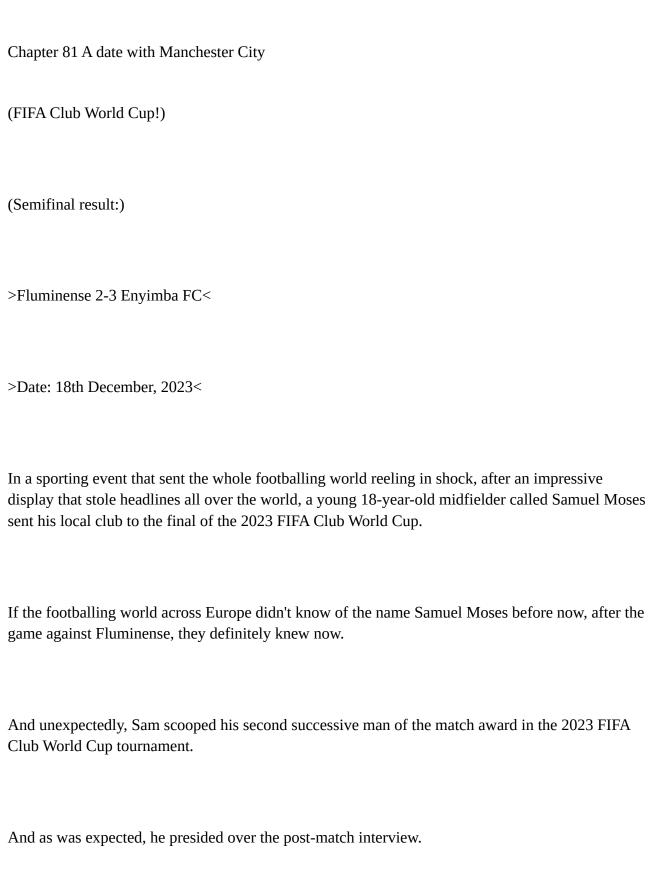
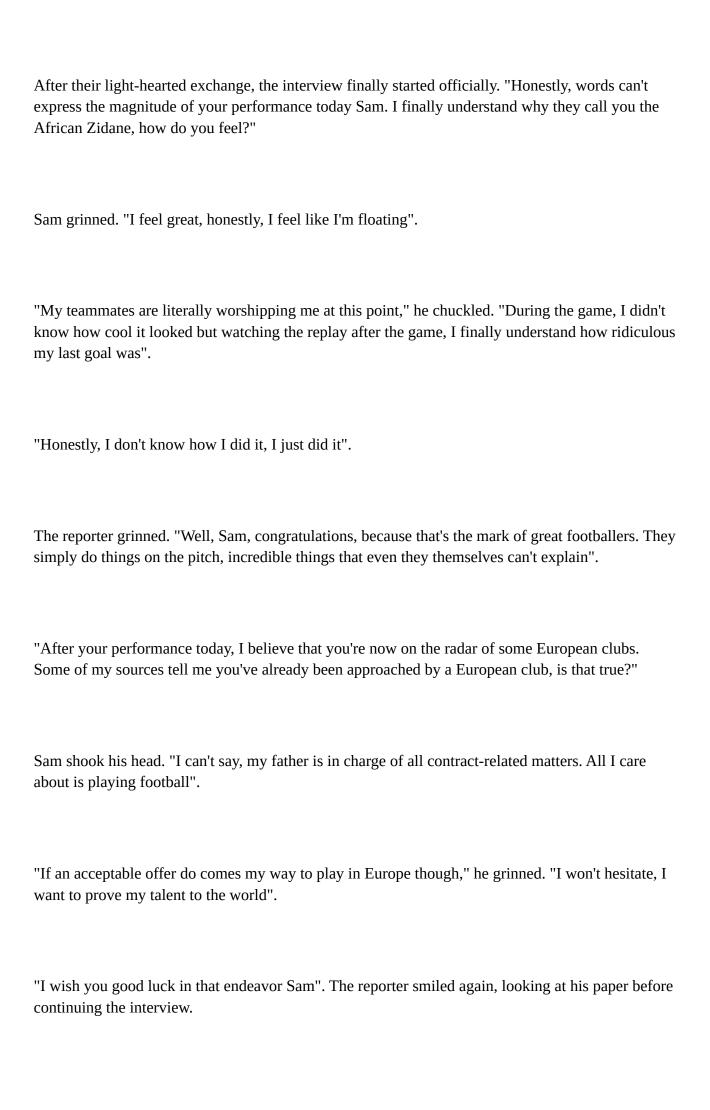
Football God 81



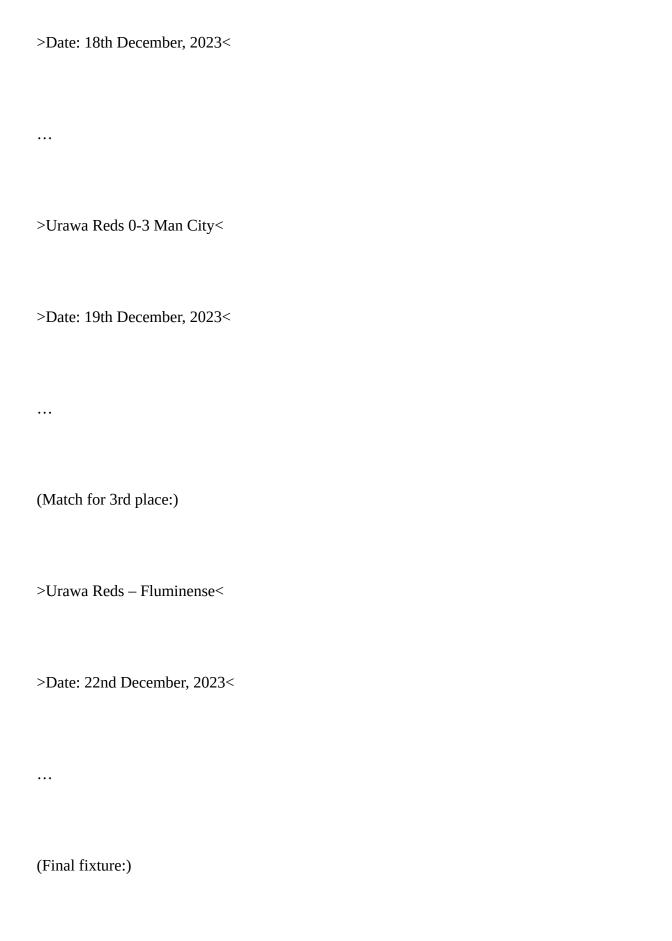








Raising Sam up, they threw him up and down excitedly in the air, acknowledging his big role in their incredible comeback today.
After returning to their hotel rooms, later in the day, Sam had a video call with his family as he spoke with his overexcited mom and sister.
Mr. Moses was just proud of his son.
That same day, his contacts from Lille finally contacted him again including delegates from 3 other European clubs, leaving this middle-aged man ecstatic but he did not bother his son with the contact talks for now.
He let Sam focus on his football, the final for now.
The next day, Manchester City finally took on Urawa Reds in the other semifinal game and just like the whole world expected, the reigning European champions blew their opponents away completely.
And finally, the semifinal results were ready.
(FIFA Club World Cup!)
(Semifinal results:)
>Fluminense 2-3 Enyimba FC<





Learning the fact that the season prior to the 2022/2023 season, Enyimba FC literally went trophy less lent even more credibility to the team's achievements and most importantly, Sam's brilliance.
Adding the fact that Enyimba FC crashed out of the FA cup immediately after he suffered an injury only added more substance to his legend.
The legend of the African Zidane rising from the suburbs of Abraka, Nigeria, rising to the top of African football, sweeping away all competition.
It was not an official book but articles like this started popping up and circulating around social media, and with popular football social media pages like GOAL.COM and others fanning the flames, a certain player experienced a popularity surge again.
All across Nigeria and beyond, fans wearing jerseys with the name Sam and the number 19 started circulating all over social media.
And most of these fans didn't wear his name on number on the Enyimba FC jersey and colors, rather wearing it in their own club colors.
There were fans from England doing it, fans from even Germany and France, and some from Spain too.
With all this publicity suddenly surrounding him at the age of 18, Sam would have been overwhelmed if not for the ever-present support of his family and his coach. Coach Yemi Daniel

was ever ready to help and keep Sam grounded.

Despite the fact that his social media followership exploded, with tons of crazy accounts chatting him up, some even sending him nudes and asking him to be their girlfriend, Sam managed to ignore it all, training diligently alongside his teammates for their date against Man City in a few days.
For this game, Coach Yemi Daniel went gaga, coaching his players with incredible detail on a lot of tactical nuances and know-hows.
"I've never seen the coach give so much for just 1 game," Austin told Sam one day. "Damn, he really wants us to pull off a miracle, do you think we can?"
Sam looked at his captain. "I don't know, but I do hope we do".
All the players put in more than 100% in training, making sure they were in tip-top shape and finally, like the rolling pages of a book, 3 days passed swiftly and it was already D-day.
It was 22nd December.
Enjoy new adventures from empire
The match for 3rd place between Urawa Reds of Japan and Fluminense of South America was played first in the afternoon.
Just like the world expected, Fluminense came roaring from the very first minute of the game, leaving their stamp of authority on the game.

They dominated the first half, running Urawa Reds ragged, a first-half performance that culminated in a convincing 0-2 score line.
During half-time, the Urawa Reds coach did his thing, motivating his players the Jose Mourinho way as they all came out for the second half like hungry Lions.
In the first 10 minutes, their high energy tactic paid off as they caught Fluminense off-guard, scoring a goal in the 54th minute to cut down the score line by half.
Fluminense were not having it though, they were not about to have another Enyimba FC here and botch the chance to collect the bronze medal.
Reminded of scars past by that goal, the Fluminense players reacted like an angry Chicken whose eggs were stolen by a Hawk.
And when a mother Hen was angry, she would turn heaven and earth upside down until she avenges her children and finds peace.
It was not strange for mother Hen to take off flying like Eagles in pursuit of Hawks when it came to their eggs, and in this game, Fluminense truly took off like Eagles after the score line was halved by Urawa Reds.
The intensity for the next 15 minutes turned borderline crazy as both teams ran each other to the ground. After withstanding the pressure for 15 minutes, Urawa Reds finally wilted under the pressure of a superior opponent.

In the 70th minute, the Fluminense attacking midfielder thundered in another outside the box rocket shot that left the Urawa Reds goalkeeper eating grass.
The ball rushed through the field like a bullet, nestling into the bottom right corner of the net and doubling Fluminense' lead again.
Just 3 minutes later, in the 73rd minute, the same attacking midfielder made it a game to remember, finishing off an incredible team play from Fluminense as he tapped the ball into an empty net.
In the 73rd minute, Fluminense tripled their lead, making the score line 1-4 in their favor. The fans in attendance watching the game were thoroughly entertained.
After scoring the goal, the Fluminense midfielder charged towards the corner flag before doing a backflip in celebration.
The Fluminense players were flying and in a good mood.
For the remaining minutes of the game, they enjoyed themselves with the ball, dominating possession, playing neat tiki taka football, with some occasional dizzying moments of brilliance from the Fluminense wingers as they cut through their opponents with brilliant dribbles like a hot knife through butter.
By the 90th minute, Urawa Reds was already humiliated. This did not stop the Japanese team from scoring a second consolation goal though as in the last minute of the game, they scored a 2nd goal.
The 3rd place game ended 2-4 in Fluminense' favor after an incredible display.





"The boy is good," Pep Guardiola smiled. "I watched the Fluminense game 3 days ago so I understand all the hype around him, it doesn't mean we're scared though. My team is perfectly capable of handling him". He said confidently.
"We've played against much tougher opposition and survived, so, we'll be fine".
He looked at his wristwatch. "If that's all, I need to go now, I have a schedule to meet".
"Sir, please wait, I have another question for you"
He didn't wait though, he left, leaving the reporter disappointed. He didn't have all the time in the world to give to an unofficial interview, he had a game to prepare his team for.
For the last few hours to the game, the atmosphere became excitable as the stadium in Riyadh became filled with tens of thousands of fans.
Most of the fans were in the sky-blue jerseys of Man City, mostly Erling Haaland and Kevin De Bruyne jerseys. Very few fans wore the biro blue of Enyimba FC to the stadium for the final.
For this game, it was almost like a home game for Man City, the Nigerian club was heavily outmatched in terms of fan attendance.
And finally, the Man City team bus arrived to much fanfare.

Once the sky blue and white bus pulled into the stadium, the fans cheered loudly, welcoming their star players. Some of the players gave a bit of their time to sign autographs before entering the stadium.
The Enyimba team bus already arrived much earlier to much smaller fanfare.
In the dressing room, the coaches of both teams did the final work on their team before releasing them as they walked out of the dressing room.
Right there in the tunnel, before the game, Sam alongside his teammates had the best moment of their football careers.
Right there in the tunnel of this stadium, Sam stood shoulder to shoulder with some of the best and most high-profile players in the world.
Badump! Badump!
He could feel his heart beating hard against his chest.
Standing in a tunnel where at one side there was Erling Haaland, the best striker in the world and at another side, Kevin De Bruyne, the best midfielder in the world, it was hard to stay calm.
And not just them, seeing stars like Phil Foden, Rodri, Bernardo Silva, Ederson, and even Ruben Dias left Sam slightly hyperventilating.

It was taking his all not to be starstruck by the scene before him.
When he eventually got over his fanatism though, Sam settled, taking the immense moment of this game in. 'It's a final, against Man City'.
He took a deep breath. 'It's my moment'.
'The moment that the system worked so hard and expended so much energy to create for me'. He smiled slightly. 'And I worked so hard to get to'.
'I've made it here; I can't afford to capitulate now'.
Paul closed his eyes and raised his head, taking in the incredible noise of this stadium. 'Calm down, calm down,' he chanted in his mind.
'Don't let the pressure get to you, calm, let it flow away like the tide,' he rubbed his palms together. 'Today is my day'.
'It's now or never!'
Receiving the signal, the players finally made their way out of the tunnel to a loud roar from the tens of thousands of fans surrounding this stadium.
Under this atmosphere, all the Enyimba players felt overwhelmed.

This was not their first time under this type of atmosphere, it was simply the caliber of opponents that they were in this atmosphere with that made them feel overwhelmed. They felt like dogs that were stuck in a cage with Wolves.
Sam recovered faster than his teammates though, clapping his hands. "Come on guys, stay focused!"
"We have 45 minutes ahead of us, we can do this!"
Seeing his reaction, Austin finally reacted, echoing his words and in no time, the team managed to shake off the cold feet they were feeling.
Standing in the middle of this pitch shoulder to shoulder with the likes of Rodri and Kevin De Bruyne, Sam still felt starstruck, but with a different motivation this time.
'The student shall eclipse the master!' He grinned.
At that moment, the referee took a look at his wristwatch, and then
FWEEEE!
The game started.
Chapter 84 An Erling Haaland masterclass!

FWEEEEE!

Enyimba FC started kickoff, but they didn't hold possession of the ball for too long as Manchester City asserted their authority over the game early.

Austin and Sam started the game with their bloods boiling, filled with adrenaline but even that was not enough against the best team in the world, a team filled with world-class superstars.

Playing in the same midfield alongside the likes of Kevin De Bruyne and Rodri, Austin and Sam felt like toddlers playing against their older siblings.

The thing about them though was that they didn't give up.

Manchester City dominated possession, forcing the whole Enyimba FC team to go back and defend but Enyimba FC refused to give them an inch to score still.

For the first 15 minutes of the game, Enyimba FC suffered but they managed to stay compact, defending with incredible zeal like a team, blocking off all obvious shooting lanes as Ojo saved 3 consecutive shots on target, one of them coming from the deadly striker, Erling Haaland.

The work rate of the whole team was incredible for that first 15 minutes as they ran all over the pitch, but even that was not enough against a team of Manchester City's caliber.

In the 18th minute of the game, one of the Man City big names left his imprint on the game, tearing it open with reckless abandon.

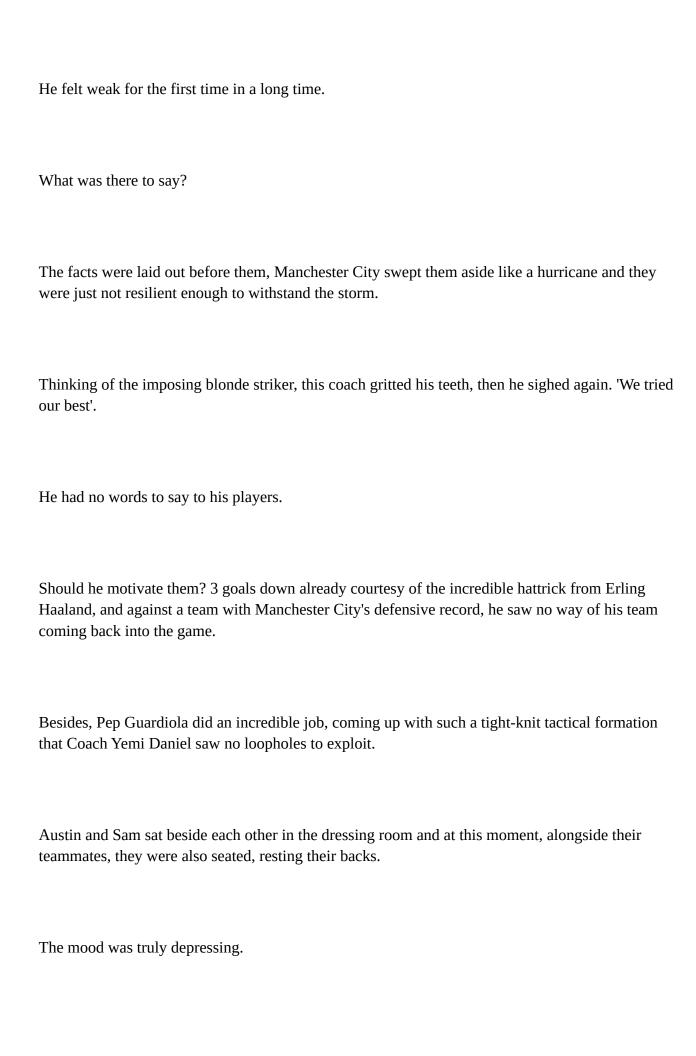
Receiving a diagonal pass from Bernardo Silva in the midfield, the Man City no. 17, Kevin De Bruyne took one touch of the ball with his right foot, controlling it with an inch-perfect touch before switching to his left foot, effortlessly turning away from a challenge.
After turning away from the challenge, leaving his opponent for dead, De Bruyne took another touch of the ball with his left foot, kicking it forward slightly and setting himself for a shot at goal.
Noting the threat, Farouk charged in, sliding but it was not enough to make De Bruyne hesitate as this midfielder's left foot hit the ball with power from outside the box.
It was a perfect technique.
POW!
Like a missile, the ball rose from the ground with speed, rising up and rushing towards the top left corner of the post.
Ojo took 2 steps before jumping on a full-stretch dive. He tried his best but it was not enough, the ball snuck past him, but then
Bam!
It hit the top post.





The Enyimba FC defense was split by the inch-perfect through pass.
Haaland took only 2 touches of the ball, the first touch to slightly control the ball and the next touch to smash the ball into the bottom left corner of the net.
In the 24th minute of the game, Man City was already leading 2-0.
It was a total walloping.
After scoring the second goal, Man City seemed to reduce the game intensity a bit as they rotated the ball more, playing more through the midfield but they did manage to set up Haaland 2 more times.
Ojo pulled off a sensational save one time while the other time, one of the Enyimba center backs had to take a yellow card for the team just to stop the rampaging striker from getting his 3rd goal of the game.
Kevin De Bruyne and Phil Foden also came close to scoring a few times, but none of it was concrete until the 43rd minute of the game.
Receiving the ball from Bernardo Silva, Phil Foden went on a mazy run, dribbling down the left side of the pitch past multiple Enyimba players before floating a cross into the box.

Despite being tightly marked, Haaland managed to sneak out of trouble again, finding enough space and doing the rest with his impressive strength to volley the ball past Ojo into the net for his 3rd goal of the night.
It was a powerful shot into the top right corner, Ojo stood no chance.
Haaland scored a first half hattrick in the final of the FIFA Club World Cup. Immediately after scoring his 3rd, his teammates swarmed him, congratulating him and when they were done, Haaland did his iconic meditation celebration.
By then, the Enyimba FC camp already dissolved into chaos as the players accused each other for leaving the striker unmarked.
Austin tried his best to diffuse the situation but it was only a temporary measure, the team already lost fighting spirit and zeal.
The first half ended 3-0 in Manchester City's favor.
Enyimba FC were humbled. Chapter 85 Just one goal!
The mood in the Enyimba FC camp was well, depressing.
In the dressing room, the players sat, resting their backs helplessly and this time, even Coach Yemi Daniel was sprawled at a corner of this dressing room, also seated. This coach threw a glance at his players, but the sight made him sigh.



Austin touched Sam. "Hey," he inclined his head to look at him, smiling slightly. "Did you see that through pass from KDB?"
He looked down. "I only used to watch him do those through TV before, to watch it live, on the same pitch with him, it's an honor honestly".
"Honestly, I'm satisfied with bowing out with just that alone".
He looked at Sam again. "I mean, we tried our best, we exceeded expectations and that's enough for me".
Sam looked at his captain, he shook his head. "We really exceeded expectations, yes, but I'm not satisfied yet".
Sam took a deep breath, and then he stood up, his eyes gleaming as he stared round at his teammates.
Noticing him stand up, the others paid attention to him, including the coach.
Under all their gazes, Sam felt a bit tense but he conveniently ignored it. He raised a finger for emphasis. "All we need is one goal".
"Trust me, that's all we need to get back into this game".



That was all that the Enyimba FC players needed, they felt their bloods boiling hot again like an inferno as they soon stepped out into the pitch again for the second half. The momentum was still full Man City in the stadium.
The Man City players were in a great mood, and their fans were loud but the Enyimba FC players no longer cared about all that.
If they were going down, they would go down fighting.
FWEEE!
Manchester City kicked off the second half.
And straight from the 45th minute, led by Sam's aggressive press, Enyimba FC came out with even more intensity than the first half, running all over the pitch.
The full Enyimba FC team became reckless.
"Come on, we can do it!"
Austin was the captain but at this moment, on the pitch, Sam felt like the true captain as he got into the head of his teammates, leading them like a war General leading his troops to sure death for a kamikaze attack.

His troops didn't need to know that it was a kamikaze attack though, all they needed to know was the orders and how to execute them to perfection.
The Enyimba FC squad became incredibly reckless, pressing the ball with incredible intensity. Their tactic paid off as for 20 minutes, neither team had a clear sight at goal, the score line remaining 3-0 till the 65th minute.
Even at this stage, exhausted, the Enyimba FC players still ran themselves to the ground, pressing with incredible intensity.
Even Coach Yemi Daniel was shocked at his team's energy on the pitch.
Any other team subjected to this intense press would have likely buckled under the intense pressure from the Nigerian players but this was Manchester City.
Stealing the ball again just after Enyimba FC won it back in the midfield, Rodri passed to the press-resistant Bernardo Silva.
Receiving the ball towards the right, Bernardo Silva twisted and turned like a slippery eel, drawing the opposition in and leaving Enyimba FC players on the ground before playing a safe pass to Kevin De Bruyne.
KDB took only one touch of the ball, hitting it with the outside of his boot towards the right wing as soon as Bernardo Silva passed to him and the right wing was where Phil Foden lurked.
There, Phil Foden took one touch of the ball, rushing into the Enyimba FC 18-yard box before taking a clean shot.



FWEEEE!
When the referee's whistle sounded, the Enyimba FC players kept on giving their best even as Man City's game intensity reduced again.
The Enyimba FC players tried to take advantage but it was hard when you were going up against a defense comprising Ruben Dias, John Stones, and Manuel Akanji, all 3 of the best defenders in the world.
But then, in the 73rd minute of the game, against the run of play, it happened.
Farouk won back the ball before passing to Sam immediately like the attacking midfielder wanted.
As soon as Sam's leg touched the ball, he felt electricity course through him, making his eyes gleam, his brain taking in all the situation on the pitch before him.
Bernardo Silva rushed in but flicking the ball up, Sam skipped past this player, and then, while the ball still floated in the air, Sam's right leg swung with power from outside the 18-yard box, executing a knuckle ball shot.
BOOM!
The sound was like that of a missile as his right leg hit the ball, sending it towards the top left

corner of the post with incredible power.

The ball rose up high above the post before dipping back down, into the net.
Ederson dived but it was not enough, the ball nestled into the net.
"GOALLLL!" Sam screamed, jumping and planting his feet down furiously while pumping his fists excitedly as more adrenaline flowed, evidence of finally venting some pent-up frustration since.
And immediately after, he did it.
~~
[You have accessed ability card: Shoot it like Lewy!]
[Card Effects:]
>This card can only be used within a minute after scoring a goal. Once used, for the next 10 minutes, your positioning, shooting technique, and shot power are amplified, granting you an 80% chance of scoring with every shot that you take<
•••
[You have made use of ability card: Shoot it like Lewy!]

The look in Sam's eyes changed. Chapter 86 An iconic performance!
On the pitch, Austin was the teammate who was closest to Sam's position and he was the first to feel the change in his teammate.
He could not describe it with words, it was almost like, Sam's aura changed, becoming more menacing, chilling, and lethal, like a vampire.
The Manchester City midfielders also felt it but they didn't pay attention to it. Sam didn't celebrate his goal, eager to restart the game, and then
FWEEEE!
From that moment on, everything changed.
To many, that goal was just a consolation for Enyimba FC but the players didn't feel that way at all. Afterall, Sam was still there, saying the words to rile them up and give their all for the final 17 minutes of this game.
As for Sam himself? Well, it was safe to say he exploded.









The whole Man City defense was put on its toes because of one player, him.
Displaying quick feet, shifting the ball, retaining possession in the 18-yard box, Sam skipped past a couple of challenges but the shooting angle he sought never came, nor did the perfect passing lane.
Manchester City was just too defensively disciplined.
At that moment was when Ruben Dias rushed close, colliding against him hard as the force of this player pushed him.
Sam didn't fall though, rather using the laws of simple physics to take advantage of that sudden momentum in his favor, he swirled like a roulette on top the ball. He took 2 touches.
First touch with the heel of his boot to stop the ball, and second touch to drag it and roll with it beyond Ruben Dias and all the players in sky blue blocking everywhere around him towards the right side of the box.
In that moment, under the tension of this stadium, with so many world-class players marking him and keeping him out, Sam executed the roulette skill!
And with it, space opened up, a tiny space but in the zone state, his brain picked it up immediately like a hungry machine.
BAM!



Immediately after the ball entered the net, Sam jumped, pumping his fists excitedly as with wide eyes, pupils dilated, he roared. "COME ON!!!"
The game was on!
Could he actually do it?
Could Enyimba FC actually do it?!
Chapter 87 An iconic goal!
It was 87 minutes into the final of the FIFA Club World Cup, and Manchester City was leading by a slim margin of 4-3.
Could he actually do it?
Could Enyimba FC actually do it?
Sam's first goal in the 73rd minute of the game definitely rattled some Man City nerves but the players only saw it as a minor threat.
His second goal in the 83rd minute rattled even more nerves mostly due to the nature of the goal. Scoring a goal from 25 yards out showed Sam's incredible confidence and form in the final moments of this game.



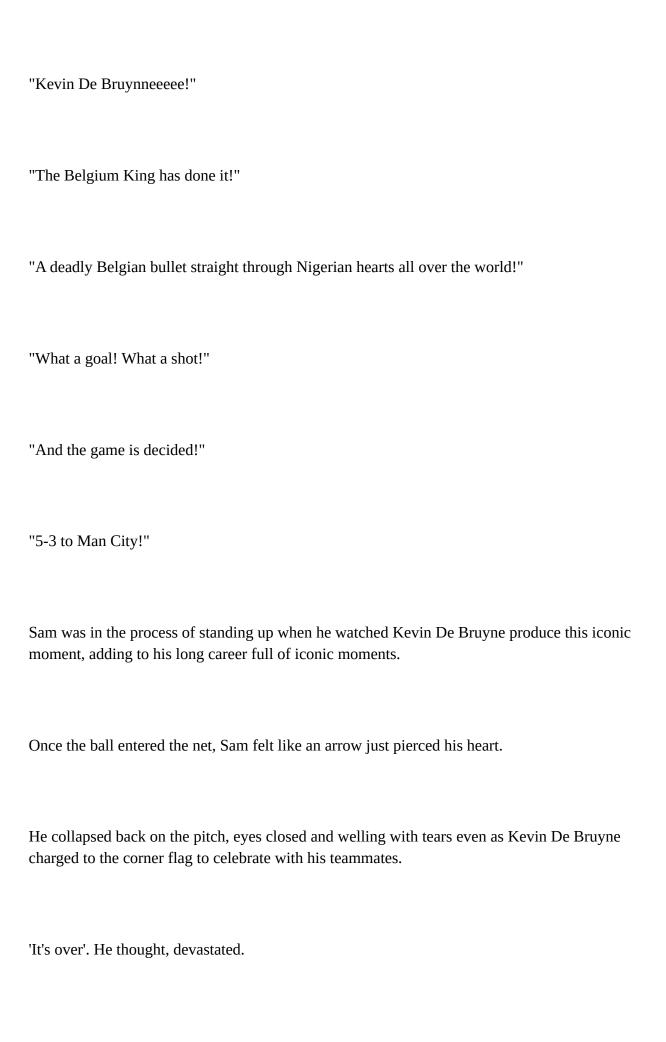
At this moment, they were like grunt soldiers on a battlefield.
Following the orders of their commander, they didn't care if they were fighting a losing battle or if winning required them to sacrifice their lives, all they cared about was accomplishing their commander's orders and winning.
For those final minutes, the noise in the stadium in Riyadh truly climbed to a crescendo, rising to record-breaking decibels.
On the pitch, the tension was palpable.
The stakes of this final had never been higher. Now, it was up to Manchester City to uphold their reputation as the best club in the world and see off the incredible challenge from their reportedly inferior opposition.
It was just 3 minutes remaining of the 90 minutes but in that short time, Samuel Moses remained the standout player.
The no. 19 jersey was like a ghost haunting the Man City players.
Sam already went rogue, disobeying his coach's instructions as he took on a free role in the final minutes of this game all due to the singular purpose of getting his 4th goal of the game, or creating it if possible.
He didn't care if he scored the goal, he just wanted his team to win.





By then, Erling Haaland, the deadly striker was already dead tired, barely impacting the game but 3 players remained a menace, Phil Foden, Bernardo Silva, and most importantly, the maverick midfield enforcer, Kevin De Bruyne.
In those final minutes, it was pound for pound.
It was war!
Shots were taken at a crazy frequency as both teams worked their way through the opposition, trying to find another goal to kill the game.
And finally, in the 90th plus 3 minutes, it came
Sam's endless stamina on the pitch helped him win back possession, but he barely held onto the ball when Bernardo Silva's press came. Going one way and using a feint, Sam left this short player for dead and dashed the other way only to run into a road block, Rodri.
The defensive midfielder cleanly won back the ball, outmuscling Sam and leaving him on the ground.
While Sam scrambled to get back on his feet, he was given a VIP ticket of exclusive viewing angle to watch the moment that killed the game.
As soon as Rodri won the ball, the loose ball rolled freely into the path of the marauding Kevin De Bruyne.





FWEEEE!
The final whistle sounded soon after, bringing the game to an end.
Kevin De Bruyne won the man of the match award for the game after his 4 goal contributions of 1 goal and 3 assists.
Chapter 88 2023 FIFA Club World Cup winners- Manchester City
As soon as the final whistle reverberated, all the Enyimba FC players collapsed on the pitch, devastated and mourning their loss.
While the Manchester City players celebrated their victory, the Enyimba FC players were left devastated.
This was the reality of football, there was always the winners who celebrate at the end and the losers at the end of every football game.
This time, Sam ended up on the losing side in the most important game of his career so far and to his young heart, it was a heart wrenching experience.
Sam could not hold his emotions in, he collapsed in tears on the pitch.
As the Man City celebrations continued, the Enyimba FC players slowly picked themselves up one after the other and in tandem, they walked towards Sam, trying their best to console him.





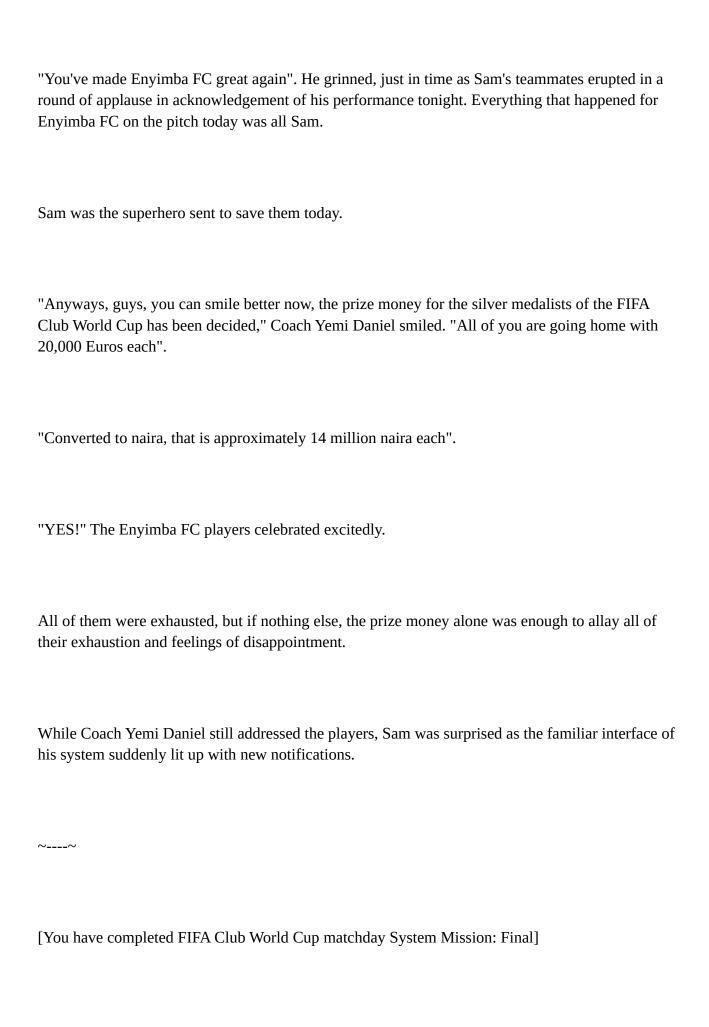
There were other world-class players still on this pitch with them!
Immediately, Austin started it, seeking the other Man City players out to swap jerseys. Austin managed to swap jerseys with Bernardo Silva, the timeless Manchester City center midfielder.
Farouk swapped jerseys with Rodri, while Emeka managed to swap jerseys with the incredible Erling Haaland.
The Enyimba FC players were having a field day. Exchanging jerseys with their idols made the bitterness of their damning loss lessen a bit.
And then, the time to award them for their performance came.
After Kevin De Bruyne's crazy performance in the final, the most important game of the tournament, he scooped home the golden ball award of the FIFA Club World Cup 2023.
As for the golden boot award, it had an unexpected winner.
Despite with the likes of Erling Haaland and Phil Foden competing in the FIFA Club World Cup 2023, after his haul of 1 goal in the second-round game against Al-Ittihad, his hattrick against Fluminense, and his 2nd consecutive hattrick against Manchester City, Sam scooped the golden boot award with his haul of 7 goals.
Erling Haaland came up second with 5 goals after his haul of 3 goals in the final and 2 goals in the semifinals.

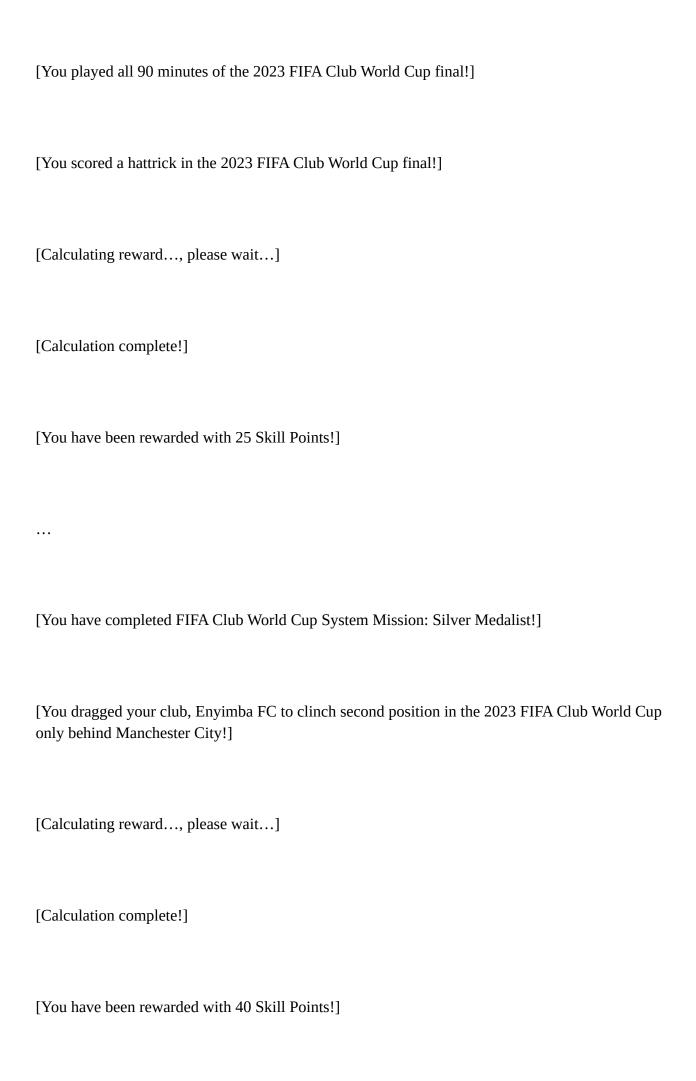
A few thousand Enyimba FC away fans made the trip which truly excited the Enyimba FC players as they acknowledged their support.
While the other players made it back to the tunnel, one player went to the media where he was supposed to have an interview, Kevin De Bruyne.
The Belgian midfielder gave the interviews his full attention, answering all their questions with a straight face until he was asked a specific question.
As soon as he was asked, De Bruyne smiled, a rare thing before the media.
"The boy is good, but even better than his ability with the ball is his mentality. He's a winner, and I respect him for it".
He chuckled. "If we were not careful, he would have single-handedly orchestrated a comeback and maybe win his team the game".
"So, what do you think about him?"
The Belgian midfielder weighed his words carefully before answering. "He won't last long in the Nigerian league".
"He's Europe material, he's made for the top".
"I hope to compete against him in the future".





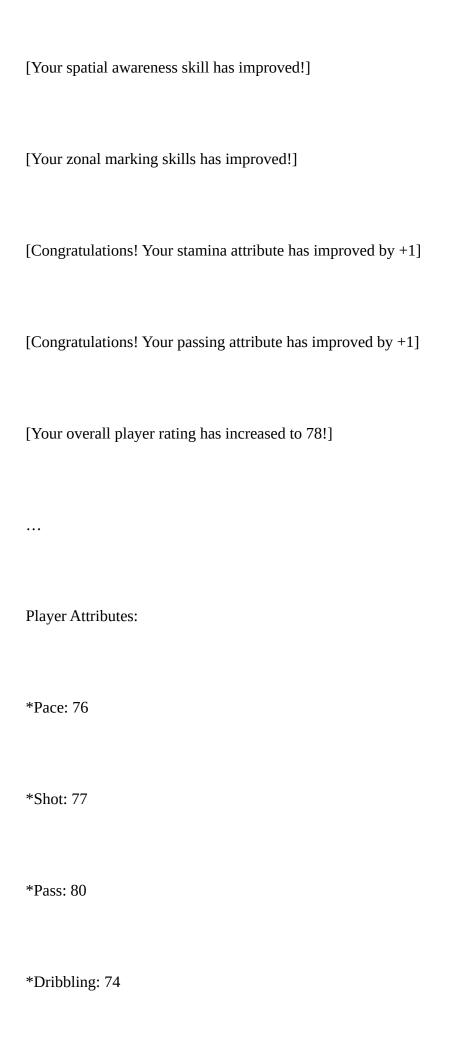
He sighed again. "I envy your confidence Sam, that mentality to keep on believing till the very end of the game, it's what helped us to win that game".
"I can still remember the nerve-wracking penalty shootout like it was just yesterday". He looked at Sam and chuckled again. "These memories man, they've defined my career, I can't forget them".
He took a deep breath. "God bless the day you signed the contract with Enyimba FC," he smiled. "It changed my life".
At that moment, Coach Yemi Daniel finally entered the dressing room with a big smile on his face. Enyimba FC may have lost the game, settling for 2nd position in the tournament but at this moment, it didn't feel like that at all.
After getting over the initial disappointment, the players finally understood the significance of their performance today.
They literally played against Manchester City, the best club in all of Europe.
To give them such a tough fight, it was the greatest win of this night.
Coach Yemi Daniel grinned. "Congratulations guys, that performance out there today, I will never forget it".
Saying that, he paid special attention to one of his midfielders, Samuel Moses. "Sam, thank you for everything".

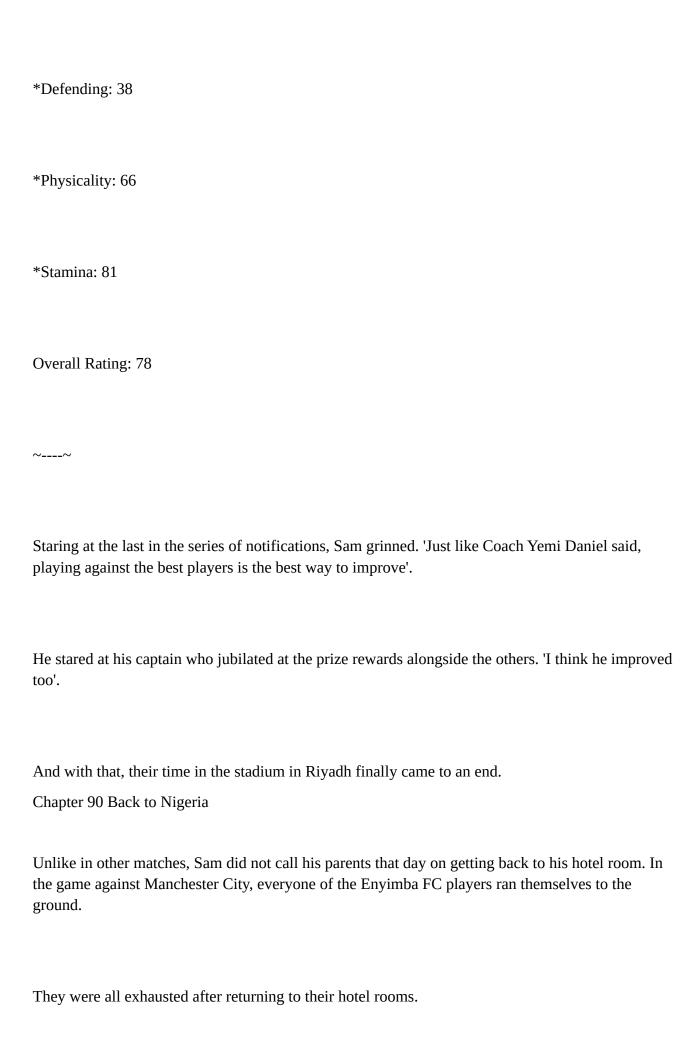




[You have been rewarded with 2 energy elixirs!]
Your next chapter awaits on empire
[You have completed a hidden System Mission: Golden Boot]
[You won the Golden Boot of the 2023 FIFA Club World Cup!]
[Calculating reward, please wait]
[Calculation complete!]
[You have been rewarded with 30 Skill Points!]
[Click to open reward card:]
Sam was still in the dressing room alongside his teammates when these series of notifications appeared, leaving him stunned.

This time, his curiosity could not wait though so trying his beast to be as inconspicuous as possible, he secretly clicked on the card hovering before him.
Like usual, immediately after he clicked on the card, the bright light surrounding it became even brighter before it burst into countless golden specks and from the specks came out his reward.
[You have been rewarded with an ability card: Thread it like KDB! ×2!]
[Card Effects:]
>Once used, for 30 minutes, you gain the incredible playmaking skills of the Belgian midfielder, Kevin De Bruyne. You get the vision and the skill to play penetrative defense splitting through passes just like KDB<
[Due to the incredible state of mind you entered in today's game and due to your unreal performance, Real-time game experience accumulation triggered!]
[Congratulations! Your shooting attribute has improved by +2]





With the aid of relaxation music decided by Austin, his roommate, Sam slept immediately after taking his bath to freshen up and as soon as he laid on the bed.
While Sam slept, he had a dream.
It was hazy, he could not pinpoint the exact jersey that he wore but, in the dream, he saw himself lifting the UEFA champions league trophy excitedly.
In another part of the dream, he entered a picture with the UEFA champions league trophy alongside his parents, his sister, and an unknown girl.
Heck, who was she?
'Sam' He heard his name being called, but it was echoing.
'Sam, Sam'
"Sam!"
"Ah, what?" He was jolted awake, deprived of the opportunity to explore his sweet dream even more.



The flight back to Nigeria was a long one but after a few hours, the plane finally touched down in the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport in Abuja, the federal capital territory of Nigeria.
After that, most of the players separated at the airport. The FIFA Club World Cup was the only active football tournament in football due to a short break.
After the tournament, Coach Yemi Daniel took advantage of the short break, giving his players a little holiday to spend with their families.
This was why after biding farewell to his coach and his teammates, Sam took the next flight to the airport in Asaba, Delta State.
He was going home.
From Asaba, he took an uber drive to Abraka.
Finally returning back to his home, Sam was treated to a triumphant welcome that was organized by his parents and their neighbors.
Mrs. Moses was prepared for the occasion, cooking enough jollof rice to feed a whole party of people.
And as the people trooped in, asking questions about the occasion, she explained with immense pride. "My son is playing for Enyimba FC and today, he is coming back home, we're celebrating it".



Hearing the familiar voice of his best friend, Sam turned to look at him, grinning widely. "Ian!" He called.
They both hugged before Ian threw him the ultimate question. "My guy, hope you didn't come without any gifts from Saudi Arabia". He gave him the 'your money or your life' eye. "Or you better start going back!"
Sam chuckled. "Rest guy, I brought gifts".
Despite being exhausted yesterday after the game, before returning to the hotel with his captain, they both strolled into the streets of Saudi Arabia, getting some non-perishable local food before also shopping in a supermarket.
Sam bought enough snacks for his sister, and enough gifts for his best friend and his parents.
These people were not the only faces that welcomed him though.
Unfamiliar faces also welcomed him. "Welcome home Sam, you're a proud son of Abraka. My son loves to play football too, I hope you show him the way".
"Welcome home superstar!"
"Did you bring goodies from abroad?"



"Dad, any update?"
Mr. Moses grinned. "Oh yes son, there are updates, lots of updates".
It was time to discuss his career.