

BEAST PACK

6 GRUNTY ANIMALS

TO PRINT & COLOR

These coloring book pages are reproduced from *Grunty Animals to Color Volume One*, *A Coloring Book of 36 Classic Illustrations Inspired by Creatures from Der Naturen Bloeme* (The Flower of Nature), a Manuscript Illuminated Circa 1350, Text By Jacob van Maerlant Circa 1270 After Earlier Works — which is #2 in the Bijoux Coloring Books series from Gems Press.

Also see *Grunty Animals to Color Volume Two*; *Weird Tales to Color Volumes One & Two*; *Chromatic Wood Type Specimens to Color Volumes One & Two*; *World's Smokers to Color Volumes One & Two*; and *Dante's Divine Comedy to Color*. Plus related posters, mugs, this and other downloadable PDFs, etc., all at gemspress.earth.

wikimedia.org shares over 300 colored image files from the illuminated manuscript that these coloring pages are based on. At right we show the original images for the 6 Grunty Animals in this Beast Pack.

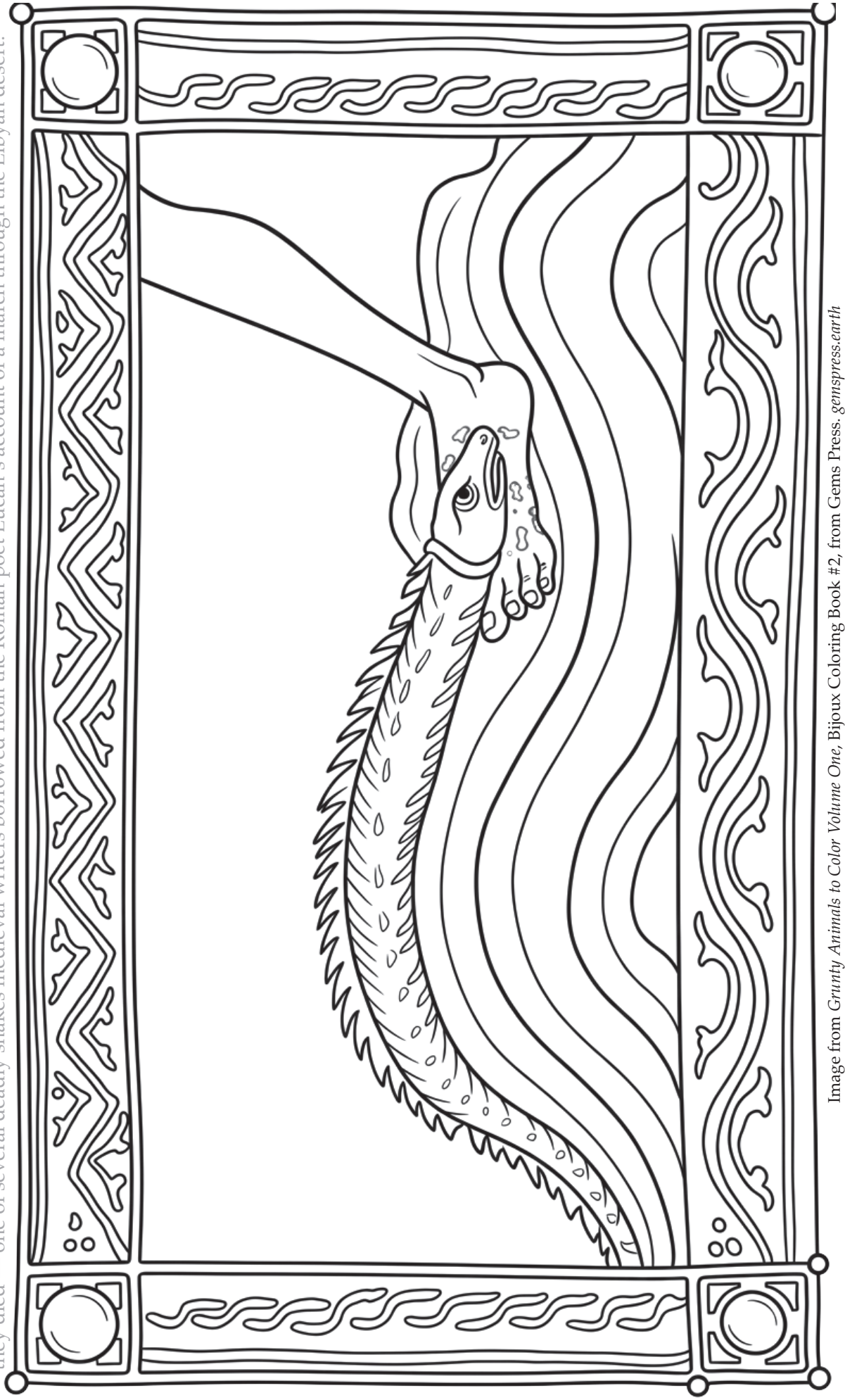


Critos • Paired in the old bestiaries with the hydrus that preyed on it, this scaled river-beast was medieval Europe's best guess at a crocodile, drawn from garbled travelers' tales rather than firsthand sight.



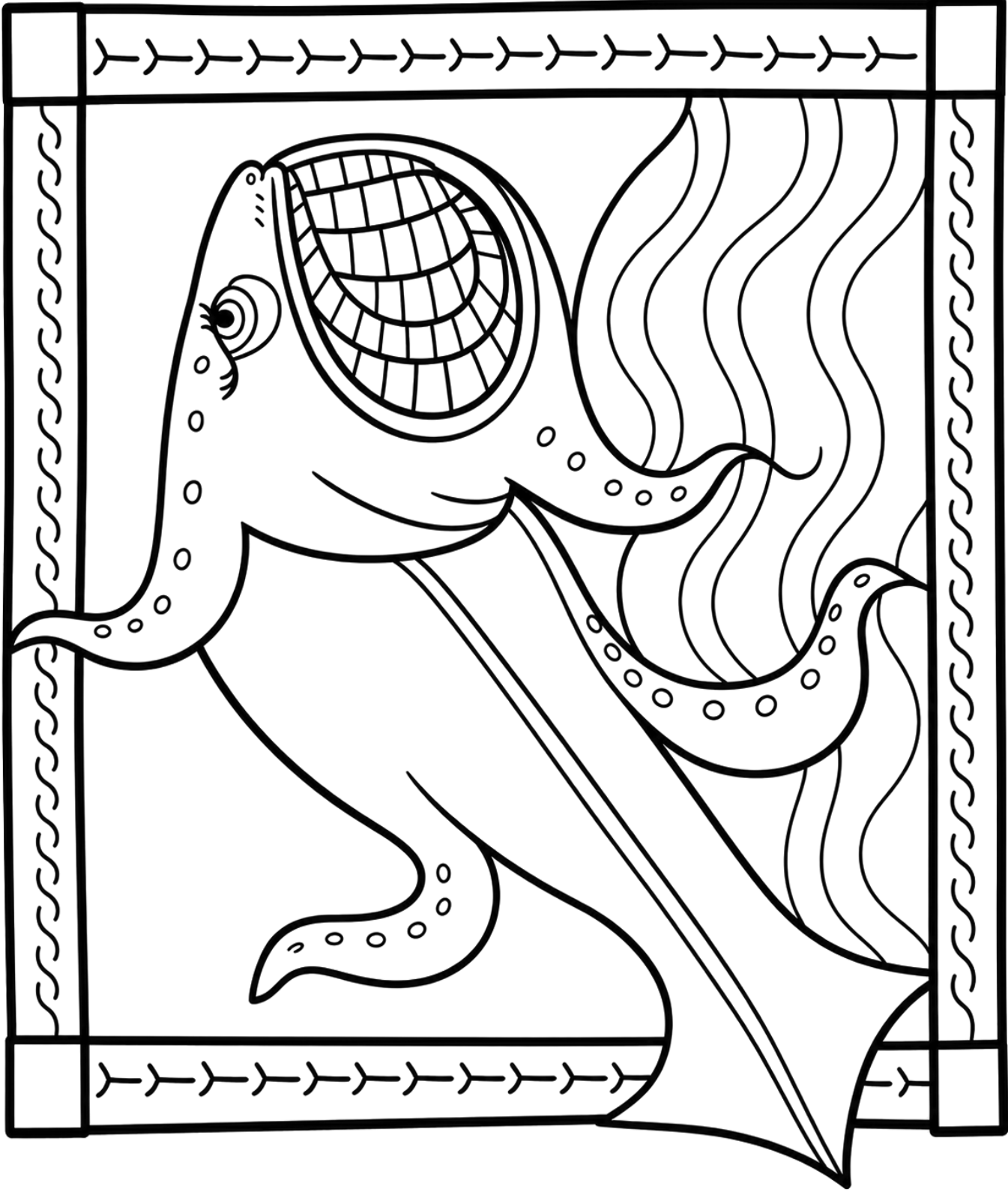
Image from *Grunty Animals to Color Volume One*, Bijoux Coloring Book #2, from Gems Press. gemspress.earth

Emorrois (Hemorrhoids) • Named for the Greek word for “bleeding,” this serpent was said to make its victims sweat blood from every pore until they died — one of several deadly snakes medieval writers borrowed from the Roman poet Lucan’s account of a march through the Libyan desert.

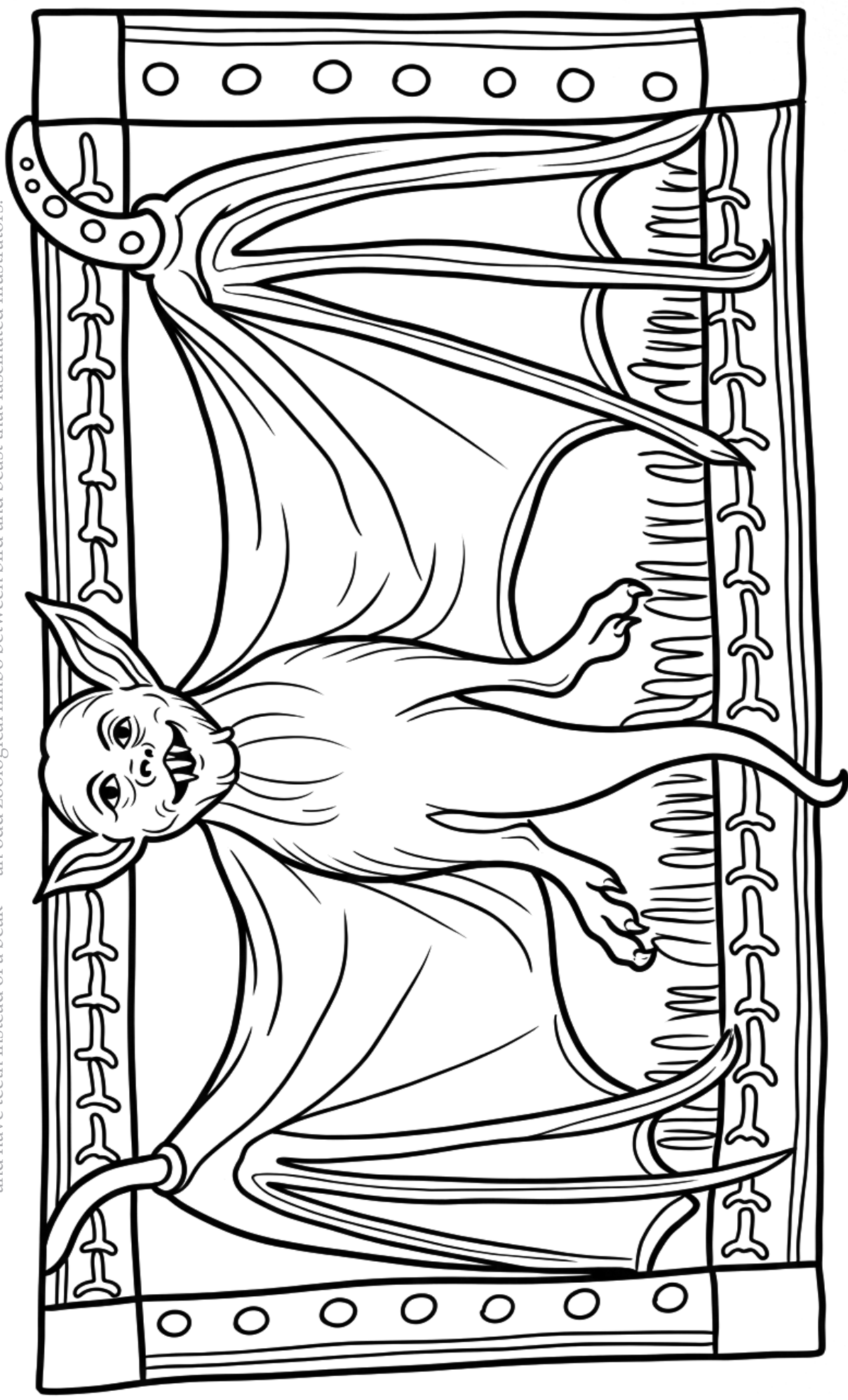


Ziphius (ziphius)

- Likely inspired by real beaked whales occasionally sighted or stranded on European coasts, the ziphius was drawn as a grim, saw-toothed monster capable of swamping ships — the name *Ziphius* is still used today as the genus for Cuvier's beaked whale.



Vespertilio (bat) • Bats were the only "birds" in the medieval bestiary believed to nurse their young with milk and have teeth instead of a beak — an odd zoological limbo between bird and beast that fascinated illustrators.



Aves
paradisi
(bird of
paradise) •
European
writers
who had
never seen
a living
bird of
paradise
believed
the
exquisite
specimens
brought
back from
New
Guinea
— sold
without
feet, since
traders
removed
them for
transport
— had
no feet at
all, and
so spent
their entire
lives on the
wing.



Image from *Grunty Animals to Color Volume One*, Bijoux Coloring Book #2, from Gems Press. gemspress.earth

Locusta (locust) • Bestiaries linked the locust to the biblical plagues of Egypt, and medieval naturalists also correctly noted that locust swarms could darken the sky and strip a field bare within hours — a phenomenon still seen in locust outbreaks today.

