

riley poole national treasure edge of history

Riley Poole: National Treasure - Edge of History is a captivating exploration of one of the most beloved characters from the National Treasure franchise. As a sidekick to the main protagonist, Benjamin Franklin Gates, Riley Poole has carved out a unique identity in the treasure-hunting world, showcasing his wit, technical skills, and loyalty. This article delves into Riley Poole's character, the evolution of the franchise, and the recent series "National Treasure: Edge of History," highlighting his significance in the storyline.

Who is Riley Poole?

Riley Poole, portrayed by actor Justin Bartha, first appeared in the 2004 film "National Treasure." As a computer expert and the best friend of treasure hunter Benjamin Gates (played by Nicolas Cage), Riley provides crucial support in their adventures. His character is known for his humorous quips, technical prowess, and occasional moments of skepticism, which often add levity to tense situations.

Character Traits and Development

Riley Poole stands out in the National Treasure franchise for several reasons:

- **Intelligence:** Riley's technological expertise is vital in deciphering clues and navigating the digital landscape of the treasure hunts.
- **Humor:** His sarcastic wit and comedic timing provide comic relief, making him a fan favorite.
- **Loyalty:** Riley's unwavering support for Ben Gates highlights his loyalty and dedication to their friendship.
- **Growth:** Over the course of the films, Riley evolves from a sidekick to a competent treasure hunter in his own right.

Riley's character resonates with audiences due to his relatability; he often finds himself in extraordinary situations that test his resolve and ingenuity. His blend of intellect and humor makes him an integral part of the National Treasure narrative.

The National Treasure Franchise

The original "National Treasure" film was released in 2004 and became an instant hit, leading to a sequel, "National Treasure: Book of Secrets," in

2007. Both films followed the adventures of Gates and Poole as they unraveled historical mysteries and sought hidden treasures linked to American history. The franchise's blend of adventure, history, and action captivated audiences, leading to a dedicated fanbase.

Key Themes in National Treasure

The National Treasure films incorporate several key themes:

1. **Friendship:** The bond between Ben and Riley is central to the narrative, showcasing how teamwork and loyalty lead to success.
2. **History and Legacy:** The films emphasize the importance of historical artifacts and their significance to American culture.
3. **Adventure:** The thrill of the hunt and the excitement of uncovering secrets keep audiences engaged.

These themes resonate with viewers, making the franchise not just an adventure story but a reflection on values, history, and the quest for knowledge.

National Treasure: Edge of History

In 2021, Disney+ announced a new series titled "National Treasure: Edge of History," which aims to expand the franchise into the realm of television. The series introduces a new protagonist, Jess Morales, played by Lisette Olivera, who is on a quest to uncover her family's mysterious past and seek hidden treasures.

Riley Poole's Role in the Series

While Riley Poole is not the main character in "Edge of History," his presence is still felt in the series. Justin Bartha reprises his role, bringing a sense of continuity to the franchise. His character serves as a mentor figure for Jess, providing guidance and expertise as she embarks on her own treasure-hunting journey.

The inclusion of Riley Poole is significant for several reasons:

- **Connection to the Original Films:** Riley's involvement ties the new series to the original films, appealing to longtime fans.
- **Mentorship:** As a seasoned treasure hunter, Riley's experience offers valuable lessons to Jess, helping her navigate challenges.
- **Humor and Charm:** Riley's humor and charm continue to add a light-hearted element to the series, maintaining the comedic tone of the original films.

The Impact of National Treasure: Edge of History

The series "National Treasure: Edge of History" has the potential to introduce a new generation to the world of treasure hunting and historical mysteries. By featuring a diverse cast and a fresh storyline, the series aims to engage younger audiences while preserving the essence of what made the original films successful.

Audience Reception

Although the series is relatively new, early reactions from audiences have been promising. Fans of the original films are excited to see familiar faces and elements, while newcomers are drawn to the adventurous premise and the strong, relatable lead character. The blend of nostalgia and fresh storytelling could lead to a successful revival of the franchise.

Conclusion

Riley Poole's character in the National Treasure franchise embodies the spirit of adventure, friendship, and humor that has captivated audiences for nearly two decades. With the introduction of "National Treasure: Edge of History," Riley continues to play a significant role in the narrative, bridging the gap between the original films and the new series.

As treasure hunts unfold and historical mysteries are uncovered, Riley Poole remains a beloved figure, demonstrating that even sidekicks can hold a special place in the hearts of fans. The legacy of National Treasure, through its characters and themes, will likely endure, inspiring future generations to explore history and embark on their own adventures.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Riley Poole in 'National Treasure: Edge of History'?

Riley Poole, portrayed by actor Justin Bartha, is a tech-savvy historian and best friend of treasure hunter Benjamin Gates. In 'National Treasure: Edge of History,' he returns to assist a new generation of treasure seekers.

What role does Riley Poole play in the storyline of 'National Treasure: Edge of History'?

In 'National Treasure: Edge of History,' Riley serves as a mentor and advisor, providing his expertise in history and technology to the new protagonists as they embark on their quest for hidden treasures.

How does 'National Treasure: Edge of History' connect to the original movies?

'National Treasure: Edge of History' is a continuation of the franchise, featuring familiar characters like Riley Poole and introducing new ones, while maintaining the series' themes of adventure, history, and puzzles.

What themes are explored in 'National Treasure: Edge of History' through Riley Poole's character?

Riley Poole's character explores themes of friendship, loyalty, and the importance of history, as he supports the new treasure hunters in their quest while reflecting on his own past adventures with Ben Gates.

Is Riley Poole's character development significant in 'National Treasure: Edge of History'?

Yes, Riley Poole's character development is significant as it showcases his growth from a sidekick to a more seasoned figure, highlighting his knowledge and experience while navigating the challenges faced by the new generation.

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