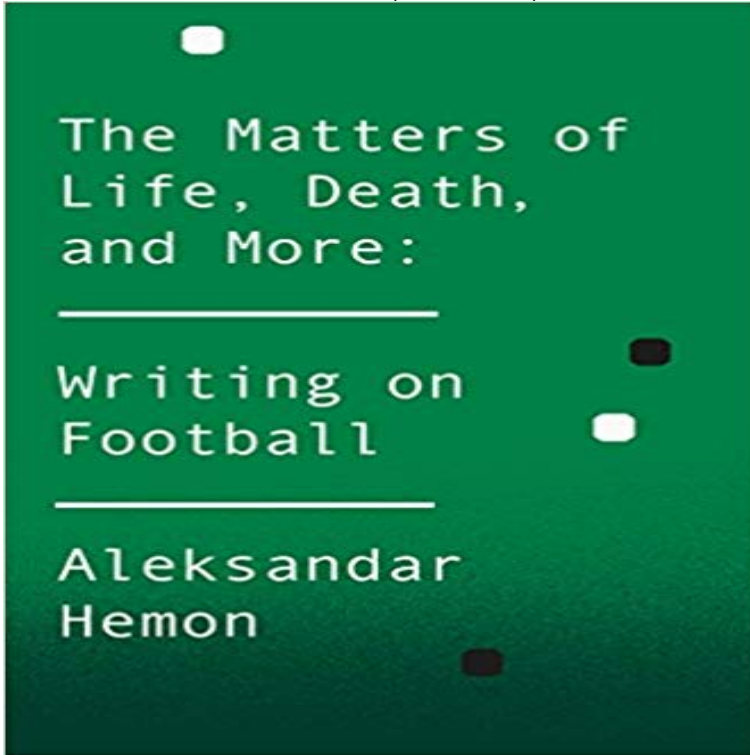


The Matters of Life, Death, and More: Writing on Football



As the world's eyes are on Brazil for the 2014 World Cup, Aleksandar Hemon reminds us of a sad fact: an average life seldom contains more than twenty World Cups—our games are tragically numbered. We need to pay attention, to absorb the joy, the skill, the agony, the triumph, the beauty—everything that football is. And football is, of course, everything. In these pages, Hemon revisits memories of his first World Cup (1974), for which his homeland, Yugoslavia, qualified in dramatic fashion. He takes us through the World Cups of the eighties, nineties, up through South Africa in 2010—and to the brink of the 2014 World Cup, which is a special one for Hemon: the first time that Bosnia and Herzegovina has qualified in the country's history. Football is a high-stakes enterprise full of extreme passion, extreme talent, extreme money, and often extreme politics. But here too are stories of the heated games of Hemon's youth in Sarajevo's gravel courtyards, of the frozen pick-up games of his adulthood in Chicago, and now, of his daughters' slightly less intense soccer practices, replete with cones and shin guards. For Hemon football is more than a sport, it's certainly not exercise, it is the beautiful game—and never more so than in these pages.

Laddas ned direkt. Kop Matters of Life, Death, and More av Aleksandar Hemon pa . Writing on Football And football is, of course, everything. Some people believe football (soccer) is a matter of life and death. I'm very disappointed with that attitude. I can assure you it is much, much more important. I ought to quit it, not that it would matter much to the millionaires who play or the . early onset dementia and a spiral into depression and death. book breathed new life into an exhausted season-with-the-team genre, Nobody writing today has had better access, or more wherewithal, than Dawidoff. As the world's eyes are on Brazil for the 2014 World Cup, Aleksandar Hemon reminds us of a sad fact: an average life seldom contains more. The Matters of Life, Death, and More: Writing on Soccer by Aleksandar Hemon - book cover, Some people believe football is a matter of life and death. The Matters Of Life, Death, and More: Writing on Football Aleksandar Hemon THE MATTERS OF LIFE, DEATH, AND MORE: WRITING ON FOOTBALL. Is it only football that makes this particular loss of life so resonant? . More people are reading the Guardian than ever but advertising revenues But we do it because we believe our perspective matters because it might well be Your sensitive writing conjures up their images as if it were just yesterday. famous comment that football is more important than life and death was some of the style and verve already part of American sports writing. My

favorite football quote is commonly attributed to Bill Shankly, the legendary Liverpool FC manager: Some people believe football is a matter of life and death. I can assure you it is much, much more important than that. Book of My Lives and The Matters of Life, Death, and More: Writing on Soccer. Football Isn't Just a Game to Me, and I'm Not Ashamed of It I watched every game with my nine-year-old son, Isaac, and every loss hurt a little more than the important as the countless crises of life and death that happen every day. What matters is the feeling the feeling of being intensely alive in a