Allies & Relationships

Important Allies/Friends: Riddick is not one to make friends easily, but a few individuals have earned his respect or trust. One such ally is Lynn Silverman, a young girl he encountered on the Dark Athena mercenary ship. Riddick risked himself to protect Lynn and ultimately rescued her from the mercenaries, ensuring she escaped safely. This shows that while he is gruff, he will bond with and defend innocents (especially children) who come under his care. Another notable ally-by-circumstance was Jagger Valance, an older inmate in the Butcher Bay mines. Jagger was a man of influence among the prisoners, and he wished to escape alongside Riddick; Riddick agreed to team up with Valance during that attempt. The two worked together briefly, and Jagger’s guidance in the underworld of the prison was valuable (unfortunately, that alliance was cut short – see losses). In his earlier life, Riddick had very few true friends – most relationships were transactional. However, a mystical figure named Shirah can be considered an ally of sorts: Shirah appeared in visions to Riddick, guiding him at critical moments (such as giving him the “eyes shine” in Butcher Bay). Though Riddick didn’t fully understand her, she acted in his interest. Many who might have become friends either died or only crossed paths briefly.

Romantic Relationships: None.

Mentors/Teachers: Riddick did not have a traditional mentor, but he did learn from a few hardened individuals in his journey. During his military phase, he would have been instructed by drill sergeants and superior officers, though none are specifically named. In prison, the closest figure to a mentor was Jagger Valance. Jagger was an experienced convict who had a lot of sway in the Butcher Bay mine workforce; he not only collaborated with Riddick on escape plans but also presumably shared wisdom about surviving the prison and dealing with the guards. Their short-lived alliance could be seen as Jagger imparting some knowledge (for example, Jagger knew about the existence of certain tunnels and creature weaknesses which aided their plan). Aside from that, Riddick’s “teachers” were circumstance and pain. Every fight, every betrayal taught him lessons – effectively, experience is his mentor. He often recalls bits of advice or rules he’s derived from life (like how he mentions the animal side of the brain staying awake in cryo-sleep – a lesson from countless transports). In a spiritual sense, Shirah might be considered a mentor figure, nudging him towards understanding his potential. But at this point, he regarded Shirah’s presence as more of a hallucination than a mentor.

Pets/Companions: None.

Enemies & Rivals

Main Enemies: Riddick has a long list of enemies, mainly because he is a wanted man who has angered many powerful people. His archenemy is arguably William J. Johns, the bounty hunter (and erstwhile cop) who has hunted Riddick across the galaxy. Johns is the man who captured Riddick and brought him to Butcher Bay, and even after Riddick escaped, Johns kept pursuing him relentlessly. Their cat-and-mouse game is personal – Riddick stabbed Johns and nearly killed him during one escape attempt, and Johns in turn is determined to either bring Riddick in or kill him. Other major enemies include prison authorities like Warden Hoxie of Butcher Bay – Hoxie made it his mission to break Riddick, only to end up killed during Riddick’s escape. Abbott, a sadistic guard in Butcher Bay, was another enemy who tormented Riddick; Riddick eventually killed Abbott during the escape sequence. In the wider universe, mercenary crews are his frequent foes. The entire crew of the merc ship Dark Athena became Riddick’s enemies when they captured him and Johns. Riddick ultimately defeated their leader, Gale Revas – he literally pushed Revas down an elevator shaft to her death during their final confrontation – and eliminated her second-in-command, Spinner.

Key Rivals: In addition to outright enemies, Riddick has a few recurring rivals – individuals who aren’t simply trying to kill him for money, but who engage him in more personal contests. Johns fits here as well; their relationship can be seen as a rivalry as much as predator-and-prey. Another rival figure is Gale Revas (before he killed her) because she was essentially a dark mirror of Riddick – a merc captain with her own combat prowess, who hunted him for pride as much as profit. “Spinner” (Revas’s cyborg lieutenant) piloted a mech suit against Riddick in an attempt to best him one-on-one, making for a rival duel (Riddick won). Within the prison population, Riddick often made rivals out of the toughest inmates: for example, in Butcher Bay, the inmate gang leader Rust became a rival of sorts until Riddick eliminated him to spark the riot.

Betrayals Faced: Betrayal is a recurring theme in Riddick’s life. The earliest major betrayal was by the Company he served – after Riddick spoke out against their cruelty, they betrayed him by branding him a criminal and locking him away, rather than addressing the issue. This taught Riddick a lifelong lesson about trust in institutions. Another betrayal (or at least severe letdown) came at Butcher Bay: after Riddick went through hell to escape, Johns betrayed any alliance by recapturing him (Johns had helped him kill the warden, but still intended to keep Riddick as his prisoner for the bounty). In fact, Johns had a pattern of making deals with Riddick and then double-crossing him – for instance, early in Butcher Bay when Riddick was first caught, Johns feigned being a lawman rather than a merc, essentially lying about his intentions. We also see betrayal in smaller forms: one of Riddick’s temporary allies, Jagger Valance, accidentally shot Riddick during the chaos of their escape attempt – not an intentional betrayal, but it did foil Riddick’s plan at that moment. Moreover, Riddick generally feels betrayed by society at large; from his perspective, the universe dealt him a bad hand from birth. Personal betrayals have thus made him extremely guarded. It’s worth noting Riddick himself also betrays others when it serves him (he has left people to die or used them as bait if necessary), but when it comes to people he trusted, the betrayals he faced solidified his lone wolf outlook.