

Ralph, Tell Us All That You Know

1. Now I came to Berkeley to hear the good word,
An exciting new theory, or so I had heard.
Still Helen's convinced that it's all quite absurd,
So Ralph, tell me all that you know.

Chorus: *Join in the chorus, sing out the song.
It's really quite short, so it won't take so long.
Pick up your glasses; fill them again.
Let's drink a toast to that congruence tame.*

2. You must have a secret, please tell me the way
To keep theorems flowing on day after day
Is it that you're still thinking when we've hit the hay?
So Ralph, tell me all that you know.
3. I started to do an example last night
My α and β just wouldn't go right.
But with **Anchor Steam Beer** my lattice got *tight*.
So Ralph, tell me all that you know.
4. Then I found a small *minimal set* over here
And it wasn't *type 1* so I let out a cheer.
But what it all means still isn't quite clear
So Ralph, tell me all that you know.
5. Consider the fortunate congruence lattice,
With labels of 2 for modular status.
Its secrets will surely never get past us,
If Ralph tells us all that he knows.
6. The *body* of U disappeared without *trace*.
It's a pitiful *tail*, quite a disgrace.
A contentious algebra, the vacuous case.
So Ralph, tell me all that you know.
7. Avoid some sublattice which should be *forbidden*.
Discard some ideas which were being ridden.
Release the five *types* of algebras hidden.
And Ralph, tell us all that you know.
8. Right at the top in a sky of cerulean
Dwells *type 3* know as *Boolean*
We climb to that summit hopefully an'
Trust that Ralph tells us all that he knows.
9. The night's getting on and this beer's getting stale
So tell me a *minimal algebra* tale,
With a good-looking *body*, the *type* to regale
And Ralph, tell me all that you know.

This song was a collaboration of the participants of the Workshop on General Algebra and Lattice Theory held at Berkeley, California June 1986. Brian Davey designed the song and the melody. Additional verses were composed by William Rowan (verse 9), George McNulty (5), Harry Lakser (8), and Octavio Garcia (7).