

# Kristin Hersh, Torque

my lip gloss froze off  
outside the airport  
on a hard bench  
beside a dingy Santa  
i searched every face

what are you?  
animated soft tissue  
shifting neuropeptides  
a social pyromaniac  
a plate spinner

and it's smoky around you  
i can hardly breathe

i watched your eyes go dark  
i saw them look blank  
i wasn't there  
i saw it in pictures  
after the fact

and it's smoky around you  
i can hardly breathe