Why does Greece’s Odysseus roam For so long while Penelope’s home? It could be he won’t ask For directions — a task That’s too tough for his Y-chromosome.

(Chris Doyle, Ponder, Tex.)

It’s a stretch (let’s be frank) To suggest she could land Colin Firth. (Brendan Brany, Great Mills, Md.)

4      “Psycho”      At the end, when the cops finally come, All the murder and gore leaves them numb. From the way Norman’s dressed, They can tell that he’s stressed; Does he talk? No, he’s just keeping mum. (Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

2 Winner of the kangaroo-scrotum coin purse: “Forrest Gump” When viewed with objective lucidity, This film is of doubtful validity Because it’s notorious For saying it’s glorious To live a life based on stupidity. (Dixon Wragg, Santa Rosa, Calif.)

3 “Pride and Prejudice” (1995) Miss Elizabeth Bennet’s low birth, No connections and little net worth, Mom a twit, sis a skank —

“Dream of Jeannie” The love life of a brave astronaut’ll Be something a blond babe who’s hot’s. Enhancement. She’ll entrance If she wears harem pants, Calls him “Master” and lives in a bottle. (Chris O’Carroll, Pelham, Mass.)

“Keeping Up With The Kardashians” Do you know why the sisters Kardashians Have a show that they’re paid to look trashy in? The answer is sad: The world has gone mad, And talent has grown out of fashion. (Robert Schechter, Dix Hills, N.Y.)

“Gone With The Wind” Well, the film goes its windy old way, And it ends with a lousy cliche: We laugh or feel sorrow To learn that “tomorrow Is a’ (would you believe?) “nother day”? (Brian Allgar, Paris)

Still running — deadline Monday night — is our Google Translate contest. See wapo.st/inv977a.

Honorable mentions

“Survivor” Contestants from Nome to Hoboken Will vie for a totem or token. It may defay reason — Its 20th season!

“Showgirls” Though it won neither plaudits nor gongs, And for critics’ acclaim it still longs, To learn that “tomorrow Is a’ (would you believe?) “nother day”? (Brian Allgar, Paris)

“Titanic” We’ve got lovers whose death cannot sever And a villain who’s scheming and clever And a ship whose demise Will bring tears to your eyes!

“Crying Game” A terrorist who fled the scene is quite drawn to a bar-singing Venus. But the guy is dismayed When he tries to get laid And discovers the girl has a $10,000 back-up

“Big Bang Theory” In the language of geeks: PhD = BMOC. (Chris Doyle)


Po’writry:

Quotable:

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The original “Inspector Morse” series ran for six years. It ended with the death of Morse in 2001 and permanently with the death of the lead actor, John Thaw, in 2002. This is not the first “Inspector Morse” spinoff. The much put-upon sergeant of the original series, Robbie Lewis, has his own “Inspector Lewis” series, set in current-day Oxford.

Endeavour airs at 9 p.m. Sundays, July 8-29, on WETA and MPT.

EnDEAVOUR: Shaun Evans is a young Detective Morse on PBS.

TV

PBS’s ‘Mystery!’ presents Morse, before he became an inspector, in ‘Endeavour’

by Tish Wells

The “Inspector Morse” mystery series was among the most popular ever broadcast on PBS and has lived on in reruns for years. Now a 90-minute special, “Endeavour” introduces viewers to a very young Morse, a gawky lad in his 20s who dropped out of the University of Oxford. In 1965, the show starts on the day young Morse (Shaun Evans) returns to Oxford as a detective constable with a typed resignation in his pocket and a weak stomach for dead bodies. He and several others are assigned to fill in on office duties while more experienced detectives hunt for a missing town girl, not an undergraduate. Class issues are always a part of British shows and this one stirs in the eternal conflict of town and gown.

However, in all cases in Oxford, the academic atmosphere permeates everything. That’s where Morse’s background comes in handy. He begins to investigate on his own, then, with the help of an older mentor. Clashes at the police station lead to other problems with upper authority — a trademark of the older series.

Endeavour airs at 9 p.m. July 1 on WETA and MPT.

Inspector Lewis airs at 9 p.m. Sundays, July 8-29, on WETA and MPT.