SAVING THE GREAT LAKES

## NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE

LIVES AND LEGENDS IN THE ARCTIC

"I placed you in the loft to sleep, but I feared the snake."

- LYRICS FROM A SYRIAN REFUGEE'S LULLABY

# LOVE SONGS What the lullables we sing to children reveal about hope,

fears, and the world at large

NGM.COM ₹295 VOL. 8 ISSUE 5

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#### On the Cover

Badamgarav Naran sings her youngest of three, Khankharidag, a lullaby inside their home in Ulaanbaatar. 'When I sing the lullaby, I feel I am able to give my children twice the love,' she says.

HANNAH REYES MORALES

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केन्द्रीय पुस्तकालय Central L सिविकम विश्वविद्यालय Sikkim University

As Seen From the Ground Quarantined in the Veluwe region of the

Netherlands, a photographer documents the many fungi in his yard and nearby woods.

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHS
BY JAN VERMEER

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THE BIG IDEA

Celebrating in

the Pandemic Lockdowns limit togetherness. But the holidays' love and light are still within reach. BY ANNE LAMOTT

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Saber-Toothed Giant We know more about its bite and its build, thanks to new studies. BY FERNANDO G. BAPTISTA AND PATRICIA HEALY



ALSO Undersea Diversity



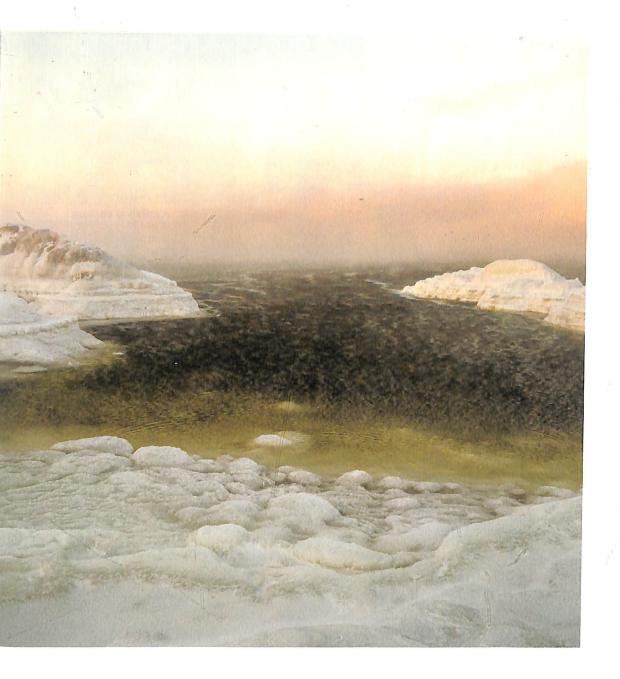
CAPTURED

Color Chemistry

From black-hole black to hotter-than-hot pink, scientists make color visible in new ways. BY SARAH GIBBENS

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Crowns of Flowers A World of Lucky Charms



#### FEATURES

#### The World's Lullabies

So Great, So Fragile

The Great Lakes hold 84 percent of North America's surface freshwater and helped make the United States an agricultural and industrial powerhouse. But now climate change, pollution, and invasive species threaten what may be the continent's most valuable resource. BY TIM FOLGER PHOTOGRAPHS BY KEITH LADZINSKI

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Arctic Dreaming

In Russia's far north, a native returns to the memories and colors of the long polar night. STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHS BY EVGENIA ARBUGAEVA P. 94 Bites That Kill

As many as 138,000 people die each year from snakebites and another 400,000 are permanently disabled, says the World Health Organization. It has become a health crisis in sub-Saharan Africa, where getting treatment can be difficult and antivenoms are in short supply.

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHS BY THOMAS NICOLON

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