

# The Inside Story Of England's Most Unlikely Champions



In the annals of English football, the story of Leicester City's Premier League triumph in 2016 will forever be etched as one of the most remarkable underdog tales in sporting history. A team that had only narrowly avoided relegation the previous season defied all odds to lift the coveted trophy, stunning both fans and pundits alike.



## Leicester City: The Immortals: The Inside Story of England's Most Unlikely Champions

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 9784 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 553 pages  
Lending : Enabled



This article delves into the inside story of Leicester's unlikely title-winning campaign, exploring the key factors that contributed to their improbable success. From the astute managerial guidance of Claudio Ranieri to the unwavering belief and determination of the players, every element of the Foxes' remarkable journey is meticulously examined.

### **Claudio Ranieri: The Mastermind**

When Claudio Ranieri was appointed as Leicester City manager in July 2015, few would have predicted the transformative impact he would have on the club. The Italian coach had a reputation for being a pragmatic and cautious tactician, but he quickly instilled a sense of attacking freedom and belief in his Leicester squad.

Ranieri's tactical acumen was evident in his decision to switch to a 4-4-2 formation, which allowed his team to play with width and exploit the pace of his wingers. He also empowered his players to express themselves on the pitch, encouraging them to take risks and play with flair.

A key aspect of Ranieri's management style was his ability to create a positive and cohesive team environment. He fostered a spirit of camaraderie among the players, who developed a deep bond both on and off the field. This unity played a crucial role in Leicester's ability to overcome adversity and maintain their focus throughout the season.

## **Jamie Vardy: The Unlikely Hero**

No player epitomized Leicester City's unlikely triumph more than Jamie Vardy. The former non-league striker had never played in the Premier League before the 2015-16 season, but he emerged as a prolific goalscorer, netting 24 goals in 38 games.

Vardy's success was a testament to his relentless work ethic and determination. Despite his lack of traditional footballing education, he possessed an uncanny ability to find the back of the net. His pace, power, and clinical finishing proved to be a nightmare for opposition defenders.

Beyond his goalscoring prowess, Vardy also played a vital role in Leicester's attacking play. His willingness to run the channels and stretch defenses created space for his teammates, allowing them to exploit the gaps and find the net.

## **Riyad Mahrez: The Creative Spark**

While Vardy provided the goals, Riyad Mahrez was the creative spark that ignited Leicester's attack. The Algerian winger possessed an array of skills that made him a constant threat to opposition defenses.

Mahrez's dribbling ability was mesmerizing, as he could effortlessly weave through defenders and create chances for himself and his teammates. His vision and passing range were also exceptional, allowing him to pick out incisive passes that unlocked defenses.

Beyond his individual brilliance, Mahrez also formed a formidable partnership with Vardy. The two players developed an understanding that

allowed them to combine effectively and create numerous scoring opportunities.

### **N'Golo Kanté: The Unsung Hero**

While the likes of Vardy, Mahrez, and Ranieri often hogged the headlines, N'Golo Kanté played an indispensable role in Leicester's title-winning campaign. The French midfielder was the engine room of the team, providing tireless energy and protection to the defense.

Kanté's tackling ability was second to none. He possessed an uncanny knack for intercepting passes and dispossessing opponents, effectively breaking up play and winning back possession for his team.

Despite his diminutive stature, Kanté was also a formidable presence in the air. His leaping ability and aerial prowess made him a threat at set-pieces and allowed Leicester to gain an edge in midfield battles.

### **Unwavering Belief and Determination**

Beyond the tactical nous of Ranieri and the individual brilliance of his players, Leicester City's Premier League triumph was also a testament to the unwavering belief and determination of the entire squad.

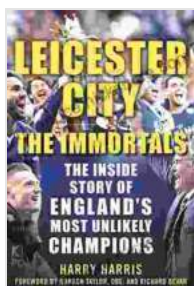
Despite being written off by many at the start of the season, Leicester never lost sight of their goal. They approached every game with a fearless attitude, believing that anything was possible.

The players also developed a strong mental resilience, which enabled them to bounce back from setbacks and maintain their focus throughout the season. They never allowed themselves to get too high after victories or

too low after defeats, instead remaining grounded and focused on the task at hand.

Leicester City's Premier League triumph in 2016 stands as a testament to the power of belief, determination, and the ability to defy expectations. Claudio Ranieri's astute managerial guidance, the goalscoring prowess of Jamie Vardy, the creative brilliance of Riyad Mahrez, the tireless efforts of N'Golo Kanté, and the unwavering belief of the entire squad combined to create one of the most remarkable sporting stories in recent memory.

Leicester's unlikely triumph serves as a reminder that anything is possible in football, and that even the most unfancied teams can achieve greatness with the right combination of talent, hard work, and belief.



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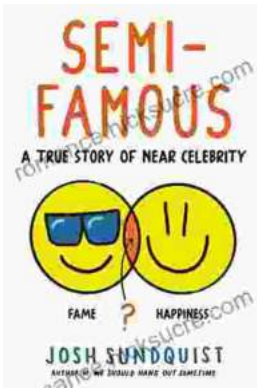
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