

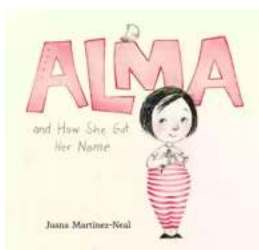
# Alma And How She Got Her Name: A Captivating Tale of Identity and Heritage

A person's name often carries great significance, representing not only their identity but also their cultural and family history. The story of Alma, a young girl eager to uncover the meaning behind her name, is a captivating journey that explores the importance of heritage, self-discovery, and the power of names.

## The Beginning of Alma's Journey

Alma, a curious and vivacious 8-year-old girl, had always wondered why her parents chose the name "Alma" for her. None of her classmates had names like hers, and she couldn't shake the feeling that her name held a deep-rooted significance.

One day, Alma mustered up the courage to ask her mother about the origins of her name. Her mother, with a gentle smile, sat her down and began recounting a rich family history that spanned several generations.



## Alma and How She Got Her Name

by Juana Martinez-Neal (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.9 out of 5

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Print length : 32 pages



"Alma," her mother explained, "is a name with deep cultural roots. It originates from our ancestors who emigrated from a small village nestled in the mountains of a distant land. Your name carries their legacy and the strength, resilience, and spirit of those who came before you."

Alma was captivated, eager to learn more about her family's heritage and her name's significance. She embarked on a journey of self-discovery to uncover her roots.

## **The Journey of Self-Discovery**

Alma delved into old family photo albums and listened intently to stories shared by her grandparents. The more she learned, the more connected she felt to her ancestors and the significance of her name.

Through her exploration, Alma discovered that her name, Alma, meant "soul" in the language of her ancestors. As she delved deeper into her family history, she learned about the struggles, triumphs, and traditions that defined her lineage.

Alma's great-grandmother, also named Alma, had been a remarkable woman, an artist renowned for capturing the beauty of her homeland in her vivid paintings. Alma found a sense of pride in sharing the same name as this talented artist who had left an indelible mark on her family's history.

She further learned that her name also carried a symbolic connection to her grandmother, Sofia. The name Alma-Sofia had been passed down through generations, signifying a bond between two souls and the enduring strength of the familial connection.

## **The Power of Names**

Alma's journey led her to understand the profound power that names hold. A name is not just a combination of letters; it carries the stories, traditions, and aspirations of those who came before us.

With her newfound knowledge, Alma felt a deep sense of belonging and pride in her name. She realized that she too possessed the strength and resilience of her ancestors.

## **Embracing Heritage and Identity**

Armed with her ancestral knowledge, Alma decided to share her story with her classmates during a school presentation on cultural diversity. She wanted to inspire others to embrace their own heritage, no matter how different or unique it may seem.

Alma's heartfelt presentation touched the hearts of her classmates and teachers, sparking a newfound appreciation for the power of names and the significance of cultural heritage within the school community. It ignited a sense of empathy, curiosity, and respect for each other's backgrounds.

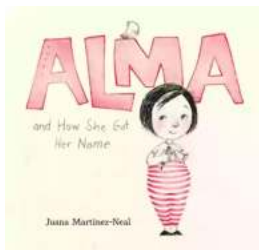
## **The Legacy of Alma**

Alma's journey of self-discovery didn't end with her presentation. She went on to become an advocate for cultural preservation and awareness. Through her experiences, Alma realized that names have the power to bridge gaps, foster understanding, and celebrate diversity.

Alma's tale demonstrates the importance of understanding and cherishing our names and the heritage they encapsulate. It inspires all individuals to explore their roots, appreciate their identities, and celebrate the unique stories that their names hold.

## Embrace Your Name, Celebrate Your Heritage

Alma's journey touched the hearts of many, reminding us all that our names have the power to connect us to our past, shape our present, and inspire our future. By embracing our names and celebrating our heritage, we honor the legacies of those who came before us and pave the way for future generations to do the same.



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A 2019 Caldecott Honor Book

What's in a name? For one little girl, her very long name tells the vibrant story of where she came from — and who she may one day be.

If you ask her, Alma Sofia Esperanza José Pura Candela has way too many names: six! How did such a small person wind up with such a large name? Alma turns to Daddy for an answer and learns of Sofia, the grandmother who loved books and flowers; Esperanza, the great-grandmother who longed to travel; José, the grandfather who was an artist; and other namesakes, too. As she hears the story of her name, Alma starts to think it might be a perfect fit after all — and realizes that she will one day have her own story to tell. In her author-illustrator debut, Juana Martinez-Neal opens a treasure box of discovery for children who may be curious about their own origin stories or names.



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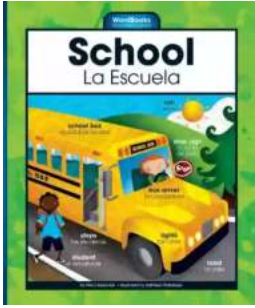
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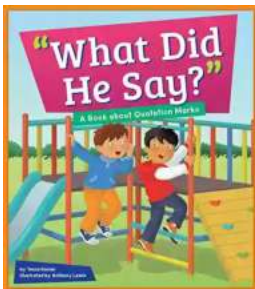
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