Writing the opening to a horror film

Following on from a previous activity where you were asked to note the action and dialogue of a scene, here's an activity where this will be extended to include creating the first two pages of a script. To do so, you'll need to consult your notes on action and dialogue from the previous resource and rewatch 03:08 to 05:11 of DON'T KNOCK TWICE (2016).

The aim here is to recreate what you think the script would look like, paying close attention to the key elements of a script including formatting. The clip is just over 2 minutes long so aim to make your script around 2 pages in length.

Secondly, the aim is to then improve your version of the script by utilising the 5 key aspects and techniques that make for an interesting and engaging opening. These are listed below as a reminder. You could also add more detail or change things if you wanted to really emphasise one or more of these key aspects and techniques.

Also included below are six images from this clip; they may be of some use in considering how the beginning of the film introduces key aspects and techniques-be sure to include these in your script.

Key aspects and techniques:
• Introduce your protagonist as soon as possible.
• Make sure to establish the genre.
• Create conflict immediately.
• Send your protagonist on a journey.