



from an interview with **Zarqa Nawaz**, creator of *Little Mosque on the Prairie*
(by Jennifer Hunter in *The Reader*, published Jul 06 2014)

Zarqa Nawaz: “At the beginning, people didn’t know who I was and what was happening and people thought I was making fun of Islam... Islamophobia was at a high. The first show was set in the mosque and it was a comedy. To some people this was a shock. That wasn’t done at the time. Certain Muslims feel you shouldn’t make fun of everything. Certain Muslims believe everything should be serious... Comedy and satire are still fairly new in the Muslim world, so it was a difficult concept for them to absorb.”