# Italy’s Eurovision 2025 act sparks child catcher costume comparisons amid wider contest controversies



Eurovision 2025 proved to be a spectacle filled with both talent and controversy, not least due to the striking appearance of Italy's representative, Lucio Corsi. Millions of viewers tuned in for the grand final, where anticipation was high for who would claim the coveted title. In a performance of his entry, "Volevo Essere Un Duro," Corsi inadvertently captured attention not just for his vocals but for his flamboyant costume, which drew immediate comparisons online to the iconic child catcher from the classic film *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*.

UK commentator Graham Norton made the comparison during the broadcast, stating, “Corsi is dressed like the child catcher in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*," igniting a wave of social media responses. Viewers on platforms like X (formerly Twitter) echoed the sentiment, with some voices expressing amusement while others suggested that his attire detracted from the intended message of his song. Comments such as “Isn't that the child catcher from *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*?” and varied uses of laughing emojis quickly proliferated. This unique moment was indicative not just of Corsi's performance but of the overall vibrant engagement that Eurovision inspires each year.

Corsi’s journey to the stage at Eurovision is noteworthy. Following Olly's withdrawal from the Sanremo 2025 Festival, whereby he previously secured a strong second place, Corsi was invited to represent Italy, marking the nation’s 50th entry into the Eurovision contest. Known for his emotional depth and poetic lyricism, Corsi has been building a robust profile in the Italian music scene, previously seeing 21 of his songs enter Spotify Italy’s Viral Top 50. His recent album, also featuring “Volevo Essere Un Duro,” encapsulates themes of childhood and the complexities of human connection, showcasing his artistic evolution.

However, Eurovison is not without its share of controversy this year. In tandem with Corsi’s performance, Estonian rapper Tommy Cash faced significant backlash for his entry, "Espresso Macchiato," which many viewed as perpetuating harmful stereotypes of Italian culture. Lyrics referencing tobacco and the Mafia prompted outrage and discussions of racism, with Italy’s Vice President of the Senate, Gian Marco Centinaio, asserting that such portrayals were unacceptable in a major international event. Yet, Tommy Cash maintained that his intent was humorous and that he received positive feedback from many Italians, highlighting the often-divided public perception surrounding cultural representations.

As the results came in, the UK girl group Remember Monday, who had elicited strong praise for their performance and vocal abilities, ultimately placed 19th, further reflecting the highly competitive nature of Eurovision. They generated excitement among fans, being compared to past winners but were still overshadowed by more prominent competitors that night.

With diverse entries pulling a range of reactions—from Corsi's visually striking outfit to Cash's controversial lyrics—Eurovision 2025 not only showcased musical talent but also sparked meaningful dialogue about representation, culture, and the power of performance. As countries continue to celebrate their national identities on this grand stage, the task of balancing tradition with modern interpretations remains as crucial as ever.

### Reference Map

1. Paragraph 1: 1
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Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-14724205/Eurovision-fans-mercilessly-mock-Italys-Lucio-Corsi-compare-Chitty-Chitty-Bang-Bangs-Child-Catcher-Graham-Norton-agrees.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.ilmessaggero.it/en/lucio_corsi_to_shine_for_italy_at_eurovision_2025-8673883.html> - Lucio Corsi will represent Italy at Eurovision 2025. After Olly's withdrawal from the Sanremo 2025 Festival, Corsi, who finished second, accepted the invitation to perform his song 'Volevo essere un duro' at the 69th edition of the international contest in Basel from May 13 to 17. The event will feature 37 nations, including the Big Five, with Italy participating for the 50th time. Corsi is scheduled to perform during the first semifinal on May 13 and compete in the Grand Final on May 17. The article provides details about the event's schedule and Corsi's participation.
3. <https://wiwibloggs.com/2025/02/23/lucio-corsi-has-21-songs-on-the-spotify-italy-viral-top-50/283759/> - Lucio Corsi, an Italian singer-songwriter, has achieved significant popularity on Spotify Italy's Viral Top 50 chart, with 21 of his songs featured. This surge in popularity follows his impressive performance at the Sanremo 2025 Festival, where he finished second. His music, characterized by simplicity and emotional depth, has resonated with listeners, leading to widespread sharing and streaming. The article highlights the tracks that have gained traction and discusses the factors contributing to Corsi's rapid rise in the Italian music scene.
4. <https://en.euromix.co.il/2025/04/07/it-wont-happen-father-of-italys-eurovision-2025-entrant-doubts-the-countrys-chances/> - Gabriele Corsi, the main commentator for Italy's Eurovision broadcasts, expressed skepticism about Italy's chances at Eurovision 2025. He acknowledged support for Lucio Corsi, the Italian representative, but highlighted France's entry as a strong competitor. Corsi emphasized the importance of presenting authentic national music on the Eurovision stage, regardless of the outcome. The article also touches upon discussions about potential rule-breaking during performances, particularly regarding live instrumental play, and the implications of such actions within the competition's framework.
5. <https://forums.digitalspy.com/discussion/2467517/the-ds-eurovision-general-discussion-thread-2025/p42> - A discussion thread on Digital Spy's forums where users share their thoughts on Italy's Eurovision 2025 entry, Lucio Corsi. Participants express a range of opinions, from disappointment over Olly's withdrawal to critiques of Corsi's performance and presentation. The thread reflects the community's engagement with the contest and their varied reactions to the participating artists and their acts.
6. <https://forums.digitalspy.com/discussion/comment/106323415> - In this Digital Spy forum post, users discuss their impressions of Lucio Corsi's performance for Italy at Eurovision 2025. Opinions vary, with some expressing disappointment over Olly's withdrawal and others critiquing Corsi's presentation and performance style. The thread provides insights into fan reactions and expectations for Italy's entry in the competition.
7. <https://wiwibloggs.com/2025/03/23/new-music-lucio-corsi-vaeb-salvador-sobral-and-more/284017/> - An article highlighting recent music releases from Eurovision artists, including Lucio Corsi. Corsi's new album, 'Volevo essere un duro,' released on March 21, features his Eurovision song and showcases his poetic and melancholic style. The album includes tracks like 'Tu sei il mattino' and 'Nel cuore della notte,' reflecting themes of childhood, friendship, and love. The article provides insights into Corsi's artistic evolution and the reception of his latest work.