Suspense in “The Black Cat”

**Suspense**: Anxiety or apprehension resulting from an uncertain, undecided, or mysterious situation. Edgar Allan Poe is the master of suspense. He uses the following to create suspense in “The Black Cat’: (1) **Pacing**: advancing or developing something at a particular rate or tempo; (2) **Dangerous action**: self explanatory; (3) **Foreshadowing**: a literary device in which the author gives clues as to what will happen later.

**Directions**: Identify suspenseful scenes in “The Black Cat” and explain whether the suspense is created by pacing, dangerous action or foreshadowing.

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| **Example of Suspense** | **Pacing** | **Dangerous Action** | **Foreshadowing** |
| The Black Cat begins with the narrator sitting in a cell talking about how he is about to be executed. | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | I’m giddy with anticipation, wanting to know exactly what the narrator did to end up in this predicament. |
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