

THAT'S A GOOD MONTH "Lupin" (left, with star Omar Sy) is on track to become the biggest foreign-language series in Netflix history, the network says. It projects the French heist drama to be watched by more than 70 million accounts in its first four weeks. "The Witcher," which premiered in 2019, holds the four-week record (76 million accounts).

TV Thursday

LAW PARTNERS

Lindsey Morgan on her 'Walker' ranger role: 'I love Micki's strength'

By LAUREN SARNER

There's a new ranger in town. In "Walker," The CW's slick reboot of "Walker, Texas Ranger," the famous Lone Star lawman (Jared Padalecki) teams up with one of the first female rangers, Micki Ramirez (Lindsey Morgan).

"I did a lot of research about women in law enforcement," Morgan, 30, tells The Post from the "Walker" set, currently shooting on location in Austin, TX.

"Walker is at the center of a lot of strong women in his life," she says. "I think it brings a new color to this Western lore. I love [Micki's] strength. I love her perception. She's very smart and observant. She has a maturity about the world.

"She can look at a situation and see it from all sides."

The original series aired on CBS (1993-2001) and starred Chuck Norris as the titular Walker, a Dallas-Fort Worth-based member of the state-bureau level Texas Rangers who was partnered with former Dallas Cowboys player Jimmy Trivette (Clarence Gilyard).

The reboot, premiering Thursday (Jan. 21) at 8 p.m., follows Cordell Walker (Padalecki, fresh off a 15-year run on "Supernatural"), a widower who is returning home to his family in Austin after spending time on an undercover assignment. There, he clashes with his kids and brother Liam (Keegan Allen), probes his wife's mysterious death and bonds with his new partner, Micki.

"He is literally a 6-foot-4 giant kid," Morgan says about Padalecki. "He really keeps you on your toes and gives you so much to work with. We've been having a blast."



Lindsey Morgan (from left), Coby Bell and Jared Padalecki on "Walker," a reboot of "Walker, Texas Ranger" premiering Thursday on The CW.

Morgan, who has appeared in "General Hospital" and "How I Met Your Mother," is best known for starring in The CW's seven-season dystopian drama "The 100," which ended in September. But just like Micki, she's from Texas and is Mexican-American — making her "Walker" role hit home, she says.

"When I read the script, it resonated in a really personal way for me," she says. "I grew up in Texas and the story of my character felt like a bit of a story of what my life could have been if I had stayed in Texas and didn't pursue acting. I guess I could have seen myself being this

woman. I haven't been back really, especially to Austin — it's become a true full-circle moment for me."

Even as a native Texan, however, Morgan still had to spruce up her skills for "Walker."

"I already know how to ride a horse and shoot a gun, but not to this level. I'd never galloped on horses or knew about loading and unloading guns," she says. "I got here about a month early and we had horse and gun training. That really helped me."

But as much as she prepared for the physical demands of the part, she intentionally stayed away from

watching the original "Walker, Texas Ranger" series, she says.

"I've never seen [the original] because I was told not to watch it," she says. "We're doing a completely new reimagining. [Executive Producer Anna Fricke] wanted me to have no preconceived notions and fresh eyes when I came to the piece."

"Granted, I didn't live under a rock," she says. "So I knew what it is and who Chuck Norris is and how he has amazing Kung fu skills. But beyond that, I'm quite naïve about the original — I'm tempted to watch it!"

11 MILLION
 Average viewership for "Jeopardy!" the week of Jan. 4, which marked late host Alex Trebek's final week of shows.

TNT DIGGS A THIRD SEASON OF THRILLER

"Snowpiercer" will return for a third season on TNT, which renewed the sci-fi thriller just days before its Season 2 premiere on Monday, Jan. 25. Season 1, which aired last spring with stars Jennifer Connelly and Daveed Diggs (below, left and right) averaged 3.3 million viewers on TNT and TBS as the top-rated drama on cable last season. Sean Bean joins the cast this season as Mr. Wilford, who's alive and headed toward the survivors of the revolution.

