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Pocahontas StoryBook: Pocahontas David Ogden Stares (1995-2012) Real Man John RatcliffeGills de RaisUncle Ruckus Racist, greedy, delusional, ruthless, haughty, cold, dishonest, rude, rude, ractor, cruel, selfish, angry, sleazy, spiteful, sarcastic, arrogant, power-hungry, stubborn, grumpy, condescending, cunning, disrespectful, vengeful, imperious, pompous, hateful, sadistic, rough, harsh, angry, vile, contemptuous, offensive, xenophobic, bigoted, ambitious, obsessive, dishonest tall, obese, long black hair tied in 2 short pigtails with red ribbons, briefly mustachioed, goatee on the bottom of the mouth, thick black eyebrows, green eyes, The Governor's Lavender Eyelids (formerly) Prisoner to gain a respected position in the UK by accumulating gold from Virginia Wiggins, John Smith, Thomas, Ben and Lon (all previously), Jesters Gold, Power, Recognition, Glory, Women, White Supremacy, Get Your Way, Chess, Wine, Eat Native American Chicken lies, predators, people getting in his way, the popularity of John Smith, being unpopular, mutiny, not getting his way, being gagged and chained, Thomas His sword, rifle/musket, dagger, and flint pistol gets arrested for his treason crimes. This is my land! I make laws here! And I say that anyone who looks at an Indian so much as he does without killing him in plain sight will be judged for treason and hanged! Ratcliffe Smith Governor Ratcliffe is the chief antagonist of Disney's 1995 animated feature film Pocahontas and Pocahontas II: A Journey to the New World. Reference Personality Like most Disney villains, Ratcliffe is very power hungry. He is incredibly greedy, as evidenced by his insatiable craving for gold, which would make him a very rich man. He is also very xenophobic, ruthless, cruel, heartless, abusive, manipulative and incredibly racist. While he exudes great confidence and gives the impression that it is rather in vain, Ratcliffe actually seems to have a rather dim view of himself, acknowledging in a sad voice that he has never been a popular man. In addition to what his peers in court consider him a pathetic social climber, this seems designed to make him a slightly sympathetic character, despite his villainous nature. His mission to colonize America is his last chance to make a name for himself. Ratcliffe's lack of self-esteem contrasts with the egomania of most Disney villains, such as Gaston, which makes him somewhat unique. Despite the self-confident popularity, Ratcliffe seems rather charismatic and manages to command the respect of his troops until the climax Film. This continues in the second film, as shown when Ratcliffe manages to manipulate King James several times, and as he is about to sail off with his armada, he riles up the excitement of his troops as they prepare to scour the world for wild parasites. Another thing that distances Ratcliffe from most of Disney's villains, and looks like Judge Claude Frollo, is that he actually thinks he's a good man and refuses to find fault with himself. He believes he is doing to be in the name of the crown and even goes so far as to call John Smith a liar, sees the land he found as his own, believes that Pocahontas told Smith to be a lie and even calls his men traitors at the end when they turn against him and take him prisoner for treason (after he inadvertently shot Smith trying to shoot Powhatan). He also considers himself powerful because he threatens his people that he will have them hanged or executed when they turn to him at the end of the film. The men, however, are not discouraged by this menace, and Thomas, who took control, further orders the men: And gag him as well. Ratcliffe is calm and collected for most of the two films. For example, when John Smith tells him that there is no gold in Virginia, Ratcliffe, and not to lose his temper, insists that it is a lie and will hang those who refuse to shoot Native Americans. He does get excited from time to time, but easily calms down. Ratcliffe is also sarcastic, as he praises John Smith for saving Thomas, which means he doesn't really care if Thomas drowned or not. In the second film, he flirts with Pocahontas at the ball and sarcastically mocks the death of John Smith. Ratcliffe is also somewhat lazy and indulgent, as shown in the first film, where he just slouches from eating rich food while settlers do all the manual labor of digging gold and surviving on outdated and unappetizing supplies. The physical look of Ratcliffe is a tall and obese man with long black hair tied up in short pigtails with red ribbons, thick black eyebrows, and notable lavender eyelids. Most often it can be seen in a long-sleeved pink shirt with a long V-cut under a purple coat with a lavender collar and cuffs, black overlays on the chest and waist, as well as a purple colonial hat with a blue feather on a black stripe with a turquoise medallion lying on the neck to top off his refined look. He also wears knee-length purple trousers, lavender socks, black colonial boots and a red cape. In his imagination at the King's Ball, he wore a gold-and-yellow version of his uniform with a red medallion. The appearance of Pocahontas Governor Ratcliffe in Pocahontas. Ratcliffe leads an expedition to Virginia to find gold and other wealth (which he wants to keep for himself). He can tell any of the other crew members his real reason is going and reads the adventure of our lives and freedom of speech to hide it. When they see the land, Ratcliffe meets with John Smith, whom the team admires, about his plan to fight savages and dirty little pagans (what he calls Native Americans), and Smith assures that his success and meeting are over. Ratcliffe arrives on the virginia shore shortly after Smith, Thomas, and Ben and Lon do, and then asserts the land (and all the wealth he has) in the name of King James and the title settlement of Jamestown. After Smith goes in search of Native Americans, Ratcliffe orders some men to build a fort and clean the ship, and the rest dig for gold. In the build-up to the song Mine, Mine, it reminds the men that the Spaniards found mountains of gold when they came to the New World, and now it is their turn to make a name for themselves for England and themselves. Unfortunately, the search for men is nothing, and, moreover, a few warriors native America spy on the settlers, which Ratcliffe panics, and a battle broke out between the settlers and the warriors, during which Thomas almost shot Ratcliffe by accident, and the governor himself wounded one of the soldiers named Namontak, forcing them to retreat. The men celebrate, but Ratcliffe, knowing that Native Americans will return in large numbers, orders his men to return to the camp, bring the rest of the ship's guns ashore and finish the construction of the fort. He then punishes Thomas' ineptitude on the battlefield and warns him that if he does not learn to shoot correctly, he will never be considered a man; this leaves Thomas with a low self-esteem. A few days later, as the men finish the fort, Ratcliffe begins to panic because after such a large digging, he and his men still have not found gold at all. He struggles to figure out what he misses when Wiggins, his servant, stumbles into his tent, apparently shot in the head with an arrow. Ratcliffe is in shock, but Wiggins happily notes that it's a joke, making the structure itself with the help of a broken arrow. Angry, Ratcliffe snatches it from him and makes fun of the thing as silly, but then, it gives him an idea of why they didn't find the gold. Ratcliffe rejects this, explaining his belief that Native Americans hide gold, and begins to form a plan to take it away from them. He then goes out to find John Smith, only to find that he is gone and sends Ben and Lon, who are dozing against the wall of the fort to find him. Later that evening, after John Smith returns from an alleged scouting ground, Ratcliffe orders him men to battle so they can destroy Native Americans and take gold. But Smith tells Ratcliffe that there is no gold and that they don't need to fight Native Americans because he's already met one of them. Instead, he invites Native Americans to help them by showing them their land. Ratcliffe, however, refuses to believe it. He declares: This is my land! I make laws here! And I say that anyone who looks at an Indian so much as he does without killing him in plain sight will be judged for treason and hanged! Later, when he sees John Smith running away that night, Ratcliffe finds Thomas, who also saw John leave. Ratcliffe orders him to follow John and find out where he is going. He throws Thomas a musket and tells him to shoot any Native American he sees. Before Thomas leaves, he tells him that he is a sleepy sailor and a bad excuse for the soldier and leaves him with a warning not to disappoint him again. He later eavesdrops on people talking about smith's capture (Smith was attacked by a warrior named Kokum, whom Thomas quickly shot during the battle, but he was ordered to flee the scene for Smith to take the blame) and decides to wage war against Native Americans to save Smith, destroy the savages and take their gold for himself (although he just tells his men that this is solely their rescue mission). After both sides go to each other, they are suddenly stopped by Pocahontas, who tells everyone that they have been led to the path of hatred. All men on both sides are deeply touched by the love and wisdom of women and drop their arms. Now the ex-combatants are making it clear that there will be no battle. Ratcliffe is the only one who is untouched by this, however, and orders his men to open fire anyway, thinking it's a trick, but they refuse. Indignant, Ratcliffe grabs a gun from one of his men and prepares to shoot Pouhatan himself. John Smith sees it, jumps in the way and takes a bullet (though not fatally). Finally, seeing Ratcliffe for the corrupt, greedy monster he really is, and realizing that Smith was right all along, and they never had to listen to him in the first place (even when he was trying to defend himself by saying it was Smith's own fault to step in the way of the bombing), Thomas, Ben, Lon and other rebel settlers, disarming, chaining and gagged the governor and sending him back to England in disgrace to face punishment for their rebellion against him. Journey to the New World by Ratcliffe in Pocahontas II: A Journey to the New World. Ratcliffe returns in the sequel Pocahontas II: Journey to the New World as the main antagonist once again, where his personality changes from simple greed to pure threat. Apparently, King James at the time between the two films, he fabricated his own version of events in Jamestown to involve John Smith as a traitor, and despite the impossibility of his honesty, he easily believed the king (mainly because of their close, personal friendship) and sent to capture Smith for questioning along with some soldiers. In the ensuing fight, Ratcliffe tells Smith: Unfortunately. I would so much rather see you hanged, knocked Smith off the building to his apparent death in the canal, and tells King James that Smith died in an accident while in custody, despite Ratcliffe's attempts to save him; unbeknownst to anyone, it is part of Ratcliffe's plot to go to war against the Powhatan nation and find the gold he still believes they possess, all the while to avenue their enemies and escape punishment for talks to prevent war, returns with Pocahontas instead. Ratcliffe immediately conspires to get rid of her, persuading James to invite Pocahontas to hunt the ball, where he planned to bait the bear with a buffoon, believing that her wild instincts would lead her to protest. Pocahontas, at first, strikes the king with his manners taught by Rolf, but naturally resents the bear baiting, especially when the snobbish aristocrats present at the ceremony do not laugh at the torture of the creature and openly insult Ratcliffe and King James, calling them savages. Ratcliffe convinces King James to put her in prison and sentence her to death for it, and he is allowed to take his armada to Jamestown for the war with the Powhatans. However, unbeknownst to Ratcliffe, his lies are finally exposed when John Smith, who survived his ordeal with Ratcliffe, assists Rolfe in breaking Pocahontas from prison and then posing in the king's yard with them. Realizing that he was deceived, King James orders to stop Ratcliffe. In a subsequent battle, after the armada is successfully stopped, Ratcliffe tries to end Pocahontas' life until Smith intervenes. Two fights, with Smith eventually disarming Ratcliffe. However, in a sneaky move, Ratcliffe pulls the gun on Smith and almost kills him for real, but subdued Rolf and then threw overboard Smith. Before he falls into the river, Smith ironically jokes over Ratcliffe's earlier remark: Unfortunately. I'd rather see you hanged. Ratcliffe reached the shore, where they are waiting for King James and his soldiers. He makes a last and weak attempt to lie to King James, who had already learned the truth about Ratcliffe's betrayal by this point, coldly tells his now former friend: No more lies, and orders his men it while like from his carriage in disgust. Ratcliffe's sentence for treason is unknown, although in reality he would have been sentenced to life imprisonment and/or executed, as well as stripped of his position as governor. House of Mouse Ratcliffe appears as a minor guest character in the show. He appears in an episode of House of Genius, where he can be seen at a table with Pouhatan, and again at Humphrey in the House, where he can be seen at a table with Wiggins, In Mickey's Magical Christmas: Snow in the House of Mouse, Ratcliffe is one of the many Disney character guests to be trapped inside on Christmas Eve. Although he does not appear in Mickey's House of Villains, it is believed that he was involved in the capture. Disney Parks Ratcliffe poses for a photo in one of Disney's parks. Walt Disney World Ratcliffe and his men claim that the mountain is the land of King James and fights the Indians, whom he still considers savages. Ratcliffe also appears in the interactive Wizards of the Magic Kingdom, on Frontier and Freedom Square. Here Ratcliffe is released from Aide prison (under the quise of Lord Indigo) and makes a deal to take control of Frontierland in exchange for the Crystal of the Magic Kingdom. Ratcliffe agrees, but soon enough Ratcliffe starts to panic, as the crystal is nowhere to be seen, but being that Pocahontas knows the ground, he kidnaps Miko to get her to help him find it. Fortunately, the guests defeat Ratcliffe, blasting him to fall off the ship. In 2013, Ratcliffe joined other Disney villains at the Unleash the Villains event at Disney Hollywood Studios. The relationship of Wiggins Wiggins (also voiced by Stiers) is Ratcliffe's servant. In stark contrast to his villainous host. Wiggins is carefree, timid and very playful (in one scene, he is generally not considered an evil character, he nevertheless seems to be very loval to his master and Ratcliffe, although the constantly annoying of his shenanigans seems to trust him implicitly. At the end of the first film, he regrets seeing Ratcliffe for the greedy monster he really is, and even sobbing. He does not appear in Pocahontas II: A Journey to the New World. Percy was Ratcliffe's home pug. He seems to be a spoiled and seem irritable personality, especially in the first film. Percy and Miko spend most of the first war movie, usually for a meal with Meeko always coming out on top, only to appear to become friends by the end of the film. Percy leaves Ratcliffe at this moment and stays with Pocahontas and her people. Ratcliffe never reacts to the fact Percy is no longer with him in Pocahontas II. have a change of heart and does not want to return to Ratcliffe, at some point cringing under the carriage in the presence of Ratcliffe. Gallery Trivia Unlike most other disney animated villains, Ratcliffe is one of two villains based on the actual historical man, with the other Prince John of Robin Hood. Although Ratcliffe was generally based on John Ratcliffe, his overall design bore a closer resemblance to Gilles de Rais. In the foreground of Ratcliffe's first scene in the film, a rat can be seen aboard the ship in exactly the same way (thus pronouncing the rat in Ratcliffe). Although Ratcliffe is the main antagonist of the first film, he does not interact with Pocahontas until their first true encounter in the second film. In the final scenes of both films, Ratcliffe wears armor. Governor Ratcliffe's figure doesn't come with a hat or a cloak. In real life, the leader of John Smith's ship on his way to America was Christopher Newport, not Ratcliffe. The real version of Governor John Ratcliffe's life was a much more positive figure since he never tried to destroy the Indigenous people, but actually tried to negotiate with them and the war broke out because of the hostility of Chief Powathan, ratcliffe's portrayal in the second film is very incompatible with the first film in which he claims he was never a popular amoung the Royal Court, who consider him a pathetic social climber that's not in every assignment. His mission to colonize America was, in his own words, his last chance to prove himself, and he failed. Yet in the second film he is a respected figure in a British court even going so far as to be able to manipulate the king himself acting as his closest adviser. Governor Ratcliffe's external connections to Vicky's villains