Football God 91



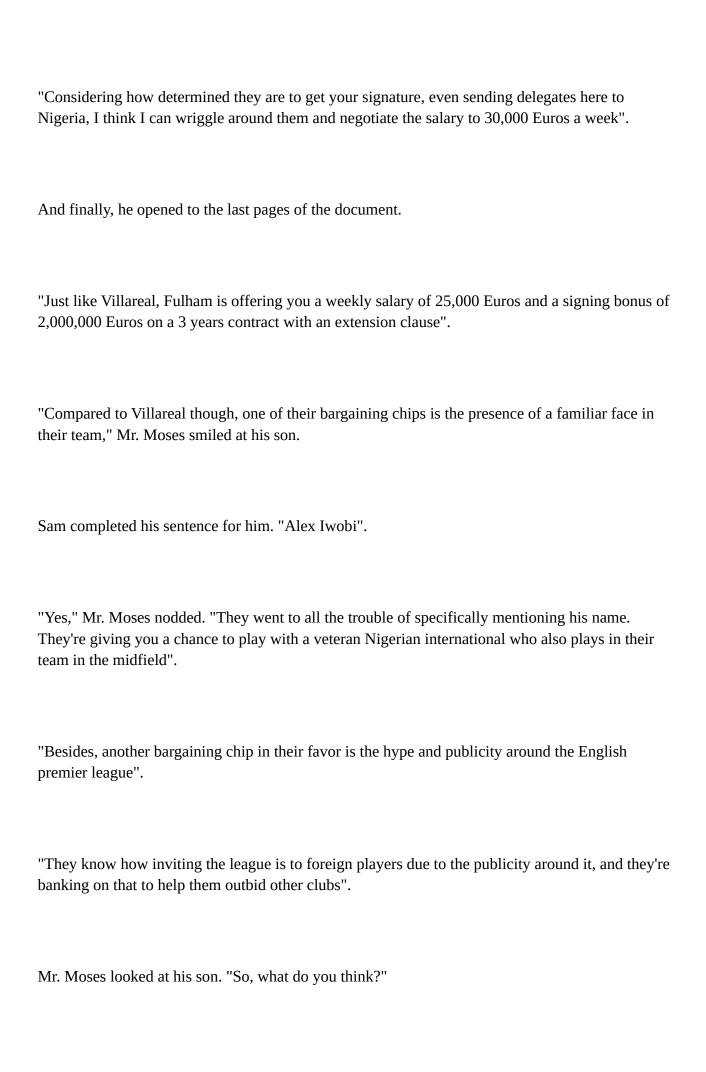








Mr. Moses nodded, opening the document to another page. "Wolfsburg's contract offer is the 2nd best offer after Lille, and theirs is much more reasonable in terms of the contract term".
"They're offering you a weekly salary of 30,000 Euros and a signing bonus of 2,000,000 Euros on a 3 years contract with an extension clause".
"Their contract also has more clauses for bonuses for games where you perform at an extraterrestrial level, winning the man of the match awards".
"Their bonuses for winning any trophy or individual award is also higher".
Sam paid keen attention as his father broke the contract terms to him, and then Mr. Moses opened his document again, going to the next club. Chapter 92 Career discussion [2]
"Fulham and Villareal's contract offer are basically the same with very little differences, that is why I left both for last".
Mr. Moses opened his document again, opening to the page where the familiar emblem of the Spanish club was drawn.
"The only thing separating both clubs is that Villareal are willing to show their determination to get your signature by sending their delegates to meet us here in Nigeria to discuss the contract terms physically".
"As for their offer, Villareal is offering you a weekly salary of 25,000 Euros and a signing bonus of 2,000,000 Euros on a 3 years contract with an extension clause".





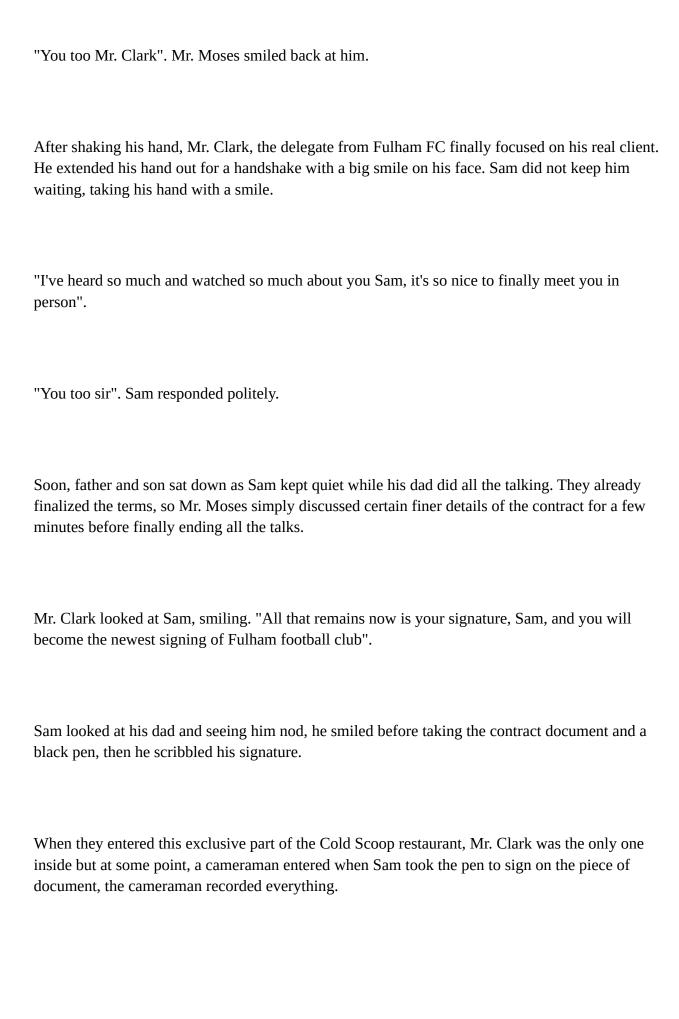
"If I was maybe Kylian Mbappe and I received the kind of offer he got from PSG, maybe I'll hesitate," he chuckled. "But not with this".
He looked outside through the window again. "I want to enjoy football, I want to play to my heart's content, I want to enjoy iconic champions league nights, I want to life trophies," he looked at his father again. "I want to be a legend".
Mr. Moses smiled. "So?"
Sam smiled back at his father. "Since FC Barcelona is not yet noticing my shine," he grinned. "It only means I've not done enough yet".
"Dad, I want to do so much that no club in the world can afford to overlook me, and I think the best way to do this is going to the premier league".
Sam looked outside through the window again, his eyes turning dreamy. "When Lille's offer first came months ago, I was hyped, already envisioning myself playing for them already at some point but now, everything has changed".
"I have more options now, better options, a better league".
"In the premier league, there is tough competition with the likes of Arsenal, Manchester City, Liverpool, Manchester United and Chelsea all elite sides".
"If I can play with a league with all these elite clubs and shine even with a mid-table team," he smiled. "Then, I don't think even Barca can ignore me anymore".





Sam celebrated excitedly with his old teammates.
The victory capped off a memorable Christmas day celebration for him.
A few more days later, Mr. Moses finally concluded the contract talks. Delegates from Fulham would enter Nigeria the next day for the contract signing. Chapter 93 Signing for Fulham FC
It was December 27th, 2023, 2 days after Christmas.
It was a cool Wednesday evening.
Mrs. Moses made Sam's best native food, fufu and Banga soup that evening. After father and son ate to their fill, they were in high spirits.
Mr. Moses looked at his son. "Son, are you ready?"
"Yeah," Sam took a deep breath, then he smiled. "I'm ready".
Father and son were both dressed in a neat black suit as Mrs. Moses and Sophia walked up to them, adding the finishing touches to their dressing.
Then, Mrs. Moses gave them a thumbs up. They were ready to go.

"I love you". Mr. Moses whispered and kissed his wife on the lip before carrying his briefcase and turning to leave.
Sam grinned as he stared at his excited sister. "Sophia, when I come back, you better speak to me with a little more respect".
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"Yes big bro!" She said loudly, eliciting laughter from the rest of the family.
And finally, Sam and his father entered the car. After putting on the ignition, Mr. Moses waved at his wife and daughter before driving off with his son.
They had a meeting with the Fulham delegates scheduled for 4:00pm.
That evening, in the upper floor of Cold Scoop, one of the biggest restaurants in Abraka, Sam and his father met with the delegates from England representing the professional football club, Fulham.
As soon as they entered, the white man opposite them who was in a dark blue suit stood up with a big smile on his face, shaking his father's hand.
"Mr. Moses," he smiled brightly. "I can finally associate a face with the name, it's nice to meet you finally".







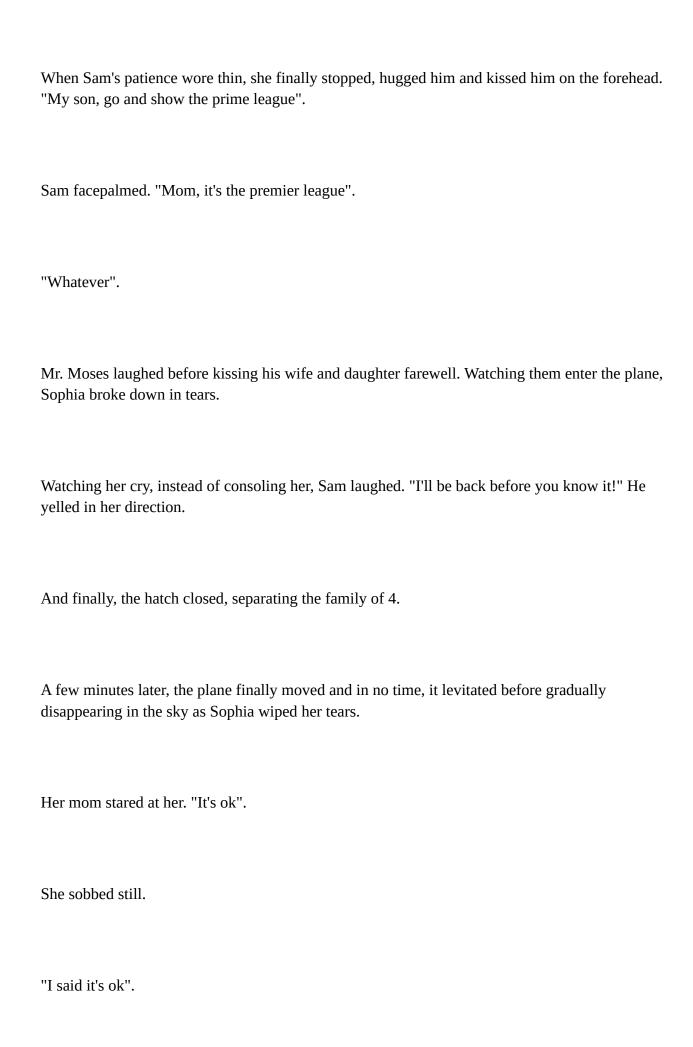


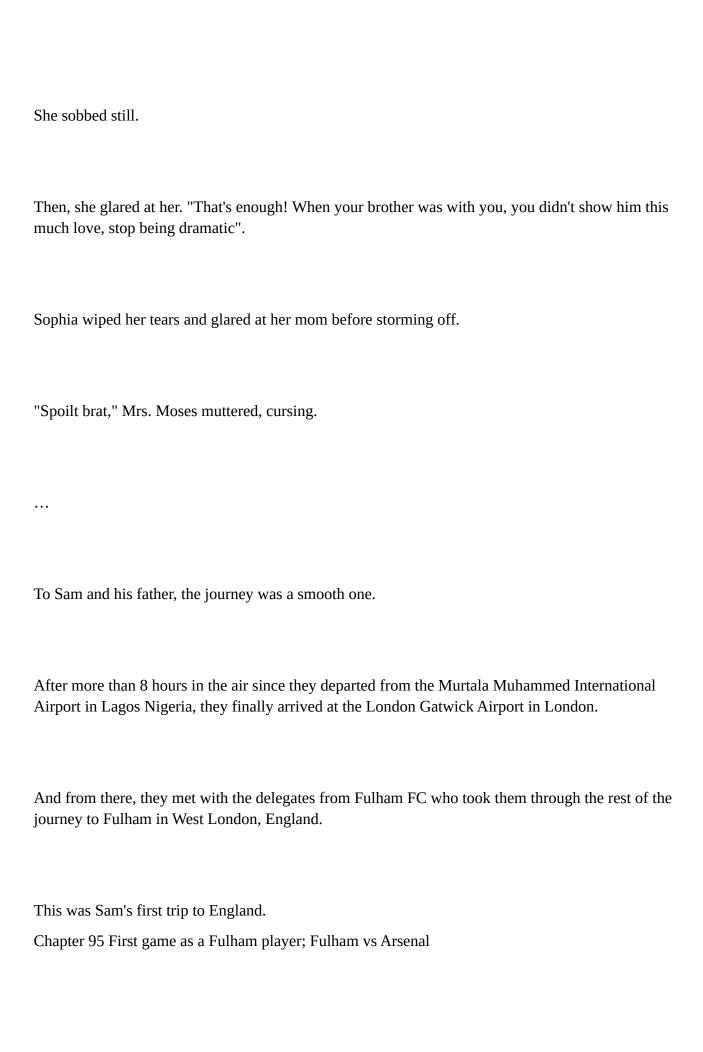
Only after this did the excited mother let the father and son do what they wanted. It was already too late to go to McCarthy Beach, so Mr. Moses took his son to a bar instead, Chill Zone Bar where they had a great time.
While they were in the bar was when Fulham FC finally released an official message on their social media handles of their new signing.
Internet exploded.
Chapter 94 A trip to England
In football, there is a term referred to as transfer windows.
A transfer window is a specific time during a football season when clubs can buy and sell players. The transfer window was introduced in 2002 as a compromise between FIFA and the European Commission to stabilize club squads and preserve contractual stability for players and clubs.
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Most European leagues have two transfer windows, one from the end of the season to August 31st, and then another in January.
To complete a transfer, a player is registered with the new club through FIFA during the period of the transfer window.
If transfers are done outside the transfer window, new signings must wait until the next registration period to play for the club.

This was the reason why Sam's new club registration was scheduled to be completed in January when the transfer window finally opens.
Immediately after Fulham FC released the news about their new signing, the internet exploded, taken by storm by excited Nigerian fans.
Support flooded across all social media platforms for Sam, with the fans showing high hopes and expectations of him performing well in the premier league.
Not all the storm was support though. Of course, there were always the dissidents who would discredit his achievements and doubt his credibility.
They labeled him a 1-season wonder of an unknown league, predicting him to flop in the premier league.
Sam did not care about all of that though, he didn't pay attention to it.
The past few days after signing the contract with Fulham FC were one of the most relaxing periods of his life as he enjoyed family time.
He also spent a lot of time alongside his best friend, both of them placing bets on how long it would take him to make his stamp in the premier league.
Enyimba FC also dominated the news as after Fulham FC met their new release clause of 8 million Euros for their young attacking midfielder, the Nigerian club became rich with money overnight.

And not just that, Enyimba FC dominated the news for another reason as Sam was not the only player who left Enyimba FC after the FIFA Club World Cup.
Austin also stole the headlines after completing his move to Germany to play for Wolfsburg, and the most surprising case was that of Emeka.
After an impressive season last season, Emeka also caught the eye of clubs in Europe as he was snapped by Ajax in the Eredivisie in Netherlands.
There were also rumors of European clubs approaching Farouk Mohamed.
All in all, it was a great period of transition for the Nigerian club but the club was not in a crisis as with all the money being injected into their coffers, they had more than enough money to build a brand-new squad from ground up.
The most significant news came on December 30th. After a few days of speculations and rumor, Coach Yemi Daniel became the next name in the departure list from Enyimba FC.
After serving the Nigerian club faithfully for a few years, the coach finally proved his credentials, earning himself a big money move to France to ply his trade in the French league.
On the 29th of December, a day before the news of his departure became public, Coach Yemi Daniel organized a get together with all his players in Abia State.

There, Sam regrouped with his teammates one last time as they ate, drank, danced, and played a friendly game to commemorate the past 1 and a half seasons together, performing miracles and creating iconic memories.
After the get together, returning to Delta State, Sam finally got ready to leave the country for good.
He spent a lot of time with his family before going to his best friend's place and spending significant time with him.
He and Ian went way back, all the way from JSS 1 in Abraka Grammar School which was about 8 years ago.
Ian also told him of his own life. After writing the last JAMB examination, Ian finally made the cut- off mark. If things went well for him, he was expecting to get an admission letter to study medicine in the prestigious UNIBEN (University of Benin) in Edo State.
Sam drank a toast with his best friend before finally biding him farewell. That night he slept early so he could wake early on Saturday morning.
That morning, Sam woke up, completed his daily system quest, ate his mom's food, before going to the airport with his family.
He was going to England with his father who also doubled as his agent.
Right there at the airport, his mom made him kneel as she prayed on him for almost 20 minutes, banishing almost a thousand demons in the process.



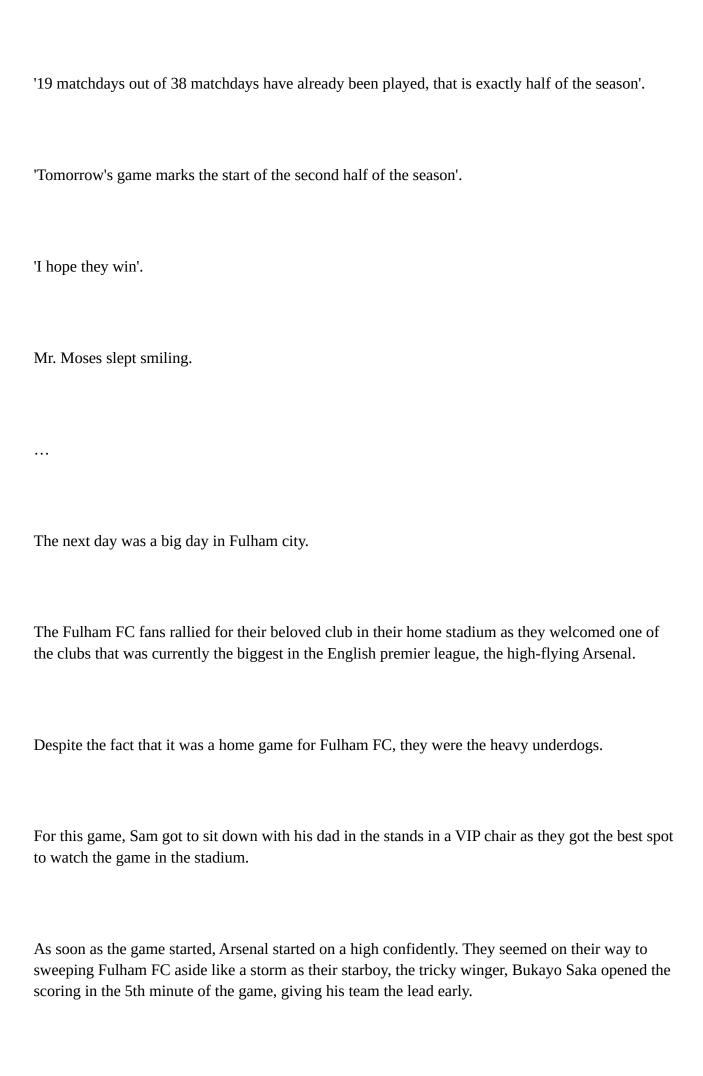


Arriving in England, Sam could tell that it was different to all the other countries that he had visited since he started his football career.
Maybe it was just his excitement doing it but he didn't care.
Back home, to Nigerians, London and England were synonymous with success, the same thing with Canada. This was why Sam felt that it was different, his excitement levels were consistently high since his arrival.
Craven Cottage has been the home stadium of Fulham football club since back in 1896. The iconic stadium is located in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.
The ground's capacity was just 29,589, lower than some of the best stadiums across Europe but also with more capacity than the Enyimba International Stadium where Sam saw as his home ground for the past 1 and half seasons.
As soon as Sam arrived, he was led into the stadium, to the medical section where he was to have his medicals.
With his system taking care of things, Sam was not scared of any hiccups.
He passed his medicals with flying colors.
After the medicals, he was finally introduced to his coach. The 49-year-old Marco Silva, Fulham's senior team manager welcomed his new player in high spirits.

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After acquainting with his coach, one of the assistant managers, Goncalo Pedro took the job of leading the new player on a tour through the stadium.
Fulham FC may not be one of the top leading clubs in Europe, but as a club that has played consistently in the top division of the English premier league for years, they had a lot of history.
Sam was introduced to all this history by the assistant coach, after which he finally left the stadium to settle into the hotel that was recommended by the club.
Alone, Sam would have probably been overwhelmed by being exposed to the new environment and all the new unfamiliar faces but with his dad alongside him, joining him through it all, Sam was able to stay relaxed.
After his 8 hours journey, the father and son duo were already exhausted but before going to sleep, after taking their bath, they did the video call ritual.
"Hey! Sam!" Sophia yelled as soon as the call connected.
"Come on, tell me, how is England?"
"Are the roads made of gold?!"







To Sam, it was a damning goal that grounded him in the reality of his current club. In terms of quality, his current club, Fulham FC may be miles better than Enyimba FC but in the English premier league, they were just a mid-table team.
On this day though, the mid-table team created a miracle.
Sam bore witness as his club refused to give in to the high-flying Arsenal team, equalizing the game 1-1 after 29 minutes by Jimenez, the Fulham striker.
The game went to halftime with the score line draw.
When second half started, Arsenal started as the better side but against the run of play, Fulham created a miracle, scoring an unexpected goal in the 59th minute to complete their comeback and take the lead through De Cordova-Reid.
For the remaining minutes of the second half, Arsenal kept knocking but incredibly, Fulham FC held on to steal a famous win from Arsenal.
Fulham won 2-1.
"Yes!" Sam celebrated his new club excitedly.
To him, it was the best way to commence his support of the English club. Chapter 96 Samuel Moses, no. 11

	nediately after the end of the English premier league game in Fulham, the footballing world was en by storm.
That	t loss signified a momentum shift in the premier league title race.
	at made it even more explosive was that it gave on-lookers a sense of déjà vu, they had nessed this happen before just last season.
prev	m the beginning of the 2023/2024 premier league season, Arsenal set a marker. Like in the vious season, they had been in shocking form, high-flying as they contended at the top of the mier league table, putting out convincing winning displays left and right.
perf	y didn't just compete convincingly in the premier league, they also dazzled with scintillating formances in the UEFA champions league, convincing the world that the once all-conquering enal was back in Europe's elite tier.
But	in just 4 games, all that seemed to be spiraling down to a disastrous fall.
	t was the game against Aston Villa at home during matchday 16. For Arsenal, everything had n smooth sailing till that game.
stun	ike what most people predicted, playing against the imperious Arsenal at home, Aston Villa need the Flying Emirates, managing to snatch a narrow 1-0 win and after that game was when momentum switched.
	neir next game, in matchday 17, hosting Brighton at home, Arsenal won 2-0 but their next game a tough encounter against Liverpool in Anfield.

In the matchday 18 encounter, Arsenal managed to ground out a 1-1 draw in one of the most intimidating stadiums in the world, Anfield.
After that game, to many, Arsenal was back, having shaken off the momentary rust of the Aston Villa game.
After that impressive display, in matchday 19, everyone expected them to carry on that form as they hosted West Ham united in their home stadium, the famous Emirates Stadium and that was when the first true shock of their season happened.
Against all odds, even as the race for the premier league title ramped up at the top of the table, facing West Ham at home, Arsenal actually managed to lose 0-2 to the visitors, shocking the footballing world.
That loss definitely rattled Arsenal nerves all across the world, leaving their fans uneasy and the aftermath of that was evident from their display again in the matchday 20 encounter against Fulham.
The only difference this time was that Sam was now a Fulham player, and watching that game live, despite the fact that he didn't play, he felt on top of the world as he watched his team win against one of the best teams in the world.
That game rocked the Arsenal title-charging momentum.
For Fulham though, it was an iconic victory.

The happy mood of the victory became the perfect atmosphere for Sam's unveiling in front of over 20,000 Fulham fans.
When the announcement was made after the game, the fans made a lot of noise, welcoming their newest Nigerian player as Sam jogged onto the pitch.
Sam was not the 2nd Nigerian professional football player to receive a contract from Fulham FC. Just this season alone, there were 2 Nigerian players in the roster before him and with his addition, he became the 3rd Nigerian.
Apart from Alex Iwobi, Calvin Bassey, the defender known for his no-nonsense defending reputation was also a Nigerian international.
Under the atmosphere of this stadium, Sam was not overwhelmed at all. Rather, he felt at home since he could feel their joy and adoration.
Having played for Enyimba FC for a full year, he was used to the atmosphere of packed stadiums. Instead of letting it overwhelm him, he embraced it, riding the energy of the excited fans.
Taking the ball, he juggled it to roars of excitement, spicing it up with a few skill moves to the delight of the fans before saying a few words to the excited fans.
He ended it with a vow. "I'll give my best for the badge".
After that, he was finally presented with his jersey which he showed to the fans. On the jersey was written his name and his new number.







"Sam, meet my wife". Alex Iwobi looked at his beautiful wife. "Darling, this is the Sam that I told you about. He's my club's newest signing, and most importantly, he's a Nigerian like me, he came from the outskirts of Delta State". Find more chapters on empire
Hearing that, the beautiful young lady smiled in wonder, looking at Sam with a mischievous smile on her face. "Delta State? Warri, it's Warri right?"
Sam laughed. "Yes, Warri is in Delta State".
She grinned. "No warri me, no gimme issue, no gimme stress," she joked in pidgin, quoting words from a popular Nigerian comedy movie as Sam and his dad laughed in response.
Mr. Moses laughed as he finally sat on one of the chairs. "Alex, I see you're doing the needful to teach your wife the Nigerian ways even here in London".
Alex Iwobi chuckled, rubbing his long hair awkwardly. "I don't do anything, it's just her, she's very interested in Nigeria and things related to it".
"She's a big fan of AY and Sabinus, even Brain jotter too".
Mr. Moses laughed again on hearing that. "Those guys are good," he looked at her. "I'm telling you, watching their comedy skits can literally heal depression".
"Especially Sabinus," she added, laughing. "That guy is crazy!"







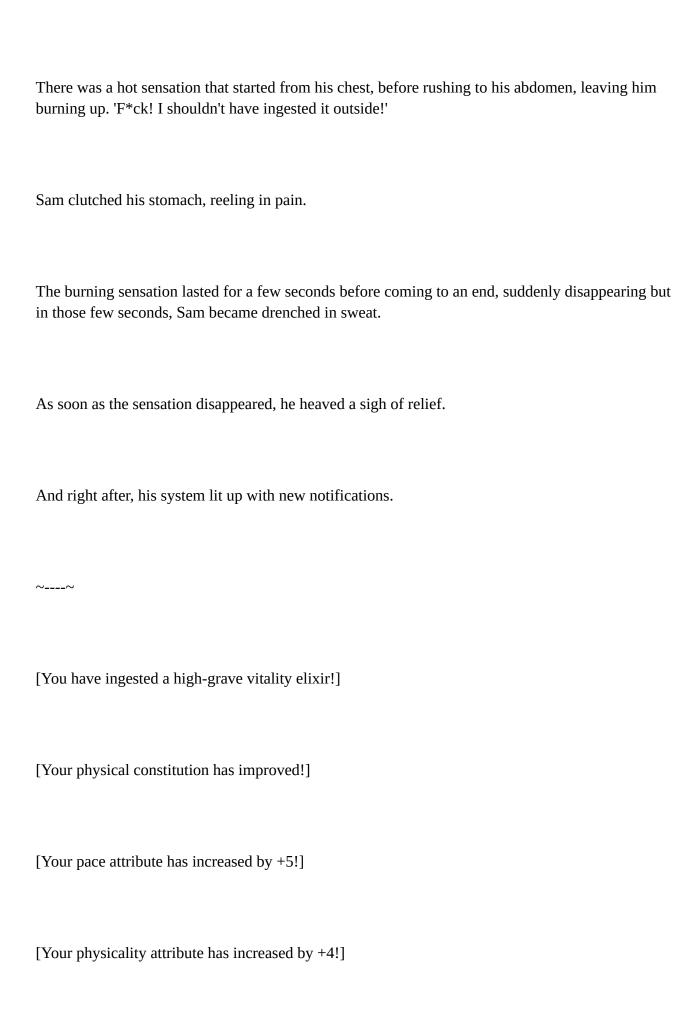




[You have been rewarded with a low-grade physical conditioning elixir!]
····
[You have marked a system milestone of completing the daily system quest for more than 1 year!]
[Voy are aligible for a greater regressed]
[You are eligible for a system reward!]
[Congratulations! You have unlocked bonus reward: High-grade physical conditioning elixir!]
>High-grade physical conditioning elixir: This is a miraculous elixir that is capable of completely eliminating fatigue, making post-match recovery instantaneous. It also accelerates recovery time
from injuries<
[Congratulations! You have unlocked bonus reward: High-grade vitality elixir!]
>High-grade vitality elixir: This is a miraculous elixir that is capable of increasing the innate
vitality of a football player, granting you more physical resilience to injuries, and also improving your general physicality and stamina<
[NOTE: A high-grade vitality elixir is different from a high-grade vitality fruit!]
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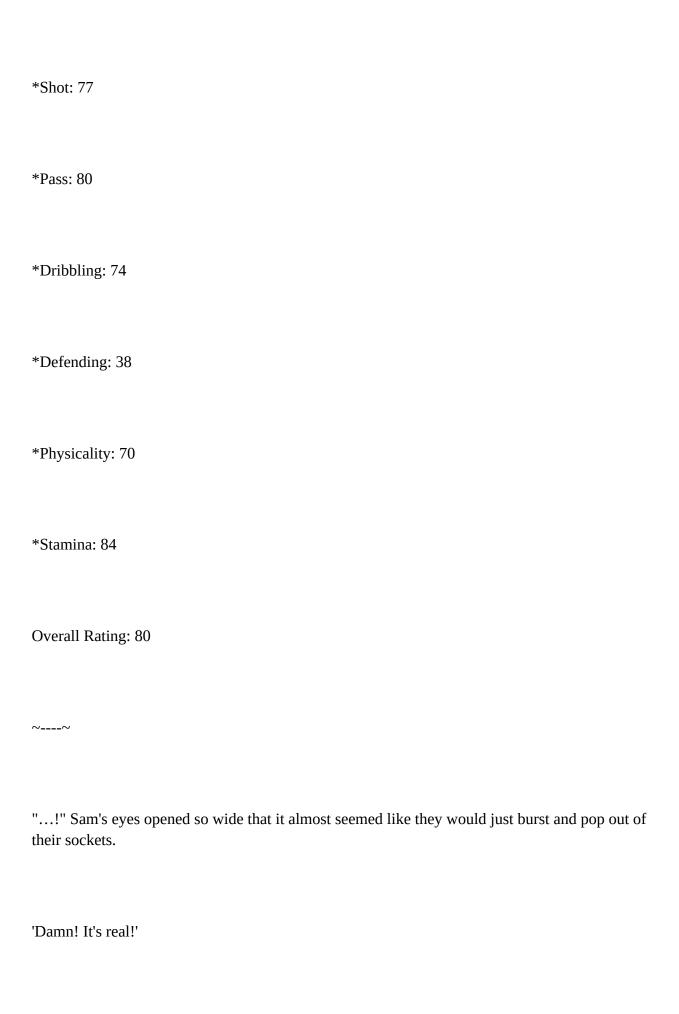
Due to Alex Iwobi's advice yesterday, as soon as Sam got to his hotel room alongside his dad, he took his bath before quickly sleeping.
This was to wake up early the next morning.
The next morning, waking up early, he did his daily ritual, leaving the hotel building and jogging through the streets of Fulham.
Nobody recognized him in the street, a rare privilege that he already forgot how it felt like since he started gaining prominence in Nigeria.
That morning, he didn't just jog, he also jogged to Craven Cottage, Fulham's home stadium very early where he completed his remaining daily system tasks in the stadium gym.
After a long time, the system already changed the name of his daily system quest from getting back in shape to mentality monster.
Waking up early every day to engage in physical activities was not easy, not even for Sam. Afterall, footballers also get holidays, but Sam never got a holiday to rest from his daily system quests since he got his system.
Seeing those notifications though, he was stunned.
It still felt just like yesterday when he got his system and started completing daily system quests, but in the blink of an eye, a whole year already passed.

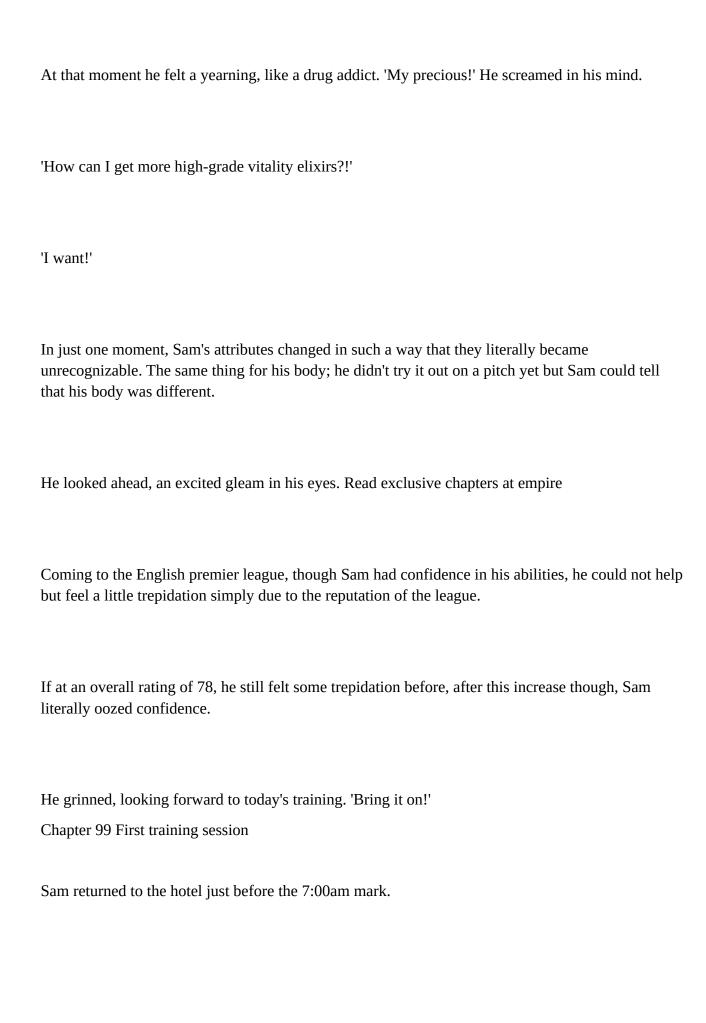
'I've really come a long way already,' Sam thought, feeling nostalgia.
Staring at the 2 bonus rewards that he got, Sam was hyped. He was hyped due to the description of the 2 high-grade elixirs, but also because of the fact that he still had a vivid recollection of his very first high-grade goodie from the system.
A recurring ankle injury was what almost ruined his budding football career before it even started, but after getting his system, a high-grade goodie from the system was what turned the situation around.
Sam could still vividly remember consuming the high-grade vitality fruit.
He had full trust in anything high-grade from the system, this was the main reason why he was so hyped on seeing the rewards.
'Damn, it pays to be diligent'.
'A befitting price for a mentality monster'.
He kept the high-grade physical conditioning elixir in his inventory. It was another miraculous elixir, but since he didn't have an injury now, he had no use for it. As for the high-grade vitality elixir though, he had an immediate need for it.
Without hesitation, Sam consumed the elixir, and then he felt changes.





"Hey man, keep it down". A bystander complained the next moment, dragging Sam back to the reality that he was not in the streets of Abraka, Delta State, but rather he was now in Fulham, England.
'F*ck!' He cursed in his head before jogging off.
Even as Sam jogged back to the hotel though, he could not take off the image from his system interface that was now stuck in his head.
'What the f*ck!' He kept on cursing in disbelief.
At some point though, he finally stopped, paying attention to his system status again, focusing on his attributes to confirm that he didn't hallucinate.
~~
[Congratulations! Your overall player rating has increased to 80!]
Player Attributes:
*Pace: 81

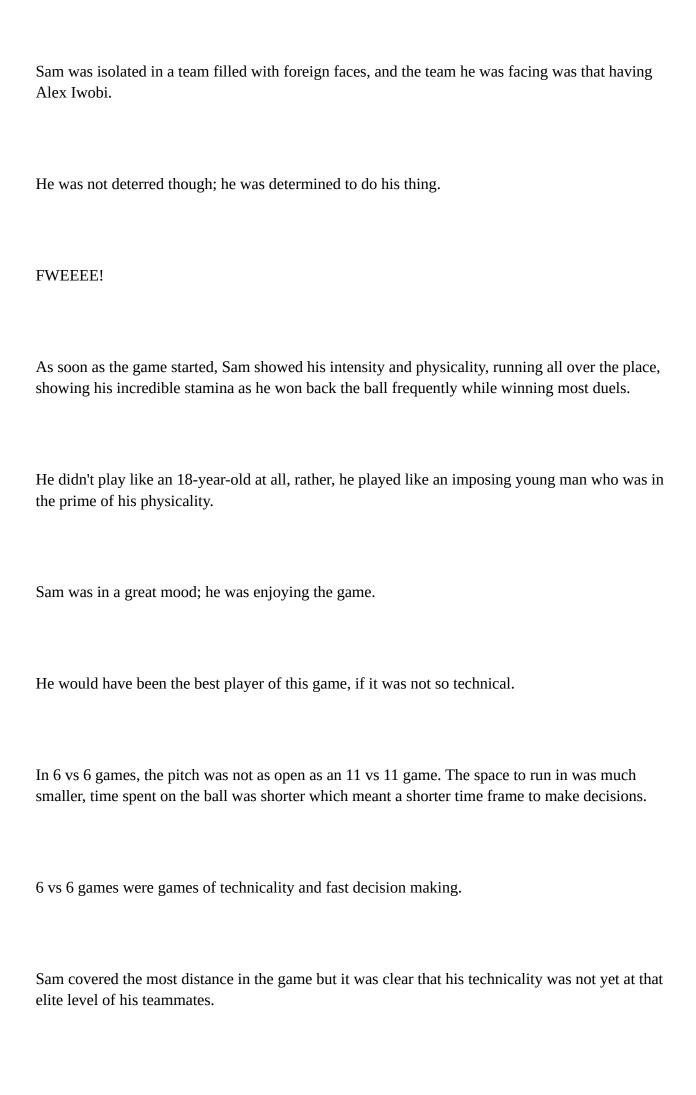




After greeting his father who was just waking up, he took his bath, got set before quickly taking the car off to Craven Cottage, his team's home stadium.
A little while ago in Nigeria, since he already hit 18 years, the legal driving age, Mr. Moses finally taught his son how to drive.
Sam already got his driving license.
Just like Alex Iwobi advised, Sam took it a step closer, arriving at Craven Cottage when it was just 7:15am.
He was the very first Fulham player to arrive for training.
About 15 minutes later, other players arrived and a few more minutes later, Coach Marco Silva also arrived.
Without wasting anytime, the manager quickly led his players to the gym in the stadium. Sam already knew before now that different managers had different coaching and training styles, but this was his first time experiencing it.
Unlike Coach Yemi Daniel's style of taking his players to the pitch, taking them through some light training before ramping it up, the Fulham manager, Marco Silva's ways were more modern, more refined. Find exclusive stories on empire
Entering the gym, Sam quickly noted something. 'It's far more advanced than any other gym I've seen in Nigeria'.

'Damn! I'm going to love this'.
Alongside the other players, following the instruction of the assistant coaches, the players started working out in the gym.
The first set of exercises were game-recovery exercises.
The feat of defeating Arsenal in their last game was not an easy one. After such a grueling defeat, most of the players comprising the starting XI of Fulham FC were still suffering from post-match fatigue.
This was why the first set of exercises were post-match recovery exercises.
After the unique set of exercises, Coach Marco Silva took it up a notch, giving his players freedom to work on themselves the best way they knew.
Most of the players, especially the defenders immediately started lifting weights and working on their legs, trying to condition their physicality.
As for the forwards and midfielders, they mostly did agility training, using the treadmill and other modern gym facilities.
In the gym, Sam followed Alex Iwobi's leadership, sticking to his fellow Nigerian like glue. They started in the treadmill, jogging at first before progressing to a full-blown sprint before reducing the intensity again.

After about 40 minutes of exercising in the gym, Coach Marco Silva clapped. "Ok, that's enough, time to go outside to the pitch".
"You have 10 minutes of rest, catch your breath and join me on the field".
"Yes, coach". The players answered.
"How are you feeling?" Alex Iwobi asked as Sam chugged down a bottle of water.
Hearing the question, Sam smiled and looked at him. "I feel great, better than before even. I can't wait to impress the coach".
Alex grinned. "I love your confidence; you'll need it in the premier league".
Just like the coach said, he kept to his time and exactly 10 minutes later, he entered the gym again, clapping loudly and summoning them to the pitch.
On the pitch, the real team training finally started.
After a few more general training drills, Coach Marco Silva divided his players, separating them into 6 vs 6 sides. This was the first real training game of the day.



Despite this though, Sam was a stand-out performer as he showcased his skills to his coach, helping his side win 6-5 against Alex Iwobi's side.
After the game, the Nigerian international approached him with a big smile on his face, wiping his sweat. "You're good Sam".
"Honestly, I didn't expect such a performance, kudos man".
Sam grinned. "Thanks". Then, he sneaked in a cheeky question. "Do you think I'll make it into the coach's starting XI for the next game?"
Alex smiled. "Not a chance man. Don't get me wrong, you were one of the stand-out performers today, but Silva is not that flexible".
"I've worked with him before in Everton so I know. He prefers sticking with proven veterans rather than exciting new players, so you'll need to prove yourself to him over an extended period of time before he really trusts you".
Sam grimaced. "Thought so".
Coach Marco Silva introduced more training drills as time went on. Throughout though, the coach never set up an 11 vs 11 training game, sticking with the smaller 6 vs 6 and 3 vs 3 games.
After a few hours of going at it, the coach finally called it a day, today's training was over.

After Fulham's game against Arsenal on 31st December, they had 4 days of rest before their next game which was in the FA Cup.
Fulham would be taking on Rotherham on 5th January 2024, a club from England's lesser divisions in the FA Cup third round.
And after the training session, Coach Marco Silva finally dropped his starting XI.
Samuel Moses was not part of the names that made the list.
Chapter 100 FA Cup- third round
Chapter 100 171 Cup thing round
(FA Cup!]
(3rd round fixture:)
>Fulham – Rotherham<
>Date: 5th January, 2024<
····

Sam did not make Coach Marco Silva's starting XI, but he was not that discouraged though. This was because even bigger names in the Fulham FC squad did not make the coach's starting XI for the FA Cup game.

The likes of Raul Jimenez, Willian, Alex Iwobi, Calvin Bassey, and even Bernd Leno, the Fulham no. 1 goalkeeper were not in the starting XI, telling Sam that the coach had no intentions of playing with his strongest squad.

In hindsight, it made sense, Fulham was playing against a club from the lower divisions; the coach would want to rotate his team.

(Fulham FC starting XI:)

(M. Rodak: Goalkeeper)

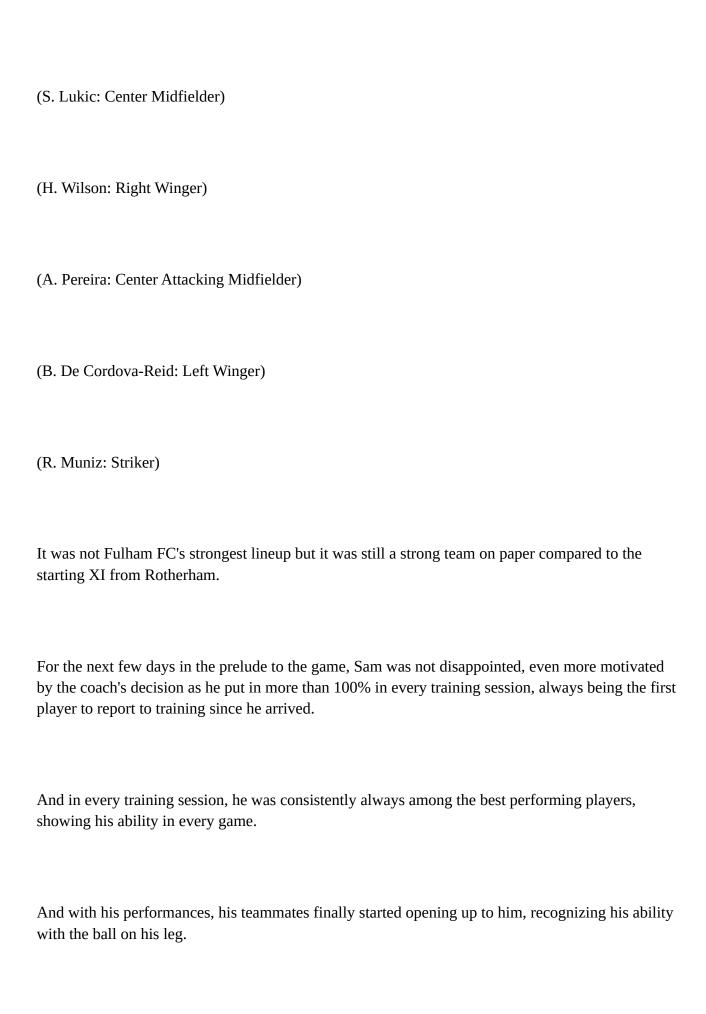
(K. Tete: Right Back)

(T. Adarabioyo: Right Center Back)

(I. Diop: Left Center Back)

(T. Castagne: Left Back)

(H. Reed: Center Midfielder)



Sam was slowly building prominence in the squad with his displays and hard work during every training session. His hard work finally paid off a day to the game as Coach Marco Silva called him aside.
"You're doing well, Sam, keep it up. I didn't want to rush you into games, to observe you more first but I think I've observed enough".
"Sleep early today and get ready, tomorrow, you'll play".
Hearing that, Sam smiled with gratitude on his face. "Thank you, coach, you won't regret this decision".
"That is up to me," the coach stared at him. "You just do your thing".
"Yes coach".
He was still not in the starting XI but that little assurance from the coach was all that Sam needed to sleep well that night.
Returning home, he followed the coach's advice, sleeping early.
In the blink of an eye, he woke up, it was already a new day, the D-day.

Craven Cottage was filled to the brim with the home supporting fans as they came out in droves to support their club.
Once the players lined up on the pitch, the referee's whistle went off, kickstarting the game.
Since they were playing at home, the Fulham players had the advantage of home support against their opponents. Stacked against their already numerous advantages, they started the game on the front foot.
For the first few minutes of the game, Fulham FC dominated possession, pressing the lower division team but an early goal didn't come though.
Rotherham remained defensively disciplined, defending doggedly until they finally grew into the game, making the game even.
Both teams had their chances, probing with attacks and finally, Fulham was the one to open the scoring first in the 24th minute.
After Lukic won the ball back in midfield, he passed to Pereira, the Fulham attacking midfielder who immediately skipped past challenges with his mastery over spatial awareness, bombing down the Rotherham half.
When he was close to the 18-yard box, one of the Rotherham center backs came closing him down with malicious intent and this attacking midfielder finally passed to his left where the Fulham left winger, De Cordova-Reid lurked.

The pass was not perfect but the left winger reacted immediately, pouncing before the nearest Rotherham player could clear the ball.
De Cordova-Reid pushed the ball away from the outstretched leg of the Rotherham player, cut into the box 18 from the right, then took a look at goal before hitting a curled shot towards goal.
Wrapping the inside of his right leg around the ball, it flew high, rotating rapidly as it curled into the top right corner of the post, leaving the Rotherham goalkeeper ruing his luck since he came so close to pushing the ball out.
"Goal!" De Cordova-Reid pumped his fists in excitement before rushing towards the corner flag to celebrate.
In the 24th minute of the game, Fulham finally took the lead.
That goal seemed to embolden the Fulham players, making them even more confident as the momentum fully swung in their favor. Enjoy more content from empire
It was just the final touch remaining for the floodgates to open as Fulham became rampant, going on one attacking raid after the other, launching floods of attacks against the Rotherham defense line.
Despite Fulham's dominance throughout the first half though, especially in the final stages of the first half, they failed to extend their lead, going to halftime with the score line still 1-0 in their favor.
When second half started, Fulham resumed the game with the same momentum, dominating their opponents, only lacking the final touch to put the ball into the opposition net a second time.

De Cordova-Reid came close to doubling his goal tally this game a few times, but he just fell short at the last moment.
Muniz, the Fulham striker for this game also came close with half-chances, but the Rotherham goalkeeper was on top of his game.
At the 60th minute, Coach Marco Silva finally made a few changes, subbing De Cordova-Reid out of the game after an impressive performance so far.
Sam still had to wait for his turn though.
The game continued, the second half with no goals till the 75th minute when the Fulham manager, Marco Silva pulled the plug on his substitutions again.
This time, he made a triple change, taking off Muniz, the striker, Pereira, the attacking midfielder, and Wilson, the left winger.
Sam and Alex Iwobi were introduced into the game at the same time in the 75th minute, 15 minutes to the end of the game.
Sam jogged into the game with a slight smile on his face, only one thought was on his head. 'There's still time to make my mark'.