

## **Hello My Name Is...**

Celeste Lunia Brown. It's a name melded together with references of the sky along with ties from my family. It's unique and different, just like me.

My first name, Celeste, was based off of the word Celestial meaning heavenly, or of the heavens. Before I was born, whenever my mom would make Italian food my dad would call her Mama Celestial, because her food tasted so good. There came the idea to name me Celeste and when I was born, I was Baby Celeste. It was Mama Celestial and Baby Celeste.

My middle name, Lunia, is similar to the word Luna that refers to the moon and is another reference to the sky. That's not all; my middle name is actually a mix of both my grandma's names. The first part, Lu, comes from my grandma on my dad's side whose name is Lula. The ending, nia, comes from my grandma on my mom's side whose name is Virginia. At home, my parents either call me Lu or Lulu. I hear that more than I hear Celeste. I'm so used to it, that I'd be surprised to hear them call me anything else.

My name is not one that you hear very often and that's what I like about it. It's pretty and feminine without being girly and frilly so it suits me. Sometimes it's hard for people to pronounce my name, and maybe for some people that would make them want a different name, something easier. But I don't. It's my name and I'm keeping it.

If I were to come up to you one day and say, "Hi, my name is Celeste Lunia Brown" you have no idea of all the little things that went into picking this name for me. Every name has a story of it's own and that's what makes each one so special. Your name is a part of who you are and I am so happy with this part of me.

