 Avner, Abner—father of light
 Avrom—father of many (form of
 Abraham)
 Axel, Aksel, Absalom, Avshalom,
 Avsalom—father of peace
 Azarious, Azaryah, Azaria,
 Azaryahu, Azriel—God
 helps
 Azzan—strength
 Barabas—of Barabba
 Barak—lightning
 Baram—son of the nation
 Barnabas, Barnaby, Barnabe,
 Barna—son of prophecy
 Bartholomew, Bart, Bartel,
 Bartley—hill, furrow
 Baruch—blessed
 Bela—destruction
 Ben—son
 Ben-ami—son of my people
 Ben-aryeh, Benroy—son of a lion
 Benedictson—son of Benedict
 Benjamin, Beniamino,
 Benkamin, Binyamin—son
 of the right hand
 Benoni—son of my sorrows
 Benson—son of Benjamin
 Ben-tziyon, Benzion—son of
 Zion
 Berakhiak—God blesses
 Betzalel—in God's shadow
 Binah—understanding
 Boas, Boaz—swift
 Bogdan, Bohdan—gift from God
 Bram—father of many (form of
 Abraham)
 Cain—possessed

Caleb—bold
 Carmel—garden
 Carmi, Carmine—vine dresser
 Chagai—mediates
 Chaim, Chayim—life
 Chanan—cloud
 Chanoch—initiating
 Chavivi, Chaviv—dearly loved
 Che, Chepe, Chepito—God will multiply
 Chiram—noble
 Choni—gracious
 Dagan—grain
 Daniel, Danel, Danil, Dan, Dani, Daniele, Dane, Danny, Deen, Danila—God is my judge
 Dar—pearl
 David, Davin, Davey, Davi, Dabi—beloved
 Deron—free
 Dor—home
 Doren—gift
 Dov—bear
 Dovev—speaks in a whisper
 Eben, Eban—rock
 Ebenezer—rock of help
 Efram, Efram—fruitful
 Efrat—honored
 Ehud—meaning unknown
 Elan—tree
 Elazar—God helps
 Eleazar, Elazaro, Eliezer—God has helped
 Elhanan—God is gracious
 Elias, Elihu, Elijah, Ellis, Eliot, Ely, Eli, Elisha, Eliseo—Jehovah is God
 Elishama—God hears

Elisheva, Elisheba—God is my wrath
 Elkanah—possessed by God
 Elrad—God rules
 Emmanuel—God is with us
 Enoch—consecrated
 Ephrem, Ephram, Ephraim, Efrayim—fruitful
 Errapel—divine healer
 Esau—hairy one
 Esdras—help
 Eshkol—grape cluster
 Esra—helper
 Ethan, Etan—strong
 Eyou—symbol of piety
 Ezechiel—strength of God
 Ezra—helper
 Foma—twin
 Gabriel, Gavi, Gavriel, Gabriele, Gabrielo, Gabor, Gabi—God-given strength
 Gal—wave
 Gamaliel—God's reward
 Gedalya, Gedaliah, Gedalyahu—God has made great
 Gedeon, Gideon—destroyer
 Geremia—God is high
 Gersham, Gershom—exiled
 Gideon—mighty warrior
 Gil, Gilli, Gili—happiness
 Giuseppe—God adds (form of Joseph)
 Goliath—revealing
 Guri, Gurion—my lion cub
 Guy—valley
 Habib—beloved
 Hadar—glory
 Hanan—grace

Hananel—God is gracious	James, Jim, Jamie, Jimmy,
Hans, Hansell—gracious God (form of John)	Jem, Jakome, Jaques, Jacot, Jaap, Jov—supplanter
Harel, Harrell—mountain of God	Jael—mountain goat
Harrod—heroic	Japhet—handsome
Hayyim, Hyman—life	Jared, Jori—descending
Herschel, Hershel—deer	Jasper—jewel
Hezekiah—God is my strength	Jedidiah, Jed, Jedi—beloved by God
Hieremias—God will uplift	Jephtah—firstborn
Hillel—praised	Jeremias, Jeremiah, Jeremy, Jeremi, Jeremie—exalted of the Lord
Hiram, Hiram—exalted	Jesse, Jessie—wealthy
Hod—vigorous	Joachim—God will establish
Honi—gracious	Job—persecuted
Hosea—salvation	Jocheved—God's glory
Hyam—life	Joel—strong-willed
Iakovos—supplanter (form of Jacob)	John, Juan, Jens, Jonam, Jonathan, Jonatan, Jon, Jan, Jenda, Joen, Jani, Janie, Johan, Jussi, Jukka, Juka, Jean, Jeannot, Jancsi, Jonas, Jankia, Janko, Janos, Jantje, Jannes—gracious God
Iaokim, Iov—God will establish	Jokin—God will establish
Ichabod—glory has departed	Jordan—descended
Illias, Ilias—Jehovah is God	Joseph, Joosef, Jooseppi, Josephus, Joop, Jopie, Joseba—God adds
Imanol—God is with us	Joshua, Josue, Josias—God is salvation
Ioseph, Iosep—God adds (form of Joseph)	Josiah—God heals
Ira—descendant	Josu—God saves
Isaac, Izaak, Isaakios, Ixaka—one who laughs	Judd, Judy, Jude, Judah, Judas, Jud—praised
Isaias, Isaiah, Isiah—God's helper	Jurrien, Jurre, Jore, Jorie, Jory— God will uplift
Iseabail—devoted to God	
Israel, Izrael—ruling with the Lord	
Itai—friendly	
Ittamar— island of palms	
Itzak, Itzaak—laughing	
Ivan, Ioan, Ian, Iban, Ionnes— gracious God (form of John)	
Jabez—sorrow	
Jacob, Jack, Jock, Jake, Jacobe,	

Kabos—swindler
 Kaleb—devoted
 Kaniel—reed
 Karmel—vineyard
 Kiva—protected
 Laban, Lavan—white
 Label—lion
 Lamech—powerful
 Lapidos, Lapidoth—torch
 Lazarus, Lazzaro, Lazar—God
 will help
 Leb—heart
 Lemuel—consecrated to God
 Leshem—precious stone
 Levi, Lev, Levey, Lewi—united
 Lot—veiled
 Machum, Menachem—comfort
 Mahir—industrious
 Mai-ron, Miron, Myron—holy
 place
 Malachy, Mal, Malachi—
 messenger of God
 Manasses, Menassah—forgetful
 Manuel, Mannie, Manny—God is
 with us (form of Emmanuel)
 Marnin—joyful
 Mathew, Matthias, Mattias,
 Mate, Matyas, Matai,
 Mathews, Mads, Matthieu,
 Mathe, Matz—God’s gift
 Mayar, Mayer, Mayir, Meyer,
 Meir—enlightens
 Meilseoir, Melchior—king
 Menachem, Mendel—
 consolation
 Michael, Mikael, Mikkel,
 Mitchell, Mikel, Mikko,
 Michel, Michon, Michele,

Michau, Makis, Misi, Mikhail,
 Mikhailis, Mikhos, Maichail,
 Mihaly, Miska, Mika,
 Micah—who is like God
 Mordechai, Mordecai—warrior
 Moses, Mosheh—taken from the
 water
 Naaman—pleasant
 Nadav—gives
 Nadiv—noble
 Naftali, Naftalie—wreath
 Nahum, Nachman—
 compassionate
 Nathan, Nathaniel, Nathanael,
 Natanael, Nethanel—gift
 from God
 Nehemiah, Nechemya—
 comforted by God
 Nimrod—great hunter
 Nissim—wonders
 Noadiah—God’s assembler
 Noe, Noah, Noach—comfort
 Nuri—my fire
 Obadiah, Ovadiah, Ovadyam,
 Obediah—serves God
 Oded—encourages
 Ofer—fawn
 Ophir—meaning unknown
 Oren, Orin, Oris—tree
 Ori, Orneet, Ornet—my light
 Osip—God adds (form of
 Joseph)
 Oved, Ovid—worker
 Ozi, Ozzie, Ozzi—strong
 Palti, Palt-el—God liberates
 Pascal, Paschal—born on
 Passover
 Paz—golden

Pessach, Pesach—spread
 Phineas—oracle
 Pinochos—dark-skinned
 Raanan—unspoiled
 Ranit, Ronit, Rani, Roni, Ron—
 lovely tune
 Ranon, Ranen—joyful
 Raphael, R'phael, Rafal—healed
 by God
 Ravid—wanderer
 Rechavia—broad
 Reuben, Ruben, Rueban, Rouvin,
 Re'uven—behold a son
 Saadya—God's helper
 Sakeri—remembered by God
 Samson, Sampson, Shimshon—
 bright sun
 Samuel, Schmuel—asked of God
 Sanson—sun's man
 Sasson, Simcha—joy
 Saul, Sha-ul—longed for
 Schmaiah—God hears
 Seanan, Senen, Sinon, Shane—
 gift from God
 Seosamh, Seosaph—God adds
 (form of Joseph)
 Seraphim, Serafin, Serafim—
 fiery one; angel (form of
 Seraphina)
 Seth—anoined
 Shet, Set—compensation
 Shulamith—peaceful
 Simeon, Simon, Symeon,
 Siomon, Simen, Simao,
 Symon—God is heard
 Simpson, Simson, Shim'on—son
 of Simon
 Sinai—from the clay desert
 Sivan—ninth month
 Solomon, Salamon, Shelomo,
 Shalom—peaceful
 Taaveti, Taavi—beloved
 Talman—to oppress
 Taneli—God is my judge (form
 of Daniel)
 Tapani, Teppo—victorious
 Teman—right hand
 Thaddeus—wise
 Thomas, Tomas, Tuomas,
 Thoma, Tamas, Tomek—
 twin
 Timur—iron
 Tivon—nature lover
 Tobias, Tobin, Toby, Tovi,
 Tuvya, Tobiah, Turyahu—
 God is good
 Tsidhqiya—God's justice
 Tzadok—just
 Tzefanyah, Tzefanyahu—
 treasure by God
 Tzion—sunny mountain
 Tzuriel—God is my rock
 Tzvi—deer
 Udeh—praise
 Uriah, Uri, Uriel—God is my light
 Uzziel, Uzziah—God is mighty
 Veniamin, Venamin, Venjamin—
 son of the right hand (form
 of Benjamin)
 Ximen, Ximon, Ximun—God is
 heard (form of Simon)
 Yaakov—supplanter (form of
 Jacob)
 Yadon—judge
 Yael—wild goat
 Yagil—He will rejoice

Yair—enlighten
Yakov, Yago—supplanter (form
of Jacob)
Yan, Yannis, Yehoash,
Yehonadov—gift from God
Yaphet—handsome
Yardane—descendant
Yaron—singer
Yavin—understanding
Yechurun—meaning unknown
Yedidyah, Yedidiah,
Yerucham—beloved by God
Yeeshai—rich gift
Yehoshua—God’s help
Yehuda, Yehudi—praised
Yerachmiel—loves God
Yerik, Yarema, Yaremka—
appointed by God
Yeshaya—God lends
Yiftach—opens
Yigil, Yigol—shall be redeemed
Yisrael—God’s prince
Yissachar—reward
Yitzchak—humorous
Yo-el, Yoel—God prevails

Yonah—dove
Yusaf—God adds (form of
Joseph)
Zabulon—exalted
Zacharias, Zachariah, Zachary,
Zachery, Zachaios—
remembered by God
Zadok—just
Zamir—songbird
Zared, Zarad—ambush
Zayit—olive
Zebadiah, Zebediah, Zane,
Zani—gift from God
Zebulon—from the dwelling
place
Zedekiah—God’s justice
Zephaniah, Zephan—treasured
by God
Z’ev, Ze’ev—wolf
Zevulun, Zebulun, Zebulon—
habitation
Zimra—song of praise
Ziv—bright
Zohar—sparkle
Zuriel—stone

HUNGARIAN

In Hungary, the surname is placed before the given name. When traveling abroad, Hungarians will often reverse the order so people accustomed to seeing the given name first will not be confused. Surnames are taken from descriptive, place, occupational, and patronymic names, and they are passed down from father to children.

An interesting fact is that a married woman, instead of using a title indicating her marital status (like Mrs.), will add *-né* to her husband's given name. For example, if Nagy Ilona (Nagy is the surname) marries Varga Péter (Varga is the surname), she becomes Varga Péterné. If she wishes, she may keep her name and become Varga Péterné Nagy Ilona or Vargáné Nagy Ilona.

Before World War II, suffixes often gave a clue about the social standing of the bearer. During the communist period after WWII, many people with aristocratic suffixes changed their names to avoid persecution.

Aristocratic suffix:	Corresponding suffix for the lower classes:
-cz	-c
-th	-t
-eö	-ö
-ss	-zs
-ew	-ö
-ff	-f
-gh	-g
-oo	-o
-y	-i

The suffixes *-i* and *-y* are resident names showing that the original bearer was from a particular city, village, town, etc.

A few surnames:

Balogh	Deme
Bodizsár	Domokos
Deák	Dömötör
Dékány	Fábián

Horváth
Kálmán
Kelemen
Kiss
Kovács

Molnár
Nagy
Szabó
Töth
Varga

FEMALE

- Agotha, Agoti, Agi, Aggie—good
(form of Agatha)
- Alberta—noble, intelligent (form
of Albert)
- Alexandra, Alexa—defender of
mankind (form of
Alexander)
- Aliz, Alisz—sweet, noble (form
of Alice)
- Anasztazia—one who will be
reborn (form of Anastasia)
- Anci—graceful
- Angyalka—messenger
- Aurelia, Aranka—gold (form of
Aurelio)
- Bella, Bela, Belle—beautiful
- Bertuska, Berta—brave
- Borbala, Borsala, Bora, Borka,
Brosca, Broska, Boriska—
stranger (form of Barbara)
- Cili—blind (form of Cecil)
- Czigany—gypsy
- Darda—dart
- Dorika, Dorottya—God's gift
(form of Dorothy)
- Duci—wealthy gift
- Erika—eternal ruler (form of
Eric)
- Ernesztina, Erna—serious (form
of Ernest)
- Erssike, Erzsi, Erzsok, Erzebet—
consecrated to God (form of
Elizabeth)
- Eszti—star
- Etilka, Etel—noble (form of
Ethel)
- Evike, Evacska—life (form of
Eve)
- Ferike, Fereng, Franciska—free
(form of Francis)
- Firenze, Florka—flower
- Frici—peaceful ruler (form of
Frederick)
- Gisella, Gizi—pledge
- Gitta—pearl (form of Margaret)
- Hajna—grace
- Ibolya—violet
- Ica, Ilona, Ilka—light
- Ildiko—fierce warrior
- Irenke—peaceful
- Janka—gracious God (form of
John)
- Jolan—flower blossom
- Jucika, Juci—praised
- Juliska, Julcsa—youthful (form
of Julius)
- Karolina, Karola—manly (form
of Charles)
- Katinka, Katakín, Kat, Katalin,
Katarina—pure (form of
Katherine)

Krisztina, Kriszta—believes in Christ (form of Christian)
Lenci—light
Linka—mannish
Liza—consecrated to God (form of Elizabeth)
Lujza—myth name
Malika, Malcsi—industrious
Marcsa, Mara, Marika, Martuska, Marianna—bitter, grace
Nancsi, Nusa, Ninacska, Nusi—graceful
Orzsebet—consecrated to God (form of Elizabeth)
Paliki—little
Panna—graced by God
Piroska, Pirióska—ancient (form of Priscilla)

Rez—copper-haired
Rozalia, Roza—rose (form of Rosa)
Sarika, Sasa—princess (form of Sarah)
Teca, Treszka—reaper (form of Theresa)
Tunde—meaning unknown
Tzigane—gypsy
Vicuska, Viva—life
Viktoria—victorious (form of Victor)
Virag—flower
Zigana—gypsy
Zsa Zsa, Zsuzsanna, Zsuzsi, Zsuska—lily (form of Susan)
Zsofia, Zsofika—wise (form of Sophia)

MALE

Adelbert, Albert—noble, intelligent
Adony—meaning unknown
Adorjan—dark (form of Adrian)
Agoston—staff of God (form of Gustav)
Ambrus—immortal (form of Ambrose)
Andor—manly (form of Andrew)
Arpad—wanderer
Asztrik—made from ashewood
Atalik—like his father
Attila—myth name
Bajnok—victor
Bars—pepper
Bartalan—hill, furrow (form of Bartholomew)

Becse—kite
Bela—noble, intelligent (form of Albert)
Bence—victorious
Benci—blessed
Beriszl—honored
Bod—branch
Bodi, Boldizsar—God bless the king
Bodor—curly
Botond—warrior with a mace
Csaba—myth name
Cseke—carrier
Csenger—meaning unknown
Deli—warrior
Denes—wine
Domokos—God's own

Egyed—shield-bearer
Elek—defender of mankind
(form of Alexander)
Endre—manly (form of Andrew)
Ervin—mariner
Farkas—wolf
Ferenc, Ferko—free (form of
Francis)
Fodor—curly hair
Folkus—famous
Fredek—peaceful ruler (form of
Frederick)
Frigyes—peace
Fulop—lover of horses (form of
Philip)
Gabor—God-given strength
(form of Gabriel)
Gara—goshawk
Gazsi—protects the treasure
Gedeon—destroyer
Gergo—watchful
Gerzson—banished one
Gyurka—farmer
Gyuszi, Gyala—youthful
Hont—friend of dogs
Huba—meaning unknown
Imre—innocent
Istvan—crowned in victory
(form of Stephen)
Izsak—one who laughs (form of
Isaac)
Jenci—well-born
Jozsef, Joska, Jozsi—God adds
(form of Joseph)
Kada—meaning unknown
Kadosa—meaning unknown
Kalman—manly, strong
Kapolcs—meaning unknown

Kardos—swordsmen
Karsa—falcon
Kartal—eagle
Kelemen, Kellman—gentle
Keve—pebble, small stone
Kolos—scholar
Kristof—Christ-bearer (form of
Christopher)
Laborc—panther
Ladomer—trapper
Lantos—musician, lute
Laszlo—famous ruler
Lorant—victory
Lorenca—laurel (form of
Lawrence)
Lukacs—light (form of Luke)
Medard—strong
Menyhert—royal
Miksa—godlike
Moricz—Moorish
Mozes—taken from the water
(form of Moses)
Neci—ardent
Nyek—borderlands
Odon—protector
Orban—born in the city
Ormos—cliff
Oszkar—divine spear (form of
Oscar)
Pellegrin—pilgrim
Peterke—rock (form of Peter)
Pista, Pisti—victorious
Piusz—pious
Poldi—patriotic
Pongor—mighty
Radomer—peaceful
Rendor—peacekeeper

Rez—copper-headed
Rikard—strong ruler (form of
Richard)
Robi—famous
Samuka—God hears
Sandor—defender of mankind
(form of Alexander)
Sebes—quick, fast
Sebestyen, Sebo—revered (form
of Sebastian)
Solt—honored name
Solyom—falcon
Soma—horn
Szemere—destroyer
Szever—serious
Tabor—drum
Taksony—content
Tardos—bald
Tarjan—honored name
Tass—myth name

Teteny—chieftain
Timur—iron
Titusz—honored
Tivadar—gift from God
Uros—little lord
Varad—of the fort
Vayk—prosperous, rich
Vencel—victorious
Vidor, Viktor, Vincze—
victorious (form of Victor)
Vilmos—resolute protector
(form of William)
Vitez—courageous soldier
Zador—violent
Zalan—fighter
Zarand—precious, golden
Zerind—Serb
Zobor—group, gathering
Zombor—buffalo
Zsolt—honored name

INDIAN

India is primarily Hindu in religion, with Islam the next largest religion in the country. Although many languages are spoken in India, the most common language in India is Hindi, which is why there is a separate listing of Hindi names in this section.

However, due to the variety of languages (over two hundred spoken) and cultures of India, it would be impossible to list all the various naming taboos, customs, and history in this work.

In some areas of India (especially northern India), names generally consist of a first, middle, and surname. In these areas, surnames are passed down from father to children. A female child is usually given her father's first name as a middle name. Upon marriage, her middle name will change to her husband's first name, and she will take her husband's surname. In the past, the husband could also change his wife's first name, but this custom is falling out of practice. It is also becoming more common for a married woman to hyphenate her last name, especially if she is known by her maiden name in her profession.

In other areas of India (especially in the south), there are no surnames. Patronymic, occupational, caste or place names may be substituted for identification in these areas, or the first initial of the father's name may be used before a name: P. Vijay. People often address their elders or superiors with titles like Sahib, Aiyya, Amma, or even Sir. However, it is becoming more common to create a surname from the father's name when traveling or doing business with Europeans or Americans.

One prevalent custom is that of giving a child two or three names. At one time, one of the names was kept secret (to prevent bad luck), and when a child entered puberty, a new name was often chosen.

Children are never named after a parent. Though at one time children were given offensive names, especially if a sibling has already died, to make the demons think this child was beneath their notice and not worth taking, this is rarely practice today.

The gamut of naming practices and rules is far too extensive to cover here. I would encourage any writer working on this culture to

research the nomenclature of the language, caste, and area of the story's setting.

A few surnames:

Balin	Naidu
Chettiar	Pathan
Chetty	Pillai
Coundar	Rao
Dalal	Reddy
Dandin	Redivary
Kapoor	Sahir
Kedar	Shah
Kesin	Singh
Khan	Takeri
Kistna	Thevar
Konar	Vasin
Mudali	Yamuna
Mudaliar	

FEMALE

Abhirati—mother of five hundred children; a mother goddess; myth name	Anumati—moon; myth name
Adya—born on Sunday	Apala—woman cursed with a skin disorder; myth name
Ahalya—night	Apsaras—from the water's stream
Akshamala—meaning unknown	Arundhati—morning star
Amaravati—full of ambrosia	Arya—noble goddess; myth name
Amba, Ambi, Ambika—mother	Behula—perfect wife; myth name
Ambrosia—food of the gods	Bha—star
Amrita—immortality	Bhadraa—cow
Anahita—goddess of the waters; myth name	Bhagiratha—goddess
Anasuya—charitable	Bhairavi—meaning unknown
Anga—from Anga	Bhikkhuni—nun
Angirasa—of the Luminous Race; myth name	Bhimadevi—frightening goddess; myth name
Annapura—goddess of bread; myth name	

Bhu, Bhudevi—earth; myth name
 Chamunda—aspect of Durga; myth name
 Chanda, Chandi—fierce
 Channa—chickpea
 Charumati—daughter of Buddha
 Chhaya—shade
 Daeva, Div—evil spirit; myth name
 Dakini—demon; myth name
 Dakshina—competent
 Damayanti—name of a princess
 Danu—meaning unknown
 Deva—superior
 Devaki—black
 Devamatar—mother of the gods; myth name
 Devayani—daughter of Shukra; myth name
 Dharani—earth; myth name
 Diti—daughter of Daksha; myth name
 Gandhari—name of a princess
 Garudi—bird of prey
 Gatha, Gita—song
 Gayatri—singer
 Haimati—snow queen; myth name
 Hariti—goddess of smallpox; myth name
 Indrani—goddess of the sky; myth name
 Indumati—daughter of Vidarbha; myth name
 Ishani—lady
 Jaganmata—mother of the world; myth name
 Janna—paradise
 Jayanti—victory
 Jivanta—gives life
 Jyotis—light of the sun
 Kadru—daughter of Daksha; myth name
 Kailasa—silver mountain
 Kalindi—daughter of the sun god; myth name
 Karma—destiny
 Karuna—compassion
 Kawindra—meaning unknown
 Kerani—sacred bells
 Khasa—daughter of Daksha; myth name
 Kirati—from the mountain
 Krodha—anger
 Kumari—princess
 Kumudavati—owns lotuses
 Kunti—lover of the sun god; myth name
 Lakya—born on Thursday
 Leya—lion
 Madri—wife of Pandu; myth name
 Mahadevi—great goddess; myth name
 Mahamari—killer
 Maheshvari—great lady
 Mahila—woman
 Marisha—dew; myth name
 Mehadi—flower
 Mira—name of a princess; myth name
 Nidra—goddess of sleep; myth name
 Nipa—stream
 Nirveli—from the water

HOMER HICKAM



Homer Hickam is author of the No. 1 best-selling memoir *Rocket Boys* and three follow-up novel-memoirs, *The Coalwood Way*, *Sky of Stone*, and *We Are Not Afraid*. He is also author of the novel *The Keeper's Son*, the first in his new series.

The sound or look of a name can make a big difference in the perception of a character, so I usually give each name careful thought and try them on for a while, just to make certain they fit. I've gone back more than once and modified a name when the personality of the character changed during the writing. Sometimes, I go against type, simply for effect.

For instance, in my novel *The Ambassador's Son*, there is a bewitching, hot-blooded young woman discovered by my hero, Josh Thurlow, in the jungles of the Solomon Islands. Her name? Penelope! Readers will immediately wonder why and how a half-naked, voluptuous, and savage woman could have such a prim name—thus, through this simple device, adding to the page-turning qualities of the novel.

Josh Thurlow, the hero of my series of World War II adventure-romantic novels, got his name because I wanted one that exuded strength. Just for the fun of it, I sometimes give characters the names of my friends. In *The Keeper's Son*, the beach patrol rider has nearly the same name as my good friend and fellow dinosaur fossil-hunter Frank Stewart. When Frank found the bones of a T. rex, I named the character Rex Stewart.

In my series of memoirs that began with *Rocket Boys*, I used many real names, but the occasional composite character required some thought. I usually combined actual West Virginia names because they had an authentic sound to them, but I was also careful to make certain the name reflected certain subjective qualities. One of my favorite characters in that series is a womanizer and a drunk, yet he is also a wise and thoroughly decent man. After trying a number of combinations, the name Jake Mosby just seemed to fit. It must have worked. Jake gets lots of fan mail, especially from women!

Odra—from Odra
Pandara—wife
Pishachi—shrew
Pithasthana—wife of Shiva;
myth name
Pramlocha—nymph; myth name
Rana—royal
Rashmika—sweet
Rati—wife of Pradyumna; myth
name
Ravati—princess; myth name
Riddhi—wealthy
Rudrani—meaning unknown
Ruma—queen of the apes; myth
name
Sakari—sweet
Sakra—from India
Sakujna—bird
Samvarta—mare; myth name
Sandhya—twilight
Sanjna—conscientious
Sanya—born on Sunday
Sarama—quick
Sati, Satyavati—true
Saura—of the Saura
Savarna—same color
Savitari—daughter of Ashvapati;
myth name
Sevti—white rose
Shaibya—faithful wife; myth
name
Shakini—demon; myth name
Shakra—owl
Shanta—meaning unknown
Shapa—cursed
Sharada—lute
Sharama—dog of dawn; myth
name

Shasti—goddess of childbirth;
myth name
Shitala—goddess of smallpox;
myth name
Shraddha—faithful
Shri—wealthy
Sita—furrow
Sur—sharp-nosed
Tapati—daughter of the sun
god; myth name
Tara—goddess of the sea; myth
name
Taraka—demon; myth name
Trisna, Trishna—desired
Tulsi—basil
Upala—opal
Ushas—dawn; myth name
Vach, Vac—well-spoken
Varaza—boar
Varunani—goddess of wine;
myth name
Vema—goddess of sex; myth
name
Vina—stringed instrument
Vinata—daughter of Daksha;
myth name
Vineeta—simple
Vivika—wisdom
Yamuna—from the Yamuna
river
Yasiman, Yasmine, Yasmina—
jasmine
Zudora—labors

HINDI

Aditi—free
Ahisma—not violent
Ajaya—invincible



Alka—long hair	Gauri—yellow
Ambar—sky	Girisa—meaning unknown
Ambika—goddess of the moon; myth name	Hanita—divine grace
Amritha—precious	Hara—aspect of Shiva; myth name
Anala—fiery	Hema—golden
Ananda—bliss (form of Anand)	Indi—Indian
Ananta—name of a serpent; myth name	Indra—supreme god; myth name
Anila—meaning unknown	Jarita—bird; myth name
Arpana—dedicated	Jaya, Jayne—victory
Aruna—radiant	Kala—black
Avasa—independent	Kalinda—sun
Avatara—descending (form of Avatar)	Kamala—lotus (form of Kamal)
Baka—crane	Kantha—wife
Bakula—meaning unknown	Kanya—virgin
Bela—jasmine	Karka—crab
Bharati—India	Kasi—from Kasi
Bina—musical instrument; intelligence	Kaveri—from the sacred river Kaveri
Chaitra—meaning unknown	Kesava—of the beautiful hair
Chandi—angry	Kiran—ray
Chandra—moon	Kumuda—flower
Changla—active	Lakini—meaning unknown
Chitra—bright	Lakshmi—wife of Vishnu; myth name
Corona—kind	Lalasa—love
Daru—pine	Lalita—named for the Lalita- Vistara
Deepa—meaning unknown	Lanka—from Lanka
Devi—noble; myth name	Latika—meaning unknown
Divya—divine	Madhur—gentle
Drisana—sun's daughter; myth name	Mahesa—wife of Shiva; myth name
Durga—impenetrable	Makara—meaning unknown
Ellama—meaning unknown	Malini—meaning unknown
Ganesa—from Ganas	Manda—pivotal
Garuda—sacred bird who carried Vishnu; myth name	Mandara—from Mandara

Matrika—divine mother; myth name
Mythili—meaning unknown
Nandini—cow; myth name
Narmada—gives us pleasure
Natesa—dancer
Neerja—lily
Nishkala—meaning unknown
Padma—lotus flower
Pandita—studious
Pavithra—meaning unknown
Pinga—tawny
Prabha—light
Radha—cowgirl; myth name
Rajni—night
Ramya—beautiful
Rani, Ranee, Rania, Ran—queen
Ratna—jewel
Rekha—fine
Rohana—sandalwood
Rohini—woman
Sandhya—twilight

Sarisha—sophisticated
Seema—limit
Shanata—tranquil
Shashi—moonlight
Sita—goddess of the land; myth name
Sitara—morning star
Soma—moon
Subha—beautiful
Supriya—beloved
Sur—knife
Tira—arrow
Tirtha—ford
Trisha—thirst
Uma—bright
Usha—princess and daughter of Bana; myth name
Vairocana—king of the demons; myth name
Varouna—infinite
Vayu—vital force; myth name
Vedas—eternal laws; myth name
Vijaya—victory (form of Vijay)

MALE

Abhaya—has no fear
Abhimanyu—killed by Lakshmana; myth name
Abjaja—born of a lotus
Acharya—spiritual teacher
Achir—new
Adharma—lawless
Adi—aspect of Vasishtha; myth name
Aditya, Arun—sun
Agastya—name of a wise man
Agneya—son of Agni

Agnimukha—face of fire
Ahriman—evil spirit; myth name
Airavata—child of water
Aja—goat
Akash—sky
Akshobhya—one of the Dhyani-Buddhas; myth name
Ameretat—immortal
Amitabha—one of the Dhyani-Buddhas; myth name
Amma—supreme god; myth name

Amol, Amolik, Amulya— priceless	Daksha—brilliant
Ananda—half-brother of Buddha	Das, Dasa—slave
Ananga—without body	Dasras—handsome
Anish—born without a master	Dasya—he serves
Arpan—offering	Deven—for God
Aruna—god of the dawn; myth name	Dhenuka—demon; myth name
Asad—lion	Dhumavarna—color of smoke
Ashoka—name of an emperor	Duhkha—sorrowful
Asipatra—meaning unknown	Durvasas—son of Atri; myth name
Asura—demon; myth name	Dushkriti—sum of all sins
Atal—unshaking	Dyaus—sky
Atraiu—great warrior	Ekadanta—has one tooth
Atul—incomparable	Frashegird—wonderful
Ayodhya—from Ayodhya	Gada—mace
Badal—cloud	Gadhi—father of Vishvamitra; myth name
Balarama, Balahadra—brother of Krishna; myth name	Gajra—garland of flowers
Balbir—strong	Garuda—sacred bird who carried Vishnu; myth name
Bali, Balin—mighty warrior	Girisha—storm god; myth name
Bhaga—god of luck; myth name	Guga—serpent god; myth name
Bhagwandas—serves God	Gulab—rose
Bhavaja—god of love; myth name	Haidar—lion
Bhavata—dearly loved	Halim—kind
Bhikkhu—monk	Hari—tawny
Bhima, Bhishma—terrible	Haripriya—loved by Vishnu
Bodhi—awakens	Harischandra—name of a king
Brahman, Brahma—absolute	Hasin—laughs
Brahmaputra—son of Brahma	Hastimukha—face of an elephant
Chakra—symbol of the sun; myth name	Hemakuta—from Hemakuta
Chandaka—charioteer of Buddha; myth name	Indra—supreme god; myth name
Chandra—moon	Isha, Ishana, Ishvara—lord
Chinja—son	Jafar—little stream
	Jahnu—name of a sage
	Jambha—jaws

Jambhala—god of wealth; myth
name
Jatinra—legend name
Javras—quick
Jivin—gives life
Josha—satisfied
Jyotish—moon
Kabandha—ugly giant; myth
name
Kakar—grass
Kala, Kali—black
Kalari—aspect of Shiva; myth
name
Kalki, Kalkin—white horse
Kami—loving
Kanaka—gold
Kanishka—name of a king
Kantu—myth name
Karu—legend name
Kashi, Kasi—meaning unknown
Kavi—poet
Kedar—meaning unknown
Keshi—long-haired
Kotari—unclothed
Kritanta—god of death; myth
name
Kumar—prince
Kumara—youthful
Lais—lion
Lakshmana—lucky omen
Lusila—leader
Madhava—god of spring; myth
name
Mahakala—aspect of Shiva;
myth name
Malajit—victorious
Manoj—meaning unknown
Mehtar—prince

Mesha—ram
Mithra, Mitra—god of the sun;
myth name
Mukul—blossoming
Muni—silent
Nadisu—meaning unknown
Nandin—myth name
Nara—man
Nehru—canal
Nila—blue
Omparkash—light of God
Palash—flowering tree
Panchika—husband of Abhirati;
myth name
Pandua—pale
Pani—pagan
Pavaka—purifies
Pavit—pious
Pitamaha—grandfather
Pitar, Pitri—father
Poshita—dearly loved
Priyamkara—favorite son of
Abhirati; myth name
Pumeet—innocent
Rajak—meaning unknown
Raji—name of king
Rajnish—king of the gods; myth
name
Rakshasa—demon; myth name
Raktavira—demon; myth name
Raktim—bright red
Ranjan—delights his parents
Ravana—unjust king
Rishi—name of a priest
Rohin—meaning unknown
Rudra—howls
Sachi—descended from the sun
god; myth name

Sahan—falcon
Sahen—above
Sahir—friend
Sajag—watchful
Samantaka—destroys peace
Sanjiv—long life
Saubhari—name of a hermit
Shaitan, Shetan—demon; myth name
Shaka, Saka—from the Shaka
Shaktar—name of a hermit
Shakti—powerful
Shalya—throne
Shamba—son of Krishna; myth name
Shami—husband
Shankara—grand
Shashida—ocean
Shesha—king of serpents; myth name
Shiva—destroyer; myth name
Shudra—born to the lowest caste
Skanda—god of war; myth name
Sunreet—pure
Taj—crown
Takshaka—carpenter
Tandu—god of dancing; myth name
Tathagata—walks the straightway
Tayib—good
Tripada—god of fever; myth name
Uja—grow
Utathya—name of a wise man
Valmiki—name of a poet
Varuna—infinite

Vasin—ruler
Vasistha, Vasu—wealthy
Vibishana—frightening
Visha—poison
Vivek—wise
Vrishni—manly
Vritra—demon; myth name
Vyasa—name of a poet

HINDI

Adri—rock
Agni—fire
Anand—bliss
Arun—sun
Ashwin—meaning unknown
Atman—self
Avatar—descending
Bharani—meaning unknown
Bharat—name of a saint
Bhaskar—sun
Brahma—born to the highest caste
Chander—moon
Darshan—meaning unknown
Ganesh—lord of the dwarves; myth name
Girish—lord of the mountains
Hansh—meaning unknown
Hanuman—monkey
Hari—golden
Hastin—elephant
Hiranyagarbha—golden egg; myth name
Inay—meaning unknown
Inder, Indra—supreme god; myth name
Iswara—personal god; myth name

Jalil—meaning unknown
Kabir—meaning unknown
Kala—god of time; myth name
Kalkin—white horse
Kamal—lotus
Kapil—from Kapilavastu
Karthik—meaning unknown
Kesin—long-haired beggar
Kintan, Kiritan—crowned
Kistna—meaning unknown
Lal—beloved
Loknoth—meaning unknown
Mahadeva—great god
Manu—ruler of the earth; myth
name
Markandeya—name of a sage;
myth name
Marut—storm god; myth name
Matsya—fish
Mohan—delightful
Murali—meaning unknown
Nandin—named for Shiva's bull,
Nandi; myth name

Narain—meaning unknown
Naraka—hell
Narayan—moving water
Natesha—lord of dance; myth
name
Onkar—meaning unknown
Purdy—recluse
Ravi—sun; myth name
Salmalin—claw
Sanat—ancient
Sarad—born during the fall
Srinath—meaning unknown
Surya—god of the sun; myth
name
Timin—meaning unknown
Vadin—speaker
Valin—meaning unknown
Varun—infinite
Vasuki—serpent; myth name
Vijay—victory
Vishnu—protector of the
worlds; myth name
Yama—god of death; myth name

IRISH

Ireland has some of the oldest surnames. Almost all are patronymic. Surnames became popular in the tenth and eleventh centuries and by the twelfth century were widespread. Names that derive from place or occupation are much newer than the older, patronymic ones.

Common prefixes:

M', Mc, Mac—son of
O—grandson or descendant of
ni—daughter of
ban—wife of
giolla—follower of
moal—servant of

In the original Gaelic, the apostrophe isn't used after *O-* or *M-*. Women were never referred to as *Mac* or *Mc*, but always by *-ni* if they were unmarried, *-ban* if they were married. Ciara ni Suileabhan might become Ciara ban Gorman.

The *fitz* suffix is not traditionally Irish but was brought in by Anglo-Norman invaders. *K* was also imported by the invaders. The letters J, K, Q, V, W, X, Y, and Z didn't exist in the Gaelic alphabet, so names containing these letters are likely to be anglicizations or simplifications. The name Kennedy, for example, may have originated from the name O'Cinneide.

A few surnames:

Adair	Fitzgerald
Boyle	Flynn
Brennan	Gallagher
Byrne	Hannigan
Cavanagh	Kelly
Connolly	Kennedy
Connor	Lafferty
Coughlin	Lynch
Delaney	Macartan
Doyle	MacAuley
Dunne	MacAuliffe

MacBride
MacCormack
MacElroy
MacMurra, MacMaureadhaigh
MacNamara
MacQuaid
Maguire
Malloy
McCann
McCarthy
McLoughlin
Moore
Murphy
Murray
O'Brien
O'Callaghan
O'Connell

O'Connor
O'Doherty
O'Donnell
O'Neill
O'Reilly
O'Shea
O'Sullivan
O'Toole
Quinn
Reardon
Ryan
Shaughnessy
Smith
Sullivan
Sweeney
Teague
Walsh

FEMALE

Abiageal—gives joy (form of Abigail)
Adara, Athdara—from the ford by the oak tree (form of Adair)
Africa, Afric, Aifric—pleasant
Agata, Agate—good (form of Agatha)
Aghadreena—from the field of the sloe bushes
Aghamora—from the great field (form of Aghamore)
Aghaveagh, Aghavilla—from the field of the old tree
Aghna—pure (form of Agnes)
Ahana—from the little ford (form of Ahane)
Aibrean, Aibreann—April

Aidan, Adan, Adeen, Aideen—fiery one
Aigneis—pure (form of Agnes)
Ailbe—white
Aileen, Ailey, Aili, Ailia—light (form of Eileen)
Ailis, Ailise, Ailisa—sweet, noble (form of Alice)
Aine—bright, radiant
Aingeal—angel
Aislinn, Aislin, Aisling, Ashling—vision
Alanna, Alaine, Alayne, Allene, Allyn, Alina, Alana—beautiful
Alastrina, Alastriona—avenger (form of Alastair)

Alison, Allsun, Allison, Alyson—
 honest
 Alma—loving
 Alvy—olive
 Annabla—lovely grace (form of
 Annabelle)
 Aodhnait—meaning unknown
 Aoibheann—fair
 Aoife—life (form of Eve)
 Ardala—high honor (form of
 Ardal)
 Arleen, Arlene, Airleas, Arlena,
 Arleta, Arlette, Arline,
 Arlyne—oath (form of
 Arlen)
 Assane, Assana—waterfall (form
 of Assan)
 Asthore—loved one
 Attracta, Athracht—saint name
 Augusteen—great (form of
 August)
 Aurnia—golden lady
 Avonmora—from the great river
 (form of Avonmore)
 Bab, Babe—meaning unknown
 Baibre—strange
 Banba—myth name
 Barran—little top
 Bebhinn, Bevin—harmonious
 Bellinagara—meaning unknown
 (form of Bellinagar)
 Benvy—meaning unknown
 Berneen—strong as a bear (form
 of Bernard)
 Blaine—thin
 Blanaid, Blathnaid—flower
 Blinne—meaning unknown
 Bluinse—white
 Brenda, Breandan—little raven
 Brenna, Brann—raven
 Brianna, Briana, Breanne,
 Brianne, Brina, Bryana,
 Bryanna, Bryna—strong
 (form of Brian)
 Brighid, Bidelia, Biddy, Bidina,
 Breeda, Bride, Brid—strong
 (form of Bridget)
 Brodie—ditch
 Brona, Bronagh—sorrow
 Buan—goodness
 Cadhla—beautiful
 Caffara, Caffaria—helmet (form
 of Caffar)
 Cahira—warrior (form of Cahir)
 Cailin—small girl
 Cait, Caitie, Caitlin, Caitlan,
 Caitrin, Catlee, Cattee, Cat—
 pure (form of Katherine)
 Caley—slender
 Caoilainn—pure white, slender
 Caoimhe, Kevay—beauty, grace,
 gentleness
 Cara, Caraid—friend
 Caragh—love
 Carleen—manly (form of
 Charles)
 Casey, Cathasach—brave
 Cassidy, Casidhe—clever
 Cavana—from Cavan
 Christian, Cristin, Christa,
 Christona—believes in
 Christ
 Ciannait, Keenat, Kinnat—
 archaic
 Ciar, Ciara, Ceire, Keara—saint
 name

Cliona, Cleona—shapely
Clodagh—from Clodagh
Colleen—girl
Colmcilla—dove of the church
Comyna—shrewd
Concepta—reference to the
Immaculate Conception
Conchobarre, Conchobarra,
Conchobara—strong-willed
(form of Connor)
Congalie, Connal—constant
Cumania—saint name
Daireann—fruitful
Damhnait, Devent, Downeti,
Dymphna, Devnet,
Downett—bard
Dana—from Denmark
Dara—of the oak
Darby—free of envy
Darerca—saint name
Davan—adored
Dearbhail, Dearbhal, Derval—
true desire
Dechtire—mother of
Cuchulainn; myth name
Decla—saint name (form of
Declan)
Deirbhile—daughter of the poet
Dervla, Dearbhail, Dervilia—
daughter of Ireland
Dervorgilla, Derforgal,
Derforgala—servant of
Dervor
Dierdre, Dedre—sorrowful;
myth name
Doireann, Doreen—sullen
Dominica—of the Lord; born on
Sunday (form of Dominic)

Donelle—ruler of the world
(form of Donald)
Donla—lady in brown
Doon—from Doon
Duana, Dubhain—dark maid
Duessa, Dubheasa—dark
beauty
Dympna—saint name
Eachna—horse, steed
Ealga—noble
Eavan—fair
Edana, Ena, Ethna, Eithna,
Etney—fiery one (form of
Aidan)
Eileen, Eibhlhin, Eily—light
Eilinnora—light (form of Eleanor)
Eilis, Ailis—consecrated to God
(form of Elizabeth)
Eistir—star (form of Esther)
Eithne, Ethna, Etney—fiery,
ardent
Elan—light (form of Helen)
Emer—myth name
Ena, Enat, Eny—ardent
Enda—like a bird
Ennis, Inis—from Ennis
Erin, Erina—from Ireland
Eveleen—light; gives life (form
of Evelyn)
Etain—sparkling
Ethna, Eithne—graceful
Fainche—free
Fallon—leader
Faoiltiarna—wolf lady
Feenat, Fianait—deer
Fenella, Fionnghuala, Finella—
white shoulders (form of
Finola)

Fidelma—saint name
 Fineena—beautiful child (form of Fineen)
 Fiona, Finna, Fionn—fair one
 Fionnuala, Finola, Nuala,
 Fynballa—fair shoulders
 Flanna—red-haired (form of Flann)
 Gearoidin—meaning unknown
 Glenna, Glynná—*from the glen*
 Gobinet, Gobnait, Gobnat,
 Gubnat—brings joy (form of Abigail)
 Gormghlaith, Gormly,
 Gormley—sad
 Grainne—grace
 Grania, Granna—myth name
 Hiolair—happy (form of Hilary)
 Hisolda, Izett—fair lady (form of Isolda)
 Hodierna—meaning unknown
 Honor, Honoria, Honora—honor
 Ibernía—*from Ireland*
 Ide, Ida, Ita—thirsty
 Ierne—*from Ireland*
 Illona—light
 Iona—blessed
 Isibéal—consecrated to God (form of Elizabeth)
 Isleen, Islene—vision
 Ismey, Ismenia—meaning unknown
 Jana—gracious God (form of John)
 Kathleen—pure (form of Katherine)
 Kayley—slender
 Keara, Kiara—saint name
 Keavy—mild, lovely grace
 Keely—beautiful
 Keera, Keira, Kiera—dark, black
 Kerry—dark one; county name
 Kinnat, Keenat—archaic
 Kyna—intelligent
 Labhaoise—warrior-maid
 Laetitia—happy (form of Letitia)
 Leila, Lil—saint name
 Liadan—lady in gray
 Luighseach—torch bringer
 Mab, Mabbina, Meadhbh—happiness
 Macha—plain
 Mada—*from Mathilda*
 Madailein—*from the tower (form of Madeleine)*
 Maebh, Maeve, Mave—joy
 Maible—lovable
 Maighdlin—magnificent
 Maille, Mailsi—pearl
 Mairead, Margaret—pearl; saint name
 Maitilde, Maitilda, Maude, Maud, Maiti—strong battle-maid (form of Matilda)
 Majella—saint name
 Malvina—sweet
 Maoli, Maola—handmaiden
 Maureen, Maurine, Moire, Maire, Mare, Maura, Mearr, Moira, Moya, Maurya, Muire, Mairona, Mairia—bitter (form of Mary)
 Meadhbh, Meghan, Megan—pearl
 Meara—happy
 Melva—ruler

Merna, Myrna, Morna—beloved
Mide, Meeda—thirsty
Moina, Moyna—noble
Mona—noblewoman
Monca—wise
Moncha—alone
Mor, More, Moreen—great
Muadhnaít—little, noble one
Mugain—myth name
Muireann, Morrín—long-haired
Muirgheal, Murel, Muriel—
 knows the sea
Muirne—high spirited
Nainsi—grace (form of Anne)
Neala, Nelda—champion (form
 of Neal)
Neasa, Nessa—mother of
 Conchobhar; myth name
Niamh—daughter of the sea god;
 myth name
Noirin—meaning unknown
Nolliag—Christmas (form of
 Noel)
Nora, Norah, Noreen—honor
Nuala—lovely shoulders
Obharnait, Orna, Ornat—color
 of olive
Ohnicio, Onora—honor
Oilbhe, Olive—olive
Oona, Oonagh, Ona—one
Orghlaith, Orlaith, Orlaithe,
 Orla—golden
Orna—pale
Padraigin—noble (form of
 Patrick)
Paili—meaning unknown
Phiala—saint name
Rahda—vision

Ranait, Renny, Ranalt,
 Rathnait—wealthy,
 charming
Regan—little king
Richael, Raicheal—saint name
Riley—valiant
Riognach, Riona—royal
Rois, Roisin, Rosheen—rose
 (form of Rosa)
Ronan—small seal
Rory—red ruler
Rosaleen, Rosaline—beautiful
 rose
Sadbh, Sive—good
Sadbh, Sadhbba—wise
Samhain—myth name
Saoirse—freedom
Saraid—excellent
Scota—named for Scotland;
 myth name
Searlait—manly (form of
 Charles)
Seosaimhthin, Seosaimhin—
 fertile
Shawn, Shauna, Seana—
 gracious God (form of John)
Sheila, Sheelah—blind (form of
 Cecil)
Sibéal—prophetess (form of
 Sybil)
Sile—youthful
Sinead, Sineidin, Sine, Siobhan—
 gracious God (form of John)
Slaine, Slany, Siany—good
 health
Sorcha—intelligent
Sosanna—lily (form of Susan)
Sybil, Sibéal—prophetess

Talulla—prosperous
Tara—rocky hill
Teamhair—where the kings met;
myth name
Tierney—from the lord
Treaa, Treise, Toireasa—
strong

Tullia—peaceful
Ulicia—resolute protector
Una, Uny, Unity—together
Vevila—harmony
Vevina—sweet lady
Zaira—princess (form of Sarah)
Zinna—meaning unknown

MALE

Abban—abbot
Abracham, Bram—father of
many (form of Abraham)
Adamnan, Awnan—little Adam
Adare—from the ford by the oak
tree (form of Adair)
Addergoole—from between two
fords
Aderrig, Aghaderg—from the
red ford
Adhamh—of the red earth (form
of Adam)
Aengus, Angus, Aonghus,
Oengus, Ungus, Enos,
Hungas—exceptionally
strong
Aghamore—from the great field
Aghy—friend of horses
Aguistin—great (form of August)
Ahane—from the little ford
Ahern, Ahearn—lord of the
horses
Aichlin—meaning unknown
Aidrian—dark (form of Adrian)
Ailfrid—wise
Ailin—handsome
Aindreas—manly (form of
Andrew)

Aineislis—glorious stand
Ainmire—great lord
Airleas, Arlen, Arlyn—pledge
Alabhaois—famous soldier
Alan, Allan, Allen, Alleyne—
handsome
Alban—white
Alphonsus—noble and ready for
battle (form of Alphonse)
Alroy—red-haired
Alsandair—defender of mankind
(form of Alexander)
Amalgith—meaning unknown
Amblaobh—relic
Ambros—divine
Anguish—myth name
Anlon, Anluan—champion
Anmcha, Amnchadh—brave
Annaduff—from the black marsh
Anntoin, Ann—priceless (form
of Anthony)
Aodhfin, Aodhfionn—white fire
Aralt—leader
Ardagh—from the high field
Ardal, Artegal, Arthgallo—high
honor
Arlen—oath
Arckill—from the high church

- Artur, Art—noble bear (form of Arthur)
- Assan—waterfall
- Auley, Auliffe, Amhlaoi bh—ancestor (form of Olaf)
- Avonmore—from the great river
- Baethan, Beolagh—foolish
- Bailintín—valiant
- Baird—bard
- Ballinamore—from the great river
- Ballinderry—from the town of oak wood
- Banan—white
- Banbhan—piglet
- Barram, Bairrfhoinn—handsome
- Beagan—little one
- Bearnard—strong as a bear (form of Bernard)
- Beartlaidh—from Bart's meadow
- Becan—little one
- Bellinagar—meaning unknown
- Benen—kind
- Birr—from Birr
- Blaine, Blian—thin
- Blair, Blar—from the plain lands
- Blathma—flower, sun
- Boynton—from the white river
- Brady, Bradaigh—spirited
- Bran—myth name
- Brandan—saint name
- Branduff, Brandubh—black raven
- Breandan—prince
- Breasal—pain
- Breen, Braoin—sadness
- Brennan—little drop
- Brody—from the muddy place
- Brone—sorrowful
- Buagh, Buach—victorious
- Buckley—boy
- Cacanisius—son of Nis
- Cadhla—handsome
- Caffar—helmet
- Cahir, Cathaoir—warrior
- Cairbre—myth name
- Caith—from the battlefield
- Caley, Caly, Caolaidhe—slender
- Calhoun, Coillcumhann—from the narrow forest
- Callaghan, Ceallachan—strife
- Callough, Calvagh, Calbhach—bald
- Canice—handsome
- Caolan—slender
- Caomh—lovable
- Carlin—little champion
- Carney, Cearnach—victorious
- Carrick, Carraig—from the rocky headland
- Carroll, Cearbhall—manly (form of Charles)
- Carthage, Carthach—loving
- Cashel, Caiseal—from Cashel
- Cathal—strong in battle
- Cathmor, Cathmore—great warrior
- Cavan—from Cavan
- Celsus—saint name
- Cian, Cein, Cain, Cían—archaic
- Ciaran—black, dark
- Ciarráí—county
- Cillian—battle

ELAINE BARBIERI



Elaine Barbieri has written thirty-eight novels and has been published by Leisure Books, Berkley/Jove, Harlequin, Harper, Avon, and Zebra Books. Her titles have hit major best-seller lists and are published worldwide.

No one appreciates more than I do the importance of selecting the right names for characters when writing a book. I choose names for my main characters that are related to their personalities or are indicative of the type of person I intend for them to become. I have occasionally started out writing from an outline, only to discover when writing the book that the hero's or heroine's name strikes an off-key note in my mind each time I write it. In one instance, I changed the heroine's name four times before finding the one that I felt "fit."

Since it is especially important to me that my heroes be basically strong characters despite the human flaws in their personalities, I search for strong names that haven't been overworked. The hero of my book *Wings of a Dove* was named Delaney Marsh. Delaney was to my mind a particularly strong name because it was the maiden name of the hero's mother and because it "fit." In the time since, I've used names like Cassidy, Slater, Reed, Quinn, and Tanner—names more commonly known as family names—for the first names of my heroes.

In choosing the heroine's name, I'm more comfortable with a different technique. In the first book of my *Dangerous Virtues* series, my heroine is a captivating saloon woman who cheats at cards. I called her Honesty. Her sister in the second book is fascinated by a "half-breed." I called that heroine Purity. In the third book, the hero's sometimes less than honorable intentions are thwarted by the heroine's total innocence. No other name was more suitable for her than Chastity.

I used the name Cal (Caldwell) for the hero of *Texas Star* and Taylor for the hero of *Texas Triumph*. However, in the second book of the series, *Texas Glory*, the illegitimate daughter of Buck Star was the heroine. I deliberately named her Honor.

"A rose by any other name?" No, not when writing.

Cinneide—helmeted
Clancy—red warrior
Cleary—scholar
Cluny—from the meadow
Coghlan, Cochlain, Coughlan—
hooded
Coinneach, Canice—handsome
Coireall—lordly
Colla, Conary, Conaire—ancient
Irish name
Collin, Coilin—virile
Colm, Colman, Coleman,
Columbo—dove
Colmcille—dove of the church
Coman—bent
Comhghan, Cowen, Cowan,
Cowyn—twin
Comyn—shrewd
Conchobhar, Conor, Connor,
Conny, Connie, Cornelius—
strong-willed
Conlan—hero, wise
Connlaio, Conley, Conleth—
ardent, wise
Connolly, Connacht—brave,
wise
Conroy, Conaire—wise
Conway—hound of the plain
Cooney, Cuanaic—handsome
Corcoran—reddish skin
Corey, Cori, Cory—ravine
Cormac, Cormick, Corbmac,
Cormic—charioteer
Crevan—fox
Crogher, Crohoore—loves
hounds
Cronan—dark brown
Crowley, Cruadhlaich—
hunchbacked

Cuinn—wise
Cumhea, Cooley, Covey—hound
of the plains
CuUladh, Cooley, Coolie, Cullo—
hound of Ulster
Cuyler—chapel
Daghda—myth name
Dahy—quick and agile
Daibheid—dearly loved
Daimhin—little deer
Daire, Dary, Darragh, Darry—
wealthy
Daithi—beloved (form of David)
Daley—counselor
Dallan—blind
Damhlaic—meaning unknown
Damon, Daman—tame
Davin—little deer
Declan, Deaglan—saint name
Delaney—from the river Slaney
Dempsey—proud
Dermot, Dermod, Darby—free
Desmond—from south Munster
Devine, Daimhin—poet
Diarmid—absence of envy
Dillon—faithful
Donal—ruler of the world (form
of Donald)
Donnan, Donn—brown
Doran, Deoradhain—exile
Dougal, Dubhghall, Doyle,
Dowle—dark stranger
Douglas—dark water
Dow, Dubg—black-haired
Driscoll, Driscoll—interpreter
Dubhan, Dowan, Duggan,
Dubhagain—black
Dubhlainn—black sword



Eachan—horseman
 Eamon—guardian
 Earnan—knowing
 Egan, Egon, Eagon—fiery
 Eimhin, Eimar, Evin—swift
 Eirnin—strong, like iron
 Elhe—legend name
 Elroy—red-haired youth
 Enan, Eanan—meaning unknown
 Enda—saint name
 Eoghan, Eoin—gracious God
 (form of John)
 Eoin Baiste—named for John the
 Baptist
 Erc, Earc—red
 Ernan—serious (form of Ernest)
 Eth—fire
 Evoy—blond
 Fachnan—saint name
 Fagan, Hagan—little Hugh
 Fahey, Fahy—from the green
 field
 Fallon, Fallamhain—leader
 Faolan, Felan—little wolf
 Fardoragh—dark
 Farry—manly
 Fay, Feich—raven
 Ferdia—man of God
 Fergal—valor
 Fergus—of manly strength
 Fiachra, Feary, Fiach—myth
 name
 Fineen—beautiful child
 Finghin, Fineen, Finnin, Fionan,
 Finian, Fionn, Fionnbarr,
 Finbar—handsome
 Flann, Flainn, Floinn, Flannan,
 Flanagan, Flannagain, Flynn,
 Floinn—red-haired
 Fogarty, Fogerty, Fogartaigh—
 exiled
 Foley—plunders
 Forba—owns the fields
 Gaffney—calf
 Gale, Gael, Gaile—stranger
 Gall—stranger
 Gara, Gadhra—mastiff
 Garbhan, Garvan—rough
 Garvey, Gairbith—rough peace
 Gearoid—spear ruler (form of
 Gerald)
 Geraghty—from the court
 Geralt—farmer
 Gilchrist, Giolla Christ, Gil,
 Gilley, Gilvarry—serves
 Christ
 Gilibeirt—pledge (form of
 Gilbert)
 Giollabrighte, Gilbride—serves
 Saint Bridget
 Giollabuidhe—blond
 Giolladhe, Gildea—golden
 Glaisne, Glasny—meaning
 unknown
 Gleanna—dwells in the glen
 Gofraidh, Godfrey, Gorry,
 Gorrie—peace from God
 Gogarty—banished
 Gorman, Gormain—eyes of blue
 Gothfriadh—God's peace (form
 of Godfrey)
 Grady—noble
 Greagoir, Grioghar—watchful
 (form of Gregory)
 Gruagh—giant
 Haley—wise, smart
 Hanraoi—rules the home (form
 of Henry)

Hegarty—unjust
 Heremon—myth name
 Hewney—meaning unknown
 Hickey—healer
 Hiero—saint name
 Higgins—intelligent
 Hoireabard—soldier
 Hrothrekr—famous ruler
 Hurley—sea tide
 Iarfhlaith—meaning unknown
 Inerney—steward of church lands
 Innis, Inis, Inys, Innes, Iniss—from the river island
 Iollan—one who worships other gods
 Irial—meaning unknown
 Jarlath—tributary lord
 Justin—just
 Kealan, Kelan—slender
 Keallach, Killian—battle
 Keefe—handsome
 Keegan, Keagan—fiery
 Keely, Kealy—handsome
 Keenan, Keanan—ancient
 Keith—from the battlefield
 Kellach, Killian, Ceallach—strife
 Kelleher—loving husband
 Kennedy—helmeted
 Kenny, Kavan, Kaven—handsome
 Kerry, Keary—dark one; county name
 Kerwin, Kerwy—little black one
 Kevan, Kevin—well born
 Kian, Kean, Kienan, Kenan—archaic
 Kieran, Kyran, Kieron—black
 Kildaire, Kildare, Kildaire—from county Kildare
 Kinsella, Kinsale—meaning unknown
 Lalor, Leathlobhair—half-leper
 Laoghaire—shepherd
 Laughlin, Lany, Leachlainn, Loughlin—servant
 Leary—cattle keeper
 Lee, Laoidhigh—poetic
 Liam—resolute protector (form of William)
 Lochlain, Lakeland, Lochlann—home of the Norse
 Loman—bare
 Lorcan—little wild one
 Lugaidh—famous warrior
 Lugh—myth name
 Lunn, Lun—strong
 Madden—small dog
 Maeleachlainn, Malachy, Milos, Miles, Myles—servant
 Maelisa—serves Christ
 Mago, Mane—great
 Maher—generous
 Mahon—bear
 Malone, Maloney—serves Saint John
 Mannix, Mainchin—monk
 Mannuss—great
 Maolruadhan, Melrone—serves Saint Ruadhan
 Maughold—saint name
 Meara, Meadhra—happy
 Melchior—meaning unknown
 Melvin, Melvyn, Malvin, Mal—chief
 Miach—myth name

- Mogue—saint name
 Molan—servant of the storm
 Molloy, Malloy—noble chief
 Monohan—monk
 Mooney, Maonaigh—wealthy
 Moran, Morain—great
 Moriarty, Muirheartaigh—
 expert seaman
 Morolt—legend name
 Morrissey—choice of the sea
 Muireadhach, Murry, Murray—
 lord of the sea
 Mulcahy—battle chief
 Mulconry—hound of prosperity
 Mundy—from Reamon
 Murchadh, Murrough, Morgan—
 protector of the sea
 Murphey, Murchadh, Murphy—
 sea warrior
 Murtagh—protects the sea
 Naal—saint name
 Nally—poor
 Naomhan, Nevan, Nevyn—holy
 Neason, Nesson—saint name
 Niall—champion (form of Neal)
 Nolan—noble
 Nulty, Nulte—from Ulster
 Odanodan—of the red earth
 Odhran, Oran, Odran—pale
 green
 Oisín—myth name
 Ossian—fawn
 Owney, Oney—meaning
 unknown
 Padriac, Padraig, Padraic—
 noble (form of Patrick)
 Parlan, Patholon—legend name
 Peadar, Peadair—rock (form of
 Peter)
 Phelan—little wolf
 Quaid—powerful warrior (form
 of Walter)
 Queran—dark
 Quigley—distaff; unruly hair
 Quinlan—well-shaped
 Quinn, Quin—wise
 Ragnall—mighty power
 Regan, Riagan—little king
 Redmond—protector,
 counselor
 Renny, Raighne—mighty
 Riddock, Reidhachadh,
 Riddoc—from the smooth
 field
 Riobard—bright, famous (form
 of Robert)
 Riordan, Riodain—royal bard
 Roark, Ruarc, Ruark, Rorke,
 Ruaidhri—famous ruler
 Rogan, Ruadhagan, Rowe,
 Rowen, Rowyn, Rowin,
 Rowan, Ruadhan—red-
 haired
 Roibhilin, Ravelin, Ravelyn,
 Revelin—meaning unknown
 Roibin, Roibeard—robin
 Ronan—small seal
 Rooney, Ruanaidh—hero
 Rory, Ruaidhri—red ruler
 Ruadhan—saint name
 Ryan, Rian—little king
 Scanlon, Scannalan, Scanlan—
 scandal
 Scully, Scolai ghe—town crier
 Seaфра, Sheary, Seaфраid—peace
 from God
 Searbhreathach—judicious

Shamus, Seamus, Shemus—
supplanter (form of James)
Shanahan, Seanachan—wise
Shanley, Seanlaoch—old hero
Shannon, Seanan—little old wise
one
Shaughnessy, Seachnsaigh—
meaning unknown
Shea, Seaghda—majestic
Sheary, Sheron—God's peace
(form of Geoffrey)
Sheehan, Siodhachan—little
peaceful one
Sheridan, Seireadan—untamed
Sorley—Viking
Strahan, Sruthan—poet
Struthers, Sruthair—from the
stream
Sullivan, Suileabhan—black-
eyed
Sweeney, Suidhne—little hero
Tadhg, Tadleigh—bard
Teague, Teachue—poet

Terrence—tender
Terriss, Teris—son of Terrence
Tiarnach, Tierney, Tier,
Tigherarnach, Tiernan—
regal
Tibbot—people's prince (form
of Theobald)
Torin, Toryn—chief
Tormey, Tormaigh—thunder
spirit
Torrance, Torrence, Torrans,
Tory—from the knolls
Treacy, Treasigh, Treasach—
fighter
Trevor, Treabhar—wise
Tully, Taicligh—peaceful
Uaid—powerful warrior (form of
Walter)
Uaine—meaning unknown
Ualtar—strong fighter
Ultan—Ulsterman
Uther—myth name
Ward—guard
Whelen—joyful

ITALIAN

Italian surnames came into use at the end of the tenth century. They became hereditary much later. Patronymic and descriptive names are most common, but surnames were also taken from place and occupation. Nicknames provided the most common pool from which surnames were drawn.

Di and *de* mean “son of.” All surnames end in a vowel.

Some Italian families named their children after family members in a predictable pattern. The first son was named after the paternal grandfather, and the second son was named after the maternal grandfather. The first daughter was named after the paternal grandmother, and the second was named after the maternal grandmother.

A few surnames:

Abruzzi	Giordano
Auciello	Giuliani
Baldovino	Greco
Bertoletti	Lapaglia
Bianchi	Lombardi
Bruno	Mantegna
Calabria	Marino
Calendri	Medici
Casale	Minimi
Coppola	Moretti
Costa	Nicoletti
De Luca	Ricci
DeMitre	Rizzo
Donatelli	Romano
Esposito	Roselli
Fabrizio	Rossi
Faggini	Russo
Ferrari	Scala
Gallo	Tomei

FEMALE

- Adriana, Adreana—dark (form of Adrian)
Agata—good (form of Agatha)
Agnella, Agnese—pure (form of Agnes)
Aida—help
Albinia—white (form of Alban)
Aldabella—beautiful
Alessandra—defender of mankind (form of Alexander)
Aletta—winged (form of Aleta)
Alisa—wise, truthful
Allegra—cheerful
Alonza—noble and ready for battle (form of Alphonse)
Amalea, Amalia—hardworking (form of Amelia)
Amadora—gift of love
Amata—beloved (form of Amato)
Anata, Annata, Anita—grace (form of Anne)
Andreana—manly (form of Andrew)
Angelia, Angela—angel
Aniela—heavenly messenger, angel
Annuziata—name for the Annunciation
Antonietta, Antonia—priceless (form of Anthony)
Aria—melody
Balbina—strong, stammers
Bambi—child
Battista, Bautista, Baptiste—named for John the Baptist
Beatricia, Beatrice—brings joy
Belinda—beautiful
Benedetta—blessed (form of Benedict)
Benigna—friendly
Bianca, Bellance, Blanca—white (form of Blanche)
Brunetta, Bruna—dark-haired (form of Brun)
Cadenza—rhythmic (form of Cadence)
Cameo, Cammeo—sculptured jewel
Caprice—fanciful
Cara, Carina—beloved
Carlotta—manly (form of Charles)
Carmela, Carmelina, Carmelita—garden (form of Carmel)
Carolina—manly (form of Charles)
Catarina, Catarine, Caterina—pure (form of Katherine)
Cerelia—of the spring
Chiara—bright
Cira—sun
Clarice, Clarissa, Clariss—clear, bright (form of Clare)
Concetta—from the Immaculate Conception
Constanza, Constansie, Constanzie, Stansie, Constantia, Constantina—constant (form of Constantine)
Clorinda—renowned

Claudina—lame (form of Claude)
 Columbine—dove
 Consolata—consolation
 Delanna—soft as wool
 Dona, Donna—lady
 Donata—gift (form of Donato)
 Edita, Editta—wealthy gift (form of Edith)
 Elda—warrior
 Elena, Elene, Elenora, Eleanora, Elenore—light (form of Eleanor)
 Elisabetta, Elizabetta—consecrated to God (form of Elizabeth)
 Emilia—hardworking (form of Emily)
 Enrica, Enrichetta—rules the home (form of Henry)
 Esta—from the east
 Evalina—light; gives life (form of Evelyn)
 Fabiana, Fabia—bean farmer (form of Fabian)
 Fausta, Fortuna—lucky (form of Faust)
 Felice—happy (form of Felix)
 Filomena—lover of man
 Fiorella—little flower (form of Fiorello)
 Fiorenza—flower
 Flavia, Fulvia—yellow (form of Flavian)
 Francesca—free (form of Francis)
 Gabriella—God-given strength (form of Gabriel)
 Gaetane, Gaetana—from Gaete
 Geltruda—meaning unknown
 Gemma—jewel
 Genevra—white wave (form of Genevieve)
 Ghita—pearl (form of Margaret)
 Gianna, Gianina—gracious God (form of John)
 Giovanna—gracious God (form of John)
 Giuditta—praised (form of Jude)
 Giulia—youthful (form of Julius)
 Grazia—grace (form of Grace)
 Guelma, Guillelmina—resolute protector (form of William)
 Immacolata—reference to the Immaculate Conception
 Iniga—fiery
 Isabella—consecrated to God (form of Elizabeth)
 Jolanda—violet
 Leola—lion
 Leonora—light (form of Eleanor)
 Letizia—happy (form of Letitia)
 Lia—languid
 Liliana—lily
 Loretta—laurel (form of Lawrence)
 Lucetta, Lucianna, Lucia—light (form of Luke)
 Lucrezia—profit
 Luisa—famous in war (form of Louis)
 Lunetta—little moon
 Madonna—my lady; Virgin Mary
 Margherita—pearl (form of Margaret)
 Maria, Marea, Mara, Marietta, Maurizia—bitter (form of Mary)

Massima—great one
Maura—dark-skinned (form of Maurice)
Mercede—mercy
Mona—lady
Natala—born on Christmas (form of Natalie)
Nicia—victory of the people (form of Nicholas)
Octavia—born eighth
Olympia—from Olympus
Oria, Oriana—golden
Ornella—flowering ash tree
Ortense, Ortensia—gardener (form of Hortense)
Ottavia—born eighth
Paola—small (form of Paul)
Patrizia—noble (form of Patrick)
Perla—small pearl
Pia—pious
Pietra—rock (form of Peter)
Pippa—lover of horses (form of Philip)
Quorra—heart
Rachele—ewe (form of Rachel)
Regina—queen
Renata—reborn (form of Renato)
Ricadonna, Ricarda—ruling lady
Roma, Romia—from Rome (form of Romano)
Rosalba—white rose
Rosalie, Rosalia, Rozalia, Rosa—rose
Rosetta—little rose
Rufina—red-haired (form of Rufus)
Sabrina—from the border

Sancia—holy
Sebastiana, Sebastiene—revered (form of Sebastian)
Serafina—fiery one; angel (form of Seraphina)
Serena—serene
Siena, Sienna—reddish brown
Silvana—from the forest (form of Sylvester)
Simona—God is heard (form of Simon)
Speranza—hope
Susana—lily (form of Susan)
Teodora—God's gift (form of Theodore)
Teresa—reaper (form of Theresa)
Terza—born third
Tiberia—from the Tiber
Traviata—astray
Trilby, Trillare—sings with trills
Trista—full of sorrows
Valentina—valiant, strong (form of Valentine)
Vanni—grace
Vedette, Vedetta—from the guard tower
Violet, Violetta—flower
Virginia—pure
Vittoria—victorious (form of Victor)
Viviana—lively
Volante—flying
Ysabel, Ysabelle—consecrated to God (form of Elizabeth)
Zita—saint name

MALE

- Aberto—noble, intelligent (form of Albert)
Abramo—father of many (form of Abraham)
Adriano—dark (form of Adrian)
Agosto—great (form of August)
Aldo—wealthy
Alessandro—defender of mankind (form of Alexander)
Alfredo—elf counselor (form of Alfred)
Alighiero—noble spear
Amadeo—loves God (form of Amadeus)
Ambrosi—immortal (form of Ambrose)
Anastagio—divine
Andrea—manly (form of Andrew)
Angelo—angel
Antonio—priceless (form of Anthony)
Armando, Armano—soldier (form of Herman)
Arnaldo—eagle (form of Arnold)
Arrigo, Aroghetto, Alrigo—rules the estate
Arturo—noble bear (form of Arthur)
Baldassare, Baldassario—one of the three wise men (form of Bathazar)
Beniamino—son of the right hand (form of Benjamin)
Bernardo—strong as a bear (form of Bernard)
Bertrando, Brando—bright raven (form of Bertrand)
Biaiaro—reddish-brown hair
Bruno—dark-haired (form of Brun)
Calvino—bald (form of Calvin)
Carlino, Carlo—manly (form of Charles)
Caseareo, Ceasario, Cesare—long-haired (form of Caesar)
Cecilio—blind (form of Cecil)
Ciro—sun (form of Cyrus)
Claudio—lame (form of Claude)
Constantin—constant (form of Constantine)
Corrado, Corradeo—bold
Cristoforo—Christ-bearer (form of Christopher)
Daniele—God is my judge (form of Daniel)
Dante—lasting
Davide—beloved (form of David)
Dino—religious official
Donatello, Donato—gift
Edmondo—rich protector (form of Edmund)
Eduardo, Edoardo—rich guardian (form of Edward)
Egidio, Egiodeo—shield-bearer
Elmo—worthy to be loved
Emmanuele—God is with us (form of Emmanuel)
Enea—born ninth
Enrico, Enzo—rules the home (form of Henry)

- Ermanno—soldier (form of Herman)
- Ernesto—serious (form of Ernest)
- Este—from the east
- Ettore—loyal
- Eugenio—well-born (form of Eugene)
- Fabio, Gabiano—bean farmer (form of Fabian)
- Fabrizio—craftsman
- Fabroni—blacksmith
- Faust, Fausto, Felicio—lucky
- Federico—peaceful ruler (form of Frederick)
- Ferdinando—adventurer (form of Ferdinand)
- Fidelio—faithful (form of Fidel)
- Filippo, Filippio—lover of horses (form of Philip)
- Fiorello—little flower
- Flavio—yellow (form of Flavian)
- Francesco—free (form of Francis)
- Gabriele—God-given strength (form of Gabriel)
- Gaetano—from Gaete
- Georgio, Giorgio—farmer (form of George)
- Gerardo—spear ruler (form of Gerald)
- Geronimo, Geremia—sacred (form of Jerome)
- Giacomo—supplanter (form of Jacob)
- Gian, Gianni, Giovanni—gracious God (form of John)
- Giancarlo—God's gracious gift, manly
- Gilberto—pledge (form of Gilbert)
- Gino—famous in war (form of Louis)
- Giraldto—spear ruler (form of Gerald)
- Giuliano, Giulio—youthful (form of Julius)
- Giuseppe—God adds (form of Joseph)
- Gregorio—watchful (form of Gregory)
- Gualtiero, Galtero, Galterior—powerful warrior (form of Walter)
- Guglielmo—resolute protector (form of William)
- Guido—guide
- Ignazio, Ignacio—fiery (form of Ignatius)
- Ilario, Ilari—cheerful
- Innocenzio—innocent
- Kajetan—from Gaete
- Leonardo, Leone—brave lion (form of Leonard)
- Lorenz, Lorenzo—laurel (form of Lawrence)
- Lothario—famous warrior
- Luciano, Lucan, Lucio, Lucca—light (form of Luke)
- Luigi—famous in war (form of Louis)
- Marcello, Marco—warlike (form of Marcus)
- Mario—bitter (form of Mary)
- Massimo—great one
- Matteo—God's gift (form of Matthew)

Maurizio—dark-skinned (form of Maurice)
 Michelangelo—who is like God, angel
 Michele, Michel—who is like God (form of Michael)
 Nico—victory of the people (form of Nicholas)
 Nino—gracious God (form of John)
 Nuncio—messenger
 Orazio—family name (form of Horatio)
 Orfeo—Roman myth name
 Orlando—famous throughout the land
 Otello, Othello—rich
 Ottavio—born eighth
 Pancrizio—supreme ruler
 Paolo—small (form of Paul)
 Pasquale, Pascal, Pascual—born on Passover
 Patrizio—noble (form of Patrick)
 Piero, Pietro—rock (form of Peter)
 Pino—lover of horses (form of Philip)
 Pio—pious
 Pippino, Peppino—God adds (form of Joseph)
 Primo—firstborn
 Rafeale, Raphael, Raffaello—healed by God
 Raimondo—mighty protector (form of Raymond)
 Renzo—laurel (form of Lawrence)
 Ricardo, Riccardo, Ricciardo—strong ruler (form of Richard)
 Rinaldo—wise power
 Roberto—bright, famous (form of Robert)
 Roderigo, Rodrigo—famous ruler (form of Roderick)
 Rodolfo—famous wolf (form of Rudolph)
 Romano—from Rome
 Romeo—pilgrim to Rome
 Ruggero—famous spearman (form of Roger)
 Salvatore, Salvatorio—savior
 Santo—sacred
 Sebastiano—revered (form of Sebastian)
 Sergio—servant
 Silvio—silver
 Stafano, Stefano—crowned in victory (form of Stephen)
 Tiberio—from the Tiber
 Tito—giant
 Tommaso—twin (form of Thomas)
 Ugo—intelligent
 Umberto—famous warrior
 Valentino, Valerio—valiant, strong (form of Valentine)
 Vencentio, Vincenzo, Vittorio, Vito—victorious (form of Victor)

JAPANESE

In Japan, as in many Asian countries, the surname is given first, followed by the given name. Until 1868, commoners were not allowed a surname. At that time, they created a surname or chose one already in existence. Most Japanese surnames consist of two Kanji characters, and they are frequently descriptive of geographic characteristics. For instance, *moto* means base or origin, and *yama* means mountain. Yamamoto means “base of the mountain.”

A woman was obligated to take her husband’s surname at marriage until 1947, when it became legal for a married couple to choose either the husband’s or the wife’s surname. However, the vast majority of women still choose to take their husband’s surname when they get married.


A few surnames:

Akimoto	Nakagawa
Endo	Narita
Eto	Nobunaga
Fujimoto	Obinata
Fukushima	Oichi
Genji	Saito
Hagiwara	Shiga
Hideki	Shinko
Horigome	Suzuki
Ichigawa	Tadeshi
Ino	Takayama
Iwasaki	Tojo
Kataoka	Umari
Kurofuji	Watanabe
Matsuo	Yamaha
Matsushita	Yamamoto
Murata	Yasuhiro

FEMALE

Ai—love	Kichi—blessed
Aiko—beloved	Kiku—chrysanthemum
Akako—red	Kimi—without equal
Akina—spring blossom	Kita—north
Ami—friend	Kiyoko—transparent
Aneko—older sister	Kohana—small flower
Anzu—apricot	Koko—stork
Ayame—iris	Kyoko—reflection
Azarni—thistle	Leiko—arrogant
Chika—near	Machi—ten thousand
Chizu—longevity	Machiko—fortunate
Cho—butterfly	Mai—brightness
Dai—great	Maiko—child of Mai
Emiko—blessed child	Makiko—child of Maki
Etsu—delight	Mamiko—child of Mami
Fujita—field	Mariko—circle
Gen—spring	Masa—good
Gin—silver	Masako—child of Masa
Hide—fruitful	Mayako—child of Maya
Hiroko—generous	Mayoko—child of Mayo
Hisa—long lived	Mayuko—child of Mayu
Hoshi—star	Michi—righteous
Hoshiko—child of Hoshi	Michiko—wisdom
Iku—nourishing	Midori—green
Ima—now, the present	Mihoko—child of Miho
Inari—shrimp	Mika—new moon
Ishi—rock	Miki—flower stem
Izanami—gracious	Mina—south
Kaede—maple leaf	Minako—child of Mina
Kagami—engine	Mine—guardian
Kaida—small dragon	Misako—child of Misa
Kaiya, Kaiyo—forgiveness	Mitsu—light
Kameko—tortoise child	Mitsuko—child of Mitsu
Kaori—strong	Miyoko—beautiful child
Kei—revered	Momoko—child of Momo
Keiko—adored	Mura—villager

JENNIFER CRUSIE

 Jennifer Crusie sold her first novel to Silhouette and her subsequent novels to Harlequin, Bantam, and St. Martin's Press. Her first five hard-cover novels from St. Martin's were all voted into Romance Writers of America's Top Ten Favorite Books of the Year.

My character names usually have some kind of association that gives me a baseline character insight, not a pattern to follow, more of a vibe. Sophie in *Welcome to Temptation* was named after Georgette Heyer's *The Grand Sophy* (although I changed the spelling) because I loved the way she went around fixing people, and that's what my Sophie does, too, although not with the ruthless enthusiasm of Heyer's heroine. My Sophie is stuck with fixing people; Heyer's Sophy loves doing it. Plus it comes from Sophia, which means "wise," and they were both smart women. Zelda in *You Again* is named after Zelda Fitzgerald. The reason given in the story is that her mother was a Fitzgerald scholar, but the real reason is all the romance and tragedy and passion that I associate with the real Zelda. My Zelda isn't patterned on her, but there's an emotionally lost quality to her that became evident once I named her. She also took on a toughness with that name that didn't seem right at first, so I tried changing her name to Emma, which was too bland for this character, and Esme, which was too soft, and I finally gave up and left her tough and that turned out to be just what I needed. Sometimes if a book isn't going well, I change somebody's name and that often brings the story into focus. Names are so important.

Mutsuko—child of Mutsu
Nahoko—child of Naho
Nami—wave
Namiko—child of Nami
Nanako—child of Nana
Naoko—child of Nao
Nara—oak tree
Nariko—thunder
Natsu—summer born

Natsuko—child of Natsu
Nayoko—child of Nayo
Nori—belief
Noriko—believer's child
Nozomi—hope
Nyoko—treasure
Oki—ocean
Rai—trust
Rei—thankfulness



Reiko—child of Rei
Ren—water lily
Rieko—child of Rie
Rikako—child of Rika
Rinako—child of Rina
Rini—small rabbit
Risako—child of Risa
Ritsuko—child of Ritsu
Rumiko—child of Rumi
Ruri—emerald
Ryoko—child of Ryu
Sachi—joy
Sachiko—child of Sachi
Saeko—child of Sae
Saki—cape, headland
Sakiko—child of Saki
Sakuko—child of Saku
Sakura—cherry blossom
Sakurako—child of Sakura
Sanako—child of Sana
Satoko—child of Sato
Sayoko—child of Sayo
Shika—deer
Shina—good
Shoko—child of Sho
Sorano—from heaven
Suki—beloved
Suma—question
Sumi—refined
Tadako—child of Tada

Taka—honorable
Takako—child of Taka
Takara—gift, treasure
Takiko—child of Taki
Tama—gem
Tamika—people
Tamiko—child of Tami
Tanaka—villager
Tani—of the valley
Tomiko—child of Tomi
Tora—tiger
Toyo—bountiful
Umeko—plum blossom
Usagi—moon
Yachi—eight thousand
Yasu—peaceful
Yayoi—March
Yoko—affirmative
Yori—honorable, trusted
Yoshi—good
Yoshiko—good child
Yukako—child of Yuka
Yuki—snow
Yukiko—child of Yuki
Yumako—child of Yuma
Yumi—beauty
Yumiko—child of Yumi
Yuri—native
Yuriko—child of Yuri
Yutsuko—child of Yutsu

MALE

Akahata—supreme
Akio—intelligent boy
Akira—intelligent
Akiyama—autumn, mountain
Amida—name for Buddha

Botan—peony
Dai—great
Fudo—god of fire
Fujita—field
Goro—fifth son

Haru—spring born
Haruki—shines bright
Haruko—firstborn
Hiroshi—generous
Hoshi—star
Ichiro—first son
Jiro—second son
Kaemon—joyful
Kana—strong
Kanaye—zealot
Kano—god of water
Keiji—wary leader
Kin—golden
Kisho—self-assured
Kiyoshi—quiet
Kuri—chestnut
Makoto—honest
Mamoru—earth
Masa—straightforward
Masakazu—son of Masa
Matsu—pine
Miki—native
Natsu—summer born
Rafu—net
Raidon—god of thunder
Ronin—samurai with no
allegiance
Ryo—excellent
Ryoichi—first son of Ryo
Ryozo—third son of Ryo
Ryu—dragon

Ryuichi—first son of Ryu
Seiichi—first son of Sei
Sen—wood fairy
Senichi—first son of Sen
Shigekazu—first son of Shige
Shima— island person
Shinichi—first son of Shin
Shino—bamboo stalk
Sho—thriving; brilliant
Shoichi—first son of Sho
Shuichi—first son of Shun
Takai—meaning unknown
Taku—meaning unknown
Tama—gem
Taro—firstborn
Toshi—mirror image
Tomi—red
Toyo—bountiful
Uyeda—of the rice fields
Washi—eagle
Yasuo—at peace
Yo—cultivating
Yogi—participates in yoga
Yoshi—quiet
Yoshifumi—meaning unknown
Yoshimitsu—meaning unknown
Yoshiyuki—meaning unknown
Yukio—God rewards
Yuri—native
Yutaka—meaning unknown

KOREAN

In Korean names, the family name comes first, followed by the given names (or name). Most Koreans have given names consisting of two characters, but some only have one. Koreans usually address their seniors or superiors by title and last name, but it is common to address one's junior or subordinate by given name.

The three most common family names in Korea are Kim, Lee, Park, together making up 45 percent of the population in the 1985 census. Groups with the same family name are divided by ancestry into branches (the Kim family name has about 280 branches). Traditionally, unrelated people with the same family name did not intermarry. Some people still abide by this tradition, but it is perfectly legal today for two people with the same family name and branch to marry, as long as they are not closely related.

The following surnames make up about half of the Korean population. There is more than one commonly used transliteration method for the Korean language, so names can often be written in several ways.

An (Ahn)
Bak (Park, Pak)
Choe (Choi)
Gang (Kang)
Han
Jang (Chang)
Jeong (Chung, Chong)
Jo (Cho)
Kim (sometimes transliterated as Gim)
Lee (Rhee, Yi, Ri, I)
Yu (Ryu, Yoo)
Yun (Yoon)

Some other surnames are:

Bae	Kwon
Baek	Seo
Hong	Sin
Hwang	Song

FEMALE

Bo-Bae—treasure
Cho—beautiful
Dae—great
Ha-Neul—heaven, sky
Hea—grace
Hyun—wise
Jin—gem
Joo-Eun—pearl of silver
Jung—affection

Kyon—shining
Kyung-Soon—honored and
gentle
Min—clever
Moon—letters
Shin—belief
Soo—live
Sun—goodness
Yon—lotus blossom

MALE

Bae—inspiration
Chin—precious
Gi—courageous
Ha-Neul—heaven, sky
Ho—goodness
Jin—gem
Jin-Ho—jeweled lake

Joo-Chan—glory to God
Jung—righteous
Kwan—mighty
Seung—winner
Shin—faith, trust
Sun—goodness
Yong—courageous one

LATIN

The Romans were one of the first cultures to develop complex surnames. Unfortunately, after the decline of the empire (approximately A.D. 400), the nomenclature disappeared, not to be duplicated until hundreds of years later.

In the beginning, Romans had only a given name. Later, they added the father's or husband's name. The suffix *-ius* was added to indicate family. By 100 B.C. the long name was the norm.

Standard format for a name would be praenomen (given), nomen (clan or race), cognomen (surname). Most Romans were called by their cognomen.

Girls received given names on the eighth day after birth and boys on the ninth. The eldest son was usually given the name of the grandfather. Girls often took the feminine form of their father's name.

Women had two names, usually taken from the names of male relatives, and always in the genitive case. Military men were often given agnomina (second surname) that were taken from the names of victorious battles.

Surnames were common by 100 B.C. By the time of the empires decline in the fourth century A.D., one name had become the norm.

A few surnames:

Antius	Nipius
Augustus	Oppius
Bruttius	Petronius
Camilius	Primus
Claudius	Publicius
Desticius	Quintilius
Fabius	Rufus
Fortunatus	Sabinus
Fulvius	Secundus
Grattius	Sempronius
Helvetius	Stadius
Hilarus	Tertius
Julius	Titius
Lucius	Ulpus
Maximus	Valerius

FEMALE

- Academia—named for Cicero's villa
- Acarnania—from Arcanania
- Accalia—possibly from Acca Larentia, the she-wolf who nursed the twins Remus and Romulus; myth name
- Acidalia—named for Venus; myth name
- Adamina—of the red earth (form of Adam)
- Adora, Adoria, Adoree—glory
- Adorable, Adorabella—adored beauty
- Adrasteia—unyielding
- Adria, Adrian—dark
- Adrie—from the Adriatic
- Aea—from Aea
- Aegaea—from the Aegean sea
- Aegates—from the Aegates
- Aegina, Aeginae—mother of Aeacus; myth name
- Aeolia—daughter of Amythaon; myth name
- Agrafina, Agrafine—born feetfirst
- Agrippina, Agrippinae—born feet first (form of Agrippa)
- Albina, Alba, Alva, Albinia, Alvinia—white (form of Alban)
- Albula—from the Tiber
- Albunea—meaning unknown
- Alcimedea—mother of Jason; myth name
- Alcippee—mighty mare
- Alcmena, Alcumena, Alcamene—mother of Hercules; myth name
- Aleria, Alera—eagle
- Aleta, Aletta, Alida, Alaida, Aluld—winged
- Alexandre, Alexine, Alexina, Alexis, Alexandrine, Alexandria, Alexandrina, Alexandriana, Alexandra—defender of mankind (form of Alexander)
- Alma—loving
- Almeta—driven
- Alta—lofy
- Alvita—lively
- Amabel, Amabelle, Amabella, Amabilis—beautiful, loving
- Amadis, Amadea, Amadee—loves God (form of Amadeus)
- Amanda, Amadine, Amadina—worthy of love
- Amare, Amara—beloved
- Amarna—meaning unknown
- Amata—beloved (form of Amato)
- Amelia, Amalie, Amilia, Amalea, Amelita, Amelinda—hardworking
- Aminta, Amyntas, Amynta—protector
- Amity—friendly
- Amorette, Amoretta—little love
- Amorita—dearly loved
- Amphitrite—sea goddess; aunt of Achilles; myth name

- Amymone—daughter of Danaus;
myth name
- Anabel, Annabelle, Anabella—
lovely grace
- Anahid—meaning unknown
- Anaxarete—cruel woman
punished by the gods; myth
name
- Ancyra, Ankara—from Ankara
- Andes—from the Andes
- Andreana, Andria, Andriana—
manly (form of Andrew)
- Andromache, Andromacha—
wife of Hector; myth name
- Andromeda—daughter of
Cassiopeia; myth name
- Anemone—myth name
- Angerona—goddess of anguish;
myth name
- Angela, Angel, Angelica,
Anjelika, Angelina, Angelita,
Angeline—angel
- Anna Perenna, Anna—possibly
the daughter of Dido; myth
name
- Annunciata—announces
- Anona, Annona—myth name
- Ansa, Anse—constant
- Antandra—one of the Amazons;
myth name
- Antigone—daughter of Oedipus;
sister of Priam; myth name
- Antonia, Antonina, Antoinette,
Antoinetta—priceless (form
of Anthony)
- Apollonis—one of the Muses
worshipped at Delphi; myth
name
- April, Aprile, Averil, Averyl—
opening, blossoming
- Apulia—from the river Apulia
- Aquilina, Aquiline, Akilina—
eaglelike
- Aquitania—from Aquitaine
- Arabia—from Arabia
- Araceli, Aracelia—treasure
- Arachne—turned into a spider
by Minerva; myth name
- Arcadia—adventurous
- Arcanania—from Arcanania
- Ardea—from Ardea
- Ardelis, Ardelle, Ardella, Ardis,
Ardine, Ardene, Ardinia,
Ardra, Ardeen, Ardina—
ardent
- Arethusa—nymph; myth name
- Argenta, Argentina, Argentia—
silver
- Argolis—from Argos
- Argous—myth name
- Ariadna, Ariadne—daughter of
Minos; myth name
- Ariana, Ariadne—pleases
- Aricia—from Aricia
- Aristodeme—daughter of Priam;
myth name
- Armenia—from Armenia
- Armida—little armed one
- Armilla—bracelet
- Arne—mother of Aeolus III
Boeotus; myth name
- Arrosa, Arrosee—rose (form of
Rosa)
- Arva, Arvia—from the seashore
- Ascra—from Ascra
- Asia—mother of Atlas; myth
name

Assa—mother of Sithon; myth name
 Asta—holy
 Astarte—Phoenician goddess of love; myth name
 Asteria—star
 Astraea—justice; surname for Artemis; myth name
 Astynome—daughter of Chryses; myth name
 Atalanta—huntress; myth name
 Atella—from Atella
 Atropos—one of the Moirae; myth name
 Atthis, Attica—from Attica
 Attracta—drawn to
 Augusta, Augustine, Augustina, Austine, Austina—great (form of August)
 Aulaire—well-spoken
 Aulis—Praxidicae; myth name
 Aura—gentle breeze
 Aurelia, Aurelie, Aurea, Aurum, Aureline—gold (form of Aurelio)
 Aurore, Aurora—dawn
 Automatia—surname for Fortuna; myth name
 Autonoe—mother of Actaeon; myth name
 Avena, Avina—from the oat field
 Averno—queen of the underworld; myth name
 Avis—bird
 Aviva, Avivah, Auvita—youthful
 Azalea—dry earth
 Balbina, Balbine—strong, stammers

Balere, Balara, Balera—strong
 Beata, Beate—blessed
 Beatrice, Beatrix, Bea, Beatriz—brings joy
 Bella, Belle—beautiful
 Bellona—goddess of war; myth name
 Benedicta, Benita, Benetta, Benedikta, Bente—blessed (form of Benedict)
 Benigna—friendly
 Beroe—traveled with Aeneas; myth name
 Bibiana, Bibine, Bibiane—animated
 Bithynia—mother of Amycus; myth name
 Bittore—victor
 Blanche, Blanka, Biana, Bianca—white
 Blandina, Blanda, Blandine—mild
 Blasia—stutters (form of Blaise)
 Bolbe—nymph; myth name
 Bona Dea—related to Faunus; myth name
 Bonnie, Bonny—sweet and good
 Borbala, Borsala, Bora—stranger (form of Barbara)
 Bremusa—one of the Amazons; myth name
 Britannia—from Britain
 Bryce—wife of Chthonius; myth name
 Bubona—goddess of cattle; myth name
 Cacia, Caca—daughter of Vulcan; myth name

- Cadence—rhythmic
- Caenis—daughter of Atrax; myth name
- Caieta—nursed Aeneas; myth name
- Cairistiona, Christine, Christina, Cristin, Christian, Cristiona—believes in Christ
- Caledonia—*from Scotland*
- Calendae—*first*
- Cales—*from Cales*
- Calida, Callida—*fiery*
- Calliope—*Muse of epic poetry; myth name*
- Callista—*chalice*
- Callisto—*nymph; mother of Arcas; myth name*
- Callula—*beautiful*
- Calva—*name referring to Venus; myth name*
- Calybe—*nymph; myth name*
- Calyce, Calcia—*mother of Cycnus; myth name*
- Calydona—*from Calydon*
- Calypso—*nymph; daughter of Atlas; myth name*
- Camella—*goblet*
- Camilla, Camille—*temple servant (form of Camillus)*
- Candice, Candace—*sparkling*
- Candida, Candide—*dazzling white*
- Canens—*wife of Picus; myth name*
- Cantabria—*from Cantabria*
- Cantilena—*song*
- Cantrix—*singer*
- Capita, Capta—*name referring to Minerva; myth name*
- Cappadocia—*from Cappadocia*
- Cara—*doe*
- Cardea—*protectress of hinges; myth name*
- Caries, Caria—*rotten*
- Carina, Carin, Caryn, Caryna—*keel*
- Carisa, Carissa—*artistic*
- Carissima—*dearest*
- Caritas, Charity, Charissa, Carissa, Carita—*giving*
- Carmen, Carmin, Carmia, Carea—*song*
- Carmenta, Carmentis—*healer; myth name*
- Carna—*protectress of vital organs; myth name*
- Carya—*daughter of Dion; myth name*
- Casperia—*second wife of Rhoetus; myth name*
- Cassandra—*prophetess no one believed; myth name*
- Cate—*wise*
- Catena—*retrained*
- Cecilia, Cecile, Cecily, Cili—*blind (form of Cecil)*
- Cegluse—*mother of Asopus; myth name*
- Celaeno—*one of the Harpies; one of the Pleiades; myth name*
- Celeste, Celesta, Celestine, Celestina, Celia, Celine—*heavenly*
- Celine, Celina—*hammer*
- Cerelia—*of the spring*
- Ceres—*goddess of the harvest; myth name*

- Chalciope—daughter of Eurypylus; myth name
- Charybdis—daughter of Poseidon; myth name
- Christabel, Christabella—beautiful Christian
- Chryse—daughter of Pallas; myth name
- Chryseis—daughter of Chryses; prisoner of Agamemnon; myth name
- Chrysgeneia—daughter of Halmus; myth name
- Chrysonoe—daughter of Cleitus; myth name
- Cilla—daughter of Laomedon; myth name
- Cinxia—name referring to Juno; myth name
- Clara, Clare, Claretta, Clarice—clear, bright
- Clarabelle, Claribel, Claribelle, Claribella, Clarinda, Clarinde—shining
- Clarissa, Clarisse—clear, bright (form of Clare)
- Clarita, Clarine, Claretta—clarity
- Claudia, Clady—lame (form of Claude)
- Clementina, Clementine—merciful (form of Clement)
- Clonia—one of the Amazons; myth name
- Clorinda—renowned
- Clotho—one of the Fates; myth name
- Clymene—one of the Amazons; myth name
- Columba—dove
- Conception—understanding
- Concordia, Concordea—harmony
- Constance, Constanze, Constancia, Constantina, Connie, Constantia—constant (form of Constantine)
- Consuela—consolation
- Cornelia—horn (form of Cornelius)
- Courtney—from the court
- Crescentia—growing
- Crispina—curly-haired (form of Crispin)
- Cyprien, Cypriene—from Cyprus
- Cyrilla, Cyrillia—lordly (form of Cyril)
- Dacia—meaning unknown
- Damiana, Damone, Damia—untamed
- Davida—beloved (form of David)
- Dea Roma—goddess of Rome; myth name
- Decima—born tenth
- Deidameia—daughter of Bellerophon; myth name
- Delicia, Deliciae, Delicea—delight
- Delora, Deloras, Deloros—from the seashore
- Demonassa—wife of Hippolochus; myth name
- Derimacheia—one of the Amazons; myth name


- Derinow—one of the Amazons;
myth name
- Desirata—desired
- Deverra—goddess of birthing;
myth name
- Devota—devoted
- Dextra—skillful
- Diana, Diane—divine; moon
goddess; myth name
- Dido—queen of Carthage who
killed herself; myth name
- Diella, Dielle—worships God
- Digna, Digne—worthy
- Dionysia—named for Dionysus,
god of wine
- Dioxippe—one of the Amazons;
myth name
- Dirce—wife of Lycus; myth name
- Discordia—goddess of war;
myth name
- Docilla, Docila—calm
- Domela, Domele—mistress of
the home
- Domiduca—Juno's surname;
myth name
- Dominica, Dominique,
Domitiane, Domitiana—of
the Lord; born on Sunday
(form of Dominic)
- Domino, Damina—lady
- Donata, Donica—gift (form of
Donato)
- Donelle—small mistress of the
home
- Donna, Dona—lady
- Doris—myth name
- Dorote, Dorothee, Dorothea,
Dorotyya, Dorotea—God's
gift
- Drusilla, Drucilla—strong
- Dryope—nymph; myth name
- Dulcinia, Dulcine, Dulcia,
Duclea, Dulcia, Dulcy—
sweet
- Dyna—sister of Roma; myth
name
- Echidna—monster; myth name
- Edulica—protectress of
children; myth name
- Egeria, Aegeria—water nymph;
one of the Camenae; myth
name
- Egesta, Segesta—daughter of
Phoenodamas; myth name
- Eirene—goddess of peace; myth
name
- Elata—glorified
- Electa, Elekta—selected
- Eloine, Eloina—worthy
- Elvera, Elvira—white
- Emera, Emira—worthy of merit
- Empanda, Panda, Padana—myth
name
- Entoria—lover of Saturn; myth
name
- Enyo, Enya—goddess of war;
one of the Graeae; myth
name
- Eos—goddess of dawn; myth
name
- Ephyra—daughter of Oceanus;
myth name
- Epione—wife of Asclepius; myth
name
- Epona—protectress of horses;
myth name
- Equestris—Venus's surname

Eriboea—wife of Aloeus; myth name
Ermina—noble
Espe—hope
Estelle, Estella, Essie—star (form of Esther)
Euadne—daughter of Poseidon; myth name
Euandra—one of the Amazons; myth name
Euryale—mother of Orion; myth name
Euryanassa—mother of Pelops; myth name
Eurybia—one of the Amazons; myth name
Eurydice—wife of Orpheus; myth name
Euryganeia—wife of Oedipus; myth name
Eurymede—mother of Bellerophon; myth name
Eurynome—goddess of all things; myth name
Eustacia—tranquil
Fabiana, Fabia—bean farmer (form of Fabian)
Fabiola—bean
Faith—faithful
Fama—rumor; myth name
Fani, Fania—free
Fauna, Faula—lover of Hercules; myth name
Faustina, Faustine, Fausta, Fauste, Faust, Fortunata, Fortune, Fortuna—lucky
Felicia, Felice, Felise, Felita, Felicity, Feleta, Felisa,

Felicitas—happy (form of Felix)
Fidelity, Fidelia, Fides—faithful (form of Fidel)
Filomena, Filomina—lover of man
Flaminia, Flamina—Roman priestess
Flavia, Fulvia—yellow (form of Flavian)
Flora, Floris, Florice, Floria, Flor, Fiorenza, Forenza—flower
Florence, Florentina, Florentine, Florella, Floria, Florida, Florenza, Florentyna—blooming (form of Florian)
Fluonia—Juno's surname; myth name
Fornax—goddess of bread; myth name
Fortuna—goddess of luck; myth name
Fronde, Fronda—leafy branch
Fronia—wise
Furina, Furrina—one of the Furies; myth name
Gala—from Gaul
Galatea—myth name
Garabi, Garbi—clear
Genetrix—Venus's surname; myth name
Gill, Gillian, Gillien, Guilia, Guilie—youthful (form of Julius)
Ginger—from the ginger flower
Gladys—lame (form of Claude)
Glaucee—wife of Upis; myth name

Gloria, Gloriosa—glory
 Graca, Gracinha, Grace, Grazia,
 Grata, Gratia, Gratina,
 Graciana, Graciene—grace
 Gregoria—watchful (form of
 Gregory)
 Gryne—one of the Amazons;
 myth name
 Gustel, Gustelle, Gustella—
 noble
 Gymnasia—one of the Horae;
 myth name
 Hadria, Hadrea—dark
 Hajnal—dawn
 Harmony, Harmonia—concord
 Harpinna—mare of Oenomaus;
 myth name
 Hecuba—wife of Priam; mother
 of Paris and Hector; myth
 name
 Helen—light
 Henicea—daughter of Priam;
 myth name
 Hermippe—daughter of
 Boeotus; myth name
 Hero—daughter of Priam; myth
 name
 Herophile—priestess of Apollo;
 myth name
 Hersilia—married a follower of
 Romulus; myth name
 Hesperia, Hespera, Hesperie—
 daughter of Cebren; one of
 the Hesperides; myth name
 Hibernia—from Ireland
 Hibiscus, Hibiskus—flower
 name
 Hilaeira—shining
 Hilary, Hilaria, Hillary—happy
 Hippodameia—daughter of
 Briseus; myth name
 Hippolyte—queen of the
 Amazons; myth name
 Hippothoe—one of the
 Amazons; myth name
 Honorine, Honorina, Honorata,
 Honorina, Honor, Honora—
 honor
 Horacia, Horatia—timekeeper
 (form of Horace)
 Hortense, Hortencia,
 Hortenciana—gardener
 Humility—humble
 Hyale—nymph; myth name
 Hyria—daughter of
 Amphinomus; myth name
 Iaea—nymph; myth name
 Ibolya—violet
 Ida—nymph; myth name
 Ierne, Ierna—from Ireland
 Ignacia, Igantia—fiery (form of
 Ignatius)
 Ilia—mother of Remus and
 Romulus; myth name
 Iliona—daughter of Priam; myth
 name
 Immaculata—reference to the
 Immaculate Conception
 Imogene, Imogenia, Imogen—
 image
 Imperia—commanding
 Ina—meaning unknown
 Inferna—Proserpina's surname;
 myth name
 Iniga—fiery
 Intercidona—goddess of
 birthing; myth name

KAREN ROSE SMITH

 Karen Rose Smith has written fifty books since 1991. She has published with Silhouette Romance and Special Edition. Her romances have made both the *USA Today* list and Waldenbooks bestseller list for series romance.

There is power in a name. Therefore, I don't name my characters casually, not even the secondary ones. With my fiftieth romance being released in 2005, the process has become more challenging. I don't like to reuse names of heroes and heroines. Besides the books of names I've collected, I pay attention to credits scrolling at the end of movies, editorial pages in magazines, and class lists that run in the newspaper. Over the past few years when I take a research trip, I particularly note names native to that area, both first and last. As I tour a town, I watch for billboards, scan lists of doctors on clinic signs, and check out regional phone books. Through this process I develop a list.

A selection of names helps but still doesn't name my characters. My hero's and heroine's names are too important to simply throw a dart at a list! I think of the traits my character displays and the essence of the emotions he or she will deal with in the course of the book. I factor in the background as well as family ties. Then I intuitively choose a name I feel embodies it all.

Naming characters is definitely akin to naming a baby. Most parents try to give children names they will grow into, that the world will respect, that will help their child make his or her mark. Since my books are character-driven, I want my characters to be memorable. Choosing the perfect name is part of my writing process. I choose carefully, then watch my characters evolve.

Invidia—envious

Inyx—spell

Iphimedeia—daughter of

Triopas; myth name

Iphinome—one of the Amazons;

myth name

Irma, Irmine, Irmina—noble

Iulia, Iulius—youthful (form of Julius)

Jacoba—supplanter (form of

Jacob)

Jana—moon; myth name



- Jette, Jetta—jet-black
 Jewel—jewel
 Jinny—virgin
 Jinx, Jynx—spell
 Jocelyn, Jocelin, Joscelin, Joyce,
 Joy—happy
 Juga, Jugalis—goddess of
 marriage; myth name
 Julia, Juliet, Judith, Juliette,
 Julietta, Julie, Jill, Juliana,
 Julianna, Julianne, June,
 Julene, Junia, Julinka,
 Juliska, Juli, Julesa—
 youthful (form of Julius)
 Juno—wife of Jupiter; myth
 name
 Justa, Justina, Justine—fair
 (form of Justin)
 Juturna—nymph; myth name
 Juventas—youth; myth name
 Juverna—from Ireland
 Kalare, Kalara—shines
 Katalin, Katalyn, Katlyn—pure
 (form of Katherine)
 Kira, Kirie, Kyra—light
 Kirsten, Kirsty, Kirstie—believes
 in Christ (form of Christian)
 Klara, Klarissa, Klarisza, Klari,
 Klarika—clear, bright (form
 of Clare)
 Klaudia—lame (form of Claude)
 Konstanze, Konstanza—
 constant (form of
 Constantine)
 Kornelia, Kornelie—horn
 Lachesis—one of the Fates;
 myth name
 Lacinia—Juno's surname; myth
 name
 Lamia—evil spirit who abducts
 and devours children; myth
 name
 Lampeto—one of the Amazons;
 myth name
 Laodamia—daughter of
 Bellerophon; wife of
 Protesilaus; myth name
 Lara—famous
 Laraine, Lorraine, Larina,
 Larine—seagull
 Larentia, Laurentia—wolf who
 nursed Remus and Romulus;
 myth name
 Larissa—lover of Poseidon;
 myth name
 Larunda—nymph; myth name
 Latona, Latonia—named for
 Latium
 Laura, Laurette, Laurel, Laurella,
 Laurentia, Laurene, Laureen,
 Laurin, Lauren, Lauryn,
 Laurena, Laurina, Laurica,
 Loris, Lorena, Lorinda,
 Lorita, Lorena, Lorna, Lora,
 Laurie, Lavra, Laurissa—
 laurel (form of Lawrence)
 Laveda, Lavare, Lavetta,
 Lavette—purified
 Lavinia, Lavina—wife of Aeneas;
 myth name
 Lelia, Lela, Lelah—from Laelius
 Leda—mother of Helen; myth
 name
 Ledaea—granddaughter of
 Leda; myth name

- Leiriope, Leirioessa, Liriope—
mother of Narcissus; myth
name
- Leis—mother of Althepus; myth
name
- Lena, Lina—light
- Lenita, Leneta, Lenis, Lenet,
Lynet, Lynette—mild
- Leonce, Leonita, Leontin,
Leontina, Leontine,
Leontyne, Leandra, Leodora,
Leoine, Leoline, Leonlina,
Lyonene, Leona, Leone,
Leoarrie, Leonelle—brave
lion (form of Leonard)
- Lerola—blackbird
- Leta, Lita, Letitia, Lettie, Letty,
Larissa—happy
- Leuconoe—daughter of
Poseidon; myth name
- Levana—uplifting
- Leverna, Lativerna—goddess of
thieves; myth name
- Libentina, Lubentia—Venus's
surname; myth name
- Libertas, Libera—liberty
- Libitina—protectress of the
dead; myth name
- Lida—sparkle
- Lila, Lilian, Liliane, Liliana, Lily,
Lilika, Lillian—lily
- Lilybelle, Lilybet—graceful lily
- Lima, Limentina—goddess of
the threshold; myth name
- Linda—pretty
- Livia, Livie—olive
- Lorelle, Lorella, Lorilla—little
laurel
- Lucania—mother of Roma; myth
name
- Lucerne, Lucerna, Luceria—
circle of light
- Lucia, Lucy, Luciana, Lucille,
Lucilla, Lucinda, Lukene,
Lucie, Lucine, Lucina—light
(form of Luke)
- Lucrece, Lucretia—profit
- Luella, Louella—make amends
- Luna—moon
- Luperca—nursed Romulus and
Remus; myth name
- Lysimache—daughter of Priam;
myth name
- Lysippe—one of the Amazons;
myth name
- Mabel, Mabelle, Manda—lovable
- Madonna—my lady; Virgin Mary
- Maera—daughter of Atlas; myth
name
- Maia, Maya, May—daughter of
Atlas; myth name
- Majesta—majestic
- Malache—Lemnian woman;
myth name
- Malvina, Malvinia—sweet friend
- Mana—protectress of stillborn
babies; myth name
- Mania—mother of souls; myth
name
- Manto—prophetess; myth name
- Marica—nymph; myth name
- Marina, Marea, Marnia, Meris,
Merise, Merissa, Marine—of
the sea
- Marpe—one of the Amazons;
myth name

Marpesia—one of the Amazons; myth name	Minerva—goddess of wisdom; myth name
Marpessa—daughter of Alcippe and Evenus; myth name	Miranda, Mirande—deserves admiration
Martina, Martine, Martella, Marcia, Marsha, Marcie, Marcy, Marcella, Marciane, Marcelline, Marcellina, Marsil, Marsile, Marsilla, Marsila—warlike (form of Marcus)	Modesta, Modesty, Modeste— modest
Matuta—goddess of the morning; myth name	Moirae, Moira—fate
Maura, Maure, Maureen, Maurine, Maurita—dark- skinned (form of Maurice)	Molpe—one of the Sirens; myth name
Mavra—Moorish	Monica, Monika—counselor
Maxina, Maxime, Massima, Maxine—best	Morag—blind
Medea—wife of Jason who murders her children; myth name	Muta—goddess of silence; myth name
Medesicaste—daughter of Priam; myth name	Myra, Mira, Merta, Merte, Myrilla, Mirilla, Mirillia— marvelous
Meditrina—goddess of healing; myth name	Myrina—one of the Amazons; myth name
Melanippe—nymph; myth name	Myrtoessa—nymph; myth name
Melia—nymph; myth name	Naenia—lamenting; myth name
Melissa—honeybee; nymph; myth name	Naida, Naia, Naiadia—named for the nymphs
Mellona—honey	Napea, Napia—nymph; myth name
Mercedes—mercy	Narda, Nardia—fragrant
Merle, Meryl, Merula, Merlina, Myrlene, Merrill, Merolla— blackbird	Nascio—goddess of childbirth; myth name
Messina, Messena, Messina— middle child	Natalie, Nathalie, Natalia—born on Christmas
Meta—goal	Nautia—from the sea
	Nebula, Nebulia—misty
	Neci—ardent
	Nelia, Nelly, Nellie, Nella—horn
	Neptunine—Thetis's surname; myth name
	Nerine, Nerina, Neris—named for the Nereides, sea nymphs; myth name

- Nerio—wife of Mars; myth name
 Nevada—snowy
 Nila, Nilia, Nilea—from the Nile
 Nixi—goddess who helped with childbirth; myth name
 Nola—olive
 Noleta, Nolita—unwilling
 Nona—born ninth
 Nonna—sage
 Nora, Norah, Norina, Norine—honor
 Norma—typical
 Nortia—lucky
 Novia, Novea, Nova—young
 Nox—goddess of night; myth name
 Numeria—goddess who assisted with childbirth; myth name
 Nunciata, Nunzia—announces
 Nydia—refuge
 Nyx—goddess of night; myth name
 Octavia, Octavie—born eighth
 Ocyale—one of the Amazons; myth name
 Oenone—daughter of Cebren; lover of Paris; myth name
 Olethea, Olithia, Olethia, Olethe—honest
 Olinda—fragrant
 Olive, Olivia, Olivie—olive
 Oma—named for Bona Dea
 Ona—only child
 Ops—goddess of plenty; myth name
 Ora—pray
 Oralie, Oriel, Oralia, Oriana, Oria, Oriol, Orlena, Orlene—golden
 Orbona—protectress of sick children; myth name
 Orella, Oracular—divine message
 Oribel, Oribelle, Oribella—beautiful, golden child
 Oris—mother of Euphemus; myth name
 Ornora, Ornoria—honor
 Orphe—lover of Dionysus; myth name
 Ortensia, Ortensie, Ortensiana—gardener (form of Hortense)
 Otrera—mother of the Amazons; myth name
 Ovia—egg
 Pales—goddess of shepherds and flocks; myth name
 Pallantia—daughter of Hercules; myth name
 Pallas—wise; another name for Athene; myth name
 Palma, Palmira, Palmyra—palm tree
 Pamela, Pammeli, Pamelina, Pameline, Pamella—made from honey
 Pantxike, Pacquita—free
 Panya—crowned in victory
 Paola, Paula, Paulina, Pauline, Paulette, Pauletta, Paulita, Pauleta, Pauli, Pavlina, Pavla—small (form of Paul)
 Paphos—mother of Cinyras; myth name
 Parcae, Parcia, Parca—named for the Furies; myth name

- Pasithea—mother of Pandion;
myth name
- Patience, Patientia, Patiencia—
patient
- Patricia, Patrice—noble (form of
Patrick)
- Pax—peace; myth name
- Pearl, Pearla, Pearlina, Pearlina,
Pearle—precious
- Peirene—lover of Poseidon;
myth name
- Pellkita, Pellikita—happy
- Pellonia—invoked to ward off
enemies; myth name
- Penthesilea—queen of the
Amazons; myth name
- Perdita—lost
- Perdix—sister of Daedalus;
myth name
- Peregrine, Peregrina—wanderer
- Pero—mother of Asopus; myth
name
- Perpetua—continual
- Persis—from Persia
- Pertunda—Juno's surname;
myth name
- Petra, Petronia, Petronella,
Petronilla—rock (form of
Peter)
- Phaedra—daughter of Minos;
myth name
- Phoebe—one of the Titans; myth
name
- Phoenice—mother of Torone;
myth name
- Phrygia—head goddess of
Cybele; myth name
- Phylo—handmaiden of Helen;
myth name
- Pia—pious
- Pilumnus—goddess of birthing;
myth name
- Placida, Placidia—tranquil
- Polemusa—one of the Amazons;
myth name
- Polyxena—daughter of Priam;
myth name
- Pomona, Pomonia—fertile
- Pompeia—from Pompeii
- Poppy—flower
- Portia—offering
- Potina—blesses the food of
children; myth name
- Praenestins—Fortuna's
surname; myth name
- Prima, Primalia—firstborn
- Primavera—born at the
beginning of spring
- Primrose—first rose
- Priscilla, Prisca, Piroska, Piri—
ancient
- Procris—lover of Hercules;
myth name
- Proserpina—goddess of the
underworld; myth name
- Prosperia, Prospera—
prosperous (form of
Prospero)
- Prudence, Preudentia—prudent
- Prunella, Prunellia—plum
- Quies—tranquillity; myth name
- Quintina—born fifth
- Raidne—one of the Sirens; myth
name
- Regina, Regine, Reginy—queen

- Renee, Renelle, Renella, Renata,
Renate—reborn
- Renita, Reneta—dignified
- Reselda, Reseda—healer
- Reva, Rive, Riva—regain
strength
- Rexana, Rexanne, Rexanna—
royal grace
- Rhea—wife of Cronus; mother of
the gods; myth name
- Rhea Silva—one of the vestal
virgins; myth name
- Rhode—daughter of Poseidon;
myth name
- Risa—laughter
- Roma—Rome; myth name
- Romana, Romania, Romola—
from Rome (form of
Romano)
- Rosa, Rose, Ruzena, Rosie,
Ruusu, Rosaline, Rosaleen,
Rosalyn, Rosalina—rose
- Rosabel, Rosabelle, Rosabella—
beautiful rose
- Rosalba—white rose
- Rubette, Rubetta—little,
precious jewel
- Ruby—red jewel
- Rufina, Rufine—red-haired
(form of Rufus)
- Rumina—protectress of
sleeping babes; myth name
- Runcina—protectress of crops;
myth name
- Sabina, Sabine, Savina—of the
Sabine people
- Sabria, Sabrina—from Cyprus
- Salacia—wife of Neptune; myth
name
- Salina, Salena, Saline, Saleen—
from a salty place
- Salvia, Salva, Salvina, Salvinia,
Sage—wise
- Samia—wife of Ancaeus; myth
name
- Sancta, Sancia—sacred
- Saturnia—Juno's surname; myth
name
- Scholastica—scholar
- Scota—from Ireland
- Season—fertile
- Sebastiane, Sebastiana—
revered (form of Sebastian)
- Secuba—born second
- Semele—mother of Dionysus;
myth name
- Sena, Sina—blessed
- Septima—born seventh (form of
Septimus)
- Serena, Serina, Serene—serene
- Side—wife of Orion; myth name
- Sidero—evil nymph; myth name
- Sidra, Sidera, Sideria, Siderea—
luminous
- Signa, Signe, Signia—sign
- Silke, Silka, Silkie—blind
- Silvia, Sylvia, Silva, Sylva,
Sylvana, Sylvanna,
Sylvania—from the forest
(form of Sylvester)
- Sinope—daughter of Ares; myth
name
- Solita—accustomed
- Speranza—hope
- Spes—hope

Stella, Stelle, Star, Stanislava—
 star
 Stimula—another name for
 Semele; myth name
 Suada—persuasion
 Syllis—nymph; myth name
 Symaethis—mother of Acis;
 myth name
 Tacita—silent
 Tanaquil—worshipped in the
 home; myth name
 Tansy—tenacious
 Tarpeia—killed for an act of
 treason against her father;
 myth name
 Telephassa—wife of Agenor;
 myth name
 Teles—one of the Sirens; myth
 name
 Tellus, Terra—earth; myth name
 Templa—sanctuary
 Tertia—born third (form of
 Tertius)
 Tethys—daughter of Gaea; wife
 of Oceanus; myth name
 Thalassa—sea goddess; myth
 name
 Thelxiepeia, Thelxepeia—one of
 the Sirens; myth name
 Tiberia—from the Tiber
 Tigris, Tigrisia, Tigrisa—from
 the Tigris
 Timandra—sister of Helen; myth
 name
 Tiryns—aunt of Hercules; myth
 name
 Tita—honored
 Toinette, Tonia—priceless
 (form of Anthony)

Topaz—jewel
 Tosca, Toscana—meaning
 unknown
 Trinity—unity
 Triste, Trista—full of sorrows
 Trivia—another name for Diana;
 myth name
 Trixy, Trix, Trixie—happy
 Tryphena, Tryphana,
 Tryphaena—delicate
 Tuccia—one of the vestal
 virgins; myth name
 Tullia, Tulia—meaning unknown
 Tulliola—little Tullia
 Tutilina—goddess of harvest;
 myth name
 Una—one
 Undine, Undina, Undinia—of the
 waves
 Urbana, Urbania—born of the
 city
 Ursule, Urzula, Ursola, Urselina,
 Urseline, Ursula—little bear
 Vacuna—victory; myth name
 Val, Valentina, Valeria, Valery,
 Valorous, Valari, Valarie,
 Valencia, Valentia, Valeda,
 Valora—valiant, strong
 (form of Valentine)
 Valonia, Vallonia—from the vale
 Vega—star
 Venessa, Vanessa—named for
 Venus; myth name
 Venilia—of the sea and winds;
 myth name
 Venus, Venita—goddess of love
 and beauty; myth name
 Vera, Veradis, Veradisia—true

Verbane, Verbena, Verbenae,
Verbenia—sacred limb
Verda—unspoiled
Verna, Vernita—born in the
spring
Veronica, Veronika—honest
image
Vespera, Vespira, Vesperia—
evening star
Vesta—goddess of the hearth;
myth name
Victoria, Vincentia, Viktoria,
Vittoria, Victrix, Victrixa—
victorious (form of Victor)
Vigilia—alert
Viola—flower
Viridis, Viridia, Virdisia, Virdisa—
young and budding

Virgilia—staff bearer (form of
Virgil)
Virginia—pure
Virilis—Fortuna's surname;
myth name
Virtus—virtue
Vita, Veta, Vitia—life
Vivian, Viviana, Vivienne,
Vavay—lively
Volupia—sensual pleasure;
myth name
Xanthe—one of the Amazons;
myth name
Yuliya, Yulenska, Yulenske,
Yulene, Yulia—youthful
(form of Julius)
Zeuxippe—daughter of
Lamedon; myth name
Zezili, Zezilia—gray eyes

MALE

Abantiades—descendant of
Abas
Abas, Abasantis—meaning
unknown
Absyrtus—murdered by his
sister Medea; myth name
Academicus—name of a
philosopher
Acarnanus—from Acarnania
Acastus—one of the Argonauts;
son of Pelias; myth name
Accius—Roman poet
Ace—unity
Acestes—myth name
Achaemenius, Achaemenes—
Persian

Achaeus, Achaean, Achivus—
Greek
Achates—friend of Aeneas;
myth name
Acheron, Acheros—river of woe;
myth name
Achilles—lipless; hero of the
Greeks; myth name
Achillides—descendant of
Achilles
Acis—son of Faunus; lover of
Galatea; myth name
Acrisioniades—descendant of
Acrisius
Acrisius—father of Danae;
grandfather of Perseus;
myth name

Actaeon, Actaeonis—hunter
 torn apart by his own dogs;
 myth name
 Actaeus—from Athens
 Actor, Actoris—son of Azeus;
 myth name
 Adrian, Adrien, Adok, Adriano,
 Adrik, Andrion—dark
 Aetes—Medea's father; myth
 name
 Aegaeus, Aegeus—from the
 Aegean sea
 Aegides—meaning unknown
 Aegisthus—cousin of
 Agamemnon; myth name
 Aegyptus—brother of Danaus;
 father of the Danaides; myth
 name
 Aeneades—descended from
 Aeneas
 Aeneas—praiseworthy
 Aeolius, Aeolus—god of the
 winds; myth name
 Aeschylus—Athenian poet
 Aescclapius, Asclepius,
 Aesculapius—god of
 medicine; myth name
 Aeson—father of Jason; myth
 name
 Aethiops—Ethiopian
 Agenor—son of Poseidon; myth
 name
 Agrippa—born feet first
 Ajax—one of the Greeks at Troy;
 myth name
 Alair—happy
 Alban, Avaro, Albin, Albion,
 Aubin, Aubyn, Albano,

Alvar, Alver, Albinus, Alva,
 Albus—white
 Albion—from Britain
 Alcaeus—Greek poet
 Alcibiades—name of an
 Athenian politician
 Alcides—descended from
 Alcaeus
 Alcinous—father of Nausicaa;
 helped Odysseus return
 home; myth name
 Aleron, Alerio—eagle
 Aloysius, Alois—famous in war
 Alroy—regal
 Amadeus, Amadis, Amadeo,
 Amadio, Amado—loves God
 Americus, Amerigo—meaning
 unknown
 Amphitryon—meaning
 unknown
 Amphiarus—one of the Seven
 against Thebes; myth name
 Amphitryo, Amphitryon—
 husband of Alcmene; myth
 name
 Amory, Amery—meaning
 unknown
 Amulius—myth name
 Amyas, Amias—loves God
 Anacreon—name of an ancient
 poet
 Anaxagoras—name of a Greek
 philosopher
 Anaximander—name of a Greek
 philosopher
 Anchises—father of Aeneas;
 myth name

- Ancile—king of Rome; myth name
- Andoni, Antton, Antonin, Antal, Antoine, Antoin, Antanas, Ante, Antanelis, Antanukas, Antony—priceless (form of Anthony)
- Andronicus—name of a Roman poet
- Anguis—dragon
- Anius—myth name
- Antenor—elder of Troy; myth name
- Anteros—brother of Eros; myth name
- Antilochus—son of Nestor; myth name
- Antiphates—king of the Laestrygones; myth name
- Antisthenes—name of a philosopher
- Apelles—name of an artist
- Apollo—manly beauty; myth name
- Apollodorus—name of a Greek writer
- Aquilino—eagle
- Arar, Araris—from the Arar
- Aratus—name of a Greek author
- Arber, Arbor—sells herbs
- Arcas—son of Callisto and Zeus; myth name
- Archer—bowman
- Archimedes—name of a scientist
- Arcitenens—archer
- Arctophylax—myth name
- Arctos—myth name
- Arcturus—myth name
- Arden, Ardin—fervent
- Ardmore—ardent
- Ares—god of war; myth name
- Argus—monster; myth name
- Aries—ram
- Ariobarzanes—name of a king
- Arion—name of a Greek poet
- Aristoteles—intelligent (form of Aristotle)
- Arruns, Aruns—killed Turnus; myth name
- Arval, Arvalis—from the cultivated land
- Ascanius—son of Aeneas; myth name
- Astyanax—son of Hector; killed at Troy; myth name
- Atabulus—southeastern wind
- Athamas—brother of Sisyphus; father of Phrixus and Helle; myth name
- Atlas—one of the Titans; myth name
- Atreus—father of Agamemnon; myth name
- Atrides—descended from Atreus
- Attalus—name of a king
- Attis—name of a priest
- Aufidus—from the river Apulia
- Augeas—king of Elis; myth name
- Augustus, Augusty, Augustine, August, Augustin, Austin, Agoston—great
- Aurelian, Aurelien, Aurelio—gold
- Auriga, Aurigo—wagoner

Avernus—portal to Hades; myth name	Calais—son of Boreas; myth name
Axenus—from the Black Sea	Calchas—seer; myth name
Bacchus, Bromius—god of wine; myth name	Caligula—name given to Gaius Ceasar when he was a child
Balbo, Balbas—speaker	Calix, Callixtus—chalice
Balendin, Balen—brave	Calleo—knowing
Balint, Baline—strong and healthy	Callimachus—name of a poet
Bellerophon—son of Glaucus; slew Chimera; myth name	Callosus—callous
Belus—king of Tyre; myth name	Calvin, Calvinus—bald
Benedict, Benedicte, Bennett, Benin, Bent, Benoit, Benedikte, Benedetto, Benedek, Benke, Bence, Benci, Benen, Beinean, Binean, Bendik, Bengt—blessed	Camillus, Camilo—temple servant
Binger, Bittor—conqueror	Canis—son of Vulcan; myth name
Blaise, Blase, Ballas, Balaza, Braz—stutters	Cantor—singer
Blandon, Bland—mild	Capys—myth name
Bonaventure—lucky	Carcer—prisoner
Boniface, Bonifacy, Bonifacio—good	Carmine—crimson
Boreas—north wind; myth name	Carneades—name of a philosopher
Brencis—crowned with laurel	Carsten, Christiann, Cristiano, Christian, Carston—believes in Christ
Brutus—stupid	Cassius, Cass, Cash—vain
Bucer—horned	Castor—twin of Pollux and brother of Helen of Troy; myth name
Cacus—son of Vulcan; myth name	Cato, Catus, Caton—shrewd
Cadmus—from the east; son of Agenor; myth name	Catullus—name of a poet
Caduceus—myth name	Cavillor—critical
Caesar, Cesar, Cesario, Cezar—long-haired	Cecil, Cecilio, Caecelius—blind
Cajetan—rejoiced	Cecrops—founder of Athens; myth name
	Celeres—paladin
	Celestin, Celistine, Celestun—heavenly
	Centaurus—half man, half horse; myth name

- Cephalus—husband who killed Procris; myth name
- Cepheus—father of Andromeda; myth name
- Cerberus—guard of Hades; myth name
- Chauncey, Chaucor, Chaucer, Chauncory—chancellor
- Chester—camp
- Chryses—priest of Apollo; myth name
- Ciceron, Cicero—chickpea
- Clarence, Clare, Clarensis—clear, bright
- Claud, Claude, Cladian, Claus, Claudio, Claudion, Clodius, Claudius—lame
- Clement, Clemence, Clem, Clemente—merciful
- Cocles—hero who saved Rome; myth name
- Collatinus—myth name
- Colon—dove
- Constantine, Constant, Constantios, Constantino—constant
- Corbin, Cowin—raven
- Cornelius, Cornelio—horn
- Crispin—curly-haired
- Curt—short
- Damon—loyal friend
- Danaus—king of Argos; father of the Danaides; myth name
- Daphnis—shepherd blinded for his infidelity; myth name
- Dardanus—founder of Troy; father of Erichthonius; myth name
- Deiphobus—son of Priam; myth name
- Delmar, Delmer—of the sea
- Demodocus—blind bard; myth name
- Deucalion—son of Prometheus; myth name
- Dexter—right
- Dezso—desired
- Dis—Hades; myth name
- Dolon—Trojan spy; myth name
- Domiducus—Jupiter's surname; myth name
- Dominic, Dominick, Domeka, Domiku, Dominico, Domokas, Domo, Dome, Dom, Dedo—of the Lord; born on Sunday
- Donato, Donatello—gift
- Dorjan—dark
- Duke—leader
- Durant, Duran, Durand—enduring
- Eligius—worthy
- Elvio—blond
- Emil, Emilian, Emile—excellent
- Erichthonius—founder of Troy; myth name
- Errol—wandering
- Euphorbus—Trojan soldier; myth name
- Eurus—god of the east wind; myth name
- Eurypylus—soldier against Greece in the Trojan War; myth name
- Eurystheus—cousin of Hercules; myth name

Evander—fought with Aeneas;
 myth name
 Fabian, Fabiano, Fabiyan—bean
 farmer
 Fabrice, Fabrizio—craftsman
 Fabron—mechanic
 Faunus—god of forests; myth
 name
 Fausto, Faust—lucky
 Favonius—west wind; myth
 name
 Felician, Felix, Feliks, Felice,
 Felicio—happy
 Ferenc, Feri, Ferke, Ferko—free
 (form of Francis)
 Fidelio, Fidelis, Fidel, Fedele—
 faithful
 Flavian, Flavio, Flawiusz—
 yellow
 Florian, Florentin, Floren,
 Florentyn—blooming
 Forrest—dwells in the forest
 Foster—keeper of the forest
 Ganymede—cup-bearer to the
 gods; myth name
 Garai—conqueror
 Genius—guardian spirit; myth
 name
 Germain—has same parents
 Giles—kind
 Gilroy—serves the king
 Giuliano—youthful (form of
 Julius)
 Glaucus—son of Minos; myth
 name
 Graham, Graeme, Gram—grain
 Grant—great
 Gratian—grateful
 Gustave, Gusztav—staff of God
 (form of Gustav)
 Guy, Guido, Gwidon—life
 Gyala—young
 Halirrhothius—son of Poseidon;
 myth name
 Harpocrates—Horus, Egyptian
 god of the sun; myth name
 Hector—brother of Paris; myth
 name
 Helenus—son of Priam; myth
 name
 Hercules—Hera's glory; myth
 name
 Herminius—hero who saved
 Rome; myth name
 Hieronymous—sacred
 Hilary, Hillary, Hillery,
 Hilarion—happy
 Hippocampus—Neptune's
 horse; myth name
 Honorato—honor
 Horace, Horatio, Horaz,
 Horacio—timekeeper
 Horatius—hero who saved
 Rome; myth name
 Idaeus—meaning unknown
 Idomeneus—king of Crete; myth
 name
 Ignatius, Inaki, Inigo, Ignac—
 fiery
 Ilari, Ilarion, Ilarius—cheerful
 Illan, Illian, Illius—youth
 Illus—founder of Troy; myth
 name
 Inachus—river god; father of Io;
 myth name
 Ince, Innocenty, Innocent—
 innocent

Inek—small

Inuus—god of fertility; myth name

Iphicles—twin of Hercules; myth name

Iphis—lover who hanged himself over unrequited love; myth name

Iphitus—brother of Iole; myth name

Iulus—son of Aeneas; myth name

Janus—god of beginnings; myth name

Jerolin, Jerome—sacred

Jove—another name for Jupiter; myth name

Julius, Julen, Jules, Juliusz, Julian, Jullian, Jullien, Junus, Junius, Julio—youthful

Jupiter—supreme god; myth name

Justin, Justus, Joost, Justyn—just

Kasen—helmeted

Kauldi, Klaudi, Klaudius, Klaude—lame (form of Claude)

Kelman, Klemens, Klemenis, Kliment—merciful

Kerstan—believes in Christ (form of Christian)

Kester—from the Roman camp

Killian, Kilian—blind

Kinden, Kindin—born fifth

Konstantin, Kostas, Konstantinus—constant (form of Constantine)

Korneli, Kees, Krelis, Kornel—horn

Lacy—from Latus's estate

Laocoon—son of Priam; myth name

Laomedon—father of Priam; myth name

Lapis—myth name

Lares—god of the household; myth name

Lars—Roman hero; myth name

Lartius—hero who saved Rome; myth name

Latinus—king of Latium; myth name

Laudalino, Lino—praise

Laurence, Lawrence, Laurel, Lorin, Loren, Lauren, Lorne, Luran, Lorentz, Lawron, Laurent, Laurentios, Lenci, Lorant, Loreca, Lorenc, Lorine, Lorenzo, Loretto, Labrencis—laurel

Leo, Leon, Leone, Leonidas, Leonide, Leonid, Lyonya, Lyonechka, Lew, Lon, Leontis, Leander, Leandros—brave lion (form of Leonard)

Leroy—regal

Lester, Leicester—from the legion's camp

Liber—another name for Dionysus; myth name

Lichas, Lycus, Licus—friend of Hercules; myth name

Lionel—little lion

JULIE ORTOLON



Julie Ortolon has published romance novels with Dell and St. Martin's Press and has upcoming books with Signet. Of her five published books, three are part of the Pearl Island trilogy. She is also working on her second romantic trilogy.

For the first names of my main characters, I try to stay simple since anything too unusual tends to trip the reader's eye. Then comes the angst-ridden process of pairing that name with the perfect last name, which can take days away from the writing process. The two names need to have the right rhythm and balance. If you have a short, common first name, you can go with a longer, more unusual last name, and vice versa. Plus, when possible, the name should add a layer to your characterization and even the story.

In *Drive Me Wild*, I named the news anchor hero Brent Michael Zartlich and had him go by Brent Michaels in his professional life. Dropping his last name when he left his small East Texas hometown to go into broadcasting seems obvious on the surface. What sort of name is Zartlich for a news anchor? But a whole lot of emotional baggage was attached to that last name, and that was the core of his story.

Lombard, Longobard—long
beard

Lorimer, Lorrimer—saddle
maker

Lucious, Lucian, Lucien, Luke,
Lucas, Lucaas, Luken, Lukas,
Loukas, Luciano, Lucio—
light

Lysander—liberator

Magnus, Max, Maximilian,
Maximillian, Maximos,
Maghnus, Manus, Maxime,
Maximus—great

Mallory—ill-fated

Manvel, Manvil—from a great
estate

Marcel, Marcellus, Marcian,
Marco, Marcus, Mario,
Marius, Mark, Marc, Marus,
Marcellin, Markos, Markus,
Marci, Marcely—warlike

Maren, Marinos—of the sea

Mars—god of war; myth name

Martial, Martin, Martinus, Marcel,
Martinien, Marceau, Martel,
Marton, Martino, Mairtin,
Marek, Marion, Marian—
warlike (form of Marcus)

Maurice, Morie, Morris, Maury,
 Maurits—dark-skinned
 Mayer, Mayor—great
 Mazentius—meaning unknown
 Memnon—killed by Achilles in
 the Trojan War; myth name
 Mercer—merchant
 Mercury—messenger of the
 gods; myth name
 Metabus—father of Camilla;
 myth name
 Miles, Myles—soldier
 Miller—miller
 Minos—king of Crete; son of
 Zeus; myth name
 Misenos, Misenus—drowned for
 hubris; myth name
 Modeste, Modestus—modest
 Moneta—admonishes
 Montague—from the peaked
 mountain
 Morrell, Morel—swarthy
 Mortimer—dwells by the still
 water
 Mulciber—meaning unknown
 Munroe, Munro, Monroe—from
 the red marsh
 Nelek—horn
 Nemesio, Nemesus—named for
 Nemesis, goddess of
 vengeance
 Neon—strong
 Neptune—god of water; myth
 name
 Nereus—god of the sea; father of
 the Nereids; myth name
 Neville—from the new town
 Nigel—dark
 Nikki, Niki—of the lord
 Noble, Nobilus—noble
 Notus—south wind; myth name
 Numa—king of Rome; myth
 name
 Nuncio, Nunzio—messenger
 Octavian, Octavius, Octavio,
 Ottavio—born eighth
 Oistin—revered
 Oliver, Ollie, Olvan, Olliver,
 Olivier, Oliverio, Oliverios—
 affectionate
 Orban—born in the city
 Orcus—underworld; myth name
 Orson—bear
 Ovid—Roman poet
 Paganus—villager
 Paine, Payne—rustic
 Pales—god of cattle; myth name
 Palinurus—pilot of Aeneas's
 boat; myth name
 Palmer—pilgrim
 Pandarus—Trojan soldier killed
 for breaking a truce; myth
 name
 Paris—son of Priam; abductor of
 Helen of Troy; myth name
 Parnassus—from Parnassus
 Pastor—shepherd
 Patricio, Patrizio—noble
 Patroclus—friend of Achilles;
 myth name
 Paul, Paulin, Pauli, Paavo, Paola,
 Pauls, Paulus, Pavlis—small
 Pax—peace
 Peli—happy
 Penates—god of the household;
 myth name



Pephredo—dread; myth name	Proctor, Procurator—manager
Percival, Parzifal—destroyer	Prosper, Prospero—prosperous
Perdix—apprentice Daedalus murdered; myth name	Publius—hero who saved Rome; myth name
Periphetes—son of Hephaestus; myth name	Pygmalion—king of Cyprus; myth name
Phoebus—shining	Quartus—born fourth
Picus—father of Faunus; myth name	Quintus, Quentin, Quincy, Quinton—born fifth
Pierpont, Pierrepont—lives by the stone bridge	Quirinus—lesser war-god; myth name
Pius, Pio, Pious—pious	Ray—radiant
Placyd, Placid, Placidio— tranquil	Remus—founder of Rome; myth name
Pluto—god of the underworld; myth name	Renato—reborn
Plutus—wealthy; myth name	Renzo—laurel (form of Lawrence)
Pluvius—meaning unknown	Rex—king
Pollux—Roman name for Polydeuces, the twin of Castor and brother of Helen of Troy; myth name	Rhadamanthus—judge in the underworld; myth name
Polydamas—Trojan soldier; myth name	Rhesus—king of Thrace; myth name
Polydorus—son of Priam; myth name	Rodhlann, Roland, Rowland— famous
Polyeidus—seer; myth name	Romain, Romney, Romano— from Rome
Polymestor—son-in-law of Priam; myth name	Romeo—pilgrim to Rome
Pompilius—meaning unknown	Romulus—founder of Rome; myth name
Pontifex—priest	Royal, Royce—regal
Porter—gatekeeper	Rufus, Russell, Rufin, Rufeo, Rufio—red-haired
Portumnus—god of the sea; myth name	Rule—ruler
Prentice—scholar	Sabino, Sabin, Sabinus—of the Sabine people
Priam—king of Troy; myth name	Salmoneus—king of Elis who, during Trojan War, pretended to be Zeus; myth name
Prince—prince	
Prior, Pryor—head of a monastery	

- Salvador, Salvator—savior
(form of Salvatore)
- Sargent—military attendant
- Sarpedon—Trojan soldier killed
by Patroclus during the
Trojan War; myth name
- Saturn—god of the harvest;
myth name
- Savill—from the willow farm
- Sebastian, Sebastianus—
revered
- Segundo—born second
- Septimus—born seventh
- Sereno, Serenus—serene
- Sergius, Sergios, Serguei, Sergio,
Serge—attendant
- Severin, Seweryn—severe
- Sibley—prophetic
- Sichaeus—husband of Dido;
myth name
- Silas, Silos, Sylvester, Silvester,
Silvanus, Sylvanus, Sill, Sil,
Silio, Silvain, Silvius, Sylvan,
Silvanos—from the forest
- Sinclair—hardworking
- Sinon—convinced the Trojans
to pull the horse inside the
city walls; myth name
- Siseal—blind
- Sisyphus—son of Aeolus; myth
name
- Sixtus, Sextus—born sixth
- Sol—sun
- Somnus—sleep; myth name
- Spurius—hero who saved Rome;
myth name
- Stacy, Stacey—dependable
- Tarchon—myth name
- Tavey—born eighth
- Terence, Terrence, Terry—
smooth
- Terminus—myth name
- Tertius—born third
- Tithonus—lover of Aurora; myth
name
- Titus, Tito—saved
- Tony—above praise
- Tracy, Thrasius—bold
- Trent, Torrentem—swift
- Tristan—noisy
- Tristram—full of sorrows
- Triton—sea god; son of
Poseidon; myth name
- Troilus—son of Priam; myth
name
- Tros—founder of Troy; myth
name
- Tulio—lively
- Tullius—name of a king
- Tully, Tullus—meaning
unknown
- Turner—works on the lathe
- Turnus—killed by Aeneas; myth
name
- Txanton—meaning unknown
- Txomin—like God
- Tyre—from Tyre
- Uiseann—conqueror
- Ulysses—Roman name for
Odysseus, the Greek hero
whose return from the
Trojan War took ten years;
myth name
- Urban, Urbain—born of the city
- Valens, Valentine, Valentino,
Valerian, Valerius, Val,

Valerio, Valentin, Valerii,
Valera, Valerik—valiant,
strong
Varian—fickle
Venedictos—blessed
Vergil, Virgil, Virgilio—staff
bearer
Verne, Vernus—youthful
Vernon—springlike
Vertumnus—god of seasons;
myth name
Viator—traveler
Victor, Victorin, Victorien,
Viktor, Vidor, Vincent,
Vincien, Vincens, Vincenzo,
Vincenzo, Vittorio, Vito—
victorious
Vital, Vitus, Veit, Vitale, Vito,
Vivien—lively
Vulcan—god of fire; myth name
Walerian—brave, strong
Waring—true
Wincent, Wicek, Wicus,
Wicenty—victorious (form
of Vincent)
Wit—life
Xanthus—immortal horse
belonging to Achilles; myth
name
Zethus—brother of Amphion;
myth name
Zeuxippus—son of Apollo; myth
name
Zorian—happy

MAORI

The Maoris are the indigenous people of New Zealand. They are of Polynesian ancestry, and were probably established in the North and South Islands of New Zealand by the fourteenth century. All Maori names and words end with a vowel, and consonants are always separated by vowels.

Traditionally, Maori were given one name at birth. The meaning of the name was very important. Names often referred to a significant event or circumstance at the time of birth, and an individual's name could change in commemoration of a special event in his or her life. Some Maori given names still follow this tradition.

Modern Maori names usually follow the Western pattern of first name, middle name, surname (although some people don't have a middle name). Surnames were introduced by missionaries, who arrived in New Zealand in the early nineteenth century. Many Maori adopted as a surname the Christian name of the missionary who baptized them. Descendants of Western missionaries, sailors, whalers, and colonists may also have Western surnames. Other surnames incorporate elements of ancestral names, such as the name of the head of the family. Sometimes these names were complex, and if various family members took different parts of the name, different surnames could result within the same family. Surnames are passed from father to children. Women usually take their husband's surname at marriage, but it is becoming more common for a woman to keep her original surname.

A few surnames:

Aotea	Moeke
Hakaraia	Oneroa
Heretini	Paranihi
Hoepo	Raharuhi
Hohapata	Rerekura
Hokotoki	Rihare
Kaiteke	Tiweka
Kerapa	Waaka
Kereru	Wiritana

FEMALE

- Aka—affection
Akenehi—pure
Akona—to enthuse
Amiria—hardworking (form of Amelia)
Ani—grace (form of Anne)
Aputa—open space
Aroha—love, affection
Awhina—to help, assist
Hera—princess (form of Sarah)
Hinamoki—place name
Hine—girl, young lady
Huhana—lily (form of Susan)
Irihapeti, Erihapeti—
consecrated to God (form of Elizabeth)
Kuia, Kui—elderly woman
Kura—treasure
Maata—mistress (form of Martha)
Makareta—pearl (form of Margaret)
Marama—light of the world
Marika—quiet, careful
Mate—signifying death
Mere—bitter (form of Mary)
Moana—sea
Mokai—pet
Ngaio—native mangrove tree of New Zealand
Ngaire, Nyree—flaxen
Omaka—where the river flows
Pania—sea-maiden; myth name
Pare—bitter (form of Polly)
Pounamu—treasured gift
Puti—flower
Rangi—sky father; myth name
Rawinia—myth name (form of Lavinia)
Reka—sweet
Rere—waterfall
Reremoana—to fly or skip across the ocean
Tahupotiki—beloved child
Tangiwai—crying water, tears
Te Tapiri—place name
Tiaki—supplanter (form of Jacqueline)
Wikitoria—victorious (form of Victoria)

MALE

- Akahata—supreme
Amahau—gatherer
Amiri—east wind
Anaru—manly (form of Andrew)
Anewa—to fall
Arama—of the red earth (form of Adam)
Enoka—consecrated (form of Enoch)
Eruera—rich guardian (form of Edward)
Hare—manly (form of Charles)
Haruru—rumble, thunder
Hemi—supplanter (form of James)

Hohepa—God adds (form of Joseph)
Hone—gracious God (form of John)
Huatare—famous Maori chieftain
Huirau—gathering of the hundreds
Kura—knowledge; treasure; darling
Maaka—warlike (form of Marcus)
Matiu—God’s gift (form of Matthew)
Pita, Petera—rock (form of Peter)
Pouwhare—pillar of support
Rangi—sky father; myth name
Rangiamo—day of gathering

Rawiri—beloved (form of David)
Rongo—god of rain and fertility; myth name
Ruka—light (form of Luke)
Tama—boy, son
Tamati—twin (form of Thomas)
Taua—army, expedition of warriors
Tane—god of man and forests; myth name
Tewi—beloved (form of David)
Tiare—manly (form of Charles)
Timoti—God-fearing (form of Timothy)
Tipeni, Tipene—crowned in victory (form of Stephen)
Toko—support
Wiremu—resolute protector (form of William)

NATIVE AMERICAN

This section lists given names by tribe, when the tribe of origin is known. But each gender list begins with names whose tribes of origin are difficult (or impossible) to determine. Since many tribes were migratory, they passed on and borrowed names from other tribes, making it difficult to know in which tribe a name originated.

Names were bestowed upon a person at the various epochs of life after careful consideration and, in some cases, with extreme ceremony. When Native Americans learned to speak English, they automatically translated their names; because certain phrases and distinctions didn't translate verbatim, many Native Americans were left with names that sound odd to most European descendants. Indeed, in a similar fashion, many Blancs became White and Schmidts became Smiths after migrating to America.

Writers should not generalize; names and habits changed profoundly from one group to the next, even within a single nation.

During the nineteenth century, many nations and tribes were forced by law to take on Christian names and surnames. Often they chose the names of soldiers or towns. One tribe of the Apaches was so adamant in their refusal that they were issued numbers by the government to serve as names.

Today, problems still exist with hereditary surnames among certain tribes and nations. Depending on the nation/tribe and individual, a last name may be either a translated version of a native name (such as White-Cloud), a Christian name (Smith), or a native name in its original form (Eponi).

FEMALE

Adoette—large tree

Aiyana—eternal blossom

Alameda—grove of cottonwood

Alaqua—sweet gum tree

Aleshanee—plays at all times

Algoma—valley of flowers

Amitola—rainbow

Anevay—superior

Angeni—spirit

Aponi—butterfly

Aquene—peace

Awendela—morning

Awentia—fawn

Ayita—worker

Bena—pheasant
Benquasha—daughter of Ben
Bhimalis—bluebird
Bly—tall
Chenoa—dove
Chilaili—snowbird
Chimalis—bluebird
Chitsa—fair
Cholena—bird
Cocheta—stranger
Dena—valley
Dyani—deer
Enola—solitary
Etenia—rich
Eyota—great
Flo—arrow
Gaho—mother
Halona—of happy fortune
Imala—disciplines
Istas—snow
Ituha—sturdy oak
Izusa—white stone
Kaniya, Niya—meaning
 unknown
Kineks—rosebud
Kiona—brown hills
Lakota—friend
Leotie—flower of the prairie
Lomasi—pretty flower
Lulu—rabbit
Luyu—wild dove
Magena—moon
Mahal, Mahala—woman
Mai—coyote
Maralah—born during an
 earthquake
Mausi—plucks flowers
Meda—prophetess

Memdi—henna
Miakoda—power of the moon
Mika—intelligent raccoon
Minal—fruit
Minda—knowledge
Mitena—future moon
Mitexi—holy moon
Nara—from Nara
Nashota—twin
Nata—speaker
Natane—female child
Neka—wild goose
Nina—strong
Nita—grower of beans
Nitika—angel
Nituna—daughter
Nuna—land
Ogin—wild rose
Olathe—beautiful
Onawa—wide awake
Onida—the one searched for
Petunia—flower name
Rozene—rose (form of Rosa)
Sakari—sweet
Satinka—magical dancer
Shada—pelican
Shako—mint
Sisika—bird
Tacincala—deer
Taima—thunder
Tainn—new moon
Tala—wolf
Tallulah—running water
Tama—thunder
Tayen—new moon
Tehya—precious
Utina—meaning unknown
Waneta—charger

Wenona, Wenonah—firstborn
daughter
Winema—chief
Wyanet—beautiful
Yepa—snow woman
Zaltana—high mountain

ALGONQUIN

Alawa—pea
Alsoomse—independent
Anna—mother
Chepi—fairy
Hausis, Hausisse—old woman
Hurit—beautiful
Kanti—sings
Keegsquaw—virgin
Kimi—secret
Makkitotosimew—she has large
breasts
Nadie—wise
Nijlon—mistress
Nittawosew—she is not sterile
Numees—sister
Nuttah—my heart
Oota Dabun—day star
Pauwau—witch
Pules—pigeon
Sokanon—rain
Sokw—sour
Sooleawa—silver
Tahki—cold
Wikimak—wife

BLACKFOOT

Koko—night
Peta—golden eagle
Sinopa—fox

CHEROKEE

Adsila—blossom
Amadahy—forest water
Awenasa—my home
Awinita—fawn
Ayita—first to dance
Galilahi—attractive
Salali—squirrel
Tayanita—young beaver

CHEYENNE

Abedabun—sight of day
Abequa, Abeque—stays at home
Ayashe, Ayasha—little one
Keezheekoni—burning fire
Kiwidinok—of the wind
Meoquanee—wears red
Migisi—eagle
Namid—star dancer
Nokomis—grandmother
Odahingum—rippling water
Ominotago—beautiful voice
Sheshebens—small duck
Tis-see-woo-na-tis—she who
bathes with her knees

CHOCTAW

Atepa—wigwam
Fala—crow
Isi—deer
Nita—bear
Poloma—bow
Talulah—leaping water

DAKOTA

Wicapi Wakan—holy star
Zitkala—bird

HOPI

Angwusnasomtaqa—crow
mother spirit
Ankti—repeat dance
Catori—spirit
Cha'kwaina—one who cries
Cha'risa—elk
Chochmingwu—corn mother
Chosovi—bluebird
Chosposi—bluebird eye
Chu'mana—snake maiden
Hakidonmuya—time of waiting
moon
Hehewuti—warrior mother
spirit
Honovi—strong deer
Humita—shelled corn
Kachina—spirit; sacred dancer
Kakawangwa—bitter
Kasa—dressed in furs
Kaya—elder sister
Kokyangwuti—spider woman at
middle-age
Kuwanlelenta—to make
beautiful surroundings
Kuwanyamtiwa—beautiful
badger going over the hill
Kuwanyauma—butterfly
showing beautiful wings
Lenmana—flute girl
Lomahongva—beautiful clouds
arising
Mahu—myth name
Mansi—plucked flower
Muna—overflowing spring
Nova—chases butterfly
Nukpana—evil
Pakwa—frog

Pamuya—water moon
Pavati—clear water
Polikwaptiwa—butterfly sitting
on a flower
Powaqa—witch
Shuman—rattlesnake handler
Sihu—flower
Soyala—time of the winter
solstice
Sunki—to catch up with
Tablita—tiara
Takala—corn tassel
Tansy—name of a flower
Tiponi—child of importance
Tiva—dance
Totsi—moccasins
Tuwa—earth
Una—remember
Waki—shelter
Wuti—woman
Yamka—blossom
Yoki—rain
Zihna—spins

IROQUOIS

Onatah—of the earth
Orenda—magic power

MIWOK

Amayeta—meaning unknown
Awanata—turtle
Helki—touch
Huata—carrying seeds in a
basket
Huyana—falling rain
Kaliska—coyote chasing deer
Kolenya—coughing fish

ALEXANDER MCCALL SMITH



Alexander McCall Smith has written over fifty books, including the detective novel *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency*, which received two Booker Judge's Special Recommendations. *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* is now a series that sells around the world.

In my forthcoming trilogy of Portuguese Irregular Verbs books, which will soon be published by Anchor Books, I have three main protagonists, Professor Dr. Moritz-Maria Von Igelfeld, Professor Dr. Detlev Amadeus Unterholzer and Professor Dr. Florianus Prinzel. I chose Von Igelfeld's name because it is wonderfully absurd. *Igel* in German means "hedgehog," and the whole name therefore means "hedgehog field." In spite of this absurdity, my main character is proud of his name and of his doctorate, as all German professors are.

Liluye—singing chicken hawk
that soars

Litonya—darting hummingbird

Malila—fast salmon swimming
up a rippling stream

Mituna—wraps salmon in willow
leaves

Omusa—misses with arrows

Oya—jacksnipe

Pakuna—deer jumping downhill

Papina—vine growing around an
oak tree

Pati—break by twisting

Posala—farewell to spring
flowers

Sanuye—red cloud at sundown

Sitala—of good memory

Suletu—flies

Taipa—spread wings

Tolinka—coyote's flapping ear

Wauna—singing snow goose

NAVAJO

Altsoba—all war

Anaba—returns from war

Asdza—woman

At'eed—girl

Dezba—goes to war

Dibe—sheep

Doba—no war

Doli—bluebird

Haloke—salmon

Kai—willow tree

Manaba—return to war

Mosi—cat

Nascha—owl

Ooljee—moon

Sahkyo—mink

Shadi—older sister

Shideezhi—younger sister
Shima—mother
Shimasani—grandmother
Sitsi—daughter
Yazhi—little one

OMAHA

Abetzi—yellow leaf
Abey—leaf
Abeytu—green leaf
Donoma—sight of the sun
Migina—returning moon
Mimiteh—new moon
Nidawi—fairy
Tadewi—wind
Tadita—one who runs
Taigi, Taini—returning moon
Urika—useful to all

OSAGE

Misae—white sun
Niabi—fawn

SHOSHONE

Kimama—butterfly

SHIOUX

Anpaytoo—radiant

MALE

Ahmik—beaver
Akando—ambush
Akule—looks up
Anoki—actor
Apenimon—worthy of trust
Awan—somebody
Bemossed—walker

Chapa—beaver
Chumani—dewdrops
Ehawee—laughing maiden
Hantaywee—faithful
Kimimela—butterfly
Macawi—generous
Magaskawee—graceful
Maka—earth
Makawee—mothering
Mapiya—sky
Nahimana—mystic
Ptaysanwee—white buffalo
Takchawee—doe
Talutah—bloodred
Wachiwi—dancer
Wakanda—possesses magical
power
Weeko—pretty
Wihakayda—little one
Winona, Wenona, Wenonah—
giving
Witashnah—virginal

ZUNI

Liseli—meaning unknown
Malia—bitter
Mankalita—meaning unknown
Meli—bitter

Bimisi—slippery
Bodayway—fire-maker
Chesmu—gritty
Dakota—friend
Delsin—he is so
Demothi—talks while walking
Dichali—speaks a lot



Dohosan—bluff
Dyami—eagle
Elan—friendly
Elsu—flying falcon
Elu—full of grace
Enyeto—walks as a boar
Etu—sun
Ezhno—solitary
Gosheven—leaper
Guyapi—frank
Hahnee—beggar
Hakan—fire
Helaku—full of sun
Hinun—myth name
Honovi—strong
Igasho—wanders
Inteus—has no shame
Istu—sugar
Iye—smoke
Jacy—moon
Jolon—valley of the dead oaks
Kaga—chronicler
Kajika—walks without sound
Knoton—wind
Lakota—friend
Langundo—peaceful
Lenno—man
Lonato—flint
Manipi—amazing
Maska—strong
Masou—myth name
Milap—charitable
Mingan—gray wolf
Mojag—never silent
Motega—new arrow
Muraco—white moon
Nahele—forest
Namid—dancer

Nawat—left-handed
Nayati—he who wrestles
Neka—wild goose
Nigan—ahead
Nikiti—round, smooth
Nitis—friend
Nodin—wind
Ohanko—reckless
Ouray—arrow
Paco—eagle
Pallaton—warrior
Pat—fish
Patamon—tempest
Patwin—man
Payat, Pay, Payatt—he is coming
Pilan—godly essence
Pinon—myth name
Sahale—falcon
Sakima—king
Siwili—tail of the fox
Songan—strong
Tate—he who talks too much
Tyee—chieftain
Wakiza—desperate warrior
Wapi—lucky
Wemilat—of wealthy parents
Wilny—meaning unknown
Wynono—firstborn
Yancy—Englishman
Yoskolo—meaning unknown
Yuma—chief's son

ALGONQUIN

Abooksigun—wildcat
Abukcheech—mouse
Achak—spirit
Ahanu—he laughs
Anakausuen—worker

Aranck—stars
Askook—snake
Askuwhteau—he keeps watch
Chansomps—locust
Chogan—blackbird
Eluwilussit—holy one
Enkoodabooaoo,
 Enkoodabaoo—one who
 lives alone
Etchemin—canoe man
Etlelooaat—shouts
Hassun—stone
Huritt—handsome
Keme—secret
Kesegowaase—swift
Kesteejoo—slave
Kitchi—brave
Machk—bear
Makkapitew—he has large teeth
Matchitehew—he has an evil
 heart
Matchitisiw—he has bad
 character
Matunaaga—fights
Matwau—enemy
Megedagik—kills many
Melkedoodum—conceited
Mukki—child
Nixkamich—grandfather
Nootau—fire
Nosh, Noshi—father
Pajackok—thunder
Pannoowau—he lies
Powwaw—priest
Rowtag—fire
Segenam—lazy
Sucki—black
Sunukkuhkau—he crushes

Taregan—crane
Tihkoosue—short
Togquos—twin
Wematin—brother

CHEROKEE

Adahy—lives in the woods
Dustu—meaning unknown
Tooantuh—spring frog

CHEYENNE

Ahtunowhiho—one who lives
 below
Avonaco—lean bear
Hahkethomemah, Harkahome—
 little robe
Heammawihio—wise one above
Heskovizenako—porcupine
 bear
Hevataneo—hairy rope
Hevovitastamiutsto—whirlwind
Hiamovi—high chief
Hohnihohkaiyohos,
 Neeheeoewootis—high-
 backed wolf
Honiahaka—little wolf
Hotuaekhaashtait—tall bull
Kohkahycumest—white crow or
 white antelope
Kuckunniwi—little wolf
Mantotohpa—four bears
Meturato, Mokatawatah,
 Moketavato, Mocketaveto,
 Moketoveto, Mokovaoto,
 Motavato—black kettle
Minninnewah—whirlwind
Nahcomence—old bark
Nahioossi—has three fingers

Ocumhowurst,
Ocunnowhurst—yellow wolf
Ohcumgache, Okhnhaka—little
wolf
Otoahhastis—tall bull
Otoahnacto—bull bear
Tahkeome—little robe
Tahmelapachme—dull knife
Vaiveahtoish, Vaive Atoish—
alights on the cloud
Viho—chief
Vipponah—slim face
Vohkinne—Roman nose
Voistitoevitz, Voisttioevetz—
white cow
Vokivocummast—white
antelope
Wahanassatta—he who walks
with his toes turned
outward
Waquini—hook nose
Wohehiv—dull knife
Wokaihwokomas—white
antelope

DAKOTA

Ciqala—little one
Hinto—blue
Maza Blaska—flat iron
Tasunke—horse
Tatanka-ptecila—short bull
Tokala—fox
Wambli-waste—good eagle
Wicasa—sage

HOPI

Ahiliya—meaning unknown
Ahote—restless one

Alo—spiritual guide
Alosaka—myth name
Aponivi—where the wind blows
down the gap
Ayawamat—one who follows
orders
Cha'akmongwi—crier chief
Cha'tima—caller
Chavatangakwunua—short
rainbow
Cheveyo—spirit warrior
Chochmo—mud mound
Chochokpi—throne for the
clouds
Chochuschuvio—white-tailed
deer
Choovio—antelope
Choviohoya—young deer
Chowilawu—joined together by
water
Chu'a—snake
Chuchip—deer spirit
Chunta—cheating
Hania—spirit warrior
Hawiovi—going down the ladder
Honani—badger
Honaw—bear
Hototo—warrior spirit who
sings; he who whistles
Istaqa—coyote man
Kachada—white man
Kele—sparrow
Kolichiyaw—skunk
Kotori—screech owl spirit
Kwahu—eagle
Kwatoko—bird with big beak
Lansa—lance
Lapu—cedar bark

Len—flute
Machakw—horny toad
Makya—eagle hunter
Masichuvio—gray deer
Mochni—talking bird
Moki—deer
Mongwau—owl
Nukpana—evil
Omawnakw—cloud feather
Pachu'a—feathered water snake
Pahana—lost white brother
Pivane—weasel
Qaletaqu—guardian of the
people
Qochata—white man
Sikyahonaw—yellow bear
Sikyatavo—yellow rabbit
Sowi'ngwa—black-tailed deer
Tangakwunu—rainbow
Tocho—mountain lion
Tohopka—wild beast
Wikvaya—one who brings

MIWOK

Elki—meaning unknown
Helki—touch
Hesutu—yellow jacket's nest
rising out of the ground
Honon—bear
Howi—turtledove
Kono—meaning unknown
Kosumi—fishes for salmon with
spear
Lanu—meaning unknown
Leyati—shaped like an abalone
shell
Lise—salmon's head rising
above water

Liwanu—growl of a bear
Lokni—rain falls through the
roof
Misu—rippling brook
Molimo—bear walking into
shade
Momuso—meaning unknown
Mona—gathers jimson weed
seed
Muata—yellow jackets inside a
nest
Oya—jacksnipe
Sewati—curved bear claw
Telutci, Tuketu—bear making
dust
Tupi—to pull up
Uzumati—bear
Wuyi—soaring turkey vulture

NAVAJO

Ahiga—he fights
Ashkii—boy
Ata'halne'—he interrupts
Bidziil—he is strong
Bilagaana—white person
Gaagii—raven
Gad—juniper tree
Hastiin—man
Hok'ee—abandoned
Naalnish—he works
Naalyehe Ya Sidahi—trader
Nastas—curve like foxtail grass
Niichaad—swollen
Niyol—wind
Sani—old one
Shilah—brother
Shiye—son
Shizhe'e—father

Sicheii—grandfather
Sike—he sits at home
Sik'is—friend
T'iis—cottonwood
Tse—rock
Tsiishch'ili—curly-haired
Yanisin—ashamed
Yas—snow
Yiska—the night has passed

PAWNEE

Kuruk—bear
Shiriki—coyote

SIOUX

Akecheta—fighter
Chankoowashtay—good road
Chayton—falcon
Enapay—brave
Hotah—white
Howahkan—of the mysterious
voice
Kangee—raven
Kohana—swift
Lootah—red
Mahkah—earth
Mahpee—sky

Matoskah—white bear
Napayshni—strong, courageous
Odakota—friend
Ogaleesha—wears a red shirt
Ohanzee—shadow
Ohitekah—brave
Otaktay—kills many
Paytah—fire
Skah—white
Takoda—friend to everyone
Teetonka—talks too much
Wahchinksapa—wise
Wahchintonka—has much
practice
Wahkan—sacred
Wamblee—eagle
Wambleeska—white eagle
Wanageeska—white spirit
Wanahton—charger
Wanikiya—savior
Weayaya—setting sun
Yahto—blue

WINNEBAGO

Chas-chunk-a—wave
He-lush-ka—fighter
Nawkaw—wood

NORWEGIAN

Before surnames became common in Norway, people were identified by their given name plus their father's name, the name of their residence, or a distinctive trait. Traditional surnames started in urban areas around the sixteenth century and spread to the rural areas in the late nineteenth century. Surnames were used first by the nobility and military officers and then spread down the social ladder. The first surnames were patronymic and included the suffixes *-sen* or *-son* (son) or *-datter* or *-dotter* (daughter). Rural people were identified by their given name along with their father's, followed by the name of their residence, (frequently called a farm name) which was subject to change whenever they moved. But in 1923 a law was passed requiring everyone to have a fixed surname.

A few surnames based either on a patronymic or a place name:

Adrisson	Kittelsen
Ambjornsen	Mortenson
Amundsen	Nansen
Anderson	Nilsen
Arnfindatter	Olavson
Austreim	Olsen
Bjornson	Olessdatter
Eiriksdatter	Opstvedt
Elvestad	Pedersdatter
Gasdeilde	Rasmusdatter
Halvorsen	Sjursen
Hamsun	Skredsvig
Hansen	Solheim
Heyerdahl	Stenerud
Holfeldt	Torkjelson
lbsen	Trondhjem
Jacobsen	Undset
Johansseson	

FEMALE

- Aase—tree-covered mountain
Alfdís—spirit
Amma—grandmother
Andras—breath
Anselma—divine helmet (form of Anselm)
Arna—eagle (form of Arnold)
Arnbjörg—eagle protection
Arndís—eagle spirit
Arnora—light eagle
Arnthrud—meaning unknown
Asdís—divine spirit
Ase, Asta—tree
Ashild, Ashilde, Ashilda—god-fighting
Aslaug—devoted to God
Astrid, Astra, Astred, Astryd, Astryr, Astrud—divine strength
Aud, Auda—wealthy
Auhild, Audhilde, Audhilda—rich, warrior-woman
Audney—newfound wealth
Audun, Auduna—deserted
Bera—spirited
Bergdís—spirit protection
Bergthora—Thor's spirit (form of Bergthor)
Björk—meaning unknown
Bo—householder
Bodil, Bodile, Bodilla—fighting woman
Borgny—help
Botilda—commanding
Brenda—sword
Brita, Britta, Brit—from Britain
Brynhild, Brynhilde, Brunhilda, Brunhild, Brunnehilde—armored battle-maid
Brynja—dark
Dagmar—maiden of the day
Dagna—splendid day
Dagný—joy of the Danes
Dahlia, Dalr—from the valley
Dale—lives in the valley
Disa, Diss—spirited
Dyrfinna—deer, Finn
Edda, Eda—poetic
Eldrid—fiery spirit
Elle—old age
Ellisif—consecrated to God (form of Elizabeth)
Embla—from an elm
Erica, Erika, Ricci, Rika—eternal ruler (form of Eric)
Fjarskafinn—meaning unknown
Flos—chieftain
Frida, Frieda—beautiful
Frikka, Frika—peaceful ruler
Frodis—meaning unknown
Gala, Gale—lovely voice
Gerd, Gerda, Gerdie, Garth—protected
Gjaflaug—meaning unknown
Gro, Groa—gardener
Gudrun, Guro, Gudrid—divine knowledge
Gunhilde, Gunnhild, Gunhilda, Gunnhildr—battle-maid
Gunnvor—meaning unknown
Guri—lovely
Gyda, Gytha, Guthr—warlike

Hakan—noble
Haldana—half-Dane
Haldis, Halldis—firm helper
Haldora, Halldora—half-spirited
Halfrid, Hallfrid, Halfrida—
peaceful heroine
Halla, Hallgerd, Hallgerda—
half-protected
Halveig, Hallveig—meaning
unknown
Haralda—army ruler (form of
Harold)
Hekja—saga name
Helga, Helge—holy
Helle—meaning unknown
Hildegunn, Hildigunn—warrior-
woman
Hulda—hidden
Hvergelmir—home of Nidhug;
myth name
Idona, Idun, Iduna, Idunn—
active in love
Ingeborg, Injerd, Ingibjorg—
Ing's protection
Ingemar—of the sea
Inger—daughter of a hero
Ingrid, Ingrit, Ingrida—beauty of
Froy
Ingunn—loved by Froy
Jorunn—chief's love
Katla—meaning unknown
Kelda—fountain
Kelsey, Kelci, Kelda—from the
ship's island
Kirsten—believes in Christ
(form of Christian)
Linnea—lime tree
Liv—life

Magna—strong
Magnild, Magnilde, Magnilda—
strong fighter
Marianne—bitter grace
Mildri—mild and lovely
Norberta, Njorthrbiartr—bright
hero (form of Norbert)
Oda, Odd—point
Oddfrid—beautiful point
Oddny—new point
Oddveig, Oddnaug—pointed
woman
Ola—ancestor (form of Olaf)
Olaug—of the ancestors
Olga—holy
Ragnfrid, Ragni, Randi—lovely,
goddess
Ragnild, Ragnilde, Ragna,
Ragnhild—one who is wise
in battle
Rana, Rania—nobility
Ranveig, Rannveig, Ronnaug—
housewoman
Reidun—lovely in the nest
Rona, Runa—mighty strength
Ronalda—mighty, powerful
(form of Ronald)
Sigourney—conqueror
Sigrid, Sigrath—victorious
counselor
Sissell—without sight
Siv—kinswoman
Solveig—housewoman
Svanhild, Svanhile, Svenhilda,
Svenhilde—swan, warrior
Thorberta, Thorbiartr,
Torberta—brilliance of Thor
Thorbjorg—protected by Thor

Thordis, Thordissa, Thoridyss,
Thordia—spirit of Thor
Thorgerd—Thor's protection
Thorgunna, Torgunna,
Thorgunn—Thor's fighter
Thorhild, Thorhilda—Thor's
maiden
Tora, Tordis, Thora, Thorir—
Thor, goddess
Toril—Thor-inspired fighting
woman

Torne, Torny, Torney—Thor, new
Torunn—Thor's love
Tove—good
Trine—innocent
Trude, Truda—strong
Uald—ruler
Unn, Unne—love
Valda—spirited in war
Valgerd—ruling protection
Yule—born during Yule

MALE

Aage, Age, Ake—ancestors
Aesire, Aegir—of the gods
Afi—grandfather
Alf—dead and living in the
underworld
Alfgeir—elfin spear
Alfrothul—of the sun
Alvis, Alviss—wise
Amhlaobh, Auliffe—relic from
the ancestor
Amund, Amundi—bridal gift
Ander—manly (form of Andrew)
Annar—father of the world
Aren—eagle (from of Arnold)
Aricin, Arkin, Arkyn—eternal
king's son
Arild—battle commander
Arngeir—eagle spear
Arngrim—saga name
Arnlaug—eagle; devoted
Arnljot—frightens eagles
Arons—from the river's mouth
Arvid, Arve—eagle tree
Asbiorn, Asbjorn—divine bear

Asgaut—divine Goth
Asgeir, Ansgar, Asgerd—spear
of the gods
Ask—from the ash tree
Audolf—wolf's friend
Audun—friend of wealth
Bard—good fighter
Bekan—meaning unknown
Bergthor—Thor's spirit
Birger—rescuer
Bjarne, Bjorn, Bjarni—bear
Bjornolf—bear-wolf
Blund—saga name
Bo—householder
Bodil—leader
Bodolf—wolf leader
Bond—peasant farmer
Booth, Bothi, Bothe—herald
Borg—from the castle
Brand, Brander, Brandr—sword
Brede—broad
Brian, Bryan—strong
Bruin—legend name
Buri—meaning unknown

Burnaby, Bionbyr—warrior's estate
 Burr—young
 Busby, Busbyr—dwells at the village
 Cadby—from the warrior's settlement
 Canute, Cnute, Cnut—knot
 Carr—from the marsh
 Cawley, Cauley—relic
 Colby—from the dark village
 Cort, Cortie—short
 Crosby—dwells by the town cross
 Dag—day
 Dana, Dain, Dane, Denby, Danb, Den, Denny, Derby, Danby—from Denmark
 Darby—from the deer estate
 Davin, Davyn—intelligent
 Delling, Dellingr—shining
 Desiderio—desired (form of Desirata)
 Digby, Dikibyr—from the dike settlement
 Donner—meaning unknown
 Dreng—warrior
 Duartr—rich guardian (form of Edward)
 Dustin—warrior
 Dyre, Dyri—dear
 Egil, Eigel—inspires fright
 Einar, Enar—fighter
 Elphin—meaning unknown
 Elvis—sage
 Eric, Erik, Erick, Eirik, Eryk, Eikki—eternal ruler
 Erland—leader
 Erling—chief's son
 Esbjorn—bear of the gods
 Eske—spear of the gods
 Eskil—vessel of the gods
 Eystein, Eistein—lucky
 Faste—firm
 Fell, Fjall—from the rough hill
 Finn—finder
 Freystein—rock-hard
 Frode—wise
 Gamble—old
 Garth, Garrett, Garet—defender
 Garton—farmer
 Gaute—great
 Geir, Geiri—spear
 Geirleif—spear descendant
 Geirolf—wolf spear
 Geirstein—rock-hard spear
 Gilby—pledge
 Gjest—stranger
 Gudbrand, Gudbrande—weapon of the gods
 Gunnar—bold warrior
 Gunnbjorn—fighting bear
 Gunnolf—fighting wolf
 Gus, Gustav—staff of God
 Hakon, Haaken—of the chosen race
 Hallam—from the hillside
 Hallbjorn—rock bear
 Halvdan, Halden—half-Dane
 Halvor, Halvard—rock defender
 Hamar, Hammer—hammer
 Hans—legend name
 Harald, Harold, Haral, Herrick, Harry, Hal, Herryk—army ruler
 Hauk—hawk

Havelock, Hafleikr—sea war
 Helgi—holy (form of Helga)
 Hesketh—horseracing
 Hilario—happy (form of Hilary)
 Holger—spear, weapon
 Howe—burial hill
 Hrani—meaning unknown
 Hringham—meaning unknown
 Hrolf—wolf (form of Rolf)
 Hrolleif—old wolf
 Hugin—thoughtful
 Inger, Ingharr—son's army
 Inghram, Ingram—Ing's raven
 Ingmar, Ingemar, Ingemur—
 famous son
 Ingolf—Ing's wolf
 Ivar, Ivor—archer
 Johannes, Johanne—legend
 name
 Kali—meaning unknown
 Kare, Kari—tremendous
 Karli—manly (form of Charles)
 Karr, Kerr, Kiarr—from the
 marsh
 Kell, Keldan—from the spring
 Kelsey, Kiollsig, Kelsig—from
 the ship's island
 Kirby, Krikjabyr—from the
 church village
 Kirk—dwells at the church
 Kleng—has claws
 Knud—kind
 Knut, Knutr—knot
 Kol—dark
 Kolbyr—from the dark
 settlement
 Koll, Kolli—dark
 Kollvein—dark, young

Kolskegg—meaning unknown
 Kort—short
 Krossbyr—dwells at the shrine
 of the cross
 Kuanbyr—from the woman's
 estate
 Lamont, Lamond, Lagmann—
 lawyer
 Lang—tall
 Latham—division
 Leidolf—wolf descendant
 Leif, Lief—descendant
 Lunt—from the grove
 Magnor, Magnild, Magne,
 Magnus—strong fighter
 Mikkell—who is like God (form of
 Michael)
 Narfi—meaning unknown
 Norbert, Norberto,
 Njorthrbiartr—bright hero
 Odd—point
 Oddleif—point descendant
 Oddvar—pointable
 Odell—wealthy
 Olave, Oilibhear, Olaf, Olin,
 Olyn, Olen, Ola, Ole, Olav,
 Olof—ancestor
 Oleif—relic descendant
 Oliver, Olvaerr, Olvir—
 affectionate
 Os—divine
 Oscar, Oskar—divine spear
 Osgood—divine god
 Ottar—fighter
 Ove—ancestor
 Oysten, Ostein, Osten—happy
 Quemby, Quimby—from the
 woman's estate

LYNN EMERY



Lynn Emery sold her first novel, *Night Magic*, to Kensington Publishing.

It went on to be recognized for Excellence in Romance Fiction for 1995 by *Romantic Times* magazine. Her third novel, *After All*, became a movie produced by BET. She has also published her multicultural romances with Harper Torch and Jove Books.

Raenette “Rae” Dalcour, blues singer and guitarist, is the heroine in my novel *Sweet Mystery*. In the backstory she explains that her mother was a Ray Charles fan. Since his backup female group was known as the Raelettes, Rae’s mother added *ette* to her name to honor both. I love the blues more than any other music genre, but I can’t play the guitar or sing. I got to live my dream through that character.

My favorite character name is Hercule Poirot, the Belgian detective from Agatha Christie’s wonderful mystery novels. The name suits him perfectly. The very sound of it implies someone of fastidious habits, which of course he is. *Mon Dieu!*



- | | |
|---|---|
| Ragnor, Ragnar, Raynor,
Rainer—wise warrior | Rutland, Rotland—from the root
land |
| Reidar, Reider—fighter of the
nest | Saxby—from the farm of the
short sword |
| Reynard—legend name | Sigurd, Sigvard, Sigurdhr, Siv,
Sijur, Syver, Sigvat—
victorious defender |
| Ric—honorable ruler | Skerry, Skereye—rocky island |
| Roald—mighty, powerful (form
of Ronald) | Skipp—ship’s captain |
| Roar—fighter of praise | Skule, Skuli—hide |
| Rolf—wolf | Stein—stone |
| Roscoe, Raskogr—from the deer
forest | Steinar—rock-hard fighter |
| Rothwell, Rauthuell—dwells
near the red spring | Steinbjorn—rock bear |
| Royd, Riodhr—from the forest
clearing | Steinolf—rock wolf |
| Rune—secret | Steinthor—Thor’s rock |
| | Stian—swift |
| | Storr—great |

Sutherland, Suthrland—from
the south
Svan, Svann—swan
Svend, Svein, Svewn, Sveyn—
young
Tait, Tayte—happy
Terje, Torgeir, Torger, Tarjei—
spear of Thor
Thorald, Thorualdr, Torald,
Torvald—Thor ruler
Thorbert, Thorbiartr—the
glorious Thor
Thorbjor, Throburn—bear of
Thor
Thorleif—Thor's descendant
Thorolf—Thor's wolf
Thororm—saga name
Thorstein—Thor's rock
Thurlow—from Thor's hill

Torgny—Thor's loud weapon
Torquil—Thor's cauldron
Trigg, Trygg, Tryggr—true
Trond, Tron—growing
Trygve—brave victory
Turpin, Thorfinn—Finnish man
of Thor
Tuxford—from the spearman's
ford
Uigbiorn, Ugbjorn—war bear
Ulf—wolf
Ulmer, Ulfmaerr—famous wolf
Ura—from the corner property
Vegard—protection
Vegeir—great sacrificer
Vidar—tree-fighter
Vigrid—battleground
Wray—from the corner property
Wyborn, Wybjorn—war bear

PERSIAN

Persia is a geographic region roughly corresponding to Iran, but the Persian ethnicity, language, and culture extends into some regions of India, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, and Uzbekistan. Iran was called Persia until 1935. The primary religion in Iran is Islam, but Iran is 50 to 70 percent Persian in ethnicity. The language of Iran is Persian, also called Farsi.

Names in Iran usually consist of a first name and surname. Surnames were not used until 1926, when new laws forced everyone to register a surname and all married women to take the name of their husband's family. Nicknames were not tolerated. Surnames are passed down from father to children. Many citizens added a place name to their surname with a hyphen. The place name is usually followed by the suffix *-i*.

A few surnames:

Agassi	Maybodi
Alavi	Mehran
Amini	Moazami
Ansari	Naderi
Baraheri	Neekzad
Borzorg	Nemazi
Borzorg-Alavi	Pahlavi
Bozorgi	Pakravan
Caspari	Reyahni
Dulabi	Sattar
Firouzi	Shamsi
Ghaffari	Sharifi
Habibi	Sherafat
Hedayat	Talavi
Hosseini	Tehrani
Kazemi	Vali

FEMALE

Amira—king (form of Amir)	Narda—anointed
Arezou—wishful	Nasrin—wild rose
Azadeh—without possessions	Pari—myth name
Azar, Azara—scarlet	Parisa—angelic
Azura, Azur—blue	Parvaneh—butterfly
Cyra—moon	Roshan—glorious light
Daria, Darya—preserver	Roxana, Roxanne—bright; dawn
Darice—queen	Sadira—dreamy
Esther—star	Shabnan—raindrop
Farah—happy	Shahdi—happy
Farideh—delightful	Shahin—eagle
Gatha—song	Shahnaz—ruler's pride
Gelsey—flower	Shirin—charming
Golnar—fire	Sholeh—fire
Hester, Hetty, Hestia—star	Simin—silver
Jaleh—rain	Soraya—name of a princess
Jasmine, Jessamine—jasmine	Soroushi—happiness (form of Soroush)
Kira—sun	Taraneh—song
Kismet—fate	Vashti—beautiful
Laleh—flower	Yasmin, Yasmina, Yasmine, Yasmeen, Yasmena—jasmine
Lila, Lilac—lilac	
Marjan—coral	
Minau—heaven	
Mitra—angel's name	Zenda—womanly
Nahid—myth name	Zuleika—wise beauty

MALE

Ahura Mazda—lord	Behrooz—lucky
Amir—king	Caspar, Casper—treasurer
Asha—protector of fire; myth name	Cyrus—sun
Assim—great one	Dareh—rich
Bahar, Baharak—spring	Darioush—name of a king
Bahram—name of a Persian king	Darius—preserver
Balthasar—war adviser	Fariel—meaning unknown
	Feroz—lucky

Gaspar, Gazsi—treasurer (form of Casper)
Ghebers, Guebers—followers of ancient Persian religion
Jamsheed—Persian
Jasper—treasurer (form of Casper)
Kansbar—treasure master
Kaveh—name of a hero
Khorshed—sun
Ksathra—ruler
Kurush—myth name
Majeed—superior
Majnoon—a historical name
Mehrddad—gift from the sun

Melchior—king
Nasim—breeze
Rashne—judge
Roshan—light bearer
Saeed, Said, Soroush—happy
Sarosh—prayer
Shabouh—meaning unknown
Shah—king
Shatrevar—power; myth name
Sohrab—name of a hero
Soroush—happiness
Tab, Tabb, Tabor—drum
Tallis—wise one
Val—high hill
Xerxes—prince
Zoroaster—star

POLISH

Polish surnames are patronymic, occupational, or descriptive. Place names are also used. By 1500, most of the nobility had surnames ending with *-ski* or *-ska* that were distributed by the king as a way of honoring them. Surnames derived from saints' names were used by the urban classes.

Common suffixes:

-yk, -ak, -ek, -czyk, -czak, -czek—little

-slaw (males), -slawa (female)—glory

-dski, -cki, -ski (male), -ska (female)—these suffixes linked aristocrats' names with the estates they owned.

When used with a Christian name by the lower classes, these suffixes meant “son of” or “daughter of”:

-owski—place name

-lis—male

-lisowa—married woman

-lisowna—unmarried female

A few surnames:

Adamczyk

Banaszak

Brzezinski

Bykowski

Cegielski

Chodakowski

Chudzik

Dabrowski

Dekownik

Denys

Dlugosz

Dolinski

Frankowski

Jankowski

Karpinski

Klimas

Klimek

Kowalksi

Krupinski

Kryszka

Kurowski

Levitsky

Ludwiczak

Makowski

Michalski

Nowakowski

Ostrowski

Pulawski

Robak

Staszak

Wojno

Zwolinski

FEMALE

- Adelajda—noble (form of Adelaide)
Albinka—blonde
Aldona—old
Alina—beautiful
Alka—intelligent
Anastazja—one who will be reborn (form of Anastasia)
Ania, Anka—grace (form of Anne)
Aniela—heavenly messenger, angel
Antonina—priceless (form of Anthony)
Balbina—strong, stammers
Basha, Basia—stranger
Beate, Beata—blessed
Bodgana, Bohgana, Bogna—gift from God (form of Bohdan)
Celinka, Celek—myth name
Danuta—little deer
Dorota—God's gift (form of Dorothy)
Edyta—wealthy gift (form of Edith)
Elwira—white (form of Elvira)
Elzbieta—consecrated to God (form of Elizabeth)
Euzebia—pious
Ewa—life (form of Eve)
Felka, Fela, Felcia—lucky
Franciszka—free (form of Francis)
Gizela—pledge
Grazyna—grace (form of Grace)
Gutka—good
Halina—light (form of Helen)
Henka, Heniuta—rules the home (form of Henry)
Hortensja—gardener (form of Hortense)
Iwona—bow of yew (form of Yvonne)
Jadwiga—refuge in war
Janecska, Jana, Jasia, Joanka—gracious God (form of John)
Jolanta—violet
Kamilka, Kamilla—ceremonial attendant
Karol—manly (form of Charles)
Kassia, Kasienska, Kaska—pure (form of Katherine)
Katarzyna, Katrine, Katya, Katine—pure (form of Katherine)
Klaudia—lame (form of Claude)
Krystynka, Krysta, Krystka, Krystyn—believes in Christ (form of Christian)
Kunigunde, Kunegundy—name of a queen
Lechsinska—wood nymph
Lidia—from Lydia
Lila—of the people
Lilka, Ludka, Lodoiska, Luisa—famous battle-maid
Lucja, Lucyna—light (form of Luke)
Malgorzata, Margisia—pearl (form of Margaret)
Marta, Marsia, Marysia, Macia—bitter (form of Mary)

Marzina—warlike
 Matylida—strong battle-maid
 (form of Matilda)
 Mela, Melka—dark
 Minka—strong
 Morela—apricot
 Nadzia, Nata, Natia—hope
 Nelka—stone
 Olesia—defender of mankind
 (form of Alexandra)
 Otylia—lucky heroine
 Paulina—small (form of Paul)
 Petronela, Petra—rock (form of
 Peter)
 Rahel—ewe (form of Rachel)
 Rasia—regal
 Rasine—rose
 Rayna—queen
 Roch—glory
 Rozyczka, Roz, Roza, Rozalia—
 rose (form of Rosa)
 Sylwia—from the forest (form of
 Sylvester)

Takli—divine fame (form of
 Tekla)
 Teodory, Teodozji—God's gift
 (form of Theodore)
 Tesia—loved by God
 Tola—priceless
 Valeska—glorious ruler
 Vanda—wanderer (form of
 Wanda)
 Weronika—honest image (form
 of Veronica)
 Wiktorja, Wiktorja, Wikta—
 victorious (form of Victoria)
 Wirke, Wira—white
 Yachne—kind
 Zanna—God's gracious gift
 Zefiryňa—zephyr
 Zofia, Zosia—wise (form of
 Sophia)
 Zuzanny, Zuzanna—lily (form of
 Susan)
 Zytka, Zyta—strong

MALE

Adok—dark
 Adolf—noble wolf (form of
 Adolph)
 Albin—white (form of Alban)
 Aleksander, Aleksy—defender of
 mankind (form of
 Alexander)
 Andrzej—manly (form of
 Andrew)
 Apoloniusz—manly beauty;
 myth name (form of Apollo)
 Armand, Armandek—soldier
 (form of Herman)

Aron—high mountain; lofty
 (form of Aaron)
 Artur—noble bear (form of
 Arthur)
 Augustyn—great (form of
 August)
 Aurek, Aureli—blond
 Bazyli—kingly
 Bendyk, Bendek—blessed (form
 of Benedict)
 Bialy, Bialas—white-haired
 Bogumil—God's peace

Boguslaw—God's glory
 Borys—stranger
 Boryslaw—stranger, glory
 Casimir, Kazmer—destroys
 peace
 Cyprian—from Cyprus
 Cyrek, Cyryl—lordly (form of
 Cyril)
 Czeslaw—fortress glory
 Dionizy—god of wine (form of
 Dionysus)
 Dobieslaw—glory of Dionysus
 Dobry—goodly
 Dodek—hero
 Donat—gift (form of Donato)
 Dorek—gift from God
 Dymitr—meaning unknown
 Elek—blond
 Emilian—active
 Erek, Eryk—lovable
 Feliks—happy (form of Felix)
 Flawiusz—yellow (form of
 Flavian)
 Florian—blooming (form of
 Florian)
 Franciszek—free (form of
 Francis)
 Fryderyk—peaceful ruler (form
 of Frederick)
 Gerik—wealthy spearman
 Gerwazy—warrior
 Grzegorz—watchful (form of
 Gregory)
 Henryk—rules the home (form
 of Henry)
 Hieronim—sacred (form of
 Jerome)
 Holleb—dove
 Jacek—lily
 Jack, Janek, Jan—God's gracious
 gift
 Jarek, Januarius—born in
 January
 Jedrik, Jedrek, Jedrus—strong
 Jerzy—farmer (form of George)
 Josep, Jozef—God adds (form of
 Joseph)
 Kazimierz—destroys peace
 (form of Casimir)
 Konstancy—constant (form of
 Constantine)
 Krzysztof—Christ-bearer (form
 of Christopher)
 Laiurenty—laurel (form of
 Lawrence)
 Lech—founder of Poland; myth
 name
 Liuz—light
 Lubomir—loves peace
 Lucjan—light (form of Luke)
 Ludoslaw, Luboslaw—loves
 glory
 Ludwik—famous in war (form of
 Louis)
 Lukasz—light (form of Luke)
 Maksym, Maksymilian—great
 (form of Maximillian)
 Mandek, Mandex—warrior
 Marek, Marcin, Marcinek—
 warlike
 Maury, Maurycy—dark-skinned
 (form of Maurice)
 Mikolaj, Mikolai—victory of the
 people (form of Nicholas)
 Miron—peace
 Nelek—horn

Nikodem—conqueror of the people	Szymon—God is heard (form of Simon)
Oles—defender of mankind (form of Alexander)	Tanek—immortal
Onufry—meaning unknown	Telek—cuts iron
Patryk—noble (form of Patrick)	Teodor—God's gift (form of Theodore)
Pawelek, Pawel, Pawl—small (form of Paul)	Tomasz—twin (form of Thomas)
Piotr, Pietrek—rock (form of Peter)	Tomislaw—glory of the twin
Radoslaw—loves peace	Tolek, Teos—gift of God
Rafal—healed by God (form of Raphael)	Tytus—Old Roman name
Rajmund—mighty protector (form of Raymond)	Waldemar—strong ruler
Rufin—red-haired (form of Rufus)	Walenty—strong, healthy
Ryszard—strong ruler (form of Richard)	Walerian, Waleron—brave, strong
Sergiusz—servant (form of Sergio)	Wienczyslaw—victory
Seweryn—severe (form of Severin)	Wiktor—victorious (form of Victor)
Stefan, Szczepan—crowned in victory (form of Stephen)	Wincenty, Wicus—victorious (form of Vincent)
	Wit—life
	Zarek—God protect the king
	Ziven—lively
	Zygmunt—conquering protection

POLYNESIAN

Polynesia is a large group of islands in the South Pacific, including Hawaii, Tahiti, Samoa, and Tonga. Polynesians speak a number of closely related languages. Naming practices vary not only island by island, but within groups on the islands as well. Be sure to research carefully before you name your Polynesian characters.

Polynesian given names almost always carry a meaning. They may contain components of ancestor names or refer to significant events at the time of the person's birth or in the family history. Some names are phrases and can be very long compared to traditional European names. Before foreigners came to the islands, a Polynesian went by one given name, but it was not unusual for a person to change his name or be given a new name in honor of a special event in that person's life.

When missionaries and foreign governments came to the Polynesian islands, they often began a campaign against native languages and customs. Surnames were introduced and Christian first names were assigned in addition to or instead of Polynesian names. For some time, parents would give their children a Polynesian name only as a middle name, if at all. Recently, there has been a resurgence in pride in the native cultures, and children are more likely to be given a Polynesian first name. In Hawaii, natives were required by law to adopt European naming conventions starting in 1860. Only in 1967 did it become legal to carry a Hawaiian, rather than Christian, first name.

A person's lineage was (and is) very important in Polynesia. Surnames are a foreign introduction, but in Hawaii, a person's name would occasionally be followed by a patronymic: the word *a* (of) and the father's given name. A matronymic (*a* plus the mother's first name) would be used if her bloodline was more prominent. Modern Polynesian surnames may contain elements of ancestors' given names. Many Polynesian surnames are foreign in origin because of the influence of missionaries and colonial governments as well as intermarriage with outsiders. In Hawaii, for instance, there are many American, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Philippine surnames.

A few surnames:

Aheona

Ahina

Hanohano

Hapai

Inouye

Iokepa

Kaapuiki

Kaaua

Kahananoku

Kaneapua

Kaulupali

Kealoha

Naikelekele

Nailima

Nalatu

Tatupu

Tonono

Topeni

FEMALE

Ema—beloved

Heirani—sky crown

Hika—daughter

Hine—maiden

Hirawa—silver

Hoku—star

Inas—wife of the moon

Kaimi—seeker

Kaula—prophet

Kiri—tree bark

Kohia—passionflower

Kura—red

Lana—float

Lani, Loni—sky

Leilani—heavenly flower

Mahina—moon

Mahuru—spring goddess

Maru—kind

Matahina—goddess eyes

Maylea—wildflower

Mere—bitterly wanted child

Moeata—sleeping cloud

Moerani—sleeping sky

Mohea—beautiful princess

Nahini—total woman

Nani—beautiful

Poehina—moon pearl

Puaiti—little flower

Rangi—heaven

Ranitea—clear sky

Rata—chieftain

Rewa—slender

Tama—son

Taranga—legendary figure

Tehani—floral caress

Tera—sun

Teora, Ora—life

Turua—beautiful

Ulani—cheerful

MALE

Alika—defender
Amana—ruler
Anui—large canoe
Arana—handsome
Arava—lusty child
Ariki—chief
Atiu—eldest
Hori—farmer
Ihorangi—rain
Irawaru—legendary figure
Kauri—tree
Keoni—righteous
Kereteki—myth name
Konane—bright moon
Kupe—explorer
Lani—sky
Manu—man of birds
Marama—man of the moon

Matareka—smiling one
Maui—legendary hero
Ora—life
Oroiti—slow
Ra'anui—sacred
Rahiti—rising sun
Rangi—heaven
Rata—chieftain
Rongo—god of rain
Tama—son
Tane—god name
Tangaroa—from the sea
Tawhiri—storm
Teva—name of a clan
Tiki—spirit
Turi—chieftain name
Ulani—cheerful
Whetu—star

PORTUGUESE

A Portuguese name consists of a first name and two last names: the mother's surname and the father's surname, in that order. A woman may add her husband's surname when she gets married, but this is becoming less common. When she marries Duarte Costa Silva, Olivia Dias Salazar may keep her name as is, add her husband's surname (Olivia Dias Salazar Silva), or drop her mother's surname and append her husband's (Olivia Salazar Silva). The two surnames a child receives are his grandfathers' surnames—in other words, the father's surname from each of his parents: Gloria Salazar Silva.

Just as English-speaking people use suffixes like Jr. and III to differentiate between family members with the same name, the Portuguese use Filho (son), Neto (grandson), and occasionally Sobrinho (nephew). These suffixes were treated as part of the name, but their use is falling out of practice.

A few surnames:

Andrade	Magellan
Azocar	Oliveira
Barreto	Paneira
Barros	Rios
Caldeira	Salazar
Costa	Serrão
Da Silva	Silva
Dias	Souza
Dourado	Travada
Figuiera	Vento
Lapuenta	

FEMALE

Adelina—noble (form of Adelaide)	Benigna—friendly (form of Benigno)
Amalia, Amelia—hardworking	Branca—white, fair
Andrea, Andreia—manly (form of Andrew)	Bruna—dark-haired (form of Brun)
Assuncao—assumption	Calisto—beautiful

- Carmo—garden
- Catarina—pure (form of Katherine)
- Cecilia—blind (form of Cecil)
- Celia—heaven (form of Celio)
- Cintia—woman of Kynthos; the moon; myth name
- Clara, Clarissa—clear, bright (form of Clare)
- Cristina—believes in Christ (form of Christian)
- Daniela—God is my judge (form of Daniel)
- Diamantina—diamond
- Dores—sorrow (form of Dolores)
- Doroteia—God's gift (form of Dorothy)
- Edite—wealthy gift (form of Edith)
- Efigenia, Eugenia—well-born (form of Eugenia)
- Elena—light (form of Eleanor)
- Elzira—gift to God
- Emilia, Emiliana—rival (form of Emil)
- Estela, Ester—star (form of Esther)
- Eufemia—well-spoken
- Eulalia—well-spoken
- Fabiana—bean farmer (form of Fabian)
- Fatima—name of pilgrimage site
- Felicidade—happy (form of Felix)
- Fia—weaver
- Filipa—lover of horses (form of Philip)
- Filomena—lover of man
- Flavia—yellow (form of Flavian)
- Fortunata—fortunate
- Gertrudes—strong with a spear (form of Gertrude)
- Glaucia—bluish gray (form of Glaucio)
- Gloria—glory
- Graca—grace (form of Grace)
- Guiomar—famous in battle
- Herminia—from the Roman god Hermes
- Imaculada—clean, immaculate
- Ines, Inez—pure (form of Agnes)
- Irma—whole, strong
- Isabel, Isabela—consecrated to God (form of Elizabeth)
- Isadora, Isidora—gift of Isis
- Isaura—from Isauria
- Jacinta—hyacinth (form of Hyacinth)
- Jesusa—God saves (form of Jesus)
- Joana—gracious God (form of John)
- Josefa—God adds (form of Joseph)
- Jovita—from the Roman god Jove
- Julia, Juliana, Liana—youthful (form of Julius)
- Laura, Lorena—laurel (form of Lawrence)
- Leocadia—bright, clear; saint's name
- Leonor—light (form of Eleanor)
- Leticia—happy (form of Letitia)
- Lidia—from Lydia
- Ligia—beautiful voice
- Lilian—lily
- Livia—envious
- Lourdes, Lurdes—place name, pilgrimage site

EVAN MARSHALL



Evan Marshall is the president of the Evan Marshall Agency, a literary agency that specializes in representing novelists. He is the international best-selling author of the Marshall Plan series of novel writing guides. He also writes the popular Jane Stuart and Winky mysteries.

The first question I ask myself when naming a character is whether a name I have in mind fits the character's personality as I've defined it so far. This is a "gut" thing; we all have preconceived ideas of how people with certain names look and act. I never select a name first and then define the character, because when I do this I find that the character's personality ends up suiting the name.

When weighing names, I keep these questions in mind:

- Does the character's background suggest any names or types of names?
- Would the character's parents have been likely to choose a certain name or kind of name?
- What names were in fashion when the character was born?
- Would a nickname or less formal version of a name be appropriate for this person?

Additionally, I apply these rules:

- I try (at least with my major characters) to have all first and last names start with a different letter. I keep a simple alphabetical list.
 - I vary the sound and length of characters' first and last names.
 - I avoid using all Anglo names.
 - I avoid using names that end alike or similarly.
 - I try to avoid using names that end in *s*, which make for awkward possessives.
 - I avoid overly long names, especially for my major characters.
- The star of my mystery series is simply Jane.

Lucia, Luciana, Lucinda—light
(form of Luke)
Luisa, Luiza—famous in war
(form of Louis)
Madeira—wine
Mafalda—strong battle-maid
(form of Matilda)
Manuela—God is with us (form
of Emmanuel)
Marcia, Mariana, Marina—
warlike (form of Marcus)
Margarida—pearl (form of
Margaret)
Maria, Marisa—bitter (form of
Mary)
Matilde—strong battle-maid
(form of Matilda)
Monica—counselor
Natalia, Nathalia—born on
Christmas (form of Natalie)
Neves—snowy
Ofelia—helper
Olivia—olive
Palmira—from the city of palms
Primitiva—firstborn
Rafaela—healed by God (form of
Raphael)
Raquel—ewe (form of Rachel)
Rebeca—captivating (form of
Rebecca)

Renata—reborn (form of
Renato)
Rosa, Rosalina—rose
Rute—friend (form of Ruth)
Sabina—of the Sabine people
Sanrevelle—meaning unknown
Severina—severe (form of
Severin)
Silvia—from the forest (form of
Sylvester)
Sol—sun
Sonia—wise (form of Sonya)
Susana, Suzana—lily (form of
Susan)
Telma—will
Teodora—God's gift (form of
Theodore)
Teresa, Teresinha, Tereza,
Terezinha—reaper (form of
Theresa)
Ursula—little bear
Valeria—strength (form of
Valerius)
Veronica—honest image
Vidonia—vine branch
Virginia—pure
Vitoria—victorious (form of
Victor)
Zara—flower blossom

MALE

Abel—breath
Adalberto—noble, intelligent
(form of Albert)
Adao—of the red earth (form of
Adam)

Afonso—noble and ready for
battle (form of Alphonse)
Agostinho—great (form of
August)
Alvaro—guardian



Amancio—loving	Eleuterio—free
Amaro—dark, Moorish	Elias—Jehovah is God
Ambrosio—immortal (form of Ambrose)	Elpidio—hope
Amilcar—friend of the Phoenician god Melqart (form of Hamilcar)	Eneas—praise
Anacleto, Cleto—invoked; papal name	Enrique—rules the home (form of Henry)
Anselmo—divine helmet (form of Anselm)	Estevao—crowned in victory (form of Stephen)
Atilio—ancient Etruscan name	Eusebio—historian; historical name
Benigno—friendly	Evaristo—pleasing
Bento—blessed (form of Benedict)	Fabiano, Fabio—bean farmer (form of Fabian)
Bernardino, Bernardo—strong as a bear (form of Bernard)	Fabricio—craftsman
Bras—lisp	Felipe—lover of horses (form of Philip)
Bruno—dark-haired (form of Brun)	Fernando, Fernao—adventurer (form of Ferdinand)
Carlito, Carlo, Carlos—manly (form of Charles)	Fortunato—fortunate
Casimiro—destroys peace (form of Casimir)	Gil, Gilberto—pledge (form of Gilbert)
Celio—heaven	Glaucio—bluish gray
Celso—tall	Goncalo, Gonsalvo—warrior
Cesar, Cezar—long-haired (form of Caesar)	Guiomar—famous in battle
Cristiano—believes in Christ (form of Christian)	Heitor—possess, hold
Cristovao—Christ-bearer (form of Christopher)	Herberto, Heriberto—shining warrior (form of Herbert)
Daniel, Danilo—God is my judge	Inacio—fire
Demetrio—saint's name	Jacinto—hyacinth (form of Hyacinth)
Diago, Diogo—teacher (form of Diego)	Jaime—supplanter (form of James)
Duarte, Eduardo—rich guardian (form of Edward)	Javier—owner of a new home (form of Xavier)
	Joao—gracious God (form of John)
	Joaquim—God will establish; saint name (form of Joachim)

Jorge—farmer (form of George)
 Leandro, Leonardo—brave lion
 (form of Leonard)
 Lourenco—laurel (form of
 Lawrence)
 Lucian, Luciano, Lucio—light
 (form of Luke)
 Luis, Luiz—famous in war (form
 of Louis)
 Manoel, Manuel—God is with us
 (form of Emmanuel)
 Marcelino, Marcelo, Marco,
 Marcos, Martinho—warlike
 (form of Marcus)
 Mateus, Matheus—God’s gift
 (form of Matthew)
 Maximiano, Maximiliano,
 Maximino—great (form of
 Maximillian)
 Miguel—who is like God (form of
 Michael)
 Narcisco—sleep
 Nicolau—victory of the people
 (form of Nicholas)
 Nuno—ninth
 Olavo—ancestor (form of Olaf)
 Osvaldo—God’s rule
 Otavio—born eighth
 Paulino, Paulo—small (form of
 Paul)
 Placido—tranquil
 Rafael—healed by God (form of
 Raphael)
 Raimundo, Raymundo—mighty
 protector (form of
 Raymond)
 Remigio—oarsman
 Rodrigo—famous ruler (form of
 Roderick)
 Rubens—son
 Salomao—peaceful (form of
 Solomon)
 Sergio—servant
 Simao—God is heard (form of
 Simon)
 Tadeu—heart
 Teodoro, Teodosio—God’s gift
 (form of Theodore)
 Teofilo—friend of God
 Thiago, Tiago—teacher (form of
 Diego)
 Tomas—twin (form of Thomas)
 Tristao—noisy (form of Tristan)
 Valerio—strength (form of
 Valerius)
 Vasco—crow
 Victor, Victorino, Vitor—
 victorious
 Xavier—owner of a new home
 Zeferino—breeze

RUSSIAN

Modern-day Russians have a given name, a patronymic, and a surname. The patronymic is the father's first name modified with a suffix appropriate to the gender of the child: *-evich* or *-ovich* for a boy and *-evna* or *-ovna* for a girl. If the father's first name is Ivan, for instance, the son's patronymic would be *Ivanovich* and the daughter's would be *Ivanovna*. The polite form of address is by first name and patronymic, rather than by a title (like Mr. or Mrs.) and the surname. Aleksandra Denisovna Petrova would be addressed as Aleksandra Denisovna.

As a general rule, male first names, patronymics, and surnames end in a consonant (Some male names end in *-i* or *-y* when transliterated into English—these names end in a letter that is a consonant in Cyrillic alphabet.) Female names end in *-a*, and it is not uncommon for nicknames or diminutives to end in *-a*, even for males: Aleksandr becomes Sasha and Mikhail becomes Misha. If a family's surname is Petrov, the females in the family will add an *-a* at the end to form Petrova.

Because Russian is written in the Cyrillic alphabet, English transliterations of Russian names can vary widely. The Russian equivalent of Peter, pronounced PYO-ter, might be spelled as Pyotr, Petr, or Piotr.

Russians began to use surnames in the fifteenth century. The naming system was originally used only by princes; then it was adopted by the rest of the nobility. Commoners used their given name combined with a nickname.

Certain suffixes were controlled by the czar or czarina. Under Empress Catherine, for example, the right to use *-ovich* was extended to include the first five grades of civil servants. The sixth to the eighth grades could use *-ov* (*-ova*) or *-ev* (*-eva*). Later, the rest of the populace was allowed to use *-ev* (*-eva*) and *-ov* (*-ova*).

Common suffixes:

-sky, *-ski*, *-ska*—nature of or like

-ov, *-ova*, *-ovna*, *-ev*, *-eva*, *-evna*—of

-oy—used for nicknames

-ik—occupational names

Married couples decide which surname to use. If the wife's surname is chosen, the couple will later decide which name their children will use.

A few surnames:

Babin(a)	Krestyanov(a)
Alliluyev(a)	Lebedev(a)
Antipov(a)	Mayakovsky
Bakhtin(a)	(Mayakovskaya)
Baklanov(a)	Mayorsky (Mayorskaya)
Balakirev(a)	Nevsky (Nevskaya)
Borodin(a)	Orlov(a)
Chapaev(a)	Petrov(a)
Chukovsky (Chukovskaya)	Rybin(a)
Dubov(a)	Sergeyev(a)
Dyakonov(a)	Shirokii (Shirokaya)
Gagarin(a)	Smirnov(a)
Golitsin(a)	Tumanov(a)
Golubov(a)	Varvarinski (Varvarinskaya)
Ivanov(a)	Volkov(a)
Kalugin(a)	Yermakov(a)
Kaminsky (Kaminskaya)	Zhilkin(a)
Kazakov(a)	

FEMALE

Agafia—good (form of Agatha)	Amaliji—hardworking (form of Amelia)
Agrafina—born feet first (form of Agrippa)	Ana—one who will be reborn (form of Anastasia)
Agnessa—pure (form of Agnes)	Anastasia, Stasya, Nastya—one who will be reborn
Akilina—eagle	Anstice—resurrected
Aksana—glory to God	Antonina—priceless (form of Anthony)
Alena—light (form of Helen)	Anya, Anitchka, Anna, Anechka, Asenka—grace (form of Anne)
Alexandra, Aleksandra—defender of mankind (form of Alexander)	Arkadina—meaning unknown
Alina—beautiful	
Alla, Allochka—meaning unknown	

- Avdotya—meaning unknown
 Avel—breath
 Bohdana—gift from God (form of Bohdan)
 Charlotta—manly (form of Charles)
 Cyzarine—royalty
 Dasha, Doroteya—God's gift (form of Dorothy)
 Devora—bee (form of Deborah)
 Dimitra—from Demeter, spring
 Dominika—of the Lord; born on Sunday (form of Dominic)
 Dunyasha—meaning unknown
 Duscha—ghost; divine spirit
 Ekaterina—pure (form of Katherine)
 Elga—holy
 Evalina, Eva—life (form of Eve)
 Evgenia—well-born (form of Eugene)
 Fayina—free
 Feodora—God's gift (form of Theodore)
 Galenka, Galina, Galine, Galya—God has redeemed
 Helenka—light (form of Helen)
 Helga—holy
 Helina—sunlight
 Ilia—God is Lord
 Irena, Irina—peace (form of Irene)
 Irisa—rainbow
 Ivana, Ivane, Ivanna—gracious God (form of John)
 Jelena—bright light
 Kira, Kirochka—light (form of Helen)
 Kisa—kitten
 Kiska, Katya, Katarina, Katyenka, Katyuska, Katherina—pure (form of Katherine)
 Ksana, Ksanochka—praise be to God
 Lada—Slavic goddess of beauty; myth name
 Lara, Larisa, Larissa, Lanassa—happy
 Lenusya—flower
 Lidija, Lidia, Lidiya, Lidochka, Lida—from Lydia
 Lubmilla—loving
 Lyudmila, Lyuba, Lyubochka, Luda, Ludmila—love of the people
 Margarete, Margosha—pearl (form of Margaret)
 Marianne, Marianna—bitter grace
 Marinochka, Marina, Marinka—of the sea
 Masha, Mara, Marisha, Many, Mura, Maruska, Marusya—bitter (form of Mary)
 Mavra—dark
 Milena, Mila—favored
 Nadia, Nadezhda, Nadyenka, Nadenka—hope
 Narkissa—daffodil
 Natasha, Natascha, Nitca, Natasia, Natalia, Natyashenka—born on Christmas (form of Natalie)
 Nesh, Nessa, Nesyia—pure (form of Agnes)
 Nikita—victory of the people (form of Nicholas)

- Nikolaevna, Nika—belongs to
God
- Ninockha, Nina—grace
- Oksanochka, Oksana—praise be
to God
- Olena—light (form of Helen)
- Olga, Olya, Olenka, Olechka—
holy
- Orlenda—eagle
- Parasha, Parashie, Pasha—born
on Good Friday
- Pauline, Paulina—small (form of
Paul)
- Rahil—ewe (form of Rachel)
- Raisa—adaptable
- Ranevskaya, Ranya—meaning
unknown
- Sabina—of the Sabine people
- Sacha, Sasha, Sashenka—
defender of mankind (form
of Alexander)
- Sinovia, Sinya—stranger
- Sonia, Sonya, Sonechka—wise
- Stephania, Stefanya, Stesha,
Panya—crowned in victory
(form of Stephen)
- Svetlana, Sveta—luminescent
- Talia, Talya—born on Christmas
(form of Natalie)
- Tanya, Tania, Tanechka,
Tatyana, Tatiana,
Tanichka—myth name
- Tasya—resurrected
- Theodosia, Theda, Thedyā—
God's gift (form of
Theodore)
- Ursola, Ursula—little bear
- Valentina—valiant, strong (form
of Valentine)
- Valeska—glorious ruler
- Vania, Vanya—God's gift
- Vanka—grace
- Varvara, Varya, Varinka,
Varushka—stranger
- Vassillissa, Vasilissa, Vasya—
regal (form of Basil)
- Velika—wonderful
- Verochka, Vera—true
- Wilma—resolute protector (form
of William)
- Viveka—beautiful voice
- Yalena, Yalenchka—light (form
of Helen)
- Yelizaveta—consecrated to God
(form of Elizabeth)
- Yeva—life (form of Eve)
- Yuliya, Yulenska—youthful (form
of Julius)
- Zaneta—God's gift
- Zenevieva—white wave (form of
Genevieve)
- Zenochka, Zena—from Zeus
- Zenya, Zenechka—well-born
(form of Eugene)
- Zinerva—wise (form of Minerva)
- Zoyechka, Zoyenka, Zoya—life

MALE

- Adrik—dark
- Alek, Alik, Aleksandr, Aleksis,
Aleksi, Alexei—defender of
mankind (form of Alexander)
- Aloyoshenka, Aloysha—defends
mankind
- Anatolii—from the east (form of
Anatole)
- Andrusha, Andrya, Andrei—
manly (form of Andrew)
- Antosha, Antinko, Anton—
priceless (form of Anthony)
- Arman—soldier (form of
Herman)
- Bogdashka, Bohdan—gift from
God
- Bolodenka—peaceful
- Borya, Boryenka, Boris—fighter
- Brencis—crowned with laurel
- Brody—from Brody
- Burian—lives near the weeds
- Cheslav—lives in a strong camp
- Danya—God's gift
- Demyan—tame
- Deniska—myth name
- Dima—strong fighter
- Dimitri—from Demeter, spring
- Edik, Eduard—rich guardian
(form of Edward)
- Egor—farmer (form of George)
- Evgenii—well-born (form of
Eugene)
- Fabiyan, Fabi—bean farmer
(form of Fabian)
- Fadeyka, Fadey, Faddei—brave
- Fedor, Fedya, Fyodor,
Fedyenka—God's gift (form
of Theodore)
- Feliks—happy (form of Felix)
- Fiers—meaning unknown
- Filip—lover of horses (form of
Philip)
- Foma—twin (form of Thomas)
- Fredek—peaceful ruler (form of
Frederick)
- Gavril, Ganya, Gav, Gavrel,
Gavrilovich—worships God
- Gayeff—meaning unknown
- Grisha, Grigori, Grigorii, Girsha—
watchful (form of Gregory)
- Hedon—destroyer
- Helge—holy (form of Helga)
- Igoryok, Igor—farmer (form of
George)
- Ilya—meaning unknown
- Ioakim, Iov—God will establish
(form of Joachim)
- Ivan—gracious God (form of
John)
- Jasha—supplanter
- Jermija—exalted of the Lord
(form of Jeremiah)
- Jov—persecuted (form of Job)
- Jurg, Jeirgif—farmer (form of
George)
- Karolek, Karol—manly (form of
Charles)
- Kiryl, Kiril—noble
- Kolenka, Kolya—of the
conquering people

- Kostenka, Kostya, Konstantin—
constant (form of
Constantine)
- Laurentij—laurel (form of
Lawrence)
- Leonide, Lenya, Lyonechka,
Levushka, Levka, Lyonya,
Lev, Levka—brave lion
(form of Leonard)
- Lesta—meaning unknown
- Lopahin—meaning unknown
- Lukasha, Lukyan, Luka—light
(form of Luke)
- Maks, Maksim, Maksimillian—
great (form of Maximillian)
- Matvey, Motka, Matyash—God's
gift (form of Matthew)
- Mishenka, Mishe, Misha,
Mikhail—who is like God
(form of Michael)
- Moriz—Moorish
- Naum—comforter
- Nicolai, Nikita—victory of the
people (form of Nicholas)
- Oleg, Olezka—holy
- Osip—God adds (form of Joseph)
- Pashenka, Pavlushka, Pavla,
Pavlya, Pavel, Pavlov—small
(form of Paul)
- Petenska, Pyotr, Petya—rock
(form of Peter)
- Romochka, Roman—Roman
- Rurik—famous ruler
- Sacha, Sasha, Shura, Shurochka,
Sanya, Shurik, Shashenka—
defender of mankind (form
of Alexander)
- Semyon—God is heard (form of
Simon)
- Seriozha, Seriozhenka, Serge,
Serguei—servant (form of
Sergio)
- Stanislov, Slavik—glory
- Stefan, Stepka, Stephan—
crowned in victory (form of
Stephen)
- Tolenka, Tolya—from the east
- Tosya, Tusya—beyond
expectation
- Trofimoff—meaning unknown
- Uri, Uriah, Urie, Uriel—God is
my light
- Vadim—powerful ruler
- Valerik, Valerii—strength (form
of Valerius)
- Vanechka, Vanyusha—God's gift
- Vassily, Vassi, Vasya, Vas,
Visilii—regal (form of Basil)
- Vitenka, Viktor—victorious
(form of Victor)
- Vladislav, Vladik, Vyacheslav—
glorious ruler
- Vladmir, Vladmiri—has peace
- Vladsislas—meaning unknown
- Volodya, Valdik, Vlada—
peaceful
- Yakov—supplanter (form of
Jacob)
- Yaremka, Yerik—appointed by
God
- Yasha—defends mankind (form
of Alexander)
- Yermolay—meaning unknown
- Yuri, Yurii, Yurik, Yura,
Yurochka—farmer (form of
George)
- Zhenechka, Zhenya—noble
- Zhorah, Zorya—farmer
- Ziven, Zivon—lively

SCANDINAVIAN (OLD NORSE)

Strictly speaking, Scandinavia consists of Norway, Sweden, and Denmark, which have closely related Germanic languages descended from Old Norse. Many consider Iceland and Finland to be part of Scandinavia, and these countries do share Scandinavia's Nordic cultural heritage. It should be noted, however, that the Finnish language is not a member of the Indo-European language group, as are Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, and Icelandic. Names originating in the Finnish language will therefore be markedly different from other Scandinavian names.

The myth names in the following lists are names of Norse gods, the places where they lived, their servants, and various other creatures that inhabited the world of the gods. Saga names are human names taken from epic stories written in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries chronicling historical and legendary events.

For specific information about the development and use of surnames in the various Scandinavian countries, see the sections on Danish, Norwegian, Swedish, and Finnish names.

FEMALE

Aegileif—daughter of Hrolf

Helgason; saga name

Angerbotha, Angerboda,

Angrboda—giant;

myth name

Annaliese—grace of God

Anrid—wife of Ketil

Fjorleifarson; saga name

Asvor, Asvora—wife of Asrod;

saga name

Audhumbla, Audumla—giant cow

that nursed Ymir; myth name

Bestla—mother of Odin;

myth name

Bifrost—bridge from earth to

Asgard; myth name

Birgit, Birgitta, Birgitta—strong

(form of Bridget)

Borghild, Borghlide, Borghilda—

wife of Sigmund; myth name

Brisingamen—Freya's necklace;

myth name

Bryngerd—mother of Tongue-

Stein; saga name

Dalla—mother of Kormak;

saga name

Dana—myth name

VICTORIA ALEXANDER



Victoria Alexander is the *Romantic Times* Book Club Historical Storyteller of the Year (2004). Her novels have made it to the *New York Times* and *USA Today* best-seller lists and have been Doubleday book club selections.

A few books ago I created a country that I called the Kingdom of Greater Avalonia. The name was taken more or less from the Isle of Avalon and the country itself based loosely on the country of Ruthania where my father-in-law was born. (The country no longer exists.) I needed a ruling family, so I borrowed the family name of some of my favorite people—my mother-in-law's family. Thus the ruling family of the Kingdom of Greater Avalonia became the House of Pruzinsky.

Darda—dart

Donalda—ruler of the world
(form of Donald)

Draupnir—Odin's magic ring;
myth name

Edda—myth name

Eir—goddess of healing; myth
name

Elin—daughter of the Russian
king Boleslaw; saga name

Elli—giant; myth name

Erika—eternal ruler (form of
Eric)

Erna—wife of Jarl; myth name

Fjorgyn—mother of Thor; myth
name

Freya, Freydis—noblewoman;
goddess of love and fertility;
myth name

Frigga, Frig—myth name

Frigga—goddess of matrimonial
love; myth name

Fulla—one of Frigga's ladies-in-
waiting; myth name

Geirbjorg—sister of Bersi the
Godless; saga name

Geirrid—sister of Geirrod;
saga name

Gimle—new heaven; myth name

Ginnungagap—abyss that births
all living things; myth name

Gjalp—giant; myth name

Gna—one of Frigga's ladies-in-
waiting; myth name

Greip—giant; myth name

Grid—wife of Odin; myth name

Grima—saga name (form of Grim)

Grimhild, Grimhilda,

Grimhilde—mother of

Gudrun; myth name



Gullveig—witch; myth name
 Gunnlod—mother of Bragi;
 myth name
 Gutrune—myth name
 Hedda—vigorous battle-maid
 Heidrun—goat who supplies
 mead for the gods; myth
 name
 Hel, Hela—goddess of the
 underworld; myth name
 Herdis—Bolli's daughter;
 saga name
 Hilde, Hild, Hilda, Hildur—
 Valkyrie; myth name
 Hiordis—second wife of
 Sigmund; myth name
 Hjordis—sword goddess;
 myth name
 Hlif—mother of Atli; saga name
 Hrefna—daughter of Asgeir;
 saga name
 Hrodny—mother of Hoskuld;
 saga name
 Hyndla—giant; myth name
 Hyrna—saga name
 Hyrokkin—ogre; myth name
 Inga, Inge, Ingunna, Ingaborg—
 daughter of a hero
 Ingerd—sister of Dagstygg;
 saga name
 Iwona—archer
 Jarngerd—saga name
 Jarnsaxa—giant; myth name
 Jofrid—saga name
 Jord—daughter of Night;
 myth name
 Joreid—saga name
 Karita—benevolent
 Katrine, Katrina, Karen—pure
 (form of Katherine)
 Kirsten—believes in Christ
 (form of Christian)
 Kjolvor—saga name
 Klara—clear, bright (form of
 Clare)
 Kolfinna—saga name
 Kriemhild, Kriemhilda,
 Kriemhilde—wife of
 Siegfried; myth name
 Lene, Line—light
 Linne—cascade
 Lin—one of Frigga's ladies-in-
 waiting; myth name
 Ljotunn—saga name
 Lofn—goddess of lust; myth
 name
 Lofnheid, Lyngheid—sister of
 Otter; myth name
 Lopthaena—saga name
 Maeva—saga name
 Maria—bitter; name not
 originally Norse, but it
 appears in several sagas,
 and is the name of King
 Harald Sigurdsson's
 daughter (form of Mary)
 Marny—of the sea
 Melkorka—deaf and mute
 concubine; saga name
 Menglad—won by Svipdag;
 myth name
 Mia—bitter
 Mista—Valkyrie; myth name
 Nada—hope
 Nanna—wife of Balder; myth
 name

Nerthus—mother of earth; myth name
Nissa, Nisse, Nysse, Nyssa—friendly elf
Norna, Norn—goddess of fate; myth name
Noss—daughter of Frey; myth name
Ola—ancestor (form of Olaf)
Osk—mother of Hild; saga name
Otkatla—saga name
Quenby—womanly
Rakel—ewe (form of Rachel)
Ran—sea goddess; myth name
Ray, Rae—doe
Rinda, Rind—giant; myth name
Saehild—saga name
Saeunn—mother of Bergthora; saga name
Saga—drank with Odin in her hall; myth name
Sangrida—Valkyrie; myth name
Sif—Thor's second wife; myth name
Sign, Sigun, Signy—daughter of Volsung; myth name
Sigyn—wife of Loki; myth name
Sinmora—wife of Surt; myth name
Skade—goddess of skiers; myth name
Skalm—saga name
Skuld—Norn of the future; myth name
Snor, Snora—wife of Karl; myth name
Snotra—self-discipline; myth name

Steinunn—saga name
Steinvorr—saga name
Swanhild, Swanhilda, Swanhilde—daughter of Sigurd; myth name
Syn—invoked during trials; myth name
Thaukt—giant; myth name
Thir—wife of Thrall; myth name
Thjodhild, Thjodhilda—saga name
Thokk—female disguise Thor used to keep Balder from returning to life; myth name
Thorarin—saga name
Thorfinna—wife of Thorstein Kuggason; saga name
Thorhalla—daughter of Asgrim; saga name
Thorkatla—wife of Mord; saga name
Thorunn, Thorunna, Torunn—mother of Bishop Bjorn; saga name
Thrud—promised to Alvis; myth name
Thurid—wife of Thorstein the Red; saga name
Ulrike—ruler of all
Urd—Norn of the past; myth name
Vaetild, Vaetilda—mother of the Skraeling children; saga name
Valdis—daughter of Thorbrand; saga name
Valkyrie—Freya's priestesses; myth name

Vanja—gracious God (form of John)	Viveca, Viveka—life
Var—punishes adulterers; myth name	Volva—prophetess; myth name
Velaug—wife of Bjorn Buna; saga name	Vor—omniscient goddess; myth name
Vendela—meaning unknown	Woglinda—myth name
Verdandi—Norn of the present; myth name	Yggsdrasil—tree that binds heaven, hell, and earth; myth name
Vigdis—wife of Killer-Hrapp; saga name	Yngvild—mother of Bishop Brand; saga name
Villborg—saga name	Ywla—wolf

MALE

Aevar—son of Ketil; saga name	Asgrim—in Njal's saga, chieftain of Tongue; saga name
Alberich—dwarf; myth name	Ashby—from the ash tree farm
Alfarinn, Alfarin—son of Hlif; saga name	Ashiepattle—legend name
Alfrigg—dwarf; myth name	Asi—saga name
Amund—divine protection	Askel, Askell—son of Dufniall; saga name
Anders—manly (form of Andrew)	Aslak—supporter of Thorgest; saga name
Andvaranaut—Brunhild's ring; myth name	Asolf—kinsman of Jorund; saga name
Andvari—treasure guardian; myth name	Asrod—husband of Asvor; saga name
An—son of Grim Hairy-Cheek; saga name	Asvald—son of Ulf; saga name
Apsele—father of peace	Atli—king of the Huns; myth name
Arles—pledge	Aud—son of night; myth name
Armod—blood brother of Geirleif; saga name	Avaldamon—name of a king; saga name
Arni—in Njal's saga, killer of Althing; saga name	Avang—Irishman; saga name
Arvaki—horse; myth name	Balder, Baldur, Baldr—son of Odin; myth name
Asgard—city of the gods; myth name	Balki—son of Blaeng; saga name

- Balmung—Siegfried's sword;
myth name
- Bardi—son of Gudmund;
saga name
- Baug—son of Raud; saga name
- Beinir—name of a smith; saga
name
- Bergelmir—giant; myth name
- Bergen, Bergin—mountain
dweller
- Bergren, Berggren—from the
mountain brook
- Bersi—son of Balki; saga name
- Bifrost—bridge from earth to
Asgard; myth name
- Bjolf—blood brother of
Lodmund; saga name
- Bodmod—son of Oleif; saga
name
- Bodvar—son of Thorleif;
saga name
- Bolli—son of Thorleik;
saga name
- Bolthor—giant; myth name
- Bolverk—disguise of Odin;
myth name
- Bor—father of Odin; myth name
- Borg—from the castle
- Bori—father of Bor; myth name
- Bork—killed by Gunnar;
saga name
- Bragi—god of poetry; myth name
- Branstock—tree in Volsung's
palace; myth name
- Bresi—saga name
- Brisingamen—Freya's necklace;
myth name
- Brokk—dwarf; myth name
- Brondolf—son of Naddodd;
saga name
- Bruni—son of Earl Harek; saga
name
- Brynjolf—killed Atli; saga name
- Carrson—son of Carr
- Crow-Hreidar—son of Ofeig
Dangle-Beard; saga name
- Daegal—dawn
- Dain—dwarf; myth name
- Dana, Dane, Dain—from
Denmark
- Davin, Daven, Dagfinnr—
intelligent
- Denby—from the Danish
settlement
- Draupnir—Odin's magic ring;
myth name
- Durin—dwarf; myth name
- Dyre—dear one
- Ederyn—myth name
- Eggther—guardian for the
giants; myth name
- Eilif—wounded in an attack on
Hlidarend; saga name
- Eitri—dwarf; myth name
- Eldgrim—killed by Hrut
Herjolfsson; saga name
- Erp—son of Meldun; saga name
- Etzel—Attila the Hun; myth name
- Eyfred—farmed at Tongue; saga
name
- Eyjolf—killed by Kari; saga name
- Eyvind—son of Lodin; saga name
- Fafnir, Fafner—dragon;
myth name
- Fasolt—killed by Fafnir; myth
name

Fenrir, Fenris—monster wolf; myth name	Glum—outlaw; saga name
Finnbogi—merchant; saga name	Gnup—took refuge in Iceland after several killings he performed; saga name
Floki—heroic Viking; saga name	Gram—Sigurd's sword; myth name
Flosi—chieftain; saga name	Grani—son of Gunnar; saga name
Forseti—son of Balder; myth name	Grenjad—son of Hermund; saga name
Frans—free (form of Francis)	Greyfell—Sigurd's horse; myth name
Freki—Odin's wolf; myth name	Grimkel—son of Ulf; saga name
Frey, Freyr—god of weather; myth name	Grim—son of Njal; saga name
Freyvid—saga name	Gris—man freed by Skallagrim; saga name
Fridleif—father of Ari; saga name	Gudlaug—son of Asbjorn; saga name
Galm—father of Thorvald; saga name	Gudmund—chieftain; saga name
Gamel—elder	Gullinbursti—boar ridden by Freyr; myth name
Ganger—founder of Normandy; saga name	Gulltopp—horse of Heimdall; myth name
Garder—son of Svafar; saga name	Gungir—Odin's spear; myth name
Gardi—ghost; saga name	Gunlaug, Gunnlaug—son of Illugi; saga name
Garm—guards the gate of Hel; myth name	Gunther—brother of Kriemhild; myth name
Geirmund—son of Gunnbjorn; saga name	Guttorm—brother of Gudrun; myth name
Geirrod—brother of Geirrid; myth name	Gymir—father of Gerd; myth name
Gest—son of Oddleif; saga name	Gynt—legend name
Gils—father of Hedin; saga name	Gyrd—saga name
Gimle—new heaven; myth name	Hafgrim—settler of Greenland; saga name
Gizur—leader of the attack on Hlidarend; saga name	Hafnar—father of Thorgeir Cheek-Wound; saga name
Gjallar—horn sounded for Ragnorok; myth name	
Gleipnir—magic net woven to hold Fenrir; myth name	
Glistenheath—place where Sigurd killed Fafnir; myth name	

Hafthor—saga name
 Hagen—killed Siegfried; myth name
 Haki—name of a slave; saga name
 Halldor—son of Gunnbjorn; saga name
 Hallfred—son of Ottar; saga name
 Hallkel—brother of Ketilbjorn; saga name
 Hall—son of Helgi the Godless; saga name
 Hallstein—Thorolf; saga name
 Hallvard—fought in the Battle of Hafursfjord; saga name
 Hamund—son-in-law of Helgi the Lean; saga name
 Harald—army ruler (form of Harold)
 Hardar—saga name
 Hardbein—son of Helga; saga name
 Hastein—son of Atli; saga name
 Hedin—son of Thorstein Troll; saga name
 Heimdal—guardian of Bifrost; myth name
 Herjolf—father of Vapni; saga name
 Hermod—messenger of the gods; myth name
 Hermund—brother of Gunnlaug; saga name
 Hersir—chieftain; saga name
 Hoder, Hodur, Hodr—blind son of Odin; myth name
 Hoenir, Honir—brother of Odin; myth name
 Hofud—myth name
 Hogna, Hogni—saga name
 Holmstein—supported Flosi; saga name
 Hord—father of Asbjorn; saga name
 Hoskuld—son of Thorstein; saga name
 Hrafn—saga name
 Hrapp—father of Hrodgeir; saga name
 Hreidmar—dwarf king; myth name
 Hrifla—saga name
 Hrimfaxi—horse of night whose bridle drips the morning dew; myth name
 Hroald—brother of Eyvind Weapon; saga name
 Hrodgeir—son of Hrapp; saga name
 Hromund—son of Thori; saga name
 Hrosskel—son of Thorstein; saga name
 Hrut—son of Herjolf; saga name
 Hugi—giant; myth name
 Hunbogi—son of Alf; saga name
 Hvergelmir—home of Nidhug; myth name
 Igor—hero
 Illugi—son of Aslak; saga name
 Im—giant; myth name
 Ingimund—saga name
 Ingjald—son of Helga; saga name
 Ingmar—famous son
 Ing—myth name
 Ing—myth name
 Ingvar—Ing's army

Isleif—brother of Isrod; saga name	Kveld—saga name
Isolf—son of Hrani; saga name	Kvist—saga name
Isrod—brother of Isleif; saga name	Kylan—son of Kara; saga name
Ivor, Ivar, Iver—archer	Lambi—son of Thorbjorn the Feeble; saga name
Jakob—supplanter (form of Jacob)	Lamont—lawyer
Jens—gracious God (form of John)	Lars—laurel (form of Lawrence)
Jolgeir—brother of Radorm; saga name	Larson—son of Lars
Jormungand—serpent who encircles the earth; myth name	Latham—division
Jorund—son of Hrafn the Foolish; saga name	Lidskjalf—throne of Odin; myth name
Jostein—saga name	Lodmund—blood brother of Bjolf; saga name
Kalf—son of Asgeir; saga name	Lodur—giver of senses; myth name
Kalman—man from Ireland; saga name	Loki—god of destruction; myth name
Karl—manly (form of Charles)	Ludvig—famous in war (form of Louis)
Ketil—son of Thori; saga name	Lyting—brother of Thorstein Torfi; saga name
Kjarr, Kjartan—son of Olaf the Peacock; saga name	Magni—one of the seven gods of the Aesir; myth name
Klepp—saga name	Mani—father of Ketil; saga name
Knut—knot	Mar—son of Naddodd; saga name
Kodran—father of Thjodgerd; saga name	Mjolnir, Miolnir—Thor's hammer; myth name
Kolbein—son of Sigmund of Vestfold; saga name	Modan—saga name
Kolgrim—son of Hrolf; saga name	Modi—son of Thor; myth name
Konal—saga name	Modolf—saga name
Konstantin—constant (form of Constantine)	Mord—saga name
Kotkel—sorcerer; saga name	Mottul—saga name
Kristoffer—Christ-bearer (form of Christopher)	Munin—memory; myth name
	Myrkjartan—saga name
	Nagelfar—ship that will carry the dead to Ragnarok; myth name

- Niels, Nils—champion (form of Neal)
- Nihug, Nihogg—dragon; myth name
- Niklaus—victory of the people (form of Nicholas)
- Nithogg—myth name
- Njal, Njall—son of Thorgeir; saga name
- Njord—father of Freya; myth name
- Odin, Othin—god of the sky; myth name
- Olaf—ancestor
- Onund—son of Viking; saga name
- Orebjorn—saga name
- Orlyg—son of Valthjof; saga name
- Orm—son of Ulf; saga name
- Orn—father of Idunn; saga name
- Ornolf—son of Armod; saga name
- Ospak—brother of Gudrun; saga name
- Osvif—father of Gudrun; saga name
- Otkel—saga name
- Ovaegir—father of the Skraeling children; saga name
- Ove—popular name
- Ozur—son of Thorleif; saga name
- Paavo—small (form of Paul)
- Pedar, Per—rock (form of Peter)
- Quinby—from the woman's estate
- Radorm—brother of Jolgeir; saga name
- Ragi—saga name
- Ragnarok—final battle of the gods; myth name
- Ragnar—wise warrior (form of Ragnor)
- Raud—father of Ulf; saga name
- Ref—saga name
- Regin—blacksmith; myth name
- Reist—son of Bjarn-Isle; saga name
- Rikard—strong ruler (form of Richard)
- Rognvald—earl of Orkney; saga name
- Royd—from the forest clearing
- Rungnir—giant killed by Thor; myth name
- Runolf—son of Ulf; saga name
- Rurik—famous ruler
- Saehrimnir—magic boar; myth name
- Siggeir—king of the Goths; myth name
- Sigmund—son of Volsung; saga name
- Sindri—dwarf; myth name
- Sinfiotli—son of Siggeir; myth name
- Skagi—son of Skopta; saga name
- Skalla—saga name
- Skamkel—saga name
- Skapti—saga name
- Skarp, Skarphedin—saga name
- Skefil—saga name
- Skeggi—son of Bodolf; saga name
- Skidbladnir—magical ship of Freyr; myth name
- Skinfaxi—stallion of the daylight; myth name

Skirnir—servant of Freyr; myth name	Tanni—saga name
Skjold—meaning unknown	Tarnkappe—cloak that renders its wearer invisible; myth name
Skorri—saga name	Thangbrand—missionary; saga name
Skrymir—king of the giants; myth name	Thialfi, Thjalfi—servant of Thor; myth name
Skum—saga name	Thor, Tor—god of thunder; myth name
Sleipnir—Odin's horse; myth name	Thorarin—son of Thorkol; saga name
Snaebjorn—son of Eyvindar; saga name	Thord—son of Viking; saga name
Snorre—meaning unknown	Thorfinn—killed Einar; saga name
Snorri—son of Thorfinn; saga name	Thorgils—father of Ingjald; saga name
Solmund—saga name	Thorgrim—brother of Onund Bild; saga name
Solve—meaning unknown	Thorhadd—son of Stein; saga name
Solvi—farmer; saga name	Thorhall, Thorhalli—saga name
Soren—god of thunder; myth name (form of Thor)	Thorir—son of Asa; saga name
Starkadhr—fierce warrior; myth name	Thorkel—sorcerer; saga name
Starkad—saga name	Thorlak—bishop of Skalholt; saga name
Stigandi—son of Kotkel; saga name	Thorleik—son of Bolli; saga name
Strifebjorn—father of Ornolf; saga name	Thormod—son of Odd; saga name
Sturla—saga name	Thorvald—son of Asvald; saga name
Styr—supporter of Erik; saga name	Thorvid—son of Ulfar; saga name
Sumarlidi—son of Killer-Hrap; saga name	Thrain—saga name
Surtr—giant; myth name	Thrand—brother of Eyvind the Easterner; saga name
Svaldifari—stallion; myth name	Thrasi—son of Thorolf; saga name
Svart, Svartkel—father of Thorkel; saga name	
Sverting—son of Runolf Ulfsson; saga name	
Tait—happy	

Throst—son of Hermund; saga name
Thrym—giant; myth name
Thurston—Thor's stone
Tind—saga name
Tjasse—giant; myth name
Torfi—saga name
Torråd—son of Osvif; saga name
Turfeinar—son of Rognvald; saga name
Tyr, Tiu—god of war; myth name
Tyrkir—German; saga name
Ulfar—saga name
Ull—god of skiers; myth name
Uni—Dane; myth name
Utgard-Loki—king of the giants; myth name
Valbrand—saga name
Valgard—saga name
Vali—son of Odin; myth name
Valthjof—son of Orlyg; saga name
Vandråd—son of Osvif; saga name

Vanir—god of rain; myth name
Ve—giver of feeling; myth name
Velief—saga name
Vestar—son of Thorolf; saga name
Vestein—son of Vegeir; saga name
Vibald—saga name
Vifil—father of Thornbjorn; saga name
Vigfus—saga name
Vigsterk—saga name
Viking—father of Thord; saga name
Vili—giver of reason; myth name
Volsung—ruler of the Huns; saga name
Waldemar—strong ruler
Welby—from the farm by the spring
Whitby—from the white farm
Ymir—giant; myth name
Yngvar—saga name
Yrar—saga name

SCOTTISH

As recently as the nineteenth century, Scottish children were named after their relatives according to birth order. Sons would be named after the paternal grandfather, then the maternal grandfather, then the father. Daughters were named after first the maternal grandmother, then the paternal grandmother, then the mother. Subsequent children were named after aunts and uncles.

Many Scottish surnames originated as patronymics and begin with a prefix like Mack-, Mac-, Ap-, and P-, (which mean “son of”). Some of the other Scottish surnames are based on place names, occupation, or a nickname.

In the Highlands of Scotland, clans formed from large family groups with a common male ancestor. Each clan had its own clan name and tartan. However, it was possible for many surnames to fall under the same clan name. While “native men” (men born to the clan and related by blood) shared the clan name, “broken men” (men from other clans who are under the clan’s protection) would retain their original surname or clan name. Although clans were distinctly a Highland feature, it has become common to refer to large families of the lowlands as clans.

The surnames of Highland women were often different from the clan name because, until the late nineteenth century, it was not common practice for a woman to take her husband’s surname at marriage. (Even in modern-day Scotland, a married woman’s legal identity is her original surname; if a woman takes her husband’s surname, it is recognized as an alias.) The female lines and unrelated families that fell under the umbrella of a clan name are called septs. Septs were also given the privilege of wearing the clan tartan.

Like Irish names, Scottish surnames are among the oldest in Europe. Highlander surnames developed separately from those in the Lowlands. The Lowlander surnames were more like the English and borrowed many English descriptive and place names.

In retaliation for acts by the clan against the crown, the name MacGregor was abolished from 1617 until 1661; to bear that name during the ban invited execution.

A few surnames:

Affleck	MacDonnough
Anderson	MacDougal
Argyle	MacDuff
Bane	MacEwen
Barr	MacFadden
Berryman	MacFarlane
Brodie	MacFie
Campbell	MacGillivray
Chalmers	MacGinnis
Crawford	MacGowan
Crichton	MacGregor
Douglas	MacIntyre
Duncan	MacIver
Ferguson	MacKay
Gibson	MacKenzie
Gilchrist	MacKinley
Gordon	MacKinnon
Grant	MacLachlan
Henderson	MacLaine
Kilgour	MacLean
Kinnear	MacLeod
Lawson	MacMillan
Lithgow	MacNab
Lochhead	MacNaughton
MacAdam	MacNeill
MacAlister	MacNicol
MacAlpine	MacPherson
MacArtney	MacQuarrie
MacAulay	MacQueen
MacAuslan	MacRae
MacAvoy	Marshall
MacBain	Moffat
MacBeth	Reagh
MacCallum	Russell
MacClennan	Scott
MacCloud	Shaw
MacCulloch	Stewart
MacDonald	Weir

FEMALE

Aila—from the strong place

Aileana—from the green
meadow

Aileen—light (form of Eileen)

Ailsa—rocky inlet

Ainsley—meadow

Akira—anchor

Alpina—blonde

Anice—grace (form of Anne)

Annabel, Annabella—lovely
grace (form of Annabelle)

Athdara, Adaira, Adairia—from
the oak-tree ford (form of
Athdar)

Beathas—wise

Blair—from the plain lands

Bonnie, Bonny—sweet and good

Bradana—salmon

Cadha—from the steep place

Cailleach, Caillic—hag

Cairistiona—believes in Christ
(form of Christian)

Caroline—manly (form of
Charles)

Christel, Christal, Christie,
Christy—believes in Christ
(form of Christian)

Coira, Cora—seething pool

Colina—victory of the people
(form of Nicholas)

Cullodena, Cullidina—from the
marsh (form of Culloden)

Cumina—from Comines

Daracha—from the oak (form of
Darach)

Donalda—ruler of the world
(form of Donald)

Eara, Earie—from the east

Edina, Edine, Edeen—from
Edinburgh

Edme—rich protector (form of
Edmund)

Eiric, Eirica—eternal ruler (form
of Eric)

Erskina—from the top of the cliff

Evanna, Evina—right-handed

Fearchara, Fearcharia—dear one

Fenella—white shoulders (form
of Finola)

Fia—dark of peace

Fiona—fair one

Firtha—arm of the sea (form of
Firth)

Forba, Forbia—headstrong

Fyfa—from Fifeshire

Gara, Garia, Gaira—short

Gavina, Gavenia—white hawk
(form of Gavin)

Gilbarta—pledge

Gordania, Gordana—hero (form
of Gordan)

Grear, Greer, Grier—vigilant

Grizel, Grizela—gray battle-maid
(form of Griselda)

Gunna—white (form of Gunn)

Inghean, Inghinn—daughter

Iona—place name, island in
Hebrides

Isobel, Iseabal—consecrated to
God (form of Elizabeth)

Jean—gracious God (form of
John)

Kirstie—believes in Christ (form
of Christian)

- Kyla—from the straits
 Lainie, Leana—serves John
 Lair, Laire, Lara—mare
 Larena, Laren, Laria—serves
 Lawrence
 Lassie—little girl
 Leslie, Lesley, Lioslaith—from
 the gray fortress
 Lindsay, Lindsey, Lyndsey,
 Lynsey—from the island of
 the linden tree
 Machara—plain
 Mairead—pearl (form of
 Margaret)
 Mairi, Moire—bitter (form of
 Mary)
 Maisie, Mai, May, Maggie—pearl
 (form of Margaret)
 Malise—God's servant
 Malmuira, Malmuirie—dark-
 skinned
 Marcail—pearl (form of
 Margaret)
 Moibeal—lovable (form of Mabel)
 Moireach—lady
 Morag—great one
 Muira, Muire—from the moor
 (form of Muir)
 Nairne, Nairna—from the alder-
 tree river
 Nathaira, Nathara—snake (form
 of Nathair)
- Nessa, Nessia—from the
 headland (form of Ness)
 Nighean, Nighinn—young woman
 Odara, Odaria—meaning
 unknown
 Raohnailt—ewe
 Robena, Robina—robin
 Rona— island name
 Rose—rose (form of Rosa)
 Rossa—meadow
 Seonaid, Sheena, Shona—
 gracious God
 Sileas—youthful
 Sima—listener
 Siubhan—gracious God (form of
 John)
 Siusan—lily (form of Susan)
 Skena—from Skene
 Struana—stream (form of Struan)
 Tam—twin
 Tara—hill where the kings met;
 myth name
 Tavia, Teva—twin (form of
 Thomas)
 Tira, Tyra—land
 Torra—from the castle
 Vika—from the creek
 Wynda—from the narrow
 passage
 Zena—defender of mankind
 (form of Alexander)

MALE

- Abernethy—name of a river
 Abhainn, Aibne—river
 Acair, Akir, Acaiseid—anchor
 Achaius—friend of a horse
- Adair—from the ford by the oak
 trees
 Adhamh—of the red earth (form
 of Adam)

Ailbert—noble (form of Albert)
 Ailean—handsome
 Ailein—from the green meadow
 Aillig, Ail—from the stony place
 Andreas—manly (form of Andrew)
 Ainsley—meadow
 Alan, Allan, Allen, Alleyne—handsome
 Alastair, Alasdair—avenger
 Albanact—myth name
 Alpin—blond
 Amhuinn—lives at the alder-tree river
 Angus, Aengus, Aonghus—exceptionally strong
 Aoidh—spirited
 Argyle, Arregaitheal—from the land of the Gauls
 Armstrong, Armstrang—strong arm
 Artair—noble bear (form of Arthur)
 Athdar, Adair—from the oak-tree ford
 Athol—new Ireland
 Bac, Bhaic—bank
 Baird—from Baird
 Balfour—from the pastureland
 Balgair, Balgaire—fox
 Balloch—from the pasture
 Balmoral—from the majestic village
 Barclay—from Berkeley
 Bean, Baen—fair-skinned
 Bearnard—strong as a bear (form of Bernard)
 Beathan—son of the right hand
 Beth—lively
 Bhaltair—strong fighter
 Biast, Beiste—beast
 Birk—from a birch tree
 Blair—from the plain lands
 Both, Bothan, Bothain—from the stone house
 Bowie—blond
 Boyd—blond
 Braden, Bhradain—salmon
 Braigh, Bhraghad—from the upper part
 Breac, Bhreac, Brice, Bryce, Bhric—speckled
 Broc—badger
 Brochan, Brochain—broken
 Brodie—from Brodie
 Bruce—woods
 Buchanan—from the cannon's seat
 Busby—meaning unknown
 Cailean, Caillen—child
 Caladh—harbor
 Callum—bald dove
 Cam, Chaim, Crom, Cruim—crooked
 Camden, Camdin, Camdan, Camdyn—from the winding valley
 Cameron, Camshron—crooked nose
 Campbell, Cam, Camp, Cambeul—crooked mouth
 Carlton, Caraidland—from the land between the streams
 Carmichael—friend of Saint Michael
 Carr, Cathair—from the marsh

Cat, Chair—catlike
 Cawley, Cauley, Camhlaidh—
 relic
 Ceard, Ceardach—smith
 Chalmer, Chalmers—rules the
 home
 Chattan—clan of the cats
 Chisholm—from Chisolm
 Christie, Christy—believes in
 Christ (form of Christian)
 Clach—stone
 Cleit—rocky eminence
 Clennan—Finnian's servant
 Clunes—resting place
 Clyde—name of a river
 Colin—victory of the people
 (form of Nicholas)
 Colquhoun—from Colquhoun
 Corey, Cory, Coire—seething
 pool
 Craig—dwells at the crag
 Crannog—lake dweller
 Creighton—from the town by
 the creek
 Cromwell—from the crooked
 stream
 Culloden—from the marsh
 Cumin, Comyn, Cumming—from
 Comines
 Cunningham—from Cunningham
 Dallas, Daileasss—dwells by the
 waterfall
 Dalziel, Dalyell—from the little
 field
 Damh, Daimh—ox
 Darach—from the oak
 Davis, Dave, Davidson,
 MacDaibhidh—David's son
 Dearg—red
 Doire, Dhoire—from the grove
 Don, Donald, Donel, Donell,
 Domhnull—ruler of the
 world
 Doughall, Dougal—dark
 stranger
 Douglas, Dubhglas—dark water
 Dour—from the water
 Drummand, Drummond—at the
 ridge
 Duff, Dubh—dark-faced
 Duncan, Donnchadh,
 Donnachadh—dark warrior
 Dunmore, Dunmor—from the
 fortress on the hill
 Eachan—dark horse
 Eanruig—rules the home (form
 of Henry)
 Ear, Earie—from the east
 Earvin—place name
 Eideard—rich guardian (form of
 Edward)
 Eigg—meaning unknown
 Eilig—from the deer pass
 Ellar—steward, servant
 Elliot—old Welshman
 Errol—wandering
 Erskine—from the top of the cliff
 Euan, Ewan—of the yew
 Evan—right-handed
 Fang, Faing—from the sheep pen
 Farlan, Farlane—son of the
 furrows
 Farquhar—dear one
 Farquharson—son of the dear
 one
 Feandan—from the narrow glen

Fearchar—dear one
 Fergus—of manly strength
 Fergusson, Ferguson—son of
 Fergus
 Fie—dark of peace
 Fife, Fyfe—man of Fife
 Fingal—fair stranger
 Finlay—fair soldier
 Firth—arm of the sea
 Fletcher—feathers arrows
 Forbes—headstrong
 Fraser—strawberry flowers
 Fyfe, Fibh—from Fifeshire
 Gare, Gair—short
 Gavin, Gawain, Gawen, Gawyn,
 Gaven—white hawk
 Gilleabart—pledge (form of
 Gilbert)
 Gilleasbuig—bold
 Gillecriosd—Christ-bearer
 Gillivray—servant of judgment
 Gilmer—servant of the Virgin
 Mary
 Goraidh—God's peace
 Gordan, Gordain, Gordy—hero
 Gow, Gobha, Gowan—smith
 Graham—from the gray home
 Grant—great
 Gregor, Griorgair—watchful
 (form of Gregory)
 Gunn—white
 Guthrie—free wind
 Hamilton—from Hameldone
 Hamish—supplanter (form of
 James)
 Harailt—leader
 Hay, Haye—from the stockade
 Henson, Henderson,
 MacKendrick—son of Henry

Home, Hume—from the cave
 Houston—from Hugh's town
 Iagan—fiery one
 Ian, Iain—gracious God (form of
 John)
 Innes—from Innes
 Irvin, Irving—from the city
 Iver—archer (form of Ivar)
 Jock—gracious God (form of
 John)
 Johnson—son of John
 Johnston—from John's farm
 Kay, Kai—fiery
 Keir—dark
 Keith—from the battlefield
 Kelso—place name
 Kelvin—from the narrow river
 Ken, Kenneth, Kenny—
 handsome
 Kennedy—helmeted
 Kenzie—fair
 Kermichil—from Michael's
 fortress
 Kerr—man of strength
 Kinnon—fair born
 Kinny, Kin—from the top of the
 cliff
 Kirk, Kerk—dwells at the church
 Kyle—from the straights
 Lachlan, Laochailan—warring
 Laine, Lean, Leane—serves John
 Laird—lord
 Lamont—lawyer
 Laren—serves Lawrence
 Leith, Leathan—wide river
 Len, Lennie, Lenox—from a
 Scottish surname and
 district

Leod—ugly
Lesley, Leslie—from the gray
fortress
Lindsay—from the island of the
linden tree
Livingstone—from Livingston
Logan—Finnian's servant
Lundie, Lundy—from the island
grove
Luthais—famous in war
Malcolm, Mealcoluim—servant
of Saint Columba
Maolmuire—dark-skinned
Math, Mathe—bear
Matheson—bear's son
Maxwell—from Maxwell
Menzies—from Mesniers,
Normandy
Minas—great one
Moffatt—long plain
Moncreiffe—from the hill of the
sacred bough
Montgomery—from
Montgomerie
Moray—land by the sea
Morrison—son of the servant of
Mary
Muir—from the moor
Muirfinn—dwells near the
beautiful sea
Munro, Munroe—man from Ro
Murdoc, Murdock, Murdoch—
protector of the sea
Murray, Morogh—man of the
sea
Nab—abbot
Nairn, Nairne—from the alder-
tree river

Nathair, Nathrach,
Nathraichean—snake
Naughton, Nachton, Nechtan—
pure
Nealcaill—victorious people
Ness—from the headland
Niall—champion (form of Neal)
Norval—from the north valley
Odar—meaning unknown
Ogilvie, Ogilbinn—from the high
peak
Oidhche—night
Oliphant—great strength
Padruig—noble (form of
Patrick)
Parlan—farmer
Payton, Paden, Paton, Peyton—
royal
Pherson—Parson
Quarrie, Quarry—proud
Rab, Rabbie, Raibeart—bright,
famous (form of Robert)
Rae, Ray—grace
Ramsey—from Ram's island
Robertson—son of Robert
Rob Roy—red Rob
Ronald—mighty, powerful
Ross, Ros—from the peninsula
Roy—red
Sandy—defender of mankind
(form of Alexander)
Scot, Scott—wanderer
Scrymgeour—fighter
Shaw, Shawe—terse
Sheiling—from the summer
pasture
Sim—heard
Sinclair—from Saint-Clair-sur-
Elle

Skene—from Skene
Strahan—small valley
Struan—stream
Sutherland—from Sutherland
Tarsuinn—meaning unknown
Tavis, Tavey, Tevis, Tamnais,
 Tavish—twin (form of
 Thomas)
Tearlach—manly (form of
 Charles)

Thurso—place name
Todd—fox
Tormod—meaning unknown
Uilleam—resolute protector
 (form of William)
Urquhart—from the fount on the
 knoll
Wallace—from Wales

SLAVIC

Slavs form Europe's largest ethnic and linguistic group. The Slavic peoples who inhabit much of Eastern Europe can be subdivided into three main groups: East Slavs, West Slavs, and South Slavs. East Slavs include Russians, Ukrainians, and Belarusians. West Slavs include Poles, Czechs, and Slovaks. Bulgarians, Macedonians, Serbs, Bosniaks, Croats, and Slovenians are all South Slavs. There has been much debate on the origins of Slavs, but historians generally agree that Slavs migrated into their western-most territories in the fifth and sixth centuries A.D.

Ancient Slavs did not use surnames. See the sections in this book on Czech and Russian names for surnames and more given names that developed from Slavic languages.

FEMALE

Bronya—protector	Ludmilla, Ljudumilu—loved by the people
Chesna—peaceful	Marika, Marya—bitter (form of Mary)
Danica, Danika—morning star	Milka—industrious
Dobrilla—kind	Mira, Myra—famous
Fania, Fanya, Fanny—free (form of Francis)	Nada, Nadia, Nadege, Nadezhda, Nadya, Nadyenka, Nadyuiska, Nadine—hope
Fedosia, Feodora—God's gift (form of Theodore)	Neda—born on Sunday
Gavrila, Gavrilla—God give me strength	Rada—happy
Hedy—strife (form of Hedwig)	Radinka—active
Ilka—flattering	Radmilla, Radilu—works for the people
Jarka—spring	Sonja—wise (form of Sonya)
Jarmila—spring's grace	Valeska, Valdislava—glorious ruler
Katarina—pure (form of Katherine)	Varvara, Varina—stranger
Kasmira, Kazatimiru—commanding peace	Valika, Velika—great
Lala—tulip	Zora, Zorah, Zorana—dawn
Lilia—mauve	

MALE

Anatol—from the east (form of Anatole)	Casimir—destroys peace
Andrej—manly (form of Andrew)	Cestmir—fortress
Bogdan—gift from God (form of Bohdan)	Dragan—beloved, dear
Boguslaw, Bohuslav—God's glory	Jaroslav—spring's glory
Boleslaus—sorrowful	Karel, Karol—manly (form of Charles)
Bolodenka, Dimka—universal	Kazatimiru, Kasimer—destroys peace (form of Casimir)
Boris, Borysko—fighter	Kersten—believes in Christ (form of Christian)
Bronislaw—weapon of glory	

ELIZABETH GEORGE



Elizabeth George is *The New York Times* and international best-selling author of thirteen novels of psychological suspense set in England. She is the recipient of literary awards from France, Germany, and the United States.

Charles Dickens taught me the importance of the names of characters. Uriah Heep. Ebenezer Scrooge. Miss Havisham. . . . Dickens always positioned the reader with reference to the characters by naming them in such a way that aspects of personality were suggested merely from the choice of name. He was the master of this, of course. No one else has ever come close.

Today, however, writers have to be a bit more subtle because realism is the name of the game. So in the past I've gone for names like Clive Pritchard, Robin Payne, Colin Shepherd, Polly Yarkin, and Robin Sage to make a more delicate point about my people.

But British names also are suggestive of class, level of education, economic status, and social origin, so I also have to be careful there.

In a pinch, I turn to the British tabloids for help. In the tabloids I can find every kind of name: from the Duke of Widgy-wak to the dustman on the street. It's an invaluable tool for an American whose novels are all set in England.

Laci, Laszlo, Lacko, Lazlo—
 famous ruler
 Ladislav, Ladislav—glorious
 Lew—lion
 Milos—pleasant
 Miroslav—peaceful glory
 Nicholai, Nikolai—victory of the
 people (form of Nicholas)
 Pavel—small (form of Paul)
 Pjotr, Pyotr—rock (form of
 Peter)
 Rostislav—glory
 Rurik—famous ruler
 Sandor—defender of mankind
 (form of Alexander)
 Slava, Slavochka—glory
 Stanislaus, Stanislas, Stannes,
 Slavik, Stanislav, Stas—
 military glory
 Stasio—stand of glory
 Tibor—holy place
 Upravda—upright
 Vaclar, Vasek, Valdik, Vladya—
 wreath of glory
 Vassily—regal (form of Basil)
 Vladimer, Vimka, Vladimir,
 Volodya, Vova, Vladimiru—
 universal ruler
 Vladislava, Vyacheslav,
 Vladislav—glorious ruler
 Wenceslaus, Wenceslava—great
 glory
 Zakarij—meaning unknown
 Zbigniew—release anger
 Ziven, Ziv, Zivon—lively
 Zoran—sunrise, dawn



SPANISH

Surnames began in the mid-ninth century and became hereditary in the thirteenth century. Before they were used, the father's name was listed in the genitive form (indicates who the person's parents are/were) after the given name.

Most given names came from the Visigoths and the Moors. The majority of surnames derived from descriptive or occupational names, but some were patronymic and place names.

As was customary in most of Europe, the nobility took the names of the estates they owned. Occasionally, the father's name was used in conjunction with the estate name.

The standard format of a Spanish full name has been given name first, then the father's family name, *y* (and), and the mother's family name. However, in more recent years, the *y* is often omitted and the mother's family name tends to come before the father's name.

A few articles and suffixes:

-ez, -es—son of

y—and

viuda—widow of

de—of

la, le—the

de la, de le, de los, del—of the

Married women may add their husband's name to their own with the article *de*. Example: Agueda Padilla *y de la Fuente de Chavez*. Translated: Agueda (given name) Padilla (father's surname) *y* (and) *de la Fuente* (mother's maiden name) *de* (of) Chavez (husband's name). If *viuda* came before *de Chavez*, it would indicate that this woman was a widow. Names are always traced through the father.

A few surnames:

Alvarez

Aznar

Benitez

Carrera

Chavez

Cruz

Delgado

Diaz

Diego

Fernandez

Flores
Garcia
Gomez
Gonzalez
Guzman
Hernandez
Herrera
Lopez
Luna
Martinez
Mendoza
Menendez
Ortega
Ortiz

Perez
Ramirez
Riviera
Rodriguez
Romero
Ruiz
Salazar
Sanchez
Santiago
Torres
Valdez
Vargas
Vasquez
Vega

FEMALE

Abrienda—open
Adelina, Adelita—noble (form of
Adelaide)
Adoncia—sweet
Adoracion—adoration
Adriana—dark (form of Adrian)
Agnese—pure (form of Agnes)
Agueda, Agata, Agacia—good
(form of Agatha)
Agurtzane—meaning unknown
Aida, Aidia—help
Ainhoa, Ainhoe—meaning
unknown
Aintzane—glory
Aitziber—meaning unknown
Alameda—promenade
Alatea—truth
Alazne—miracle
Albertine, Albertina—noble,
intelligent (form of Albert)
Aldonza, Aldonsa—nice

Alegria, Allegra—cheerful
Alejandra, Alejandrina—
defender of mankind (form
of Alexander)
Aleta—winged
Aletea, Aletia—honest
Alfonsa—noble and ready for
battle (form of Alphonse)
Alfreda—elf counselor (form of
Alfred)
Alicia—sweet, noble (form of
Alice)
Alita—noble
Alma—spirit
Almira—from Almeira
Almunda, Almundena,
Almundina—reference to
the Virgin Mary
Alona—light
Alonsa—noble and ready for
battle (form of Alphonse)

- Alva—white
 Amaia—end
 Amalia—hardworking (form of Amelia)
 Amalur, Amalure—homeland
 Amanda—worthy of love
 Amaranta—flower (form of Amarantha)
 Amata—beloved (form of Amato)
 Amor, Amora—love
 Andeana—leaving
 Andere, Andera, Andrea—manly (form of Andrew)
 Angela, Angelina, Angelia—angel
 Anita, Anita, Anica—grace (form of Anne)
 Antonina, Antonia—priceless (form of Anthony)
 Anunciacion—of the Annunciation
 Aquilina—eagle (form of Aquilino)
 Aracelia, Araceli—altar of heaven
 Arama—reference to the Virgin Mary
 Arcadia—adventurous
 Arcelia—treasure
 Armada—armed one
 Arrate—meaning unknown
 Artemisia—perfection
 Ascencion—reference to the Ascension
 Asuncion—born during the Feast of Assumption
 Atalaya, Athalia—guard tower
 Aureliana, Aurelia—gold (form of Aurelio)
 Aurkene, Aurkena—present
 Beatriz, Beatrisa—brings joy
 Belicia—dedicated to God
 Belinda—attractive
 Belita—beautiful
 Bella—beautiful
 Benigna—friendly
 Benita—blessed
 Bibiana—animated
 Bienvenida—welcome (form of Bienvenido)
 Blanca—white (form of Blanche)
 Blasa—stutters (form of Blaise)
 Bonita—pretty
 Brigidia, Brigida—strong (form of Bridget)
 Buena—good
 Calandria—lark
 Calida—fiery
 Calvina—bald (form of Calvin)
 Camila—temple servant (form of Camillus)
 Candida—dazzling white
 Carilla, Carla, Carlita, Carletta, Carlotta, Carlota—manly (form of Charles)
 Carmelita, Carmela—garden
 Carmencita, Carmen, Carmina—song
 Carmita—rosy
 Carona—crowned
 Casild, Casilda—meaning unknown
 Casta, Catalina—pure
 Catalonia—region of Spain; place name
 Cenobia—born of Zeus (form of Zenobia)

Cesara—long-haired (form of Caesar)
 Charo—nickname for Rosario
 Chiquita—little one
 Cipriana—from Cyprus (form of Cipriano)
 Clareta—brilliant
 Clarinda—beautiful
 Clarissa—clear, bright (form of Clare)
 Claudia—lame (form of Claude)
 Clementina—merciful (form of Clement)
 Clodovea—famous warrior (form of Clodoveo)
 Concepcion, Concetta, Conchetta, Conshita—reference to the Immaculate Conception
 Constanza—constant (form of Constantine)
 Consuelo, Consuela, Consolacion, Consolata, Chela—consolation
 Corazon—heart
 Cristina—believes in Christ (form of Christian)
 Dalila—gentle
 Damita—little noble
 Danita—God is my judge (form of Daniel)
 Daria—rich
 Deiene, Deikun, Deina—religious holiday
 Delcine, Dulcine, Dulcina, Dulce, Dulcinea, Dulcinia—sweet
 Delicia—delight
 Delma, Delmar, Delmara—of the sea

Desideria—desired (form of Desirata)
 Devera—task
 Dia—day
 Diega—supplanter (form of Diego)
 Digna—worthy
 Dionis, Dionisa—god of wine (form of Dionysus)
 Dolores, Doloritas, Dolorita—sorrow
 Dominga—of the Lord; born on Sunday (form of Dominic)
 Dorbeta—reference to the Virgin Mary
 Dorota, Doroteia, Dorotea—God's gift (form of Dorothy)
 Drina—defender of mankind (form of Alexander)
 Duena—chaperon
 Dulcinea—sweet
 Elbertina—noble, glorious (form of Elbert)
 Eldora—golden
 Elena—light (form of Eleanor)
 Elisa—consecrated to God (form of Elizabeth)
 Elsa—truth
 Elvira—white
 Ema—grandmother
 Emilia, Emilie—flattering (form of Emilio)
 Encarnacion—reference to the Incarnation
 Engracia—graceful
 Enrica, Enriqueta, Enriqua—rules the home (form of Henry)

Erendira, Erendiria—name of a princess	Garbine, Garbina, Garabine, Garabina—purification
Ernesta—serious (form of Ernest)	Gaspara—treasurer (form of Casper)
Eskarne, Eskarna—merciful	Gechina—graceful
Esma, Esme, Esmerelda—emerald	Generosa—generous (form of Generoso)
Esperanza—hope	Gertrudes, Gertrudis—strong with a spear (form of Gertrude)
Estebana, Estefana, Esteva—crowned in victory (form of Stephen)	Gezane, Gezana—reference to the Incarnation
Estella, Estrella, Ester—star (form of Esther)	Ginebra, Ginessa—white
Eva, Evita—life (form of Eve)	Gitana—gypsy
Exaltacion—reference to the cross	Godalupe, Guadalupe—reference to the Virgin Mary
Faqueza—weakness	Gorane—holy cross
Fe—trust	Gotzone—angel
Felipa, Filipa—lover of horses (form of Philip)	Gracia, Graciana—grace (form of Grace)
Fermina—strong (form of Fermin)	Gregoria—watchful (form of Gregory)
Fidelia—faithful (form of Fidel)	Guillelmina—resolute protector (form of William)
Florentina, Florida, Florinia, Flor, Florencia—blooming (form of Florian)	Gustava—staff of God (form of Gustav)
Fonda—profound	Havana—from the capital of Cuba
Fortuna, Fausta, Faustina, Felisa—lucky	Henriqua—rules the home (form of Henry)
Francisca—free (form of Francis)	Hermelinda—shield of power
Freira—sister	Herminia—myth name
Frescura—freshness	Hermosa—beautiful
Fuensanta—holy fountain	Honor, Honoria, Honoratas—honor
Gala—from Gaul	Idoia, Idurre, Iratze, Izazkun—reference to the Virgin Mary
Galena, Galenia—small intelligent one	Ignacia—fiery (form of Ignatius)
Garaitz—victory	

- Igone—reference to Christ's
Ascension
- Ikerne—visitation
- Illuminada—illuminated
- Imelda—floret
- Immaculada—reference to the
Immaculate Conception
- Inez, Ines—pure (form of Agnes)
- Inocencia, Inocenta—innocent
- Irene—peace
- Irmina—meaning unknown
- Irune—reference to the Holy
Trinity
- Isabella, Isabel—consecrated to
God (form of Elizabeth)
- Isidora—gifted with many ideas
- Isleta—small island
- Itsaso—sea
- Itxaro—hope
- Izar, Izarre, Izarra—star
- Jacinta, Jakinda—hyacinth
(form of Hyacinth)
- Jade—jewel
- Jaimica—supplanter
- Jaione—reference to the
Nativity
- Jasone—assumption
- Javiera—owner of a new home
(form of Xavier)
- Jesusa, Josune—God saves
(form of Jesus)
- Jimena—heard
- Joaquina—God will establish
(form of Joachim)
- Josefa, Josefina—God adds
(form of Joseph)
- Juana, Juanita—gracious God
(form of John)
- Kemena, Kemina—strong (form
of Kemen)
- Kesare, Kesara—youthful
- Landa, Legarre, Leira, Lera,
Lorda, Lourdes, Louredes,
Lucita—reference to the
Virgin Mary
- La Reina—queen
- Laura, Larunda, Laurencia—
laurel (form of Lawrence)
- Latoya—victorious
- Leonora, Leonor—light (form of
Eleanor)
- Leya—loyalty
- Liana—to bind; youth
- Linda, Lindy, Lynda, Lyndey—
pretty
- Lititia, Laetizia—happy (form of
Letitia)
- Lola, Lolita, Loleta, Lolitta—
manly (form of Charles)
- Lona—solitary
- Lore, Lora—flower
- Loretta—laurel (form of
Lawrence)
- Lucetta, Lucia, Lucita, Lucrecia,
Luz—light (form of Luke)
- Luisa—famous in war (form of
Louis)
- Lujuana—Lu
- Lupe—wolf
- Lur—earth
- Madra, Madre—mother
- Maite, Maitea—love
- Malaya—free
- Manda—battle-maid
- Manuela—God is with us (form
of Emmanuel)

Marcela—warlike (form of Marcus)	Nicanora—victorious army
Margarita—pearl (form of Margaret)	Nina—girl
Mariquita, Marquilla, Marisa, Marisol, Madalena, Maria, Marietta, Marita—bitter (form of Mary)	Ofelia—helper
Maribel—bitter, beautiful	Oihane—from the forest
Mariposa—butterfly	Olalla—soft spoken
Marta—mistress (form of Martha)	Olinda—protector of property
Melisenda, Melosa, Melosia—honeybee	Oliveria—affectionate (form of Oliver)
Mendi, Molará—reference to the Virgin Mary	Olivia—olive
Mercedes—mercy	Ora—gold
Milagros, Milagrosa, Milagritos, Mirari, Mireya—miracle	Orlanda—famous throughout the land (form of Orlando)
Miranda—deserves admiration	Orquidea, Orquidia—orchid
Modesta, Modeste—modest	Osane, Osana—health
Monica—counselor	Pabla—small (form of Paul)
Mora—little blueberry	Paciencia—patient
Naiara—reference to the Virgin Mary	Palba—blond (form of Palban)
Nalda—strong (form of Naldo)	Palmira—from the city of palms
Narcisa—daffodil	Paloma—dove
Natalia—born on Christmas (form of Natalie)	Paquita—free
Natividad—reference to the Nativity	Pastora—shepherdess
Nazaret—of Nazareth	Patia—leaf
Nekane, Nekana—sorrows	Patricia—noble (form of Patrick)
Nelia—yellow	Paulina, Paulita—small (form of Paul)
Nerea—mine	Paz—peace
Neta, Nita—serious (form of Neto)	Pedra—rock (form of Peter)
Neva, Nieve, Nevada—snowy	Pepa, Pepita—God adds (form of Joseph)
	Perfecta—perfect
	Perla—small pearl
	Pia—pious
	Pilar—pillar
	Placida—tranquil
	Primavera—born at the beginning of spring
	Prudencia—prudent
	Puebla—from the city (form of Pueblo)

Pureza, Pura, Purísima—pure
Querida—beloved
Quinta—born fifth
Raeka—unique
Ramira—judicious
Ramona, Raimunda—mighty
protector (form of
Raymond)
Raquel—ewe (form of Rachel)
Reina, Regina—queen
Remedios—remedy
Ria—from the river's mouth
Rica, Ricarda—strong ruler
(form of Richard)
Rio—river
Rita—pearl (form of Margaret)
Roana—reddish-brown skin
(form of Roano)
Rocio—dewdrops
Roderiga—famous ruler (form of
Roderick)
Roldana—famous
Romana—from Rome (form of
Romano)
Rosa, Rosalind, Rosalinda,
Rosalinde, Roslyn,
Rosario—rose
Rosamaria, Rosemarie—bitter
rose
Rufa, Rufina—red-haired (form
of Rufus)
Sabina—of the Sabine people
Salbatora, Salvatora,
Salvadora—savior (form of
Salvatore)
Sancia, Sancha—holy
Sandia—watermelon
Sarita, Sara—princess (form of
Sarah)

Saturnina—gift of Saturn
Savanna, Savannah, Sabana—
from the open plain
Segunda—born second (form of
Segundo)
Seina—innocent (form of Sein)
Senalda—sign
Senona—lively (form of Senon)
Serafina—fiery one; angel (form
of Seraphina)
Serena—serene
Sevilla—from Seville
Shoshana, Susana—lily (form of
Susan)
Simona—God is heard (form of
Simon)
Socorro—helps
Sofia—wise (form of Sophia)
Solana—sunshine
Soledad, Soledada—solitary
Suelita—little lily
Tabora—drum
Terceira—born third (form of
Terceiro)
Tia—aunt; princess
Tierra—earth
Trella—star
Trinidad—of Trinidad, the
island
Ursula, Ursulina—little bear
Usoa—dove
Valentina—valiant, strong (form
of Valentine)
Ventura—good fortune
Verdad—honest
Veta—intelligent (form of Veto)
Vicenta—victorious (form of
Vincent)

Vina—from the vineyard
Virginia—pure
Vittoria—victorious (form of
Victor)
Xalbadora, Xalvadora—savior
(form of Salvatore)
Xaviera, Xevera, Xeveria—
owner of a new home (form
of Xavier)
Xuxa, Xylia—queen

Yanamaria, Yanamarie—bitter
grace (form of Annamarie)
Ynes—pure (form of Agnes)
Yoana—God's gift
Yolanda—violet
Yomaris—I am the sun
Ysabel—consecrated to God
(form of Isabel)
Zamora—from Zamora
Zita—little hope
Zurine, Zurina—white

MALE

Abejundio—of the bees
Adriano—dark (form of Adrian)
Agustin—great (form of August)
Alano—handsome (form of
Alan)
Alarico—noble ruler (form of
Alaric)
Alberto—noble, intelligent
(form of Albert)
Alejandro—defender of mankind
(form of Alexander)
Alfonso, Alonso, Alonzo—noble
and ready for battle (form of
Alphonse)
Aluino—noble friend
Amadeo, Amado—loves God
(form of Amadeus)
Amador—lover
Amato—beloved
Ambrosio—immortal (form of
Ambrose)
Amistad—friendship
Anastasio—one who will be
reborn (form of Anastasia)

Andres—manly (form of
Andrew)
Angel, Angelo—angel
Anibal—graced by God
Anselmo—divine helmet (form
of Anselm)
Antonio, Anton—priceless (form
of Anthony)
Aquilino—eagle
Archibaldo—bold (form of
Archibald)
Arlo—barberry
Armando—soldier (form of
Herman)
Arturo—noble bear (form of
Arthur)
Aurelio—gold
Bartolo, Bartoli, Bartolome—
hill, furrow (form of
Bartholomew)
Basilio—regal (form of Basil)
Beltran—bright raven
Benedicto—blessed (form of
Benedict)

- Bernardo—strong as a bear
(form of Bernard)
- Bernbe—son of prophecy (form of Barnaby)
- Berto—intelligent
- Bienvenido—welcome
- Blanco—blond
- Blas—stutters (form of Blaise)
- Bonifaco, Bonifacio—good
(form of Boniface)
- Calvino—bald (form of Calvin)
- Camilo—temple servant (form of Camillus)
- Carlomagno—Charles the Great
- Carlos—manly (form of Charles)
- Casimiro—destroys peace (form of Casimir)
- Castel—of the castle
- Caton—wise
- Cesar, Cesaro—long-haired
(form of Caesar)
- Chale—manly
- Chico, Currito, Curro—free
- Ciceron—chickpea
- Cipriano—from Cyprus
- Cirilo—noble
- Ciro—sun
- Claudio—lame (form of Claude)
- Clodoveo—famous warrior
- Colon—dove
- Conrado—able counsel (form of Conrad)
- Constantino—constant (form of Constantine)
- Cornelio—horn (form of Cornelius)
- Cristo, Cristiano—believes in Christ (form of Christian)
- Cristobal—Christ-bearer (form of Christopher)
- Cuarto, Cuartio—born fourth
- Curcio—polite
- Damian—tame
- Darien, Dario—rich
- Delmar—of the sea
- Desiderio—desired (form of Desirata)
- Devante—fight for good
- Diego—supplanter
- Domingo—of the Lord; born on Sunday (form of Dominic)
- Edmundo—rich protector (form of Edmund)
- Eduardo—rich guardian (form of Edward)
- Efrain—fruitful
- Eloy—famous fighter
- Elvio—blond
- Emilio—flattering
- Eneas—praised
- Enrique—rules the home (form of Henry)
- Erasmus—friendly
- Ernesto—serious (form of Ernest)
- Esteban, Estefan—crowned in victory (form of Stephen)
- Eugenio—well-born (form of Eugene)
- Fabio—bean farmer (form of Fabian)
- Farruco, Frasco, Frascuelo—free
- Fausto, Felix—lucky (form of Faust)
- Federico—peaceful ruler (form of Frederick)

Felipe—lover of horses (form of Philip)	Guillermo—resolute protector (form of William)
Fermin—strong	Guido—guide
Fernando—adventurer (form of Ferdinand)	Gustavo—staff of God (form of Gustav)
Fidel, Fidele—faithful	Hector—steadfast
Flaminio—meaning unknown	Heriberto—shining warrior (form of Herbert)
Flavio—yellow (form of Flavian)	Hernando—adventuresome
Florentino, Florinio—blooming (form of Florian)	Hilario—happy (form of Hilary)
Fraco—weak	Honorato—honor
Francisco, Cisco—free (form of Francis)	Horacio—timekeeper (form of Horace)
Franco—free (form of Francis)	Humberto, Hugo—intelligent
Fresco—fresh	Iago—supplanter (form of James)
Gabino, Gabriel, Gabrio—God-given strength	Ignacio, Ignazio, Incendio—fiery (form of Ignatius)
Galeno—small intelligent one	Inocencio, Inocente—innocent
Garcia—brave in battle	Isidoro, Isidro—gifted with many ideas
Gaspar, Gaspard—treasurer (form of Casper)	Ivan—gracious God (form of John)
Generoso—generous	Jacinto—hyacinth (form of Hyacinth)
Gerardo—spear ruler (form of Gerald)	Jago, Jaime—supplanter (form of James)
Geronimo—sacred (form of Jerome)	Javier, Javiero—owner of a new home (form of Xavier)
Gervasio, Gervaso, German—warrior	Jeremias—exalted of the Lord (form of Jeremiah)
Gil—squire	Jeronimo—sacred (form of Jerome)
Gilberto—pledge (form of Gilbert)	Jesus—God saves
Godofredo, Godfredo—God's peace (form of Godfrey)	Joaquin—God will establish (form of Joachim)
Gomez—man	Jonas—dove
Gregorio—watchful (form of Gregory)	Jorge—farmer (form of George)
Gualterio, Galtero—powerful warrior (form of Walter)	

- Jose—God adds (form of Joseph)
- Josue—God is salvation (form of Joshua)
- Juan, Juanito—gracious God (form of John)
- Julian, Julio—youthful (form of Julius)
- Kemen—strong
- Lazaro—God will help
- Leandro, Leonardo, Leon, Leonides—brave lion (form of Leonard)
- Lorenzo—laurel (form of Lawrence)
- Lucio, Lucero—light (form of Luke)
- Luis—famous in war (form of Louis)
- Macario—happy
- Manuel—God is with us (form of Emmanuel)
- Marco, Marcos, Mario, Martin, Martino, Martinez—warlike (form of Marcus)
- Mateo, Matro—God’s gift (form of Matthew)
- Mauricio, Mauro—dark-skinned (form of Maurice)
- Miguel—who is like God (form of Michael)
- Moises—taken from the water (form of Moses)
- Naldo—strong
- Natal, Natalio—born on Christmas (form of Natalie)
- Natanael, Nataniel—gift from God (form of Nathaniel)
- Nemesio—named for Nemesis, goddess of vengeance
- Neron—strong
- Nestor—wisdom
- Neto, Nesto—serious
- Nevada—snowy
- Nicanor—victorious army
- Noe—peace
- Norberto—bright hero (form of Norbert)
- Oleos—holy oil
- Oliverio, Oliverios—affectionate (form of Oliver)
- Orlando—famous throughout the land
- Oro—gold
- Pablo—small (form of Paul)
- Pacifico—peaceful
- Paco, Pacorro, Pacho—free
- Palban, Palben—blond
- Patricio—noble (form of Patrick)
- Paz—peace
- Pedro—rock (form of Peter)
- Pepe, Pepillo—God adds (form of Joseph)
- Pirro—red-haired
- Placido—tranquil
- Platon—broad-shouldered
- Ponce—born fifth
- Porfirio, Porfiro—purple stone
- Primeiro—firstborn
- Prospero—prosperous
- Pueblo—from the city
- Quinton—born fifth
- Quirce—martyr’s name
- Quirino—martyr’s name
- Rafael—healed by God (form of Raphael)

- Ramiro, Ramirez—judicious
 Ramon, Raimundo—mighty protector (form of Raymond)
 Raul, Raulo—wise
 Renaldo—wise ruler
 Rey—king
 Rico, Ricardo—strong ruler (form of Richard)
 Roano—reddish-brown skin
 Roberto—bright, famous (form of Robert)
 Rodas—rose garden
 Roderigo, Rodrigo—famous ruler (form of Roderick)
 Rodolfo—famous wolf (form of Rudolph)
 Rogelio—famous soldier
 Roldan—famous
 Roman, Romeo, Roman—from Rome (form of Romano)
 Ruben—son
 Rufo, Rufio—red-haired (form of Rufus)
 Sabino—of the Sabine people
 Salvatore, Salvatore, Salvatore, Salvador—savior
 Salomon—peaceful (form of Solomon)
 Sancho, Santos—saint
 Santiago—named for Saint James
 Santos—of the saints
 Saturnin—gift of Saturn
 Saul—longed for
 Sebastiano—revered (form of Sebastian)
 Segundo—born second
 Sein—innocent
 Senon—lively
 Serafin—fiery one; angel (form of Seraphina)
 Stefano—crowned in victory (form of Stephen)
 Tabor—drum
 Tadeo—praise
 Tajo—day
 Teodoro—God's gift (form of Theodore)
 Terciero—born third
 Tito—giant
 Tobias—God is good
 Toli—plowman
 Tomas—twin (form of Thomas)
 Tulio—lively
 Turi—bear
 Urbano—born of the city
 Veto—intelligent
 Victor, Victorio, Vittorio—victorious (form of Victor)
 Vincente—victorious (form of Vincent)
 Virgilio—staff bearer (form of Virgil)
 Vito, Vidal—vital
 Xalbador, Xalvador, Xabat—savior (form of Salvatore)
 Xavier, Xever—owner of a new home
 Ximen, Ximenes, Ximens—God is heard (form of Simon)
 Yago—supplanter (form of Jacob)
 Zacarias—remembered by God
 Zavier—owner of a new home (form of Xavier)

SWEDISH

Swedish surnames appeared in the seventeenth century and were first used by the military for administrative purposes. By the eighteenth century, others began using hereditary surnames, but these names weren't standardized until the nineteenth century.

Before the nineteenth century, most Swedes used their given name with the father's name, to which they attached the suffix *-son* (for a male child) or *-dotter* for a female child). In 1901, laws were enacted to regulate surnames. Under these laws, only the king could change names. In 1946, the National Bureau of Statistics was granted the right to make name changes.

The suffix *-son* was used mostly by the lower classes. The upper classes preferred:

-berg	-strom
-gren	-in
-lund	-man
-quist	

A few surnames:

Almgren	Linberg
Andersson	Lindstrom
Bergman	Ljungren
Bergstrom	Lundquist
Blomquist	Nilsson
Buss	Nordman
Davidsson	Nygard
Dolk	Nyman
Eriksson	Olsson
Hanson	Ostergard
Harald	Pettersson
Hellman	Rank
Hellqvist	Sandberg
Holm	Silversten
Johansson	Soderlund
Kristofferson	Svensson
Larsson	

FEMALE

- Adrian—dark
Agda, Agata, Agaton, Agneta—
pure (form of Agnes)
Aina—joy
Alexandra—defender of
mankind (form of
Alexander)
Algot—pearl
Alicia—sweet, noble (form of
Alice)
Alma—loving
Amalia—hardworking (form of
Amelia)
Anna, Annika, Annike—grace
(form of Anne)
Anna Cristina—graceful
Christian
Annalina—graceful light
Anneli, Annalie, Annali—
graceful meadow
Antonetta—priceless (form of
Anthony)
Astrid—divine strength
Atalie, Atali—pure
Barbro—stranger (form of
Barbara)
Beata—blessed
Berit, Berta—intelligent
Blenda—heroine
Botilda—commanding
Brigetta, Birgitta, Birget, Britta,
Britt, Brite—strong (form of
Bridget)
Carina, Carine, Caren—pure
(form of Karen)
Cecilia—blind (form of Cecil)
Cristina, Christina—believes in
Christ (form of Christian)
Dagmar—maiden of the day
Devnet—Danish home
Ebba, Ebbe—strength
Edit—wealthy gift (form of
Edith)
Eleonora, Elin—light (form of
Eleanor)
Elisabet—consecrated to God
(form of Elizabeth)
Elsa—truth
Emilia—hardworking (form of
Emily)
Emma—universal
Erika—eternal ruler (form of
Eric)
Eva, Evelina—life (form of Eve)
Filippa—lover of horses (form of
Philip)
Frederika—peaceful ruler (form
of Frederick)
Freya—myth name
Frida, Frideborg, Fritjof—
peaceful
Gabriella—God-given strength
(form of Gabriel)
Gala—lovely voice
Gerda—protected
Germund—defender of man
Gertrud—strong with a spear
(form of Gertrude)
Gote, Gota, Gotilda—strong
Greta—pearl (form of Margaret)
Guda—supreme
Gudny—unspoiled

Gudrun, Gudruna—divine
knowledge
Gunilla, Gunnel—battle-maid
Gustava—staff of God (form of
Gustav)
Hakan, Hakana—noble
Hanna—gracious God (form of
John)
Hedwig—strife
Helena—light (form of Helen)
Helga—holy
Henrika—rules the home (form
of Henry)
Hildegard, Hilda—stronghold
Hulda—hidden
Inga, Ingrid, Inge, Inger—Ing's
daughter
Ingaborg, Ingeborg, Ingegard—
Ing's helper
Ingalill—Ing's lily
Jaythen—meaning unknown
(form of Jay)
Johanna—gracious God (form of
John)
Judit—praised (form of Jude)
Julia—youthful (form of Julius)
Karin, Karen—pure
Karla, Karolina—manly (form of
Charles)
Katarina, Katrina, Katrine,
Kaysa—pure (form of
Katherine)
Kate—legend name
Kerstin, Kristina—believes in
Christ (form of Christian)
Kolina—maiden
Klara—clear, bright (form of
Clare)

Lage—from the sea
Laura—laurel (form of
Lawrence)
Lena, Lina—light
Lotta—masculine
Lovisa—renowned battle-maid
Lydia—from Lydia
Mai—sea jewel
Maj, Maja—pearl
Malena, Malene, Malin—from
the tower (form of
Madeleine)
Margareta, Margit—pearl (form
of Margaret)
Maria, Marita—bitter (form of
Mary)
Marta—mistress (form of
Martha)
Martina—warlike (form of
Marcus)
Matilda—strong battle-maid
Mikaela—who is like God (form
of Michael)
Monika—counselor (form of
Monica)
Nanna—graceful
Olga—holy
Olivia—olive
Paulina, Paula—small (form of
Paul)
Petra, Petronella—rock (form of
Peter)
Pia—pious
Quinby, Quenby—from the
woman's estate
Ragnara, Ragnhild—wise
warrior (form of Ragnor)
Rakel—ewe (form of Rachel)

Rigmor, Rigmora—name of a queen	Teresia—reaper (form of Theresa)
Rosel, Roselle, Rosa—rose	Tilda—mighty in war
Rut—beautiful	Tora—victor
Sibylla—prophetess (form of Sybil)	Trilby—meaning unknown
Signe, Signild, Signilda, Sigrid—victorious	Trind, Trina, Trine—innocent
Soasan—legend name	Ulla, Ulrika—has willpower
Sofia—wise (form of Sophia)	Vedia, Vedis—myth name
Solveig—housewoman	Vega—star
Sonya, Sonja—wise	Viktoria—victorious (form of Victor)
Stella—star	Vilhelmina, Vilma—resolute protector (form of William)
Stina—pure	Viola—flower
Svante—myth name	Virginia—pure
Svea—myth name	Viveka—little woman
Tekla—divine fame	

MALE

Adolphus, Adolph, Dolph—noble wolf	Ansgar—divine spear
Ake—ancient	Antonius, Anton—priceless (form of Anthony)
Alberik—blond ruler	Arn, Arne, Arnold—eagle
Albert—noble, intelligent	Aron—high mountain; lofty (form of Aaron)
Alexander—defender of mankind	Artur—noble bear (form of Arthur)
Alf, Alfred—wise	Arvid—of the people
Alfonso, Alfons—noble and ready for battle (form of Alphonse)	Axel—father of peace
Alrik—all-ruler	Balder—god of light; myth name
Alvar—dwarf shrub	Baltasar—protected by God
Ambrosius—immortal (form of Ambrose)	Bartholomeus—hill, furrow (form of Bartholomew)
Anderson—son of Ander	Basilius—regal (form of Basil)
Andreas, Anders—manly (form of Andrew)	Beck—brook
	Bengt, Benedikt—blessed (form of Benedict)

Beowulf—myth name
Berg—mountain
Bergren, Bergron—from the
mountain brook
Bertil—intelligent
Birger—rescuer
Bjorn—bear
Blasius—stutters (form of
Blaise)
Bodil, Bo—commanding
Borg, Borje—from the castle
Brand—sword
Burr—young
Caesar—long-haired
Cowbelliantus—legend name
David—beloved
Davin—intelligent
Denholm—home of the Danes
Eddy—unresting
Edvard—rich guardian (form of
Edward)
Emil—lively
Enar—warrior
Erik—eternal ruler (form of Eric)
Erling, Erland—stranger
Ernst—serious (form of Ernest)
Esbjorn—bear of the gods
Eskil—vessel of the gods
Eugen—well-born (form of
Eugene)
Evert—bear
Fabian—bean farmer
Felix—happy
Filip—lover of horses (form of
Philip)
Fisk—fish
Frans, Franz—free (form of
Francis)

Fredrik, Fredek, Frederek—
peaceful ruler (form of
Frederick)
Gabriel—God-given strength
Garth—defender
Georg, Goran, Gorin—farmer
(form of George)
Gerhard—spear ruler (form of
Gerald)
Greger—watchful (form of
Gregory)
Gunner, Gunnar—bold warrior
Hadrian—dark
Halvard—rock enclosure
Hans, Hansel—gracious God
(form of John)
Harald—army ruler (form of
Harold)
Helmer, Helmar—fighting fury
Hemming, Harry, Henrik,
Henning, Hendrik—rules the
home (form of Henry)
Herbert—shining warrior
Hermann—soldier (form of
Herman)
Hilmar, Hjalmar—name of a
noble
Hugo—intelligent (form of
Hugh)
Humfrid—peaceful Hun (form of
Humphrey)
Ingmar, Ingemar—famous
Ingvar—famous fighter
Isak—one who laughs (form of
Isaac)
Ivar—archer
Jakob—supplanter (form of
Jacob)

Jan, Jonam, Jens, Johan—
 gracious God (form of John)
 Jesper—jasper stone
 Jonas—dove
 Jorgen—farmer (form of
 George)
 Justus—just (form of Justin)
 Kalle, Kjell, Karl—manly (form of
 Charles)
 Klas—victory of the people
 (form of Nicholas)
 Knut—knot
 Kolbjorn—black bear
 Konrad—able counsel (form of
 Conrad)
 Konstantin—constant (form of
 Constantine)
 Krister, Kristar, Krist, Kristian—
 believes in Christ (form of
 Christian)
 Kristofer—Christ-bearer (form
 of Christopher)
 Lang—tall
 Lars, Larry, Larz, Lorenz,
 Lorens—laurel (form of
 Lawrence)
 Leif—descendant
 Lennart—brave lion (form of
 Leonard)
 Lucio, Lukas—light (form of
 Luke)
 Ludvik—famous in war (form of
 Louis)
 Lunt—from the grove
 Magnild, Magnus—strong
 fighter
 Malkolm—servant of Saint
 Columba (form of Malcolm)

Manfred—peaceful
 Markus, Mark—warlike (form of
 Marcus)
 Matteus, Mattias, Mats—God's
 gift (form of Matthew)
 Melker—king
 Mikael—who is like God (form of
 Michael)
 Nansen—Nancy's son
 Natanael—gift from God (form of
 Nathaniel)
 Nels, Nils—chief
 Niklas, Nikolaus—victory of the
 people (form of Nicholas)
 Noak—rest
 Olof, Olaf—ancestor
 Oskar—divine spear (form of
 Oscar)
 Otto—rich
 Ove—egg
 Patrik—noble (form of Patrick)
 Pavel—small (form of Paul)
 Per, Peder, Petter—rock (form
 of Peter)
 Perchnosius—legend name
 Poul, Pol—small (form of Paul)
 Ragnar, Ragnor—wise warrior
 Ragnvard—powerful fighter
 Rikard—strong ruler (form of
 Richard)
 Roald—mighty, powerful (form
 of Ronald)
 Roland—famous
 Rolf—wolf
 Rune—secret
 Rurik—famous ruler
 Rutger—famous spearman
 (form of Roger)

Samson, Simson—son of
 Samuel; heard
 Samuel—asked of God
 Saul—longed for
 Saxe—legend name
 Set—compensation
 Sigurd, Sigvard—victorious
 defender
 Skamelson—legend name
 Soren—reddish-brown hair
 Staffan, Stefan—crowned in
 victory (form of Stephen)
 Sten—stone
 Stig—from the mount
 Sven, Svend, Svens—young
 Svenbjorn—young bear
 Tage—day
 Tait—happy
 Tobias—God is good
 Tor, Thor, Tore—god of
 thunder; myth name
 Torbjorn, Torborg—thunder
 bear
 Torgny—Thor's loud weapon
 Torkel—Thor's kettle
 Torsten—Thor's stone
 Ture—meaning unknown
 Twigmuntus—legend name
 Ulf—wolf
 Valborg—powerful mountain
 Valdemar—famous ruler
 Valentin—valiant, strong (form
 of Valentine)
 Valfrid—powerful peace
 Valter—powerful warrior (form
 of Walter)
 Vatt—legend name
 Verner—protecting friend
 Vilhelm—resolute protector
 (form of William)
 Yngve—master

TEUTONIC

Teutonic—also called Germanic—tribes and cultures spread across Europe in the first millennium A.D. Teutonic languages, culture, and names can be found to some degree in several modern countries: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Scotland, Sweden, and Switzerland. The Germanic languages spoken by Teutonic tribes were distinct from the Celtic languages that also influenced several of these regions.

Surnames were not used among the loosely affiliated Teutonic tribes. See the sections on Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Irish, Scottish, and Swedish names to learn more about the surname practices that evolved in those areas.

FEMALE

- Ada—happy
Adabel, Adbelle—lovely, happy
Adela, Adel, Adeline, Adelina,
 Adaline, Adalina, Adelia,
 Adalia, Adalie, Adal—noble
 (form of Adel)
Adima—famous
Adolpha, Adolphina, Adolphine—
 noble wolf (form of Adolph)
Ailsa, Alyssa, Alisa—good humor
Aimiliana, Amialiona,
 Aimilionia—hardworking
 (form of Amelia)
Alarica, Alaricia, Alarice—noble
 ruler (form of Alaric)
Alberta, Alberte, Albertine,
 Albertina—noble, intelligent
 (form of Albert)
Alda, Aldea—wealthy (form of
 Aldo)
- Alfonsa, Alphonsa, Alphonza,
 Alphosine, Alonza,
 Alphosina—noble and ready
 for battle (form of Alphonse)
Alfreda, Alfrieda—elf counselor
 (form of Alfred)
Algiane, Algiana—spear
Alice, Alix, Allis, Alys, Alyce,
 Alicia, Alisa, Alissa, Alithia,
 Allys, Alicea—sweet, noble
 humor
Aline, Alina—noble
Alison, Allison—divine fame
Aloysia—famous in war (form of
 Aloysius)
Alvernia, Alverna, Alvina,
 Alvinia, Alvira, Alvera—
 dearly loved
Amelia, Amalie, Amalia, Amelie,
 Amalija—hardworking

Andromache—wife of Hector;
 myth name
 Anselma—divine helmet (form
 of Anselm)
 Ara, Aria—beautiful eagle
 Arabella—eagle, heroine
 Ardith—wealthy gift
 Arilda, Arilde—hearth maiden
 Arlette—eagle
 Armilda, Armilde—armored
 battle-maiden
 Armina—warrior maid
 Arnalda, Aroldine, Arnoldina—
 eagle (form of Arnold)
 Astrid, Astred—divine strength
 Asvoria—divine wisdom
 Auberta—intelligent
 Audris, Audrisa—rich
 Audrey—noble strength
 Axelle—father of peace (form of
 Axel)
 Azalea—noble
 Bathilda, Bathilde, Bathild—
 heroine
 Bera—bear
 Bernadine, Berdine, Bernardina,
 Bertine—intelligent maiden
 Bernadette—strong as a bear
 (form of Bernard)
 Beronika—honest
 Bertha, Berta—bright (form of
 Bert)
 Bertild, Bertilde, Bertilda—
 bright battle-maid
 Bertilla, Bertille—outstanding
 warrior-maiden
 Blenda, Blanda—glory
 Brend, Brenda—sword
 Bruna, Brunella—dark-haired
 (form of Brun)
 Brunhild, Brunhilda, Brunhilde—
 armored battle-maid
 Burga, Burgha—from the town
 Carly, Carlen—womanly
 Clotild, Clotilde, Clotilda—
 renowned for war
 Dagmar—maiden of the day
 Dagna—splendid day
 Dale—lives in the valley
 Didrika—ruler of the people
 (form of Dietrich)
 Dova—dove
 Druella—elfin
 Eberta, Elberta—intelligent
 Edburga, Edra, Edrea—wealthy
 defender
 Edeline, Edelina—noble
 Edith, Editta, Edyte, Edyta—
 wealthy gift
 Edolie, Edolia—good humor
 Edwige—refuge from war
 Elda, Elde—warrior
 Eldora—gift of wisdom
 Elfreda, Elfrida—threatens the
 elves
 Elga—holy
 Elke—industrious
 Elmina, Elmine—intimidating
 fame
 Eloise—famous in war
 Elsa—noble
 Elvira—white
 Emily, Emlyn, Emeline, Emiline,
 Emelina, Emelin, Emilie—
 hardworking
 Emma, Ema—universal

- Engelberta—bright angel
 Enrica, Enrika, Enriqueta—rules
 the home (form of Henry)
 Erica, Erika—eternal ruler (form
 of Eric)
 Ermelinda, Ermelinde, Erma—
 serpent
 Ernestina, Ernestine, Ernesta,
 Erna—serious (form of
 Ernest)
 Erwina—honorable
 Ethel—noble
 Ethelda, Ethelde—wise adviser
 Ethelinda, Ethelind, Ethelinde—
 noble serpent
 Etta—ruler of the home
 Fanny, Fannie, Frances, Francine,
 Fanchon, Franziska, Franze,
 Frantiska, Francoise,
 Francique, Francesca,
 Francisca, Fotina, Franci,
 Fereng, Ferike, Ferika—free
 (form of Francis)
 Felda—from the field
 Fernande, Fernanda—adventurer
 (form of Ferdinand)
 Fleda, Flede, Fleta, Flita—swift
 Freda, Frida—tranquil
 Frederica, Fredrika, Farica,
 Fryda, Fritzi, Fritzie, Farica,
 Farika, Friederike,
 Friederika, Friedegard,
 Friedegarde—peaceful ruler
 (form of Frederick)
 Frideborg, Fritjog—tranquil aide
 Frodine, Frodina—sage friend
 Galiena—lofty maiden
 Garda, Garde, Gerda, Gerde—
 guarded
 Gari—spear-maid
 Gay—lively
 Geralda, Geraldine, Geraldina,
 Girelda—spear ruler (form
 of Gerald)
 Gerlinda, Gerlinde—weak spear
 Germaine, Germane—armed
 Gertraud, Gertrud, Gertruda—
 strong with a spear (form of
 Gertrude)
 Gilberta, Gilberte—pledge (form
 of Gilbert)
 Gilda—sacrifice
 Gisele, Gisel, Gizela, Gizi, Gizike,
 Gizus—pledge
 Griselda, Griselde, Griseldis,
 Grissel, Grizel—gray battle-
 maid
 Gusta, Gustaafa, Guusa, Gustha,
 Gustava—staff of God (form
 of Gustav)
 Haldis, Haldisa—spirit of stone
 Halfrida—peaceful heroine
 Harelda, Harelde, Harolda,
 Harole, Hally, Hallie—army
 ruler (form of Harold)
 Harriet, Harriette, Harrietta—
 army ruler (form of Harold);
 rules the home (form of
 Henry)
 Hazel—commander
 Hedwig, Hedy, Hadwig, Hedda—
 strife
 Henriette, Henrietta, Hatty,
 Hattie, Henrika, Henie,
 Hennie, Hen, Henny, Henka,

Henia, Henuita, Henuite—
rules the home (form of
Henry)

Hertha, Herthe, Heartha—
mother earth

Hilda, Hilde, Hild—battle-maid

Hildegard, Hildegarde—
stronghold

Holda—concealed

Holli, Hollye—holly

Huberta, Huberte—intelligent
(form of Hubert)

Huette—intelligent (form of
Hugh)

Ida, Ide—active

Idaline, Idalina—working noble

Idelia—noble

Idelle, Idette, Idetta—merry

Idona, Ilke, Ilka, Idone—
hardworking

Ilda—heroine

Ildiko—fierce warrior

Ilsa, Ilse—noble maid

Inge, Inger, Ingeborg, Inga, Inkeri,
Ingria—daughter of a hero

Ingrid, Ing—myth name

Irma—whole, strong

Isa—devoted to God

Jadryga, Jada, Jadriga—refuge
in war

Jarvia—sharp weapon

Jetje—ruler of the home

Kelly—born on the farm during
the spring

Kerttu, Kerta—strong with a
spear (form of Gertrude)

Koldobike, Koldobika—
renowned holiness

Kundegunde, Kundegunda—
name of a princess

Laobhaoise, Loes, Lois—holy

Lelia—loyal

Leoda—of the people

Leola—dear

Lorelle, Lorrella, Lorilla—little
laurel

Lou, Louisa, Louise, Lulita, Lulu—
famous in war (form of Louis)

Magan—powerful

Marcella—warlike (form of
Marcus)

Marelda, Marelde—elfin Mary

Matilda, Mathilda, Matilde,
Mathilde, Mathild—strong
battle-maid

Maude, Maud—strong in war

Melcia—ambitious

Milia, Malia—hardworking

Milicent, Millicent, Milicente,
Melicent, Mellicent—strong

Mimi, Minka—resolute

Minna, Minnie, Minny—love

Mona—loner

Nette, Nettie—clean

Nordica—from the north

Oda, Odile, Odelia, Odila—
wealthy

Oktobriana, Octobriana—myth
name

Olga—holy

Ordelia—elfin spear

Orinda—fire serpent

Orlanthe, Orlantha—famous
throughout the land (form of
Orlando)

Ortrud, Ortrude, Ortruda—
serpentine

SHERRILYN KENYON



Sherrilyn Kenyon is *The New York Times* best-selling author of several series, including the Dark-Hunters, Brotherhood of the Sword, the Mac-Allisters, Sex Camp Diaries, and BAD Boys. Her novel *Fantasy Lover* was voted one of the top ten romances of 2002 by Romance Writers of America.

I've always been entranced by Greek mythology, so when I started my ancient Greek based vampire series, I turned to my primary sources. In Hades, there are four main rivers. In order to get from the world of Man to the Underworld (something that is prophetic to say the least in the series since my characters are caught between the world of the living and the world of the dead), there are two main rivers to cross: Styx, which everyone knows, and Acheron. Styx is the river of Hatred, and Acheron is the river of Woe, two names that really capture the nature of the characters' two lives. I knew Styx was traditionally a female goddess name, but I wanted these two names to represent the twins who are primary characters in the Dark-Hunter world. So I decided to add an extra x to Styxx's name and make jokes in the series about the fact that he has a female name. Acheron's name is old and holds that ancient cadence that is part of him, but since Acheron is a character who has changed and evolved through the ages (he likes to blend with the popular culture of the current time period he's living in), his name has evolved from being pronounced *Ack-uh-rah-n* to *Ash-uh-rah-n* to now *Ash* for short. His last name Parthenopaeus is also very important to the series, but the exact nature of that will come out in future books.

Ottilie, Ottilia—lucky battle-
maiden

Pastora, Pastore—shepherdess
Proinnseas—free

Queen, Queeny, Queenie—
queen

Ragnild, Reinheld, Renilde,
Renilda, Renilde, Ragnilde,

Renild, Reinhelda—one who
is wise in battle

Raina, Raine—strong

Ramona—mighty protector
(form of Raymond)

Ricarda—strong ruler (form of
Richard)

Rikka—tranquil leader

Rilla—stream
 Roberta, Robina, Robine—bright,
 famous (form of Robert)
 Roderica—famous ruler (form of
 Roderick)
 Rolanda, Rolande, Rollande,
 Rollanda—famous (form of
 Roland)
 Romilda, Romilde, Romelde,
 Romelda—glorious battle-
 maid
 Ronald, Ronalde—mighty,
 powerful (form of Ronald)
 Rosamund, Rosemond,
 Rosamunde—noted
 protector
 Rudelle—famous
 Saxona—of Saxony
 Selma—helmet
 Serilda, Serilde—armored
 battle-maid
 Sigismonda, Sigismunda—
 victorious defender
 Sunhild, Sunhilde, Sunhilda,
 Sonnehilda, Sonnehilde—
 sun battle-maid
 Swanhilda, Swanhilde—swan
 battle-maid
 Theda—of the people
 Thora, Tora—god of thunder;
 myth name (form of Thor)
 Tilda, Tilde, Tille—mighty in war
 Uald, Ualda—brave
 Uda—prosperous
 Ulrike, Ulrica, Ulrika—ruler of all

Ulva—she wolf
 Ute—fortunate
 Valda—spirited in war
 Vala—chosen one
 Vanda—wanderer (form of
 Wanda)
 Vedia, Vidis, Vedis—holy spirit
 of the forest
 Veda, Velda—inspired
 intelligence
 Verena, Verina—protector
 Vigdis—myth name
 Vilhelmina, Vilma—resolute
 protector (form of William)
 Walburgha, Walburga—strong
 defender
 Waltraud—strength
 Wandis, Wanda, Wenda, Wende,
 Wendelin, Wendeline,
 Wendelina—wanderer
 Wilhelmina, Wileen, Willa,
 Willette, Wilmet, Wilhemine,
 Wilhemina, Wilna—resolute
 protector (form of William)
 Wilva—determined
 Winifred, Wynifred, Winifrid,
 Winfreda, Wynfreda—
 peaceful friend
 Zeld, Zelde—gray battle-maid
 (form of Griselda)
 Zerelda, Zerelde, Zereld—
 armored battle-maid
 Zerlina—serene beauty
 Zissi, Ziske, Ziska—free



MALE

- Abelard, Allard, Alard—resolute
Adal, Adel—noble
Adalard, Adelard, Adler, Adlar—
brave, noble
Adalbert, Adelbert, Ambert—
noble, intelligent (form of
Albert)
Addo—happy
Adelric, Adalric, Aric, Arik—
noble ruler
Adolf, Adolph, Adolphus—noble
wolf
Agilard—glowing
Ahren—eagle
Aimery—industrious
Aimon—home
Alajos—famous holiness
Alard, Alaric, Alirick, Alric,
Alrik—noble ruler
Alber—brilliant
Alberic—skillful ruler
Albern—noble warrior
Albert—noble, intelligent
Alcuin—noble friend
Aldo, Audwin, Audwyn—
wealthy
Aldous—wise
Aldrich, Aldridge—wise ruler
Alfred—elf counselor
Alger—noble spearman
Alison, Allison—divine fame
Alonso, Alonzo, Alphonse,
Alphonso, Alfonso—noble
and ready for battle
Aloysius, Alaouis, Aloys—famous
in war
Altman—old wise man
Alvin, Alvyn, Alvan, Alwan,
Alwin, Alwyn—noble friend
Ambert—shining bright light
Amerigo, Amery, Amory—
hardworking
Ancel, Ancil—like God
Annraio, Arrigo, Arrighetto,
Alrigo—rules an estate
Anselm, Ansel, Ancil, Anzelm,
Anzel, Amselmo—divine
helmet
Ansgar—divine spear
Archibald—bold
Ardmore—ardent
Armon, Armin, Armonno,
Armino, Armando—warrior
Arnall—kind eagle
Arnold, Arnaldo, Aroldo—eagle
Arvin—friend of the people
Aubrey, Aubrian—rules the
elves
Aylmer, Aylmar—infamous
Aylsworth—of great worth
Aylward—noble protector
Aylwin, Aylwyn—great friend
Baldric—bold ruler
Baldwin, Baldwyn—bold friend
Ballard—bold, strong
Barnard, Barnardo, Bernard,
Bernardo, Burnard—strong
as a bear
Barrett—bear
Barron, Barin, Barrin, Baron,
Baran—noble fighter
Bayard—reddish-brown hair

Belden, Beldan, Beldane—lives
in the beautiful glen
Berger—of the mountains
Bert, Bertold—bright
Bertin, Berton, Bertwin,
Bertwyn—shining friend
Bertram, Bertrand, Bartram,
Bertok—bright raven
Bevis—archer
Bodo—leader
Booth—from the market stall
Boyce—dwells in the woods
Brainard—bold raven
Brandon—from the beacon hill
Brant, Brantley—firebrand
Bruno—dark-haired (form of
Brun)
Burchard—strong as a castle
Burke—stronghold
Burleigh, Burley—from the
meadow by the hill
Byron—from the cottage; bear
Canute—hill
Cavell—bold
Chalmer, Chalmar, Chalmers—
rules the home
Charles—manly
Clay, Clayborn, Claybourne—
mortal
Clayton—from the town on the
clay bed
Clinton—from the headland
estate
Clovis—famous warrior
Colbert—seaman
Cole, Coleman—dark
Conrad, Cort—able counsel
Crosby—dwells by the town
cross

Culbert, Colbert—cool and
intelligent
Curt—wise counselor
Dale, Dail—lives in the dale
Dannel—God is my judge (form
of Daniel)
Darrick, Derek, Dedrick, Dedrik,
Dedric, Dick—rules the
people
Delwyn, Delwin—valley friend
Derwin, Derwyn—friend of wild
animals
Dirk—dagger
Dixon, Dickson—strong leader
Dolph—wolf
Dustin—warrior
Dwight—blond
Earnest—serious (form of
Ernest)
Eberhard—strong as a boar
Edrigu—famous leader
Edsel—noble one
Egan, Egon—formidable
Egbert—shining sword
Ehren—honorable
Einri—intelligent
Elbert—noble, glorious
Elden, Eldon—elder
Eldred, Eldridge—wise adviser
Elgar—shining spear
Ellard—brave
Ellery, Ellary—lives by the alder
tree
Elmar, Elemer, Elmer—awe-
inspiring
Elvin—wise
Emeric, Emrik, Emric—leader
Emilian, Emil, Emile—excellent

Emory, Emery—joint ruler
 Engelbert—bright angel
 Enrico, Enzo, Enrique—rules the
 home (form of Henry)
 Erramun, Erroman, Ermanno—
 mighty defender
 Erhard—honor
 Ethelred—noble counsel
 Everard—brave as a boar
 Evgenii—well-born (form of
 Eugene)
 Ewald—powerful
 Farand—pleasant
 Faxon—thick-haired
 Ferdinand—adventurer
 Filbert—brilliant
 Fitz—son of
 Fitz Gerald, Fitzgerald—son of
 Gerald
 Fitz Patrick, Fitzpatrick—son of
 Patrick
 Fletcher—feathers arrows
 Folke—people's guard
 Francis, Franchot, Frank,
 Franklin, Frantisek, Franta,
 Francois, Franz, Franziskus,
 Franciscus, Frantisek—free
 Frederic, Frederick, Fred, Fredi,
 Fritz, Frits, Friedel,
 Friedrich, Fredek, Frigyes,
 Frici, Fryderyk, Fredrick,
 Fredrik—peaceful ruler
 Friedhelm—true peace
 Fydor, Fedya, Fadyenka—divine
 gift
 Gandolf—wolf's progress
 Gardell, Garner—defender
 Gardener, Gardiner—farmer
 Garrick, Garek—rules by the
 spear
 Garvin—spear friend
 Gautier, Gauthier—powerful
 warrior (form of Walter)
 Gavin—white hawk
 Geoffrey—God's peace
 Gerald, Gerry, Gerold, Geraud,
 Giraud, Gerard, Girard,
 Garret, Garret, Gearoid,
 Garcia—spear ruler
 Gervais—serves the spear
 Gifford—gift of bravery
 Gilamu, Gillen, Guillaume, Gellert,
 Guilherme—resolute fighter
 Gilbert, Gilberto, Gilbert,
 Gilen—pledge
 Gilfred, Gilfrid—oath of peace
 Gilmer—famous hostage
 Goddard, Gotthard—divinely
 stern
 Goodwin, Godwyn, Godwin—
 God's friend
 Gorman—eyes of blue
 Gottfrid, Godfrey, Godfried,
 Gottfried, Goffredo,
 Godofredo, Giotto—God's
 peace
 Govert—divine peace
 Graham—from the gray home
 Griswald, Griswold—from the
 gray forest
 Gualtiero, Galtero—powerful
 warrior (form of Walter)
 Guglielmo, Gwilym—resolute
 protector (form of William)
 Gunner, Gunnar—bold warrior
 Gunther—battle army

Gustave, Gustavus, Gustaof,
Gusztav—staff of God (form
of Gustav)
Guy, Gert, Gerwazy, Gervasy,
Gervazy, German,
Gervasio—warrior
Hadwin, Hadwyn—friend in war
Hagan, Hagen—strong defender
Haines, Hanes, Hane, Haine—
dwells in the hedged
enclosure
Halbert—shining jewel
Halden, Haldan—half-Dane
Hale—robust
Hallam—from the hillside
Hamlin—rules the home
Hardie, Hardy—strong
Harlan, Harland—from the land
of strength
Harman—of the army
Harold, Hal, Harry—army ruler
Harris—son of Harry
Harte, Hart—stag
Hartman—strong
Hartwell—lives near the stag's
spring
Hartwig, Hass—strong adviser
Harvey, Herman, Hermann,
Harm, Harme, Herve—
soldier
Haydon, Hayden—from the
hedged-in valley
Helmer—fighting fury
Hendrik, Henrik, Henerik, Harry,
Henning, Henri, Heinroch,
Heike, Harro, Hinrich,
Henrich, Hannraoi, Hank,
Henryk, Heromin, Henry—
rules the home

Herbert, Heribert, Heriberto—
shining warrior
Herwyn, Herwin—loves war
Hew, Hewitt—heart and mind
Hildebrand, Hildebrandt—war
sword
Hilliard—defender in war
Holden—gracious
Holman—from the river island
Holmes—son of Holman
Howard—chief guardian
Hrorek—famous ruler
Hubert, Hobart, Hugo, Hugh,
Hugues, Huberto,
Humberto, Huw—
intelligent, brilliant mind
Humbert—shining support
Humfried, Hunfredo, Hunfried—
peaceful Hun (form of
Humphrey)
Humphrey, Humfrey—peaceful
Hun
Ibon, Ivar, Ivor, Ive, Iver, Iomhar,
Ives, Ifor—archer
Imre—hardworking
Inglebert—bright angel
Ingram—Ing's raven
Jarratt, Jarvis, Jervis—sharp as
a spear
Jerrold, Jarold—strong with a
spear
Jeff, Jeffrey—God's peace (form
of Geoffrey)
Kelby, Kilby—from the farm by
the water
Kerbasy, Kerbasi—warrior
Kirby, Kerby—from the church
village

Kirk—dwells at the church
Konrad—able counsel (form of
Conrad)
Lali, Lajos, Lajcsi, Laji—famous
holiness
Lamar, Lambert, Lamerto—
famous around the land
Latham—dwells by the barn
Lear—of the sea
Learoyd, Leroy—from the
cleared meadow
Ledyard—nation's defender
Leonard, Len, Leonardo,
Leonardo, Lennart,
Leonhard—brave lion
Leopold, Leo, Leupold, Luitpold,
Leorad—bold for his people
Liam—resolute protector (form
of William)
Lindsay, Lindsey—from the
island of the linden tree
Lombard—long beard
Lopolda, Lopold, Lopoldi,
Lipot—patriotic
Loring—from Lorraine
Lothar, Lothair—famous
warrior (form of Lothario)
Louis, Lewis, Luther—famous in
war
Lydon—from the linden-tree hill
Madison—son of Maud
Mandel—almond
Manfred, Manfrid—peaceful
Marvin, Marwin, Marwyn, Mervin,
Merwin, Merwyn—mariner
Marshall—steward
Mason—stone worker
Maynard, Meinrad—brave

Medwin, Medwyn—strong friend
Merrell, Merrill—famous
Merrick, Merek—strong ruler
Naldo—strong
Nevin, Nevyn—nephew
Norbert, Noberto—bright hero
Norman, Norris, Novin,
Norvyn—from the north
Norward—guardian of the north
road
Notker, Notcher—compelling
spear
Obert—wealthy
Odo, Odilo, Otto, Ota, Otik, Oto,
Otokars, Otomars, Ode,
Orton—rich
Olaf—ancestor
Orlando, Orland—famous
throughout the land
Ormond, Orman—mariner
Osborn, Osbourne—divine bear
Osgood—divine god
Osmund, Osmond—divine
protection
Osric, Osrik—divine ruler
Oswald, Oswaldo, Osvald—
divine power
Othmar—happy fame
Otway, Ottoway—lucky in war
Outram—wealthy raven
Patxi, Proinnsias, Paquito,
Panchito—free
Paxton, Paxon—trader
Philibert—sharp-willed
Pippen—father
Podi—bold for the people
Pollard—short-haired
Ragnall, Ragnol, Randal,

Randahl, Renaud, Rinaldo,
 Ranaldo, Randolf, Randolph,
 Rendell—mighty power
 Ram—raven
 Rambert—mighty; intelligent
 Ramsey, Ramsay—from Ram's
 island
 Raoul, Ralph, Raul—wolf (form
 of Rolf)
 Rawdon—from the hill
 Raymond, Raymund, Raimund,
 Reamonn, Raimondo,
 Raimundo, Rajmund, Ramon,
 Redmond, Redmund,
 Richmond, Ramone,
 Reinhold—mighty protector
 Reginald, Reynold—strong ruler
 Renard, Rennard, Raynard—fox
 Renfred, Renfrid—peacemaker
 Renwick, Renwyk—where the
 ravens nest
 Richard—strong ruler
 Ritter—knight
 Robert, Roberto, Robin, Rob,
 Rab, Robby, Raibert,
 Robinet, Roibeard, Riobart,
 Rupert—bright, famous
 Roderick, Roderic, Rodrick,
 Rurik, Ruaidhri, Ruairidh,
 Roderigo, Rogelio—famous
 ruler
 Roger, Rudger, Rutger, Rotger,
 Rudiger, Rogerio, Ruggero,
 Ruggiero, Rodrigue—
 famous spearman
 Roland, Rowland, Rolando,
 Rolden, Rodney—famous
 Rolf, Rolfe, Rolph, Rolphe—wolf
 Rollo, Rollin, Rollins—famous
 (form of Roland)
 Rory—red ruler
 Roscoe—from the deer forest
 Roswell, Roswald, Ross—mighty
 horse
 Rudolph, Rudolf—famous wolf
 Saxon—swordsmen
 Searle, Serle—armed
 Selby—from the manor farm
 Seldon, Selden—from the manor
 house
 Sewell, Seymour—mighty at sea
 Siegbert—famous victory
 Siefried, Sigfrid, Sigfried,
 Seifred—victorious peace
 (form of Siegfried)
 Sigmund, Sigmond, Sigismund,
 Seigmund, Sigismondo—
 victorious defender
 Sprague—alert
 Steen, Sten—stone
 Stig—from the mount
 Swain—young
 Tage, Tag, Tajo—day
 Tancred—adviser
 Tedman, Tedmund, Theomund—
 national protector
 Terrill, Tirell, Terrell—thunder
 ruler
 Terriss, Terris—son of Terry
 Thayer—nation's army
 Theobald—people's prince
 Theodoric, Theodric, Theodrik,
 Thierry, Terry, Till,
 Tillmann, Tilman, Thilo,
 Til—people's rule
 Thorley—from Thor's meadow

Thorpe—from the village
Thurborn—dwells by the stream
Tibald, Tybalt—people's prince
Torbert, Thorbert—glorious as
 Thor
Tormod—from the north
Torquil, Torkel—Thor's cauldron
Torsten, Thorsten, Thurston—
 Thor's stone
Traugott—God's truth
Tyson—son of a German
Ugo—spirit
Ulliam, Uileog, Ulik—resolute
 protector (form of William)
Uistean, Ustean, Uisdean,
 Uberto, Ubert—intelligent
Uland—from the noble land
Ulbrecht—splendor
Ulfred—wolf of peace
Ulrik, Ulric—ruler of all
Uther—myth name
Uwe, Udo—universal ruler
Valdis—spirited in war
Valter, Vater—powerful warrior
 (form of Walter)
Varick, Varik—defending ruler
Verner—protecting friend
Vilhelm, Viljo, Vilo, Vilhelms,
 Vilis—resolute protector
 (form of William)
Vilmos, Vili—resolute protector
 (form of William)
Volker—people's guard
Volney—of the people
Waldram—mighty raven
Wallace, Wallis—from Wales
Walter, Walt, Walther, Wlader,
 Wat, Watt, Wouter,

Waldemar, Waldemarr,
Walden, Waldo—powerful
warrior
Ward—guard
Waring—heedful
Warner, Werner, Wuhur,
 Werhar—protecting army
Warren—protecting friend
Warrick, Warwyk, Warwick—
 protecting ruler
Washington—active
Weldon—from the spring by the
 hill
Wendel, Wendell—wanderer
Wies—famous fighter
Wilfrid, Wilfred—resolute peace
Willard—resolute, brave
William, Will, Wilhelm,
 Wilhelmus, Willem, Wim—
 resolute protector
Wilmer, Wilmar—resolute;
 famous
Wilmot—resolute spirit
Wilson—Will's son
Windsor, Winsor—from the
 bend of the river
Winefeld, Winfield—friend of the
 soil
Winfred, Wynfred, Winfryd—
 friend of peace
Winthrop—from the friendly
 village
Wolfe, Wolf—wolf
Wolfgang—advancing wolf
Wolfgar—wolf spear
Wolfram—wolf-raven
Zsigmond, Zsiga, Zygmunt—
 victorious defender

THAI

Thai names consist of a given name and a surname, but are listed surname first. In addition to that, a Thai person usually has a short nickname, which is the name most commonly used. In fact, the surname is rarely used by anyone except in official records. Common nicknames are Noom (“young man”) and Lah (“young lady”). Women take their husband’s surnames when they marry.

Very long Thai surnames often belong to families that immigrated to Thailand from China and then applied for Thai surnames. Under the law, they were not allowed to choose names already in existence. In their attempts to create totally unique names, they inevitably had to create very long names.

A few surnames:

Adoonyadayt	Narkhirunkanok
Adulyadej	Ornlamai
Aromdee	Paowsong
Bunyasarn	Parnthong
Chaiprasit	Rattamondhree
Gosayotin	Rojumanong
Jetjirawat	Sakda
Kadesadayurat	Sangsorn
Kaothai	Thumying
Kongsangchai	Udomprecha
Kosayodhin	Vipavakit
Kunakorn	Wattanapanit
Leekpai	Wongmontha
Lertkunakorn	Yongjaiyut
Meesang	

FEMALE

Daw—stars	Phailin—sapphire
Kama—love	Prasert—meaning unknown
Kanya—young woman	Ratana—crystal
Mali—flower	Sirikit—queen
Pakpao—kite	Solada—listener

Suchin—beautiful thoughts
Sumalee—lovely blossom
Sunee—good

Tasanee—beautiful view
Vanida—girl

MALE

Aran—forest
Aroon—daybreak
Chet—brother
Kama—love
Kiet—honor
Mongkut—crown

Niran—eternal
Pravat—history
Rama—king
Sakda—power
Sunan—good word
Virote—power

UKRAINIAN

Some Ukrainian surnames are patronymic. Others refer to place or occupation or are descriptive. A sequence of three names is the standard: given name, father's name (in the genitive case), and surname.

Ukrainian names are written in a Cyrillic alphabet. When they are transliterated into English, the new spelling can vary widely. For instance, the suffix pronounced SKEE, common to many Russian and Ukrainian names, can be written as -ski, -skii, -skji, -sky, -skyi, -ckyj, -ckii, etc.

Common surname suffixes:

-enko, -vych, -ovych, -uk, -iuk, -yshyn—son of

-oviat, -iat—ancient forms of “son of”

-ivna—daughter of

-kha—widow

-ska, -cka—female

-skyi, -ckyj, -ec, -iak, -iany—from

A few surnames:

Andrukhovych

Andrushko

Bilynskij

Bobrovnyk

Boiko

Braniski

Danylovych

Demidas

Denisovich

Dimitrenko

Dyachenko

Glinski

Khristin

Kimko

Klimus

Kliubova

Kupchenko

Makarovskyi

Michalovic

Pashkowskyj

Paslawskyj

Petriv

Petrowycz

Podrova

Rudnyk

Savchenko

Skriabin

Teslenko

Tesler

Volynskji

Witkowski

Yaroshcenko

FEMALE

Aleksandra—defender of
mankind (form of Alexander)
Alias—noble
Aneta, Anita, Anichka—grace
(form of Anne)
Bohuslava—God’s glory (form of
Bohuslav)
Hannah—gracious God (form of
John)
Ionna—God’s gift
Ivanna—gracious God (form of
John)
Katerina, Katrya—pure (form of
Katherine)
Klarysa—clear, bright (form of
Clare)
Lavra—laurel (form of Lawrence)
Leysa, Lyaksandra—defender of
mankind (form of
Alexander)
Luba—love

Lukina—bright
Lyudmyla—love of the people
Mariya, Marynia, Maryska—
bitter (form of Mary)
Mikayla—who is like God (form
of Michael)
Nastasiya, Nastunye—rebirth
Natalka—born on Christmas
(form of Natalie)
Nyura—graceful
Oksana, Oxana—hospitality
Olena—light (form of Helen)
Orynko—peace
Pavla—small (form of Paul)
Sofiya, Sofiyko—wise (form of
Sophia)
Yaryna—peaceful
Yelysaveta—consecrated to
God (form of Elizabeth)
Yevtsye, Yeva—life (form of
Eve)

MALE

Aleksander—defender of
mankind (form of Alexander)
Andriy—manly (form of Andrew)
Bohdan, Bohdanko, Bogdan,
Bodashka—gift from God
Bohuslav—God’s glory
Borysko—warrior
Burian—lives near the weeds
Danya—God’s gift
Danylets, Danylko—God is my
judge (form of Daniel)
Dymtrus—supplanter (form of
James)

Fadey, Faddei, Fadeyka,
Fadeyushka—brave
Hadeon—destroyer
Heorhiy—farmer
Ivan—gracious God (form of
John)
Krystiyan—believes in Christ
(form of Christian)
Lyaksandro—defender of
mankind (form of Alexander)
Marko—warlike (form of Marcus)
Matviyko—God’s gift

DAVID MORRELL



David Morrell is the award-winning author of *First Blood*, the novel in which Rambo was created. He is the author of nineteen novels, including six *New York Times* best sellers.

A rose by any other name would smell as sweet. Nonetheless many authors have an almost mystical attachment to the names they give characters. I once had a heated discussion with a fellow author who insisted that “Decker” was better than “Becker.” The artist hero of my novel *Burnt Sienna* was originally called Kincaid, but my editor got nervous because there was a real-life artist with that name (although spelled differently), so in anguish I changed Kincaid to Malone. For about a week, I felt intense loss. Now I have trouble recalling the original name. In the end, I decided that names are merely abstractions, and when we consider them as such, we can avoid a lot of problems. For example, at the start of a project I make a list of characters’ names to ensure that each begins with a different letter of the alphabet, thus preventing a repetition of Anna, Albert, and Anastasia. The list also helps me avoid a lot of names with similar endings—Harry, Bobby, and Tommy. Note that those names also have the same syllables, as do Corrigan, Matheson, and Faraday, names that would be rhythmically wearying if all three were in the same story. With audio books now widely available, I also try to avoid names with s in them. “Susan said” challenges even the best actor. For me, the goal is to choose names that don’t inadvertently draw attention to themselves and distract the reader from the story.

Mykhailo, Mykhaylo, Mychajlo,
Mykhaltso—who is like God
(form of Michael)

Oleksander—defender of
mankind (form of Alexander)

Osip—God adds (form of Joseph)

Pavlo—small (form of Paul)

Petro, Petruso—rock (form of
Peter)

Taras—meaning unknown

Vanko—gracious God

Vasylo—noble

Volodymyr, Wolodymyr—to
rule with greatness

Yevheniy, Yevhen—noble

Yure, Yuri, Yuriy—farmer (form
of George)



VIETNAMESE

Vietnamese list the family name first and then their middle and given names.

Few given names are exclusively masculine or feminine. Children are not usually named after parents.

The words *Van* and *Thi* occur often in the middle name position in Vietnamese names. In fact, they are articles indicating gender: *Van* for male and *Thi* for female. A boy may have *Huu*, *Duc*, *Dinh*, *Xuan*, *Ngoc*, *Quang*, or *Cong* in place of *Van*. Birth order for sons can also be indicated in the middle name position: *Manh* for the firstborn, then *Trong* and *Qui* for second and third. All subsequent sons use *Gia*. *Ba* and *Thuc* are used to indicated older and younger brothers, respectively. A typical name might be *Nguyen Thi Mai*, in which *Nguyen* is the surname and *Mai* is the given name.

Many surnames in Vietnam are Chinese in origin. The surname *Nguyen* is shared by almost half the population.

A few surnames:

Banh	Mai
Cao	Ngo
Che	Nguy
Chu	Nguyen
Dam	Pham
Dang	Phan
Dao	Phung
Dinh	Ta
Do	Tang
Doan	Thach
Du	Thieu
Duong	Ton
Hoang	Tran
Hua	Trinh
Huynh	Trouong
Lam	Tu
Le	Vanh
Luong	Vo
Ly	Vu

FEMALE

Ai—beloved, gentle	Lam—jungle
Anh—intelligent	Lang—sweet potato
An—peace	Lanh—gentle spirit
Be—baby or doll	Lan—orchid
Bian—hidden, secret	Le—pear; tears
Bich—jade	Lien—lotus
Binh—peaceful	Lieu—willow
Cai—meaning unknown	Mai—cherry blossom
Cam—orange fruit; sun	Mychau—great
Chau—pearls	My-Duyen—pretty
Chi—tree branch, twig	Ngoc—precious stone
Cuc—chrysanthemum	Nguyet—moon
Dao—peach blossoms; Tet flower	Nhung—velvet
Dep—beautiful	Nhu—wish
Diep—leaves	Nu—girl
Diu—gentle	Phuong—destiny; phoenix
Doan Vien—happy reunion	Quyen—bird
Dong—winter	Quy—precious
Giang—river	Sang—upper class
Hai—fairy shoe	Suong—fog
Han—faithful, moral	Tam—heart
Hang—angel in the full moon	Tham—discreet
Hanh Phuc—blessing from above	Thanh—bright, sunny
Ha—river	Thao—sweet, kind
Hien—gentle, nice	Thi—poem; common middle name
Hoa—flower	Thuy—friendly; pussy willow
Hong—rose pink	Tien—fairy
Hue—lily	Trinh—virginal girl
Khanh—precious stone	Truc—wish
Khiem—virtue	Tuyen—angel
Kieu—graceful	Tuyet—snow white
Kim Cuc—golden lion	Uoc—wishes
Kim Ly—chrysanthemum yellow	Van—cloud
Kim—golden one	Xuan—spring
	Yen—a swallow; peace

MALE

Anh Dung—heroism	Quan—soldier
Bao—protection	Quy—precious
Bay—reddish brown	Ritchell—gross
Binh—peaceful	Sang—bright
Cadeo—folk song	Sinh—birth
Cam—orange fruit; sun	Son—mountain
Chien—battle	Tai—talented
Chinh—correct	Thai—many
Cuong—prosperous	Thang—victory
Danh—fame	Thanh—accomplished
Duc—desire	Thinh—prosperous
Due—virtuous	Tho—long lived
Dung—heroic	Thuan—tamed
Duong—virility	Thu—autumn
Giang—river	Tinh—aware
Hai—river	Toan—complete
Hao—good	Tong—fragrant
Hien—nice, kind, gentle	Trai—oyster
Hieu—dutiful	Tran—family name
Hoc—to study	Trang—honored
Hung—prosperity	Trieu—tide
Huy—light, bright	Trong Tri—not of small mind
Huynh—elder brother	Trong—respected
Kim—golden one	Truc—bamboo
Lam—all-knowing	Trung—loyalty
Lanh—street smart	Tuan—brilliant
Minh—bright	Tung—a type of coniferous tree
Ngai—herb	Tu—star, brilliant, quick-minded
Nhat—long life	Van—traditional middle name
Nhung—velvet	Vien—completion
Phuoc—good fortune	Vuong—prosperous
Phuong—destiny; phoenix	Xuan—spring
Quang—good reputation	

WELSH

Traditionally, Welsh children were named after certain family members in order of birth. Though variations existed, the general pattern was as follows: The first son would be named after the paternal grandfather, the second son after the maternal grandfather. The first daughter would be named after the maternal grandmother, and the second daughter after the paternal grandmother. The third son and daughter would be named after the parent of the appropriate sex, and the following children were named after aunts and uncles in birth order.

Despite evidence in medieval records that some Welsh border dwellers used their father's name as a surname as far back as the twelfth century, Wales was one of the last countries in Europe to adopt the use of hereditary surnames. In the sixteenth century, Welshmen who dealt regularly with the English began to use surnames, as did some of the nobility. However, it was not until the nineteenth century that surnames became common throughout the country.

Even today, in remote Welsh districts, some individuals cling to the old custom of adding *ap-* or *ab-* to their father's name rather than using a true hereditary surname.

Most surnames are patronymic in origin, but some are related to place, description, or occupation.

Patronymic names are prefixed by *B-*, *P-*, *ap-*, or *ab-*, or suffixed with *-s*.

Originally, a Welshman used his given name followed by a list of all his male ancestors' names, which he linked with *ap-* or *ab-*.

A few surnames:

Adda	Carne
Benyon	Cogan
Bevan (ap Evan)	Crowther
Bowen (ab Owen)	Don
Brace	Ellis
Brice (ab-Rhys)	Evans
Broderick (ap-Roderick)	Glance
Cardiff	Goff

Griffith	Prosser
Jenkins	Pugh (ap-Hugh)
Maddox	Stackpoole
Nash	Teague
Parry (ap Harry)	Trevor
Powell (ap-Howell)	Tudor
Price (ap-Rhys)	Vaughan
Pritchard (ap Richard)	

In the list below, traditional names are names that have a long historical record of use in Wales. Legend names are those that are found in Welsh legends such as *The Mabinogion* (the Welsh tales of King Arthur), and myth names are those that are found in Welsh mythology.

FEMALE

Aberfa—from the mouth of the river	Arianrhod—daughter of Don; myth name
Abertha—sacrifice	Arlais—from the temple
Adain, Adenydd—winged	Armes—prophetess
Adara—catches birds	Artaith—torment
Addfwyn—meek	Arthes—she-bear
Addiena, Addien—beautiful	Arwydd—sign
Aderyn—bird	Asgre—heart
Adyna—wretched	Atgas—hateful
Aelwyd—from the hearth	Awel—breeze
Almedha—shapely	Awsta—majestic
Amser—time	Aylwen—fair
Anghard, Angharad—loved greatly	Banon—queen
Angwen—handsome	Bari—spear thrower
Argel—refuge	Berth—beautiful
Arglwyddes—lady	Berthog—wealthy
Argoel—omen	Berwyn—bright friend
Argraff—impression	Bethan—consecrated to God (form of Elizabeth)
Arial—vigorous	Betrys—she who brings joy
Ariana, Arian, Arien, Ariene—silver (form of Arian)	Blodwen, Blodwyn—white flower

JODI PICOULT



Jodi Picoult is the best-selling author of eleven novels, her most recent being *My Sister's Keeper* (Atria). In 2003, she was awarded the New England Bookseller Award for Fiction.

The best thing about having children is that you can recycle your baby name books when it comes to naming characters. So what if no one else realizes that Brendan means “raven; sword”? You do, and that’s what counts. Some names, of course, are a matter of common sense; when I wrote *Plain Truth*, which is about the Amish, I wasn’t about to name someone Julio or Pierre. But often, the first place I start when I want to name a character, I ask myself if something about his name might provide a clue to the journey he will be undertaking. For example, when I created Ross Wakeman in *Second Glance*, it was with the knowledge that he was going to have to literally have a rebirth of consciousness. When I named Nina Frost in *Perfect Match*, it was with the understanding that her character arc would involve a “thawing.” The little girl at the heart of *Keeping Faith* is named by the title of the book, which not only explores the nature of spiritual belief but a custody battle revolving around young Faith White. And Delia Hopkins, in *Vanishing Acts*, is rechristened by her father after he kidnaps her during a custody visit . . . and named after King Lear’s most loyal daughter. So what’s the one name you’ll probably never find in a main character in one of my books? Tim. I’m married to one, and I’d find it too disconcerting to have a fictional heroine calling my husband’s name!

Braith—freckled

Bregus—frail

Briallan—primrose

Bronwen, Bronwyn, Brangwen,
Brangwy, Branwenn—dark
and pure

Bryn, Brynna—hill

Buddug—victorious (form of
Victor)

Cadi, Catrin—pure (form of
Katherine)

Cadwyn—chain

Caethes—slave

Cafell—oracle

Caniad—song

Carryl—love

Carys—beloved

Cath—cat



Ceinwen—blessed
 Ceridwen—fair poet
 Cordelia, Creiddylad—jewel of
 the sea
 Corsen—reed
 Cragen—shell
 Crisiant—crystal
 Cymreiges—Welsh woman
 Dai—beloved
 Dee, Du, Dierdre, Delia—dark
 Delwyn, Delyth—neat and fair
 Dera, Daere—fiend
 Derryth, Derwen—from the oak
 tree
 Dicra—slow
 Difyr—amusing
 Dilys—steadfast
 Drysi—thorn
 Ebrill—born in April
 Efa—life (form of Eve)
 Eheubryd—daughter of
 Kyvwlch; legend name
 Eiddwen—beloved fair one
 Eira, Eirwen—snow
 Eirian—silver
 Elen—light (form of Helen)
 Eleri—river name
 Ellylw—daughter of Neol Hang
 Cock; legend name
 Eluned—waterfall
 Eneuawg—daughter of Bedwyr;
 legend name
 Enit, Enid—spirit
 Enrhydreg—daughter of
 Tuduathar; legend name
 Erdudvyl—daughter of Tryffin;
 legend name
 Eres—wonderful
 Esyllt—fair lady (form of Isolda)
 Eurneid—daughter of Clydno;
 legend name
 Eurolwyn—daughter of
 Gwydolwyn; legend name
 Eurwen, Eyslk—fair
 Ffanci—fancy
 Ffraid—strong (form of Bridget)
 Garan—stork
 Gaynor—soft and fair
 Gladys, Gwladys, Gleda—lame
 (form of Claude)
 Glan—from the shore
 Glenda, Glenys, Glyn, Glynnis—
 from the glen
 Goewin—daughter of Pebin;
 legend name
 Goleuddydd—bright day
 Gorasgwrn—daughter of Nerth;
 legend name
 Gorawen—joy
 Gryffyn—myth beast
 Gwaeddan—daughter of
 Kynvelyn; legend name
 Gwanwyn—spring
 Gwen, Gwyn, Guinevere,
 Gwenhwyvar, Gwyneth,
 Gwynedd, Gwynne—white
 Gwenabwy—daughter of Caw;
 legend name
 Gwendoline, Gwendolen,
 Gwyndolen—of the white
 brow
 Gwener—goddess of love (form
 of Venus)
 Gwenledyr—daughter of
 Gwawrddur Hunchback;
 legend name

- Gwenn Alarch—daughter of
Kynwal; legend name
- Hafwan—summer beauty
- Heledd—traditional name
- Indeg—daughter of Garwy;
legend name
- Iola—valued by the lord
- Isolde, Isolda—fair lady
- Kelemon—daughter of Kei;
legend name
- Kenwyn—saint name
- Keyna—jewel
- Kieve—myth name
- Kigva—wife of Partholon's son;
legend name
- Lilybet—God's promise
- Lowri—laurel (form of
Lawrence)
- Lyn, Lynn—attractive
- Mabli—lovable (form of Mabel)
- Mair—bitter (form of Mary)
- Mali—bitter (form of Mary)
- Marged, Margred, Mererid,
Megan, Meghan—pearl
(form of Margaret)
- Meinwen—slender, fair
- Melva—sweet place
- Mercia—from Mercia
- Meredith, Maredudd, Meredydd—
protector of the sea
- Modlen—from the tower (form
of Madeleine)
- Morgan, Morgana, Morgant—
lives by the sea
- Morvudd—daughter of Uryen;
legend name
- Morwenna—maiden
- Myfanawy—my fine one
- Nerys—lady
- Nesta—chaste
- Neued—daughter of Kyvwllch;
legend name
- Olwen, Olwyn, Olwina,
Olwyna—white footprint
- Owena—young warrior (form of
Owen)
- Penarddun—daughter of Beli;
legend name
- Rathtyen—daughter of
Clememyl; legend name
- Rhan—fate
- Rhawn—coarse, long hair
- Rhedyn—fern
- Rhiain—maiden
- Rhiannon—pure maiden
- Rhianwen, Rhianwyn—comely
maiden
- Rhonwen—white-haired (form
of Rowena)
- Rhosyn—rose
- Saeth—arrow
- Saffir—sapphire
- Sarff—snake
- Seren—star
- Seirian, Seiriol—sparkling
- Sian, Sioned—gracious God
(form of John)
- Talaith—diadem
- Talar—from the headland in the
field
- Tangwen—daughter of Gweir;
legend name
- Tarian—shield
- Tarren—from the knoll
- Tegan—doelike
- Tegwen—blessed

Teleri—daughter of Peul; legend
name
Telyn—harp
Terrwyn—brave
Tirion—gentle
Toreth—abundant
Torlan—from the river bank
Torri—break

Vala—chosen one
Valimai—mayflower
Vanora, Una—white wave
Winnifred, Wynnifred—white
wave
Wynne, Wyn—fair
Ysbail—spoiled

MALE

Aberthol—sacrifice
Adda—of the red earth (form of
Adam)
Addolgar—devout
Adwr—coward
Aedd—king of Ireland; legend
name
Aethlem—meaning unknown
Ahasferus—meaning unknown
Alawn—harmony
Albanwr—from Scotland
Aled—offspring
Alun—legend name
Alwyn, Alwin—from Alwyn
Amathaon—son of Don; legend
name
Amerawdwr—emperor
Amhar—son of Arthur;
legend name
Amlawdd—father of
Goleuddydd; legend name
Amren—son of Bedwyr;
legend name
Amynedd, Amyneddgar—
patient
Anarawd—father of Iddig;
legend name

Andreas—manly (form of
Andrew)
Aneirin, Aneurin—myth name
Anfri—disgrace
Angawdd—son of Caw; legend
name
Anghrist—Antichrist
Angor—anchor
Angwyn—handsome
Anwar—wild
Anwas—father of Twrch; legend
name
Anwell, Anwyl, Anwyll, Anwill,
Anwil—beloved
Anwir—liar
Anynnawg—son of Menw;
legend name
Anyon—anvil
Ardwyad—protector
Arglwydd—lord
Arian—silver
Arthur, Arthwr—noble bear
Arvel, Arval, Arvil—cried over
Atawn—harmony
Avaon—son of Talyessin; legend
name
Awstin—august

- Baddon—from Baddon
 Baeddan, Badan, Badden—boar
 Barris, Barrys—son of Harry
 Beda—name of a priest (form of Bede)
 Bedwyr—son of Pedrawd;
 legend name
 Bedyw—son of Seithved;
 legend name
 Beli, Beli Mawr—brother-in-law of the Virgin Mary; legend name
 Bendigeidfran—blessed raven
 Berth—son of Cadwy; legend name
 Berwyn—son of Kerenhyr;
 legend name
 Beven, Bevyn, Bevin—young soldier
 Blathaon—son of Mwrheth;
 legend name
 Bleidd, Bledig—wolf
 Bowen—son of Owen
 Brac—free
 Brad—treason
 Bradwen—son of Moren;
 legend name
 Bradwr—traitor
 Braen—corrupt
 Bran—raven
 Brannock, Brannoc—meaning unknown
 Brathach—son of Gwawrddur;
 legend name
 Brian—son of Turen; legend name
 Brychan—freckled
 Brynmor—hill
 Brynn—from the hill
 Brys—son of Brysethach;
 legend name
 Bwlch—son of Cleddyw
 Kyvwlch; legend name
 Cadarn—strong
 Caddock, Caddoc, Cadawg—battle-sharp
 Cadell, Cadel—battle
 Cadellin—father of Gweir;
 legend name
 Cadman, Cadmon—warrior
 Cadwallen—battle dissolver
 Cadwgawn—son of Iddon;
 legend name
 Cadwr—son of Gwryon;
 legend name
 Cadwy—son of Gereint; legend name
 Cadyryeith—well-spoken
 Caer Llion—from Caerleon
 Caerwyn—holy fortress
 Cai—rejoicer
 Cain—clear water
 Calcas—on of Caw; legend name
 Caledvwlch—Excalibur; legend name
 Cant—white
 Caradawg, Caradog—father of Eudav; legend name
 Caradoc—beloved
 Cardew—from the black fortress
 Carey, Caerau, Cary—from the fortress
 Carnedyr—son of Govynyon;
 legend name
 Carwyn—blessed love
 Cas—son of Seidi; legend name

Casnar—nobleman; legend name	Cystennin—constant (form of Constantine)
Casswallawn, Caswallon—son of Beli; legend name	Dadweir—legend name
Caw—legend name	Dafydd, Dewi—beloved (form of David)
Cawrdav—son of Caradawg; legend name	Dalldav—son of Cunyn Cov; legend name
Ceithin—uncle of Lugh; legend name	Daned—son of Oth; legend name
Cledwyn—blessed	Deverell, Deverril—from the riverbank
Clud—lame (form of Claude)	Dewi, Dewey—belonging to the lord
Clust—son of Clustveinydd; legend name	Digon—son of Alar; legend name
Clyde, Clywd—loud-voiced	Dillus—son of Eurei; legend name
Cnychwr—son of Nes; legend name	Dirmyg—son of Caw; legend name
Coch—son of Caw; legend name	Drem—sign
Coed—dwells in the woods	Dremidydd—father of Drem; legend name
Conway—holy water	Drew, Dryw—wise
Conyn—son of Caw; legend name	Druce, Drywsone, Druson—son of Drew
Corryn—spider	Drudwas—son of Tryffin; legend name
Cors—myth name	Drudwyn—meaning unknown
Craddock, Caradoc, Cradoc—beloved	Drwst—legend name
Cranog—heron	Drych—son of Kibddar; legend name
Crist—believes in Christ (form of Christian)	Drystan—noisy (form of Tristan)
Cubert—son of Daere; legend name	Duach—son of Gwawrddur; legend name
Culhwch—son of Kilydd; legend name	Dwnn—meaning unknown
Culvanawd—son of Gwryon; legend name	Dyffryn—meaning unknown
Custenhin—father of Erbin; legend name	Dylan, Dilan, Dillie, Dillon—born near the sea
Cymry—from Wales	Dyngannon—legend name
Cynbel, Cynbal—warrior chief	
Cynfor—great chieftain	

- Dyvynarth—son of Gwrgwst;
legend name
- Dyvynwal—legend name
- Dyvyr—son of Alun; legend name
- Dywel—son of Erbin; legend
name
- Earwine, Erwyn, Earwyn,
Erwin—white river
- Edern—son of Nudd; legend
name
- Edlym—legend name
- Edmyg—honor
- Ehangwen—legend name
- Eiddoel—son of Ner; legend
name
- Eiddon—legend name
- Eiddyl—legend name
- Eiladar—son of Penn Llarcan;
legend name
- Einion, Einian—anvil
- Eiryn—son of Peibyn; legend
name
- Eivyonydd—legend name
- Elidyr—legend name
- Elphin—son of Gwyddno; legend
name
- Emlyn—waterfall
- Emrys—immortal (form of
Ambrose)
- Ennissyen—legend name
- Erbin—son of Custenhin; legend
name
- Ercwlff—Hera's glory; myth
name (form of Hercules)
- Ergryad—son of Caw; legend
name
- Erim—legend name
- Ermid—son of Erbin; legend
name
- Erwm—legend name
- Eryi—from Snowdon
- Eudav—son of Caradawg; legend
name
- Eurosswydd—legend name
- Eus—son of Erim; legend name
- Evan—young fighter
- Evrawg—from York
- Evrei—legend name
- Ewyas—legend name
- Fercos—son of Poch; legend
name
- Filam—son of Nwyvre; legend
name
- Fflergant—king of Brittany;
legend name
- Fflewddwr—son of Naw;
legend name
- Ffodor—son of Ervyll;
legend name
- Ffowc—of the people
- Fotor—legend name
- Fychan—small
- Fyrsil, Fferyll—staff bearer
(form of Virgil)
- Gallgoid—legend name
- Gamon—legend name
- Gandwy—legend name
- Garanhon—son of Glythvyr;
legend name
- Garanwyn—white shank
- Garnock, Garnoc, Gwernach—
dwells by the alder-tree river
- Garselid—legend name
- Garwyli—son of Gwyddawg
Gwyr; legend name
- Garym—legend name
- Gavin, Gwalchmai—white hawk

Gawl—myth name
 Geraint—father of Cadwy;
 legend name
 Gilbert—son of Cadgyffro;
 legend name
 Gilvaethwy—son of Don; legend
 name
 Gleis—son of Merin; legend name
 Glew—son of Ysgawd; legend
 name
 Glewlwyd—legend name
 Glinyeu—son of Taran;
 legend name
 Gloyw—legend name
 Glyn, Glenn, Glynn—dwells in
 the glen
 Glythvyr—legend name
 Gobrwy—son of Echel Pierced
 Thighs; legend name
 Gogyvwelch—legend name
 Goreu—son of Custenhin;
 legend name
 Gormant—son of Rica; legend
 name
 Goronwy—legend name
 Gorsedd—from the mound
 Govan—son of Caw; legend name
 Govannon—son of Don; legend
 name
 Govynyon—legend name
 Gower, Gwyr, Gowyr—pure
 Granwen—son of Llyr; legend
 name
 Greid—son of Eri; legend name
 Greidyawl—legend name
 Griffin, Griffen, Gryphon,
 Gryphin—strong in faith
 Griffith, Griffeth, Gruffudd,
 Grufydd—red-haired
 Gruddyeu—son of Muryel;
 legend name
 Gruffin, Gruffen, Gruffyn—fierce
 lord
 Grugyn—legend name
 Gryn—legend name
 Gusg—son of Achen; legend
 name
 Gwalchmei—son of Gwyar;
 legend name
 Gwales—legend name
 Gwalhaved—son of Gwyar;
 legend name
 Gwallawg—son of Llenawg;
 legend name
 Gwallter—powerful warrior
 (form of Walter)
 Gwartheygydd—son of Caw;
 legend name
 Gwastad—legend name
 Gwawl—son of Clud; legend
 name
 Gwawrddur—legend name
 Gweir—son of Cadellin Silver;
 legend name
 Gwenwynwyn—son of Naw;
 legend name
 Gwern—old
 Gwerthmwl—legend name
 Gwevyl—son of Gwastad;
 legend name
 Gwiawn—legend name
 Gwiffred—legend name
 Gwilenhin—king of France;
 legend name
 Gwilym—resolute protector
 (form of William)
 Gwitart—son of Aedd; legend
 name

Gwlgawd—legend name
 Gwlwlwyd—legend name
 Gwlyddn—legend name
 Gwrddnei—legend name
 Gwrddywal—son of Evrei;
 legend name
 Gwres—son of Rheged; legend
 name
 Gwrgwst—legend name
 Gwrhryr—legend name
 Gwri—legend name
 Gwrtheyrn—meaning unknown
 Gwryon—legend name
 Gwyddawg—son of Menestyr;
 legend name
 Gwydre—son of Arthur;
 legend name
 Gwydyon—son of Don;
 legend name
 Gwyn, Gwynn—handsome; son
 of Nudd
 Gwyngad—son of Caw; legend
 name
 Gwynnan—legend name
 Gwyr—from Gower
 Gwys—legend name
 Gwystyl—son of Nwython;
 legend name
 Gwythyr—son of Greidyawl;
 legend name
 Heilyn—son of Gwynn; legend
 name
 Hen Beddestyr—son of Erim;
 legend name
 Hen Was—old servant
 Hen Wyneb—old face
 Hetwn—legend name
 Heveydd—legend name

Howel, Howell—eminent
 Hu, Huw—intelligent (form of
 Hugh)
 Huabwy—son of Gwyrion;
 legend name
 Huarwar—son of Avlawn;
 legend name
 Hueil—son of Caw; legend name
 Hydd—deer
 Iaen—legend name
 Iago—supplanter (form of
 James)
 Iau—supreme ruler of the gods;
 myth name (form of Zeus)
 Iddawg—son of Mynyo; legend
 name
 Iddig—son of Anarawd;
 legend name
 Ioan, Iwan—gracious God (form
 of John)
 Iona—king of France; legend
 name
 Iorwerth—son of Maredudd;
 legend name
 Iustig—son of Caw; legend name
 Kay—fiery
 Kei—son of Kynyr; legend name
 Keith—dwells in the woods
 Kelli—from the wood
 Kelyddon—legend name
 Kelyn—son of Caw; legend name
 Kenehyr—legend name
 Kenn, Ken—clear water
 Kent—white
 Kenyon—from Ennion's mound
 Kethtrwm—legend name
 Keudawg—legend name
 Kevyn—from the ridge

Kian—father of Lugh; legend name
 Kibddar—legend name
 Kilwich—myth name
 Kilydd—son of Kelyddon; legend name
 Kim—ruler
 Kimball, Kimble—warrior chief
 Kyledyr—son of Nwython; legend name
 Kynan—chief
 Kynddilig—legend name
 Kynedyr—son of Hetwn; legend name
 Kynlas—son of Kynan; legend name
 Kynon—son of Clydno; legend name
 Kynwal—son of Caw; legend name
 Kynwas—legend name
 Kynwrig—legend name
 Kynwyl—name of a saint
 Kynyr—legend name
 Kyvwlch—legend name
 Llacheu—Arthur's son; legend name
 Llaesgymyn—legend name
 Llara—meek
 Llassar—son of Llassar Llaes; legend name
 Lawr—son of Erw; legend name
 Lawvrodedd—legend name
 Llenlleawg—legend name
 Llue—legend name
 Llevelys—son of Beli; legend name
 Llewelyn, Llewellyn, Llyweilun—lion
 Lloyd, Llwyd—gray
 Lludd, Llundein—from London
 Llwhch—legend name
 Llwyarch—legend name
 Llwybyr—son of Caw; legend name
 Llwyd—son of Kil Coed; legend name
 Llwydawg—legend name
 Llwydeu—son of Nwython; legend name
 Llwyrr—son of Llwyryon; legend name
 Llwyrrdyddwg—legend name
 Llyn—from the lake
 Llyr—from the sea
 Lug, Luc—light (form of Luke)
 Mabon—son of Modron; legend name
 Mabsant—son of Caw; legend name
 Madawg—son of Teithyon; legend name
 Maddock, Madawc, Madoc, Maddoc, Madog, Maddog—beneficent
 Mael—son of Roycol; legend name
 Maelgwyn—prince of the hounds
 Maelwys—son of Baeddan; legend name
 Mallolwch—king of Ireland; legend name
 Manawydan—son of Llyr; legend name
 March—son of Meirchyawn; legend name

- Maredudd—legend name
 Math, Mathonwy—myth name
 Mawrth—god of war; myth name
 (form of Mars)
 Maxen—legend name
 Medyr—son of Medyredydd;
 legend name
 Meilyg—son of Caw; legend
 name
 Menw—son of Teirwaedd;
 legend name
 Mercher—messenger of the
 gods; myth name (form of
 Mercury)
 Meredith, Meridith, Meredydd—
 protector of the sea
 Merin—legend name
 Meurig—dark-skinned (form of
 Maurice)
 Mihangel—who is like God (form
 of Michael)
 Mil—son of Dugum; legend name
 Moesen—taken from the water
 (form of Moses)
 Mordwywr—sailor
 Moren—son of Iaen; legend
 name
 Morgan, Morcan, Morcar—lives
 by the sea
 Morgannwg—from Glamorgan
 Morgant—legend name
 Morthwyl—hammer
 Morvran—son of Tegid;
 legend name
 Myrddin—falcon (form of
 Merlin)
 Naw—son of Seithved; legend
 name
- Neb—son of Caw; legend name
 Neifion—god of water; myth
 name (form of Neptune)
 Ner—legend name
 Nerth—son of Cadarn; legend
 name
 Nerthach—son of Gwawrddur;
 legend name
 Neued—father of Tringad;
 legend name
 Newlin, Newyddllyn, Newlyn—
 from the new spring
 Nissyen—son of Eurosswydd;
 legend name
 Nodawl—legend name
 Nudd—legend name
 Nynnyaw—son of Beli; legend
 name
 Odgar—son of Aedd; legend
 name
 Odyar—myth name
 Ofydd—Roman poet (form of
 Ovid)
 Ol—son of Olwydd; legend name
 Olwydd—tracker
 Ondyaw—son of a French Duke;
 legend name
 Osla—legend name
 Oswallt—divine power (form of
 Oswald)
 Oth—legend name
 Owein, Owyn, Owen, Owin,
 Owain—young warrior
 Padrig—noble (form of Patrick)
 Panawr—legend name
 Parry, Perry—son of Harry
 Pebin—legend name
 Pedr—rock (form of Peter)

Pedrawd—legend name
 Peibyn—legend name
 Peissawg—king of Brittany;
 legend name
 Pembroke—lives in the
 headland
 Pendaran—meaning unknown
 Penkawr—myth name
 Penllyn—from the lake's
 headland
 Penn—from the peak
 Penryn—legend name
 Penvro—from Pembroke
 Peredur—son of Evrawg;
 legend name
 Powell—son of Howell
 Powys—legend name
 Price, Prys, Preece—son of
 Rhys
 Pryderi—son of Pwyll; myth
 name
 Prydwen—handsome
 Puw—son of Hugh (form of
 Pugh)
 Pwyll—son of Howell
 Pys—rock (form of Peter)
 Ren, Ryn—ruler
 Renfrew, Rhinffrew—from the
 still river
 Rheged—father of Gwres;
 legend name
 Rheidwn—legend name
 Rheu—legend name
 Rhioanedd—prince of Ireland;
 legend name
 Rhisiart—strong ruler (form of
 Richard)
 Rhobert—bright, famous (form
 of Robert)

Rhun—son of Beli; legend name
 Rhuvawn—son of Deorthach;
 legend name
 Rhyawdd—son of Morgant;
 legend name
 Rhychdir—from the plow land
 Rhyd—from the ford
 Rhynnon—legend name
 Rhys, Rice, Reece, Rees—ardent
 Romney, Rumenea—dwells near
 the curving river
 Sach—legend name
 Sadwrn—god of the harvest;
 myth name (form of Saturn)
 Sanddev—legend name
 Sawyl—legend name
 Sayer, Saer, Sayre, Sayers,
 Sayres—carpenter
 Seissyllwch—legend name
 Seith, Saith—seven
 Seithved—legend name
 Sel—son of Selgi; legend name
 Selyf—peaceful (form of
 Solomon)
 Selyv—son of Kynan; legend
 name
 Siencyn—God is gracious (form
 of Jenkin)
 Sinoch—son of Seithved;
 legend name
 Sion—gracious God (form of
 John)
 Sior—farmer (form of George)
 Steffan—crowned in victory
 (form of Stephen)
 Sugyn—son of Sugynedydd;
 legend name
 Sulyen—son of Iaen; legend
 name

Sywwlch—son of Cleddyv
Kywwlch; legend name
Tad, Tadd—father
Taffy—beloved
Taltiesin, Talyessin—handsome
Tallwch—legend name
Taran—legend name
Tarawg—legend name
Taredd—legend name
Tarrant, Tarran, Taryn, Taren—
thunder
Tathal—legend name
Tawy—legend name
Tegvan—legend name
Tegyr—legend name
Teir—legend name
Teirnon—legend name
Teirwaedd—legend name
Teithi—son of Gwynnan;
legend name
Teregud—son of laen;
legend name
Timotheus—God-fearing (form
of Timothy)
Trachmyr—legend name
Trahern, Trahayarn—strong as
iron
Tremayne, Tremen—lives in the
house by the rock
Trent, Trynt—dwells near the
rapid stream
Trevelyan, Trevelian—from
Elian's home

Tringad—son of Neued; legend
name
Tristan, Trystan—noisy
Tristram—full of sorrows
Tryffin—legend name
Tudor, Tewdwr—God's gift
Twm—twin (form of Thomas)
Twrch—legend name
Twrgadarn—tower of strength
Tywysog—prince
Uchdryd—son of Erim; legend
name
Unig—legend name
Uryen—legend name
Vaddon—from Bath
Vaughn, Vychan—small
Wadu—son of Seithved; legend
name
Waljan—chosen
Werbenec—meaning unknown
Wmffre—peaceful Hun (form of
Humphrey)
Wren—ruler
Wrnach—legend name
Wynn, Wyn, Winn—handsome
Ynyr—legend name
Ysberin—son of Fflergant;
legend name
Ysberyr—legend name
Ysgawyn—son of Panon; legend
name
Ysgithyrwyn—legend name
Ysgonan—legend name
Yspadaden—myth name

TOP TEN U.S. NAMES BY YEAR

This list is taken from the Social Security Administration's Web site www.ssa.gov/OACT/babynames/index.html. You can view this site for more naming information.

1880

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Anna
3 Charles	3 Elizabeth
4 George	4 Margaret
5 James	5 Minnie
6 Joseph	6 Emma
7 Frank	7 Martha
8 Henry	8 Alice
9 Thomas	9 Marie
10 Harry	10 Annie, Sarah (tie)

1881

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Anna
3 Charles	3 Elizabeth
4 James	4 Margaret
5 George	5 Emma
6 Joseph	6 Minnie
7 Frank	7 Sarah
8 Henry	8 Alice
9 Edward,	9 Bertha
10 Harry, Thomas (tie)	10 Grace

1882

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Anna
3 Charles	3 Elizabeth
4 James	4 Emma, Margaret (tie)
5 George	6 Minnie
6 Frank	7 Bertha
7 Joseph	8 Mabel
8 Henry	9 Florence, Ida (tie)
9 Thomas	
10 Harry	

1883

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Anna
3 Charles	3 Margaret
4 George	4 Emma
5 James	5 Elizabeth
6 Joseph	6 Florence
7 Frank	7 Bertha
8 Harry, Henry (tie)	8 Alice
9 Thomas	9 Sarah
10 Thomas	10 Clara, Rose (tie)

1884

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Anna
3 George	3 Elizabeth
4 Charles	4 Emma
5 James	5 Margaret
6 Frank	6 Minnie
7 Joseph	7 Alice,
8 Harry	Florence
	(tie)
9 Henry	9 Clara
10 Thomas	10 Bertha,
	Rose (tie)

1885

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Anna
3 Charles	3 Elizabeth
4 Joseph	4 Margaret
5 George,	5 Emma
James (tie)	6 Ida
7 Frank	7 Rose
8 Robert	8 Minnie
9 Henry	9 Bertha
10 Edward	10 Annie

1886

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Anna
3 George	3 Elizabeth
4 James	4 Emma
5 Charles	5 Clara
6 Joseph	6 Margaret

7 Frank	7 Minnie
8 Henry	8 Bertha
9 Thomas	9 Rose
10 Edward,	10 Ida, Sarah
Walter	(tie)
(tie)	

1887

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Anna
3 George	3 Emma
4 Charles	4 Margaret
5 James	5 Bertha
6 Frank,	6 Elizabeth,
Joseph	Minnie
(tie)	(tie)
8 Harry	8 Florence
9 Robert	9 Mabel
10 Thomas	10 Bessie,
	Helen,
	Jennie (tie)

1888

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Anna
3 George	3 Margaret
4 Joseph	4 Elizabeth
5 James	5 Bertha
6 Charles	6 Emma
7 Frank	7 Ethel
8 Harry	8 Rose
9 Robert	9 Bessie
10 Thomas	10 Ida, Minnie
	(tie)

1889

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Anna
3 George	3 Elizabeth
4 James	4 Margaret
5 Charles	5 Minnie
6 Joseph	6 Helen,
7 Frank	Rose (tie)
8 Harry	8 Bertha
9 Edward	9 Alice,
10 Robert	Emma (tie)

1890

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Anna
3 James	3 Elizabeth
4 George	4 Emma
5 Charles	5 Margaret
6 Joseph	6 Rose
7 Frank	7 Ethel
8 Harry	8 Florence
9 Henry	9 Ida
10 Edward	10 Bertha,
	Helen (tie)

1891

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Anna
3 James	3 Margaret
4 George	4 Florence
5 Joseph	5 Elizabeth
6 Charles	6 Clara
7 Frank	7 Rose
8 Henry	8 Helen
9 Harry	9 Emma,
10 Robert	Ethel (tie)

1892

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Anna
3 James	3 Margaret
4 George,	4 Florence
Joseph	5 Elizabeth
(tie)	
6 Charles	6 Rose
7 Frank	7 Ruth
8 Harry	8 Ethel
9 Thomas	9 Helen,
10 Robert	Minnie (tie)

1893

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Anna
3 George	3 Margaret
4 Joseph	4 Elizabeth
5 Charles	5 Helen
6 James	6 Ruth
7 Frank	7 Florence
8 Edward	8 Bertha
9 Thomas	9 Ethel
10 Walter	10 Rose

1894

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Anna
3 George	3 Margaret
4 James	4 Helen
5 Joseph	5 Elizabeth
6 Charles	6 Ruth
7 Frank	7 Florence
8 Harry	8 Ethel
9 Thomas	9 Marie
10 Robert	10 Rose

1895

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Anna
3 James, Joseph (tie)	3 Elizabeth 4 Helen
5 George	5 Ruth
6 Charles	6 Margaret
7 Frank	7 Florence
8 Henry, Walter (tie)	8 Marie, Rose (tie)
10 Harry	10 Ethel

1896

1 William	1 Mary
2 John	2 Anna
3 James	3 Helen
4 George	4 Margaret
5 Joseph	5 Ruth
6 Frank	6 Marie
7 Charles	7 Elizabeth
8 Harry	8 Rose
9 Robert	9 Ethel
10 Edward	10 Florence

1897

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Anna
3 James	3 Helen
4 George	4 Ruth
5 Joseph	5 Margaret
6 Charles	6 Florence
7 Frank	7 Rose
8 Robert	8 Marie
9 Harry	9 Elizabeth
10 Edward	10 Lillian

1898

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Anna
3 George	3 Helen
4 James	4 Margaret
5 Joseph	5 Ruth
6 Charles	6 Elizabeth
7 Frank	7 Florence
8 Edward	8 Rose
9 Robert	9 Lillian
10 Henry	10 Ethel, Marie (tie)

1899

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Anna
3 George	3 Margaret
4 James	4 Helen
5 Joseph	5 Marie
6 Charles	6 Elizabeth
7 Frank	7 Florence
8 Robert	8 Ruth
9 Henry	9 Ethel
10 Edward	10 Alice

1900

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Helen
3 James	3 Anna
4 George	4 Margaret
5 Charles	5 Ruth
6 Joseph	6 Elizabeth
7 Frank	7 Marie
8 Henry	8 Rose
9 Robert	9 Florence
10 Harry	10 Bertha

1901

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Helen
3 James	3 Anna
4 Joseph	4 Margaret
5 George	5 Elizabeth
6 Charles	6 Ruth
7 Frank	7 Marie
8 Henry	8 Gladys
9 Robert	9 Florence
10 Edward	10 Rose

1902

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Helen
3 James	3 Anna
4 George	4 Margaret
5 Joseph	5 Ruth
6 Charles	6 Elizabeth
7 Robert	7 Marie
8 Frank	8 Lillian
9 Edward	9 Florence
10 Walter	10 Alice, Rose (tie)

1903

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Margaret
3 James	3 Helen
4 George	4 Anna
5 Joseph	5 Ruth
6 Charles	6 Marie
7 Robert	7 Elizabeth
8 Frank	8 Florence
9 Walter	9 Dorothy
10 Henry	10 Lillian

1904

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Helen
3 George,	3 Margaret
James (tie)	4 Ruth
5 Joseph	5 Anna
6 Charles	6 Dorothy,
7 Robert	Elizabeth
	(tie)
8 Frank	8 Marie
9 Edward	9 Alice,
10 Walter	Florence
	(tie)

1905

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Helen
3 James	3 Margaret
4 George	4 Anna
5 Charles	5 Ruth
6 Joseph	6 Dorothy
7 Frank,	7 Elizabeth
Robert	8 Mildred
(tie)	
9 Edward	9 Lillian
10 Thomas	10 Marie

1906

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Helen
3 James	3 Margaret
4 Joseph	4 Ruth
5 George	5 Anna
6 Charles	6 Elizabeth
7 Robert	7 Dorothy

8 Frank	8 Marie
9 Henry	9 Alice
10 Edward	10 Florence

7 Charles	7 Elizabeth
8 Frank	8 Mildred
9 Edward	9 Marie
10 Henry,	10 Alice
Walter (tie)	

1907

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Helen
3 James	3 Margaret
4 George	4 Anna
5 Charles	5 Ruth
6 Joseph	6 Dorothy
7 Robert	7 Elizabeth
8 Frank	8 Mildred
9 Thomas,	9 Alice
Walter (tie)	10 Ethel

1908

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Helen
3 James	3 Margaret
4 George	4 Anna
5 Joseph	5 Ruth
6 Charles	6 Dorothy
7 Robert	7 Elizabeth
8 Frank	8 Mildred
9 Edward	9 Frances
10 Henry	10 Florence

1909

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Helen
3 James	3 Margaret
4 George	4 Dorothy,
5 Joseph	Ruth (tie)
6 Robert	6 Anna

1910

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Helen
3 James	3 Margaret
4 Robert	4 Dorothy,
5 Joseph	Ruth (tie)
6 Charles,	6 Anna
George	7 Mildred
(tie)	
8 Edward	8 Elizabeth
9 Frank	9 Alice
10 Henry	10 Ethel

1911

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Helen
3 James	3 Dorothy,
4 Joseph	Margaret
	(tie)
5 Charles,	5 Ruth
Robert	6 Anna
(tie)	
7 George	7 Mildred
8 Frank	8 Elizabeth
9 Edward	9 Marie
10 Walter	10 Gladys

1912

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Helen

3 James	3 Dorothy	2 William	2 Helen
4 Robert	4 Ruth	3 James	3 Dorothy
5 George	5 Margaret	4 Robert	4 Margaret
6 Joseph	6 Anna	5 Joseph	5 Ruth
7 Charles	7 Mildred	6 Charles	6 Anna
8 Frank	8 Frances	7 George	7 Mildred
9 Edward	9 Elizabeth	8 Edward	8 Evelyn
10 Thomas,	10 Marie	9 Frank	9 Virginia
Walter (tie)		10 Thomas	10 Elizabeth

1913

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Helen
3 James	3 Dorothy
4 Robert	4 Margaret
5 Joseph	5 Ruth
6 Charles	6 Mildred
7 George	7 Elizabeth
8 Frank	8 Anna
9 Edward	9 Marie
10 Thomas	10 Florence

1914

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Helen
3 James	3 Dorothy
4 Robert	4 Margaret
5 Joseph	5 Ruth
6 George	6 Mildred
7 Charles	7 Anna
8 Frank	8 Elizabeth
9 Edward	9 Evelyn
10 Walter	10 Marie

1915

1 John	1 Mary
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1916

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Helen
3 James	3 Margaret
4 Robert	4 Dorothy
5 Charles	5 Ruth
6 George	6 Mildred
7 Joseph	7 Anna
8 Edward	8 Frances
9 Frank	9 Elizabeth
10 Walter	10 Marie

1917

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Helen
3 James	3 Dorothy
4 Robert	4 Margaret
5 Joseph	5 Ruth
6 George	6 Anna
7 Charles	7 Frances
8 Edward	8 Elizabeth
9 Frank	9 Mildred
10 Thomas,	10 Marie
Walter (tie)	

1918

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Helen
3 Robert	3 Dorothy
4 James	4 Margaret
5 Joseph	5 Ruth
6 Charles	6 Frances
7 George	7 Virginia
8 Edward	8 Anna
9 Frank	9 Mildred
10 Thomas	10 Elizabeth

1919

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Helen
3 James	3 Dorothy
4 Robert	4 Margaret
5 Charles	5 Ruth
6 Joseph	6 Virginia
7 George	7 Elizabeth
8 Edward	8 Mildred
9 Frank	9 Frances
10 Thomas	10 Anna

1920

1 John	1 Mary
2 William	2 Dorothy
3 James	3 Helen
4 Robert	4 Margaret
5 Joseph	5 Ruth
6 Charles	6 Virginia
7 George	7 Elizabeth
8 Edward	8 Anna
9 Thomas	9 Mildred
10 Frank	10 Betty

1921

1 John	1 Mary
2 Robert	2 Dorothy
3 James	3 Helen
4 William	4 Margaret
5 George	5 Ruth
6 Charles	6 Mildred
7 Joseph	7 Betty
8 Edward	8 Virginia
9 Frank	9 Elizabeth
10 Thomas	10 Anna

1922

1 John	1 Mary
2 Robert	2 Dorothy
3 James	3 Helen
4 William	4 Margaret
5 Joseph	5 Ruth
6 Charles	6 Betty
7 George	7 Frances
8 Edward	8 Elizabeth
9 Richard	9 Virginia
10 Frank	10 Anna

1923

1 John	1 Mary
2 Robert	2 Dorothy
3 William	3 Helen
4 James	4 Margaret
5 Charles	5 Betty
6 George	6 Ruth
7 Joseph	7 Mildred
8 Edward	8 Virginia
9 Frank	9 Frances
10 Richard	10 Elizabeth

1924

1 John	1 Mary
2 Robert	2 Dorothy
3 James	3 Helen
4 William	4 Betty
5 Charles	5 Margaret
6 Joseph	6 Ruth
7 George	7 Virginia
8 Edward	8 Frances
9 Richard	9 Doris
10 Donald	10 Mildred

1925

1 John	1 Mary
2 Robert	2 Dorothy
3 James	3 Betty
4 William	4 Helen
5 Charles	5 Margaret
6 Joseph	6 Ruth
7 George	7 Doris
8 Richard	8 Virginia
9 Edward	9 Elizabeth
10 Donald	10 Evelyn, Mildred (tie)

1926

1 Robert	1 Mary
2 John	2 Dorothy
3 William	3 Helen
4 James	4 Betty
5 Charles	5 Margaret
6 George	6 Ruth
7 Richard	7 Virginia
8 Joseph	8 Doris

9 Edward	9 Jean
10 Donald	10 Maria

1927

1 Robert	1 Mary
2 James	2 Betty
3 John	3 Dorothy
4 William	4 Helen
5 Charles	5 Margaret
6 Richard	6 Ruth
7 George	7 Virginia
8 Joseph	8 Doris
9 Donald	9 Maria
10 Edward	10 Shirley

1928

1 Robert	1 Mary
2 John	2 Betty
3 James	3 Dorothy
4 William	4 Helen
5 Charles	5 Margaret
6 Richard	6 Ruth
7 Donald	7 Barbara
8 George	8 Doris
9 Joseph	9 Maria
10 Edward	10 Patricia

1929

1 Robert	1 Mary
2 John	2 Betty
3 James	3 Dorothy
4 William	4 Helen
5 Charles	5 Margaret
6 Donald	6 Ruth

7 Richard	7 Doris
8 George	8 Maria
9 Joseph	9 Barbara
10 Edward	10 Shirley

4 William	4 Dorothy
5 Charles	5 Joan
6 Richard	6 Patricia
7 Donald	7 Shirley
8 George	8 Margaret
9 Joseph	9 Doris
10 Thomas	10 Helen

1930

1 Robert	1 Mary
2 James	2 Betty
3 John	3 Dorothy
4 William	4 Helen
5 Richard	5 Barbara
6 Charles	6 Margaret
7 Donald	7 Maria
8 George	8 Patricia
9 Joseph	9 Doris
10 Edward	10 Joan, Ruth (tie)

1931

1 Robert	1 Mary
2 James	2 Betty
3 John	3 Dorothy
4 William	4 Barbara
5 Richard	5 Joan
6 Charles	6 Helen
7 Donald	7 Maria
8 George	8 Patricia
9 Joseph	9 Margaret
10 Thomas	10 Shirley

1932

1 Robert	1 Mary
2 John	2 Betty
3 James	3 Barbara

1933

1 Robert	1 Mary
2 James	2 Betty
3 John	3 Barbara
4 William	4 Dorothy
5 Richard	5 Joan
6 Donald	6 Patricia
7 Charles	7 Maria
8 Joseph	8 Helen
9 George	9 Margaret
10 Thomas	10 Doris

1934

1 Robert	1 Mary
2 James	2 Betty
3 John	3 Shirley
4 William	4 Barbara
5 Richard	5 Joan
6 Charles	6 Patricia
7 Donald	7 Dorothy
8 George	8 Maria
9 Thomas	9 Margaret
10 Joseph	10 Helen

1935

1 James	1 Mary
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2 Robert
3 John
4 William
5 Richard
6 Charles
7 Donald
8 Thomas
9 Ronald
10 David

2 Shirley
3 Barbara
4 Betty
5 Patricia
6 Joan
7 Dorothy
8 Margaret
9 Maria
10 Helen

2 James
3 John
4 William
5 Richard
6 Charles
7 Donald
8 David
9 George
10 Ronald,
Thomas
(tie)

2 Barbara
3 Patricia
4 Betty
5 Shirley
6 Nancy
7 Carol,
Maria (tie)
9 Margaret
10 Joan

1936

1 Robert
2 James
3 John
4 William
5 Donald
6 Richard
7 Charles
8 Ronald
9 George
10 Joseph

1 Mary
2 Shirley
3 Barbara
4 Betty
5 Patricia
6 Maria
7 Dorothy,
Nancy (tie)
9 Joan
10 Margaret

1939

1 Robert
2 James
3 John
4 William
5 Richard
6 Charles
7 David
8 Thomas
9 Donald
10 Ronald

1 Mary
2 Barbara
3 Patricia
4 Betty
5 Shirley
6 Maria
7 Margaret
8 Carol
9 Nancy
10 Judith

1937

1 Robert
2 James
3 John
4 William
5 Richard
6 Donald
7 Charles
8 David
9 George
10 Thomas

1 Mary
2 Barbara
3 Patricia
4 Shirley
5 Betty
6 Maria,
Nancy (tie)
8 Dorothy
9 Carol
10 Margaret

1940

1 James
2 Robert
3 John
4 William
5 Richard
6 Charles
7 David
8 Thomas
9 Donald
10 Ronald

1 Mary
2 Barbara
3 Patricia
4 Carol
5 Judith
6 Betty
7 Nancy
8 Maria
9 Margaret
10 Linda

1938

1 Robert

1 Mary

1941

1 Robert	1 Mary
2 John	2 Barbara
3 James	3 Patricia
4 William	4 Carol
5 Richard	5 Linda
6 Charles	6 Judith
7 David	7 Sandra
8 Thomas	8 Maria
9 Ronald	9 Betty
10 Donald	10 Nancy

1942

1 James	1 Mary
2 Robert	2 Barbara
3 John	3 Patricia
4 William	4 Carol
5 Richard	5 Linda
6 Charles	6 Nancy
7 David	7 Betty
8 Thomas	8 Sandra
9 Ronald	9 Maria
10 Joseph	10 Judith

1943

1 James	1 Mary
2 Robert	2 Barbara
3 John	3 Patricia
4 William	4 Linda
5 Richard	5 Carol
6 David	6 Sandra
7 Charles	7 Nancy, Sharon
8 Thomas	(tie)
9 Ronald	9 Judith
10 Michael	10 Betty

1944

1 Robert	1 Mary
2 James	2 Barbara
3 John	3 Patricia
4 William	4 Linda
5 Richard	5 Carol
6 David	6 Nancy
7 Charles	7 Sandra
8 Thomas	8 Sharon
9 Michael	9 Judith
10 Ronald	10 Maria

1945

1 James	1 Mary
2 Robert	2 Linda
3 John	3 Barbara
4 William	4 Patricia
5 Richard	5 Carol
6 David	6 Maria
7 Thomas	7 Sandra
8 Charles	8 Nancy
9 Michael	9 Sharon
10 Ronald	10 Susan

1946

1 James	1 Mary
2 Robert	2 Linda
3 John	3 Patricia
4 William	4 Barbara
5 Richard	5 Carol
6 David	6 Susan
7 Michael	7 Nancy
8 Charles	8 Sandra
9 Thomas	9 Maria
10 Ronald	10 Sharon

1947

1 James	1 Linda
2 John	2 Mary
3 Robert	3 Patricia
4 William	4 Barbara
5 Richard	5 Sandra
6 David	6 Susan
7 Michael	7 Maria
8 Thomas	8 Carol
9 Charles	9 Nancy
10 Larry	10 Sharon

1948

1 Robert	1 Linda
2 James	2 Mary
3 John	3 Patricia
4 William	4 Barbara
5 David	5 Susan
6 Richard	6 Maria
7 Michael	7 Carol
8 Thomas	8 Nancy,
9 Charles	Sandra
	(tie)
10 Ronald	10 Sharon

1949

1 James	1 Linda
2 Robert	2 Mary
3 John	3 Patricia
4 David,	4 Barbara
William	5 Susan
(tie)	
6 Michael	6 Sandra
7 Richard	7 Maria
8 Thomas	8 Nancy

9 Charles	9 Carol
10 Larry	10 Sharon

1950

1 John	1 Linda
2 James	2 Mary
3 Robert	3 Patricia
4 William	4 Barbara
5 Michael	5 Susan
6 David	6 Maria
7 Richard	7 Sandra
8 Thomas	8 Nancy
9 Charles	9 Deborah
10 Gary	10 Kathleen

1951

1 Robert	1 Linda
2 James	2 Mary
3 John	3 Patricia
4 Michael	4 Barbara
5 David	5 Deborah
6 William	6 Susan
7 Richard	7 Nancy
8 Thomas	8 Maria
9 Charles	9 Kathleen
10 Gary	10 Karen,
	Sandra
	(tie)

1952

1 James	1 Linda
2 Robert	2 Mary
3 John	3 Patricia
4 Michael	4 Deborah

5 David	5 Barbara
6 William	6 Susan
7 Richard	7 Maria
8 Thomas	8 Nancy
9 Charles	9 Debra
10 Gary	10 Kathleen

1953

1 Michael	1 Mary
2 Robert	2 Linda
3 James	3 Deborah
4 John	4 Patricia
5 David	5 Susan
6 William	6 Barbara
7 Richard	7 Debra
8 Thomas	8 Maria
9 Gary	9 Nancy
10 Charles	10 Karen

1954

1 Robert	1 Mary
2 Michael	2 Deborah
3 John	3 Linda
4 James	4 Debra
5 David	5 Patricia,
6 William	Susan (tie)
7 Richard	7 Barbara
8 Thomas	8 Maria
9 Mark	9 Karen
10 Gary	10 Nancy

1955

1 Michael	1 Mary
2 James	2 Deborah

3 David,	3 Debra,
Robert	Linda (tie)
(tie)	
5 John	5 Patricia
6 William	6 Susan
7 Richard	7 Maria
8 Mark	8 Barbara
9 Thomas	9 Karen
10 Charles,	10 Nancy
Steven	
(tie)	

1956

1 Michael	1 Mary
2 Robert	2 Susan
3 David	3 Debra
4 James	4 Linda
5 John	5 Deborah
6 William	6 Patricia
7 Richard	7 Karen
8 Mark	8 Maria
9 Thomas	9 Barbara
10 Steven	10 Donna

1957

1 Michael	1 Mary
2 James	2 Susan
3 Robert	3 Linda
4 David	4 Karen
5 John	5 Patricia
6 William	6 Deborah,
7 Richard	Debra (tie)
8 Mark	8 Cynthia
9 Thomas	9 Maria
10 Steven	10 Nancy

1958

1 Michael	1 Mary
2 David	2 Linda
3 Robert	3 Susan
4 John	4 Patricia
5 James	5 Karen
6 William	6 Maria
7 Mark	7 Debra
8 Richard	8 Cynthia
9 Thomas	9 Deborah
10 Charles	10 Barbara

1959

1 Michael	1 Mary
2 David	2 Susan
3 James	3 Linda
4 John	4 Donna,
5 Robert	Patricia
	(tie)
6 Mark	6 Maria
7 William	7 Karen
8 Richard	8 Debra
9 Thomas	9 Cynthia
10 Steven	10 Deborah

1960

1 David	1 Mary
2 Michael	2 Susan
3 John	3 Maria
4 James	4 Karen
5 Robert	5 Lisa
6 Mark	6 Linda
7 William	7 Donna
8 Richard	8 Patricia

9 Thomas	9 Debra
10 Steven	10 Deborah

1961

1 David	1 Mary
2 Michael	2 Lisa
3 John	3 Susan
4 James	4 Maria
5 Robert	5 Karen
6 Mark	6 Linda
7 William	7 Patricia
8 Richard	8 Donna
9 Thomas	9 Sandra
10 Kenneth,	10 Brenda
Steven	
(tie)	

1962

1 Michael	1 Lisa
2 John	2 Mary
3 David	3 Maria
4 Robert	4 Karen
5 James	5 Susan
6 Mark	6 Linda
7 William	7 Patricia
8 Richard	8 Donna
9 Thomas	9 Cynthia
10 Jeffrey	10 Debra

1963

1 David	1 Lisa
2 John,	2 Mary
Michael	3 Maria
(tie)	

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| 4 James | 4 Susan |
| 5 Robert | 5 Karen |
| 6 Mark | 6 Patricia |
| 7 Richard, | 7 Linda |
| William | 8 Donna |
| (tie) | |
| 9 Thomas | 9 Sandra |
| 10 Kevin | 10 Deborah |

1964

- | | |
|-----------|--------------|
| 1 Michael | 1 Lisa |
| 2 John | 2 Mary |
| 3 David | 3 Maria |
| 4 Robert | 4 Susan |
| 5 James | 5 Karen |
| 6 Mark | 6 Patricia |
| 7 William | 7 Donna |
| 8 Richard | 8 Linda |
| 9 Thomas | 9 Kimberly |
| 10 Joseph | 10 Elizabeth |

1965

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| 1 Michael | 1 Lisa |
| 2 James | 2 Maria |
| 3 John | 3 Karen |
| 4 David | 4 Mary |
| 5 Robert | 5 Kimberly |
| 6 William | 6 Susan |
| 7 Richard | 7 Patricia |
| 8 Mark | 8 Cynthia |
| 9 Thomas | 9 Linda |
| 10 Jeffrey | 10 Donna |

1966

- | | |
|-----------|--------|
| 1 Michael | 1 Lisa |
|-----------|--------|

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| 2 David | 2 Maria |
| 3 John | 3 Mary |
| 4 James | 4 Kimberly |
| 5 Robert | 5 Michelle |
| 6 William | 6 Patricia |
| 7 Richard | 7 Susan |
| 8 Mark | 8 Karen |
| 9 Thomas | 9 Sandra |
| 10 Jeffrey | 10 Deborah, |
| | Elizabeth |
| | (tie) |

1967

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 1 Michael | 1 Lisa |
| 2 David | 2 Maria |
| 3 James | 3 Kimberly |
| 4 John | 4 Michelle |
| 5 Robert | 5 Mary |
| 6 William | 6 Karen |
| 7 Mark | 7 Susan |
| 8 Richard | 8 Angela |
| 9 Jeffrey | 9 Melissa |
| 10 Christopher | 10 Jennifer |

1968

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| 1 Michael | 1 Lisa |
| 2 David | 2 Michelle |
| 3 James | 3 Kimberly |
| 4 John | 4 Maria |
| 5 Robert | 5 Jennifer |
| 6 William | 6 Melissa |
| 7 Mark | 7 Tammy |
| 8 Christopher | 8 Angela |
| 9 Richard | 9 Mary |
| 10 Brian | 10 Susan |

1969

1 Michael	1 Lisa
2 David	2 Jennifer
3 John	3 Michelle
4 Robert	4 Kimberly
5 James	5 Maria
6 William	6 Melissa
7 Richard	7 Amy
8 Christopher	8 Mary
9 Mark	9 Elizabeth
10 Brian	10 Karen

1972

1 Michael	1 Jennifer
2 Christopher	2 Michelle
3 David	3 Lisa
4 John	4 Angela
5 James	5 Kimberly
6 Robert	6 Amy
7 Jason	7 Maria
8 Brian	8 Melissa
9 William	9 Heather
10 Matthew	10 Nicole

1970

1 Michael	1 Jennifer
2 David	2 Lisa
3 John	3 Kimberly
4 James	4 Michelle
5 Robert	5 Angela
6 Christopher	6 Maria
7 William	7 Amy
8 Mark	8 Melissa
9 Richard	9 Mary
10 Brian	10 Tracy

1973

1 Michael	1 Jennifer
2 Christopher	2 Michelle
3 James	3 Amy
4 Jason	4 Lisa
5 Robert	5 Kimberly
6 David	6 Maria
7 John	7 Angela
8 Brian	8 Melissa
9 William	9 Heather
10 Daniel	10 Stephanie

1971

1 Michael	1 Jennifer
2 John	2 Michelle
3 David	3 Lisa
4 James	4 Kimberly
5 Robert	5 Angela
6 Christopher	6 Amy
7 William	7 Maria
8 Jason	8 Melissa
9 Brian	9 Mary
10 Scott	10 Christine

1974

1 Michael	1 Jennifer
2 Jason	2 Amy
3 Christopher	3 Michelle
4 David	4 Angela
5 James	5 Kimberly
6 John	6 Heather
7 Robert	7 Lisa
8 Brian	8 Melissa
9 William	9 Maria
10 Daniel	10 Stephanie

1975

1 Michael	1 Jennifer
2 Christopher	2 Amy
3 Jason	3 Michelle
4 David	4 Heather
5 James, Robert (tie)	5 Angela
6 Melissa	
7 John	7 Kimberly
8 Brian	8 Lisa
9 Matthew	9 Maria
10 Daniel, William (tie)	10 Stephanie

1976

1 Michael	1 Jennifer
2 Jason	2 Amy
3 Christopher	3 Melissa
4 David	4 Heather
5 John	5 Michelle
6 James	6 Angela
7 Robert	7 Jessica
8 Brian	8 Lisa
9 Matthew	9 Maria
10 Joseph	10 Kimberly

1977

1 Michael	1 Jennifer
2 Jason	2 Amy
3 Christopher	3 Melissa
4 David, James (tie)	4 Heather
5 Jessica	
6 John	6 Michelle
7 Robert	7 Angela

8 Brian	8 Kelly
9 Matthew	9 Sarah
10 Joseph	10 Amanda

1978

1 Michael	1 Jennifer
2 Jason	2 Jessica
3 Christopher	3 Melissa
4 David	4 Heather
5 James	5 Amy
6 John	6 Sarah
7 Robert	7 Angela
8 Matthew	8 Amanda
9 Brian	9 Michelle
10 Joseph	10 Elizabeth

1979

1 Michael	1 Jennifer
2 Jason	2 Melissa
3 Christopher	3 Amanda
4 David	4 Jessica
5 James	5 Sarah
6 Matthew	6 Amy
7 Robert	7 Heather
8 John	8 Angela, Kimberly (tie)
9 Joshua	
10 Daniel	10 Michelle

1980

1 Michael	1 Jennifer
2 Jason	2 Jessica
3 Christopher	3 Amanda
4 David	4 Melissa

5 James	5 Sarah
6 Matthew	6 Nicole
7 John	7 Heather
8 Joshua	8 Amy
9 Robert	9 Michelle
10 Daniel	10 Elizabeth

1981

1 Michael	1 Jennifer
2 Christopher	2 Jessica
3 Jason	3 Amanda
4 Matthew	4 Melissa
5 David	5 Sarah
6 Joshua	6 Nicole
7 James	7 Elizabeth
8 John	8 Michelle
9 Robert	9 Amy
10 Daniel	10 Stephanie

1982

1 Michael	1 Jennifer
2 Christopher	2 Jessica
3 Matthew	3 Amanda
4 Jason	4 Sarah
5 James	5 Melissa
6 David	6 Michelle
7 John	7 Nicole
8 Joshua	8 Elizabeth
9 Justin	9 Crystal
10 Robert	10 Amy

1983

1 Michael	1 Jennifer
2 Christopher	2 Jessica

3 Matthew	3 Ashley
4 David	4 Amanda
5 Daniel	5 Sarah
6 Jason	6 Melissa
7 James	7 Nicole
8 Robert	8 Elizabeth
9 Joshua	9 Stephanie
10 Joseph	10 Heather

1984

1 Michael	1 Jennifer
2 Christopher	2 Jessica
3 Matthew	3 Ashley
4 Joshua	4 Amanda
5 David	5 Sarah
6 Daniel	6 Stephanie
7 James	7 Nicole
8 Robert	8 Elizabeth
9 John	9 Heather
10 Ryan	10 Melissa

1985

1 Michael	1 Jessica
2 Christopher	2 Ashley
3 Matthew	3 Jennifer
4 Joshua	4 Amanda
5 David	5 Nicole
6 Daniel	6 Sarah
7 James	7 Stephanie
8 Joseph	8 Heather
9 Robert	9 Melissa
10 John	10 Elizabeth

1986

1 Michael	1 Jessica
-----------	-----------

2 Christopher	2 Ashley
3 Matthew	3 Amanda
4 Joshua	4 Jennifer
5 David	5 Sarah
6 Daniel	6 Stephanie
7 Andrew	7 Brittany
8 James	8 Heather
9 Robert	9 Elizabeth,
10 John	Megan
	(tie)

1987

1 Michael	1 Jessica
2 Christopher	2 Ashley
3 Matthew	3 Amanda
4 Joshua	4 Jennifer
5 Andrew	5 Sarah
6 Daniel	6 Stephanie
7 David	7 Nicole
8 Justin	8 Brittany
9 James	9 Elizabeth
10 Robert	10 Heather

1988

1 Michael	1 Ashley
2 Christopher	2 Jessica
3 Matthew	3 Amanda
4 Joshua	4 Jennifer
5 David	5 Brittany
6 Daniel	6 Sarah
7 Andrew	7 Stephanie
8 Justin	8 Samantha
9 Robert	9 Heather
10 Joseph	10 Elizabeth

1989

1 Michael	1 Jessica
-----------	-----------

2 Christopher	2 Ashley
3 Joshua	3 Amanda,
4 Matthew	Brittany
	(tie)
5 David	5 Sarah
6 Daniel	6 Jennifer
7 Andrew	7 Stephanie
8 Joseph	8 Samantha
9 Justin	9 Elizabeth
10 John	10 Lauren

1990

1 Michael	1 Jessica
2 Christopher	2 Ashley
3 Joshua	3 Brittany
4 Matthew	4 Amanda
5 David	5 Stephanie
6 Daniel	5 Jennifer
7 Andrew	7 Samantha
8 Joseph	8 Sarah
9 Justin	9 Megan
10 James	10 Lauren

1991

1 Michael	1 Ashley
2 Christopher	2 Jessica
3 Matthew	3 Amanda
4 Joshua	4 Brittany
5 Daniel	5 Stephanie
6 Andrew	6 Samantha
7 Robert	7 Sarah
8 David,	8 Elizabeth
Nicholas	9 Jennifer
(tie)	
10 James,	10 Megan
William	
(tie)	

1992

1 Michael	1 Jessica
2 Christopher	2 Ashley
3 Joshua	3 Sarah
4 Matthew	4 Brittany
5 Brandon	5 Amanda
6 Andrew	6 Samantha
7 Daniel	7 Emily
8 Joseph	8 Elizabeth
9 Tyler	9 Jennifer
10 David	10 Stephanie

1995

1 Michael	1 Emily
2 Jacob	2 Ashley
3 Matthew	3 Jessica
4 Joshua	4 Sarah
5 Christopher	5 Samantha
6 Daniel	6 Taylor
7 Nicholas	7 Amanda
8 Tyler	8 Brittany
9 Brandon	9 Elizabeth
10 Austin	10 Rachel

1993

1 Michael	1 Jessica
2 Christopher	2 Ashley
3 Joshua	3 Sarah
4 Matthew	4 Taylor
5 Daniel	5 Emily
6 Tyler	6 Samantha
7 Andrew	7 Brittany
8 David,	8 Amanda
Ryan (tie)	9 Rachel
10 Jacob	10 Lauren

1996

1 Michael	1 Emily
2 Matthew	2 Jessica
3 Jacob	3 Ashley
4 Joshua	4 Sarah
5 Christopher	5 Samantha
6 Daniel	6 Taylor
7 Nicholas	7 Hannah
8 Andrew,	8 Rachel
Tyler (tie)	9 Alexis
10 Joseph	10 Megan

1994

1 Michael	1 Jessica
2 Matthew	2 Ashley
3 Christopher	3 Emily
4 Joshua	4 Samantha
5 Zachary	5 Sarah
6 Nicholas	6 Brittany
7 Daniel	7 Amanda
8 Jacob	8 Taylor
9 Tyler	9 Elizabeth
10 Brandon	10 Nicole

1997

1 Michael	1 Emily
2 Jacob	2 Sarah
3 Matthew	3 Taylor
4 Christopher	4 Jessica
5 Nicholas	5 Ashley
6 Austin	6 Samantha
7 Joshua	7 Madison
8 Andrew	8 Hannah
9 Joseph	9 Kayla
10 Brandon	10 Alexis

1998

1 Michael	1 Emily
2 Jacob	2 Hannah
3 Matthew	3 Samantha
4 Joshua	4 Ashley
5 Christopher	5 Sarah
6 Nicholas	6 Alexis
7 Brandon	7 Taylor
8 Tyler	8 Jessica
9 Andrew	9 Madison
10 Austin	10 Elizabeth

1999

1 Jacob	1 Emily
2 Michael	2 Hannah
3 Matthew	3 Alexis
4 Joshua	4 Samantha
5 Christopher	5 Sarah
6 Nicholas	6 Ashley
7 Andrew	7 Madison
8 Joseph	8 Taylor
9 Daniel	9 Jessica
10 Tyler	10 Elizabeth

2000

1 Jacob	1 Emily
2 Michael	2 Hannah
3 Matthew	3 Madison
4 Joshua	4 Ashley
5 Christopher	5 Sarah
6 Nicholas	6 Alexis
7 Andrew	7 Samantha
8 Joseph	8 Jessica
9 Daniel	9 Taylor
10 Tyler	10 Elizabeth

2001

1 Jacob	1 Emily
2 Michael	2 Madison
3 Matthew	3 Hannah
4 Joshua	4 Ashley
5 Christopher	5 Alexis
6 Nicholas	6 Samantha
7 Andrew	7 Sarah
8 Joseph	8 Abigail
9 Daniel	9 Elizabeth
10 William	10 Jessica

2002

1 Jacob	1 Emily
2 Michael	2 Madison
3 Joshua	3 Hannah
4 Matthew	4 Emma
5 Ethan	5 Alexis
6 Joseph	6 Ashley
7 Andrew	7 Abigail
8 Christopher	8 Sarah
9 Daniel	9 Samantha
10 Nicholas	10 Olivia

2003

1 Jacob	1 Emily
2 Michael	2 Emma
3 Joshua	3 Madison
4 Matthew	4 Hannah
5 Andrew	5 Olivia
6 Joseph	6 Abigail
7 Ethan	7 Alexis
8 Daniel	8 Ashley
9 Christopher	9 Elizabeth
10 Anthony	10 Samantha

REVERSE LOOKUP

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