

ALPAY ULKU

## ICE WALKING, COLUMBIA ICE FIELD, JASPER NATIONAL PARK, ALBERTA

The lake is a leaf with blue edges and intricate pale blue veins. It makes its sugar from the cold, and feeds the ice, which spreads its roots like a chestnut tree, grubbing for nutrients, for fish in deep fish sleep huddled between the rocks like fossils from a younger age. Long slide of melt water frozen to glass, polished by snow, moraine dredged up from February's thaw: elements added to a base metal to make it more than what it was, make it so it doesn't break. Your heart, twice tempered, but more than two times harder.