

# STRAIGHTEN UP AND FLY RIGHT

Nat "King" Cole & Irving Mills – 1944

## verse

F F7 Bb6 Fdim  
A buzzard took a monkey for a ride in the air  
C7 F Fmaj7 Dm7 C#9 C9  
The monkey thought that ev'rything was on the square  
F F7 Bb Bb6 Fdim  
The buzzard tried to throw the monkey off his back  
F Fmaj7 Dm7 Gm7 C7b9  
But the monkey grabbed his neck and said, "Now listen Jack"

## chorus

F F7 Bb6 Bbm6 F Fdim Bb9 Am C7  
Straighten up and fly right, straighten up and fly right  
F F7 Bb6 C#7  
Straighten up and fly right  
F6 Dm7 C#9 C9  
Cool down Poppa. don't you blow your top!  
F F7 Bb6 Bbm6 F Fdim Bb9 Am C7  
Ain't no use in divin', what's the use of divin'?  
F F7 Bb6 C#7  
Straighten up and fly right  
F6 Dm7 C9 C7 F6  
Cool down Poppa don't you blow your top!  
A9  
The buzzard told the monkey, "you are chokin' me"  
D7 D9 Eb9 D9  
"Re - lease your hold and I will set you free"  
G9 Gdim G9  
The monkey looked the buzzard right dead in the eye and said  
Gm9 C9 Gm7 C#9 C9  
"Your story's so touching, it sounds just like a lie"

**F**            **F7**        **Bb6** **Bbm6** **F**            **Fdim** **Bb9**        **Am C7**  
Straighten up and fly right,        straighten up and fly right  
**F**            **F7**        **Bb6**        **C#7**  
Straighten up and fly right  
**F6**        **Dm7**                    **C9**            **F6 Caug7**  
Cool down Poppa. don't you blow your top!

**final ending: C9 C7 F6**

**Arrangement by Lynne Talley**