



Week 2 – Notes

Beowulf

- Archetype of the Savior Hero
 - Shamanic Journey
 - Pagan vs. Christian Ideologies
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- II. 8th Century Text – Manuscript Cotton Vitellius XV
 - III. 1st English Epic
 - a. Scandinavian, as was England at the time.
 - b. Nationalistic
 - c. Scop-bard using instrument and reciting poetry (ex: for King)
 - IV. Wer-Gild (Man-Price) → Sum of money for loss of family member to murder
 - V. Hero (Always does certain things):
 - a. Mythic Journey (crossing body of water)
 - b. Descent into underworld
 - c. Rebirth
 - d. Cycle (repeat)
 - VI. Shamanic: Pagan shaman/healer
 - VII. Is this text Pagan or Christian? *Still* debated by critics.