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	Autore	Lemmens Maarten
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	Nota di contenuto	LEXICAL PERSPECTIVES ONTRANSITIVITY AND ERGATIVITY CAUSATIVE CONSTRUCTIONS IN ENGLISH; Editorial page; Title page; Copyright page; ACKNOWLEDGMENTS; Table of CONTENTS; PART I. THEORETICAL PREMISES; CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION; 1.1 Constructional variation with causative verbs; 1.2 Structural organization of this book; 1.2.1 Part I: Theoretical Premises; 1.2.2 Part II: Case Studies; 1.3 Theoretical framework; 1.3.1 Cognitive Grammar; 1.3.2 Systemic Functional Grammar; 1.3.3 Generative and Relational Grammar; 1.4 Empirical methodology; 1.4.1 Advantages of corpus-based research 1.4.2 Corpora consultedCHAPTER 2. THE SEMANTICS OF CAUSATIVE CONSTRUCTIONS; 2.1 Analytical versus lexical causatives; 2.2 Transitive versus ergative lexical causatives; 2.2.1 Traditional form-based transitive/ergative typology; 2.2.2 Langacker's cognitive approach; 2.2.3 Levin's lexical-semantic approach; 2.2.4 Davidse's paradigmatic approach; 2.2.5 Present cognitive lexical-paradigmatic

Sommario/riassunto	Fusing insights from cognitive grammar, systemic-functional grammar and Government & Binding, the present work elaborates and refines Davidse's view that the English grammar of lexical causatives is governed by the transitive and ergative paradigms, two distinct models of causation (Davidse 1991, 1992). However, on the basis of extensive synchronic and diachronic data on verbs of killing (e.g. kill, execute, choke or drown), it is shown that 'transitivity' and 'ergativity' are not absolute but prototypical characteristics of verbs which may be overruled by the semantics of the co