

First Semi-final (**Most Favorite** - Like a lot - Like a little)

1. **Albania:** Ronela Hajati – “Sekret” - Every time I’ve listened to this, I liked it
2. **Latvia:** Citi Zēni – “Eat Your Salad” - “Our immediate reaction is that this is grotesque—but we cannot be sure that it is not in fact magnificent” (Marcel Proust)
3. **Lithuania:** Monika Liu – “Sentimentai” - Cool vibe
4. **Switzerland:** Marius Bear – “Boys Do Cry” - A 1960s stage musical wants its song back
5. **Slovenia:** LPS – “Disko” - Slovenia - classic Eurovision camp. 70s disco meets 70s late-night talk show band
6. **Ukraine:** Kalush Orchestra – “Stefania” - I am addicted to the chorus and love the flute-sounding thingie. Much like last year, Ukraine grew on me.
7. **Bulgaria:** Intelligent Music Project – “Intention” - Bringing back 70s b-level rock
8. **Netherlands:** S10 – “De diepte” - It’s dark. I like dark. This is my Switzerland-sounding song from last year
9. **Moldova:** Zdob și Zdub and Frații Advahov – “Trenulețul” - Accordions and too many fiddles. No disrespect to their music but this is a hard pass for me.
10. **Portugal:** Maro – “Saudade, saudade” - Pretty pop-folk vibe with lovely harmonies but how does it stack up vs Armenia and Iceland?
11. **Croatia:** Mia Dimšić – “Guilty Pleasure” - What I imagine a Eurovision entry that was channeling Taylor Swift might sound like
12. **Denmark:** Reddi – “The Show” - Classic dated Eurovision sound
13. **Austria:** Lumix ft. Pia Maria – “Halo” - Your basic, high-energy, 4 on the floor circa 2010s banger and I’m here for it
14. **Iceland:** Systur – “Með hækkandi sól” - This is very pretty, dark, folky
15. **Greece:** Amanda Georgiadi Tenfjord – “Die Together” - In the first verse I was thinking somewhere in there is a slower, darker Billie Eilish song. I liked it more after that first verse and the auto tune. Still, I miss Stefania and *Let’s Dance* and Pegasus.
16. **Norway:** Subwoolfer – “Give That Wolf a Banana” - This is weird, even weirder than last year. What is this? Still, there’s actually some good music in here waiting for a real song
17. **Armenia:** Rosa Linn – “Snap” - Wouldn’t be surprised if Cassandra (my daughter) likes this

Second Semi-final (**Most Favorite** - Like a lot - Like a little)

1. **Finland:** The Rasmus – “Jezebel” - It’s like the lead single from a bad 80s glam hair metal band. I shouldn’t like this but I do
2. **Israel:** Michael Ben David – “I.M” - This is awful
3. **Serbia:** Konstrakta – “In corpore sano” – This is weird

4. **Azerbaijan:** Nadir Rustamli – “Fade to Black” - I like but not sure how much yet. It will likely “fade” when I listen to more entries
5. **Georgia:** Circus Mircus – “Lock Me In” - Not sure what to make of this pastiche of elements
6. **Malta:** Emma Muscat – “I Am What I Am” - Catchy but imitative of typical Eurovision inspirational anthems
7. **San Marino:** Achille Lauro – “Stripper” - Going glam like Maneskin. It’s growing on me.
8. **Australia:** Sheldon Riley – “Not the Same” - Every time I’ve listened to this I liked it despite of its overdose of earnestness (“earnestness” being a Eurovisiony thing)
9. **Cyprus: Andromache – “Ela” - Cyprus - Beautiful neo-traditional song**
10. **Ireland: Brooke – “That’s Rich” - Ireland - It bangs in a 2010s way and I’m not complaining**
11. **North Macedonia: Andrea – “Circles” – I love the song, love her voice**
12. **Estonia:** Stefan – “Hope” - I don’t know much about Estonia but I didn’t see a Western movie theme sounding song coming
13. **Romania:** WRS – “Llámame” – Ok. Sorta catchy
14. **Poland: Ochman – “River” - Another one I like in spite of its overdose of earnestness. I like his voice and the symphonic and gothic elements**
15. **Montenegro:** Vladana – “Breathe” - Pretty but meh. Maybe it will be better live
16. **Belgium: Jérémie Makiese – “Miss You” - I love this. And I want a Timbaland remix**
17. **Sweden:** Cornelia Jakobs – “Hold Me Closer” - Boring
18. **Czech Republic: We Are Domi – “Lights Off” - This is my EDM jam**

Big Five (Most Favorite - Like a lot - Like a little)

1. **Italy:** Mahmood and Blanco – “Brividi” - Kinda boring, overly sentimental
2. **Spain:** Chanel – “SloMo” - “booty hypnotic” 😊 Singer: “How sexy do you want me to be?” Video producers: “Yes.”
3. **Germany:** Malik Harris – “Rockstars” - Very earnest and also very generic
4. **France: Alvan and Ahez – “Fulenn” - This is cool. Dark electronic song in a Celtic language about dancing with the devil; lovely female harmonies**
5. **United Kingdom: Sam Ryder - Spaceman - Please vote for this, Europe. It’s catchy!**