

My story “Kodachrome” emerged from a writing exercise given at the Kenyon Review Writers Workshop by Brad Kessler. I was given a dark photograph of a figure standing in front of a window surrounded by a corona of light, an image that shows up in the story when Jasper photographs Hannah in front of her family’s bay window.

When seeing a magazine of nude photos for the first time Hannah focuses on the colors and not the nudity. She is determined to see herself in all her colors, a wish that is finally achieved with the photograph that is taken in the nursing home of her blue eyes.

What makes the story surprising is Hannah’s complicity as she takes her clothes off for Jasper’s photograph.

This is one a series of linked stories based in the town of Slocum, Kentucky in the mid- 1970s as its ways are chronicled by traveling photographer Jasper Macks. The story “Swimming” that appears in the Fall 2011 issue of the South Carolina Review is part of the same story cycle.