

In a thrilling Champions League quarter-final first leg at the Emirates Stadium, Arsenal delivered a stunning performance to defeat Real Madrid 3-0. The match, held on April 8, 2025, showcased Arsenal's dominance, particularly in the second half.

After a goalless first half, Declan Rice stole the show with two sensational free-kicks. His first goal came in the 58th minute, curling the ball around the wall and into the net, leaving Thibaut Courtois helpless. Just 11 minutes later, Rice struck again with an even more spectacular effort, hitting the top corner from another set piece. Mikel Merino sealed the victory with a brilliant first-time finish in the 75th minute.

Real Madrid struggled to find their rhythm, with Kylian Mbappe and Vinicius Junior unable to capitalize on their chances. Arsenal's defense, led by William Saliba and David Raya, held firm throughout the match. Eduardo Camavinga's late red card added to Real Madrid's woes.

Arsenal now heads to the Santiago Bernabeu for the second leg with a commanding lead, while Real Madrid faces an uphill battle to keep their European title hopes alive.