

JORVIK

Viking speak: Do you remember Kristen?
You were a research assistant at the hospital, having
recently graduated college. And there was Kristen
on the 4th floor, the most beautiful girl from high school
with a nurse on either side of her walking
down the hall. The Neuropsychiatric Institute
made her flat face look historic, Norse. White fumes
of antipsychotics in the air like ancient tools.
You looked away, Sandra, but
Oh she recognized you from the night you dropped acid
and went to see the *Dark Side of the Moon*
laser show at the planetarium in Hollywood.
I know bodies can survive in peat forever.
I've seen the wheat-colored hair of the bog people
at museum exhibits. I have pressed my cheek to the glass
case of the missing. Kristen, could they be you? Could you?