

Retribution and Freedom in The Fourth Branch of the Mabinogi

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Introduction:

What is The Four Branches of the Mabinogi?

- A classic Welsh literature book that takes place in the Middle Welsh.
- Written anonymously in the late 11th and 12th centuries.
- A narrative following the family of Carey, known as Pyderi in the original Welsh language.



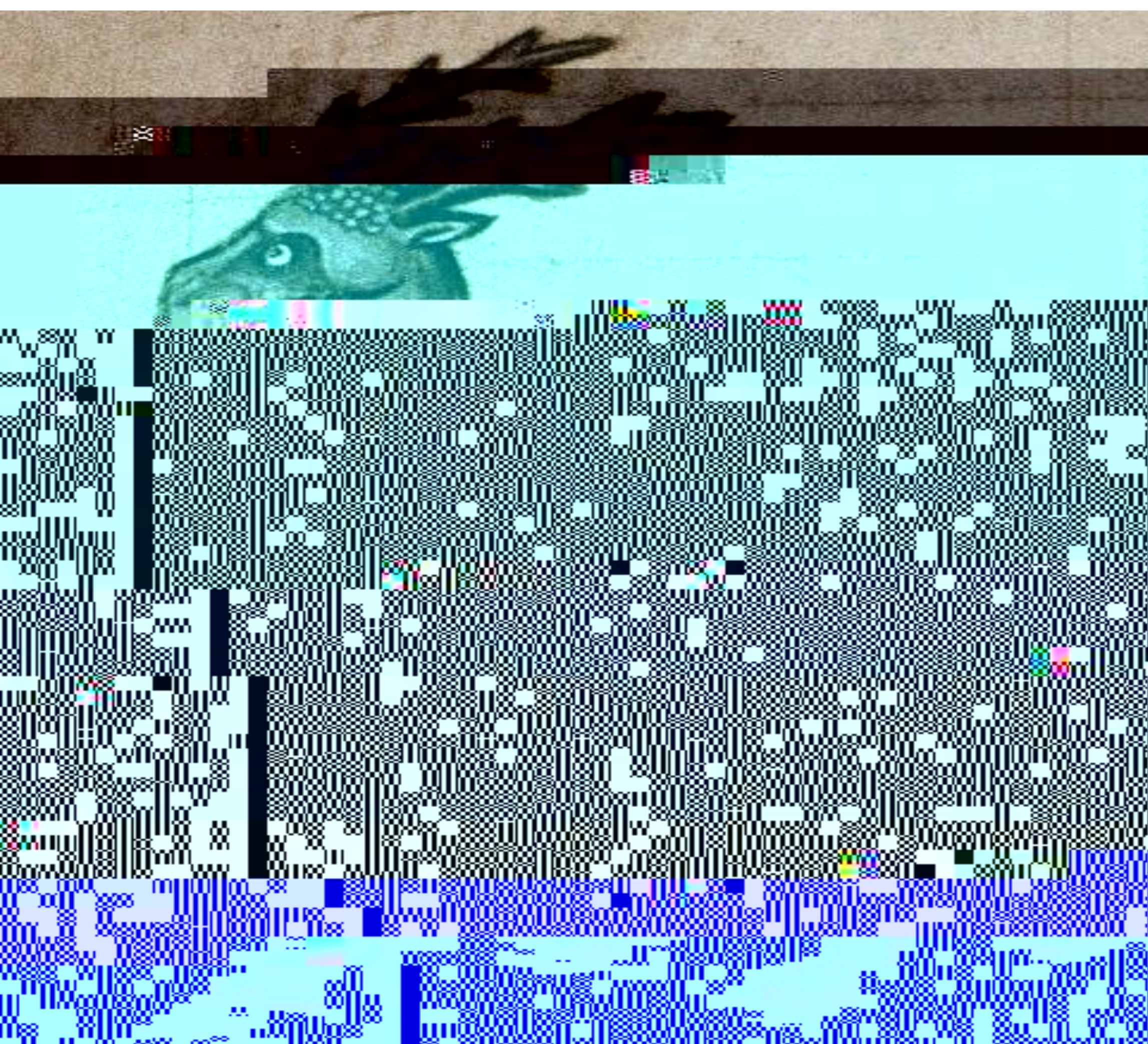
Wild Boar, Koninklijke Bibliotheek - Medieval Illuminated Manuscripts

Objectives:

- Explain the use of animal transformation magic as:
- punishment for crimes
- symbolism for freedom
- significance of animals chosen
- evidence of strong family ties and complicated moral code

Methodology:

- Close reading of the primary text
- Research into medieval animals and symbolism



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