

# Andrew Lloyd Webber, The Naming Of Cats

The naming of cats is a difficult matter,  
It isn't just one of your holiday games  
You may think that I'm as mad as a hatter  
When I tell you a cat must have three different names  
First of all, there's the name that the family use daily  
Such as Peter, Augustus, Alonzo, or James  
Such as Victor or Jonathan, George or Bill Baily -  
All of them sensible, everyday names

There are fancier names if you think they sound sweeter  
Some for the gentlemen, some for the dames  
Such as Plato, Admetus, Electra, Demeter -  
But all of them sensible, everyday names

But I tell you a cat needs a name that's particular  
A name that's peculiar, and more dignified  
Else how can he keep up his tail perpendicular  
Or spread out his whiskers, or cherish his pride?

Of names of this kind, I can give you a quorum  
Such as Munkustrap, Quaxo or Coricopat  
Such as Bombalurina, or else Jellylorum -  
Names that never belong to more than one cat

But above and beyond there's still one name left over  
And that is the name that you never will guess;  
The name that no human research can discover  
But the cat himself knows, and will never confess

When you notice a cat in profound meditation  
The reason, I tell you, is always the same  
His mind is engaged in a rapt contemplation  
Of the thought, of the thought, of the thought of his name  
His ineffable, effable, effanineffable  
Deep and inscrutable singular name  
Name, name, name, name, name, name, name