





Date: 2 April 2016  
Opposition: Tottenham Hotspur  
Competition: League

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THE

INDEPENDENT

DAILY

Mirror

Kane: Klopp said just three things to me: What a strike!It was great to hear after that talk about me being just a one-season wonder

LIVERPOOL 1  
Coutinho 51  
TOTTENHAM 1  
Kane 63

THERE was a poignant moment at the end of this remarkable contest, when Jurgen Klopp bestowed one of his bear hugs on a player.

This time though, it was Harry Kane, and not one of his own team, who got the famous embrace, such was the quality of the Spurs striker's finish to secure what could still be an important point in the title race.

Afterwards, the England man suggested Liverpool's boss uttered "just three words" into his ear as he was warmly congratulated by the German. "He just said: 'What a strike', which is obviously great to hear from an opposition manager," Kane said with a smile.

Yet, if those three little words were another indication of the incredible quality of the Tottenham star, then it was another set of three words which have perhaps had an even bigger influence on the forward's development.

They were uttered at the start of this season, after Kane's impressive emergence during the previous Premier League campaign, and they were cutting in their cruelty: 'One-season wonder.'

Many said it, and Kane himself heard it, and registered it with a determination that he admits has been translated into stirring deeds this season, which have brought him a Spurs scoring record in the Premier League era.

His wonderful goal at Anfield was his 22nd so far, and if there were doubts in the summer he could consistently find the net at the top level, then they have clearly been spectacularly dispelled, with Kane intent on making a firm statement.

"Yes, there was a lot of talk at the start of the season about a one-season wonder, but I have a lot of self-belief, I believe in my ability," he explained.

"Whenever anyone tells you that you can't do something or you're not as good as you think you are, you want to prove them wrong.

"Of course, I want to do the best I can for myself anyway, but when people are telling me I can't do it, it makes it even better for me when I go out there and work hard and do what I do and achieve what I achieve.

"Obviously, I've gone ahead of last season but it doesn't stop here, there are six games left for me to try and get as many goals as possible."

His goal was a thing of wonder, a finish every bit as clinically instinctive as his genius strike against Germany, and a fine example of why Tottenham are not out of the title race.

Yet, Liverpool did their best to bury Spurs' hopes, creating 10 gilt-edged chances with some fine attacking play of their own through a subtle, probing combination between Daniel Sturridge, Adam Lallana and Philippe Coutinho.

It was a strange game in that Spurs showed exactly why they are pushing at the top by controlling long periods of the game, but Liverpool did enough to have won comfortably, only their finishing and keeper Hugo Lloris denying them.

Coutinho did score a fine goal, and when Klopp sorts the defence out next season he can expect to match Tottenham more readily - although his admiring words to Kane were a clear indication of how much he would love to have the striker.

The 22-year-old cannot only finish, he can also bully defenders as he did to the bewildered Mamadou Sakho, and run them ragged. He is the real deal, and even though his side did not get their desperately hoped for win, he takes some satisfaction in his record.

"It's a great achievement, one I'm very proud of but, hopefully, it doesn't stop here," he added.

"I didn't know about this record until I went in. It's a great thing to have, but three points are all that I care about at the moment. For me, it's just about the team and helping to get as many points as possible."

LIVERPOOL: Mignolet 7, Clyne 6, Lovren 7, Sakho 5, Moreno 5, Milner 6, Henderson 6, Can 5, Lallana 6 (Allen 82, 6), Sturridge 7 (Origi 72, 6), Coutinho 8

TOTTENHAM: Lloris 8, Walker 6, Alderweireld 7, Wimmer 6, Rose 6, Dembele 7, Dier 7, Son 6 (Chadli 67, 6), Erksen 7, Alli 6 (Mason 88), Kane 8

REF: Jon Moss MOTM KANE

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LIVERPOOL

ECHO

Belief restored but frustration the overriding emotion

The reaction of both managers at the final whistle spoke volumes about the outcome. Jurgen Klopp threw his arms up in despair and raged at referee Jon Moss for blowing up just as substitute Jordon Ibe was about to burst forward. A few yards to his left Mauricio Pochettino pounded the turf in frustration. A stalemate suited neither Liverpool nor Tottenham after a gripping Premier League contest at Anfield. But in truth neither did enough to warrant any more than a share of the spoils. Klopp got the morale-boosting response he had demanded to the miserable debacle at Southampton prior to the international break. Liverpool will head for their manager's emotional reunion with Borussia Dortmund in the quarter-final first leg of the Europa League on Thursday night with belief restored. This was a performance brimming with desire and commitment as the Reds put a serious dent in Spurs' hopes of a first title for 55 years. Liverpool had the game's outstanding individual in Philippe Coutinho. The little Brazilian magician made light of the gruelling 13,000-mile round trip to South America which meant he only returned to Melwood on Thursday. Coutinho took his tally for the season into double figures with a classy finish as he netted for a third successive game. But Harry Kane's emphatic equaliser deservedly drew Tottenham level and during a frenetic finale both teams squandered some golden opportunities to clinch victory.

'There's no way Klopp's side should be sitting in ninth'

For Kopites, the sight of Liverpool matching and outplaying for periods a team involved in the title race in April will have been bittersweet. There is no way Klopp's side should be sitting in ninth place and in danger of registering the Reds' lowest top-flight finish since they were relegated in 1953-54.

They are better than that. They should be in the hunt for a Champions League spot but glaring inconsistency and some stupid slip-ups like at St Mary's a fortnight ago has cost them dear. What's clear is that if they replicate this kind of tempo and intensity in the final stages of the campaign, Klopp will at least have a platform to build on heading into his first summer at the helm.

When the clubs met at White Hart Lane back in October it was a frenetic goalless draw high on perspiration but low on inspiration. For the opening 45 minutes it followed a similar path as both sides battled in vain to make the breakthrough. Both Liverpool and Tottenham hunted in packs and pressed tirelessly to win the ball back. Time and space was in short supply with both teams forced into hurriedly clearing their lines. Simon Mignolet had to be alert early on to beat away Christian Eriksen's rasping left-footer. Adam Lallana, who was voted the PFA Fans Player of the Month for March, epitomised the Reds' work ethic as he continued his recent resurgence. Lallana never gave Spurs a moment's peace and was at the heart of some slick build up play.

'Mamadou Sakho was horribly erratic'

Most of the problems Liverpool encountered were of their own making. Mignolet got lucky when he dallied and ended up slamming a clearance into Kane, which rebounded into the Kop. What a contrast between Klopp's two centre-backs. Dejan Lovren was calm and composed, while alongside him Mamadou Sakho was horribly erratic. Time and time again in the first half it was Sakho who played Liverpool into trouble and Lovren who got them out of it.

The £20million Croatian has come a long way since the dark days of autumn when he admitted he wanted to "hide under a table" after his blunder against West Ham. After Sakho's error left Liverpool exposed, Kane burst through but dragged wide of the far post. Doubts persist about Alberto Moreno defensively but going forward he looked the part on his return to the side.

One menacing cross from the Spaniard was inadvertently directed towards his own net by Heung-Min Son with Hugo Lloris alert to turn it behind.

The Spurs keeper continued to keep the Londoners on level terms but nine minutes before the break he should have been taken out of the equation.

'Liverpool had their chances to wrap up the points'

Coutinho's pass put Daniel Sturridge through but he hammered straight at Lloris. For most of the contest Sturridge was on the periphery with Klopp barking orders, urging the striker, whose movement was sluggish, to put himself about more.

Too often it was Jordan Henderson or Lallana chasing down lost causes which should been the work of Sturridge. Twice, Lallana forced sprawling saves from Lloris, while at the other end Kane got away from Sakho but Lovren was alert to the danger and came across to make a crucial block.

The Reds needed an injection of class and Coutinho provided it six minutes into the second half. After exchanging passes with Sturridge, he rolled an exquisite finish into the bottom corner. It's the first time he has reached double figures in his Liverpool career. Anfield was rocking and Liverpool had their chances to wrap up the points. Coutinho turned provider with a wonderful delivery from the left flank but Sturridge nodded over. Henderson kept the Reds on the front foot – with one thunderous tackle from the captain prompting a fist pump from his manager. But Liverpool were unable to deliver the killer blow and Spurs rallied.

'Sturridge took an age to get off'

In the 63rd minute Pochettino's men were level. Eriksen did brilliantly down the left to hook a pass into Kane, who turned away from Lovren and hammered an unstoppable strike past Mignolet. With parity restored, neither side had any

thoughts about settling for what they had.

Mignolet was at full stretch to push away Eriksen's low strike before Coutinho drilled agonisingly wide of the far post. Liverpool's push for a winner didn't involve Sturridge, who looked less than happy about the decision to bring on Divock Origi in his place. Head bowed, Sturridge took an age to get off and then exchanged pleasantries with a fan a few rows back in the Paddock.

Joe Allen followed for Lallana as Klopp sought one final push.

Coutinho could have won it when he latched on to Origi's lay-off but drilled wide with Lloris rooted to the spot. Anxiety spread late on with Eriksen and then Mousa Dembele going close for Spurs but Liverpool held firm. Next stop Dortmund. Man of the match: Philippe Coutinho. At the heart of everything best about Liverpool.

# EveningStandard.

Kane saves Spurs but draw leaves Leicester on course for title

Harry Kane rescued a point for Tottenham against Liverpool in a 1-1 draw at Anfield but that may not be enough with leaders Leicester handed the incentive to take a decisive step in the Premier League title race.

Second-placed Spurs only closed the gap to the top to four points and that could be seven with six matches to go if the Foxes beat Southampton on Sunday.

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp had challenged the visitors to come to Anfield and win to keep their chances alive and although they showed commendable spirit after falling behind to Philippe Coutinho's 51st-minute goal - his third in consecutive club matches - they could not completely turn around the result.

Kane's sixth in the last four Premier League matches set a new club Premier League record of 22 in a season but individual accolades will count for nothing if they fall short in their ultimate quest.

It was not for want of trying with a determined second-half effort after the brilliance of goalkeeper Hugo Lloris had kept them in it before the break.

Spurs have the best away defensive record in the league and Lloris showed why he has been such a key component of Tottenham's title bid with five key saves in a first half which took 20 minutes to spring into life.

His best was probably the fingertip stop as he was falling to the floor to deny Adam Lallana for a second time in as many minutes, having earlier reacted quickly to stop his own team-mate Heung-Min Son beating him at his near post from Alberto Moreno's deflected cross.

The France international should not have been given a chance by Daniel Sturridge when Emre Can dispossessed Son and Philippe Coutinho threaded through the pass but the England striker drove straight at the goalkeeper in the best chance of the opening 45 minutes.

How the first half ended goalless remains a mystery as for all Lloris's heroics at one end Liverpool's defence was shaky at best at the other with Mamadou Sakho totally out of kilter.

Christian Eriksen's early shot was parried by Simon Mignolet, whose misunderstanding with Dejan Lovren almost saw Kane score from a rebounded clearance which dropped over the crossbar.

Kane fired wide after Sakho lost possession on the halfway line and was denied by a good Lovren block with Dele Alli's dipping volley comfortably held by Mignolet.

Lloris was finally beaten six minutes into the second half when Coutinho exchanged passes with Sturridge before carefully placing a shot beyond the reach of the goalkeeper, then trying to return the favour with a delightfully floated cross which Sturridge could only head over.

Spurs' response was exactly what was to be expected of title contenders and for the remainder of the game they were the better team.

Son volleyed wide a good chance having escaped the attention of Moreno before Kane showed him how it should be done with a precision strike on the turn inside Mignolet's far post from Eriksen's clever pass.

Mignolet was tested by Eriksen as the visitors upped the frenetic tempo even further - both teams pressed each other so hard in midfield throughout there were numerous turnovers and mistakes - with Coutinho's low cross drilled along the goalline evading everyone before he fired a shot wide.

Toby Alderweireld headed wide the last chance in added time and with it potentially went Tottenham's title chances.

Spurs must now sit and anxiously await Leicester's reaction while Liverpool head to Dortmund in midweek to face Klopp's former club in a Europa League quarter-final.

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Kane's stunning finish salvages a point for Spurs

In the context of Tottenham's history, this was a point won at Anfield. In terms of what they require to win the title, it was two dropped.

When the final whistle went on an intense, frantic and sometimes brilliant game, Leicester knew that, if they overcame Southampton on Sunday, they would be seven points clear with half-a-dozen matches remaining. They would not be home but they could see the front door.

For most Tottenham fans surveying their remaining fixtures on Saturday morning, the first would have appeared the most daunting, especially for any Spurs supporters with a memory.

They had won only one league match at Anfield in the last 23 years and that was an end-of-season game with nothing on it. Here, the stakes were casino-high. Tottenham had come from behind, finished the stronger side and in Christian Eriksen they possessed the player of this particular evening, although there was fierce competition from Philippe Coutinho.

The last few minutes were spent pounding the Liverpool goal. In the end, Liverpool held firm and, if Leicester can seize their advantage, this might just be the turning point of an endlessly restless season.

The Tottenham manager, Mauricio Pochettino, smiled when asked if his former club, Southampton, could do him a favour on Sunday. "There are six games left and we need to believe," he said. "We knew it would be very difficult to come to Anfield and take three points but we should feel very proud because we have shown real character."

It was a fabulous and very English game. Liverpool had not a great deal to play for and, for Jurgen Klopp, the biggest and most emotional game of their season comes on Thursday evening in Dortmund. And yet they fought desperately hard and ran Tottenham very close.

The tackling from both sides was hard and usually exceptionally well timed. One tackle from Jordan Henderson that sent Danny Rose sprawling was met with a punch to the air from Klopp.

He was even more animated when, six minutes after the interval, Liverpool broke through.

Daniel Sturridge might have scored before half-time when put clear through but he hesitated slightly and slammed his shot against Hugo Lloris's legs. Now, he created the opening, delivering a square ball to Coutinho, someone from the crowd shouted 'yes' and the Brazilian drove his shot past Lloris who had earlier made a fabulous, one-handed save from Lallana.

There were 39 minutes remaining and anyone who has followed Tottenham's progress this season would know they would be long ones for Liverpool. No Premier League side has won more points from losing positions than Pochettino's Tottenham and they deserved to claw at least one back.

The equaliser was made by Christian Eriksen's determination to keep the ball in and then roll it back across the face of the goal in a single movement. Harry Kane let it come across him and then turned Dejan Lovren before slamming the ball past Simon Mignolet. "A very nice striker" was how Klopp described him and when the game was done, the Liverpool manager went over to him. Asked what he had said, Klopp replied: "something nice".

That was Kane's 22nd goal of the season, more than any other Tottenham player has scored in the Premier League, although he will have to go some to match the 49 scored by Clive Allen in the 1986-87 campaign that saw Spurs finish third. This time around, third will not be good enough.

Liverpool (4-4-1-1): Mignolet; Clyne, Lovren, Sakho, Moreno; Milner (Ibe 90), Henderson, Can, Coutinho; Lallana (Allen 82), Sturridge (Origi 72). Substitutes: Ward (g), Toure, Skrtel, Smith.

Tottenham Hotspur (4-2-3-1): Lloris; Walker, Alderweireld, Wimmer, Rose; Dembele, Dier; Son (Chadli 67), Alli (Mason 88), Eriksen; Kane. Substitutes: Vorm (g), Trippier, Onomah, Carroll, Davies.

Referee: Jon Moss (West Yorkshire) Man of the match: Match rating: 8/10

Kane's equaliser, after Philippe Coutinho opened the scoring, means he has the Spurs Premier League season goalscoring record for himself having been tied on 21 last season with previous efforts from Gareth Bale and Teddy Sheringham. It has been another astonishing season from Kane but it might yet not be enough to get him a league winners' medal.

There was a big effort from Spurs, but Jurgen Klopp's side have ambitions of their own and they run as hard as their visitors in shutting down the gaps in midfield. This was a full-octane game, splendidly competitive if occasionally lacking in the finesse to be decisive and you can see that the season is taking its toll on some of the players.

By the exceptional standards of Dele Alli, it was not quite his afternoon.

For Coutinho, Liverpool's goalscorer, there was another fine goal. These are two teams very alike in style, with the pressing game turned up to 10 and, in the first half, barely time to blink in midfield where there were turnovers aplenty: Emre Can robbing, Heung-Min Son picking the pocket of Can.

It was Liverpool who gathered the head of steam by the end of first half with a great save from Hugo Lloris to deny a bouncing volley from Adam Lallana, one of those slow awkward shots that can find their way past goalkeepers. At the other end there was an unusual performance from Mamadou Sakho who dived with disaster on a number of occasions. It would be right to say that Kane had Sakho's number early on. He rolled the French centrehalf in the 20th minute and very nearly had a goal off his calf when he charged down a clearance from Simon Mignolet. Six minutes from the break, Dejan Lovren had to intervene when the England striker flummoxed his designated marker again and ran at goal.

In the first half, Kane did not have much of a sight of goal but in his redhot form you might have expected him to do better with what he did see of it. In a run forward on 26 minutes Lovren backed off Kane and quickly the striker was within range, shooting wide of the far post. Kane's work-rate puts him in good positions time and again.

At the other, Daniel Sturridge, it would be fair to say, put in rather less yardage in chasing down the Spurs defenders - or at least it seemed that way. The other England striker on show had the best chance of the first half, however, and he missed. There was another one of those midfield turnovers, on this occasion it was Can winning the ball from Son and then on to Alberto Moreno who sprung the offside trap and played in Sturridge.

Had he scored, all that strolling around would have been forgiven but Sturridge never gave the impression he had made his mind up as to where he wanted to put the ball and instead drove it straight at Lloris.

Liverpool ended the half well and minutes later Lallana forced that second save from Lloris.

There were two good first half decisions from referee Jon Moss too, the first to penalise Coutinho for a dreadful dive when he pushed the ball past Toby Alderweireld in the 24th minute and then threw himself head-first.

Then the referee rightly saw that Kyle Walker had reached a ball in the Stalemate: Harry Kane shows his frustration as Spurs drop two points penalty area ahead of James Milner and not tripped the Liverpool man as he ran to retrieve it.

There was no question that Klopp's team started the second half the sharper and within six minutes they had their goal.

It was magnificently worked, from Coutinho to Sturridge and back again into the stride of the Brazilian while Eric Dier hesitated for a moment and could not follow the run into the area, where Liverpool's No 10 passed the ball into the corner of Lloris' goal. They might have had a second in front of the Kop just a few minutes later when Sturridge could not keep his header from Coutinho's cross under the bar. There was no doubting that Spurs were being asked serious questions of their capacity to stay in the game, perhaps even the title race itself, and they responded impressively.

Son might have had the equaliser when he stretched for a volley on the full from Dier's nicely flighted chip in behind the Liverpool defence. A diffi-cult finish but one he would have expected to make. In the end it came down to the master goalscorer to even it up for Spurs.

Christian Eriksen did well to keep the ball in play on the left side and flicked it back towards Kane in the area, for whom the long chases against defenders all afternoon had not dimmed his sharpness. He kept Lovren exactly where he needed him, turned with the ball on his right foot and found the left corner of Mignolet's goal in the way Kane does so well.

It was building up to one epic conclusion, although these were two tiring teams who have played almost 100 games between them this season. Sturridge was withdrawn with the usual expression of dismay and replaced with Divock Origi.

Enjoying a better second half than first, Eriksen played one of the passes of the game, a counter-intuitive chip back across from his direction of travel to find Alli running in behind the Liverpool defence. The 19-year-old pulled the ball down on his chest and it skidded away from him as he prepared to shoot. Spurs ran out of time in the end, and Leicester might yet disappear into the distance.

Liverpool (4-2-3-1) Mignolet 7; Clyne 6, Lovren 6, Sakho 5, Moreno 6; Henderson 6, Can 6; Milner 6 (Ibe, 90), Coutinho 8, Lallana 6 (Allen, 82); Sturridge 5 (Origi, 74).

Subs Ward (g), Toure, Skrtel, Smith. Booked Coutinho, Can. Tottenham (4-2-3-1) Lloris 7; Walker 6, Alderweireld 6, Wimmer 6, Rose 6; Dier 6, Dembele 6; Son 5 (Chadli, 67), Alli 5, Eriksen 6; Kane 8. Subs Mason, Vorm (g), Tripper, Onomah, Carroll, Davies.

Referee J Moss (W Yorkshire)

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## THE SUNDAY TIMES

Kane digs deep to keep Spurs' dreams alive

Harry Kane scored his 22nd goal of the season to continue Tottenham's dogged away form and showcase their ability to salvage points from losing positions. But, in this most entertaining stalemate, there was one clear winner.

Leicester City face Southampton this afternoon knowing that victory will lift them seven points clear at the top of the Premier League table, with six games and 18 points left to play for -- surely a hugely telling advantage at such an advanced stage of the season. But if Spurs' title bid did, indeed, flounder at Anfield last night, it was not through any lack of effort or endeavour.

The equaliser, and that potentially precious point, came after 63 minutes as Christian Eriksen crossed from the left, Kane swivelled, embarrassed his marker Dejan Lovren and shot into the far corner to set a record for the number of goals scored by a Tottenham player in a Premier League season.

It earned him a word of, presumably, congratulations and a hug from Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp as the England forward left the field.

"Something nice," grinned the German when asked what he had said. There can be no understating the role Kane will have to play should Tottenham pull off the increasingly difficult task of claiming their first league title since 1961.

There is a confidence and resilience about this Mauricio Pochettino side, as evidenced by the fact they have lost just once in 15 away games and have now clawed back a division-leading 19 points from losing positions so far this season. But it is the clinical audacity of Kane, his finishing and his general play that embodies this new-look Tottenham Pochettino has created.

"Of course it's a great achievement and one that I'm very proud of," said Kane of his record-breaking goal. "As a striker you want to score goals in every game you play in. "So to get another goal today is nice - but they feel even better when you get the three points. It's good to get us back in the game and it would be nice to go on and win it." Kane is clearly as much a master of understatement as goalscoring because winning was, surely, a necessity rather than a nicety for Tottenham on this occasion. Instead, they found themselves a goal down through a finish no less impressive than Kane's, by Philippe Coutinho on 51 minutes. Coutinho started and finished, the move, executing a one-two with Daniel Sturridge before beating Tottenham goalkeeper Hugo Lloris with a magnificently judged right-foot shot from a step inside their area.

The goals, 12 minutes apart, summed up this tit-for-tat contest in a nutshell. Two teams pressing high, forcing errors and counterattacking with pace, with only Liverpool's lack of a killer touch in the final third -- and the form of Lloris -- preventing this from becoming an even worse afternoon for the visitors.

Early on, Lloris was forced into an impressive stop from his teammate Heung-Min Son as he intercepted a cross. Later in the first half, the goalkeeper's legs thwarted Sturridge and twice, before the interval, he kept out attempts from the lively Adam Lallana.

Fortunately, for Tottenham and neutrals alike, there was sufficient anxiety in the home defence to balance out the momentum -- Kane almost charging down a botched clearance from Simon Mignolet and a poor Mamadou Sakho header letting in the England striker, who ran at a terrified-looking Lovren only to shoot narrowly wide. The eye-catching Coutinho blotted his copybook with a yellow card for simulation -- much to Klopp's frustration and bemusement. There was also a moment of pure theatre when Anfield believed referee Jon Moss had pointed to the penalty spot after Kyle Walker and James Milner tangled, only for the official to award a Spurs goal kick.

It was all turning into one of those rarities -- a Premier League game that actually lives up to the pre-match television hype -- and it continued in such fashion after the opening goal with Sturridge steering a header narrowly over and Son volleying high spectacularly from Mousa Dembele's cross.

Further, after the equaliser, Eriksen's low, crisp shot drew an important, and impressive, save from the sprawling Mignolet while, in a frantic finale, Coutinho, yet again, was just off target with a shot after decent approach play by Divock Origi and, as Spurs pushed and pushed, a 22-yard Eriksen free kick sailed over.

But perhaps, on this occasion, there was a fatigue about Tottenham, their youngsters back from internationals in particular, a point hinted at by Pochettino when he complained of having only "one day" to prepare his team for Anfield. Nonetheless, he implored his players to believe in their title dream.

"We need to believe," he said. "In football, all can happen. It was difficult to come here and try and win the three points but we were calm and believe in our quality. We feel disappointed but we need still belief and [we will] be ready for the next game.

"I hope Southampton can pass and leave it at four points like now, but this is my interest as a head coach. But then we need to prepare the game and believe because it is up to us." Klopp, too, was optimistic in his outlook. "I saw a lot of good things today, a really good sign for our future," he said. "But on the other side we showed a bit of our problem." On this occasion, the same could be said of Tottenham and their hopes of landing this season's title.

Liverpool: Mignolet 5, Clyne 6, Lovren 5, Sakho 5, Moreno 6, Henderson 6, Can 5, Milner 6 (lbe 90min, 5), Lallana 7 (Allen 81min, 5), Coutinho 9, Sturridge 7 (Origi 72min, 6) Tottenham: Lloris 9, Walker 6, Alderweireld 6, Wimmer 6, Rose 6, Dier 6, Dembele 6, Son 6 (Chadli 66min, 6), Alli 6 (Mason 88min, 5), Eriksen 6, Kane 8

## TheObserver

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BBC

Tottenham missed the opportunity to increase pressure on Premier League leaders Leicester City as they could only draw with Liverpool at Anfield. Harry Kane's superb finish on the turn after 63 minutes gave Spurs a point after Philippe Coutinho slipped in Daniel Sturridge's pass early in the second half. Keeper Hugo Lloris kept Spurs on level terms with fine saves from Sturridge and two from Adam Lallana in the opening half - while Coutinho was inches off target in the closing moments.

Mauricio Pochettino's side had chances of their own in the second half, with Liverpool keeper Simon Mignolet saving well from Christian Eriksen and Moussa Dembele, while Son Heung-min should have done better than volley wide from Eric Dier's pass.

The draw means Leicester would go seven points clear with victory at home to Southampton on Sunday.

One point gained or two lost for Spurs?

Kane's brilliant turn and finish after Eriksen chased a lost cause into the corner at least gave Spurs a point when they threatened to leave Anfield empty-handed after Coutinho's opener.

In the final reckoning, however, they will regard this as a chance missed - and manager Pochettino's body language seemed to suggest as much as he agonised over Mignolet's late save from Dembele and the sight of Toby Alderweireld's header flashing inches wide from the resulting corner.

Spurs will now be banking on Southampton doing them a favour at the King Power Stadium on Sunday as a seven-point advantage with only six games left is a big gap to claw back and would need something close to a Foxes collapse.

A point still gives Spurs something to cling to as they chase that first title in 55 years - but they will know it could have been all three had they been more clinical to benefit fully from that outstanding first-half work by keeper Lloris.

Liverpool must build team around Coutinho

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp will be taking big decisions about his squad as he tries to make his own permanent imprint on Anfield in the summer.

He will surely have already drawn one conclusion from his first six months at the club - the new-look Liverpool that will surely emerge next season must be built around the mercurial talent of Coutinho.

The 23-year-old returned from international duty with Brazil but no-one would have imagined he had taken the arduous journey from South America given his energy and inspiration.

Coutinho was wisely brought to Anfield by Brendan Rodgers and has flourished further under Klopp, as proved by the brilliance of his goal against Manchester United in the Europa League and the composure he showed to finish in front of the Kop against Spurs.

He is the man who sprinkles magic on this Liverpool side and has years ahead of him to develop into a truly world-class talent.

Klopp will be bringing in new faces as he reshapes Liverpool but Coutinho will be going nowhere.

Sturridge has the twin objective of piecing his Liverpool career together again after suffering a succession of injuries over the last two years while cementing a place in England manager Roy Hodgson's Euro 2016 squad.

Here, it was clear he is still taking tentative steps on the road back as he looked ring rusty and still short of the form that made him such a potent force.

Sturridge showed his vision with a clever pass for Coutinho's goal but his snatched finish straight at Lloris in the first half hinted at fragile confidence. He had run out of steam by the time he was replaced by Divock Origi late on.

Man of the Match: Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool)

Manager reaction

Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp: "Tottenham are fighting for the title, we fought for the three points. It didn't look like six or seven positions between the two teams. If you want to change the situation, we have to stay in the game. It is about belief. We are not sure we can always beat teams like these.

"You have to learn to become a winner. On this way, we have a few knocks but we are still on a good way. There is not a lot wrong and we can build on this."

Stats you need to know

Liverpool have won five and lost none of their last seven Premier League meetings with Tottenham.

After going seven Premier League games without scoring, Philippe Coutinho has now scored in back-to-back games for Liverpool.

Tottenham have won just one of their last 22 Premier League visits to Anfield (W1 D7 L14).

Christian Eriksen has now recorded more assists in 2015-16 than in any other previous campaign for Spurs (9).

Spurs have recovered the most points from losing positions this season (19), while Liverpool have dropped the most from leading positions (17).

What next?

Liverpool travel to Borussia Dortmund in the Europa League on Thursday (20:05 BST) before hosting Stoke a week on Sunday (16:00 BST). Tottenham face Manchester United at home on the same day (also 16:00 BST).

|                                                                            |      |                 |             |           |  |              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-----------------|-------------|-----------|--|--------------|
| Date: 2 April 2016<br>Opposition: Tottenham Hotspur<br>Competition: League | Mail | Sunday Times    | Times       | Telegraph |  | 2 April 2016 |
|                                                                            | Echo | Sun Independent | Guardian    | Mirror    |  |              |
|                                                                            | BBC  | Sun Telegraph   | Independent | Standard  |  |              |

BBC

Match ends, Liverpool 1, Tottenham Hotspur 1.  
90'+4' Second Half ends, Liverpool 1, Tottenham Hotspur 1.  
90'+4' Corner, Tottenham Hotspur. Conceded by Jordan Henderson.  
90'+3' Substitution, Liverpool. Jordon Ibe replaces James Milner.  
90'+2' Attempt missed. Toby Alderweireld (Tottenham Hotspur header from the centre of the box misses to the right. Assisted by Christian Eriksen with a cross following a corner.  
90'+2' Corner, Tottenham Hotspur. Conceded by Mamadou Sakho.  
90'+1' Corner, Tottenham Hotspur. Conceded by Simon Mignolet.  
90'+1' Attempt saved. Mousa Dembélé (Tottenham Hotspur left footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom right corner.  
90' Ryan Mason (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
90' Foul by Joe Allen (Liverpool.  
90' Attempt missed. Christian Eriksen (Tottenham Hotspur right footed shot from outside the box is close, but misses to the left from a direct free kick.  
89' Harry Kane (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the attacking half.  
89' Foul by Dejan Lovren (Liverpool.  
89' Eric Dier (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
89' Foul by Emre Can (Liverpool.  
88' Substitution, Tottenham Hotspur. Ryan Mason replaces Dele Alli.  
86' Attempt blocked. Eric Dier (Tottenham Hotspur right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Harry Kane.  
85' Attempt saved. Jordan Henderson (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom left corner. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho.  
85' Attempt blocked. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Jordan Henderson.  
85' Attempt missed. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is close, but misses to the left. Assisted by Divock Origi.  
84' Foul by Nacer Chadli (Tottenham Hotspur.  
84' Emre Can (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
82' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Danny Rose.  
82' Substitution, Liverpool. Joe Allen replaces Adam Lallana.  
81' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Eric Dier.  
79' Attempt saved. Divock Origi (Liverpool right footed shot from the right side of the box is saved in the bottom right corner. Assisted by Nathaniel Clyne.  
75' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Kyle Walker.  
74' Nacer Chadli (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
74' Foul by Divock Origi (Liverpool.  
73' Corner, Tottenham Hotspur. Conceded by Jordan Henderson.  
72' Substitution, Liverpool. Divock Origi replaces Daniel Sturridge.  
72' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Kevin Wimmer.  
72' Attempt blocked. Jordan Henderson (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked.  
71' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Nacer Chadli.  
70' Mousa Dembélé (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick on the left wing.  
70' Foul by Adam Lallana (Liverpool.  
69' Attempt blocked. Jordan Henderson (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked.  
69' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Toby Alderweireld.  
67' Kevin Wimmer (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
67' Foul by Adam Lallana (Liverpool.  
66' Substitution, Tottenham Hotspur. Nacer Chadli replaces Son Heung-Min.  
66' Attempt missed. Toby Alderweireld (Tottenham Hotspur left footed shot from the left side of the box misses to the left. Assisted by Christian Eriksen.  
65' Corner, Tottenham Hotspur. Conceded by Simon Mignolet.  
65' Attempt saved. Christian Eriksen (Tottenham Hotspur right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom left corner. Assisted by Harry Kane.  
64' Emre Can (Liverpool is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.  
64' Dele Alli (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the attacking half.  
64' Foul by Emre Can (Liverpool.  
63' Goal! Liverpool 1, Tottenham Hotspur 1. Harry Kane (Tottenham Hotspur right footed shot from the left side of the box to the bottom right corner. Assisted by Christian Eriksen.  
62' Toby Alderweireld (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the attacking half.  
62' Foul by Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool.  
61' Foul by Danny Rose (Tottenham Hotspur.  
61' James Milner (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
58' Attempt missed. Son Heung-Min (Tottenham Hotspur right footed shot from the centre of the box is close, but misses to the left. Assisted by Eric Dier with a through ball.  
57' Attempt missed. Daniel Sturridge (Liverpool header from the centre of the box is just a bit too high. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho.  
56' Foul by Dele Alli (Tottenham Hotspur.  
56' Jordan Henderson (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
55' Corner, Tottenham Hotspur. Conceded by Nathaniel Clyne.  
55' Attempt blocked. Dele Alli (Tottenham Hotspur right footed shot from outside the box is blocked.  
54' Attempt missed. Toby Alderweireld (Tottenham Hotspur header from the centre of the box misses to the left. Assisted by Christian Eriksen with a cross following a corner.  
53' Corner, Tottenham Hotspur. Conceded by Mamadou Sakho.  
53' Dele Alli (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the attacking half.  
36' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Toby Alderweireld.  
36' Attempt saved. Daniel Sturridge (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho with a through ball.  
35' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Christian Eriksen.  
32' Corner, Tottenham Hotspur. Conceded by Dejan Lovren.

30' Foul by Christian Eriksen (Tottenham Hotspur.  
30' Adam Lallana (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
26' Attempt missed. Harry Kane (Tottenham Hotspur right footed shot from the right side of the box is close, but misses to the left. Assisted by Dele Alli.  
25' Foul by Dele Alli (Tottenham Hotspur.  
25' Dejan Lovren (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
24' Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool is shown the yellow card.  
24' Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool has gone down, but that's a dive.  
21' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Hugo Lloris.  
18' Foul by Dele Alli (Tottenham Hotspur.  
18' Dejan Lovren (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.  
17' Corner, Tottenham Hotspur. Conceded by Dejan Lovren.  
17' Attempt blocked. Son Heung-Min (Tottenham Hotspur left footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Dele Alli.  
16' Foul by Son Heung-Min (Tottenham Hotspur.  
16' Alberto Moreno (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing.  
14' Mousa Dembélé (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
14' Foul by Emre Can (Liverpool.  
13' Attempt blocked. Son Heung-Min (Tottenham Hotspur left footed shot from outside the box is blocked.  
12' Attempt saved. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom right corner.  
12' Attempt blocked. James Milner (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked. Assisted by Adam Lallana.  
10' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Kevin Wimmer.  
9' Offside, Tottenham Hotspur. Christian Eriksen tries a through ball, but Son Heung-Min is caught offside.  
9' Attempt saved. Christian Eriksen (Tottenham Hotspur left footed shot from the centre of the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Kyle Walker.  
7' Foul by Son Heung-Min (Tottenham Hotspur.  
7' Alberto Moreno (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
4' Attempt blocked. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from the left side of the box is blocked.  
3' James Milner (Liverpool wins a free kick on the right wing.  
3' Foul by Kevin Wimmer (Tottenham Hotspur.  
First Half begins.  
Lineups are announced and players are warming up.