

Macbeth – Dogs

Consider the reference to dogs in the following passage:

Ay, in the catalogue ye go for men;
As **hounds** and **greyhounds**, **mongrels**, **spaniels**, **curs**,
Shoughs, **water-rugs** and **demi-wolves**, are clept
All by the name of dogs: the valu'd file
Distinguishes the **swift**, the **slow**, the **subtle**,
The **housekeeper**, the **hunter**, every one
According to the gift which bounteous nature
Hath in him clos'd; whereby he does receive
Particular addition, from the bill
That writes them all alike; and so of men.
Now, if you have a station in the file,
Not I'th' worst rank of manhood, say't;
And I will put that business in your bosoms,
Whose execution takes your enemy off,
Grapples you to the heart and love of us,
Who wear our health but sickly in his life,
Which in his death were perfect.
(III, i, 91-107)

