

## For Name's Sake

by

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Actors crave respect and name recognition. They want their works to be instantly recognized like those of Brando, Garbo, Gable, Newman, and Streep. But to achieve that stature and stand out above the competition—especially those with the same surname—an actor must choose the right projects and be talented, attractive, and media savvy.

While many actors—living and dead—with the same surname possess some or all of the aforementioned qualities, they also share other, more obscure ones ... good and bad. Take the same-named but unrelated actors Joan “Mommie Dearest” Crawford (born Lucille Fay Le Sueur) and model-“actress” Cindy Crawford. There are obvious differences between them, most notably that Joan was talented and volatile—onscreen and offscreen—and that Cindy has *no* screen presence and *can't* act. But, as the following chart shows, there are a disturbingly large number of surprising—and entertaining—similarities between them.

SIMILARITIES	JOAN	CINDY
Pepsi	Fourth husband was its chairman of the board.	Has hawked it through various media.
Box-Office Poison	MGM, (incorrectly) thinking her box-office clout was diminishing, terminated her contract in the early '40s.	Hasn't been the star of a feature film since 1995's <i>Fair Game</i> flopped.
Sexual Innuendo and Beyond	A sex symbol early in her career, she appeared in 1926's <i>The Boob</i> . Starred in 1955's <i>Female on the Beach</i> .	Has bared her boobs—and much more—in <i>Playboy</i> . Has done many salacious beach-set photo shoots.
Tuneful Ties	Starred in 1954's <i>Johnny Guitar</i> .	Had a cameo in 1998's <i>54</i> , a drama about the famed disco.
Shaping Up	Was discovered by MGM, dancing in a Broadway chorus line.	Has done numerous workout videos.
Moniker Match	First husband was Douglas Fairbanks Jr. Appeared in 1925's <i>Pretty Ladies</i> . Played Kay Bentley in 1935's <i>I Live My Life</i> . One of her four adopted children is named Cindy.	Starred in <i>Fair Game</i> . Ex-husband Richard Gere starred in 1990's <i>Pretty Woman</i> . Did a TV commercial for Kay Jewelry. Isn't it obvious?