“[Aureliano (II)] saw the epigraph of the parchments perfectly paced in the order of man’s time and space: The first of the line is tied to a tree and the last is being eaten by the ants. . . . Melquíades had not put events in the order of a man’s conventional time, but had concentrated a century of daily episodes in such a way that they coexisted in one instant… [Aureliano (II)] had already understood that he would never leave that room, for it was foreseen that the city of mirrors (or mirages) would be wiped out by the wind and exiled from the memory of men at the precise moment when Aureliano Babilonia would finish deciphering the parchments, and that everything written on them was unrepeatable since time immemorial and forever more, because races condemned to one hundred years of solitude did not have a second opportunity on earth” (415-417).

PROMPTS:

A) Discuss the significance of the fact that the text of the prophecy mirrors the reality of the town’s history and that Aureliano II is reading about his destruction as he experiences it.

B) Discuss the significance of the concluding two clauses of One Hundred Years of Solitude, “and that everything written on them was unrepeatable since time immemorial and forever more, because races condemned to one hundred years of solitude did not have a second opportunity on earth.” Is there a clear connection between these concluding clauses and the introductory sentence to the novel?