Twitter Thread by **Erik Wade**





Modern viewers may be horrified by medieval images of people hunting unicorns, but--to judge by medieval images of unicorns--medieval people may have seen unicorns as a little....murdery.

(BL, MS Sloane 3544, f. 4) #MedievalTwitter



When not being hunted, medieval unicorns mostly seem to be attacking other creatures, like this poor elephant.

(BL, MS Royal 2 B VII, f. 100v)



Or these bears.

(BL, MS Royal 10 E IV, f. 157)



Or this lion.

(BL, MS Royal 2 B VII, f. 190v)



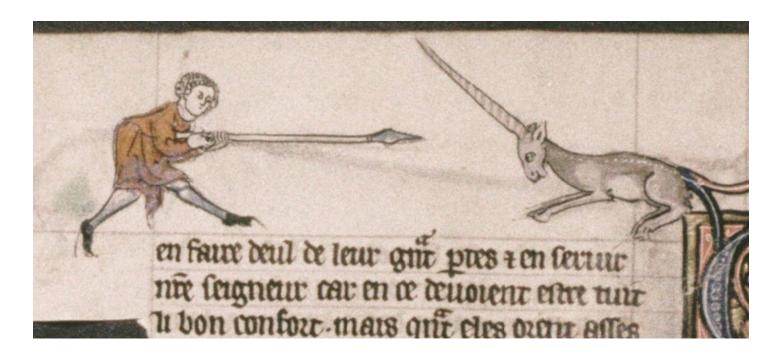
Here's a whole troop of them fighting Alexander the Great.

(BL, MS Royal 15 E VI, f. 21)



Fighting this man.

(Bodleian Library, MS Ashmole 828, f. 7v)



Here's a common allegorical image, where the tree represents a person's life and the unicorn represents.....death.

(Morgan, MS M.729, f. 354v)



Here's another version of the same image.

(BL, MS Additional 37049, f. 19v)

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"You've got to come down sometime, dude!"

(Morgan, MS M.763, f. 251r)



Here's St Anthony being tormented by demons, including one in the shape of a very threatening unicorn.

(BnF, MS Français 313, f. 298)



"I've got you cornered, buddy."

(Morgan, MS M.1093, f. 154r)



They even attack marginal decorations!

(Morgan, MS W.82, f 205v)



More marginal carnage.

(BL, MS Additional 42130 f. 15)



A unicorn gleefully menaces a terrified lion.

(Bodleian Library, MS Douce 48, f. 221v)



In conclusion, medieval unicorns woke up every day and chose violence.

