

# 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 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- A narrative following the family of Carey, known as Pyderi in the original Welsh language.



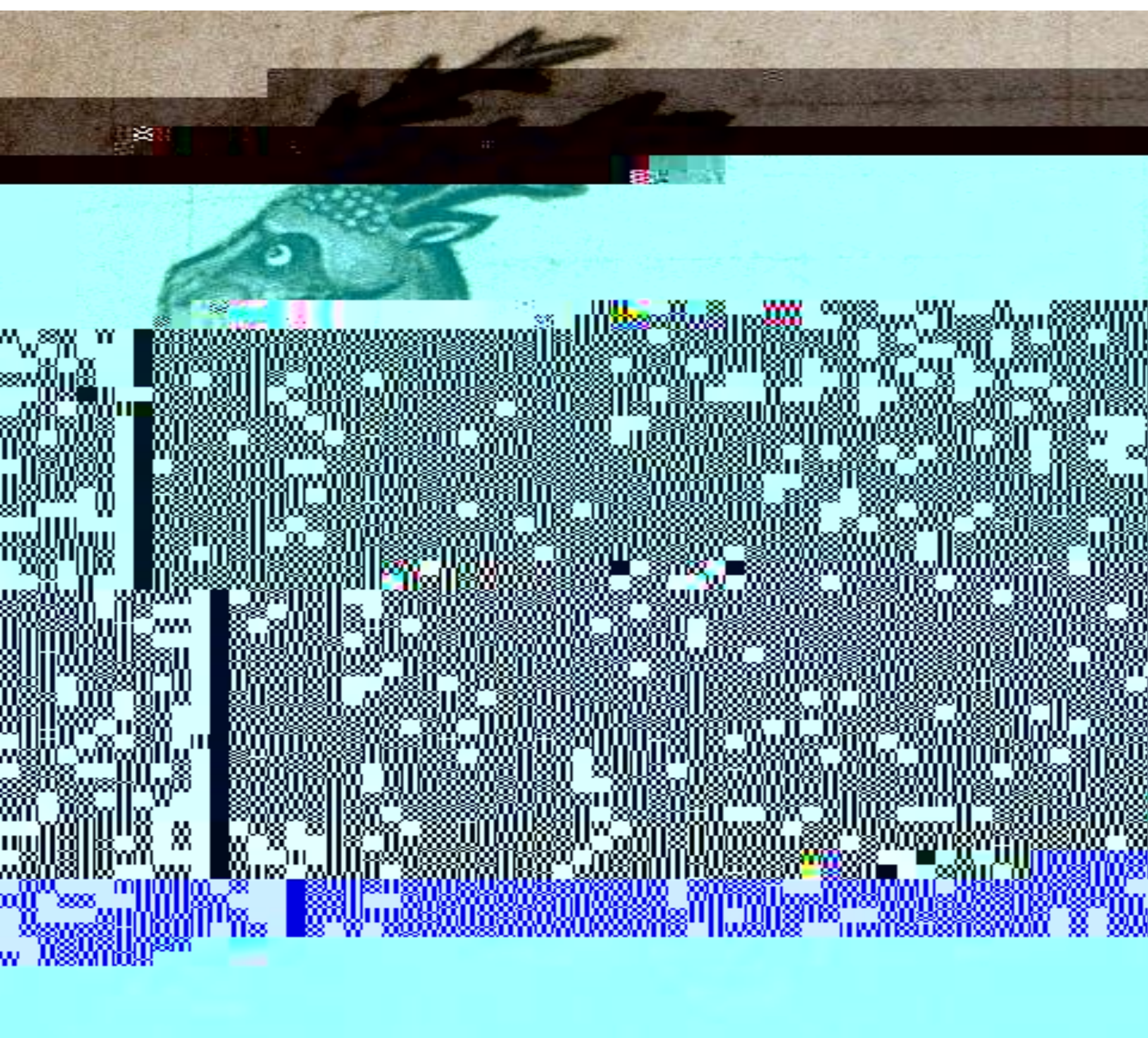
Wild Boar, Koninklijke Bibliotheek -  
Medieval Illuminated Manuscripts

## 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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