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audience reviews

Little House on the Prairie, The Musical, California Musical Theatre (Broadway Sacramento)

Review: I went in prepared to hate the show. It actually was pretty good, especially the three young leads playing Laura, Alonzo and Mary. Laura was especially notable. The biggest problem, sadly enough, was Melissa Gilbert. She just couldn't sing the part and seemed like she was pressing because of it. I know the producers (and likely Ms. Gilbert included) see a return on investment with her drawing in old LHOTP fans, but the show is actually good enough that it doesn't need that hook. The actor playing Pa is a perfect example: strong performance and nothing like Michael Landon. My thought is they clean up a few sluggish spots, get a stronger Ma, and then they've got a really strong show with long-term potential. As it is now, you leave saying, "great show, but Melissa Gilbert shouldn't sing."

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