

Names From Giovanni Boccaccio's *Il Decameron*

by Signora Giata Magdalena Alberti

This article lists given names of characters in *Il Decameron*, one of the most important literary works of the 14th Century. In order to ensure period Italian spellings have not been modernized, these names have been extracted from a version printed in 1597 (published by Alessandro Vecchi in Venice).

While many of the characters mentioned are actual historical figures from the Middle Ages, the Renaissance Italian practice of naming a child after a virtuous or heroic protagonist in a literary work allows for many of these names to be considered for a persona. Names are listed according to gender. Notes are included to explain if the name belonged to a real person from Boccaccio's era, is a nickname, or is an Italian version of a foreign name.

Title	Given Name	Byname/Surname	Notes	Gender
	Abraam	Giudeo	Descriptive byname meaning Jew	male
	Agilulfo		Duke of Turin then King of Lombard	male
	Agnesa			female
Madona	Agnesa			female
	Agnolella			female
	Alatiel			female
Frate	Alberto		Friar	male
Maestro	Alberto	da Bologna	Locative byname	male
	Alessandro			male
Papa	Alessandro III		Pope, born Rolando Bandinelli 1100	male
Messer	Alesso	Rinucci		male
	Alibech		Muslim heiress	female
	Ambrogiuolo			male

Messer	Amerigo			male
	Andreuccio	da Perugia	Locative byname	male
	Andreuo		AKA Andreuola	female
Messer	Angiulieri			male
Messer	Ansaldo			male
Messer	Antonio	d'Orso	Bishop of Florence	male
Santo	Arrigo		Saint of Chiesa di Trivigi	male
	Autari		King of the Lombards from 584 to 590	male
Marchese	Azzo	da Ferrara	Azzo VIII d'Este, Marquis of Ferrara 1293 to 1308	male
Madonna	Beatrice			female
Mona	Belcolore			female
	Beltramo	di Rossiglione	Provençal name?	male
	Bergamino			male
Madonna	Beritola			female
	Bernabo	da Genova	Locative byname	male
	Biagio	Pizzini		male
	Biondello			male
Papa	Bonifacio VIII		Pope, born Benedetto Caetani 1230 (Lombard Gaetani)	male
	Bruno			male
	Buonamico	Buffalmacco	Buonamico Martino, Florentine painter b. 1290	male
	Calandrino		Francesco Calandrino, Florentine painter 14C	male
Messer	Can(e)	della Scala	AS Cangrande, Lord of Verona, born 1291	male
Re	Carlo		King Charles	male
	Carlo di Valois		Charles of Valois, France	male
	Cassandra			female
	Cecco	Angiolieri	Italian poet and writer of late 13C	male
	Cepparello	da Prato	AKA Ser Ciappelletto, locative byname	male

	Chichibio			male
	Ciacco			male
	Cimone			male
Frate	Cipolla		Friar	male
	Cisti		Nickname of <i>fornaio</i> (baker)	male
Marchese	Corrado	del Monferrato	Marquis of Monferrato	male
	Costanza			female
	Currado	Gianfigliuzzi	Famous Florentine family	male
Messer	Dego	della Ratta		male
Madonna	Dianora			male
	Dioneo		Narrator, <i>Lussurioso</i> , or the dissolute (from Diona, mother of Venus)	male
donna di Guascogna				female
	Efigenia			female
	Egano			male
	Elissa		Narrator, <i>L'alto nome di Didone</i> (Phoenecian Queen Virgil's Aeneid)	female
	Emilia		Narrator, <i>Il tutto amore</i> , flattering	female
	Ercolano		meaning Hercules	male
Messer	Ermino	de' Grimaldi	Famous Grimaldi family of Genoa	male
	Federico	degli Alberigi	AS Federigo, of the Alberigi family	male
Re	Federigo	di Cicilia		male
	Felice			male
	Ferondo			male
	Fiammetta		Narrator, <i>La donna amata da Boccaccio</i>	female
Madonna	Filippa			female
	Filippello	Fighinolfi		male
Vesuvo?	Filippo	Minutolo	Bishop of Naples 1285	male
Re	Filippo II	di Francia	King of France, born 1180	male

	Filomena		Narrator, <i>Amante del canto</i> , dedicated to Filostrato	female
	Filostrato		Narrator, <i>Vinto d'amore</i>	male
Messer	Forese	da Rabatta		male
Messer	Fortarrigo			male
Madonna	Francesca			female
Messer	Francesco	Vergellesi		male
	Fresco			male
	Gabriotto			male
Messer	Gentile	de'Carifendi		male
	Gerbino			male
Messer	Geri	Spini	Ruggiero Spini, close friend of Pope Boniface VIII	male
	Ghino	di Tacco		male
Messer	Gian	di Procida	AS Gianni	male
	Gianni	di Barolo		male
	Gianni	Lotteringhi		male
	Giannotto	di Civignì	Foreigner from Paris	male
	Giannuol	di Severino		male
	Gilfardo			male
	Gilletta	di Nerbona		female
	Giocomin	da Pavia	Locative byname	male
Maestro	Giotto		Painter and architect early 14C	male
	Giovanni	da Procida	Locative byname	male
	Giovanni	del Bragoniera		male
	Girolamo			male
	Gisippo			male
	Goffredo	di Buglione	Flemish Count born 1060, Crusader, King of Jerusalem	male
Messer	Guasparrin	d'Oria		male
	Guasparruolo			male
	Guccio	Imbratta		male

	Guglielmo	Borsiere		male
	Guido	di Lusignano	Crusader and King Consort of Jerusalem 1186	male
	Guido	di Montfort	Vicar in Tuscany 1270	male
	Guido	Gavalcanti		male
	Guidotto	da Cremona	Locative byname	male
Re	Guiglielmo			male
Messer	Guiglielmo	Guardstagno		male
Messer	Guiglielmo	Rossiglione		male
Madonna	Isabella			female
Messer	Lambertuccio			male
	Landolfo	Ruffolo		male
	Lauretta		Narrator, <i>La donna simbolo di Petrarca</i>	female
	Lazarino	de Guazzagliotri		male
	Leonetto			male
Messer	Licio	da Valona		male
	Lida			female
	Lippo	Topo	Painter and extrovert	male
	Lisa	Puccini		female
	Lisabetta	da Messina	Locative byname	female
	Lisimaeo			male
	Lodovico			male
	Manfredi	di Sicilia	King of Sicily 1258-1266	male
	Margherita	de' Ghisolieri		female
	Martellino			male
	Martuccio	Gomito		male
	Masetto	da Laporecchio		male
	Melchisedech		Giudeo, a Jew	male
	Michele	Scalza		male
	Minghino	di Mingole	Agnesa is given to him in marriage	male

	Mino	da San Quirico	Bad reputation	male
	Mitridanes		Wants to kill Nathan	male
	Musciatto	Franzesi	French merchant in 13C Florence	male
	Nastagio	degli Onesti		male
	Nathan			male
	Neerbale		Muslim	male
	Neifile		Narrator, <i>nuova amante</i>	female
	Nello			male
	Niceoluccio	Caccianimico		male
	Nicostrato			male
Monna	Nonna	de' Pulci		female
Madonna	Oretta			female
	Paganino	da Monaco		male
	Pampinea		Narrator, <i>la rigogliosa</i> , intellectually mature	female
	Panfilo		Narrator, <i>il tutto amore</i>	male
	Pasquino			male
	Peronella			female
	Pietro			male
	Pietro	Boccamazza		male
	Pietro	di Venciolo		male
Re	Pietro III	di Aragona	Peter the Great 1239-1285	male
	Pirro			male
	Primasso			male
Frate	Puccio		Friar	male
Messer	Ricciardo	di Chinzica		male
	Ricciardo	Minutolo		male
	Ricciardo	Manardi		male
Maestro	Rinaldo			male
	Rinaldo	d'Asti		male

	Rinaldo	de Pugliesi		male
	Rinuccio			male
	Ruggiero	dell'Oria	AS Ruggieri	male
	Rustico			male
	Saladino		Sultan of Egypt b. 1138,	male
	Salamone		Foreign King	male
	Salvestra			female
	Simona			female
Maestro	Simone		Fictional physician	male
	Sofronia			female
	Talano	di Moese		male
Principe di Salerno	Tancredi		Prince of Salerno	male
	Tedaldo			male
	Teodolinda		Queen of Lombard 589-616 , wife of Autari and Agilulfo	female
	Teodoro			male
	Tito Quintio Fulvio		Modernly, Titus Quintius Fulvus	male
	Tofano			male
Messer	Torello			male
	Violante			female
	Zima			male
Abate di Cligni			AS Abbate, Abbot of Cluny	male
Conte d'Anguersa				male
Duca di Credi			Duke of Crete	male
Maestro		di Varlungo	Priest of Varlungo	male
Marchese		di Saluzzo		male
Marchessa		di Monferrato		female
Re di Cipri			King of Cyprus	male
Re di Colco			King of Algarve	male

Re di Francia			King of France	male
Re di Tunisi			King of Tunisia	male
Re d'Ispagna			King of Spain	male
Re Francia			"French King"	male
Soldano di Babilonia			Sultan of Baghdad	male

**AS = Alternate Spelling in Il Decameron*