Hello from Kathy Elwell’s computer room. Now that we have to stay at home, I did some catching up on reading. (Available ebooks from Libby/Overdrive.) Here are the titles of the ebooks I would recommend (some more highly than others) and they are very varied in type.

**A Walk in the Woods** by Bill Bryson

Very funny and we all need a good laugh in times like these. “Bryson is witty—sometimes laugh-out-loud funny and sometimes cuttingly sarcastic.” [From LJ Copyright 2011]

**Carnegie’s Maid** by Marie Benedict

An enjoyable light read. “A tale of what kind of woman could have inspired an American dynasty. With captivating insight and heart, Carnegie’s Maid tells the story of one brilliant woman who may have spurred Andrew Carnegie’s transformation from ruthless industrialist into the world’s first true philanthropist.” [From USA Today Reviews]

**Lilac Girls: A Novel** by Martha Hall Kelly

Much talked about and quite tragic. “Despite some horrific scenes, this is a page-turner demonstrating the tests and triumphs civilians faced during war, complemented by Kelly’s vivid depiction of history and excellent characters.” [From PW Copyright 2016]

**Night Tiger** by Yangsze Choo

Took me away to a jungle in times past and about another culture. “Mining the rich setting of colonial Malaysia, Choo wonderfully combines a Holmes-esque plot with Chinese lore.” [From Publishers Weekly. Copyright 2018]

**Origin** by Dan Brown

Fascinating and almost believable. “The plot is absurd, of course, but the book is a definitive pleasure. Prepare to be absorbed—and in more ways than one” [From Kirkus 2017 Copyright]

**Pachinko** by Min Jin Lee

I could not say it any better than: “Pachinko is a story of love, sacrifice, ambition, and loyalty. ...Lee’s complex and passionate characters—strong, stubborn women, devoted sisters and sons, fathers shaken by moral crises—survive and thrive against the indifferent arc of history.” [From BookPage Reviews 2017]

**Something in the Water** by Catherine Steadman

Great thriller that I could not put down. “A shocking discovery on a honeymoon in paradise changes the lives of a picture-perfect couple in this taut psychological thriller” [From NYTimes]

**The Address** by Fina Davis


**The Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair That Changed America** by Erick Larson

Set in the World’s Fair in Chicago, the title says it all. Engrossing

**The Island of Sea Women** by Lisa See

A riveting, historical novel about a group Korean women called the “haenyeo”, a real-life Korean female diving collective—“a wonderful ode to a truly singular group of women” [From Publishers Weekly. Copyright 2019]

**The Witch Elm** by Tana French

Quite a psychological mystery. “The pace is slow, but the story is compelling, and French is deft in unraveling this book’s puzzles” [From Publishers Weekly. Copyright 2019]

**Underground Railroad** by Colson Whitehead

An interesting, if sometimes fanciful, historical novel of pre-Civil War America and the plantations of the South. “A literal subterranean locomotive suffuses the narrative with a fable-like quality, but Whitehead’s overall approach is far from whimsical. Throughout her journey, Cora is confronted with some of the most disgraceful facets of the period, from eugenics programs to the Fugitive Slave Act, and the narrative is frequently grim.” [From BookPage Reviews]

Have fun choosing which one was my favorite. Kathy