living with bovine tuberculosis

gareth enticott
“this rotten bastard of a disease! Even those who don’t have it carry it in their hearts”
“They were so far abandoned to the plague that they might sometimes even hope for nothing more than the sleep of plague and catch themselves thinking: Let’s have the disease and be done with it!”
‘They tended to avoid any gesture that was not absolutely necessary or which seemed to them to tax their strength too much’
disaster social capital
the candidate:
“one neighbour down there he just buys in from an old dealer and I wouldn’t want anything that came off there”
unwarranted survivals:

“This bloke is buying them all the time and he has never gone down and he has bought from TB infected herds or herds that have passed the test”
the prevention paradox:

“what you do to prevent it doesn’t seem to really have any effect on what rate of TB you go down with”.
fatalism:

“We think it's like Russian roulette, we don't have any control whatsoever ... Nothing we do will influence what will happen ”
“I don’t want to break the law - that's the last thing I want to do that because everything that is precious to me - the community, the people I live with, the people that live here, the sons and daughters that won't be going farming”
‘practices do not follow rules; rather, rules follow evolving practices’

‘In their search for inspiration, they tell stories’
‘learning is becoming a practitioner not learning about practice’
normalizing deviance

organizing the social
some protocols...
or ‘local universality’
learning to test
testing stories
situating the test
tying things together:  
the art of veterinary bricolage
living with disease:
organising relationships / local universality
‘Officialdom can never cope with something really catastrophic’