

HIGH TIMES

coming of age

B O O K S

Teenage by Joseph Szabo (*Greybull Press/D.A.P.*, \$45) Joe Szabo taught photography at Long Island's Malverne High School for more than 25 years, photographing his students throughout the long, strange decades of the 1970s and 1980s. This affecting collection of those pictures shows that the more styles change, the more teenage love, lust, and angst stay the same. Shot in a gritty, energetic black and white that evokes the raw emotion of adolescence, Szabo's subjects run the gamut from sad to euphoric, selfconscious to supremely confident. His images have an intimacy that belies the usual student-teacher relationship. (Who knew a teacher could be so cool?) The book opens with a high-school reminiscence by Cameron Crowe, writer of the classic film *Fast Times at Ridgemont High*. Much like that tragicomic movie, Szabo's photos contain their share of youthful clowning, but never let the viewer forget how hard it is to be a teenager. —R.H.



© JOSEPH SZABO/GREYBULL PRESS