



ice out rumbles of spring...

by Ruth Markworth Harker

blue eyed sun bitten mid March
river coughs up winter ice
ragged chunks thick blue white
caked with grime kinship of
coffee drinkers on boardwalk
at Weather Center perch on
rough benches watch spectacle
steaming lattes in hand
text friends "ice jam gone out,
wow, you gotta see this" like
freight train roaring ice
gouges scours river bottom
current eddies whirlpools
rushes downriver to lake
grabs monster trees barrels
like toys fish tugs awash
in debris from upriver
break loose from moorings
hammered against dock by
ice jam from riverbed to surface
fishermen armed with pike staffs
helpless against roiling river

Photo: Ruth Markworth Harker