

Prerna Bakshi

Color(less)

*When did you get those shiny big earrings?*

When I got married.

*When did you get those colorful bangles?*

When I got married.

*And that partially used sindoor (vermilion) case?*

When I got married.

*And those plain white sarees, when did you get those?*

I didn't choose them.

They were given to me.

By everyone else.

When I became a widow.<sup>1</sup>

Note

1. Hindu women are expected to wear only a plain white or light colored saree for the rest of their lives once they become a widow.