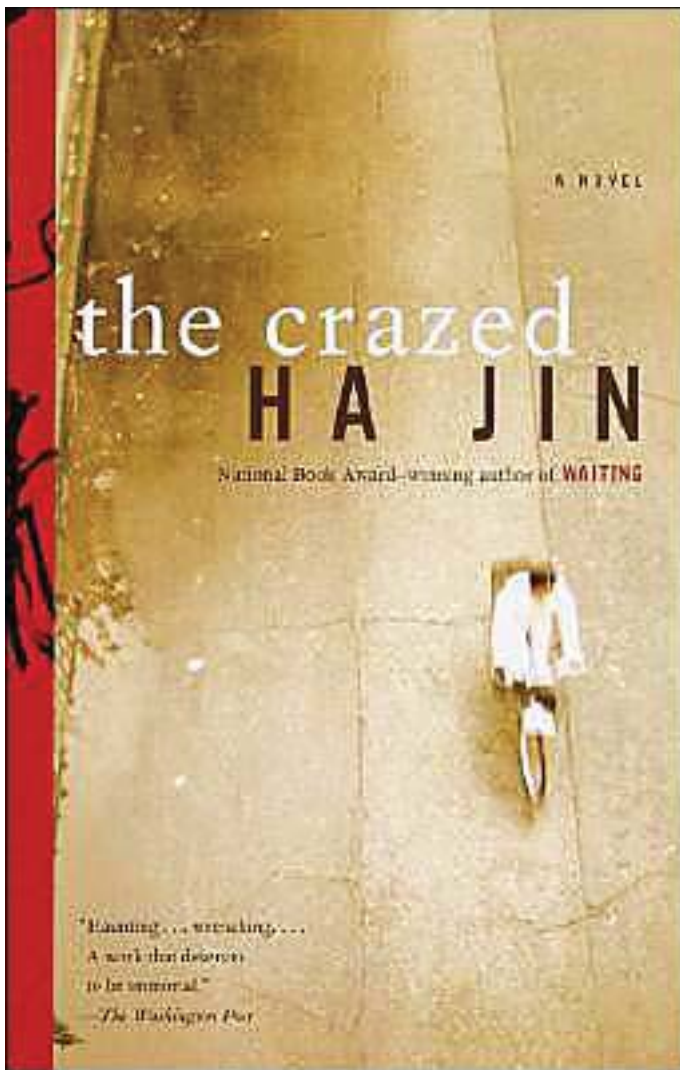


THIS MONTH'S SELECTION:

# *the crazed*

by Ha Jin



## ABOUT THIS BOOK:

"In this luminous new novel, the author of the National Book Award-winning *Waiting* deepens his portrait of Chinese society while exploring the perennial conflicts between convention and individualism, integrity and pragmatism, loyalty and betrayal. Professor Yang, a respected teacher of literature at a provincial university, has suffered a stroke, and his student Jian Wan—engaged to Yang's daughter—has been assigned to care for him. What initially seems a simple, if burdensome, duty becomes more problematic when the professor begins to rave: pleading with invisible tormentors, denouncing his family, his colleagues, and a system in which a scholar is "just a piece of meat on a chopping board" [p. 221]. Determined to understand these ravings, Jian delves into Yang's past. As Yang's story unfolds, it exposes political, artistic, and humanistic concerns of the heart and mind."

Next meeting: