Tragedy and Comedy

Today we will begin to understand the main differences between two genres of play. We will examine texts to understand these differences.
What do you notice about this picture?

How would you caption it?

How many differences can you spot between the two ladies?
Two types of play

New words:

Pessimistic - the condition of believing things generally end up badly

Optimistic - the condition of believing things turn out for the best

Denouement - the finale of a drama

Tragedy is a genre of play where:

- A powerful or important person has their life ruined
- The outlook on the world is pessimistic
- The denouement (final part or Act) is a death or, often, many deaths
- Tragedy is bloody and supposed to cause pity and terror.

Comedy is a genre of play where:

- People fall in and out of love, but there is a lot of confusion
- The outlook on the world is optimistic
- The denouement is a marriage or, often, many marriages!
- Comedy is witty, amusing and treats the reader to puns and wordplay.
Look at the two extracts you have been given: can you work out which is Comedy and which is Tragedy?