

# You Couldn't Ignore Me If You Tried: The Brat Pack, John Hughes, and Their Impact on a Generation

Susannah Gora



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You can quote lines from *Sixteen Candles* ("Last night at the dancemy little brother paid a buck to see your underwear"), your iPod playlist includes more than one song by the Psychedelic Furs and Simple Minds, you watch *The Breakfast Club* every time it comes on cable, and you still wish that Andie had ended up with Duckie in *Pretty in Pink*. You're a bonafide Brat Pack devotee—and you're not alone.

The films of the Brat Pack—from *Sixteen Candles* to *Say Anything*—are some of the most watched, bestselling DVDs of all time. The landscape that the Brat Packmemorialized—where outcasts and prom queens fall in love, preppies and burn-outs become buds, and frosted lip gloss, skinny ties, and exuberant optimism made us feel invincible—is rich with cultural themes and significance, and has influenced an entire generation who still believe that life always turns out the way it is supposed to.

*You Couldn't Ignore Me If You Tried* takes us back to that era, interviewing key players, such as Molly Ringwald, Anthony Michael Hall, Ally Sheedy, Judd Nelson, Andrew McCarthy, and John Cusack, and mines all the material from the movies to the music to the way the films were made to show how they helped shape our visions for romance, friendship, society, and success.

From the Hardcover edition.

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