

Jamie Innes Humanist Celebrant



Naming Ceremony Example Readings



23 Wishes On Your Naming Day

I wish you such a happy life
That's jam-packed full of fun
Adventures, friendships, laughter, love
And picnics in the sun

I wish you a courageous life
With no dreams left untried
So that, whichever path you take
You'll always walk with pride

I wish you an accomplished life
That celebrates your wins
But let you know the equal joy
Of simply joining in

But most of all, I wish for you
The life that you will choose
Your name is given, but who you'll be
Is completely down to you



Excerpt from 'All the Ways to be Smart' by Alison Colpys and Davina Bell

I can't wait to share with you
How smart you are the whole day through.

Smart at drawing witches' hats
Smart and gluing wings on bats.
Smart at rhyme and telling time,
And building cubbies, making slime.

Smart is not just ticks and crosses,
Smart is building boats from boxes.
Painting patterns, wheeling wagons,
Being mermaids, riding dragons.

Smart at sharing, caring, scaring,
Smart at picking what you're wearing.
Smart at saying 'hi' and 'bye',
To people when they feel all shy.

Crazy dances! Horsey prances!
Feeling scared but taking chances.
Jumping off so you can fly!
Smart at asking How? What? Why?

Every hour of every day
You're smart in your own special way.



And nobody will ever do...

The very same smart things as you.



'Under the Same Sky' by Britta Teckentrup

We live under the same sky...

In lands near and far.

We live under the same sky...

Wherever we are.

We feel the same love...

In the cold ice and snow.

We feel the same love...

Where soft meadows grow.

We play the same games...

Where the hills touch the sky.

We play the same games...

Where the grass grows so high.

We sing the same songs...

Across the same seas.

We sing the same songs...

Caught on a breeze.

We face the same storms...

Where dark forests grow.

We face the same storms...

Where wild rivers flow.

We dream the same dreams...

Whatever the weather.



We dream the same dreams...

And we dream them

Together.



When

When you are lonely

I wish you love.

When you are down

I wish you joy.

When you are troubled

I wish you peace.

When things are complicated

I wish you simple beauty.

When things are chaotic

I wish you inner silence.

When things look empty

I wish you hope.

Untitled

May the strength of the wind and the light of the sun
the softness of the rain and the mystery of the moon
reach you and fill you.

May beauty delight you and happiness uplift you.

May wonder fulfil you and love surround you.

May your step be steady and your arm be strong.

May your heart be peaceful and your heart be true

May you seek to learn, may you learn to live

May you live to love

and may you always love.



Welcome

Welcome to sunlight
Welcome to the soft rain on your face
Welcome to the rush of the wind
Welcome to the hush of the sea
Welcome to much joy and a little sorrow
Welcome to birdsong
Welcome to music and laughter
Welcome to the leaves on the tree
Welcome to the miracle of words
Welcome to the whispering of rivers
Welcome to dreaming
Welcome to everything you can see and name
Welcome to your mother's care
Welcome to your father's smile
Welcome to the love of all here
Welcome to the world.



Oh, the Places You'll Go!

Congratulations!
Today is your day.
You're off to Great Places!
You're off and away!

You have brains in your head.
You have feet in your shoes
You can steer yourself -
Any direction you choose.
You're on your own. And you know what you know.
And YOU are the guy who'll decide where to go.

You'll look up and down streets. Look 'em over with care.
About some you will say, "I don't choose to go there."
With your head full of brains and your shoes full of feet,
You're too smart to go down any not-so-good street.

And you may not find any
You'll want to go down.
In that case, of course,
You'll head straight out of town.

It's opener there
In the wide open air.
Out there things can happen
And frequently do
To people as brainy
And footsy as you.

And when things start to happen,
Don't worry. Don't stew.
Just go right along.
You'll start happening too.

OH!
THE PLACES YOU'LL GO!



You'll be on your way up!
You'll be seeing great sights!
You'll join the high fliers
Who soar to high heights.

You won't lag behind, because you'll have the speed.
You'll pass the whole gang and you'll soon take the lead.
Wherever you fly, you'll be the best of the best.
Wherever you go, you will top all the rest.

Except when you don' t
Because, sometimes, you won't.

[...]

You'll get mixed up, of course,
As you already know.
You'll get mixed up
With many strange birds as you go.
So be sure when you step.
Step with care and great tact
And remember that Life's
A Great Balancing Act.
Just never forget to be dexterous and deft.
And never mix up your right foot with your left.

And will you succeed?
Yes! You will, indeed!
(98 and 3/4 percent guaranteed.)

KID, YOU'LL MOVE MOUNTAINS!

So...
Be your name Buxbaum or Bixby or Bray
Or Mordecai Ali Van Allen O'Shea,
You're off to Great Places!
Today is your day!



Your mountain is waiting.
So...get on your way!

Babies Don't Keep

Cleaning and scrubbing
Can wait 'til tomorrow
For babies grow up,
We've learned to our sorrow.
So quiet down, cobwebs
Dust go to sleep,
I'm rocking my baby
And babies don't keep.

Celtic Blessing

May the raindrops fall gently on your brow,
May the soft winds freshen your spring,
May the sunshine brighten your heart,
May the burdens of the day rest light upon you
And may you always be enfolded in a mantle of love.



A Precious Gift

A precious gift, a tiny soul,
Now joins our family, making whole.
A granddaughter, a sweet delight,
A shining star, both pure and bright.

With loving hearts, we welcome you,
A future vast, forever new.
May joy and laughter fill your days,
And guide you through life's winding ways.

From tiny hands to grown up grace,
We'll watch you bloom in time and space.
A love so deep, a bond so strong,
Forever with us, you'll belong.

We celebrate your naming day,
With dreams and hope, come what may.
Welcome, sweet one, to our hearts,
A masterpiece of wondrous arts.



A Tiny Spark Begins

A tiny spark, a whispered name
A perfect story, yet to flame
With softest touch, and gentle eyes
She's woven dreams, beneath the skies
Her laughter bright, a silver bell
A love story we will always tell
A future bright, a path untold
A precious gift, more precious than gold
Her tiny feet, on paths unknown
A garden where new seeds are sown
A perfect start, a life so sweet
A dream come true, we can't defeat



But I Loved You First

But I loved you first

Before you knew my name

Before you saw my face

Before you felt the same

But I loved you first

When you were just a dream

When you were out of reach

When you were unaware of me

But I loved you first

And now you love me too

And now we share a life

And now I'm glad it's true

But I loved you first

And I will love you last

And I will love you always

