Jesus’ Son is somewhat a strange read all around, Johnson’s writing is strangely creative with a purposely warped perspective from which each story is told. That being said each story stands out in its own way, finding different points to press on the reader and yet Emergency might be the strangest I have read yet. The subject matter isn't exactly what makes this chapter stand out but more the prose it’s presented in, the story goes back and forth in time, the actions make very little sense, and the dialogue shifts between calm and cryptic. Reading it through once more I believe I realize its true significance and that the whole chapter feels like a dream. This would explain the attitudes of the doctors and patients, the ill explained/ advised road trip, and the constant non-sequiturs.

So then what meaning lies in the two paragraphs on page 84? It's thick with nonsense but the main question lies at the bottom of the first paragraph “I could understand how a drowning man might suddenly feel a deep thirst being quenched. Or how the slave might become a friend to his master.”. Acceptance seems to be the main moral he is trying to derive, in the face of a terrible situation it can be best to welcome it but then what is he intending to do, what is he accepting? Maybe it's the snow which gave way to a perfect morning, maybe it's his terrible life he is finally choosing to live with, or maybe he is looking forward to his end.